

## THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEMORIAL DAY & VETERANS DAY

### MEMORIAL DAY



The origins of today's Memorial Day began as two separate regional observances—one in the North and one in the South--that honored soldiers who died in the Civil War. Although grave decoration efforts took place in both regions of the country *during* the Civil War, interest in a dedicated day to commemorate the dead didn't happen until after the war ended in 1865.

Memorial Day was commonly called "Decoration Day," while Civil War survivors were alive and was held on different days depending on where you lived. Certain battles and events that were important to Union soldiers differed vastly from those events held sacred to Confederate soldiers: this is why the commemorations began on different dates. A common, united, *national* Memorial Day observance was not possible until the Civil War generation aged significantly and the war's harsh realities started to fade in the nation's collective memory.

The custom of people marking and decorating graves of their warriors predates recorded history. Virtually every race and culture in the world had similar, yet different, burial and commemorative customs. Native Americans honored their warriors in death and immigrants from other nations brought their customs to America when they settled here.

### MEMORIAL DAY

Date Observed Now: Last Monday in May every year

Date Originally Observed: April –June 1865 (South); May 30, 1868 (North)

When it became an official federal holiday: August 1, 1888

Original Purpose: honored Civil War soldiers, marines, and sailors who died in that war

Current Purpose: honors all deceased U.S. military servicemembers and veterans

### VETERANS DAY

Date Observed Now: November 11 every year

Date Originally Observed: November 11, 1919

When it became an official federal holiday: May 13, 1938

When the name was changed from Armistice Day to Veterans Day: June 1, 1954

Original Purpose: celebrated the anniversary of the Armistice (ceasefire) agreement that ended World War 1

Current Purpose: a day to honor and say "thank you" to those living active duty military personnel and veterans who preserve our peace.

The holiday we now know as Memorial Day began in the South as a local act of remembrance within weeks of the Civil War's end. To Southerners, it was a day to "annually adorn with choicest floral offerings the resting places of those who wore the gray in defense of the Lost Cause."<sup>1</sup> Numerous Southern communities claimed to be the birthplace of Decoration Day: A monument in Jackson, MS, attributed the April 26, 1865 origins to Miss Sue Landon Vaughn<sup>2</sup>; Petersburg, VA, claimed resident Mrs. Judge Joynes held the first observance on May 9, 1866<sup>3</sup>; and Kingston, GA, laid claims to the first observance held in that state in April 1865.

In the South, Decoration Day was a local observance held on various days ranging from early April to early June. If you lived in Louisiana, Decoration Day was held in early April; in Georgia, it was often April 26<sup>th</sup>; and in North Carolina, depending on the town, the first week of May or June. West Virginia commemorated the birth anniversary of General Stonewall Jackson as their Confederate Memorial Day.<sup>4</sup>

The weather and availability of flowers influenced when Decoration Day was observed in the South. The most popular date was April 26, although some communities, like New Orleans, held it earlier in the month. April 26 was supposedly selected because "on that day, the army of Gen. J[oseph] E. Johnston surrendered, and with it went the last hopes of the Confederacy."<sup>5</sup> There was not a common day for Decoration Day observances in the South, as each locality determined their own day for the commemoration.



Gen. John A. Logan, 1864 c.

Veterans of the Union Army formally adopted the annual custom of commemorating their dead in 1868 when General John A. Logan, Commander-in-Chief for the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), issued General Order 11. The order designated May 30, 1868 as a day for "strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves" of fallen Union comrades.<sup>6</sup> According to General Logan's order, "Memorial Day" was not just about decorating graves and monuments—it was about honoring the dead, preserving their memory, and aiding the soldiers' and sailors' widows and orphans, too. General Logan's order was issued for implementation by GAR chapters, though he dreamed of something much larger.

The GAR was the largest veteran organization in America at the time. GAR members filled the ranks of Congress and protected the interests of Civil War soldiers for half a century and the legacy of laws they enacted remain with us today. Besides honoring and preserving the Union Army's memory of the war, they were the leading advocates and activists for their veterans until the last Union soldier and GAR member, Albert Woolson of Duluth, Minnesota, died on August 2, 1956.<sup>7</sup>

GAR member Colonel Robert M. Moore claimed to have suggested the idea of Memorial Day to General Logan based on his own personal observance held at Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati.<sup>8</sup> General Logan's dream was to transform Memorial Day from a local, chapter-led GAR activity into a *nationwide* recurring day of remembrance for the Union dead.<sup>9</sup>

President Andrew Johnson, in a show of support for General Logan's new Memorial Day order, issued the first presidential executive order that allowed federal employees to participate in Decoration Day activities on May 30, 1868: "to unite with their fellow-citizens in paying a fitting tribute to the memory of the brave men whose remains repose in the national cemeteries."<sup>10</sup> Every president for the next 20 years issued an annual executive order to close the federal government on May 30<sup>th</sup> to observe Memorial Day. Presidential support and the participation of federal employees helped spread Memorial Day beyond the GAR chapters, but it was a long way from a national observance. Local businesses, banks, and states quickly adopted the practice of closing on Memorial/Decoration Day as well.

By 1870 the question of decorating the graves of Confederate soldiers who were buried in the North or former Union prison camps first arose. The GAR asserted that they "could not, as a body, decorate the graves of any other but Union dead on Memorial Day," but they would not interfere with anyone desiring to do so.<sup>11</sup> Chicago decoration organizations stated in 1874 that "no distinction should be made in their selection of the graves to be strewn with flowers on Decoration Day" and Confederate graves received the same attention as the graves of Union soldiers.<sup>12</sup>

Around 1883 flags replaced flowers as the chosen adornment for graves of Union soldiers. The GAR "cast aside flowers because they wither too quickly and cost too much" and used "no decoration except the Stars and Stripes" to adorn the graves of the fallen.<sup>13</sup> In 1887, GAR Commander-in-Chief Fairchild notified his command that "there is no such day known to his order as Decoration Day. In our rules and regulations and ritual, it is named Memorial Day."<sup>14</sup> Despite his protests, the term "Decoration Day" was far more popular than "Memorial Day" in both the North and South while Civil War veterans were living.



Gen. Wm. H. Fitzhugh Lee

In 1887, for the first time, Congress allowed government employees to be paid for the Memorial/Decoration Day and July 4th holidays.<sup>15</sup> Ironically, a former Confederate general introduced the Congressional bill to declare Memorial/Decoration Day as an annual recurring government holiday.

General William Henry Fitzhugh "Rooney" Lee, second son of General Robert E. Lee, proposed the bill establishing that "the 30<sup>th</sup> of May in each year, usually called "Decoration Day," shall be and hereby is, made a holiday." It became law on August 1, 1888.<sup>16</sup> Separate Decoration/Memorial Day observances for Confederate and Union dead continued, despite the new law. General John A. Logan died two years earlier, on December 26, 1886, so he did not live to see his dream of a *national* Memorial Day realized.<sup>17</sup>

Interest in national reconciliation between the North and South grew after the Spanish American War, increasing hopes of a united Memorial Day. GAR leaders pushed for a joint Memorial Day beginning in 1898 and by 1910 clergy of various churches and organizations joined in the call for unity.<sup>18</sup> On May 30, 1899 Americans spread the Memorial Day custom beyond U.S. borders by adorning the wreck of the *USS Maine* in Havana, Cuba, and the Tomb of Lafayette in Paris, France.<sup>19</sup> The national healing process

advanced as the new century commenced. Forty years had passed since the Civil War ended and our country had survived, united, through another war with a foreign power (Spain).

One of the first acts of reconciliation by the Federal government occurred in 1900 when Congress enacted a law to remove Confederate soldiers buried at the National Soldiers Home in Washington, D.C., and have them reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery.<sup>20</sup> The work took several years to complete. The same law authorized government headstones to mark their graves, which resulted in the design of a new headstone specifically to mark Confederate graves. Confederate headstones are pointed, while Union headstones are curved.

The first formal Memorial Day service for those Confederate soldiers reburied at Arlington National Cemetery took place on June 5, 1904.<sup>21</sup> In 1905, General Fitzhugh Lee, nephew of General Robert E. Lee, became the first former Confederate to speak at a GAR Memorial Day service.<sup>22</sup> The following year, in 1906, the Foraker Act authorized marking the graves of Confederates who were buried in Union prison cemeteries in the North during the war.<sup>23</sup>

Around 1910, the aged Civil War veteran population started dying off in record numbers. As a result, GAR membership and its treasury dwindled. The federal government had long supported the GAR's annual reunion efforts by providing tents, blankets, and equipment; it soon provided them with small appropriations to assist in decorating "the graves of Union soldiers, sailors, and marines with flags and flowers" in national cemeteries around the District of Columbia.<sup>24</sup>

With each new war, a fresh crop of American veterans' organizations were established and their members carried on the Memorial Day tradition to honor *their* dead. On November 9, 1918, two days before World War 1 ended, Miss Moina Belle Michael, a Georgia school teacher, read the poem "We Shall Not Sleep" (later known as "In Flanders Fields") in a ladies' magazine. The poem inspired her to wear a red poppy on her coat collar in memory of fallen World War soldiers. The poem was written by Lt. Col. John McCrae, M.D., of the Canadian Army while he served in the World War. When his poem was published in the *Ladies Home Journal*, its popularity spread like wildfire.<sup>25</sup> Moina Michael wore her poppy everywhere, which attracted the attention of others, so she started making red poppies for people to wear. She later campaigned for red field poppies to become the international symbol of remembrance for war veterans.<sup>26</sup>



In 1922, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), an organization founded by Spanish American War veterans, adopted the red poppy as their official memorial flower and developed the "Buddy Poppies" program to raise funds to help veterans and their families.<sup>27</sup> The World War I generation contributed the wearing of red poppies to America's Memorial Day customs. Red poppies are now used in the U.S., England, France, and Belgium to commemorate Armistice/Veterans/Remembrance Day on November 11<sup>th</sup> each year: they adorn graves of the fallen and lapels of the living.

After World War II, Memorial Day customs changed again. The first talk of moving Memorial Day to a Monday began in 1946 and foreshadowed future events.<sup>28</sup> On May 28, 1948, a new addition was made to our Memorial Day traditions when a joint resolution of

Congress requested that the President issue a proclamation “for the people of the U.S. to observe Memorial Day, 1948, as a day of prayer for permanent peace.”<sup>29</sup> As a result, President Truman was the first American president to issue a proclamation for an hour of prayer to begin at 8 p.m. on May 30, 1948.<sup>30</sup> The following year, in 1949, President Truman changed the time to 11 a.m.<sup>31</sup> Except for one year (2000), every President since 1948 has issued an annual proclamation for Americans to dedicate an hour on Memorial Day to pray for permanent peace.

In 1966 the Federal government updated all public holidays under Title V of the United States Code and Memorial Day remained as May 30.<sup>32</sup> Two years later, Public Law 90-363 was signed on June 28, 1968 and changed many public holidays. Following European trends, many holidays were moved to Mondays, so that citizens could enjoy long holiday weekends. As a result, Memorial Day was moved to the last Monday in May—which is where it has remained since 1968.



Stephen R. Scherr photo, Arlington National Cemetery, 2001

President Bill Clinton added a new custom to Memorial Day in 2000 by substituting a National Moment of Remembrance for the hour of prayer, which had been a tradition for over 50 years. He designated 3 p.m. local time as the time to “unite on Memorial Day in acknowledging the service of America’s fallen heroes . . . to reflect on the profound debt we owe to those brave men and women who gave their lives for our Nation,” and to “join in prayer and observe the National Moment of Remembrance.”<sup>33</sup>

The following year his successor, President George W. Bush, adopted both customs for Memorial Day: he reinstated the 11 a.m. hour to unite in prayer *and* asked Americans to observe the 3 p.m. National Moment of Remembrance. President Barack Obama continued the practice of *both*, the hour of prayer and the National Moment of Remembrance on Memorial Day.

## VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day was originally known as Armistice Day and began informally one year after World War I ended. On November 11, 1918, the Armistice agreement between Germany, allied Governments, and the United States was signed and, effective at 11 o’clock a.m. (Paris time), the first World War ended. That morning, President Woodrow Wilson took his pen and scrawled some notes as he prepared to announce the war’s end at a joint



U.S. capitol lit after armistice signed, Nov. 11, 1918

WAR ENDS AT 6 O’CLOCK THIS MORNING

The State Department in Washington Made the Announcement at 2:45 o’Clock.

ARMISTICE WAS SIGNED IN FRANCE AT MIDNIGHT

Wilson Wildly Cheered When He Says, ‘The War Thus Comes to an End’

GERMANY YIELDS HER NAVY

Must Surrender Forts, Vast Ordnance, and Open Way to Aid of Russia.

session of Congress. Standing at the podium he proclaimed the news to Congress and delivered Americans a new manifest destiny: "My Fellow Countrymen: The armistice was signed this morning. Everything for which America fought has been accomplished. It will now be our fortunate duty to assist, by example, by sober, friendly counsel and by material aid in the establishment of just democracy of the world."<sup>34</sup>

The following year, on the eve of the Armistice's first anniversary, "three huge illuminated crosses shown out from the high walls of the War Risk Insurance Bureau Building [now the VA Central Office building] across Lafayette Square from the White House" and celebration of Armistice Day began.<sup>35</sup> Although Armistice Day was not yet an official public holiday, it was a significant day for most citizens and many businesses closed in commemoration.

Two years later, Armistice Day was declared a holiday *for that year* in honor of the brand new Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. On March 4, 1921, Congress ordered that the remains of an unknown American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) soldier be buried in the Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery. The soldier was scheduled for burial on November 11, 1921, to coincide with Armistice Day, and two presidential proclamations proscribed observances that year. The first proclamation, issued on September 30, 1921, asked Americans to "pause from their accustomed occupations and labors" at 12 noon on November 11, 1921 for two minutes for a period of silent prayer and giving thanks to the Creator.<sup>36</sup>

The proclamation also directed that the U.S. flag fly at half staff on all public buildings,



Unknown Soldier en route to Arlington National Cemetery, November 11, 1921

at all embassies, consulates, and military stations around the world from sunrise to sunset that day. With the second proclamation, signed one week before Armistice Day, on November 4, 1921, President Harding declared November 11, 1921 a holiday (for that year) as a mark of respect to those who lost their lives in the World War. He recommended that "all public and church bells throughout the United States be tolled at intervals between 11:45 a.m. and 12 o'clock noon" in addition to the two minutes of prayer called for in his earlier proclamation.

Five years later, in 1926, after Congress acknowledged that "twenty-seven of our States have already declared November 11 to be a legal holiday," they passed a concurrent resolution that authorized *recurring* observances of Armistice Day, which still required *annual* issuance of a presidential proclamation.<sup>37</sup> Calvin Coolidge issued proclamations in 1926 and 1927, Herbert Hoover followed suit while in office, and Franklin D. Roosevelt issued annual proclamations beginning in 1933.

On May 13, 1938 Armistice Day became an official recurring national holiday on November 11 as "a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace" when Congress passed and President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Public Law 75-510.<sup>38</sup>

Three weeks before the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 inciting U.S. entry into a new world war, Rev. Roelif H. Brooks, a New York rector, proposed that Armistice Day be changed to Remembrance Day. Once the U.S. engaged in the Second World War, the meaning of Armistice Day—which twenty years prior commemorated the end of what was supposed to be the *only* world war--needed to change.

In 1946, Raymond Weeks, a World War II Navy veteran from Birmingham, Alabama, became the driving force behind changing Armistice Day into a day that honored all military veterans. He drew up a petition and plan then presented them to the Army's Chief of Staff, General Dwight D. Eisenhower at the Pentagon. Eisenhower supported Weeks' idea and efforts; however, he could not change the law. The following year, on November 11, 1947, Raymond Weeks and his National Veterans Day volunteer organization held the first Veterans Day in Birmingham, even though Veterans Day was not yet official.<sup>39</sup> Weeks was later recognized by President Ronald Reagan as "the father of Veterans Day" and given the Presidential Citizens Medal in 1982.<sup>40</sup>

Six years later, Alvin J. King of Emporium, Kansas, worked with his Congressional representative, Edward H. Rees, to change the law. They sought to change Armistice Day from a day that commemorated the ending of World War I into a day to "pay proper homage to all veterans of all wars."<sup>41</sup> Alvin King was not a veteran, but he lost a close nephew, John Cooper, in Belgium during World War 2 and, as a result, he devoted his life to honoring veterans. The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans supported and advocated the change, as well.<sup>42</sup> Under Mr. King's direction, his hometown of Emporia, Kansas held its first all-Veterans Day on November 11, 1953.<sup>43</sup>

On June 1, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed Public Law 83-380 and officially renamed Armistice Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>, as Veterans Day.<sup>44</sup> The law expanded the significance of the existing holiday "in order that a grateful nation, on a day dedicated to the cause of world peace, may pay proper homage to all its veterans who have contributed so much to that cause and the preservation of our way of life."<sup>45</sup> Veterans Day replaced Armistice Day and joined New Years Day, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas as legal public holidays under Title 5 of the U.S. Code that year.

Beginning in the early 1940s, various groups lobbied Congress to move public holidays to Mondays or Fridays, like many European countries did, in order for people to enjoy long weekends. They claimed it promoted travel and commerce. After nearly 30 years, their efforts finally succeeded during the Vietnam War era when Congress established "uniform annual observances" for a majority of federal holidays—shifting them to Monday. On June 28, 1968, Public Law 90-363 changed all but four holidays: New Years Day, Independence Day (July 4<sup>th</sup>), Thanksgiving, and Christmas remained intact. As a result, Veterans Day was moved to the fourth Monday in October, effective in 1971.<sup>46</sup>

This law produced a ripple effect within state governments, as many of them followed the federal government's lead by changing Veterans Day, as well. However, not all states changed their holidays--which caused confusion. New York kept the November 11<sup>th</sup> observance, so in 1974, some offices were closed on October 29<sup>th</sup> (for the federal observance)



Alvin J. King

while others closed on November 11<sup>th</sup> (for the state observance).<sup>47</sup> By 1974, barely three years after the law took effect, nearly 40 states had restored Veterans Day to its original date of November 11<sup>th</sup>.<sup>48</sup>

Veterans Day held at the end of October was short-lived, lasting only seven years from the law's effective date in 1971. Veterans and veterans' organizations rallied to change the law back, claiming that the day's historical significance was diminished when Congress changed the holiday to suit commercial interests.<sup>49</sup> As a result of the uproar, remaining states changed Veterans Day back to November 11 and soon the Federal government followed suit.

In 1975 President Ford officially restored Veterans Day back to November 11th, effective in 1978, and that is where it has remained ever since.<sup>50</sup>

Since 2000 Congress has recognized the contributions of Raymond Weeks, Alvin J. King, and Representative Edward H. Rees in creating Veterans Day. In 2003 King was recognized as the creator of Veterans Day, and Emporia, Kansas, was declared as the founding city of the Veterans Day holiday. In 2012 a resolution recognized Weeks as the proposer of Veterans Day to General Eisenhower and Birmingham, Alabama, was acknowledged as "home to the first and longest running celebration of Veterans Day."<sup>51</sup>

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#### NOTES

Photo credits:

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Library of Congress, Gen. John A. Logan, 1864 c, LC-DIG-copbh-03223.

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<sup>1</sup> "The Southern Decoration Day," *The New York Times*, April 30, 1873.

<sup>2</sup> "Southern Woman Suggested the First Decoration Day," *The New York Times*, May 25, 1924.

<sup>3</sup> "The Genesis of Decoration Day," *The New York Times*, May 29, 1898.

<sup>4</sup> "Confederate Memorial Day Celebrated," *The New York Times*, May 11, 1893.

<sup>5</sup> "The Southern Decoration Day," *The New York Times*, April 30, 1873. Johnston surrendered to Sherman in North Carolina on April 26, 1865, 17 days after Lee's surrender to Grant in Appomattox.

<sup>6</sup> "The First Memorial Day," *The New York Times*, May 30, 1887 [recites General Order No. 11 in entirety].

<sup>7</sup> "Last Union Army Veteran Dies; Drummer at 17, He Lived to 109," *The New York Times*, August 3, 1956; "Last G.A.R. Man Feels That Both Sides Sought Same Goal in War Between the States," *The New York Times*, March 14, 1953.

<sup>8</sup> "Mrs. Mary A. Woodward, Her Father is Said to Have Been Originator of Memorial Day," *The New York Times*, December 16, 1934.

<sup>9</sup> "The First Memorial Day," *The New York Times*, May 30, 1887 [section 2 of General Order 11 specified hope that Memorial Day would become an annual observance].

<sup>10</sup> Presidential Executive order, May 28, 1868.

<sup>11</sup> "Undecorated Confederate Graves," *The New York Times*, May 22, 1877.

<sup>12</sup> "Decoration Day—All Soldiers' Graves to be Decorated," *The New York Times*, April 29, 1874.

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- <sup>13</sup> "Decoration of the Graves," *The New York Times*, April 27, 1883.
- <sup>14</sup> "Memorial Day," *The New York Times*, May 29, 1887.
- <sup>15</sup> "Joint Resolution providing for the payment of per diem laborers in Government employ on "Memorial" or "Decoration Day" and the Fourth day of July of each year as on other days," 49<sup>th</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> session, Resolution No. 6, 24 Stat. 644, February 23, 1887.
- <sup>16</sup> "An Act making May thirtieth a holiday In the District of Columbia," 50<sup>th</sup> Congress, Session 1, Ch. 723, August 1, 1888; <http://www.nps.gov/arho/historyculture/william-lee.htm>.
- <sup>17</sup> <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=I000403>, accessed 11/24/2010.
- <sup>18</sup> "For a Joint Memorial Day," *The New York Times*, December 17, 1898; "For Joint Decoration Day," *The New York Times*, May 31, 1910.
- <sup>19</sup> "Decoration Day in Havana," *The New York Times*, May 31, 1899; "Decoration Day in Paris," *The New York Times*, May 31, 1899.
- <sup>20</sup> "An Act Making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1901, and for other purposes," 56<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> session, Ch. 791, 31 Stat. 630, June 6, 1900.
- <sup>21</sup> "Confederate Memorial Day," *The New York Times*, June 6, 1904.
- <sup>22</sup> "Lee, Memorial Day Orator," *The New York Times*, April 6, 1905.
- <sup>23</sup> "An Act to provide for the appropriate marking of the graves of the soldiers and sailors of the Confederate army and navy who died in Northern prisons and were buried near the prisons where they died, and for other purposes," 59<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> session, Ch. 631, 34 Stat. 56, Public Law 59-38, March 9, 1906.
- <sup>24</sup> "An Act to aid the Grand Army of the Republic in its Memorial Day services, May 30, 1930," 71<sup>st</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> session, Ch. 297, May 19, 1930.
- <sup>25</sup> <http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/flanders.htm>, accessed 12/29/10
- <sup>26</sup> "Moina Belle Michael: the Idea for the Flanders Field Memorial Poppy," <http://www.greatwar.co.uk/people/moina-belle-michael.htm>, accessed 11/24/2010.
- <sup>27</sup> "Memorial Day VFW Buddy Poppy," *The Examiner*, May 13, 2010.
- <sup>28</sup> "Moving Holidays to Monday," *The New York Times*, March 19, 1946.
- <sup>29</sup> "Joint Resolution Requesting the President to issue a proclamation designating Memorial Day, 1948, as a day for a Nation-wide prayer for peace," 80<sup>th</sup> Congress, 2d session, Chap. 350, 62 Stat. 275, Public Law 80-558, May 28, 1948.
- <sup>30</sup> "Presidential Proclamation No. 2788—Prayer for Peace: Memorial Day, 1948," May 28, 1948.
- <sup>31</sup> "Presidential Proclamation No. 2842—Prayer for Peace, Memorial Day, 1949," May 26, 1949.
- <sup>32</sup> "To enact title 5, United States Code, "Government Organization and Employees," codifying the general and permanent laws relating to the organization of the Government of the United States and to its civilian officers and employees," Public Law 89-554, 80 Stat. 378, September 6, 1966.
- <sup>33</sup> Presidential Proclamation No. 7315, May 26, 2000.
- <sup>34</sup> "The Armistice Anniversary," *The New York Times*, November 11, 1921.
- <sup>35</sup> "Wilson Sees Cause For Pride in War," *The New York Times*, November 11, 1919.
- <sup>36</sup> Presidential Proclamation, 42 Stat. 2252, September 30, 1921.
- <sup>37</sup> "Armistice Anniversary," Concurrent Resolutions of Congress, 44 Stat. 1982, June 4, 1926.
- <sup>38</sup> "Making the 11<sup>th</sup> day of November in each year a legal holiday," 75<sup>th</sup> Congress, 3<sup>rd</sup> session, Chap. 210, Public Law 510, 52 Stat. 351, May 13, 1938.
- <sup>39</sup> "Recognizing Birmingham, Alabama, as the home to the first and longest running celebration of Veterans Day," 112<sup>th</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> session, House Concurrent Resolution 138, September 20, 2012 [introduced in house, did not pass into law]. <http://www.uncompromisingcommitment.org/articles/2012/11/raymond-weeks/>, accessed 9/30/2013
- <sup>40</sup> "Recognizing Birmingham, Alabama, as the home to the first and longest running celebration of Veterans Day," 112<sup>th</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> session, House Concurrent Resolution 138, September 20, 2012 [introduced in house, did not pass into law].
- <sup>41</sup> "Armistice Day Change Asked," *The New York Times*, February 8, 1954. Also Congressional Record, Senate, Vol. 151, Pt. 19, page 25789, November 10, 2005.

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<sup>42</sup> "Changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day," 83<sup>rd</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> session, House of Representatives, Report No. 1333, March 9, 1954. "Changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day, 83<sup>rd</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> session, Senate, Report No. 1359, May 17, 1954.

<sup>43</sup> "Declaring Emporia, Kansas, to be the founding city of the Veterans Day holiday and recognizing the contributions of Alvin J. King and representative Ed Rees to the enactment into law of the observance of Veterans Day," 108<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> session, House of Representatives, Report 108-196.

<sup>44</sup> "An Act to honor veterans on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of November of each year, a day dedicated to world peace," 68 Stat. 168, June 1, 1954.

<sup>45</sup> "Changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day," 83<sup>rd</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> session, House of Representatives, Report No. 1333, March 9, 1954.

<sup>46</sup> "To Provide for uniform annual observances of certain legal public holidays on Mondays, and for other purposes," Public Law 90-363, 82 Stat. 250, June 28, 1968.

<sup>47</sup> "Veterans Day for Some," The New York Times, October 29, 1974.

<sup>48</sup> "Lobbying Goes on to Shift Holidays," The New York Times, May 4, 1975.

<sup>49</sup> "Lobbying Goes on to Shift Holidays," The New York Times, May 4, 1975.

<sup>50</sup> "An act to redesignate November 11 of each year as Veterans Day and to make such day a legal public holiday," Public Law 94-97, 89 Stat. 479, September 18, 1975.

<sup>51</sup> "Declaring Emporia, Kansas, to be the Founding City of the Veterans Day holiday and recognizing the contributions of Alvin J. King and Representative Ed Rees to the enactment into law of the observance of Veterans Day," 108<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> session, House of Representatives report No. 108-196, July 10, 2003 [has not passed into law as of 9/30/2013]. "Recognizing Birmingham, Alabama, as the home to the first and longest running celebration of Veterans Day," 112<sup>th</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> session, House Concurrent Resolution 138, September 20, 2012.