

COMMITTEE TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY  
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FOR RELEASE  
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PRESS FACT SHEET

HOOVER and MacARTHUR

JOIN "FREEDOM UNDER GOD" OBSERVANCE

RELEASE IMMEDIATELY!

Fifty-six famous Americans, including former President Herbert Hoover and General Douglas MacArthur, today formed a "Committee to Proclaim Liberty" and urged every person in the United States to join them on the 4th of July in a unique observance of the 175th anniversary of America's Freedom under God.

The celebration involves: bells of every church in the nation ringing for ten minutes at noon on Independence Day; clergymen of all denominations preaching sermons on "Freedom Under God" on the Sabbath preceding the 4th of July; and each citizen taking time on the 4th of July to read the Declaration of Independence.

The name, "Committee to Proclaim Liberty," is based on a verse from the Bible (Book of Leviticus, 25th Chapter, 10th Verse), "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." These words appear on the crown of the Liberty Bell.

The number of Committee Founders, fifty-six, corresponds with the number of signers of the Declaration of Independence.



The theme of the "Committee to Proclaim Liberty" is: "It's time for all Americans to thank God for their Freedom."

The theme is based on a quotation by John Adams who in 1776 declared: "It ought to be commemorated, as a day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty." Adams was speaking of America's first Independence Day. On that occasion, church bells rang. Prayers were said. Copies of the Declaration of Independence were read by everyone.

The purpose of the "Committee to Proclaim Liberty" is to revive a custom long forgotten in America -- spiritual emphasis of the 4th of July.

By urging the reading of the Declaration of Independence, the Committee seeks to encourage understanding that God is the source of individual Freedom: "that all men...are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights..."

By suggesting to clergymen of all denominations that the bells of their churches ring at noon on the Fourth of July, the Committee seeks to organize a nation-wide, vocal demonstration symbolizing America's Freedom under God.

By suggesting that sermons on "Freedom under God" be preached on the Sabbath preceding the 4th of July, the Committee hopes that millions of Americans will take that occasion to subscribe to its theme and "thank God for their Freedom."

The "Committee to Proclaim Liberty" was conceived by Dr. James W. Fifield, Jr., pastor of the First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, and Founder-Director of



Spiritual Mobilization, a 16-year-old nonsectarian crusade for Freedom in America, embracing nearly 17,000 clergymen of all denominations.

The "Committee to Proclaim Liberty" has established offices at the Freedom Center in Los Angeles, California. The Committee is currently: contacting more than 125,000 clergymen of all denominations; seeking the cooperation of newspapers, magazines, radio and television stations and other media to publicize its "Freedom Under God" observance of the 4th of July; and, is arranging for a special Independence Day broadcast to be heard over a coast-to-coast network. (NOTE: As of this date, network commitments and final details have not yet been settled. A later release on the subject of this broadcast will follow.)

Following this initial release, all future releases on the activities of the "Committee to Proclaim Liberty" will emanate from Committee Headquarters in Los Angeles. Communications may be addressed to the "Committee to Proclaim Liberty," 1521 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles 17, California. Telephone: DUnkirk 2-2146.

Founders of the "Committee to Proclaim Liberty" follow. No one member has been designated as chairman:

Don Belding, President, Freedoms Foundation, Inc.

Erwin D. Canham, Editor, Christian Science Monitor

General Mark W. Clark, United States Army

Erle Cocke, Jr., National Commander, American Legion

Bing Crosby, Screen and Radio Star

Cecil B. DeMille, Motion Picture Director and Producer



Walt Disney, Film Executive

Charles E. Dunbar, Jr., Council of American Law Institute

Richard L. Evans, Author and Voice of "The Spoken Word"

Dr. James W. Fifield, Jr., Pastor, First Congregational Church of Los Angeles

Y. Frank Freeman, Vice-President, Paramount Pictures

L. M. Giannini, President, Bank of America National Trust & Savings Association

Dr. Edgar J. Goodspeed, Bible Scholar and Author

Conrad N. Hilton, President, Hilton Hotels Corporation

Oveta Culp Hobby, Publisher and Former Director, Women's Army Corps

Paul G. Hoffman, President, The Ford Foundation

The Honorable Herbert Hoover

Rupert Hughes, Author

D. A. Hulcy, President, U. S. Chamber of Commerce

B. E. Hutchinson, Vice-President, Chrysler Corporation

James C. Ingebretsen, Executive Vice-President, Spiritual Mobilization

James L. Kraft, Chairman of the Board, Kraft Foods Company

Fulton Lewis, Jr., Radio Commentator

General of the Army Douglas MacArthur

Clarence Manion, Dean of Law School, Notre Dame University

Rabbi Samuel S. Mayerberg, Temple of B'Nai Gehutah, Kansas City

Hughston McBain, Chairman of the Board, Marshall Field & Company

Bishop Eugene J. McGuinness, Bishop of Oklahoma City and Tulsa

Dr. Robert A. Millikan, California Institute of Technology

Admiral Ben Moreell, President, Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation

Felix Morley, Author

W. C. Mullendore, President, Southern California Edison Company



Kathleen Norris, Author

Fulton Oursler, Author

Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Religious Leader, Author and Lecturer

Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, Pastor, Marble Collegiate Church, N. Y. C.

J. Howard Pew, Chairman of the Board, Sun Oil Company

Dr. Roscoe Pound, Dean Emeritus, Harvard Law School

Leonard E. Read, President, The Foundation for Economic Education, Inc.

Ronald Reagan, Actor

Mrs. Hope Reed, President, American Legion Auxiliary

Captain Eddie V. Rickenbacker, President, Eastern Air Lines

Branch Rickey, President, Pittsburgh Pirates

Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodgers

O. A. Seyferth, President, West Michigan Steel Foundry Co.

The Honorable Margaret Chase Smith, United States Senate

George E. Sokolsky, Columnist

Robert G. Sproul, President, University of California

The Honorable Meier Steinbrink, Chairman, Anti-Defamation League

Robert G. Storey, Dean of Law, Southern Methodist University

Gloria Swanson, Actress

Dorothy Thompson, Columnist

C. E. Wilson, President, General Motors Corporation

Matthew Woll, Labor Leader

Lieutenant-General A. C. Wedemeyer, United States Army

Henry Wriston, President, Brown University