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★ ★ **Flag Day** ★ ★ ★ **The Birthday of the Stars and Stripes** ★

June 14 is Flag Day in the United States. It is the anniversary of the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as America's official flag in 1777 by the Continental Congress. The first flag consisted of 13 stars on a field of blue and 13 alternating red and white stripes, representing the original Colonies. As states were added, the flag was modified to reflect their



A row of American flags to celebrate Flag Day

stripes remain, but today there is a star for each of the 50 states.

Every year, the president proclaims June 14 as Flag Day and orders flags displayed on all federal buildings; many Americans fly the flag in front of homes and businesses. The week that includes June 14 is National Flag Week.

addition to the nation. The 13

THE UNITED STATES FLAG

The flag of the United States is one of the oldest national standards in the world. General George Washington first raised the Continental Army flag in 1776, a red-and-white striped flag with the British Union Jack where we now have stars.

Several flag designs with 13 stripes were used in 1776 and 1777, until Congress established an official design on June 14, 1777



The United States Flag

— now observed as Flag Day. The act stated, "That the Flag of the

thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." Washington explained it this way: "We take the stars from heaven, the red from our mother country, separating it by white stripes, thus showing that we have separated from her, and the white stripes shall go down to posterity representing liberty."

The United States of America - Focus On: Los Angeles

The city of Los Angeles is best defined by two of its most famous neighborhoods: Hollywood and Venice Beach. Hollywood offers glitz, glamour and flashes of immense fame. This is where one finds the world's most famous movie stars. Visitors can rub shoulders with celebrities while walking down Rodeo Drive and the Sunset Strip, or even posing for pictures outside the historic Grauman's Chinese Theater. Offsetting that scene is the laid-back lifestyle found in the neighborhood of Venice Beach. Here, Oceanfront Walk — a magnet for characters from every walk of life — is one of the best places for people-watching one will ever find.



Quiz

What do the fifty stars and the thirteen stripes on the American flag represent?

- A. The power of the new Confederate States
- B. Heaven, Original American Country & Liberty
- C. The 50 states and the thirteen colonies

The correct answer is:

Email your answer to wfr@state.gov.
The first person who finds the correct answer
will win a prize from us!

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08:00 a.m. to 17:00 p.m.

13:30 p.m. - 16:30 p.m.

Phone: (855-23) 728-274 or (855-23) 728-286

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