Presidential Correspondence, Office of

Presidential Proclamations - Proclamations

Date Ranges: 2001-2008
Extent and Forms of Material: 7 linear inches

Abstract: This collection consists of proclamations and enclosure cards utilized by the Office of Presidential Proclamations within the Office of Presidential Correspondence.

Repository: George W. Bush Presidential Library, National Archives and Records Administration, Dallas, TX  gwbush.library@nara.gov  (214) 346-1557

Access: Access to Bush Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 USC 22) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 USC 552 as amended) and therefore records may be restricted in whole or part in accordance with legal exemptions.

Copyright: Documents in this collection that were prepared by officials of the United States government as part of their official duties are in the public domain. Researchers are advised to consult the copyright law of the United States (Title 17, USC) which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

Custodial History: Official records of George W. Bush’s presidency are housed at the George W. Bush Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Processing note: Processed by Elizabeth Lanier and Malisa Lewis, archivists, March 2013.

Preferred Citation: Type of document; names of sender and recipient, or title of document; date; folder title or White House Office of Records Management Subject Code and case number; box number; Collection Title and series/subseries, George W. Bush Presidential Library.

Administrative History: Presidential proclamations have been used over the past two hundred years for a variety of purposes. Because a proclamation, like an executive order, carries the force of law, they have been used to establish policy on a variety of national issues. The intended audience of a proclamation is the general public, as its function—to “proclaim” a decision by the chief executive—suggests.

Proclamations were one of the primary means through which the President could communicate national policy prior to the rise of radio, television, and the Internet. Highly significant decisions
were conveyed via proclamation; examples include George Washington’s Proclamation of Neutrality in 1793 regarding war in Europe, James Monroe’s 1815 proclamation announcing the peace treaty with Great Britain which ended the War of 1812, Abraham Lincoln’s 1863 Emancipation Proclamation, and Gerald Ford’s 1974 proclamation granting former President Richard Nixon a pardon in the wake of the Watergate scandal.

Proclamations have also assumed more of a ceremonial role; they are used to pay tribute to a person or group, highlight a problem or a cause of interest to the President, or commemorate a holiday. Certain proclamations are issued annually according to law: Mother’s Day, Captive Nations Week, and Memorial Day, among others. Others are issued annually by custom: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; Thanksgiving Day; and German-American Day. Occasionally, they are still used as policymaking instruments, such as President George W. Bush’s 2007 proclamation regarding a free trade agreement with the Dominican Republic.

**Scope and Content Note:** Proclamations, enclosure cards, and envelopes comprise this series. In most cases, three copies of each item were included in the collection unless fewer were located. The majority of items were sampled from boxes that contained only bulk materials, however, some items were removed from boxes that contained a mixture of unique presidential records and bulk materials.

**System of Arrangement:** This collection is arranged chronologically by the date each proclamation acknowledges.

**Related Collections:** The following collections also consist almost exclusively of bulk items:

Bush43 Sample Collection
Calligraphy Office, White House: Printed Ephemera
Presidential Correspondence, Office of: Presidential Proclamations – Blue Line Proclamations
Presidential Correspondence, Office of: Mail Analysis – Photo/Printing Division Files
Presidential Correspondence, Office of: Student Correspondence - Enclosures
Visitors Office, White House: Printed Ephemera

**Container List:**

**Box 1**

1. Proclamation Enclosure Cards
2. February 2001 - American Heart Month
3. February 2001 - National African American History Month
4. 02/04/2001 - National Burn Awareness Week
5. 02/05/2001 - National Consumer Protection Week
6. March 2001 - American Red Cross Month
7. March 2001 - Irish - American Heritage Month
8. March 2001 - National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month
03/01/2001 - Fortieth Anniversary of the Peace Corps
03/04/2001 - Save Your Vision Week
[03/05/2001 - Greek Independence Day]
03/11/2001 - National Girl Scout Week
03/18/2001 - National Poison Prevention Week
April 2001 - Cancer Control Month
April 2001 - National Child Abuse Prevention Month
04/04/2001 - Education and Sharing Day, U.S.A.
04/09/2001 - National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day
04/13/2001 - Thomas Jefferson Day
04/14/2001 - Pan American Day and Pan American Week
04/15/2001 - National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week
November 2002 - National Adoption Month
2005 - National Observance of the 60th Anniversary of the End of World War II
09/11/2005 - Patriot Day
11/11/2005 - Veterans Day
April 2006 - Cancer Control Month
04/09/2006 - Small Business Week
04/23/2006 - National Volunteer Week
May 2006 - Older Americans Month
05/29/2006 - Prayer for Peace, Memorial Day
June 2006 - Caribbean - American Heritage Month
06/15/2006 - Establishment of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument
07/04/2006 - Independence Day - Braille Version
07/30/2006 - 50th Anniversary of Our National Motto, "In God We Trust"
09/08/2006 - National Days of Prayer and Remembrance
09/10/2006 - National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week
09/15/2006 - National Hispanic Heritage Month
09/17/2006 - Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, Constitution Week
09/18/2006 - Literacy Day
October 2006 - National Breast Cancer Awareness Month
October 2006 - National Disability Employment Awareness Month
November 2006 - National American Indian Heritage Month
11/11/2006 - Veterans Day
11/23/2006 - Thanksgiving Day [Folder 1]
11/23/2006 - Thanksgiving Day [Folder 2]
11/30/2006 - National Methamphetamine Awareness Day
2007 - 400th Anniversary of Jamestown
01/29/2007 - Fifth Anniversary of USA Freedom Corps
02/22/2007 - 275th Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington
03/25/2007 - Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy
04/15/2007 - National Volunteer Week
04/19/2007 - Dutch - American Friendship Day
04/22/2007 - National Park Week
04/29/2007 - National Charter Schools Week
May 2007 - National Physical Fitness and Sports Month
May 2007 - Older Americans Month
05/01/2007 - Loyalty Day
05/13/2007 - Mother's Day
06/17/2007 - Father's Day
08/26/2007 - Women's Equality Day
09/09/2007 - Minority Enterprise Development Week
09/11/2007 - Patriot Day
October 2007 - National Domestic Violence Awareness Month
November 2007 - National Adoption Month
11/11/2007 - Veterans Day
11/27/2007 - Thanksgiving Day
January 2008 - National Mentoring Month
01/20/2008 - National Sanctity of Human Life Day
February 2008 - National African American History Month
March 2008 - American Red Cross Month

Box 2
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2008</td>
<td>Older Americans Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/01/2008</td>
<td>Loyalty Day and Enclosure Card</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/16/2008</td>
<td>National Defense Transportation Day and National Transportation Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/21/2008</td>
<td>A Day of Solidarity with the Cuban People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2008</td>
<td>National Oceans Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/26/2008</td>
<td>Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/26/2008</td>
<td>FBI Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/31/2008</td>
<td>Minority Enterprise Development Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2008</td>
<td>National Breast Cancer Awareness Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/27/2008</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>