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
9 03/01/2001 - Fortieth Anniversary of the Peace Corps
10 03/04/2001 - Save Your Vision Week
11 [03/05/2001 - Greek Independence Day]
12 03/11/2001 - National Girl Scout Week
13 03/18/2001 - National Poison Prevention Week
14 April 2001 - Cancer Control Month
15 April 2001 - National Child Abuse Prevention Month
16 04/04/2001 - Education and Sharing Day, U.S.A.
17 04/09/2001 - National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day
18 04/13/2001 - Thomas Jefferson Day
19 04/14/2001 - Pan American Day and Pan American Week
20 04/15/2001 - National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week
21 November 2002 - National Adoption Month
22 2005 - National Observance of the 60th Anniversary of the End of World War II
23 09/11/2005 - Patriot Day
24 11/11/2005 - Veterans Day
25 April 2006 - Cancer Control Month
26 04/09/2006 - Small Business Week
27 04/23/2006 - National Volunteer Week
28 May 2006 - Older Americans Month
29 05/29/2006 - Prayer for Peace, Memorial Day
30 June 2006 - Caribbean - American Heritage Month
31 06/15/2006 - Establishment of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument
32 07/04/2006 - Independence Day - Braille Version
33 07/30/2006 - 50th Anniversary of Our National Motto, "In God We Trust"
34 09/08/2006 - National Days of Prayer and Remembrance
35 09/10/2006 - National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week
36 09/15/2006 - National Hispanic Heritage Month
37 09/17/2006 - Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, Constitution Week
38 09/18/2006 - Literacy Day
39 October 2006 - National Breast Cancer Awareness Month
40 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
<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>
