

service helps keep America strong and free. On Loyalty Day, we join together to celebrate this bond that makes our country great.

For more than two centuries, our military has given us examples of courage and patriotism that make every American proud. Today, more than a million Americans are stationed around the world, taking great risks and making personal sacrifices to secure the blessings of liberty for our country and to spread peace and freedom. These brave men and women are unrelenting in battle and unwavering in loyalty. Their service exemplifies our Nation's ideals, and they have our gratitude and support.

Volunteer service is also a proud American value. Our Nation relies on compassionate souls who look after their neighbors and surround the lost with love. Through good works, we can extend the promise of our country into every home and neighborhood. This year, I announced a new initiative, Helping America's Youth, led by First Lady Laura Bush, to help young people overcome the challenges they may face and emphasize the importance of loving, caring adults in every child's life. By educating and preparing today's young people to be the leaders of tomorrow, we strengthen our country and pass on the liberties we cherish to rising generations.

The Congress, by Public Law 85-529, as amended, has designated May 1 of each year as "Loyalty Day." On Loyalty Day, we honor our great Nation and the people who help keep it safe and strong. I ask all Americans to join me in this day of celebration and in reaffirming our allegiance to our Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2005, as Loyalty Day. I call upon all the people of the United States to join in support of this national observance, and to display the flag of the United States on Loyalty Day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-ninth.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 7893 of May 3, 2005

National Observance of the 60th Anniversary of the End of World War II, 2005

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

Sixty years ago, the flags of freedom unfurled across Europe and Asia as victorious American and Allied troops brought World War II to an end. Freedom prevailed when millions were liberated from oppression and tyranny was replaced by democracy.

The years of World War II were a hard, heroic, and gallant time in the life of our country. When it mattered most, a generation of Americans showed the finest qualities of our Nation and of humanity. More than 16 million

Americans served during World War II, putting on the uniform of the Soldier, the Sailor, the Airman, the Marine, the Coast Guardsman, or the Merchant Mariner. They were the sons and daughters of a peaceful country, who gave the best years of their lives to the greatest mission our country ever accepted. They earned 464 Medals of Honor, and over 400,000 made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom. Millions more supported the war effort at home—caring for the injured and working in factories to provide supplies to those fighting in distant places like Midway, Normandy, Iwo Jima, and Bastogne.

As the war drew to a close, Americans remained united in support of the vital cause of restoring the liberty of mankind. When the end of the war in Europe was announced on May 8, 1945, hundreds of people rushed to the White House to celebrate the triumph of freedom. President Harry Truman addressed the American people from the White House and said, “For this victory, we join in offering our thanks to the Providence which has guided and sustained us through the dark days of adversity.” In the following months, the war in the Pacific was won and a grateful Nation began welcoming home liberty’s heroes. Many who had left America’s farms and cities as young men and women returned as seasoned veterans ready to finish their education, start families, and assume leadership roles in their communities.

Today, as we wage the war on terror and work to extend peace and freedom around the world, our service men and women follow in the footsteps of our World War II veterans by upholding the noble tradition of duty, honor, and love of country. Like generations before them, America’s Armed Forces are among the world’s greatest forces for good, answering today’s dangers and challenges with firm resolve. Their vital mission will help secure our Nation in a new century, and all Americans are grateful for their courage, devotion to duty, and sacrifice.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 7894 of May 3, 2005

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, 2005

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

Millions of Americans proudly trace their ancestry to the many nations that make up Asia and the Pacific islands. For generations, Americans of Asian/Pacific heritage have strengthened our Nation through their achievements in all walks of life, including business, politics, education, community service, the arts, and science.

This month we honor Asian/Pacific Americans for their contributions to our Nation’s growth and development and to the spread of freedom around the world. This year’s theme, “Liberty and Freedom for All,” honors the sacrifices of Asian/Pacific Americans in the defense of freedom and democracy. We remember the bravery of soldiers of Asian/Pacific descent who have served in our military. These proud patriots stepped forward and fought for the security of our country and the peace of the world, and they