Proc. 8631  Title 3—The President

History Month. I call upon all Americans to observe this month and to cel-
brate International Women’s Day on March 8, 2011 with appropriate pro-
grams, ceremonies, and activities that honor the history, accomplishments,
and contributions of American women. I also invite all Americans to visit
www.WomensHistoryMonth.gov to learn more about the generations of
women who have shaped our history.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth
day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven, and of the
Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-
fifth.

BARACK OBAMA

Proclamation 8631 of February 28, 2011

50th Anniversary of the Peace Corps

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed an Executive Order establishing
the Peace Corps, forever changing the way America sees the world and the
world sees us. Today, one of President Kennedy’s most enduring legacies
can be found in the over 200,000 current and returned Peace Corps Volun-
teers who have collectively given over a half-century of service to the cause
of peace. On its 50th anniversary, the United States Peace Corps remains
an enduring symbol of our Nation’s commitment to encouraging progress,
creating opportunity, and fostering mutual respect and understanding
throughout the world.

Over the past five decades, Peace Corps Volunteers have served in nearly
140 countries, bringing a wealth of practical assistance to those working to
build better lives for themselves and their communities. From the first
group of volunteers to arrive in Ghana and Tanzania in August 1961, they
have been emissaries of hope and goodwill to the far corners of our world,
strengthening the ties of friendship between the people of the United States
and those of other countries. Living and working alongside those they
serve, volunteers help address changing and complex global needs in edu-
cation, health and HIV/AIDS, business and information technology, agri-
culture, environmental protection, and youth development. With each vil-
lage that now has access to clean water, each young woman who has re-
ceived an education, and each family empowered to prevent disease be-
cause of the service of a Peace Corps Volunteer, President Kennedy’s noble
vision lives on.

In our increasingly interconnected world, the mission of the Peace Corps
is more relevant today than ever. Returned volunteers, enriched by their ex-
periences overseas, bring a deeper understanding of other cultures and tradi-
tions back to their home communities in the United States. The lasting
accomplishments of the Peace Corps continue to strengthen partnerships
with leaders and countries around the world. This year, we also mourn the
loss and pay tribute to the extraordinary life of Sargent Shriver, the found-
ing director of the Peace Corps. The impact of his decades of public service
will echo forever in countless places across the globe that have been
touched by the Peace Corps.

On this anniversary, we honor the men and women from across the country
who have carried forward our Nation’s finest tradition of service, and we
rededicate ourselves to fulfilling the dream and continuing the work of all
those who aspire and yearn for peace.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of
America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and
the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 1, 2011, as the
50th Anniversary of the Peace Corps. I call upon all Americans to observe
this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities that honor
the Peace Corps and its volunteers, past and present, for their many con-
tributions to the cause of global peace and friendship.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth
day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven, and of the
Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-
fifth.

BARACK OBAMA

Proclamation 8632 of February 28, 2011

Death of Army Corporal Frank W. Buckles, the Last
Surviving American Veteran of World War I

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

As a mark of respect for the memory of Army Corporal Frank W. Buckles,
the last surviving American veteran of World War I, and in remembrance
of the generation of American veterans of World War I, I hereby order, by
the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United
States of America, that, on the day of his interment, the flag of the United
States shall be flown at half-staff at the White House and upon all public
buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all
naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and
throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions until sun-
set on such day. I further direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff for
the same period at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices,
and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval ves-
sels and stations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth
day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven, and of the
Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-
fifth.

BARACK OBAMA