

ed increasing numbers of them, culminating in last year's record acreage of trees planted in a single year.

National Arbor Day reminds us of the importance of planting and caring for the trees in our neighborhoods and countryside, but it also serves a larger purpose. Arbor Day provides an opportunity for all Americans to learn more about the vital function that trees—everywhere from our national forests to tropical mangrove swamps—have in the global ecosystem. It invites us to study how we can best protect them from desertification and overdevelopment in many areas of the world. National Arbor Day is also a time for us to recognize the many volunteers across the United States who participate in reforestation and habitat restoration projects. These volunteers have helped to transform hundreds of acres of reduced forest into thriving woodlands.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 28, 1989, as National Arbor Day and call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 5962 of April 28, 1989

Loyalty Day, 1989

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

True patriotism requires more than civic pride; it also requires constant loyalty to the principles upon which our country was founded. On the 1st of May each year, we Americans observe "Loyalty Day"—an occasion for reaffirming our allegiance to the United States and our devotion to the ideals of liberty and self-government.

Loyalty Day reminds us that freedom and democratic government are principles worthy of our lasting fidelity. Noting that it was not only their right but also their duty to oppose despotism, our Nation's founders boldly declared America's freedom and independence. "For the support of this Declaration," they avowed, ". . . we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor." Despite the great risks and sacrifices they would surely face, the Founders knew that securing the God-given rights and freedom of the American people warranted such a solemn promise.

Generations of Americans since then have expressed the same selfless devotion to the cause of freedom. Although they were cruelly tested by the horrors of war, our Nation's veterans—and those servicemen and women who were killed in the line of duty—demonstrated exceptional devotion to their country. Those who wear our Nation's uniform today,

and all those public officials who honor their solemn pledge to uphold and defend our Constitution, also give loyal service to our Nation.

Loyalty Day gives all Americans an opportunity to reaffirm their allegiance to the United States. On this occasion, we rededicate ourselves to the ideal of liberty and justice for all—a timeless ideal worthy of our abiding faith and fealty.

To foster loyalty and love of country, the Congress, by joint resolution approved July 18, 1958 (72 Stat. 369; 36 U.S.C. 162), has designated May 1 of each year as "Loyalty Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 1, 1989, as Loyalty Day, and I call upon all Americans and patriotic, civic, fraternal, and educational organizations to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies. I also call upon all Government officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 5963 of April 28, 1989

Bicentennial Celebration of the Inauguration of George Washington

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

In the annals of every great nation, there are leaders whose legacy will endure through the ages. George Washington was one such leader.

As President, George Washington led our fledgling Nation through its first, and perhaps most difficult years by remaining faithful to the principles upon which it was founded. In so doing, he set standards that every President since has hoped to emulate. On April 30, 1989, we commemorate the bicentennial anniversary of his inauguration.

Revered for his leadership during the Revolutionary War, Washington was elected to office by a unanimous vote in 1789. He dutifully answered the call to serve his country as President even though it required a great personal sacrifice. He had served his country loyally for many years—first as a soldier, then as a statesman—and had looked forward to retirement at his beloved home, Mount Vernon. Nevertheless he was also thoroughly aware of the young Nation's vulnerability. Thus, the man who had helped the United States to gain independence from Great Britain now agreed to help give it a firm footing.

George Washington neither sought nor desired political power. His love was liberty, and his trust was in the American people. Washington believed that the American people were not only entitled to a system of self-government, but were also capable of keeping it. He also firmly be-