

You will find it full of real men and women not only but also of the things you have wondered about and been troubled about all your life, as men have been always; and the more you will read it the more it will become plain to you what things are worthwhile and what are not, what things make men happy—loyalty, right dealing, speaking the truth . . . and the things that are guaranteed to make men unhappy—selfishness, cowardice, greed, and everything that is low and mean. When you have read the Bible you will know that it is the Word of God, because you will have found it the key to your own heart, your own happiness, and your own duty.

President Wilson believed that the Bible helps its readers find answers to the mysteries and sorrows that often trouble the souls of men.

Cherished for centuries by men and women around the world, the Bible's value is timeless. Its significance transcends the boundaries between nations and languages because it carries a universal message to every human heart. This year numerous individuals and associations around the world will join in a campaign to encourage voluntary study of the Bible. Their efforts are worthy of recognition and support.

In acknowledgment of the inestimable value and timeless appeal of the Bible, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 164, has designated the year 1990 as the "International Year of Bible Reading" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the year 1990 as the International Year of Bible Reading. I invite all Americans to discover the great inspiration and knowledge that can be obtained through thoughtful reading of the Bible.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-second day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

#### **Proclamation 6101 of February 23, 1990**

#### **American Red Cross Month, 1990**

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

Since its founding more than a century ago, the American Red Cross has inspired millions of Americans to participate in its voluntary public service programs. Today, dedicated Red Cross volunteers—some one million strong—help bring vital aid and services to victims of natural disasters and other emergencies, to people in need of blood, and to members of the United States Armed Forces. These compassionate and hardworking volunteers are also helping to bring useful health and safety information to the public.

Last year, Red Cross workers across the Nation responded to more than 50,000 emergencies, from serious train accidents and house fires to devastating floods and earthquakes. When Hurricane Hugo and the Loma Prieta earthquake in California struck within less than 30 days of each other, the Red Cross rushed aid to more than 143,000 families on

both U.S. coasts and in the Caribbean. Never in the history of the American Red Cross had so many people depended on the food, clothing, medical assistance, and shelter provided by its workers. Never in its history had the Red Cross responded more ably to the call for help from disaster victims.

The Red Cross also teaches people how to prevent and prepare for more common emergencies through courses in first aid, CPR, and water safety, as well as other educational programs. Each day, thousands of Red Cross instructors impart lifesaving knowledge and skills to young people and adults in communities across the country. Thanks to their efforts, some seven million Americans are certified yearly to provide emergency aid in life-threatening situations.

Today, the American Red Cross is a leader in efforts to stop the spread of AIDS. Across the country, knowledgeable Red Cross volunteers are teaching the public about this deadly disease. Through its careful testing of donated blood, the Red Cross is also helping to make our Nation's blood supply as safe as possible.

Each year, the Red Cross collects and tests more than six million units of blood, ensuring that safe and adequate supplies will be available for the ill and the injured. In addition to its blood donor programs, the American Red Cross renders vital organ and tissue transplantation services.

A less commonly known but equally important activity of the Red Cross is its cooperation with the United States Armed Forces. The Red Cross assists our active-duty military men and women and their families with information, referral services, and emergency communications. Thousands of Red Cross staff members and volunteers serve on U.S. military installations around the world, providing an important link to home for our service men and women.

However, the work done abroad by the American Red Cross extends far beyond U.S. military bases. American Red Cross workers have brought desperately needed aid to victims of the December 1988 earthquake in Armenia. They have also brought relief to the people of Eastern Europe, to the hungry in Africa, and to victims of disaster and armed conflict in other parts of the world.

Dedicated to serving individuals in need without regard to race, creed, cause, or nationality, the American Red Cross has earned the respect and gratitude of millions of people around the Nation and the world. This month, we salute its outstanding staff and volunteers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America and Honorary Chairman of the American National Red Cross, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim the month of March 1990 as American Red Cross Month. I urge all Americans to continue their generous support of the work of the American Red Cross and its nearly 2,800 chapters.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 23 day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of

the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

*Editorial note:* For the President's remarks of Feb. 23, 1990, on signing Proclamation 6101, see the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 26, p. 294).

**Proclamation 6102 of February 27, 1990**

**National Quarter Horse Week, 1990**

*By the President of the United States of America*

*A Proclamation*

American quarter horses are a highly prized breed. More individuals have benefitted from the use of American quarter horses than from any other breed of horse in the world. This horse is uniquely ours, having been developed in colonial America and bred for speed to win in popular quarter-mile races. The quarter horse still gains honors for racing throughout the country.

Quarter horses have also earned fame as top mounts for ranch work because of their quickness, responsiveness, durability, agility, and natural ability with cattle. No other horse is a greater part of Western folklore, and none has contributed more to our Nation's development and cultural heritage. Calm of disposition yet versatile, the quarter horse can be found almost anywhere in the country—on riding trails and in races, shows, rodeos, and parades. Young people who own quarter horses benefit substantially from the responsibility and enjoyment they entail.

Many of these horses are enrolled in the world's largest equine registry, maintained by the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA). Founded on March 15, 1940, by a group of southwestern ranchers, the AQHA has grown to more than 200,000 members. The registry that began with less than 600 horses now numbers more than 2.8 million. And an industry that began with just a few horsemen has grown to include more than a million owners in all walks of life and in 63 different countries.

In recognition of the worth of "America's horse," the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 186, has designated the week of March 1 through March 7, 1990, as "National Quarter Horse Week" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of March 1 through March 7, 1990, as National Quarter Horse Week, and I invite the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-seventh day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and