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the National School Lunch Program to include breakfast, after-school
snacks, milk breaks, and summer food programs.

In recognition of the contributions of the National School Lunch Pro-
gram to the health, education, and well-being of America’s children,
the Congress, by joint resolution of October 9, 1962 (Public Law 87–
780), as amended, has designated the week beginning on the second
Sunday in October of each year as “National School Lunch Week” and
has requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of
this week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United
States of America, do hereby proclaim October 12 through October 18,
2003, as National School Lunch Week. I call upon all Americans to
join the dedicated individuals who administer the National School
Lunch Program at the State and local levels in appropriate activities to
promote programs that support the health and well-being of our Na-
tion’s children.

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

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 7720 of October 10, 2003

Columbus Day, 2003

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

When Christopher Columbus set out from Spain in August 1492, he
launched an era of discovery and exploration that continues today. On
Columbus Day, we honor this Italian explorer’s courage and vision,
and recognize his four journeys to the “New World.”

One of the first known celebrations of Christopher Columbus’ achieve-
ments was in 1792 when a ceremony in New York City celebrated the
300th anniversary of his landing in the Bahamas. Italian Americans
began regularly honoring Columbus in the 1860s. In 1892, President
Benjamin Harrison issued a Presidential proclamation on the 400th an-
niversary of Columbus’ first voyage, describing Columbus as “the pio-
near of progress and enlightenment.” The United States now celebrates
a national holiday in honor of Columbus.

Columbus’ willingness to sacrifice the comfort of his home to pursue
the unknown has inspired generations of daring explorers. Through the
years, Americans have followed in the spirit of Columbus through ex-
ploration of land, sea, and space, and are fulfilling Columbus’ great leg-
acy. Since the days of Columbus, millions of Italian immigrants have
crossed the ocean and come to the United States. These Italian Ameri-
cans and their descendants have made America stronger and better.

In commemoration of Columbus’ journey, the Congress, by joint reso-
lation of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as
amended, has requested that the President proclaim the second Mon-
day of October of each year as “Columbus Day.”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United
States of America, do hereby proclaim October 13, 2003, as Columbus
Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day
with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag
of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the ap-
pointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

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

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 7721 of October 10, 2003

General Pulaski Memorial Day, 2003

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski sacrificed his life on October 11,
1779, for America's independence and the universal cause of freedom.
His bravery in supporting the American Revolutionary War is an inspi-
ration to individuals around the world who pursue peace and freedom
for all.

Growing up near Warsaw, Casimir Pulaski knew firsthand the horror
of tyranny and oppression. In 1768, he joined his father and fellow
compatriots in rising against injustice and fighting for Polish independ-
ence. As a commander in the rebellion, the young Pole demonstrated
a devotion to freedom and great courage. When the rebellion was
quelled, Pulaski was exiled to France, where he continued to pursue
freedom with the same spirit and determination that he had shown in
Poland.

While in Paris, he met with the American envoy to France, Benjamin
Franklin, who discussed with him America's struggle for independ-
ence. Pulaski then volunteered his services to General George Wash-
ington. In his first letter to General Washington after arriving in Amer-
ica in the summer of 1777, General Pulaski pledged that he “came
here, where freedom is being defended, to serve it, and to live and die
for it.” Impressed with General Pulaski's abilities and battle experi-
ence, General Washington commissioned him as a Brigadier General of
the American cavalry. In May 1779, General Pulaski's new cavalry di-
vision successfully defended the city of Charleston, South Carolina.
Several months later, in the siege of Savannah, General Pulaski was
mortally wounded while trying to raise morale and rally his troops
who were under heavy enemy fire.

General Pulaski's bravery and sacrifice helped lead America to victory,
and today, the Polish motto—“for your freedom and ours”—echoes the
great spirit of this Polish and American hero. This day, we commemo-
rate General Pulaski's service to our Nation and draw strength from his