

A patriot is also somebody who wants to make the community in which they live a more decent and honorable place, a more compassionate place.

In the midst of our plenty, there are people in America who hurt. There are pockets of despair and hopelessness. And Government can hand out money, and frankly we do a pretty good job of it. But what it cannot do is put hope into people's hearts or a sense of purpose in people's lives. That's done when a citizen puts his or her arm around somebody who hurts and says, "I love you. What can I do to help you? Can I mentor you? Can I teach you to read? As a shut-in, what can I do to make your day a brighter day?" No, my call to the American people, if you want to join the war on terror, is to love your neighbor, is to help somebody.

Flight 93—I had the honor of going to the site and hugging the families of the 40 who were on that airplane. Flight 93, it's the flight where people flying across the country heard the plane was going to be used as a weapon. They called their loved ones on cell phones and told them, "I love you." They told—one of them said, let's—they said a prayer; a guy said, "Let's roll." They took the plane into the ground to serve something greater than themselves in life.

It's an example of what is happening in America, where people understand serving something greater than self is a part of being a complete American. I call upon all of you all—my call to our fellow Americans is, when you find hurt, be a part of healing and recognize that while you can't do everything, you can do something to help change America, one heart and one soul and one conscience at a time.

No, the enemy hit us—they hit us. But out of that terrible day can come some good. There's no doubt in my mind, if America remains strong and steadfast, we can achieve peace—can achieve peace for this generation and for future generations to come.

And the enemy hit us, and out of the evil done to America that day is going to come

a more compassionate and decent and hopeful America, because they hit the greatest nation, full of the finest people on the face of the Earth.

Thank you all for coming. May God bless. God bless America. Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:07 p.m. at the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds. In his remarks, he referred to Representative Nussle's wife, Karen, and his mother, Laura; Ramzi bin al-Shibh, an Al Qaida operative suspected of helping plan the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, who was captured in Karachi, Pakistan; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. Representative Nussle is a candidate for reelection in Iowa's Second Congressional District.

### Message on the Observance of Yom Kippur, 5763

September 16, 2002

*The Lord loves righteousness and justice;  
The earth is full of his unfailing love.*

*Psalms 33:5*

Yom Kippur is a day of holy reflection and reverence. Jewish tradition sets this day aside as a time to seek atonement, and to return, in forgiveness, to the enduring love of the Almighty. As you pray, may you place your trust in the promises of God, and look to the future with hope.

As we face the challenges of a new era, faith is an important source of strength and goodness in America. At this time of renewal, I encourage you to recommit to a life of compassion, love, and service. Together we can transform our Nation, one heart and one soul at a time.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for a blessed day.

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

## **Proclamation 7594—Citizenship Day and Constitution Week, 2002**

September 16, 2002

*By the President of the United States of America*

### **A Proclamation**

*We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.*

With these words, written more than 200 years ago, our Forefathers laid the foundations for a great Nation, adopting a Constitution that has since proven to be an enduring and true guide for American government. The Constitution's powerful framework for establishing and preserving liberty, justice, and opportunity has enabled us to prosper as a Nation and thrive as a people through more than two centuries of political change, social transformation, and economic challenge.

The Founders secured the principles expressed in the Declaration of Independence by establishing a government that derives its power from the consent of the American people. The government established by the Constitution formed a remarkably resilient structure, balancing necessary authority with inherent freedoms, national unity with individual rights, and Federal interests with State powers. In setting this foundation, the Founders also recognized the potential for necessary change. They included a constitutional amendment process, which has proven to be a vitally important mechanism for achieving equality and fairness for all our citizens.

Our Constitution is sustained by Americans who daily defend the principles of democracy and freedom. We understand that with great privileges come great responsibilities. Citizenship not only involves a commitment to our Nation but also to our neighbors and those in need. Over the past year, we have seen many outstanding examples of self-

less sacrifice, courageous compassion, and true generosity. We remain committed to building a culture of service and responsibility that inspires citizens to reach out to the needy, take leadership in improving our communities, and participate fully in our democratic process.

Today, the United States stands as a beacon of democracy and tolerance, inviting the nations of the world to pursue justice, provide freedom, and protect liberty for their people. As we face the challenges of a new era, we remain resolved and vigilant in the defense of life and liberty against tyranny and terror. Drawing strength and guidance from our Constitution, we will work to ensure that the blessings of American liberty endure and extend for generations to come.

In remembrance of the signing of the Constitution and in recognition of the Americans who strive to uphold the duties and responsibilities of citizenship, the Congress, by joint resolution of February 29, 1952 (36 U.S.C. 106, as amended), designated September 17 as "Citizenship Day," and by joint resolution of August 2, 1956 (36 U.S.C. 108, as amended), requested that the President proclaim the week beginning September 17 and ending September 23 of each year as "Constitution Week."

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush**, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim September 17, 2002, as Citizenship Day and September 17 through September 23, 2002, as Constitution Week. I encourage Federal, State, and local officials, as well as leaders of civic, social, and educational organizations, to conduct ceremonies and programs that celebrate our Constitution and reaffirm our commitment as citizens of our great Nation.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this sixteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

**George W. Bush**

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NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on September 20.