

Week Ending Friday, October 31, 2003

Proclamation 7726—United Nations Day, 2003

October 24, 2003

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The United Nations is a vital international arena for countries to cooperate in pursuit of political, economic, and social freedoms. Founded by 51 Member countries after World War II, the organization has grown through the years to include 191 Member States. On United Nations Day, we celebrate the organization's founding principles of freedom, democracy, and human rights, and we recognize the contributions of the United Nations to improving lives around the world.

As an original signatory of the United Nations Charter, the United States continues to advance the United Nations' founding principles. We are working with the United Nations to reduce conflicts around the world, fight terrorism, abolish trafficking in persons, and support those in need, including the people of Afghanistan and Iraq as they continue to build free and stable countries. As we commemorate the 58th anniversary of the United Nations, we honor the victims of the recent bombing of the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad who worked to advance peace and freedom.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. 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 October 24, 2003, as United Nations Day. I urge the Governors of the 50 States, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the officials of other areas under the flag of the United States to honor the observance of United Nations Day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fourth 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

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:24 a.m., October 27, 2003]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on October 28. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Proclamation 7725—Protection From Pornography Week, 2003

October 24, 2003

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Pornography can have debilitating effects on communities, marriages, families, and children. During Protection From Pornography Week, we commit to take steps to confront the dangers of pornography.

The effects of pornography are particularly pernicious with respect to children. The recent enactment of the PROTECT Act of 2003 strengthens child pornography laws, establishes the Federal Government's role in the AMBER Alert System, increases punishment for Federal crimes against children, and authorizes judges to require extended supervision of sex offenders who are released from prison.

We have committed significant resources to the Department of Justice to intensify investigative and prosecutorial efforts to combat obscenity, child pornography, and child sexual exploitation on the Internet. We are vigorously prosecuting and severely punishing those who would harm our children.