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## Proclamation 7794—Announcing the Death of Ronald Reagan

*June 6, 2004*

*By the President of the United States of America*

***A Proclamation***

*To the People of the United States:*

It is my sad duty to announce officially the death of Ronald Reagan, the fortieth President of the United States, on June 5, 2004.

We are blessed to live in a Nation, and a world, that have been shaped by the will, the leadership, and the vision of Ronald Reagan.

With an unshakable faith in the values of our country and the character of our people, Ronald Reagan renewed America's confidence and restored our Nation. His optimism, strength, and humility epitomized the American spirit. He always told us that for America the best was yet to come.

Ronald Reagan believed that God takes the side of justice and that America has a special calling to oppose tyranny and defend freedom. Through his courage and determination, he enhanced America's security and advanced the spread of peace, liberty, and democracy to millions of people who had lived in darkness and oppression. As America's President, Ronald Reagan helped change the world.

President Reagan has left us, but he has left us stronger and better. We take comfort in the knowledge that he has left us for a better place, the shining city that awaits him.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, in honor and tribute to the memory of Ronald Reagan, and as an expression of public sorrow, do hereby direct that the flag of the United States be displayed at half-staff at the White House and on all buildings, grounds, and Naval vessels of the United States for a period of 30 days from the day of his death. I also direct that for the same length of time, the representatives of the United States in foreign countries shall make similar arrangements for the display of the flag at half-staff over their Embassies, Legations, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and stations.

I hereby order that suitable honors be rendered by units of the Armed Forces under orders of the Secretary of Defense.

I do further appoint Friday, June 11, 2004, as a National Day of Mourning throughout the United States. I call on the American people to assemble on that day in their respective places of worship, there to pay homage to the memory of President Reagan. I invite the people of the world who share our grief to join us in this solemn observance.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand four, 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, 12:01 p.m., June 7, 2004]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on June 8.

## Executive Order 13343—Providing for the Closing of Government Departments and Agencies on June 11, 2004

*June 6, 2004*

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

***Section 1.*** All executive departments, independent establishments, and other governmental agencies shall be closed on June 11, 2004, as a mark of respect for Ronald Reagan, the fortieth President of the United States. That day shall be considered as falling within the scope of Executive Order 11582 of February 11, 1971, and of 5 U.S.C. 5546 and 6103(b) and other similar statutes insofar as they relate to the pay and leave of employees of the United States.

***Sec. 2.*** The first sentence of section 1 of this order shall not apply to those offices and installations, or parts thereof, in the Department of State, the Department of Defense, the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, or other departments,

independent establishments, and governmental agencies that the heads thereof determine should remain open for reasons of national security or defense or other essential public business.

**George W. Bush**

The White House,
June 6, 2004.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 12:02 p.m., June 7, 2004]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on June 8.

## Remarks Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan and an Exchange With Reporters at Sea Island, Georgia

*June 8, 2004*

***President Bush.*** It's my honor to welcome my friend and a strong leader, the Prime Minister of Japan, to Sea Island, Georgia. I've really been looking forward to this lunch because every time I meet with the Prime Minister, we have a constructive and important dialog.

The first thing, of course, I will do is congratulate him on the fact that the Japanese economy is improving under his leadership. We will talk about security issues. We'll talk about our mutual desire to fight terror. We will talk about North Korea. We will talk about Iraq, and in doing so, I know I'm talking with a leader I can trust and a leader who has got good, sound judgment.

Mr. Prime Minister.

***Prime Minister Koizumi.*** First of all, I would like to express my condolences to the pass away of President Reagan. I would like to pay respect to his achievement, especially in numerous achievements, especially in strengthening our Japan-U.S. bilateral relationship.

Today, I was very much looking forward to meeting with President Bush in order to discuss Iraq, North Korea, and those issues from a viewpoint of Japan-U.S. alliance in the global context. As the international community has to cooperate in order to reconstruct Iraq, I would like to pay respect to his strong leadership of President Bush in meeting this international coordination.

And also on the North Korea issue, President Bush has strongly supported the Japanese policy, and we would like to—Japan and the U.S. would like to coordinate together, consult together in the issue of North Korea in order to come up with a peace in Korean Peninsula.

And in this difficult—even in the difficult and hard conditions, President Bush has shown his strong determination and commitment, and he is a man of determination. So with President Bush we would like to maintain our Japan-U.S. cooperation in order to come up with peace and stability in the world.

***President Bush.*** Thank you. A couple of questions. Tom [Tom Raum, Associated Press].

### *Proposed U.N. Security Council Resolution/Troop Levels in Iraq*

***Q.*** Mr. President, originally you had hoped that a U.N. resolution on Iraq would lead to more troops. Now you're on the verge of getting that U.N. resolution, and yet, we haven't heard much about more troops. In fact, France, Germany, Russia, and Canada have said they won't send troops under any circumstance. Have you pretty much given up on getting these allies to send troops, or is there still hope that you can persuade them?

***President Bush.*** First, I'm delighted that we're about to get a Security Council resolution. There were some who said we'd never get one, and it looks like if things go well, it will be a unanimous vote—thereby saying to the world that members of the Security Council are interested in working together to make sure that Iraq is free and peaceful and democratic. I think this is a very important moment on the—on making sure that our objective is achieved.

These nations understand that a free Iraq will serve as a catalyst for change in the broader Middle East, which is an important part of winning the war on terror. I expect nations to contribute as they see fit. But of course, the key to long-term security in Iraq is for all of us to work together to train Iraqi troops to handle their own security measures.