

I believe that millions in the Middle East plead in silence for their liberty. I believe that given the chance, they will embrace the most honorable form of government every devised by man. I believe this, because freedom is not America's gift to the world; freedom is the Almighty God's gift to every man and woman in this world.

Audience members. Four more years! Four more years! Four more years!

The President. This young century will be liberty's century. By promoting freedom at home and freedom abroad, we will build a safer world and a more hopeful America. By reforming our systems of Government, we'll help more Americans realize their dreams. We'll spread ownership and opportunity to every corner of the land. We'll pass the enduring values of our country to a new generation. We will continue to work to make this world more free and, therefore, more peaceful.

For all Americans, these years in our history will always stand apart. You know, there are quiet times in the life of a nation when little is expected of its leaders. This isn't one of those times. This is a time when we need firm resolve, clear vision, and a deep faith in the values that make us a great nation.

None of us will ever forget that week when one era ended and another began. On September the 14th, 2001, I stood in the ruins of the Twin Towers. It's a day I will never forget. It's a day that workers in hardhats were there yelling at me at the top of their lungs, "Whatever it takes." I was trying my best to thank the workers, people who had been in the rubble. A guy grabbed me by the arm. He said, "Do not let me down." Ever since that day, I wake up every morning trying to better protect this country. I will never relent in defending America, whatever it takes.

Four years ago, I traveled your great State asking for the vote. I made a pledge that if you gave me a chance to serve, I would uphold the honor and the dignity of the office to which I had been elected. With your help, with your hard work, I will do so for 4 more years.

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

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:40 p.m. at the Ross County Fairgrounds. In his remarks, he referred to Senator Zell Miller of Georgia, who made the keynote address at the Republican National Convention; Gov. Bob Taft of Ohio; Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro; Ohio State Senator Doug White; pro football Hall of Famer Anthony Munoz; Prime Minister Ayad Allawi of the Iraqi Interim Government; former Democratic Presidential candidate Howard Dean; and Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Proclamation 7809—National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, 2004

September 10, 2004

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Across our country, millions of Americans suffer from the debilitating effects of alcohol and drug abuse. Substance abuse shatters lives, divides families, and robs people of their promise and potential.

My Administration is confronting these dangers. We are pursuing an ambitious, focused strategy to cut demand for drugs at home, disrupt supplies abroad, and ensure that citizens living with addiction get the treatment they need. We have made progress in fighting substance abuse, but there is more to do.

One of the worst decisions our children can make is to endanger their lives and their futures with alcohol or drugs. My Administration is addressing this problem with a strategy of education, treatment, and law enforcement. We also support random student drug testing as a prevention tool. We are seeing the results of all of these efforts, as more of our young people are also choosing to avoid alcohol and drugs. Drug use among youth has declined by 11 percent from 2001 to 2003.

My Administration is committed to expanding the choice of service providers for those struggling with addiction. We recognize the success of faith-based and community approaches in which caring citizens join together to offer alternatives to traditional

treatment, helping people change habits by changing their hearts. Through the Access to Recovery initiative, we have provided an additional \$100 million in new grants this year to expand options for substance abuse treatment and recovery support services through vouchers, which allow individuals to choose the services that best meet their recovery needs. In my 2005 budget, I have proposed doubling funding for this initiative to further expand treatment. In total, I have requested \$3.7 billion for drug treatment and research programs for 2005, an increase of about 25 percent since 2001.

The struggle against substance abuse is a community effort, and this month is an opportunity to further raise awareness and support the fight against the destructive cycle of addiction. I call on all Americans to make responsible and healthy choices so that everyone can realize the great promise of our Nation.

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 September 2004 as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

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

George W. Bush

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NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on September 15. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Proclamation 7810—National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, 2004

September 10, 2004

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Ovarian cancer affects thousands of Americans each year. During this time of tremendous medical breakthroughs, we are seeing progress in the effort to overcome this disease, but our work is not finished. National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month provides an opportunity for our citizens to learn more about early detection and treatment for this deadly cancer.

Although new cases of ovarian cancer in the United States have been decreasing for more than a decade, the American Cancer Society estimates that about 25,000 women will be diagnosed this year and over 16,000 will die from the disease. Family and personal history can affect the likelihood of developing ovarian cancer. Women should talk with their doctors and health care providers about preventative screenings and the benefits and risks of different tests. Understanding risk factors and the importance of a healthy lifestyle plays a vital role in our efforts to save lives and reduce the number of women who suffer from ovarian cancer.

As with many cancers, the chance for successful treatment of ovarian cancer increases with early detection. The medical community continues to work on developing an effective screening test that can detect the disease in its early stages when symptoms may not exist or are very difficult to diagnose. The National Institutes of Health has invested more than \$120 million this year in ovarian cancer research and expects to invest more in 2005. Through the National Cancer Institute's Ovarian Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Study, scientists are following women at increased risk for the cancer to assess how preemptive surgery and screening methods affect ovarian cancer occurrence and quality