

and care to their loved ones and strengthening America's families and communities. We also remember the women of the United States Armed Forces who are serving our country with honor and distinction across the world.

This month, we honor the extraordinary women of our Nation's past and recognize the countless women who are demonstrating leadership in every aspect of American life.

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 March 2008 as Women's History Month. I call upon all our citizens to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities that honor the history, accomplishments, and contributions of American women.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

George W. Bush

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NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on March 13.

Remarks on Arrival in Nashville, Tennessee

March 11, 2008

The President. This is Dr. Christian, Dr. Karla Christian, who really symbolizes the best of America. She and a team of hers have performed a surgery on a little Iraqi girl who was discovered by United States marines. People in Nashville raised the money for the family; they were supported by the marines there in Iraq. Some of the marines raised money, and they sent this little girl, whose heart was ailing, to America, right here to Nashville. And Karla and her team healed the little girl, and she's back in Iraq.

And the contrast couldn't be more vivid. We got people in Iraq who murder the innocent to achieve their political objectives, and we've got Americans who heal the broken

hearts of little Iraqi girls. Ours is a compassionate nation that believes in the universality of freedom. And ours is a nation full of loving souls that when they find a stranger in need will lend their God-given talents to help that stranger. And that's precisely what happened.

Karla G. Christian. Thank you.

The President. I want you to thank your team there for all the good work you've done.

Dr. Christian. Thank you for all you've done.

The President. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:29 a.m. at Nashville International Airport. In his remarks, he referred to Karla G. Christian, associate chief of pediatric cardiac surgery and director of pediatric cardiac surgical education, Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, and her patient, Amina Al'a Thabit.

Remarks to the National Religious Broadcasters Convention in Nashville

March 11, 2008

Thank you all. Please be seated. Thank you for the warm welcome. Nothing better than being introduced by a fellow Texan. [*Applause*] And it's good to see some of my Texas buddies here—[*applause*]—like my friend Evans from Dallas. Good to see you, Tony. Thanks for letting me come by.

This is kind of a rambunctious crowd. [*Laughter*] I really am pleased to be with you. For 64 years, this association has brought together some of the most memorable voices of the—our Christian community here in America. You've preached the blessings of grace and understanding and patience. I've needed all three during my time as President. [*Laughter*]

I was very young when I first learned about obedience to a higher power—and my mother sends her best to you. [*Laughter*] I am surrounded by strong women and have been all my wife. [*Laughter*] And speaking about a strong and gracious woman, Laura sends her love and best.

We have something else in common: Each of us has had doors opened to us by the same man. He led the way for America's religious