

I know you must have some special thoughts of things you might wish for the Nation for the New Year and for the holidays. Would you like to start, Mrs. Clinton?

Mrs. Clinton. Well, I just wish that the feeling of Christmas and the meaning of Christmas could find a place in the heart of everyone in the country and that it wouldn't be just seasonal, but it would go on and on and help change the way we treat each other and live together.

The President. My hope is that we will achieve more peace on Earth next year, peace in the Middle East, relief of tensions in other places in the world, but mostly that the American people will find a way to bring peace to our own streets, our own homes, our own communities. Our Nation is too violent. It makes a mockery of all the things we say we believe. It is turning the joy of childhood into a tragedy for too many millions of children. And I'm going to work real hard next year to have more peace on this piece of Earth that we inhabit in the United States.

Mr. Collins. Well, I don't know how you can work any harder than you've worked this year.

Ms. Purcell. Absolutely.

Mr. Collins. With the surge in popularity, the people turning to the Government to say, "please help us; it looks like we can't do this ourselves," are you going to feel much more bolder next year in terms of your campaigns and—

The President. Well, I don't know if we can get any more done than we did this year, but I think we can. I think we can move forward on health care, on crime and violence, and on reform of the welfare system to move more people into permanent jobs, which I think will strengthen families. Those are the three things we're going to be—

Ms. Purcell. Two enormous jobs to tackle, but thank you so much for sharing this with us. We really appreciate here at "The Home Show"—

Mr. Collins. We wish you the very, very best holiday.

Ms. Purcell. And thank you for sharing it with us.

The President. Thank you.

NOTE: The interview began at 11:49 a.m. in the Diplomatic Reception Room at the White House.

Proclamation 6637—Human Rights Day, Bill of Rights Day, and Human Rights Week, 1993

December 10, 1993

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

Thomas Paine once wrote that "Had we a place to stand upon, we might raise the world." December marks the anniversary of two cornerstone events in the continuing struggle to guarantee the protection of human rights and to raise world awareness of these due liberties. On December 15, 1791, the American Bill of Rights was ratified. And a century and a half later, on December 10, 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Each document has raised the sights—and elevated the lives—of countless people.

Our Bill of Rights guarantees our fundamental liberties, including freedom of religion, speech, and the press. It has been an enlightening guidepost during the more than 200 years of social change that have broadened our understanding of these basic liberties and assured these basic rights for all of our citizens. We continue to commemorate Bill of Rights Day because ensuring respect for human rights in the United States is never ending—it is a work in progress.

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The universality of these rights and the common duty of all governments to uphold them—the themes embodied in the Declaration—were reaffirmed at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna this past June. The Declaration has been the building block for developing international consensus on human rights because it promotes common interests we share with other nations. It recognizes that all people are endowed with certain inalienable rights—the right to life, liberty, and the security of person; the

right to be free from arbitrary arrest and imprisonment; and the right not to be subjected to summary execution and torture. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights transcends socioeconomic conditions, as well as religious and cultural traditions, for no circumstance of birth, gender, culture, or geography can limit the yearnings of the human spirit for the right to live in freedom and dignity. These longings to improve the human condition are not a Western export. They are innate desires of humankind.

When we speak about human rights, we are talking about real people in real places. The Declaration's fundamental guarantees will ring hollow to many if the words are not converted to meaningful action. There is still much for us to do:

- we must see to it that human rights remain a high priority on the agenda of the United Nations, through the creation of a High Commissioner for Human Rights and the effective operation of the Tribunal on War Crimes in the former Yugoslavia;
- we must move promptly to obtain the consent of the Senate to ratify The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
- we must pass implementing legislation on the Convention Against Torture so that we underscore our commitment to the worldwide goal of eliminating this heinous human rights violation; and
- we must do all that is necessary to move to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

The Bill of Rights and Universal Declaration of Human Rights enshrine this timeless truth for all people and all nations: respect for human rights is the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, 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 December 10, 1993, as "Human Rights Day," December 15, 1993, as "Bill of Rights Day," and the week beginning December 10, 1993, as "Human Rights Week." I call upon the peo-

ple of the United States to observe these days and that week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of December, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

William J. Clinton

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NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on December 15.

Proclamation 6638—Wright Brothers Day, 1993

December 10, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The modern era of aviation dawned on a wind-swept beach in North Carolina 90 years ago, when brothers Orville and Wilbur Wright achieved the unthinkable—most said impossible—sustained, powered flight in an aircraft. The "Flyer I" made its inaugural voyage on the morning of December 17, 1903. With Orville at the controls and Wilbur on the ground, the little craft stayed aloft for only 12 seconds and covered just 120 feet. But the brothers were not content to let that flight be their last; instead, they did their utmost to build and fly faster and better aircraft. The inventiveness, ingenuity, and dedication of the Wright brothers exalted the spirit of the American people.

This Nation's leadership in aviation that began with the Wright brothers continues today, as the prevailing technology has evolved from propeller power to jet engine propulsion, from supersonic transport to work on hypersonic aircraft. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration and related industry are now working together to develop the technologies for a commercial transport that will travel at more than twice the speed of sound. Continued leadership in