



4th of July

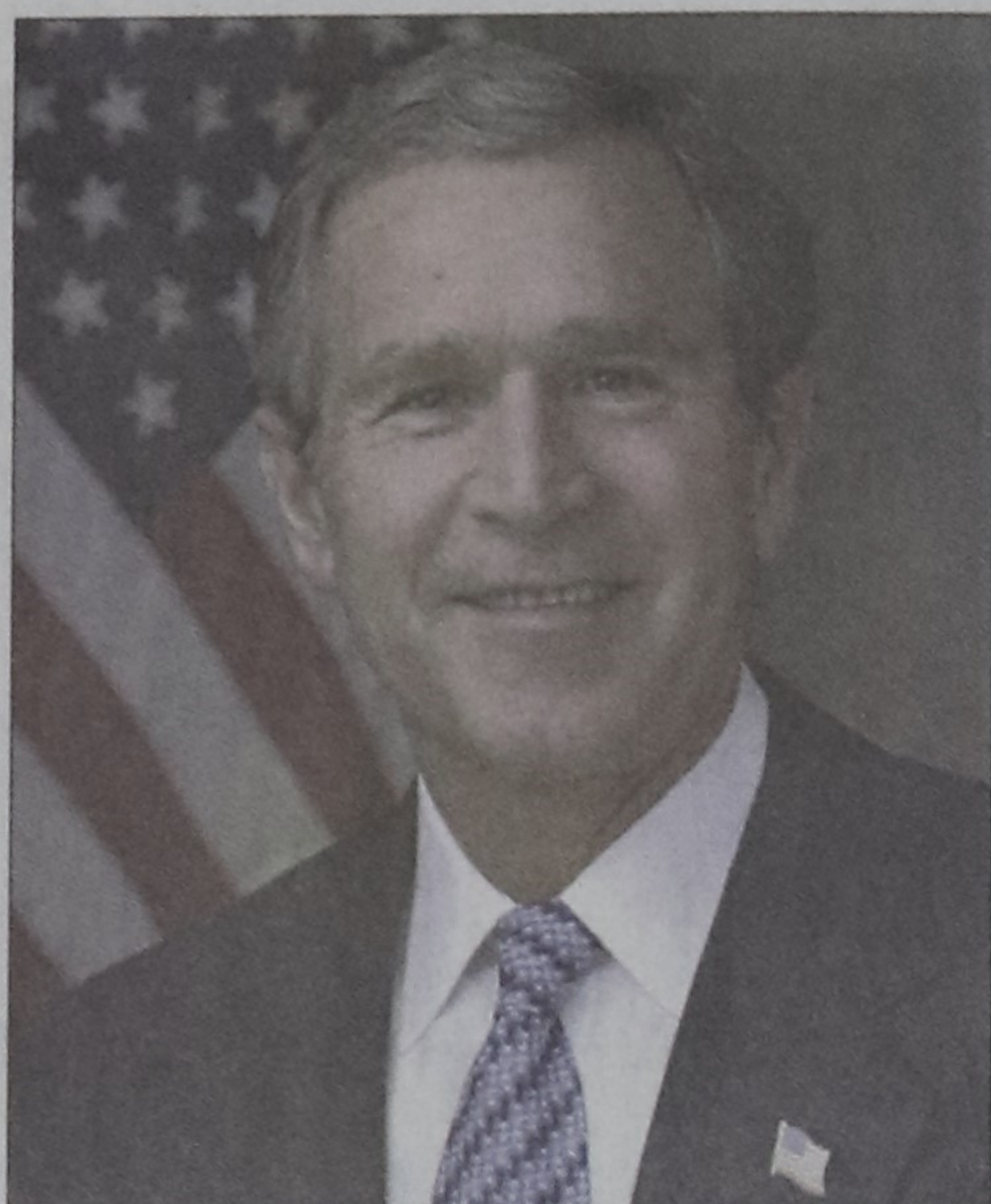


232ND INDEPENDENCE DAY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Daily Star

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

July 4, 2008



George W Bush Jr
President of the United States of America

Revolution

THE American Revolution its war for independence from Britain began as a small skirmish between British troops and armed colonists on April 19, 1775.

The British had set out from Boston, Massachusetts, to seize weapons and ammunition that revolutionary colonists had collected in nearby villages. At Lexington, they met a group of Minutemen, who got that name because they were said to be ready to fight in a minute. The Minutemen intended only a silent protest, and their leader told them not to shoot unless fired on first. The British ordered the Minutemen to disperse, and they complied. As they were withdrawing, someone fired a shot. The British troops attacked the Minutemen with guns and bayonets.

Fighting broke out at other places along the road as the British soldiers in their bright red uniforms made their way back to Boston. More than 250 "redcoats" were killed or wounded. The Americans lost 93 men.

Deadly clashes continued around Boston as colonial representatives hurried to Philadelphia to discuss the situation. A majority voted to go to war against Britain. They agreed to combine colonial militias into a continental army, and they appointed George Washington of Virginia as commander-in-chief. At the same time, however, this Second Continental Congress adopted a peace resolution urging King George III to prevent further hostilities. The king rejected it and on August 23 declared that the American colonies were in rebellion.

Calls for independence intensified in the coming months. Radical political theorist Thomas Paine helped crystallize the argument for separation. In a pamphlet called Common Sense, which sold 100,000 copies, he attacked the idea of a hereditary monarchy. Paine presented two alternatives for America: continued submission under a

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US Independence Day – a civic and social event

Americans celebrate July 4, 1776, adoption of Declaration of Independence

MICHAEL JAY FRIEDMAN

of political freedom.

THE United States celebrates its Independence Day on July 4, a day of patriotic celebration and family events throughout the country. In the words of Founding Father John Adams, the holiday is "the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forevermore."

The holiday is a major civic occasion, with roots deep in the Anglo-American tradition

Community fireworks displays are common. In New York City, Macy's department store for 30 years has sponsored a July 4 fireworks display. In 2005, the 30-minute show featured 35,000 shells launched from seven barges afloat in the East River and in New York Harbor. The Associated Press estimated that more than 3 million watched in person. The event also has been televised nationally in recent years.

"The Fourth" is a family celebration. Picnics and barbecues are common. July is summer in the United States, and millions of Americans escape the heat at beaches and other vacation spots. Independence Day is not

among the legal holidays fixed on a Monday or Friday, but many employees use vacation time to create an extended weekend, as in 2006, when the holiday occurred on a Tuesday.

Construction of important public works sometimes begins on July 4. The Erie Canal, Washington Monument and Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (the nation's first) all broke ground on Independence Day. The date reflects a desire symbolically to stamp these projects as true civic improvements.

ATIME FOR CIVIC PRIDE
The Fourth of July also is a time when elected officials and other public figures give speeches extolling American

traditions and values.

On July 4, 1788, Founding Father James Wilson addressed a Philadelphia gathering that was, at that time, possibly the largest July 4 celebration in the young nation's history. He exhorted his fellow citizens to ratify the proposed Constitution. "What is the object exhibited to our contemplation?" he asked. "A WHOLE PEOPLE exercising its first and greatest power -- performing an act of SOVEREIGNTY, ORIGINAL and UNLIMITED...."

On July 4, 1852, the black journalist and abolitionist Frederick Douglass decried the evils of slavery, still prevalent in the American South at that time, but identified forces "drawing encouragement from the Declaration of Independence, the great principles it contains, and the genius of American Institutions in operation" that "must inevitably work the downfall of slavery."

Ninety years later, near the darkest moments of World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt reminded the nation that July 4 symbolized "the democratic freedom which our citizens claim as their precious birthright."

For the "weary, hungry, unequipped Army of the American Revolution," he continued, "the Fourth of July was a tonic of hope and inspiration. So is it now The tough, grim men who fight for freedom in this dark hour take heart in its message -- the assurance of the right to liberty under God -- for all peoples and races and groups and nations, everywhere in the world."

On July 4, 2001, President George W. Bush spoke outside Independence Hall, Philadelphia, the birthplace of the Declaration of Independence. That document, he said, continues to represent "the standard to which we hold others, and the standard by which we measure ourselves. Our greatest achievements have come when we have lived up to these ideals. Our greatest tragedies have come when we have failed to uphold them."

Across the nation, civic leaders at all levels echo these words, and their audiences give thanks for the freedom and liberties that the founding generation won for all Americans.

Michael Jay Friedman is Washington File Staff Writer

AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS

THE United States of America celebrates its birthday on July 4th. On this day in 1776, Americans meeting in the Continental Congress in Philadelphia declared the reasons why they had announced their country's independence from Great Britain. They enshrined in the Declaration of Independence the principle that governments "derive their just powers from the consent of the governed." They gave birth to a new country, the United States of America.

Today we celebrate the 232nd birthday of the United States of America.

Today we celebrate democracy.

This year is a transformational year for democracy in the United States and in Bangladesh. Before year-end, both the United States and Bangladesh will hold elections to choose new leaders. Our governments will seek the consent of the governed to make a path toward the future.

Making that path has never been easy for any democracy. The Articles of Confederation that governed the United States in the early years following the Declaration of Independence proved inadequate to promote democracy in America. In 1787, after years of difficult negotiation and painful compromise, the United States adopted a Constitution designed "to form a more perfect Union." No one who signed the Constitution, no state that ratified the Constitution got everything it wanted. But the people of the United States got a Constitution that strengthened democracy in America.

Later the United States fought a bloody and bitter Civil War to decide whether those most oppressed in our country, the slaves, would benefit from our democratic form of government. As the Civil War drew toward a close, President Abraham Lincoln, in his Second

Inaugural Address, recognized that the prayers of both sides--those who supported slavery and those who opposed it--could not be answered at the same time and that the prayers of neither side had been answered fully.

Democracy in the United States--democracy anywhere--is always a work in progress.

Bangladesh is no exception to the maxim that democracy is a work in progress.

Bangladesh has a history of democratic governance. The next six months will determine whether Bangladesh will face the future with a democratic government committed to the goals outlined in the preamble to its Constitution. Namely, a society in which the rule of law, fundamental human rights and freedom, equality and justice; political, economic and social rights, will be secured for all citizens.

In recent months, Bangladesh has made progress toward reestablishing democracy. The massive voter registration drive, now almost complete, testifies to that progress. The opening of negotiations between the Caretaker Government and political parties testifies to that progress. The lively debate in the media over the way forward testifies to that progress.

In the coming months, the task of building democracy in Bangladesh will take hard work and compromise. It will be hard in Bangladesh as it is in any country for political parties to put aside partisan politics and think of the people. Bangladesh's veteran political leaders can secure their place in history by doing exactly that.

To agree on when and how to lift the state of emergency will take hard work and compromise. Only if the state of emergency is lifted before the start of political campaigning will anyone

believe that election results reflect the will of the Bangladeshi people.

The United States stands with the people of Bangladesh as they struggle to build a strong democracy. We will help if wanted and where we can. But Bangladesh will decide its own future. Bangladeshis must do the hard work and make the compromises needed to advance democracy.

With constructive participation in the process by all Bangladeshi political parties and all voters, with hard work and compromise, Bangladesh can create a brighter democratic future.

In the United States, too, the future of democracy is bright. Americans have turned out in record numbers to vote in this year's primary elections. People of every age, race, color and creed from all around the country are participating actively in the political process.

Today we celebrate democracy. Today we celebrate the birthday of the United States. God bless America.



James F Moriarty
Ambassador of the United States of America to Bangladesh

Millions of global business professionals are now getting a good night's sleep.



Supply chain is like the nervous system. A company's customer reach and revenue directly depends on it. A drop in liner connection by a day, or a sorting mistake occurring from a miscalculation can result into missing opportunities to reach the market fast enough. We understand this, by our heart and soul. The very fact that six of the world's top ten retail chains and three of the top ten global brands have entrusted their supply chain responsibilities to us tells you our expertise. For years we have developed ourselves as one of the bests in supply chain solutions management. And helped countless business professionals worldwide stop seeing nightmares.

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Fourth of July fireworks burst above, from left to right, the Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, and U.S. Capitol in Washington, July 4, 2006.

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