



THE PRESIDENT
AND
MRS. LAURA BUSH

welcome you to

THE WHITE HOUSE

*on the occasion of
the presentation of the*

PRESIDENTIAL
MEDAL OF FREEDOM



Wednesday, June 23, 2004

THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is the highest civil award of our Government. It is awarded by the President of the United States to those persons whom he deems to have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors. The Medal may be awarded to citizens of other nations and may be awarded posthumously.



THE RECIPIENTS

Robert L. Bartley

Edward William Brooke

Doris Day

Vartan Gregorian

Gilbert Melville Grosvenor

Gordon B. Hinckley

Estée Lauder

Rita Moreno

Arnold Palmer

Arnall Patz

Norman Podhoretz

Walter B. Wriston

His Holiness Pope John Paul II

ROBERT L. BARTLEY

Robert L. Bartley was one of the most influential journalists in American history. As a reporter, author, editorial page editor, and columnist, he helped shape the times in which he lived. A champion of free markets, individual liberty, and the values necessary for a free society, his writings displayed profound insights, passionate convictions, a commitment to democratic principles, and an unyielding optimism in America. The United States honors him for his contributions to American journalism and to the intellectual and political life of our Nation.



EDWARD WILLIAM BROOKE

Edward William Brooke has distinguished himself as a soldier, attorney, and legislator. In the United States Army, in Massachusetts State government, and in the United States Senate, he demonstrated the finest qualities of his State and our country. The United States honors this man of principle, courage, and perseverance for his achievements and dedicated service to our Nation.



DORIS DAY

During her film career, this “girl next door” became America’s sweetheart. As a leading lady and singer, Doris Day captured the hearts of Americans while enriching our culture. Her accomplishments and awards have made her an entertainment icon. The United States honors Doris Day for her talent, her grace, and her compassion.



VARTAN GREGORIAN

A devoted scholar, Vartan Gregorian has helped shape modern education in America. Born in Iran to Armenian parents, he immigrated to the United States with a profound enthusiasm for learning. As a university professor, provost of the University of Pennsylvania, president of the New York Public Library, president of Brown University, and president of Carnegie Corporation of New York, his vision and leadership have influenced countless lives. The United States honors Vartan Gregorian for his outstanding character and unwavering commitment to education.



GILBERT MELVILLE GROSVENOR

Through his half-century of work at the National Geographic Society, Gilbert Melville Grosvenor has helped make the world's history, cultures, and environment more accessible for all. As an accomplished journalist and the fifth generation of his family to serve as president of the Society, he has sustained a proud legacy of integrity and excellence. The United States honors Gilbert Melville Grosvenor for his lifetime of promoting exploration, research, and geography education.



GORDON B. HINCKLEY

As President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and throughout his nearly 70 years in church leadership, Gordon B. Hinckley has inspired millions and has led efforts to improve humanitarian aid, disaster relief, and education funding across the globe. His tireless efforts to spread the word of God and to promote goodwill have strengthened his faith, his community, and our Nation. The United States honors Gordon B. Hinckley for his devoted service to his church and to his fellow man.



ESTÉE LAUDER

Through her hard work and perseverance, Estée Lauder rose from humble beginnings to establish one of the world's most successful cosmetics companies. By pursuing her dreams, she transformed an industry and inspired generations of women in business. The United States honors Estée Lauder for her innovative leadership, her entrepreneurial spirit, and her contributions to our Nation.



RITA MORENO

With her memorable portrayal of Anita in "West Side Story," Rita Moreno caught the attention of an international audience. Throughout her award-winning stage and screen career, her talent and determination opened new avenues of opportunity for Hispanics and other minority artists. The United States honors this gifted performer for helping to shape our Nation's cultural and artistic heritage.



ARNOLD PALMER

Arnold Palmer helped launch the sport of golf into an era of new popularity. He inspired fellow golfers, as well as legions of fans who formed "Arnie's Army" and followed his career with loyal devotion. Throughout his remarkable career, he has set a standard for golf excellence, winning 92 championships, including seven major titles as a professional. The United States honors this proud citizen for his athletic skill, his sportsmanship, and his many contributions to his sport and to America.



ARNALL PATZ

Arnall Patz' research and achievements have safeguarded and improved eyesight for generations worldwide. His breakthrough work, particularly with premature infants, has saved countless thousands from blindness. The United States honors this man of science for enhancing medicine and continuing America's legacy of discovery.



NORMAN PODHORETZ

Writer, critic, and editor, Norman Podhoretz has distinguished himself as one of our country's most insightful minds. Through his 35-year stewardship of *Commentary* magazine, and his involvement with other leading American institutions, he explored the workings of our culture, our government, and our society, influencing political debate and cultural climate. The United States honors this proud American for enhancing civic discourse and the life of our Nation.



WALTER B. WRISTON

Walter B. Wriston's remarkable career redefined the way we conduct international business. During his career in the private sector, he oversaw the introduction of electronic banking technology that helped pave the way for today's modern global economy. Through his years of public service, he championed free markets to benefit Americans and people around the globe. The United States honors Walter B. Wriston for his efforts to advance prosperity worldwide.



HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II

A devoted servant of God, His Holiness Pope John Paul II has championed the cause of the poor, the weak, the hungry, and the outcast. He has defended the unique dignity of every life, and the goodness of all life. Through his faith and moral conviction, he has given courage to others to be not afraid in overcoming injustice and oppression. His principled stand for peace and freedom has inspired millions and helped to topple communism and tyranny. The United States honors this son of Poland who became the Bishop of Rome, and a hero of our time.



