

1971 U Thant Proclamation of the Peacebell ringing at the UN  
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SECRETARY-GENERAL SIGNS EARTH DAY PROCLAMATION

The Secretary-General, U Thant, signed today an Earth Day Proclamation for the celebration of Earth Day on 21 March 1971 -- the vernal equinox, or first day of Spring in the Northern Hemisphere.

The observance of Earth Day was initiated last year by the City of San Francisco. The Proclamation has already been signed by a number of eminent personalities, including Col. Buzz Aldrin, United States astronaut; Luther H. Evans, former Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; Miss Margaret Mead, anthropologist; Miss Estelle Feldman, Chairman of the Commission on Man and Environment of the 1970 World Youth Assembly, and Chief S.O. Adebó, Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

The Secretary-General has also agreed to issue a message in connexion with the observance of Earth Day, and to attend a private ceremony at United Nations Headquarters at which the Peace Bell will be rung. The ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. on Sunday, 21 March (1900 GMT), the hour of the signing of the United Nations Charter at San Francisco on 26 June 1945.

The text of the Earth Day Proclamation is as follows:

"Whereas: A new world view is emerging; through the eyes of our Astronauts and Cosmonauts we now see our beautiful blue planet as a home for all people, and

"Whereas: Planet Earth is facing a grave crisis which only the people of Earth can resolve, and the delicate balances of nature, essential for our survival, can only be saved through a global effort, involving all of us, and

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