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October 23

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger of California to discuss the wildfires in southern California.

In the evening, the President had a telephone conversation with Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff and Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator R. David Paulison, who briefed him on the damage and recovery efforts in southern California.

The President announced his intention to nominate James Shinn to be Assistant Secretary of Defense (Asian and Pacific Security Affairs).

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert A. Sturgell to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

The President declared an emergency in California and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local response efforts in the area struck by wildfires beginning on October 21 and continuing.

October 24

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had a video teleconference with Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff, Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator R. David Paulison, Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne, Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England, Acting Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Conner, and Gen. Victor E. Renuart, Jr., USAF, commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command, to discuss the wildfires in southern California.

The President declared a major disaster in California and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by wildfires beginning on October 21 and continuing.

October 25

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to San Diego, CA, where, aboard Marine One, he took an aerial tour of the areas damaged by the wildfires. He then traveled to Escondido, CA.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC, arriving in the evening.

The President announced his intention to nominate Steven R. Chealander to be a member of the National Transportation Safety Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate John H. Gibson to be Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Financial Management).

The President announced his intention to nominate Mark V. Rosenker to be Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board.

The President announced his intention to appoint Kenneth C. Canterbury, Jr., as a member of the medal of Valor Review Board (Law Enforcement).

The President announced that he has named Brian V. McCormack as Deputy Assistant to the President for Strategic Initiatives and External Affairs.

October 26

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted October 23

James Shinn,
of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense (new position).

Robert A. Sturgell,
of Maryland, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration for the term of 5 years, vice Marion C. Blakey, term expired.

Submitted October 26

Steven R. Chealander,
of Texas, to be a member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2012 (reappointment).

John H. Gibson,
of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, vice Michael Montelongo, resigned.

Mark V. Rosenker,
of Maryland, to be Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term of 2 years (reappointment).

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released October 22

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy Press Secretary Tony Fratto

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary: Request To Fund Security Cooperation With Mexico and Central America

Fact sheet: 2008 War Funding Request

Released October 23

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Dana Perino

Transcript of a press briefing by a senior administration official on the President's speech on Cuba

Statement by the Press Secretary on Senate passage of an appropriations bill to fund the Departments of Labor, Education, and Health and Human Services and other agencies

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to California

Fact sheet: Defending America and Its Allies Against Ballistic Missile Attack

Released October 24

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Dana Perino

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 1124, H.R. 2467, H.R. 2587, H.R. 2654, H.R. 2765, H.R. 2778, H.R. 2825, H.R. 3052, and H.R. 3106

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to California

Fact sheet: Encouraging Freedom, Justice, and Prosperity in Cuba

Released October 25

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Dana Perino

Statement by the Press Secretary on House of Representatives passage of State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) legislation

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 995

Released October 26

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Dana Perino

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 3233

Acts Approved by the President

Approved October 24

H.R. 1124 / Public Law 110–97
To extend the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999

H.R. 2467 / Public Law 110–98
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 69 Montgomery Street in Jersey City, New Jersey, as the "Frank J. Guarini Post Office Building"

H.R. 2587 / Public Law 110–99
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 555 South 3rd Street Lobby in Memphis, Tennessee, as the