

their families and their loved ones in our prayers and in our thoughts.

[At this point, the turkeys gobbled.]

The President. Thank you. [Laughter]

America's children also have a special place in our thoughts during this season. Don't you agree? Today we're proud to be joined from—youngsters from the Camp Fire USA. We're glad you all are here. It's a nationwide organization that helps children become caring and confident future leaders. One of the things Laura and I have been most thankful for over the years is the chance to meet children from across the country and to hear from thousands of others. Some send photos; some offer prayers; some of them ask about Barney. A second grader from California once asked me, "Do you ever get a headache?" Not really, only when I have a press conference. [Laughter] Some children send letters with the same—with the simple phrase, "God bless America." Others write about relatives serving in the war, and they hope I remember them.

Earlier this year, a little girl in Oregon sent me a picture she had drawn. It's a large American flag, and it stood in the glow of bright orange sun. The spirit that inspired Franklin and Sandburg and other generations of America lives in the heart of this child. She sees America in the light of a rising sun. And so do I, and so do millions of our citizens. It's hard to be anything but grateful when you live in a country full of compassionate and decent citizens, a land our Fathers always knew was blessed by the Almighty God.

And so now I have a task, and that is to grant a full Presidential pardon to May and Flower. They'll be shortly flown to Disney World, where they will serve as honorary grand marshals for the Thanksgiving Day Parade. I hope that honor doesn't go to their head. [Laughter] May they live the rest of their lives in blissful gobbling. And may all Americans enjoy a holiday full of love and peace. God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:23 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Joel Brandenberger, president, National Turkey Federation.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

November 17

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

November 19

In the morning, the President was briefed by Deputy Secretary of State John D. Negroponte on his trip to Pakistan and his meetings with President Pervez Musharraf. He then had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Richmond, VA, where he visited the Central Virginia Foodbank.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Charles City, VA.

In the afternoon, the President visited the Thanksgiving Shrine at Berkeley Plantation. Later, he returned to Washington, DC. While en route aboard Air Force One, he participated in an interview with syndicated columnist Kathleen Parker.

November 20

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Camp David, MD. They then participated in an interview with Charles Gibson of "ABC World News Tonight with Charles Gibson."

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush participated in an interview with People magazine.

November 21

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced his intention to nominate Neil Romano to be Assistant Secretary of Labor (Disability Employment Policy) and, upon confirmation, appoint him as a member of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

The President announced his intention to nominate Douglas H. Shulman to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue at the Department of the Treasury.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the Advisory Council to the Board of Governors of the American Red Cross: Michael Chertoff; Robert M. Gates; Carlos M. Gutierrez; Michael O. Leavitt; Michael G. Mullen; Condoleezza Rice; and Margaret Spellings.

November 22

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had several Thanksgiving holiday telephone conversations with members of the U.S. military.

November 23

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

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 November 17 *

Transcript of a teleconference press briefing by Council on Environmental Quality Chairman James L. Connaughton, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy Associate Director Sharon L. Hays, and State Department Senior Climate Negotiator Harlan Watson on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report

Statement by the Press Secretary on Cyclone Sidr in Bangladesh

Released November 19

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Dana Perino

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed S. 2206

Released November 20

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Dana Perino

Statement by the Press Secretary on advances in ethical stem cell research

Acts Approved by the President

Approved November 19

S. 2206 / Public Law 110–120

To provide technical corrections to Public Law 109–116 (2 U.S.C. 2131a note) to extend the time period for the Joint Committee on the Library to enter into an agreement to obtain a statue of Rosa Parks, and for other purposes

* The transcript of the press briefing was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 16 but was embargoed for release until November 17.