

former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres; Gen. Henry H. Shelton, USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and his wife, Carolyn; former Secretary of State Warren Christopher; former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance; former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Colin Powell, USA (Ret.); Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestinian Authority; and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu of Israel. The Rabin Foundation and the Peres Foundation jointly established the Man of Peace Award. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on the Korean Peninsula Peace Process

November 21, 1997

I am pleased with the agreement reached today in New York to begin plenary talks on December 9 in Geneva to achieve a lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula. It carries forward the four-party peace initiative President Kim Yong-sam and I launched in April 1996. In Geneva, the four parties—the United States, the Republic of Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and the People's Republic of China—will together discuss how we can secure a stable and permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula. There is a lot of hard work ahead. But this is an important first step and the United States is prepared to be a full partner in helping the Korean people build a future of peace.

Proclamation 7052—Thanksgiving Day, 1997

November 21, 1997

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Another year has passed on our American journey. The seasons have completed another cycle, and it is harvest time in America. Once again, millions of us will gather with family and friends to give thanks to God for the many blessings that He has bestowed upon us.

This Thanksgiving Day, as every day, we are grateful for the gift of freedom, for the vision made real by our Nation's founders

and preserved by the courage, vigilance, and sacrifice of generations of Americans. We are thankful for the bounty and beauty of this great land, which has welcomed so many to its shores across the years. We cherish the love of our families and friends. We value the opportunity to provide for our children's future with the fruits of our honest labor. And, like the Pilgrims who celebrated Thanksgiving more than 300 years ago, we thank God for bringing us safely to the threshold of a new world, full of exhilarating challenge and promise.

In this new world, our children are growing up free from the shadows of the Cold War and the threat of nuclear holocaust. Nations once held captive by communism are learning the lessons of liberty and democracy. A revolution in technology has brought the world closer together and holds the prospect of greater knowledge and prosperity for people across the globe.

More than three centuries of change and growth separate us from the Pilgrims and their Native American friends who sat down together for their Thanksgiving meal. But the example and experience of those early Americans still hold great meaning for us today. They remind us that God's love strengthens and sustains us, both as individuals and as a Nation. They remind us that everyone has something to contribute, and that we are all richer when we learn to share. They teach us a simple but powerful lesson that each new generation of Americans must learn and pass on: we need one another. Like the Pilgrims, if we are to flourish in our new world, we must do so not as isolated individuals, but as members of a family, one America, sharing our gifts and leaving no one behind.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 27, 1997, as a National Day of Thanksgiving. I encourage all Americans to assemble in their homes, places of worship, or community centers to share the spirit of goodwill and prayer; to express heartfelt thanks to God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us; and to reach out in true friendship to our brothers and sisters across

this land who, together, comprise our great American family.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-second.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 24, 1997]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on November 25.

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 15

In the morning, the President traveled to Sacramento, CA. While en route, he had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom concerning the situation in Iraq. In the afternoon, the President traveled to Malibu, CA.

In the evening, the President had a telephone conversation with President Jacques Chirac of France, who was traveling in Vietnam, concerning the new U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam and the situation in Iraq.

November 16

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Beverly Hills, and later, he traveled to Los Angeles, CA.

November 17

In the morning, the President traveled to Wichita, KS, arriving in the afternoon. While en route, he had telephone conversations with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, to express condolences for the victims of the terrorist attack in Luxor, and with United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan concerning the situation in Iraq.

Later, he traveled to St. Louis, MO, and in the evening, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to appoint Susan L. Graham as a member of the President's Committee on the National Medal of Science.

November 18

In the evening, the President met with President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan in the Oval Office.

November 19

In the morning, the President met with President Alpha Oumar Konare of Mali in the Oval Office.

November 20

The President declared a major disaster in Iowa and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by a severe winter storm October 26–28.

November 21

The President announced his intention to appoint Joseph B. Day as Commissioner of the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission.

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 16

Statement by Press Secretary Mike McCurry on China's decision to release Wei Jingsheng