

communities to our success as a nation in the years to come.

African Americans have a proud history and a rich heritage. During this holiday season, as Americans of many different backgrounds remember and rejoice in their cultural and religious traditions, let us all give thanks for the diversity that is among America's greatest strengths, and let us unite around the shared dreams and values that bind us together as one nation.

Hillary joins me in sending best wishes to all for a memorable Kwanzaa and for peace and happiness in the years to come.

William J. Clinton

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

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.

December 18

In the morning, the President met in the Oval Office with President Jacques Chirac of France in Mr. Chirac's capacity as President of the European Union. Later, the President met with participants of the European Union summit in the Oval Office.

In the evening, the President traveled to New York City. Later, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Chappaqua, NY.

The President announced his intention to nominate Edwin A. Levine to be Assistant Administrator for the Environmental Information and Chief Information Officer of the Environmental Protection Agency.

The President announced his intention to designate Charles H. Cole as Chair of the Advisory Committee to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

The President announced the recess appointment of James J. Hoecker as a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The President announced the recess appointment of Susan Ness as a member of the Federal Communications Commission.

The President announced his intention to appoint Maj. Gen. James R. Klugh, USA (Ret.), as a member of the National Veterans Business Development Corporation.

December 19

In the morning, the President returned to Washington, DC.

In the afternoon, the President hosted a "Christmas Story Hour," in which he read "Twas the Night Before Christmas" to a group of children in the East Room.

December 20

In the afternoon, the President met with Israeli and Palestinian Middle East peace process negotiators in the Cabinet Room.

The President announced the appointment of Julie E. Samuels as Director of the National Institute of Justice.

The President announced the reappointment of Marilyn Golden and the appointment of Soy Williams as members of the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board.

December 21

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt concerning the Middle East peace process. The White House announced that the President met with local Muslim leaders honoring the holy month of Ramadan.

The President announced his intention to appoint Frank H. Pearl and Mark S. Weiner to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

The President announced the recess appointment of David Z. Plavin as a member of the Federal Aviation Management Advisory Council.

The President announced the recess appointment of Arthenia L. Joyner as a member of the Federal Aviation Management Advisory Council.

The President announced the recess appointment of Elwood (Elgie) Holstein, Jr., as Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere at the Department of Commerce.

The President announced the recess appointment of Gregory M. Frazier as Chief Agricultural Negotiator for the U.S. Trade Representative.

The President announced the recess appointment of Michael V. Dunn as a member of the Farm Credit Administration Board.

The President announced the recess appointment of James A. Dorskind as General Counsel at the Department of Commerce.

The President announced the recess appointment of James V. Aidala as Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances at the Environmental Protection Agency.

The President announced the recess appointment of Kenneth Lee Smith as Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks at the Department of the Interior.

The President announced the recess appointment of Edwin A. Levine as Assistant Administrator for Environmental Information and Chief Information Officer at the Environmental Protection Agency.

December 22

The White House announced that the President received recommendations from Interior Secretary Babbitt for designation of five new national monuments in California, Montana, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and intends to make decisions on those recommendations in the coming weeks.

The President announced the recess appointment of Fred P. DuVal as a member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation.

The President announced the recess appointment of Beth S. Slavet as Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board.

The President announced the recess appointment of Shibley Telhami as a member of the Board of Directors of the U.S. Institute of Peace.

The President announced the recess appointment of Anita Perez Ferguson as Chair of the Inter-American Foundation.

The President announced the recess appointment of George (Buddy) Darden as a member of the Board of Directors of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: The Congress having adjourned *sine die* on Friday, December 15, 2000, 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 December 18

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Jake Siewert

Statement by the Press Secretary on the release of funds from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

Transcript of a press briefing by National Economic Council Director Gene Sperling and NSC Senior Director for European Affairs Antony J. Blinken on the U.S.-EU summit meeting

Announcement: Highlights of U.S.-EU Cooperation Under the New Transatlantic Agenda

Report of the Transatlantic Economic Partnership Steering Group to the Meeting of Trade and Economic Ministers at the U.S.-EU Summit

Fact sheet: International Crime Threat Assessment

Released December 19

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Jake Siewert

Released December 20

Transcript of a press briefing by Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, OMB Deputy Director for Management Sally Katzen, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Planning and Evaluation Gary Claxton on protection of medical privacy