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As we observe National Children's Day this year, let us recommit ourselves to creating a society where parents can raise healthy, happy children; where every newborn is cherished, where every child is encouraged to succeed, and where all our young people are free to pursue their dreams.

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 October 12, 1997, as National Children's Day. I urge all Americans to express their love and appreciation for children on this day and on every day throughout the year. I invite Federal officials, State and local governments, and particularly all American families to join together in observing this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities to honor our Nation's children.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of October, 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, 11:16 a.m., October 14, 1997]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on October 15.

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.

October 4

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Beltsville, MD, to observe U.S. Secret Service tactical expertise and training exercises at the James J. Rowley Training Center. Later, they returned to Washington, DC.

In the evening, the President traveled to Arlington, VA. Later, he was joined by Hillary Clinton, and they traveled to Camp David, MD.

October 6

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton returned to Washington, DC. In the evening, the President hosted a dinner for President Ezer Weizman of Israel in the Blue Room at the White House.

The President announced his intention to nominate James C. Hormel to be Ambassador to Luxembourg.

The President announced his intention to nominate Gerald S. McGowan to be Ambassador to Portugal.

The President announced his intention to nominate Lyndon L. Olson, Jr., to be Ambassador to Sweden.

The President announced his intention to nominate Kenneth R. Wyke to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration at the Department of Transportation.

October 7

In the morning, the President attended a meeting with Northern Ireland Ulster Unionist Party leader David Trimble in National Security Adviser Samuel R. Berger's office at the White House.

In the afternoon, the President met with congressional Democrats to discuss fast-track trade legislation. In the evening, he met with representatives of State and local government and business and community leaders from the Midwest.

The President announced his intention to nominate Christopher Ashby to be Ambassador to Uruguay.

The President announced his intention to nominate James A. Larocco to be Ambassador to Kuwait.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mark Erwin to be a member of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

The President announced his intention to nominate James H. Bailey to serve as Deputy Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The President announced the nomination of Bill Richardson and A. Peter Burleigh to be U.S. Representatives and Richard Sklar,

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Administration of William J. Clinton, 1997

Victor Marrero, and Nancy E. Soderberg to be U.S. Alternate Representatives to the 52d General Assembly of the United Nations.

The President announced the nomination of Nancy E. Soderberg to be Alternate U.S. Representative for Special Political Affairs at the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador.

October 8

In the morning, the President traveled to Newark, NJ. In the afternoon, he traveled to West Orange and Florham Park, NJ. Later in the afternoon, he traveled to Philadelphia, PA, arriving in the evening.

In the evening, the President attended a Democratic National Committee reception at CoreStates Arena. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced the administration's intention to appoint Rev. Jesse Jackson to be Special Envoy for the President and the Secretary of State for the promotion of democracy in Africa.

October 9

In the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom concerning the Prime Minister's recent visit to Russia and the President's October 7 meeting with Northern Ireland Ulster Unionist Party leader David Trimble.

Later, the President had a telephone conversation with retiring University of North Carolina men's basketball coach Dean Smith to commend him on his long and successful career.

The President announced his intention to nominate David B. Hermelin to be Ambassador to Norway.

The President announced the nomination of Betty Eileen King to be an Alternate U.S. Representative to the 52d General Assembly of the United Nations. Ms. King has also been nominated to be U.S. Representative on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador.

The President announced his intention to nominate Kevin Gover to be Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs at the Department of the Interior.

October 10

The President announced the nomination of Mary Mel French to be Chief of Protocol at the State Department.

The President announced the nomination of Richard W. Fisher to be Deputy U.S. Trade Representative (Washington), with the rank of Ambassador.

The President announced the nomination of Robert T. Grey, Jr., to be U.S. Representative to the Conference on Disarmament.

The President announced the nomination of Joy Harjo to be a member of the National Council on the Arts.

The President announced the nomination of Ida L. Castro to serve as the Director of the Women's Bureau at the Department of Labor.

The President announced the nomination of Carl Spielvogel as a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for the International Broadcasting Bureau.

The President announced the nomination of Robert S. Warshaw to serve as Associate Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy for the Bureau of State and Local Affairs.

The President announced the nomination of Thomas H. Fox to be Assistant Administrator for Policy and Program Coordination at the Agency for International Development.

The President announced the nomination of Donald C. Lubick to be Assistant Secretary for Tax Policy at the Department of the Treasury.

The President announced the nomination of Fred P. Hochberg to serve as Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

The President announced his intention to appoint Arthur M. Hamilton and Sally Ann Jochum as members of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation.

The President announced his intention to designate David J. Barram, in his capacity as Administrator of the General Services Administration, Andrew M. Cuomo, in his capacity as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Rodney E. Slater, in his capacity as Secretary of Transportation, to serve as members on the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

In addition, I am also announcing today that I want to work with Congress to find a solution to the growing problem of future liabilities and extended delays in completing ongoing projects. Each year, Congress adds more and more projects without sufficient resources to complete existing projects in a timely way. Some of them include 50-year Federal commitments, involving hundreds of millions of dollars. The more projects are added, the longer the delays in finishing the existing ones.

Because of limited Federal resources, the gap between the number of projects that are approved and the number we can afford will keep growing. I believe that now is the time for the administration and Congress to address the problem. I have asked the administration's senior officials who work in this area to reach out to the key Member of Congress to work toward a solution.

NOTE: The reports detailing the cancellations were published in the *Federal Register* on October 20. H.R. 2203, approved October 13, was assigned Public Law Number 105-62.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Line Item Vetoes of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 1998

October 17, 1997

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

In accordance with the Line Item Veto Act, I hereby cancel the dollar amounts of discretionary budget authority, as specified in the attached reports, contained in the "Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 1998" (H.R. 2203, approved October 13, 1997). I have determined that the cancellation of these amounts will reduce the Federal budget deficit, will not impair any essential Government functions, and will not harm the national interest. This letter, together with its attachments, constitutes a special message under section 1022 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, as amended.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives,

and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate. The reports detailing the cancellations were published in the *Federal Register* on October 20. H.R. 2203, approved October 13, was assigned Pub. Law No. 105-62.

Statement on the Death of James A. Michener

October 17, 1997

Hillary and I are greatly saddened by the loss of one of our country's most gifted storytellers, James A. Michener. Through his rich narratives woven on the grandest scale, Michener made our imaginations soar and our history come alive. From the sandy shores of the South Pacific to the barren tundra of Alaska, we followed Michener on epic journeys through time and place, along the way celebrating such time-honored virtues as patriotism, courage, and common sense. And even after achieving great fame and wealth, Michener never forgot his humble roots. He was a major benefactor to colleges and writers' groups, eventually donating much of his fortune for the benefit of others. America has lost a rich voice and a generous spirit.

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.

October 12

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Caracas, Venezuela, arriving in the afternoon.

In the evening, the President met with President Rafael Caldera of Venezuela in President Caldera's office at La Casona.

October 13

In the morning, the President participated in a wreath-laying ceremony at El Panteon.

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Brasilia, Brazil, arriving in the evening.

October 14

In the morning, the President had meetings with President Fernando Cardoso of Brazil in the Qualiencia Room and the Meeting Room at Planalto Palace.

In the afternoon, the President met with the leadership of the Brazilian Congress in Salon Nobre at the National Congress. Later, he greeted American and Brazilian personnel at the U.S. Embassy.

In the evening, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Sao Paulo, Brazil.

October 15

In the morning, the President traveled to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, arriving in the afternoon. Later, he traveled to Buenos Aires, Argentina, arriving in the evening.

The President announced his intention to appoint Judith A. Scott as a member of the Advisory Committee to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

October 16

In the morning, the President met with President Carlos Menem of Argentina in the Salon Blanco at La Casa Rosa. Later, he met with Argentine political opposition leaders in the Ceibo Room of the Sheraton Hotel.

In the afternoon, the President met with Argentine Jewish leaders in the Executive Room at the Sheraton Hotel.

October 17

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to San Carlos de Bariloche.

The President announced the appointment of Will Martin and J. Nussman as U.S. Commissioners of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna.

**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 October 12

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Released October 13

Transcript of a press briefing by National Drug Control Policy Director Barry McCaffrey on counter-drug-trafficking strategies with the Venezuelan Government

Transcript of a press briefing by Energy Secretary Federico Peña on Venezuela-U.S. energy, trade, and environmental agreements

Fact sheet: U.S.-Venezuelan Partnership for the 21st Century: Promoting Common Solutions for Energy and Development, Trade and Investment, and Protecting the Environment

Released October 14

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry and Deputy National Security Adviser Jim Steinberg on the President's meeting with President Fernando Cardoso of Brazil

Transcript of a press briefing by Office of Management and Budget Director Franklin Raines, National Security Council Director for Defense Policy and Arms Control Bob Bell, and Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre on the President's line item vetoes of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 1998

Statement by Press Secretary Mike McCurry on the appointment of Special Assistant to the President and Legal Adviser

Fact sheet: The U.S. Brazil Partnership: Improving Education in the 21st Century

Fact sheet: U.S.-Brazilian Partnership for the 21st Century

term, so must our policies be. We have an opportunity to build a new century in which China takes its rightful place as a full and strong partner in the community of nations, working with the United States to advance peace and prosperity, freedom and security for both our people and for all the world. We have to take that chance.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:50 p.m. in the auditorium at the Voice of America. In his remarks, he referred to Nicholas Platt, president, The Asia Society; and President Jiang Zemin of China.

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.

October 18

In the evening, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled from San Carlos de Bariloche to Buenos Aires, Argentina. Later, they returned to Washington, DC, arriving the following morning.

October 21

The President announced his intention to nominate William J. Lynn III to be Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller.

The President announced his intention to nominate Richard M. McGahey to serve as Assistant Secretary for Policy at the Department of Labor.

The President announced his intention to nominate Cyril Kent McGuire to serve as Assistant Secretary of Educational Research and Improvement at the Department of Education.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert McNamara, Jr., to serve as General Counsel at the Central Intelligence Agency.

The President announced his intention to nominate Daryl L. Jones to be Secretary of the Air Force.

The President announced his intention to appoint former Representative John Bryant as head of the U.S. delegation to the International Telecommunication Union's 1997 World Radiocommunications Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, with the personal rank of Ambassador.

The President announced his intention to appoint Sam W. Brown with the personal rank of Ambassador during his service as the head of the U.S. delegation to the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe's Ministerial Preparatory Conferences in Vienna, Austria.

The President announced his intention to appoint Robert L. Baxter as a member of the Advisory Committee to the President's Commission on Critical Infrastructure Protection.

October 22

In the afternoon, the President met with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I in the Oval Office.

The President announced his intention to nominate John Charles Horsley as Associate Deputy Secretary and Director of Intermodalism at the Department of Transportation.

The White House announced the President's intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the Advisory Committee on Public Interest Obligations of Digital Television Broadcasters: Charles Benton, Frank Blythe, Peggy Charren, Harold C. Crump, Frank Cruz, Robert Decherd, Barry Diller, William Duhamel, Rob Glaser, Jim Goodmon, Paul La Camera, Richard Masur, Newton Minow, Shelby Scott, Gigi Sohn, Karen Peltz Strauss, Cass R. Sunstein, Lois Jean White, and James Yee.

The White House announced that the President received the final report of the Presidential Commission on Critical Infrastructure Protection on October 20.

October 23

The President announced his intention to nominate Mary Beth West for the rank of Ambassador to be Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and Space.

