

June 24 / Administration of George Bush, 1991

Note: The exchange began at 11:08 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on the President's Meeting With Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

June 24, 1991

President Bush met today with Mrs. Sadako Ogata, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). They discussed refugee issues worldwide, with special emphasis on the Horn of Africa and the situation in Iraq. They agreed on the importance of a rapid and comprehensive response to humanitarian emergencies. The President underscored the strong and continuing U.S. support for UNHCR and wished Mrs. Ogata well in her new position as High Commissioner.

The United States will contribute imme-

diately an additional \$5 million in refugee program funds to meet the emergency needs of refugees and displaced persons in the Horn of Africa. This brings total U.S. support for refugee assistance activities in the Horn of Africa for fiscal year 1991 to \$51.3 million, including recent provision of \$18 million in Food for Peace food and 3.6 million Meals Ready to Eat (MRE's) valued at \$15.3 million.

The United States is prepared to provide additional assistance as may be required.

Remarks Congratulating the National Hockey League Champion Pittsburgh Penguins

June 24, 1991

Well, please be seated. And standing next to me is a Pennsylvanian of note, our Attorney General. And he and I are very excited and somewhat—I am, at least—apologetic for keeping this group of athletes waiting. I don't want to get them up in arms like I've seen them from time to time out on the ice. *[Laughter]* But it's not exactly hockey weather, either; I'll admit that. But let me salute Pennsylvania's two Senators that are with us today, Senator Specter, Senator Wofford; of course, Rick Santorum, your Congressman from out there; and Bob Walker, another great Pennsylvanian. So, welcome all.

I'm delighted that we're here to honor the Penguins, the National Hockey League's champions that brought such excitement to this country. This is a special moment, I'm sure, for the city of Pittsburgh, as it is for all of us here in the Rose Garden.

The Penguins have brought home the city's first-ever Stanley Cup—brought the Cup back to the U.S. for the first time since 1983. Somehow, I have the feeling that's even—special even if you're a Rose Garden veteran like Eddie DeBartolo over here, who comes regularly with his football team. *[Laughter]* But four Super Bowls with the 49ers, and now he's starting down this Stanley Cup collection road. We welcome you, sir.

The Penguins take their place alongside the Pirates and the Steelers in the hearts of Pittsburghers. And in the "City of Champions," a new ice age has begun.

Back when the season started, I don't mean to downgrade you guys, but I don't think anyone of all our sports sages and scribes were predicting that you'd end up right here. But sure enough—well, one of the reasons last year, some very good