

General. It sounds like a relatively chilly reception awaiting you.

*The President.* Well, I mean, I think that there's going to be politics. That's what happens in Washington. They are going to play to their base for a certain period of time. But I'm pretty confident that they're going to recognize that our job is to govern and make sure that we are delivering jobs for the American people and that we're creating a competitive economy for the 21st century, not just for this generation, but the next one.

And so my expectation, my hope is that John Boehner and Mitch McConnell will realize that there will be plenty of time to campaign for 2012 in 2012 and that our job this year is to make sure that we build on the recovery. We started to make good progress on that during

the lame duck, and I expect to build on that progress when I get back.

All right?

*Q.* What do you think about their effort to repeal health care?

*Q.* Anything on Larry Summers's replacement?

*The President.* Thank you, guys. Happy New Year.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10 p.m. while en route to Joint Base Andrews, MD. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Peter B. Carlisle of Honolulu, HI; and Gov. Neil Abercrombie of Hawaii. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 4. Audio was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

## Statement on the Resignation of Robert L. Gibbs as White House Press Secretary *January 5, 2011*

For the last 6 years, Robert has been a close friend, one of my closest advisers, and an effective advocate from the podium for what this administration has been doing to move America forward. I think it's natural for him to want

to step back, reflect, and retool. That brings up some challenges and opportunities for the White House, but it doesn't change the important role that Robert will continue to play on our team.

## Message to the Congress on 2010 Census Redistricting *January 5, 2011*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to title 2, United States Code, section 2a(a), I transmit herewith the statement showing the apportionment population for each State as of April 1, 2010, and the number

of Representatives to which each State would be entitled.

BARACK OBAMA

The White House,  
January 5, 2011.

## Remarks on the Appointment of William M. Daley as White House Chief of Staff *January 6, 2011*

Please have a seat, everybody. Happy New Year. Last October, when my former Chief of Staff, Rahm Emanuel, departed to pursue oth-

er opportunities in Chicago, I asked Pete Rouse, one of my most trusted aides, to step into the breach and lead us through a very

difficult time. And I also asked Pete to help us think about how the White House should be structured and run over the next 2 years.

Thanks in no small part to his efforts, a period that everybody thought would be one of re-trenchment turned out to be one of great progress for our country. And Pete's leadership is all the more remarkable when you consider that when I first met him and asked him to lead my Senate staff, he told me in that gruff voice of his that his "strong inclination was to leave government." After—[*laughter*—the reason everybody is applauding is because they've heard him say that every day—[*laughter*—they've heard him say that every day for the last 6 years. And yet each time I've asked him to accept one more assignment, he's saddled up and he's taken the job. And it's fair to say that I would not be where I am today without his extraordinary counsel.

Now, Pete didn't volunteer to serve as Interim Chief of Staff. He made it clear that that was not his preference. But he accepted the responsibility, and as he oversaw our strategy during the lame duck session of Congress, he also was working to develop a structure and a plan for the next 2 years that I believe will serve the White House and, more importantly, the American people very well. One of those assignments was providing me recommendations for candidates to serve as Chief of Staff moving forward.

As part of that process, today I am proud to announce the appointment of an experienced public servant, a devoted patriot, my friend, fellow Chicagoan Bill Daley, to serve as my Chief of Staff.

Few Americans can boast the breadth of experience that Bill brings to this job. He served as a member of President Clinton's Cabinet as Commerce Secretary. He took on several other important duties over the years on behalf of

our country. He's led major corporations. He possesses a deep understanding of how jobs are created and how to grow our economy. And needless to say, Bill also has a smidgen of awareness of how our system of government and politics works. You might say it is a genetic trait. [*Laughter*]

But most of all, I know Bill to be somebody who cares deeply about this country, believes in its promise, and considers no calling higher and more important than serving the American people. He will bring his tremendous experience, his strong values, and forward-looking vision to this White House. I'm convinced that he'll help us in our mission of growing our economy and moving America forward. And I very much look forward to working with Bill in the years to come.

Before I ask Bill to say a few words, I should also confess that I have prevailed once again on Pete's sense of duty—or sense of guilt, I'm not sure which—and I'm grateful that he has agreed to one more tour of duty as my counselor for the next 2 years. He is—[*applause*—as you might have noticed, people like Pete. [*Laughter*] He is a unique and indispensable asset to me and to this administration. I cannot imagine life here without him, and I told him so. And I'm delighted that we're able to keep him a little bit longer.

I'll be making further announcements in the days and weeks ahead, and I am absolutely confident that we will have a great team that's equal to America's task in the years to come. But with that, what I'd like to do is to introduce my new Chief of Staff, Bill Daley.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:29 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Chief of Staff Daley.

## Remarks at Thompson Creek Window Company in Landover, Maryland January 7, 2011

Please, everybody have a seat. It is wonderful to be with all of you today. I want to make just a couple of quick acknowledgments. First

of all, we have one of the fine Senators from the great State of Maryland, Ben Cardin, in the house. Where's Ben? There he is right here.