

Speaker Gingrich. Well, let me just say, if I could for a second, Mr. President, I think both the House and Senate hope to get those bills down here today so that the—the AFDC and the—as the President mentioned the other day on television.

Q. What are the chances of reopening the Government, Mr. Speaker?

Speaker Gingrich. I think we're going to talk about that now.

Q. Mr. Speaker, do you feel like a dog being wagged by its tail? *[Laughter]*

Speaker Gingrich. It's amazing you guys get paid for some of these questions, on the eve of Christmas. Merry Christmas.

Q. No, it's not my expression; it's the President's analysis.

The President. I never called the Speaker a dog. *[Laughter]*

Q. No, I know you didn't.

Speaker Gingrich. And I'm deeply grateful. *[Laughter]*

Q. Mr. President, do you think you can get a framework of a deal by Christmas?

The President. I'm prepared to—let me just say, I'm prepared to just keep working. I think all of us want to have Christmas with our families, but beyond that, I'm prepared to keep working. And I'm going to do everything I can to succeed, and that's what we're going to talk about.

Q. Mr. Speaker—

The President. Thank you. We really need to go to work.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:52 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement With Congressional Leaders on Budget Negotiations

December 22, 1995

Today we had good meetings which built on the progress made in yesterday's discussions. Staff will prepare further analysis to clarify options for the budget advisory group, which will then advise the principals on outstanding issues. Following the meeting of the budget advisory group, the principals will meet again next Friday afternoon.

NOTE: This statement was announced jointly with Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Robert Dole, Senate majority leader.

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 afternoon, the President had telephone conversations with Senate majority leader Bob Dole and Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich on budget negotiations.

The President announced his intention to appoint Robert M. Lyford to the U.S. Military Academy Board of Visitors.

December 19

In the late afternoon, the President had separate meetings with Senate majority leader Bob Dole and Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, and Senate minority leader Thomas A. Daschle and House minority leader Richard A. Gephardt to discuss budget negotiations.

In the evening, the President had telephone conversations with Senators Arlen Specter and Christopher J. Dodd on securities legislation.

December 20

In the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with Senate majority leader Bob Dole and Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich on budget negotiations.

The President declared a major disaster in the State of Georgia as a result of severe storms and tornadoes on November 7 and 8.

December 21

The President announced his intention to appoint Gerard D. DiMarco to the Board of Trustees of the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation.

The President announced his intention to appoint Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., and reappoint Ann Caracristi as members, and to reappoint Warren B. Rudman as Vice Chairman and member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

December 22

In the afternoon, the President hosted a Christmas celebration for children in the East Room.

The President announced that he has named Victoria L. Radd to be Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Communications.

The President announced that he has named Michael Waldman to be Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of Speechwriting; Carolyn Curiel to be Special Assistant to the President and Senior Presidential Speechwriter; and Terry Edmonds, Jonathan Prince, and David Shipley to be Special Assistants to the President.

**Nominations
Submitted to the Senate**

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted December 18

George W. Black, Jr.,
of Georgia, to be a member of the National Transportation Safety Board for the remainder of the term expiring December 31, 1996, vice Carl W. Vogt, resigned.

Patrick Davidson,
of California, to be a member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2000, vice Mel Harris, term expired.

Pascal D. Forgione, Jr.,
of Delaware, to be Commissioner of Education Statistics for a term expiring June 21, 1999, vice Emerson J. Elliott.

Townsend D. Wolfe III,
of Arkansas, to be a member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2000, vice Earl Roger Middle, term expired.

Sarah McCracken Fox,
of New York, to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of 5 years expiring August 27, 2000, vice James M. Stephens, term expired.

Robert E. Morin,
of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of 15 years, vice Curtis E. von Kann, retired.

Submitted December 19

Speight Jenkins,
of Washington, to be a member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2000, vice Philip Brunelle, term expired.

Mary Ann Vial Lemmon,
of Louisiana, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, vice Peter Hill Beer, retired.

Michael D. Schattman,
of Texas, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas, vice Harold Barefoot Sanders, Jr., retired.

Submitted December 20

Gaston L. Gianni, Jr.,
of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (new position).

Rita Derrick Hayes,
of Maryland, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as Chief Textile Negotiator.

Withdrawn December 20

Norwood J. Jackson, Jr.,
of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (new position), which was sent to the Senate on January 5, 1995.