

Postal Service: James A. Johnson and Harry Pearce (Co-Chairmen); Richard C. Levin; Norman I. Seabrook; Carolyn L. Gallagher; Robert S. Walker; Joseph R. Wright; Don V. Cogman; and Dionel E. Aviles.

The President declared a major disaster in the Northern Mariana Islands and ordered Federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Super Typhoon Pongsona beginning on December 8 and continuing.

### **December 12**

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Ricardo Lagos of Chile to discuss the Chile-U.S. free trade agreement that was signed on December 11. He then had intelligence and FBI briefings. Later, he traveled to Philadelphia, PA, where he went to Bright Hope Baptist Church to meet with participants in the Amachi Mentoring Program for children of prisoners.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC. Later, he dropped by a meeting of the American Legislative Exchange Council at the White House.

During the day, the President had a telephone conversation with Senator Trent Lott to discuss the Senator's December 6 remarks at a 100th birthday celebration for Senator Strom Thurmond.

The President declared a major disaster in North Carolina and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by a severe ice storm on December 4–6.

### **December 13**

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Kim Dae-jung of South Korea to discuss South Korea-U.S. relations, the situation in North Korea, and President Bush's regrets concerning the June 13 deaths of two South Korean girls, Shim Mi-Sun and Shin Hyo-Son, as a result of an accident during a U.S. military training exercise in Seoul, South Korea. President Bush then had intelligence and FBI briefings.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Camp David, MD.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Africa on January 10–17, 2003, where he will open the second U.S.–Sub-Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum (AGOA Forum) in Mauritius.

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## **Nominations Submitted to the Senate**

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NOTE: The Congress having adjourned *sine die* on Friday, November 22, no nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

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## **Checklist of White House Press Releases**

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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 7**

Statement by the Press Secretary on the Iraqi regime's report to the United Nations Monitoring, Verification, and Inspection Commission

### **Released December 9**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Guam

Announcement of nomination for Secretary of the Treasury

### **Released December 10**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Announcement of nomination for Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission