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landslides, and mudslides on November 10–16.

The President declared a major disaster in Virginia and ordered Federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding on November 18–19.

December 10

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing followed by a National Security Council meeting. Later, he met with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld.

During the day, the President had separate telephone conversations with President Vladimir Putin of Russia, President Jacques Chirac of France, and Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder of Germany to discuss his appointment of James A. Baker III as his personal envoy on the issue of Iraqi debt.

December 11

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. He also had separate telephone conversations with outgoing Prime Minister Jean Chretien of Canada, to congratulate him on his service to the Canadian people, and with Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy, to discuss the situation in Iraq and the President's appointment of James A. Baker III as his personal envoy on the issue of Iraqi debt.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to McLean, VA.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

In the evening, the President attended a holiday dinner.

The President announced his designation of Kirk Van Tine as Acting Deputy Secretary of Transportation.

The President announced his designation of Neil McPhie as Vice Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board.

December 12

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing and then met with Secretary of State Colin L. Powell. Later, he dropped by a White House meeting between Secretary of the Interior Gale A. Norton, Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman, Council on Environmental Quality Chairman James L. Connaughton, and wildlife conservation leaders.

In the afternoon, the President greeted winners of the 2003 MATHCOUNTS National Competition. Later, he attended holiday receptions.

In the evening, the President attended a holiday reception for members of the U.S. Secret Service. Later, he traveled to Camp David, MD.

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 9

Samuel W. Bodman,
of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, vice Kenneth W. Dam, resigned.

LaFayette Collins,
of Texas, to be U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Texas for the term of 4 years, vice Jack O. Dean.

Peter W. Hall,
of Vermont, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, vice Fred I. Parker, deceased.

Robert Jepson,
of Georgia, to be a member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board for a term expiring September 14, 2008, vice Karen Hastie Williams, term expired.

Paul Jones,
of Colorado, to be a member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board for a term expiring September 14, 2008, vice Charles L. Kolbe, term expired.

Rhonda Keenum,
of Mississippi, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the

United States and Foreign Commercial Service, vice Maria Cino, resigned.

Charles L. Kolbe,
of Iowa, to be a member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board for the remainder of the term expiring September 14, 2004, vice Steve H. Nickles, resigned.

Donald Korb,
of Ohio, to be Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service and an Assistant General Counsel in the Department of the Treasury, vice B. John Williams, Jr.

Lisa Kruska,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor, vice Kathleen M. Harrington.

James L. Robart,
of Washington, to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Washington, vice Thomas S. Zilly, retiring.

Brian Carlton Roseboro,
of New Jersey, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury, vice Peter R. Fisher, resigned.

Ronald J. Tenpas,
of Illinois, to be U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois for the term of 4 years, vice Miriam F. Miquelon, resigned.

Withdrawn December 9

Susan C. Schwab,
of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, vice Kenneth W. Dam, resigned, which was sent to the Senate on July 17, 2003.

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 December 6

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 421, H.R. 1367, H.R. 1821, H.R. 3038, H.R. 3140, H.R. 3166, H.R. 3185, H.R. 3349, S. 579, S. 1152, S. 1156, S. 1768, and S. 1895

Released December 8

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 1

Fact sheet: President Bush Signs the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003

Fact sheet: Commission for Assistance to a Free Cuba

Released December 9

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 3348

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Virginia

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to the U.S. Virgin Islands

Released December 10

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Released December 11

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Released December 12

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 1828 and H.R. 2115

Acts Approved by the President

Approved December 6

H.R. 421 / Public Law 108–160
Environmental Policy and Conflict Resolution Advancement Act of 2003