

injuries, and widespread damage to this ancient city. I extend my condolences to all those touched by this tragedy. The thoughts of all Americans are with the victims and their families at this time, and we stand ready to help the people of Iran.

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 20

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

Also in the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal to discuss the capture of former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. He then had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan to discuss the situations in Iraq, North Korea, and Libya, and the upcoming trip to Japan of James A. Baker III, the President's personal envoy on the issue of Iraqi debt.

Later in the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Hu Jintao of China to discuss the situations in Taiwan, Iraq, and North Korea, and Presidential Envoy Baker's upcoming trip to China.

December 22

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with L. Paul Bremer III, Presidential Envoy to Iraq, and Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld to discuss the situation in Iraq. He also met with the Homeland Security Council.

Also in the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Roh Moo-hyun of South Korea to discuss the situations in Iraq and North Korea and Presidential Envoy Baker's upcoming trip to South Korea.

In the afternoon, the President met with rabbis and Jewish community leaders in the Roosevelt Room. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Alexandria, VA, and then returned to Washington, DC.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush went to Camp David, MD.

December 23

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced his intention to appoint Eloise Anderson as a member of the Board of Directors of the Student Loan Marketing Association.

December 24

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

During the day, the President had telephone conversations with members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

December 25

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

During the day, the President celebrated Christmas with family members.

December 26

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX.

The President announced the recess appointment of Albert Casey as a Governor of the U.S. Postal Service.

The President announced the recess appointment of Bradley D. Belt as a member of the Social Security Advisory Board.

The President announced the recess appointment of Raymond Simon as Assistant Secretary of Education for Elementary and Secondary Education.

The President announced the recess appointments of Gay Hart Gaines and Claudia Puig as members of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

The President announced the recess appointment of Fayza Veronique Boulad Rodman as a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

The President announced the recess appointments of Cynthia Boich, Dorothy A. Johnson, and Henry Lozano as members of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The President announced the recess appointment of Ronald E. Meisburg as a member of the National Labor Relations Board.

The President announced the recess appointment of Clark Kent Ervin as Inspector General at the Department of Homeland Security.

The President announced the recess appointment of Robert Lerner as Commissioner of Education Statistics at the Department of Education.

items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released December 22

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that Special Presidential Envoy James A. Baker III will travel to Japan, South Korea, and China on December 27–30

Fact sheet: Guidance Released on Health Savings Accounts (HSAs): HSAs Are Good News for All Americans

Released December 26

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

**Nominations
Submitted to the Senate**

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

**Checklist
of White House Press Releases**

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as

**Acts Approved
by the President**

NOTE: No acts approved by the President were received by the Office of the Federal Register during the period covered by this issue.