

as Religious Freedom Day. I urge all Americans to reflect on the blessings of our religious freedom and to observe this day through appropriate events and activities in homes, schools, and places of worship.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this sixteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:57 a.m., January 20, 2004]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on January 21.

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### **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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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.

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#### **January 10**

In the morning, at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, the President had an intelligence briefing.

#### **January 12**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Monterrey, Mexico, to attend the Special Summit of the Americas. While en route aboard Air Force One, he had a briefing on the summit.

In the afternoon, at the InterContinental Hotel in Monterrey, the President met briefly with Caribbean leaders. Later, he and Mrs. Bush participated in a greeting with U.S. Mission employees.

Later in the afternoon, at the Parque Fundidora, the President participated in summit meetings.

In the evening, the President met with President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil at the Parque Fundidora. Later, he and Mrs. Bush attended a dinner hosted by President

Vicente Fox of Mexico at the Palacio de Gobierno.

The President announced his designation of the following individuals as members of a Presidential delegation to attend the inauguration of Oscar Berger Perdomo as President of Guatemala on January 14: Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida (head of delegation); John R. Hamilton, U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala; Columba Bush; Hamilton E. James; Bob Martinez; and Alberto M. Piedra.

#### **January 13**

In the morning, at the InterContinental Hotel, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, at the Parque Fundidora, he participated in summit meetings and then met with President Nestor Kirchner of Argentina.

In the afternoon, at the Parque Fundidora, the President participated in summit meetings and then met with President Carlos Diego Mesa Gisbert of Bolivia. Later, he participated in an official photograph followed by a lunch retreat with heads of state.

During the day, the President had a brief discussion with President Mireya Elisa Moscoso of Panama.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to appoint William Henry Campbell, Jr., as a member of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

The President declared a major disaster in California and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by an earthquake on December 22, 2003, and continuing.

The President declared a major disaster in American Samoa and ordered Federal aid to supplement Territory and local recovery efforts in the area struck by high winds, high surf, and heavy rainfall associated with Tropical Cyclone Heta on January 2-6, 2004.

#### **January 14**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had separate meetings with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld and Secretary of State Colin L. Powell.

In the afternoon, the President attended a Republican National Committee luncheon at the historic Evermay house in northwest Washington, DC. Later, at National Aeronautics and Space Administration headquarters, he met with current and former astronauts.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush had dinner with President Jose Maria Aznar of Spain and his wife, Ana Botella de Aznar.

### **January 15**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to New Orleans, LA, where, upon arrival, he greeted USA Freedom Corps volunteer Tenisha Stevens. Later, at the Union Bethel AME Church, he visited with parishioners and participated in a roundtable discussion with faith-based and community leaders.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Atlanta, GA, where, upon arrival, he greeted USA Freedom Corps volunteer Billiee Pendleton-Parker. Later, at the King Center, he participated in a wreath-laying ceremony at the gravesite of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with Dr. King's widow, Coretta Scott King, and other King family members.

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

The President announced his intention to designate Patrick Pizzella as a member of the Board of Directors of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

### **January 16**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President met with L. Paul Bremer III, Presidential Envoy to Iraq. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Camp David, MD.

The White House announced that the President and Mrs. Bush will welcome President Vicente Fox of Mexico and Mrs. Fox to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, on March 5–6.

The President announced his intention to designate Linda Richey Graves as Chairman of the Commission on Presidential Scholars.

The President announced his intention to appoint Tony B. Gelbart and Harry Reicher

as members of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the Advisory Commission on Drug-Free Communities: Kenneth L. Barun, Arthur Dean, Dennis Griffith, and Tracy Mueller.

The President declared an emergency in Connecticut and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by record/near record snow on December 5–7, 2003.

The President declared an emergency in Maine and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by record/near record snow on December 5–7, 2003.

The President declared an emergency in Massachusetts and ordered Federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area struck by record/near record snow on December 6–7, 2003.

The President declared an emergency in New Hampshire and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by record/near record snow on December 6–7, 2003.

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## **Nominations Submitted to the Senate**

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NOTE: 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 January 10**

Fact sheet: President Bush Urges Congress To Make Tax Cuts Permanent