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period when the Secretary has died, resigned, or is otherwise unable to perform functions and duties of the office of the Secretary.

(2) The provisions of paragraph 1 of this memorandum shall only apply if, at the time of the death, resignation, or inability of the Secretary, the Acting Deputy Secretary of Defense meets one or more of the criteria established in section 3345(a)(1)–(3) of title 5, United States Code.

(3) In all other respects, the order shall remain in effect.

(4) The authority of this memorandum shall terminate upon the first appointment by the President of a Deputy Secretary of Defense to occur subsequent to this memorandum, unless sooner terminated by operation of law or by the President.

(5) You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 12:29 p.m., December 23, 2005]

NOTE: This memorandum will be published in the *Federal Register* on December 27.

Memorandum on Provision of Aviation Insurance Coverage for Commercial Air Carrier Service in Domestic and International Operations

December 22, 2005

Memorandum for the Secretary of Transportation

Subject: Provision of Aviation Insurance Coverage for Commercial Air Carrier Service in Domestic and International Operations

By the authority vested in me by 49 U.S.C. 44302, *et seq.*, I hereby:

1. Determine that continuation of U.S.-flag commercial air service is necessary in the interest of air commerce, national security, and the foreign policy of the United States.

2. Approve provision by the Secretary of Transportation of insurance or reinsurance to U.S.-flag air carriers against loss or damage arising out of any risk from the operation of an aircraft in the manner and to the extent provided in Chapter 443 of 49 U.S.C.:

(a) until August 31, 2006;

(b) after August 31, 2006, but no later than December 31, 2006, when he determines that such insurance or reinsurance cannot be obtained on reasonable terms and conditions from any company authorized to conduct an insurance business in a State of the United States; and

3. Delegate to the Secretary of Transportation the authority, vested in me by 49 U.S.C. 44306(c), to extend this determination for additional periods beyond August 31, 2006, but no later than December 31, 2006, when he finds that the continued operation of aircraft to be insured or reinsured is necessary in the interest of air commerce or the national security, or to carry out the foreign policy of the United States Government.

You are directed to bring this determination immediately to the attention of all air carriers within the meaning of 49 U.S.C. 40102(2), and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 12:29 p.m., December 23, 2005]

NOTE: This memorandum will be published in the *Federal Register* on December 27.

Memorandum on Waiver of Conditions on Obligation and Expenditure of Funds for Planning, Design, and Construction of a Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility in Russia for Calendar Year 2006

December 22, 2005

Presidential Determination No. 2006–06

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Waiver of Conditions on Obligation and Expenditure of Funds for Planning, Design, and Construction of a Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility in Russia for Calendar Year 2006

Consistent with the authority vested in me by section 1303 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (Public Law 108–375) (the "Act"), I hereby certify that waiving the conditions described in section 1305 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (Public Law 106–65), as amended, is important to the national security interests of the United States, and include herein, for submission to the Congress, the statement, justification, and plan described in section 1303 of the Act. This waiver shall apply for calendar year 2006.

You are authorized and directed to transmit this certification, including the statement, justification, and plan, to the Congress and to arrange for the publication of this certification in the *Federal Register.*

George W. Bush

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 17

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

December 19

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced his intention to nominate James I. Finley to be Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology.

The President announced his intention to nominate Sharee M. Freeman to be Director of the Community Relations Service at the Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to nominate Stephen Goldsmith to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The President announced his intention to appoint Rodney R. McInnis as a member of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (Department of Commerce, National Maritime Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration member).

The President announced his intention to appoint Charles S. Robb as a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

The President announced his intention to designate Sharee M. Freeman as Acting Director of the Community Relations Service at the Department of Justice.

The President announced his designation of the following individuals as members of a Presidential delegation to attend the Inauguration of the President of Tanzania on December 21: Jendayi E. Frazer (head of delegation); Cindy Courville; and Michael L. Retzer.

December 20

In the morning, the President had separate telephone conversations with President Jalal Talabani and Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jafari of Iraq to congratulate them on Iraq's successful elections. Later, the President had an intelligence briefing. He then had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel to wish him well after he experienced a mild stoke on December 19.