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Prime Minister Salam Fayyad of the Palestinian Authority to discuss the situation in the Middle East and their efforts to reach a ceasefire as well as U.S. humanitarian aid to the region.

During the day, the President had a telephone conversation with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to discuss the situation in the Middle East.

December 31

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Ehud Olmert of Israel to discuss the situation in the Middle East. He then had separate telephone conversations with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India and President Asif Ali Zardari of Pakistan to discuss the Mumbai terrorist attacks investigation and India-Pakistan relations.

The White House announced that the President will welcome First Vice President of the Government of National Unity of Sudan and President of Southern Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit to the White House on January 5, 2009.

January 1

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

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

During the day, the President had a telephone conversation with President-elect Barack Obama.

January 2

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The White House announced that the President and Mrs. Bush will host Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon of the United Nations and his wife, Yoo (Ban) Soon-taek, for lunch at the White House on January 6, 2009.

The President declared a major disaster in New Hampshire and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by a severe winter storm beginning on December 11 and continuing.

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

Released December 29

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Council Press Secretary Gordon Johndroe

Released December 30

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Council Press Secretary Gordon Johndroe

Released December 31

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Council Press Secretary Gordon Johndroe

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary: President Bush to Meet with Salva Kiir, First Vice President of the Government of National Unity of Sudan and President of the Government of Southern Sudan

Released January 2

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Council Press Secretary Gordon Johndroe

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary: The President and Mrs. Bush's Lunch with the United Nations Secretary-General and Mrs. Ban Soon-taek

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to New Hampshire

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.