

Justice-designate Samuel A. Alito, Jr., to discuss the judge's Senate confirmation hearing. Upon arrival in New Orleans, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Daisy Vandenburg.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Waveland, MS, where, upon arrival, he met with a group of first-responders. Later, he traveled to Palm Beach, FL. Upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Yirela Alcantara.

In the evening, at a private residence, the President attended a Republican National Committee reception. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Gale A. Buchanan to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics.

The President announced his intention to nominate Donald T. Bliss to be U.S. Representative on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization with the rank of Ambassador.

### **January 13**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had a telephone conversation with President Elias Antonio Saca Gonzalez of El Salvador to discuss bilateral issues. Then, in the Oval Office, he met with Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany.

In the afternoon, the President had a working lunch with Chancellor Merkel. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with business leaders to discuss natural disaster relief and reconstruction efforts in Central America.

Later in the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President participated in a photo opportunity with the U.S. Solheim Cup women's golf team. He and Mrs. Bush then traveled to Camp David, MD.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz of Pakistan to the White House on January 24.

The President announced his designation of a Presidential delegation to attend the Inauguration of President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf of Liberia on January 16: Laura Bush (head of delegation); Condoleezza Rice; Donald E. Booth; Jendayi E. Frazer; Cindy Courville; and Barbara P. Bush.

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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 9**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Fact sheet: No Child Left Behind—Strengthening America's Education System

### **Released January 10**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 972

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 2017, H.R. 3179, H.R. 4501, and H.R. 4637

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Oklahoma

Fact sheet: Progress and the Work Ahead in Iraq

### **Released January 11**

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 4340

Statement by the Press Secretary: Signing of H.R. 4340, U.S.-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Texas

Fact sheet: The Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate

**Released January 12**

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Transcript of a press briefing by Office of Management and Budget Deputy Director Joel Kaplan on the effects of gulf coast recovery costs on the Federal budget

Fact sheet: A Commitment to Continued Recovery and Rebuilding in the Gulf Coast

**Released January 13**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz

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**Acts Approved  
by the President**


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**Approved January 6 \***

H.R. 1815 / Public Law 109–163  
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006

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\* This Public Law was not received in time for inclusion in the appropriate issue.

**Approved January 10**

H.R. 972 / Public Law 109–164  
Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005

H.R. 2017 / Public Law 109–165  
Torture Victims Relief Reauthorization Act of 2005

H.R. 3179 / Public Law 109–166  
Junior Duck Stamp Reauthorization Amendments Act of 2005

H.R. 4501 / Public Law 109–167  
Passport Services Enhancement Act of 2005

H.R. 4637 / Public Law 109–168  
To make certain technical corrections in amendments made by the Energy Policy Act of 2005

**Approved January 11**

H.R. 4340 / Public Law 109–169  
United States-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act