

Weekly Compilation of
**Presidential
Documents**



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WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

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Week Ending Friday, January 19, 2007

The President's Radio Address

January 13, 2007

Good morning. On Wednesday night, I addressed the Nation from the White House to lay out a new strategy that will help Iraq's democratic Government succeed.

America's new strategy comes after a difficult year in Iraq. In 2006, the terrorists and insurgents fought to reverse the extraordinary democratic gains the Iraqis have made. In February, the extremists bombed a holy Shi'a mosque in a deliberate effort to provoke reprisals that would set off a sectarian conflict. They succeeded, and the ongoing sectarian violence, especially in Baghdad, is making all other progress difficult.

Only the Iraqis can end the sectarian violence and secure their people. Their leaders understand this, and they are stepping forward to do it. But they need our help, and it is in our interests to provide that help. The changes in our strategy will help the Iraqis in four main areas.

First, we will help the Iraqis execute their aggressive plan to secure their capital. Eighty percent of Iraq's sectarian violence occurs within 30 miles of Baghdad. The new plan to secure Baghdad fixes the problems that prevented previous operations from succeeding. This time, there will be adequate Iraqi and U.S. forces to hold the areas that have been cleared, including more Iraqi forces and five additional brigades of American troops committed to Baghdad. This time, Iraqi and American forces will have a green light to enter neighborhoods that are home to those fueling sectarian violence. Prime Minister Maliki has pledged that political or sectarian interference with security operations will not be tolerated.

Second, America will step up the fight against Al Qaida in its home base in Iraq—Anbar Province. Our military forces in Anbar are killing and capturing Al Qaida leaders and protecting the local population. Re-

cently, local tribal leaders have begun to show their willingness to take on Al Qaida, and as a result, our commanders believe we have an opportunity to deal a serious blow to the terrorists. So I've given orders to increase American forces in Anbar Province by 4,000 troops. These troops will work with Iraqi and tribal forces to increase the pressure on the terrorists. America's men and women in uniform took away Al Qaida's safe haven in Afghanistan, and we will not allow them to reestablish it in Iraq.

Third, America will hold the Iraqi Government to benchmarks it has announced. These include taking responsibility for security in all of Iraq's Provinces by November, passing legislation to share oil revenues among all Iraqis, and spending \$10 billion of its own money on reconstruction projects that will create new jobs. These are strong commitments, and the Iraqi Government knows that it must meet them or lose the support of the Iraqi and the American people.

Fourth, America will expand our military and diplomatic efforts to bolster the security of Iraq and protect American interests in the Middle East. We will address the problem of Iran and Syria allowing terrorists and insurgents to use their territory to move in and out of Iraq. We will encourage countries like Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan, and the Gulf States to increase their economic assistance to Iraq. Secretary Rice has gone to the region to continue the urgent diplomacy required to help bring peace to the Middle East.

My national security team is now making our case on Capitol Hill. We recognize that many Members of Congress are skeptical. Some say our approach is really just more troops for the same strategy. In fact, we have a new strategy with a new mission: helping secure the population, especially in Baghdad. Our plan puts Iraqis in the lead.

Others worry that we are pursuing a purely military solution that makes a political solution less likely. In fact, the sectarian violence

is the main obstacle to a political solution, and the best way to help the Iraqis reach this solution is to help them put down this violence.

Members of Congress have a right to express their views and express them forcefully. But those who refuse to give this plan a chance to work have an obligation to offer an alternative that has a better chance for success. To oppose everything while proposing nothing is irresponsible.

Whatever our differences on strategy and tactics, we all have a duty to ensure that our troops have what they need to succeed. Thousands of young men and women are preparing to join an important mission that will in large part determine the outcome in Iraq. Our brave troops should not have to wonder if their leaders in Washington will give them what they need. I urge Members of Congress to fulfill their responsibilities, make their views known, and to always support our men and women in harm's way.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7:40 a.m. on January 12 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on January 13. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 12 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. In his address, the President referred to Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki of Iraq. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Remarks at a Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday Volunteer Event

January 15, 2007

This has been my honor to be here. One of the things that Mrs. King wanted was for MLK Day to be a day of service. It is not a day off, but it's a day on. And so I'm here at Cardozo High School to thank the hundreds of people who have showed up to serve the country by volunteering.

And right here in the library, we're with a group of folks who are sending postcards to folks who have been affected by Katrina, cards of hope, an opportunity for a citizen here to say to somebody in the New Orleans area, "We care about you; people are think-

ing about you"—and all in the hopes of lifting somebody's spirit.

And so I not only want to thank the folks involved in this project, and thank the Attorney General for volunteering, but I encourage people all around the country to seize any opportunity they can to help somebody in need. And by helping somebody in need, you're honoring the legacy of Martin Luther King. And by helping somebody in need, you're really helping yourself because you're lifting your soul.

And so I want to thank the principal of this fine high school; I want to thank the organizers of the event; and I want to thank the volunteers, young and old, for setting aside time to make somebody else's life better.

Thank you all for coming.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:52 a.m. at Cardozo High School. In his remarks, he referred to Reginald Ballard, principal, Cardozo High School.

Remarks Following a Meeting With United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

January 16, 2007

President Bush. Mr. Secretary-General, welcome. The last time I visited with you in this Oval Office, you were the Foreign Minister of an important country. Now you come representing the United Nations, and I welcome you. Thank you for your willingness to serve. Thank you for this very important discussion we just had. I appreciated so very much how you opened up the discussion with a strong commitment to democracy and freedom. And the United States is willing—wants to work with the United Nations to achieve a peace through the spread of freedom.

And I want to thank you very much for the wise advice that you have given on a variety of issues. We talked about the Middle East, of course, and the importance of the Quartet. We talked about Darfur. Mr. Secretary-General, I want to thank you for your commitment to help the suffering people in Darfur, and I wish you all the best as you work hard to convince the President of the

Sudan that it's in his interest, and in the world's interest, that he allow enhanced African Union peacekeepers in to provide peace and security for people who are suffering.

I want to thank you very much, as well, for our discussions about Iran and North Korea. I wish you all the best in this important job. I admired the way you handled your previous job, and I'm confident you'll do a fine job now.

Secretary-General Ban. Thank you very much, Mr. President. It's a great honor and privilege for me to visit the White House and meet with you, Mr. President, in my new capacity as Secretary-General of the United Nations. I feel it a great honor for me to serve this organization, our global body, United Nations. At the same time, I'm very much humbled by all the challenges which I have to deal with and we are facing in the 21st century.

I would need strong participation and support of the United States in all activities of the United Nations. In fact, I believe that the United Nations and United States have shared objectives: peace and security; freedom; democracy. All these important goals and ideas are what the United States is also trying to achieve.

I hope to work very closely with the U.S. Government, including Mr. President, in realizing and achieving this shared goal. As I start my new administration as Secretary-General, I get to have strong commitment and support from U.S. Government, and I'm committed to devote all my time and energy to the address—to address all these important issues—Middle East and Darfur, Lebanon and Somalia, North Korea, Millennium Development Goals, and the climate changes. All are global issues which require global, collective wisdom and effort.

Thank you very much for this opportunity.

President Bush. You're welcome, sir. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to President Umar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir of Sudan.

Remarks Honoring the 2006 World Series Champion St. Louis Cardinals January 16, 2007

The President. Thank you all. Please be seated. Thanks for coming. It's great to welcome the 2006 World Series champs, the mighty St. Louis Cardinals, to the White House.

I appreciate the fact that Members of the United States Congress have joined us. I see Members from Missouri—[laughter]—Senators, Members of the Congress and House. I see a Senator from Kentucky, Hall of Famer, Big Jim Bunning, glad you're here. Appreciate you all coming, thanks and welcome. I'm glad to see the former Attorney General, John Ashcroft. Thanks for joining us, John; appreciate you coming. Mr. Secretary, I thought you were a Texan.

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Alphonso R. Jackson. I am a Texan, but I lived in St. Louis.

The President. Oh, you lived in St. Louis. [Laughter] Alphonso Jackson, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, is with us. Thanks for coming, A.J. I appreciate very much that the Lieutenant Governor, Peter Kinder, has joined us today. Thanks for coming, Governor; appreciate you coming. Rob Portman, I thought he was a Cincinnati Reds fan. It's amazing what victory does to the—[laughter]. Everybody likes a winner. [Laughter] I appreciate you coming.

Last time that the Tigers and Cardinals—the first time they met in a World Series was in 1934. Franklin Roosevelt was the President; Dizzy Dean was the star. [Laughter] And now the Cardinals are back after an unbelievable season. You know, I featured myself as a baseball guy at one time. The Cardinals now have won 10 World Series. That's 10 more than the Texas Rangers have ever won. [Laughter] Fortunately, it doesn't depend on ownership; well, I take that back. [Laughter]

They say in baseball, in order to become the World Series champ, you can't have losing streaks of over two or three games. [Laughter] This club had losing streaks of one eight-game losing streak, another eight-game losing streak, and a seven-game losing streak, which really speaks to the character

of the baseball team, doesn't it? I mean, it's a team that—[*applause*]. And I think it speaks to the character of the manager, Tony LaRussa, and his staff.

When you're on one of those losing streaks, it's easy to get down and to forget the goal. So, like, I'm sure the sports pages were a little rough on you for a while there, you know? How can they possibly endure yet another eight-game losing streak? Well, you endure it as the result of character and leadership.

I had the honor of welcoming Tony and Dave Duncan and DeWitt and some of the other ones to the White House in August. And I was kind of looking at them, and they were looking at me, and I was trying to figure out whether I was looking at the winning team. And after they left—I haven't had a chance to share this with Tony LaRussa—I was convinced the Cardinals were going to go all the way. You know why? Because he was. Because he believed it. And I appreciate good leadership. And I appreciate the fact that not only is LaRussa a fine manager and a fine man, I appreciate what he does for the community in St. Louis as well.

Character in the dugout is one thing; character in a community is another. I don't know if you still do this program, but somebody told me the other day that there is a program where they match a—you know, dogs that need an owner with somebody that needs help, from having a pet around. It turns out, a pet can help somebody deal with a mental illness. And Tony LaRussa has combined his love of animals with his deep concern about people who suffer, for the embetterment of the community.

And so this is a team of character, and it's got a team of really good owners too. How do I know? Some of them were my business partners at the Texas Rangers. If you ever need a good, honest business partner, pick Bill DeWitt. He knows something about baseball. He is raised in baseball. But he is one of the sharpest baseball minds in the United States of America, and I'm really proud for him and his family to be here today to receive the accolades.

I want to thank his other owners that have joined us today. Fred Hanser and the Ambassador. Thank you, Ambassador, for being

here—Brauer. I appreciate my friend Mercer Reynolds joining us too, as well. I congratulate you all.

DeWitt would be the first to say that the owners support a good front office, and you can win, and that's why Mark Lamping and Walt Jocketty are important to recognize as well. And I appreciate the leadership they've done.

I appreciate the players. Let me say something about the MVP. They said, "He can't hit." [*Laughter*] They said, "He can't throw." Listen, David, I've made a career out of people underestimating me—[*laughter*]—or as I like to sometimes say to keep them on their toes, misunderestimating me. [*Laughter*] But I do congratulate David and the team.

When you overcome the odds this team overcame, you've got to play as a team, and they did. And I appreciate not only what you did on the field, I appreciate the character you also show off the field. I appreciate the charity events that you attend. I thank you very much for supporting the Cardinals organization's efforts to be good community partners in St. Louis and greater St. Louis.

You've got a huge fan following, as you know. Matter of fact, when I was growing up in Texas, the only games we used to get were St. Louis Cardinals games. That was in the fifties—see that was before your time. [*Laughter*] It made me a baseball fan. [*Laughter*] It made me a Stan Musial fan. But it also made me appreciate the value of the St. Louis Cardinals. And the Cardinals have got a fantastic fan base, and you maintain a fan base by being good citizens and winning games, and this club knows how to do both.

Before I bring somebody else up here to the microphone, I had the honor of going to Walter Reed the other day to thank our soldiers. I ran into Lance Corporal Chad Watson of the United States Marine Corps. He was wearing a Cardinals hat; I think you were wearing a Cardinals hat. And I said, first, "Thanks for serving, and thanks for giving of yourself to secure this country." I then said, "Are you a Cardinals fan?"—kind of one of those, no-duh questions. The guy had a—[*laughter*]—kind of running out of something to say. And he said, "Yeah, I am." I said, "Well, I'm going to have the Cardinals to the

White House, and if you're a Cardinals fan, why don't you come and join us." And he kind of looked at me like, "Check is in the mail, isn't it?" [Laughter] But I was serious, and so was he, and I'm proud to welcome Chad Watson and his mother, Gina. You never know where you're going to find a St. Louis Cardinal fan. [Laughter]

And now it's my honor to bring to the podium, DeWitt—Bill DeWitt. He doesn't like to give speeches. Do you?

William O. DeWitt, Jr. Thank you for having us here, Mr. President.

The President. You do like to give speeches. [Laughter]

Mr. DeWitt. You said be quick, so we'll be quick. We have a little memento of the occasion here, a jersey from the world championship team, the World Series logo on it—

The President. Yes, right here.

Mr. DeWitt. —06, so you'll remember the year we were here, and Bush—

The President. Yes, so I remember who I am. [Laughter]

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:33 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Dave Duncan, pitching coach, William O. DeWitt, Jr., chairman of the board, Frederick O. Hanser, vice chairman, Stephen Brauer, co-owner, Mercer Reynolds, co-owner, Mark Lamping, president, Walt Jocketty, general manager, and David M. Eckstein, shortstop, St. Louis Cardinals.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Review of Title III of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996

January 16, 2007

*Dear Mr. Chairman: (Dear Representative:)
(Dear Senator:)*

Consistent with section 306(c)(2) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-114)(the "Act"), I hereby determine and report to the Congress that suspension for 6 months beyond February 1, 2007, of the right to bring an action under title III of the Act is necessary to the national interests of the

United States and will expedite a transition to democracy in Cuba.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Joseph R. Biden, Jr., chairman, and Richard G. Lugar, ranking member, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; Tom Lantos, chairman, and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, ranking member, House Committee on Foreign Affairs; Robert C. Byrd, chairman, and Thad Cochran, ranking member, Senate Committee on Appropriations; and David R. Obey, chairman, and Jerry Lewis, ranking member, House Committee on Appropriations. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 17.

Remarks in a Discussion on Advances in Cancer Prevention in Bethesda, Maryland

January 17, 2007

The President. Thanks, Michael. I appreciate you joining us. I love coming to the NIH; it is an amazing place. It is an amazing place because it is full of decent, caring, smart people, all aiming to save lives. And I truly believe the NIH is one of America's greatest assets, and it needs to be nourished.

And I'm real pleased to be working with Elias and the good folks who work here to make sure that there's ample resources to fund these incredible projects that are taking place. And we'll talk about some of them today. The purpose of the meeting is to let the American people understand what kind of work takes place here and some of the practical applications of the discoveries that are being made. Obviously, we're all very concerned about cancer—and, John, thank you for joining us.

First, I'm pleased that we're funding cancer research. We're up about 25 or 26 percent since 2001. It's a commitment that I made when I first came to Washington; it's a commitment we're keeping. And the reason why it makes sense to spend taxpayers' money on cancer research is that we can make some good progress and have. Interestingly enough, this is the second consecutive year there was a drop in the number of cancer deaths in the United States, and the drop

this year was the steepest ever recorded. And the reason I bring that statistic up is that progress is being made. In other words, there are tangible results as a result of the research that takes place around the country, and a lot of it focused here at the NIH.

I had a fantastic experience today with some smart docs talking about how they can use genetic research, which Francis will talk about, to create cures for a lot of diseases. We particularly focused on kidney cancer today. And I strongly believe that it makes sense for us to progress and take advantage of the research that the Human Genome Project has yielded.

However, I really want to make it clear to the Congress that I hope they pass legislation that makes genetic discrimination illegal. In other words, if a person is willing to share his or her genetic information, it is important that that information not be exploited in improper ways—and Congress can pass good legislation to prevent that from happening. In other words, we want medical research to go forward without an individual fearing of personal discrimination.

Finally, I'm real pleased about the announcement made earlier on the HPV virus—vaccine. I don't know if our citizens know, but 70 percent of all cervical cancer comes from HPV virus. And as a result of good work here, and other places, a vaccine has been developed that the Government will dispense to those who qualify, all aiming to continue to build on the progress being made in dealing with cancer.

And so, I'm very pleased with the job your folks are doing here, and I'm so grateful for you all to join us. I'm looking forward to hearing what you have to say. You'll be happy to hear my long-windedness is about to end. [Laughter] But thanks for coming.

Michael.

Secretary of Health and Human Services Michael O. Leavitt. Doctor, we need to get some background on what's happening here at NIH.

[At this point, Elias A. Zerhouni, Director, National Institutes of Health, made brief remarks.]

The President. That's good. I wish that people could walk the halls here at the NIH

and meet the scientists and employees of this fantastic organization. It is amazing. You talk about young and smart and bright and excited—with all due respect, docs—[laughter]—you've got a lot of really bright people here, which is another subject for another time. But we better make sure we get the right education working to make sure that our scientists are given the tools and encourage young kids to become scientists in the first place, so that these halls remain full of people. Because as Doc said—he said, “If we're not doing it, somebody is going to,” and we want it done here in America. We want—I mean, we want to welcome scientists here too.

And the other thing that struck me was that people from around the country—the globe that are here working. So, anyway, you're doing a good job. We're spending about \$28.6 billion here at the NIH, which was doubled from 15 years ago, I think it was, or something like that anyway.

Thank you, Michael.

Secretary Leavitt. John, why don't you talk a little bit about, particularly about the Cancer Genome Atlas. I think that's a fascinating development as it relates to HPV and other things that are happening in cancer.

The President. Yes, John, first, before you do it—if you don't mind—National Cancer Institute. Tell people what it is, how it works, if you don't mind.

John E. Niederhuber. The National Cancer Institute, Mr. President, was one of the first institutes founded on the NIH campus specifically directed at a disease, celebrating its 75th anniversary. It's an institute that has tremendous breadth, and I often like to tell my friend the Secretary and his colleagues that while we study cancer, cancer really is a model, a disease model that has impacted almost every other disease in one way or another. The things that we have learned by studying this model—our ability to track the best scientists to work on cancer—I think has had tremendous impacts across the breadth of disease. So we're very proud.

The President. And you've been working with cancer for how long?

Dr. Niederhuber. Do I have to tell? [Laughter]

The President. Your hair looks—[laughter].

Dr. Niederhuber. Well, I've been in the business over 30 years.

The President. Have you? Fantastic.

[Dr. Niederhuber, Director, National Cancer Institute, made brief remarks, concluding as follows.]

Dr. Niederhuber. It's a very exciting time in my long career—which you were kind enough to point out to me, sir. [Laughter]

The President. Well, I wanted the taxpayers to understand, the citizens to understand we've got a man of expertise here—[laughter]—setting you up for success.

Dr. Niederhuber. I've never experienced a time when science has been so exciting and been moving at such a rapid pace. This is just an unbelievable opportunity. I'm very honored to be here.

The President. Thanks for serving.

Dr. Niederhuber. I'm honored to be here, sir.

The President. A man who went through all the initials. [Laughter]

Secretary Leavitt. Elias mentioned the fact that the whole goal here is to become far more personalized. I want Francis to talk for a moment, but as I pass it to him, I want to relate a story that I think ties this together.

About 5 years ago, I participated in a conversation with a man in a small group, and they were talking about the potential for genetics. And he wasn't a scientist; he wasn't a doctor. But he listened to it, and he said, "There's something to this genetics business." He said, "I'm 70 years old. Last month, I was diagnosed with macular degeneration. When my father was 70 years old, he was diagnosed with macular degeneration—when my grandfather was 70 years old." He said, "If there's anything I can do so that my grandson doesn't have to go through what I am and my father and my grandfather have, I want to do it."

This genetic discrimination legislation you talked about is so important to this—moving this forward, because it means that if people like that step up and help and make information about them and their health history available, not only will it benefit them, but it will benefit generations in the future. And

it would be an unfortunate thing if anyone were then to be discriminated because of their willingness to contribute to science that way. Dr. Collins has been heroic in his advocacy, not just for this legislation but also the genetic HapMap. And I'd like—

The President. The genetic what? [Laughter]

Secretary Leavitt. He'll explain that to you later.

[Francis S. Collins, Director, National Human Genome Research Institute, made brief remarks.]

The President. Well, thank you for being on the leading edge of change for the good of mankind.

Secretary Leavitt. Becky, you've been through this in a very personal way. I think the President would be—we all would be interested—

The President. Where are you from?

Rebecca "Becky" Fisher. I'm from Oakton, Virginia. I drove here—

The President. Which is?

Ms. Fisher. Outside of Vienna. Last stop on the Orange Line. [Laughter]

[Ms. Fisher, librarian, Center for the Study of Intelligence, made brief remarks.]

Secretary Leavitt. That's compelling.

The President. Yes, that's strong. Thank you.

Secretary Leavitt. Not every cancer is one that we can identify at hereditary. And, John, you might want to talk a little bit about the cancers that are not hereditary and what we're doing to make progress on those as well.

[Dr. Niederhuber made further remarks, concluding as follows.]

Dr. Niederhuber. And that gives me an opportunity, if I might, Mr. Secretary, to introduce our other guest today, Dr. Grace Butler. I'm going to say a few words about Grace, Mr. President, because she is a big helper to the NCI. She's a—

The President. She's also a Texan.

Dr. Niederhuber. Also a Texan, you're right. She's professor emeritus at the University of Houston. She's had over 30 years of teaching and administrative experience in

higher education. More importantly, for today's session, Grace is a stage-three colorectal cancer survivor. And as a result of that experience—much like Becky has committed much of her post-education years to working with us to fight this disease and—she's founded a non-profit organization called "Hope Through Grace."

Grace, I think you have some comments you'd like to make today.

Grace L. Butler. I do. Thank you, John. I thank you so much, Mr. President—

The President. Thank you, Doctor.

[*Ms. Butler, president and founder, Hope Through Grace, Inc., made brief remarks, concluding as follows.*]

Ms. Butler. And I thank you, Mr. President, for your presence, for your listening, and for your understanding and your empathy.

The President. Thank you for answering a call.

Michael.

Secretary Leavitt. Mr. President, I think we could summarize today by saying that the future of medicine is personalized to prevent and to preempt. We've heard today about progress that's being made, the elimination of discrimination—of genetic discrimination. There's a very important—it's a vital step in reaching that vision. We've seen good examples of the progress, and we thank you for the time you've taken. You may wish to sum up.

The President. Well, thanks for coming. I'm excited, and I appreciate the work being done here in Washington, the work being done at the grassroots level. I thank you for your articulate presentation, both of you all. And this Government needs to support what's happening in order to save lives, and we will.

Thanks.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:11 a.m. at the National Institutes of Health.

Executive Order 13422—Further Amendment to Executive Order 12866 on Regulatory Planning and Review

January 18, 2007

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered that Executive Order 12866 of September 30, 1993, as amended, is further amended as follows:

Section 1. Section 1 is amended as follows:

(a) Section 1(b)(1) is amended to read as follows:

"(1) Each agency shall identify in writing the specific market failure (such as externalities, market power, lack of information) or other specific problem that it intends to address (including, where applicable, the failures of public institutions) that warrant new agency action, as well as assess the significance of that problem, to enable assessment of whether any new regulation is warranted."

(b) by inserting in section 1(b)(7) after "regulation" the words "or guidance document";

(c) by inserting in section 1(b)(10) in both places after "regulations" the words "and guidance documents";

(d) by inserting in section 1(b)(11) after "its regulations" the words "and guidance documents";

(e) by inserting in section 1(b)(12) after "regulations" the words "and guidance documents";

Sec. 2. Section 2 is amended as follows:

(a) by inserting in section 2(a) in both places after "regulations" the words "and guidance documents";

(b) by inserting in section 2(b) in both places after "regulations" the words "and guidance documents";

Sec. 3. Section 3 is amended as follows:

(a) by striking in section 3(d) "or 'rule' " after "'Regulation'";

(b) by striking in section 3(d)(1) "or rules" after "Regulations";

(c) by striking in section 3(d)(2) "or rules" after "Regulations";

(d) by striking in section 3(d)(3) “or rules” after “Regulations”;

(e) by striking in section 3(e) “rule or” from “final rule or regulation”;

(f) by striking in section 3(f) “rule or” from “rule or regulation”;

(g) by inserting after section 3(f) the following:

“(g) “Guidance document” means an agency statement of general applicability and future effect, other than a regulatory action, that sets forth a policy on a statutory, regulatory, or technical issue or an interpretation of a statutory or regulatory issue.

(h) “Significant guidance document” —

(1) Means a guidance document disseminated to regulated entities or the general public that, for purposes of this order, may reasonably be anticipated to:

(A) Lead to an annual effect of \$100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy, a sector of the economy, productivity, competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or tribal governments or communities;

(B) Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency;

(C) Materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights or obligations of recipients thereof; or

(D) Raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President’s priorities, or the principles set forth in this Executive order; and

(2) Does not include:

(A) Guidance documents on regulations issued in accordance with the formal rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 556, 557;

(B) Guidance documents that pertain to a military or foreign affairs function of the United States, other than procurement regulations and regulations involving the import or export of non-defense articles and services;

(C) Guidance documents on regulations that are limited to agency organization, management, or personnel matters; or

(D) Any other category of guidance documents exempted by the Administrator of OIRA.”

Sec. 4. Section 4 is amended as follows:

(a) Section 4(a) is amended to read as follows: “The Director may convene a meeting of agency heads and other government personnel as appropriate to seek a common understanding of priorities and to coordinate regulatory efforts to be accomplished in the upcoming year.”

(b) The last sentence of section 4(c)(1) is amended to read as follows: “Unless specifically authorized by the head of the agency, no rulemaking shall commence nor be included on the Plan without the approval of the agency’s Regulatory Policy Office, and the Plan shall contain at a minimum:”

(c) Section 4(c)(1)(B) is amended by inserting “of each rule as well as the agency’s best estimate of the combined aggregate costs and benefits of all its regulations planned for that calendar year to assist with the identification of priorities” after “of the anticipated costs and benefits”.

(d) Section 4(c)(1)(C) is amended by inserting “, and specific citation to such statute, order, or other legal authority” after “court order”.

Sec. 5. Section 6 is amended as follows:

(a) by inserting in section 6(a)(1) “In consultation with OIRA, each agency may also consider whether to utilize formal rulemaking procedures under 5 U.S.C. 556 and 557 for the resolution of complex determinations” after “comment period of not less than 60 days.”

(b) by amending the first sentence of section 6(a)(2) to read as follows: “Within 60 days of the date of this Executive order, each agency head shall designate one of the agency’s Presidential Appointees to be its Regulatory Policy Officer, advise OMB of such designation, and annually update OMB on the status of this designation.”

Sec. 6. Sections 9–11 are redesignated respectively as sections 10–12.

Sec. 7. After section 8, a new section 9 is inserted as follows:

“Sec. 9. Significant Guidance Documents.

Each agency shall provide OIRA, at such times and in the manner specified by

the Administrator of OIRA, with advance notification of any significant guidance documents. Each agency shall take such steps as are necessary for its Regulatory Policy Officer to ensure the agency's compliance with the requirements of this section. Upon the request of the Administrator, for each matter identified as, or determined by the Administrator to be, a significant guidance document, the issuing agency shall provide to OIRA the content of the draft guidance document, together with a brief explanation of the need for the guidance document and how it will meet that need. The OIRA Administrator shall notify the agency when additional consultation will be required before the issuance of the significant guidance document."

Sec. 8. Newly designated section 10 is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 10. Preservation of Agency Authority. Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect the authority vested by law in an agency or the head thereof, including the authority of the Attorney General relating to litigation."

George W. Bush

The White House,
January 18, 2007.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 22, 2007]

NOTE: This Executive order will be published in the *Federal Register* on January 23.

Notice—Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Terrorists Who Threaten To Disrupt the Middle East Peace Process
January 18, 2007

On January 23, 1995, by Executive Order 12947, the President declared a national emergency pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701–1706) to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States constituted by grave acts of violence committed by foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process. On

August 20, 1998, by Executive Order 13099, the President modified the Annex to Executive Order 12947 to identify four additional persons, including Usama bin Laden, who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process.

Because these terrorist activities continue to threaten the Middle East peace process and to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States, the national emergency declared on January 23, 1995, as expanded on August 20, 1998, and the measures adopted on those dates to deal with that emergency must continue in effect beyond January 23, 2007. Therefore, in accordance with section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), I am continuing for 1 year the national emergency with respect to foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process. This notice shall be published in the *Federal Register* and transmitted to the Congress.

George W. Bush

The White House,
January 18, 2007.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 19, 2007]

NOTE: This notice was published in the *Federal Register* on January 22.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Terrorists Who Threaten To Disrupt the Middle East Peace Process
January 18, 2007

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared with respect to foreign

terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process is to continue in effect beyond January 23, 2007. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on January 20, 2006 (71 FR 3407).

The crisis with respect to the grave acts of violence committed by foreign terrorists that disrupt the Middle East peace process and that led to the declaration of a national emergency on January 23, 1995, as expanded on August 20, 1998, has not been resolved. Terrorist groups continue to engage in activities that have the purpose or effect of threatening the Middle East peace process and that are hostile to United States interests in the region. Such actions constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process and to maintain in force the economic sanctions against them to respond to this threat.

George W. Bush

The White House,
January 18, 2007.

**Proclamation 8101—National
Sanctity of Human Life Day, 2007**
January 18, 2007

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

America was founded on the principle that we are all endowed by our Creator with the right to life and that every individual has dignity and worth. National Sanctity of Human Life Day helps foster a culture of life and reinforces our commitment to building a compassionate society that respects the value of every human being.

Among the most basic duties of Government is to defend the unalienable right to life, and my Administration is committed to protecting our society's most vulnerable members. We are vigorously promoting parental notification laws, adoption, abstinence education, crisis pregnancy programs, and the vital work of faith-based groups. Through

the "Born-Alive Infants Protection Act of 2002," the "Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003," and the "Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2004," we are helping to make our country a more hopeful place.

One of our society's challenges today is to harness the power of science to ease human suffering without sanctioning practices that violate the dignity of human life. With the right policies, we can continue to achieve scientific progress while living up to our ethical and moral responsibilities.

National Sanctity of Human Life Day serves as a reminder that we must value human life in all forms, not just those considered healthy, wanted, or convenient. Together, we can work toward a day when the dignity and humanity of every person is respected.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Sunday, January 21, 2007, as National Sanctity of Human Life Day. I call upon all Americans to recognize this day with appropriate ceremonies and to underscore our commitment to respecting and protecting the life and dignity of every human being.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:49 a.m., January 22, 2007]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 19, and it will be published in the *Federal Register* on January 23.

**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.

January 13

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

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

January 15

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

On January 14 the President declared an emergency in Oklahoma and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local response efforts in the area struck by severe winter storms and flooding beginning on January 12 and continuing.

January 16

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he participated in an interview with Jim Lehrer of PBS's "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer."

On January 15 the President declared a major disaster in Missouri and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe winter storms and flooding beginning on January 12 and continuing.

January 17

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Bethesda, MD, where he toured the National Institutes of Health laboratories.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC. Later, he met with Republican Members of the House of Representatives.

January 18

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

Later in the morning, in the Map Room, the President participated in separate interviews with David Cassidy of Belo Television, Morris Jones of Sinclair Broadcasting, Sabrina Fang of Tribune Broadcasting, and Alison Burns of Cox Broadcasting.

The President announced his intention to nominate Paul J. Bonicelli to be Assistant Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (Latin America and Caribbean).

The President announced his intention to nominate Mario Mancuso to be Under Secretary for Export Administration at the Department of Commerce.

The President announced his intention to nominate Patrick P. Shen to be Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices at the Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to nominate William B. Wood to be Ambassador to Afghanistan.

January 19

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Family Theater, he participated in a speech preparation session for his January 23 State of the Union Address.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President participated in an interview with David Jackson of USA Today.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Valdas Adamkus of Lithuania to the White House on February 12.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted January 16

Michael David Credo, of Louisiana, to be U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Louisiana for the term of 4 years, vice Theophile Alceste Duroncelet, resigned.

Robert Gideon Howard, Jr., of Arkansas, to be U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Arkansas for the term of 4 years, vice Ray Elmer Carnahan, resigned.

Rosa Emilia Rodriguez-Velez,
of Puerto Rico, to be U.S. Attorney for the
District of Puerto Rico for the term of 4
years, vice Humberto S. Garcia, resigned.

Norman Randy Smith,
of Idaho, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the
Ninth Circuit, vice Thomas G. Nelson, re-
tired.

John Wood,
of Missouri, to be U.S. Attorney for the
Western District of Missouri for the term of
4 years, vice Todd Peterson Graves, resigned.

Withdrawn January 16

Norman Randy Smith,
of Idaho, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the
Ninth Circuit, vice Stephen S. Trott, retired,
which was sent to the Senate on January 9,
2007.

Submitted January 18

Paul J. Bonicelli,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator
of the U.S. Agency for International Devel-
opment, vice Adolfo A. Franco.

Mario Mancuso,
of New York, to be Under Secretary of Com-
merce for Export Administration, vice David
H. McCormick.

Patrick P. Shen,
of Maryland, to be Special Counsel for Immi-
gration-Related Unfair Employment Prac-
tices for a term of 4 years, vice William
Sanchez, resigned.

William B. Wood,
of New York, a career member of the Senior
Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor,
to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Pleni-
potentiary of the United States of America
to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

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 January 15

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster
assistance to Oklahoma

Released January 16

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Sec-
retary Tony Snow

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing
that on January 15 the President signed H.R.
6164

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster
assistance to Missouri

Released January 17

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Sec-
retary Tony Snow

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing
that the President signed S. 159

Fact sheet: A New Era in Cancer Prevention

Released January 18

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Sec-
retary Tony Snow

Released January 19

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy
Press Secretary Dana Perino

Statement by the Press Secretary: President
Bush To Welcome President of Lithuania to
the White House

Acts Approved by the President

Approved January 15

H.R. 6164 / Public Law 109-482
National Institutes of Health Reform Act of
2006

Approved January 17

S. 159 / Public Law 110-1
To redesignate the White Rocks National
Recreation Area in the State of Vermont as
the "Robert T. Stafford White Rocks Na-
tional Recreation Area"