Also in the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Jose Manuel Durao Barroso of Portugal to express his appreciation for the Prime Minister's support concerning the situation in Iraq. He also had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Goran Persson of Sweden to discuss the situation in Iraq.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy, following their meeting in the Oval Office. Later, with Secretary of State Colin Powell, he met with Minister of Foreign Affairs Saud al-Faysal al Saud and Ambassador to the U.S. Prince Bandar of Saudi Arabia to discuss cooperation against terrorism.

In the evening, the President met with U.S. military combatant commanders. Later, he and Mrs. Bush hosted the commanders, Vice President Dick Cheney, and their spouses for dinner in the White House Residence.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation: Darrell Green (Chair); Robert Dole and John Glenn (honorary Co-Chairs); Sean Astin; Clotilde Dedecker; Pedro Garcia; Luis Gonzalez; Deal W. Hudson; Wendy Kopp; Robert Nardelli; Bill Novelli; Cal Ripken, Jr.; Cokie Roberts; Hope Taft; Steve Young; Dixie Carter; and Robert D. Putnam.

The President announced his intention to nominate Eric S. Dreiband to be General Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mary Costa and Makoto Fujimura to be members of the National Council on the Arts.

The President announced his intention to designate William Edward Franklin as U.S. Commissioner of the Kansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Commission (Kansas and Oklahoma).

The President announced his intention to designate Albert Earnest Gilder as Alternate U.S. Commissioner of the Kansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Commission.

January 31

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Vaclav

Havel of the Czech Republic to express best wishes concerning President Havel's retirement on February 2, and his support for a statement President Havel and other European leaders issued concerning the situation in Iraq. He also had a telephone conversation with President Eduardo Alberto Duhalde of Argentina concerning support for IMF economic efforts in Argentina and cooperation against terrorism.

Later in the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings and met with the National Security Council. Later, he participated in an Oval Office ceremony with Mayor Michael Bloomberg of New York City and Gov. George E. Pataki of New York to transfer jurisdiction of Governors Island to the people of New York. He then met with members of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ellen G. Engleman to be a member of the National Transportation Safety Board.

The President announced his intention to designate Diane M. Stuart as Acting Director of the Violence Against Women Office at the Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jerry Pinkney and Karen Lias Wolff to be members of the National Council on the Arts.

The President announced his intention to appoint Jose Luis Galvez III as a member of the National Capital Planning Commission.

The President made additional disaster assistance available to the Federated States of Micronesia, which was impacted by Tropical Storm Chata'an on July 2–4, 2002.

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 28

William H. Donaldson,

of New York, to be a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 5, 2007, vice Harvey Pitt, resigned.

Clay Johnson III,

of Texas, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget, vice Mark W. Everson.

Claudia Puig,

of Florida, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2008, vice Winter D. Horton, Jr., term expired.

Leonardo M. Rapadas,

of Guam, to be U.S. Attorney for the District of Guam and concurrently U.S. Attorney for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands for the term of 4 years, vice K. William O'Connor, resigned.

Withdrawn January 28

Claudia Puig,

of Florida, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for the remainder of the term expiring January 31, 2006, vice Kenneth Y. Tomlinson, which was sent to the Senate on January 9, 2003.

Submitted January 29

Richard D. Bennett,

of Maryland, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Maryland, vice Frederic N. Smalkin, retired.

Louise W. Flanagan,

of North Carolina, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina, vice James C. Fox, retired.

J. Leon Holmes,

of Arkansas, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas, vice Stephen M. Reasoner, retired.

James V. Selna,

of California, to be U.S. District Judge for the Central District of California, vice J. Spencer Letts, retired.

Philip P. Simon,

of Indiana, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana, vice William C. Lee, retired.

Theresa Lazar Springmann,

of Indiana, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana, vice James T. Moody, retired.

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 27

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Released January 28

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy

State of the Union Excerpts

Advance text of the President's State of the Union Address

Fact sheet: Strengthening Intelligence To Better Protect America

Fact sheet: Key Initiatives in the President's State of the Union

Biography of a special guest of the First Lady

Released January 29

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer