

# Major International Events

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## Major International Events

January 1, 2002–December 31, 2002

Domestic		International	
<b>January</b>			
3–12	Foreign Minister Tanaka goes on a round of visits to Turkey, Portugal, the UK and Spain.	1	The Argentine Congress appoints Senator and former Vice President Duhalde as Argentina's president following the resignation of Interim President Rodriguez.
9–15	Prime Minister Koizumi goes on a round of visits to five member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The Japan-Singapore Economic Partnership Agreement is signed on January 13.	5	Israel announces that it has intercepted an arms-smuggling ship headed for the Palestinian Autonomous Areas in the Red Sea.
20	Foreign Minister Tanaka holds talks in Tokyo with US Secretary of State Powell, who is on a visit to Japan to attend the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan.	6–7	UK Prime Minister Blair, who is on a round of visits to South Asian countries, holds talks with Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee in Delhi on January 6 and with Pakistani President Musharraf in Islamabad on January 7.
21	The 154 <sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Diet is convened.	16	US Secretary of State Powell, who is on a visit to Pakistan, holds talks with Pakistani President Musharraf and Foreign Minister Sattar in Islamabad. They express their hopes for an easing of tension between Pakistan and India.
22	Prime Minister Koizumi holds talks with visiting US Secretary of State Powell and US Secretary of the Treasury O'Neill in Tokyo.	16	The UN Security Council adopts resolution 1390 to revise the framework of sanctions imposed on the Taliban so as to practically lift the sanctions imposed on Afghanistan.
		19	Under the auspices of the US, the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) ratify an agreement for a partial ceasefire in the nation's 19-year civil war.
		21–22	The International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan is held in Tokyo.
		24	UN Secretary-General Annan, who is on a visit to Pakistan, holds talks with Pakistani President Musharraf and Foreign Minister Sattar in Islamabad.
		25	UN Secretary-General Annan, who is on a visit to Afghanistan, holds talks with Chairman of the Afghan Interim Authority Karzai in Kabul.
		25	The US Department of Defense conducts the first successful missile-interception tests since the US announced its withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty.
		25	India's Ministry of Defence test-fires the intermediate-range ballistic missile Agni-I.
		28	Chairman of the Afghan Interim Authority Karzai, who is on a visit to the US, holds talks with US President Bush in Washington.

Domestic		International	
30	Foreign Minister Tanaka resigns.	29	US President Bush delivers his first State of the Union Address since assuming office and accuses North Korea, Iran and Iraq of constituting an "axis of evil."
30	Japan requests the initiation of World Trade Organization (WTO) dispute settlement procedures, claiming that the anti-dumping measures imposed on corrosion-resistant carbon steel flat products by the US government violate the WTO agreement.	31	US-Philippines joint military exercises start on the island of Mindanao, Philippines.

February			
1	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi assumes office.		
2	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi holds talks with visiting Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov in Tokyo.	2	North Korea's foreign ministry issues a statement criticizing US President Bush's words as a <i>de facto</i> declaration of war.
		8	Chairman of the Afghan Interim Authority Karzai goes on his first visit to Pakistan since the establishment of the Afghan Interim Authority and holds talks with President Musharraf in Islamabad.
12	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi announces "Ten Reform Principles to Ensure an Open Foreign Ministry."	12	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child enters into effect on the involvement of children in armed conflict.
12	Mr. Takashi Sugishima, a former <i>Nihon Keizai Shimbun</i> reporter who had been detained by North Korea's authorities since 1999, returns to Japan.	12	Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of the Russian Federation to the Far East Federal District Pulikovski, who is on a visit to North Korea, holds talks with Chairman Kim Jong Il of North Korea's National Defense Commission in Pyongyang.
		13	Israeli forces undertake a massive invasion with tanks and special operations troops in the Palestinian Autonomous Areas.
		14	Aviation and Tourism Minister of the Afghan Interim Authority Rahman is assassinated.
		14	The US announces its national climate change policy as an alternative plan to the Kyoto Protocol.
15	Japan officially decides to dispatch 680 personnel of Ground Self-Defense Force engineer units and 10 Peacekeeping Forces (PKF) headquarters staff to engage in the UN Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) in Timor-Leste.		
18-19	In Tokyo, Prime Minister Koizumi holds talks with US President Bush, who is on his first visit to Japan, and Foreign Minister Kawaguchi holds talks with US Secretary of State Powell, who is also visiting Japan. President Bush addresses the Diet on February 19.	22	US Secretary of State Powell announces a new proposal for reopening dialogue with North Korea.
		22	Angolan anti-government National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) forces leader Savimbi dies.
		22-23	The Sri Lankan government and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) sign a ceasefire agreement. The ceasefire becomes effective on February 23.

Domestic		International	
March			
1	The deaths of 24 Japanese citizens who went missing in the September 11 terrorist attacks in the US are legally confirmed.		
1	The US requests the initiation of WTO dispute settlement procedures, claiming that the phytosanitary measures imposed by Japan on imports of apples violate the WTO agreement.		
5	US President Bush announces a decision to impose safeguard measures on the imports of 14 steel product items. The safeguard measures are invoked on March 20.	3	Switzerland holds a referendum on joining the UN. A majority of voters support the initiative.
8	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi holds talks with ROK Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Choi Sung Hong in Tokyo.	4	The Kosovo assembly elects Dr. Rugova as the first president of this UN-controlled Yugoslav province.
11	The National Police Agency announces that there are suspicions that Ms. Keiko Arimoto, who went missing in Europe in 1983, was abducted by North Korea.	7	UN Secretary-General Annan holds talks with Iraqi Foreign Minister Sabri in the UN Headquarters.
13	Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov says in a speech to the State Duma of the Russian Parliament that there is no boundary between Japan and Russia which is set by an international treaty and that a search is underway for a solution to the question of border demarcation.	10	The regular session of the Council of Arab Foreign Ministers held in Cairo supports the initiative for peace in the Middle East proposed by Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia.
14	Prime Minister Koizumi holds talks with Pakistani President Musharraf, who is on his first visit to Japan, in Tokyo.	11	More than 40 Palestinians die in an attack by Israeli forces in the Palestinian Autonomous Areas.
		11	Israel's Prime Minister's Office announces that it will allow President of the Palestinian Authority Arafat, who had practically been under house arrest, to move freely within the borders of the Palestinian Autonomous Areas.
		12	Chairman of the Afghan Interim Authority Karzai, who is on a visit to Russia, holds a summit meeting with Russian President Putin in Moscow.
		12	The UN Security Council adopts resolution 1397, which affirms the establishment of a Palestinian state and demands the cessation of all acts of violence.
		13	The Election Board of Zimbabwe announces current President Mugabe the winner of the presidential election. Europe and the US denounce the election as being flawed.
		14	Leaders of the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Montenegro agree to reorganize the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and form a new state union.
		14	Visiting US special envoy to the Middle East Zinni holds talks with Israeli Prime Minister Sharon and launches mediation efforts between Israel and the Palestinian Authority aimed at a ceasefire between Israel and Palestine.
		16	US Vice President Cheney, who is on a visit to Saudi Arabia, holds talks with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah in Jeddah. Saudi Arabia denies the US the use of its bases to launch attacks on Iraq.
		17	A bombing occurs in a Christian church in the diplomatic quarter of the Pakistani capital Islamabad. Five people die in the blast and more than 40 people, including one Japanese national, are injured.

Domestic		International	
18	The State Duma of the Russian Parliament distributes a draft proposal recommending Russian leaders study the possibility of reviewing the previous Russian position recognizing the existence of territorial issues between it and Japan.	18	Israel and the Palestinian Authority agree on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Palestinian Autonomous Areas. The withdrawal is completed in the early morning of the next day.
19	The Government revises the Guideline for Measures to Prevent Global Warming in advance of the acceptance of the Kyoto Protocol.		
20	Japan calls for the launching of WTO dispute settlement procedures in regard to the invocation of safeguard measures by the US on imports of steel.		
22	Prime Minister Koizumi visits the ROK and holds talks with ROK President Kim Dae Jung in Seoul.	22	The International Conference on Financing for Development, which began on March 18 in Monterrey, Mexico, is closed after adopting the Monterrey Consensus.
22	The North Korean Red Cross Society says it will continue investigating the issue of missing Japanese nationals.		
27	The FY2002 budget passes through a plenary session of the House of Councillors.	27	The summit meeting of the Council of the Arab League in Beirut adopts the comprehensive plan for peace in the Middle East, which was proposed by Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, and issues it as the "Beirut Declaration."
		28	The UN Security Council adopts resolution 1401, which endorses the establishment of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).
		29	Israeli Prime Minister Sharon declares President of the Palestinian Authority Arafat an "enemy." Israeli forces invade the autonomous area Ramallah and surround the headquarters of the Palestinian Authority.
		29	Israeli forces invade Jenin and Nablus, and expand their occupation of the Autonomous Areas.
		30	The UN Security Council adopts resolution 1402, which calls for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from cities of the Palestinian Autonomous Areas, including Ramallah.
		30	Britain's Queen Mother Elizabeth dies at the age of 101.

### April

1	Introduction of the payoff system.		
2	Start of the commemorative projects "Japan Year" and "China Year" that mark the 30 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the normalization of Japan-China relations.		
4	Prime Minister Koizumi holds talks with visiting Chairman of the Standing Committee Li Peng of China's National People's Congress in Tokyo.	3-5	Special Envoy of the ROK President Lim Dong Won visits North Korea and holds talks with Chairman Kim Jong Il of North Korea's National Defense Commission in Pyongyang on April 4.
		4	The UN Security Council adopts resolution 1403, which calls for the immediate ceasefire and withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Palestinian Autonomous Areas.
		4	The Angolan government and the anti-government UNITA forces sign a ceasefire agreement.
		5	US Special Envoy to the Middle East Zinni holds talks with President Arafat who is practically under house arrest in the headquarters of the Palestinian Authority.

Domestic		International	
8	Justice Minister Moriyama, who is on a visit to the ROK, signs the Japan-ROK Extradition Treaty.	6	US President Bush calls on Israeli Prime Minister Sharon to withdraw immediately the troops that have invaded the Palestinian Autonomous Areas.
9	A meeting of the Japan-US-ROK Trilateral Coordination Oversight Group (TCOG) is held in Tokyo.	9	The parliaments of the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Montenegro ratify the agreement for the creation of a new state union.
12	Prime Minister Koizumi attends the First Annual Conference of the Boao Forum for Asia held in Boao, Hainan Province, China. Prime Minister Koizumi holds talks with Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji and the two leaders agree to establish the Japan-China Economic Partnership Consultation.	9	The Israeli forces withdraw troops from two cities on the West Bank in the Palestinian Autonomous Areas.
16	At a Cabinet meeting, the Government decides upon three bills regarding responses to armed attacks, including the so-called "Bill regarding Response to Armed Attacks."	10	The International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism takes effect.
		10	Joint Statement by the US, Russia, the UN and the EU calling upon Israel to withdraw its troops from the Palestinian Autonomous Areas is issued at a meeting in Madrid.
		12	Venezuela's President Chavez allegedly "resigns" in a political turmoil originating in large-scale demonstrations, but "returns" to his post on April 14.
		13	Palestinian extremists carry out terrorist suicide attacks in Israel and the scheduled meeting between US Secretary of State Powell and the President of the Autonomous Authorities Arafat is postponed.
		14	After holding talks with President of the Palestinian Authority Arafat in the autonomous area Ramallah, US Secretary of State Powell holds talks with Israeli Prime Minister Sharon in Tel Aviv.
		15	US Secretary of State Powell visits Lebanon and Syria and holds talks with Lebanese President Lahoud and Syrian President Assad.
		15	St. Petersburg Mayor Yakovlev, who is on a visit to North Korea, holds talks with Chairman Kim Jong Il of North Korea's National Defense Commission in Pyongyang.
		16	Former leader of the National Council of Timorese Resistance (CNRT) Gusmao wins an overwhelming victory in the presidential elections in Timor-Leste.
		17	US Secretary of State Powell holds a second round of talks with President of the Palestinian Authority Arafat in Ramallah, but no agreement for a ceasefire is reached and Secretary Powell's peacemaking mission fails.
		18	The former King of Afghanistan Zahir Shah returns to Afghanistan after spending 29 years in exile in Italy.
		18	Israeli forces withdraw from Jenin in the Palestinian Autonomous Areas. The troops withdraw from most of Ramallah and the whole area of Nablus by April 21.
		19	The UN Security Council adopts resolution 1405, which welcomes the initiative for investigating the events at the Jenin refugee camp where a number of refugees were killed in an Israeli military attack. UN Secretary-General Annan appoints three people for a fact-finding mission on April 22, including former UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata.

Domestic		International	
21	Prime Minister Koizumi visits Yasukuni Shrine.	21	After the first round of the French presidential election, current President Chirac and extreme right-wing candidate Le Pen advance to the final ballot.
23	China announces that it will postpone the visit to China by Minister of State for Defense Nakatani, which was scheduled for April 27.	25	Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of the Russian Federation to the Far East Federal District Pulikovski, who is on a visit to North Korea, holds talks with Chairman Kim Jong Il of North Korea's National Defense Commission in Pyongyang.
27-28	Prime Minister Koizumi, who is on a visit to Viet Nam, holds talks with Vietnamese Communist Party Secretary General Nong Duc Manh and other top leaders in Hanoi.	28	The Israeli government and the Palestinian Authority accept the proposal by US President Bush to keep the suspected assassins of Israeli Minister of Tourism Zeevi in custody in a Palestinian prison. As a result, all Israeli forces withdraw from Ramallah and President Arafat is released from house arrest.
29	Prime Minister Koizumi, who is on a visit to Timor-Leste, holds talks with the first president-elect and former leader of the National Council of Timorese Resistance (CNRT) Gusmao in Dili.		
29	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a round of visits to the UK and Belgium, holds talks with Foreign Secretary Straw and Deputy Prime Minister Prescott in London, and with Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union/High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) Solana and Commissioner for External Relations of the European Commission Patten in Brussels.		
30	Japan-North Korea Red Cross Talks start in Beijing. North Korea agrees to resume investigating the situation of the missing Japanese nationals.		

May			
1	Prime Minister Koizumi, who is on a visit to Australia, holds talks with Prime Minister Howard in Canberra.	1	The second round of talks between the UN and Iraq on the resumption of inspections for weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) takes place. Iraq does not announce that it will accept the inspections.
1	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to Afghanistan, holds talks with Chairman of the Afghan Interim Authority Karzai in Kabul.	1	UN Secretary-General Annan formally announces that he will disband the UN fact-finding mission to the Jenin refugee camp in the Palestinian Autonomous Areas, following Israel's decision not to accept the terms of the mission.
2	Prime Minister Koizumi, who is on a visit to New Zealand, holds talks with Prime Minister Clark in Wellington.	5	French President Chirac is reelected in the final ballot of the presidential election. The new French cabinet led by Prime Minister Raffarin is inaugurated on May 7.
5	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to Iran, holds talks with President Khatami in Tehran.	6	Myanmar's military regime lifts the restriction on the movements of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi after keeping her under movement restriction for one year and seven months.
8	Five North Korean nationals attempt to enter the premises of the Japanese Consulate General in Shenyang, but are stopped and later taken away by Chinese armed policemen.	6	ROK President Kim Dae Jung apologizes over the corruption charges against his sons and announces his resignation from the New Millennium Democratic Party.
		8	The United Nations Special Session on Children is opened in New York.

Domestic		International	
9	The Reform Advisory Board submits the interim report on MOFA reform.	10	The crisis at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem in the Palestinian Autonomous Areas, where a total of 123 people including Palestinian militants and civilian hostages were kept under siege by the Israeli forces, comes to an end, with all 123 people leaving the church.
14	The Special Investigation Department of the Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office arrests former senior analyst at the Intelligence and Analysis Bureau Masaru Sato, and former assistant-director of the Russia Assistance Division Akira Maejima at Ministry of Foreign Affairs on suspicion of malpractice.	14	Extremists attack an Indian army camp in Kashmir. Thirty people including civilians die in the attack.
17	The Government approves a half-year extension of the activities by the Self-Defense Forces in support of the US military.	14	The UN Security Council adopts resolution 1409, which extends by six months the partial lifting of the economic embargo on Iraq that permits Iraq to export oil for the restricted purpose of purchasing humanitarian supplies.
17	Japan notifies the WTO of the proposed suspension of concessions and other obligations to be taken as countermeasures against the US safeguard measures on the import of certain steel products.	15	President of the Palestinian Authority Arafat makes a speech calling for reforms in the administration and the police forces of the Palestinian Authority.
20–24	The 54 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) is held in Shimonoseki, Yamaguchi Prefecture.	17	The UN Security Council adopts resolution 1410, which approves the establishment of the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISET).
28	The Japan Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) and the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations (Nikkeiren) merge to form the Japan Business Federation (Nippon Keidanren).	17	The Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) announces reforms of the Palestinian Authority.
28	The Government issues an advisory to all Japanese nationals in Kashmir to leave the region.	20	Timor-Leste becomes independent.
29–31	Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Sugiura, who is on a round of visits to Pakistan and India, holds talks with Pakistani Foreign Minister Sattar in Islamabad on May 29, and Indian External Affairs Minister Singh in Delhi on May 31.	20	The UN Security Council adopts resolution 1413, which extends by six months the authorization of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) dispatched to Afghanistan.
31	Prime Minister Koizumi attends the Opening Ceremony of the FIFA World Cup co-hosted by Japan and the Republic of Korea (ROK), held in Seoul.	20–23	North Korean Foreign Minister Paek Nam Sun makes a formal visit to Russia.
		24	US President Bush, who is on a visit to Russia, holds talks with Russia's President Putin and signs the Strategic Offensive Reduction Treaty (also known as the "Moscow Treaty") in Moscow.
		25	Pakistan test-fires its medium-range ballistic missile Ghauri.
		28	UK Foreign Minister Straw, who is on a visit to Pakistan, holds talks with Pakistani President Musharraf in Islamabad.
		28	The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and Russia decide at a summit meeting in Rome to establish a NATO-Russia Council.
		29	President of the Palestinian Authority Arafat signs the Basic Law adopted in 1997, which is considered a constitution for the Palestinian state.
		31	The parliament of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia adopts a resolution for the dissolution of itself and the establishment of a new state union consisting of the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Montenegro.



Domestic		International	
31	The Law Concerning the Promotion of the Measures to Cope with Global Warming is amended.	31	Following the advisories issued by the governments of the US, the UK and other countries urging their nationals to leave India, the UN Headquarters issues an advisory urging the families of the UN personnel in India and Pakistan to leave the countries on June 1.
June			
4	The Government issues an advisory urging all Japanese nationals in India and Pakistan to leave, except for those who must remain in the two countries due to unavoidable circumstances.	3-4	Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director Tenet, who is on a round of visits to Israel and the Palestinian Autonomous Areas, holds talks with Israeli Prime Minister Sharon in Jerusalem on June 3 and with President of the Palestinian Authority Arafat in Ramallah on June 4.
4	Japan accepts the Kyoto Protocol.	4	Russian President Putin and Chinese President Jiang Zemin, who are on a visit to Kazakhstan to attend the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA) Summit, hold separate talks with Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee and Pakistani President Musharraf in Almaty.
5	The Act on Punishment of Financing to Offences of Public Intimidation passes at a plenary session of the House of Councillors.	6-8	US Deputy Secretary of State Armitage, who is on a round of visits to Pakistan and India, holds talks with Pakistani President Musharraf, Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee and the foreign ministers of the two countries in Islamabad and Delhi, respectively.
8	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a round of visits to the Middle East, holds talks with President of the Palestinian Authority Arafat in Ramallah and Israeli Prime Minister Sharon at the Ben Gurion Airport in Israel.	6	Israeli forces invade Ramallah in the Palestinian Autonomous Areas and surround the headquarters of the Palestinian Authority.
9	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi holds talks with Israeli Foreign Minister Peres in Tel Aviv.	7	The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in Madrid issues a statement regarding the deteriorating situation in Palestine, as well as in India and Pakistan.
11	The letter of acceptance of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism is submitted to UN Secretary-General Annan.	7	The Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit Meeting held in St. Petersburg adopts a political declaration, which calls for India and Pakistan to resume dialogue in order to ease the tension between the two countries.
12	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to Canada to attend the G8 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Whistler, holds talks with Russia's Foreign Minister Ivanov, Canada's Foreign Minister Graham and US Secretary of State Powell.	10	India lifts the ban on Pakistani commercial airline flights over Indian territory.
		11	An Emergency Loya Jirga is convened in Kabul to decide the framework of a transitional Afghan government.
		11-13	US Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld, who is on a round of visits to India and Pakistan, holds talks with Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee and Defense Minister Fernandes in Delhi on May 12, and with Pakistani President Musharraf in Islamabad on May 13.
		12-13	The G8 Foreign Ministers' Meeting is held in Whistler, Canada.

Domestic	
14–18	The Japanese soccer team advances to the second round of the FIFA World Cup tournament for the first time. Japan loses 1-0 to Turkey on June 18 and fails to qualify among the world's best eight teams.
15	Special Representative of the Prime Minister of Japan on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan Ogata, who is on a visit to Afghanistan, holds talks with Afghanistan's President-elect Karzai.
17–18	The TCOG holds a meeting in San Francisco.
18	Japan and China reach a formal agreement in regard to the salvaging of an unidentified vessel sunken off the southwest coast of Kyushu.
19	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to Thailand to attend the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Meeting, holds talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan in Cha-Am.
21	The Cabinet makes a formal decision to salvage the unidentified sunken vessel.
25	Prime Minister Koizumi, who is on a visit to Canada to attend the G8 Kananaskis Summit, holds talks in Kananaskis with US President Bush and Canadian Prime Minister Chrétien on June 25, UK Prime Minister Blair on June 26, Russian President Putin on June 27 and German Chancellor Schroeder on June 28.
29	German Chancellor Schroeder travels to Japan aboard a Japanese Government plane to attend the final match of the FIFA World Cup. He holds talks with Japanese Prime Minister Koizumi aboard the plane.
30	The final match of the FIFA World Cup is held in Yokohama. ROK President Kim Dae Jung, German President Rau, German Chancellor Schroeder and Jordanian King Abdullah watch the match together with Prime Minister Koizumi.

International	
13	The Afghan Emergency Loya Jirga elects Chairman of the Afghan Interim Authority Karzai as the new head of state.
13	The US withdraws from the ABM Treaty.
14	US Special Envoy to the Korean Peninsula Peace Talks Pritchard holds talks with North Korean Ambassador to the UN Pak Kil Yon in New York.
16	Israel starts work on a security fence at the West Bank of the Jordan River in an attempt to prevent invasions by Palestinian extremists.
16	The conservative-center coalition wins the election for the French National Assembly and the second Raffarin cabinet is inaugurated on June 17.
18	Israeli forces again invade major cities in the Palestinian Autonomous Areas and occupy refugee camps, in retaliation for suicide bombings committed by Palestinian militants.
18–19	The ACD Ministerial Meeting is held in Cha-Am.
24	A swearing-in ceremony for the Transitional Administration of Afghanistan is held in the capital Kabul, and the transitional administration is officially inaugurated.
24	US President Bush gives a speech on a new Middle East peace initiative.
25	Israeli forces strengthen military operations in the Palestinian Autonomous Areas.
25	President of the Palestinian Authority Arafat objects to US President Bush's speech.
26	The G8 Kananaskis Summit starts in Kananaskis, Canada.
27	A US state department spokesman announces that the US has proposed to dispatch Assistant Secretary of State Kelly to Pyongyang, North Korea, in the middle of July.
29	ROK naval speedboats and North Korean patrol boats exchange fire on the Yellow Sea.

Domestic		International	
July			
1	Prime Minister Koizumi holds talks with visiting ROK President Kim Dae Jung.	1	The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) enters into force. The Rome Statute stipulates the establishment of the first permanent international criminal court for prosecuting the most serious crimes of international concern such as war crimes.
		2	A US state department spokesman announces that the government has retracted its proposal to send a delegation to visit Pyongyang.
		4	UN Secretary-General Annan and Iraqi Foreign Minister Sabri hold a third round of consultations on the issue of WMD inspections in Iraq, but no practical progress is made on solving the issue.
8	The Japan-EU Summit is held in Tokyo.	6	The Afghan Deputy President and Minister of Public Works Qadir of the transitional administration is assassinated.
10-21	The Silk Road Energy Mission led by Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Sugiura visits Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan.	9	At the summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the African Union (AU) is launched as the successor to the OAU.
11	The International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism takes effect in Japan.		
13	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to the ROK, holds talks with ROK President Kim Dae Jung and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Choi Sung Hong in Seoul.	16	US President Bush announces a report entitled "National Strategy for Homeland Security," which advocates the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security.
17	Prime Minister Koizumi and Foreign Minister Kawaguchi hold talks with visiting UK Foreign Secretary Straw in Tokyo.	16	The meeting on the situation in the Middle East, held among representatives of the US, Russia, the EU and the UN in New York, confirms their support for the peace process in line with the new peace initiative proposed by the US that raises the goal of achieving a final Israeli-Palestinian peace settlement within three years.
22	The Reform Advisory Board submits the final report on MOFA reform.	20	The Government of Sudan and the SPLA reach a basic agreement to put an end to the nation's 19-year civil war.
24	The four postal affairs-related bills are approved at the Plenary Session of the House of Councillors and enacted as laws.	22	UN Secretary-General Annan decides to appoint De Mello, former Special Representative of the Secretary-General and UN Transitional Administrator in East Timor, as the successor of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Robinson.
		25	North Korea expresses its regret over the incident in which ROK naval speedboats and North Korean patrol boats exchanged fire.
		26	North Korea announces that it will accept a US envoy as an effort aimed at resuming dialogue.

Domestic		International	
30	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to Brunei to attend the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Meeting and other ASEAN-related ministerial meetings, holds bilateral talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan. The two ministers and ROK Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Choi Sung Hong hold the first Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting of Japan, China and the ROK in Bandar Seri Begawan.	28	Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov, who is on a visit to North Korea, holds talks with North Korean Foreign Minister Paek Nam Sun and Chairman Kim Jong Il of North Korea's National Defense Commission in Pyongyang.
31	The 154 <sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Diet is closed.	27-28	US Secretary of State Powell, who is on a round of visits to India and Pakistan, holds talks with Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee in Delhi and Pakistani President Musharraf in Islamabad.
31	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to Brunei to attend the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Meeting, holds talks with Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov. On the same day, Minister Kawaguchi holds talks with North Korea's Foreign Minister Paek Nam Sun, during which they agree on director-general level consultations between the foreign ministries as well as the next round of the Japan-North Korea Red Cross Talks in Pyongyang in the middle of August.	30	President Kabila of the Democratic Republic of Congo and President Kagame of Rwanda sign a peace agreement in Pretoria to end the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
		30	The ASEAN+3 (Japan, China, the ROK) Foreign Ministers' Meeting is held in Bandar Seri Begawan.
		30	The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) announces the ARF Statement on Measures against Terrorist Financing in Bandar Seri Begawan.
		31	The ARF Ministerial Meeting is held in Bandar Seri Begawan.
		31	US Secretary of State Powell, who is on a visit to Brunei to attend the ARF Ministerial Meeting, holds the first informal meeting under the Bush administration with North Korean Foreign Minister Paek Nam Sun in Bandar Seri Begawan.

**August**

1	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to Brunei to attend the ARF Ministerial Meeting, holds talks with US Secretary of State Powell in Bandar Seri Begawan.		
5	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to Myanmar, holds talks in Yangon with Prime Minister and Chairman of Myanmar's State Peace and Development Council Senior-General Than Shwe, government officials, as well as with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.	5	The ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting is held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei. The participants adopt a joint declaration in which they pledge to strengthen cooperation to combat international terrorism.
		6	UN Secretary-General Annan sends a letter to Iraqi Foreign Minister Sabri demanding Iraq allow the resumption of the WMD inspections in Iraq.
		7	The Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) starts pouring concrete into the foundations of a light-water reactor that KEDO will build in North Korea.
		12	The Initiative for Development in East Asia (IDEA) Ministerial Meeting is held in Tokyo.
		12-14	The 7 <sup>th</sup> inter-Korean ministerial talks are held in Seoul.
		15	The US Department of Defense announces the Annual Report to the President and the Congress for 2002.
		17	More than 140,000 people in the Elbe River basin region in Germany are evacuated as the biggest flood in 500 years hits Central Europe.

Domestic		International	
18–19	Japan-North Korea Red Cross Talks start in Pyongyang. In a joint statement that was announced on August 19, both sides agree to continue the search for missing Japanese nationals. Both sides also agree to allow visits by Japanese wives living in North Korea to their homeland.	19	Chairman Kim Jong Il of North Korea's National Defense Commission leaves Pyongyang on a special train to attend the Russia-North Korea summit meeting. He holds talks with Russian President Putin in Vladivostok on August 23.
21	The foreign ministry announces the Action Plan for the Reform of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.		
25–26	A director-general level consultation between Japan and North Korea is held in Pyongyang.		
26–29	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a round of visits to African states to attend the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Summit), visits Ethiopia and Angola and holds talks with the prime minister of Ethiopia and the president of Angola.	26–9/4	The Johannesburg Summit is held in Johannesburg, South Africa.
27–28	Visiting US Deputy Secretary of State Armitage holds a series of meetings with Prime Minister Koizumi, Chief Cabinet Secretary Fukuda, Minister of State for Defense Nakatani and the leaders of the three ruling parties. The first Japan-US vice-ministerial strategic dialogue is held on August 27 in Tokyo.	28	US Deputy Secretary of State Armitage announces a policy to launch high-level talks between the US and North Korea.
29–9/4	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi attends the Johannesburg Summit.		

## September

2	Prime Minister Koizumi attends the highest-level talks at the Johannesburg Summit in Johannesburg and delivers a speech.	1	Thailand's former Deputy Prime Minister Supachai becomes the new director-general of the WTO.
2	In Johannesburg, Foreign Minister Kawaguchi and US Secretary of State Powell announce the "Clean Water for People" initiative, a US-Japan partnership on water.	3	UN Secretary-General Annan, who is on a visit to South Africa to attend the Johannesburg Summit, holds talks with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Aziz in Johannesburg.
4	P3-C patrol aircraft of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Forces detects an unidentified vessel in waters 400 km north-northwest of the Noto Peninsula.	4	The Johannesburg Summit adopts the "Plan of Implementation" and "Johannesburg Declaration."
6–7	The TCOG Meeting opens in Seoul.	5	An assassination attempt is made on Afghan President Karzai in Kandahar.
8	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to China, holds talks with Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan in Beijing.	7	UK Prime Minister Blair, who is on a visit to the US, holds talks with US President Bush on the issue of Iraq at Camp David.
10	Takako Konishi, wife of Japanese Red Army member Takahiro Konishi who participated in the hijacking of the Japan Airlines plane Yodo-go, returns to Japan from North Korea. She is arrested by the Tokyo Metropolitan Police on charges of violating the passport control law.	10	The 57 <sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly starts in New York.
11	Salvaging operations of the unidentified sunken vessel in the East China Sea begin.	10	The General Assembly of the UN adopts a resolution which admits the membership of Switzerland in the UN.
		11	Heads of state of 91 countries, including Prime Minister Koizumi, attend the ceremony of remembrance for the victims of the terrorist attacks in the US in New York.

Domestic		International	
		11	The Palestinian Authority cabinet resigns en masse and President Arafat schedules presidential elections and PLC elections for January 20, 2003.
12	Prime Minister Koizumi, who is on a visit to the US, holds talks with US President Bush in New York. The two leaders stress the importance of international cooperation on the issue of Iraq. President Bush declares his support for Prime Minister Koizumi's visit to North Korea.	12	General debate begins at the 57 <sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly.
13	Prime Minister Koizumi delivers an address at the UN General Assembly in New York and states the necessity of Iraq fully accepting WMD inspections.	12	In his address to the UN General Assembly, US President Bush strongly criticizes Iraq for developing WMDs and their delivery vehicles in violation of UN Security Council resolutions and urges the UN Security Council to adopt the necessary resolutions.
13	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to the US, holds talks with US Secretary of State Powell in New York.	13	The G8 Foreign Ministers' Meeting is held in New York.
14	Minister Kawaguchi holds talks with Iraqi Foreign Minister Sabri in New York and urges Iraq to accept the immediate, unconditional and unrestricted resumption of UN weapons inspections.	14	Foreign ministers of 18 countries gathered in New York issue a joint declaration demanding the early signing and ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) by each country toward the early entry into force of the treaty.
15	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to the US, holds talks with Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov in New York.	16	Sri Lanka's government and the LTTE carry out their first direct negotiations in Thailand.
17	Prime Minister Koizumi, who is on a visit to the North Korea, holds the first-ever summit talks with Chairman Kim Jong Il of North Korea's National Defense Commission in Pyongyang and the two leaders sign the Japan-DPRK Pyongyang Declaration.	16	In talks with UN Secretary-General Annan, Iraqi Foreign Minister Sabri informs him of the decision of the Iraqi government to accept the unconditional resumption of UN weapons inspections.
17	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to the US, holds talks with US Secretary of State Powell in Washington.	18	Iraqi Foreign Minister Sabri holds talks with UN Secretary-General Annan in New York.
19	Prime Minister Koizumi holds a telephone conference with US President Bush and recounts the outcome of the Japan-North Korea summit meeting on September 17.	19	Israeli forces isolate and besiege President of the Palestinian Authority Arafat in the headquarters of the Palestinian Authority.
		19	The anti-government forces in Côte d'Ivoire launch an armed uprising.
		19	The meeting of the Conference of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is held in Osaka.
		20	The US government submits the National Security Strategy of the United States of America to Congress.
		20	The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors in Vienna adopts a resolution urging North Korea to accept nuclear inspections.
		21-23	The Eighth International Energy Forum is held in Osaka.

Domestic		International	
22	Prime Minister Koizumi, who is on a visit to Denmark to attend the Fourth ASEM Summit Meeting, holds talks with ROK President Kim Dae Jung in Copenhagen.	22	Parliamentary elections are held in Germany. The Social Democratic Party of Chancellor Schroeder secures the largest number of seats in the new Lower House (Bundestag). The second Schroeder cabinet is inaugurated on October 22.
		22-23	The Fourth ASEM Summit Meeting held in Copenhagen adopts the "Political Declaration for Peace on the Korean Peninsula" and the chairman's statement urges the strengthening of cooperation through measures such as the establishment of a task force to fight international terrorism and development of a closer economic partnership.
		24	The UK government releases its dossier on Iraq's development of WMDs.
		24	Following the September 12 announcement of the Special Administrative Region in Sinuiju City, the Standing Committee of North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly appoints Mr. Yang Bin as the initial administrative head of the region.
		24	The UN Security Council adopts resolution 1435, which calls for the immediate termination of the siege of the Palestinian Authority headquarters by Israeli forces and their withdrawal from the Palestinian Autonomous Areas.
27	The Government establishes a Division for the Assistance of the Abductees and Their Families within the Cabinet for families of Japanese nationals abducted by North Korea.	27	The UN General Assembly adopts a resolution which admits the membership of Timor-Leste in the UN.
28-10/1	The Government dispatches an investigation team concerning the abduction cases to Pyongyang from September 28 to October 1 and investigates the abduction cases.		
30	Prime Minister Koizumi reshuffles the Cabinet.	29	Tanks and troops of the Israeli forces withdraw from the premises of the Palestinian Authority headquarters.

### October

1-2	US Assistant Secretary of State Kelly visits Japan on his way to North Korea.	1	At working-level talks between UNMOVIC and Iraq, Iraq agrees to accept an immediate, unconditional and unrestricted resumption of inspections, in line with the UN Security Council resolutions.
3	Mr. Takeshi Terakoshi, who went missing in the Sea of Japan in 1963, visits Japan as a member of a North Korean trade union delegation.	3-5	US Assistant Secretary of State Kelly visits North Korea as a special envoy and holds talks with Chairman Kim Yong Nam of North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly in Pyongyang.
4	The Government classifies the unidentified vessel salvaged in the waters off the Amami-Oshima Islands as a North Korean spy boat.	4	Pakistan test-fires the ground-to-ground ballistic missile Shaheen. The test is repeated on October 8.
6-7	US Assistant Secretary of State Kelly visits Japan on his way back from North Korea.	5	The ROK parliament approves the designation of Kim Suk Soo as the ROK prime minister, filling the three-month vacancy of the post.
7	The Government officially decides to postpone the full introduction of the payoff system by two years.		

Domestic	
8-9	The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announces that the Nobel Prize in Physics will be awarded to Professor Emeritus Masatoshi Koshiba of the University of Tokyo and two others, and the Nobel Prize in Chemistry to Mr. Koichi Tanaka of Shimadzu Corporation and two others.
9	Prime Minister Koizumi holds talks with visiting Chairman of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Qarase (prime minister of Fiji).
14	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to Russia, holds talks with Russian President Putin and both sides agree to schedule the visit of Prime Minister Koizumi from January 9 to 11, 2003. Foreign Minister Kawaguchi holds a Japan-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Issues meeting with Vice-Chairman of the Russian Government Khristenko in Moscow.
15	Five Japanese nationals abducted by North Korea return to Japan.
17	Records of the first round of talks between Emperor Showa and General MacArthur, supreme commander of the Allied Forces, which were held immediately after the end of the war, are disclosed.

International	
10	The results of the state assembly elections in Kashmir, which were held in September and October and consisting of 41 separate ballots, are announced and the new authority of the state is established.
10	The first general elections since Pakistan's 1999 coup d'état are held.
10	At a plenary session, the US House of Representatives approves a resolution authorizing the use of military force against Iraq. The resolution is also approved at a plenary session of the Senate on October 11.
10	Regarding the explosion that occurred aboard a French tanker off the coast of Yemen, French authorities announce that the investigation proves the explosion was caused by a terrorist attack.
12	A series of terrorist bombings occurs on the island of Bali, Indonesia. Two hundred and two people including tourists are killed, and approximately 300 are injured (as of February 2003). Thirteen Japanese nationals are injured and two are killed.
16	US President Bush signs the resolutions authorizing the use of military force against Iraq.
16	Iraqi authorities hold national elections and announce that President Hussein was reelected with a 100% support rate.
16	India decides to redeploy its armed forces from the border with Pakistan. The next day, Pakistani authorities make a similar decision.
16	The US Department of Defense announces that North Korea admitted it has an active uranium enrichment program aimed at the development of nuclear weapons.
17	A series of bombing incidents occur on the island of Mindanao in the southern Philippines. Six people die and more than 140 are injured.
17	The anti-government forces in Côte d'Ivoire sign a ceasefire agreement with the governmental army under the auspices of African countries.
18	IAEA Director General ElBaradei expresses his deep concern over the announcement of the US Department of Defense regarding North Korea's uranium enrichment



Domestic		International	
18	The 155 <sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Session of the Diet is convened.		program. The IAEA issues a statement, demanding North Korea to provide immediately information on that issue.
21	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi and Minister of State for Defense Ishiba hold talks with visiting US Assistant Secretary of State Kelly.	19–22	The 8 <sup>th</sup> inter-Korean ministerial talks are held in Pyongyang.
21	Prime Minister Koizumi holds talks with visiting Ghanaian President Kufuor.	23–26	Armed Chechen forces occupy a theater in Moscow. Russian authorities send special forces to the theater on October 26 and the situation is promptly brought under control, although there are many victims.
26	The Japan–US–ROK Trilateral Summit Meeting is held in Los Cabos. The leaders agree to call on North Korea to abolish its nuclear development program and to aim for a peaceful resolution to this issue.	24	The APEC Ministerial Meeting held in Los Cabos, Mexico adopts a joint statement with the goal of strengthening counter-terrorism measures and achieving economic growth.
26	Prime Minister Koizumi, who is on a visit to Mexico, holds talks with Russian Prime Minister Kasyanov in Los Cabos.	25	Chinese President Jiang Zemin, who is on a visit to the US, holds talks with US President Bush in Crawford, Texas.
27	Prime Minister Koizumi, who is on a visit to Mexico, holds talks with Chinese President Jiang Zemin in Los Cabos.	25	North Korea proposes the conclusion of a non-aggression treaty between the US and North Korea.
29	The Government decides to offer an additional 16.7 billion yen for reconstruction assistance to Afghanistan.	27	The APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting adopts an APEC Economic Leaders' Statement that clearly states their stance to fight against terrorism. They also adopt a special statement which calls on North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons development program.
29–30	The 12 <sup>th</sup> round of the Japan-North Korea normalization talks begins in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.	29	A meeting of the Palestinian Legislative Council is held. President Arafat announces the new cabinet, which is approved by a majority vote.

## November

		1	The Eighth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Changes (COP8) adopts the Delhi Ministerial Declaration.
		3	Following the incident in the Moscow theater, Russian Defense Minister Ivanov announces a moratorium on the scaling down of Russian forces stationed on the territory of Chechnya.
4	On the occasion of the ASEAN+3 Summit Meeting, a trilateral Japan-China-ROK Summit Meeting is held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, at which the three leaders discuss issues of the Korean Peninsula and cooperation among Japan, China and the ROK.	4	The ASEAN+3 Summit Meeting is held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. A chairman's statement is adopted, which calls on North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons development program and confirms the strengthening of international cooperation toward the eradication of terrorism.
		4	The Framework Agreement on ASEAN-China Economic Cooperation is signed at the ASEAN-China Summit Meeting in Phnom Penh.

Domestic		International	
5	The Government establishes a Division for the Assistance of the Abductees and Their Families within the Cabinet Secretariat, in order to handle administrative tasks related to the promotion of support measures for Japanese nationals abducted by North Korea and their families.	5	At the first India-ASEAN Summit Meeting, held in Phnom Penh, the leaders agree to advance efforts aimed at the establishment of a free trade area.
5	Prime Minister Koizumi, who is on a visit to Cambodia to attend the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting held in Phnom Penh, signs a joint declaration which incorporates a policy to advance the Comprehensive Economic Partnership, including a free trade agreement (FTA).	5	Midterm elections are held in the US. The Republican Party recaptures the majority in the Senate and retains its majority in the House of Representatives.
9	The TCOG Meeting is held in Tokyo.	8	The UN Security Council unanimously adopts resolution 1441 proposed by the US and the UK on the issue of Iraq's development and possession of WMDs.
11	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, who is on a visit to the ROK to attend the Second Ministerial Conference of the Community of Democracies, holds talks with ROK Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Choi Sung Hong and ROK President Kim Dae Jung in Seoul.	8-14	The 16 <sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) elects the CPC Central Committee to choose the new administration of the party. The 16 <sup>th</sup> CPC Central Committee holds its first plenary session on November 15 and elects Vice-President Hu Jintao as the general secretary of the CPC Central Committee.
14	Lawyers of the victims and Ehime Prefecture sign a settlement agreement over the sinking of the <i>Ehime Maru</i> in February 2001, a training vessel owned by the Uwajima Fisheries High School, Ehime Prefecture.	12	The Second Ministerial Conference of the Community of Democracies held in Seoul adopts the "Seoul Plan of Action" as well as the "Community of Democracies Statement on Terrorism."
14	North Korea warns Japan that the failure to hand over the five abductees who returned to Japan to North Korea might have some grave consequences, such as the indefinite postponement of bilateral security consultations.	13	Iraq's UN Ambassador Al-Douri submits a letter to UN Secretary-General Annan that conveys Iraq's acceptance of Security Council resolution 1441.
14-16	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi attends the WTO Informal Ministerial Meeting in Sydney and holds talks with WTO Director-General Supachai and EU Trade Commissioner Lamy.	14	The KEDO Executive Board in New York adopts a statement saying that heavy fuel oil deliveries for North Korea will be suspended beginning with the December shipment and that future shipments will depend on North Korea's concrete and credible actions.
19	The Government adopts a Cabinet decision to extend the duration of the dispatch of Self-Defense Forces under the terms of the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law until May 19, 2003.	15	UN advance team of inspectors led by UNMOVIC Executive Chairman Blix and IAEA Director General ElBaradei arrives in Baghdad.
21	The demise of His Imperial Highness Prince Takamado.	21	The NATO Summit Meeting is held in Prague. The heads of state formally invite seven Central and East European countries to join NATO.
		22	US President Bush and Russian President Putin hold talks in the town of Pushkin, near St. Petersburg. The two leaders demand that Iraq complies with the UN Security Council resolutions and agree to cooperate to

Domestic		International	
27	Prime Minister Koizumi receives a report entitled "Basic Strategies for Japan's Foreign Policy in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century" compiled by the Task Force on Foreign Relations of the Prime Minister.		convince North Korea to abandon its nuclear weapons development plan.
		23	A new cabinet led by Prime Minister Jamali is inaugurated in Pakistan.
		25	The International Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (ICOC) is adopted at a conference in The Hague.
		25	President Bush signs a bill creating the Department of Homeland Security. Tom Ridge is appointed as the first secretary of the Department.
		25	The UN inspection team dispatched to investigate Iraq's program for the development of WMDs arrives in Baghdad.
		27	The inspection teams of UNMOVIC and the IAEA resume the search for Iraq's WMDs after a 4-year interruption.
		27	The UN Security Council adopts resolution 1444, which extends by one year the authorization of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) dispatched to Afghanistan.
		28	A bombing incident occurs in Mombasa, Kenya. Fifteen people are killed and more than 80 are injured. At nearly the same time, an Israeli civilian airplane becomes the target of a failed attack almost immediately after taking off from the Mombasa airport.
		29	The IAEA Board of Governors in Vienna unanimously adopts a resolution urging North Korea to abandon its nuclear weapons development program and to accept nuclear inspections.

December			
3	Japan, together with the US, the EU and the World Bank, holds "the Preparatory Conference on Peace and Reconstruction in Aceh" in Tokyo, with a view to promoting a peaceful solution to the conflict between the Indonesian government and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM), an armed movement for independence from Indonesia.	2	A ministerial conference is held in Bonn to mark the first anniversary of the 2001 Bonn Meeting and to evaluate and strengthen postwar reconstruction assistance to Afghanistan.
4	In a plenary session, the House of Councillors approves the Law Concerning Support for Victims of Abduction by the North Korean authorities and the bill is enacted into law.	2	In a letter to IAEA Director General ElBaradei, North Korean Foreign Minister Paek Nam Sun rejects the resolution adopted by the IAEA Board of Governors in November.
5	The Government decides to dispatch an Aegis ship to the Indian Ocean under the terms of the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law.	2	The general strike demanding the resignation of Venezuela's President Chavez becomes indefinite.
		7	Iraq submits a declaration on its current possession of WMDs and its plans for WMD development to the UN Security Council.

Domestic		International	
9	Prime Minister Koizumi, Chief Cabinet Secretary Fukuda, Foreign Minister Kawaguchi, Minister of State for Defense Ishiba, and Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Takeuchi hold talks with visiting US Deputy Secretary of State Armitage in Tokyo to discuss measures for dealing with the issue of Iraq.	9	The Government of Indonesia and the armed movement for independence GAM sign a peace pact.
10	The Nobel Prize Award Ceremony is held in Stockholm. Professor Emeritus Masatoshi Koshihara of the University of Tokyo is awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics and Mr. Koichi Tanaka, fellow of Shimadzu Corporation, is awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry.	10	The US Department of Defense announces that an unidentified vessel carrying what appears to be North Korean-made Scud missiles was apprehended and searched by a Spanish frigate in the Arabian Sea off the coast of Yemen and was placed under the surveillance of the US navy afterward.
13	The 155 <sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Session of the Diet is closed.	10	The US releases a report entitled "National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction."
13	The General Assembly of Diet Members of the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) approves the resignation of DPJ President Yukio Hatoyama and the appointment of former DPJ Secretary General Naoto Kan as the new president. A new executive apparatus is inaugurated.	11	The US allows the shipment of Scud missiles aboard the North Korean freighter apprehended on December 9 to be unloaded in Yemen.
16	The Japan-US Security Consultative Committee 2+2 Meeting is held in Washington D.C.	12	North Korea announces that it will immediately resume operations and construction of nuclear facilities.
18	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi holds talks with visiting Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov.	13	The Copenhagen European Council declares the conclusion of accession negotiations with 10 countries including Central and East European and Mediterranean countries. The European Council confirms its policy of welcoming new members to the European Union.
18	The Advisory Group on International Cooperation for Peace (Chairman Yasushi Akashi) submits a report to Prime Minister Koizumi.	18	The UN General Assembly adopts a resolution requesting Secretary-General Annan to resume negotiations with the Government of Cambodia to form the Extraordinary Chambers for the prosecution of crimes committed during the period of Democratic Kampuchea.
		19	The UN inspection team evaluates the Iraqi declaration on its WMD development plans negatively.
		19	The candidate Roh Moo Hyun of the ruling New Millennium Democratic Party wins the ROK presidential election.
		20	The US, the EU, Russia and the UN hold a meeting on the Middle East peace process in Washington.
		21–24	In a press release, the IAEA announces on December 21 its deep regret over North Korea's actions to cut most of the seals and impede the functioning of surveillance cameras installed at the graphite-moderated reactor in Yongbyon. North Korean authorities cut the seals and impede the functioning of surveillance cameras in all of the remaining facilities by December 24.
		22	The Palestinian Authority decides to postpone indefinitely the elections for the president and the Palestinian Legislative Council.
25	The New Conservative Party is established.	25–26	An IAEA spokesperson announces that North Korea has begun to move fuel rods into the graphite-moderated reactor.
		27	North Korea decides to expel the IAEA inspectors stationed in the country.