February 12 - Day 24  
  
3:07 AM - SecDef Pete Hegseth arrives at NATO headquarters in Brussels for talks with allied military leaders. “NATO must be a stronger, more lethal force—not a diplomatic club. Time for allies to meet the moment.”  
  
6:54 AM - News organizations sued the Trump administration after 9 videos from J6 being used to prosecute rioter Glen Simon were removed from a DOJ website. They're asking the evidence be restored and an explanation be given within 24 hours.  
  
8:06 AM - Donald Trump says that interest rates should be lowered alongside the implementation of tariffs on foreign goods. Markets predict the Federal Reserve will not ease interest rates at all this year pending the impact of tariffs and a potential trade war.  
  
8:39 AM - SecDef Pete Hegseth confirmed with UK Defense Minister John Healey that the US would have “continued commitment and involvement" in the Ukraine Defense Contract Group.  
  
8:45 AM - SecDef Pete Hegseth says that the US does not view Ukrainian NATO membership as a realistic outcome of a peace deal.  
  
8:57 AM - SecDef Pete Hegseth says that the US will focus on Asia and containing China in the Indo-Pacific region.  
  
9:38 AM - A ceasefire between the Mexican gangs Grupo Escorpion and the Metros was established today under pressure from the Mexican government. The deal would end disputes over territorial control in the RGV, cease fentanyl trafficking, and prevent the harm of deported immigrants affiliated with each other's gangs. This comes as the groups become concerned with a possible FTO designation.  
  
10:05 AM - The CPI release for January 2025 indicates that the inflation rate increased to 3% from last year, rising by 0.5% from December 2024, the fastest monthly increase since August 2023. Core CPI rose 0.4% from December 2024, 3.3% since last year. These are both higher than expected by economists. Trump posted on Truth Social “BIDEN INFLATION UP!” in response to the CPI release.  
  
10:06 AM - House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries [D-NY-8] announces the creation of a Rapid Response Task Force headed by Reps. Rosa DeLauro [D-CT-3], Gerry Connolly [D-VA-11], and Jamie Raskin [D-MD-8].  
  
10:32 AM - House GOP budget proposal would call for $2t in mandatory spending cuts, an increase of the debt ceiling $4t, and $4.5t in tax cuts. At the same time it allocates an additional $200b for border security.  
  
11:49 AM - Tulsi Gabbard [R-HI] is confirmed 52-48 in the Senate as Director of National Intelligence. Sen. Mitch McConnell [R-KY] somehow managed to be the only defector from the GOP.  
  
11:53 AM - Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin have agreed to meet and visit each other's nations after having a phone call with each other. He will be calling Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky immediately afterwards.  
  
11:54 PM - Rep. Tim Burchett [R-TN-2] will introduce the “Cartel Marque and Reprisal Authorization Act of 2025”. The act would allow the government to commission private militias to “seize persons and property of any cartel, cartel member, or cartel-linked organization.”  
  
12:47 PM - Federal Judge James Boasberg orders the DOJ to not remove any J6 videos from their database.  
  
1:21 PM - Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt issues the Trump administration’s response to judges blocking their actions and to the media.  
  
“Many outlets in this room have been fear mongering the American people into believing there is a constitutional crisis taking place here at The White House. But in fact the real constitutional crisis is taking place within our judicial branch where district court judges in liberal districts are abusing their power.”  
  
“We believe these judges are acting as judicial activists rather than honest arbiters of the law.”

“We will comply with the law in the courts, but we will also continue to seek every legal remedy to ultimately overturn these radical injunctions and ensure President Trump's policies can be enacted.”  
  
1:27 PM – A USAID employee testified about their escape from the DRC following the cutting of USAID funding. They were forced to leave their homes and all of their possessions. Their mission was to counter Chinese influence in the Congo and limit their access to cobalt.  
  
1:29 PM - When asked to provide evidence of fraud, Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt showed screenshots of contracts that contradicted Trump's policies. Going against Trump's policies is not fraud.  
  
1:37 PM - Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt says the media is free to bring up any conflicts of interest relating to Elon Musk and his actions in DOGE (they won't do anything).  
  
1:40 PM - White House designates DOGE as an entity immune from public records requests and most judicial injunctions until at least 2034.  
  
1:43 PM - SecDef Pete Hegseth says that “stark strategic realities” will stop the US from being the main guarantor of European security.  
  
1:59 PM - EPA employees were notified of the termination of remote work, and ordered to return to offices by February 18.  
  
1:59 PM - Trump administration took back $80m worth of FEMA funding to New York City. The Mayor’s Office is talking with the administration to recoup the funds, while also scheduling an emergency meeting with FEMA to resolve the issue. The Corporation Counsel is also exploring litigation options.  
  
2:18 PM - Apple restarts advertising on Twitter for the first time in over a year, since ELon Musk began making controversial statements on the website during November 2023.  
  
2:33 PM - Trump is elected as Chair of the Kennedy Center of the Performing Arts’ Board of Trustees.  
  
2:50 PM - Russian State TV Host Evgeny Popov praises the Trump administration for tearing apart the western world the way Russia always wanted to. He calls the events “truly amazing.”  
  
2:52 PM - Reuters’ DC reporter Brad Heath notes that Elon Musk’s space company SpaceX has been paid $43m by the US government since he became DOGE Executive.  
  
2:58 PM - Two transgender girls in New Hampshire, Parker Tirrell and Iris Turmelle, sue to challenge Trump’s executive order excluding transgender girls and women from participating in girl’s and women’s sports.  
  
3:10 PM - Ford Motor Company CEO Jim Farley says proposed 25% tariffs on Canada and MExico would destroy the auto industry. “A 25% tariff across the Mexico and Canadian border will blow a hole in the U.S. industry that we have never seen.”  
  
3:49 PM - An AP reporter was blocked from entering the Oval Office for the second straight day. They were there to cover the swearing in of DNI Tulsi Gabbard [R-HI].  
  
3:57 PM - The GSA plans to sell off over 500 buildings, some of which house government agencies and the offices of US Senators.  
  
3:57PM - Jon Stewart asked House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries [D-NY-8] why the Dems are focusing on messaging over better policies and returning to New Deal values. Jeffries responded that the Democrats need to make Americans “feel that we understand the pain that they've been in".  
  
4:03 PM - State Department tells US embassies around the world to prepare for staff reductions.  
  
4:08 PM - Army guidance on Trump’s transgender military ban says to NOT take “adverse personnel action” against service members based on identity and to continue gender affirming care, court proceedings reveal.  
  
4:35 PM - During an Oval Office presser, Trump was asked if Ukraine was an equal in the peace process. He deflected, and implied that it was Ukraine's fault they're currently at war. “It's an interesting question. I think they have to make peace. That was not a good war to go into.” Trump also focused on Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky’s polling numbers and said he should hold an election. He also said Ukraine returning to pre-invasion borders would be unlikely, saying that “they (Russia?) took a lot of land and they fought for that land.”  
  
4:43 PM - Trump says that there’s “no chance” that forms of fraud are not happening with government funding.  
  
4:49 PM - Trump says he would like to see the Department of Education shut down “immediately.”  
  
5:10 PM - AG Pam Bondi [R-FL] files a civil suit against the State of New York, Gov. Kathy Hochul [D-NY], State AG Letitia James [D-NY], and Mark Schroeder. She claims the administration is acting to defend “Angel Moms”; mothers who've lost children to illegal immigrant crimes.  
  
5:27 PM - The Department of Education announces investigations into the Minnesota State High School League and California Interscholastic Federation for not banning transgender athletes.  
  
5:29 PM - (cutting out partisan language) France, Germany, Poland, Italy, Spain, and the UK sign a joint statement promising to protect Ukrainian sovereignty and demanding a role in Ukraine-Russia peace talks.  
  
5:41 PM - Trump signs the executive order “One Voice for America's Foreign Relations.” The order directs Secretary of State Marco Rubio [R-FL] to ensure that all State Department employees implement Trump’s foreign policy agenda.  
  
6:12 PM - Federal judge allows the deferred resignation program to proceed. He ruled that the labor unions did not have standing to challenge, because they only claimed alleged injury from the program.  
  
6:53 PM - Dozens of employees at the Technology Transformation Service have been fired today.  
  
7:07 PM - A leaked OPM email indicates that mass layoffs are beginning across the federal government. The average agency will face 30-40% budget cuts, with exceptions for some groups like the military.  
  
7:20 PM - The Trump administration opts to end admissions into the deferred resignation program effective at this time after a federal judge cleared the program.  
  
7:41 PM - Indian PM Narendra Modi visits the US for bilateral discussions for the first time. He meets with DNI Tulsi Gabbard [R-HI].  
  
8:22 PM - The White House announces that Belarus has released another American hostage, though doesn’t name who it was.  
  
8:45 PM - Elon Musk’s company Tesla is likely to receive a State Department contract worth $400m for armored Tesla Cybertrucks.  
  
9:20 PM - The final number of federal employees that accepted the deferred resignation option is numbered at 75,000, according to Semafor. That represents 3.75% of the federal workforce.