

Building the Obama presidency

Aides to President-elect Barack Obama began planning the transfer of power from the Bush administration even before election day.

Now that the 77-day presidential transition clock has started ticking everything must accelerate into overdrive



Federal rules allow Obama to use \$9.74m in taxpayer money to pay for transition team and inaugural celebration

Nov: Obama begins appointing key members of his team. White House must interview some 40,000 people and choose 7,840 presidential appointees – of which 1,177 need Senate approval – over next 11 weeks

Cabinet appointments include White House Press Secretary **Robert Gibbs** (top right), Chief of Staff **Rahm Emanuel** (right), Treasury secretary, Defence secretary, National Security Advisor, Secretary of State, Attorney General



Nov-Dec: Four dozen transition advisors make list of about 200 Bush Administration actions and executive orders that can be reversed soon after inauguration

NOVEMBER

Early-Dec: Obama's security staff take part in "tabletop exercise" at White House – **National Security Council** simulation of emergency such as terrorist attack or disease outbreak

Dec 9: Deadline for states to resolve issues such as recounts or challenges – 11 votes from Missouri still have to be called

DECEMBER

Dec 15: Electoral college electors meet in each state to formally cast their votes

Jan 6: Joint session of Congress to count electoral college votes

Before Jan 20: Obama and **Vice President-elect Joe Biden** must resign from Senate

JANUARY

Jan 20: Inauguration day
Total of 240,000 tickets printed for swearing-in ceremony. Tickets already selling for \$10,800 a pair

Late Jan: President Obama presents his first budget to Congress

