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Florida: Mostly sunny, except for some patchy clouds near the eastern coast. Highs ranging from the upper 60's in the north to upper 70's in the south. Weather map is on Page A18.

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ONE DOLLAR

World Leaders Vow Aid as Toll Continues to Climb



BUSH SPEAKS OUT

Promises Long-Range
Help as Impatience
Grows in Region

By AMY WALDMAN
and WARREN HOGE

MADRAS, India, Dec. 29 — World leaders, including President Bush, promised long-range help to Asian countries on Wednesday as impatience with the pace of relief efforts rose along with the estimated toll from the week's disaster, which officials said now surpassed 80,000 dead.

As American planes and ships moved into place to help, Mr. Bush made his first public comments since tsunamis inundated about a dozen countries on Sunday, reflecting pressure on the vacationing president to appear more engaged in what aid groups are calling one of the worst natural disasters in history.

"These past few days have brought loss and grief to the world that is beyond our comprehension," he said at his ranch in Crawford, Tex., adding that Washington was prepared to contribute much more than the \$35 million it initially pledged.

"We are committed to helping the affected countries in the difficult weeks and months that lie ahead."

Associated Press

On the beach in Alappad, in southern India, funeral pyres yesterday consumed the bodies of the dead. India confirmed a death toll nationwide of 7,000, and said it could rise to 10,000