

REPORT ON NATIONAL EMERGENCY REGARDING PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-229)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that was declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, June 18, 2002.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO RISK OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION IN RUSSIAN FEDERATION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-230)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared with respect to the accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation is to continue beyond June 21, 2002, to the Federal Register for publication. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the Federal Register on June 14, 2001, (66 FR 32207).

It remains a major national security goal of the United States to ensure that fissile material removed from Russian nuclear weapons pursuant to various arms control and disarmament agreements is dedicated to peaceful uses, subject to transparency measures, and protected from diversion to activities of proliferation concern. The accumulation of a large volume of

weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to the accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation and maintain in force these emergency authorities to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, June 18, 2002.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, in light of yet another suicide bombing in Israel yesterday, I think it is incumbent that all of us reflect on the targeting of innocent civilians in a reign of terror carried out by the Palestinian Authority and other organizations under its control. We can no longer, if we ever could, stand idly by and allow these suicide bombings targeting innocent civilians to take place time and time and time again, and every time say that Mr. Arafat has to do more to prevent terrorism, Mr. Arafat has to show that he can step up to the plate and combat terrorism.

At what point do we simply say enough is enough and move beyond Mr. Arafat? I think that point has come and gone a long time ago.

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President Bush is supposedly going to make a statement within the next few days talking about a so-called "provisional" Palestinian state. I would say to the President and to my colleagues and to everyone concerned that there ought to be no declaration of any kind of Palestinian state, provisional or otherwise, as long as Palestinians continue their reign of terror against innocent civilians. In a civilized world, supposedly, there should be no talk of rewarding terror with a state, provisional or otherwise.

When President Bush several months ago said to the world, you are either

with us or you are with the terrorists, that was very clear. Black and white, no shades of gray. And, if it applies to us, it should apply to Israel and every other nation on this Earth.

If we are justified, and we are, going halfway around the world to destroy the Taliban in Afghanistan because of terrorist attacks upon our Nation, and let me say as a New Yorker and as someone who works in Washington, no one feels the pain of those attacks more than I do, if we are going halfway around the world to root out terrorism in Afghanistan, then Israel should be allowed to do the same thing in her own backyard.

Mr. Arafat has shown that he is a terrorist, that he has never grown out of being a terrorist, that he always has been a terrorist, and he will continue to be a terrorist. Therefore, I think that this country should not talk with him, should not recognize him, should not discuss anything with him; and we ought to tell the Palestinians, come back and talk to us when you get some responsible leadership. Come back and talk to us when there are reforms in your leadership. Come back and talk to us when you have a leadership that does not use terror against innocent civilians as a negotiating tool.

This is something that cannot be tolerated. I do not want to hear about grievances on both sides or perceived hurts. It is never an excuse for terrorism against innocent civilians.

As to this notion put forward in some of the Palestinians corridors that if only Israel would withdraw, everything would be wonderful, there would not be a problem, and peace would reign supreme, the fact of the matter is that 21 months ago Israel agreed to withdraw. There was a plan that was being negotiated which would have given the Palestinians a state of their own, on 100 percent of Gaza and 97 percent of the West Bank, with billions of dollars of aid, a state of their own, the end of the occupation. Israel said yes, the United States said yes, the Palestinians said no. Yasser Arafat rejected it and walked away, did not come forth with a counterproposal, did not stay and negotiate a proposal that might be better for him. He said no, and unleashed the intifada, unleashed terrorism and unleashed violence. That ought not to be rewarded.

I would hope that we would make it very clear again that the time has come to say good-bye to Mr. Arafat. It is not a matter of whether he can control the terrorism, whether he wants to do so. He is the terrorist. Three-quarters of the terrorist attacks against Israel during the past 21 months have come from organizations that he controls. The al-Aksa Brigade, the al-Aksa so-called Martyr's Brigades, which our State Department has declared as a terrorist organization, is under Mr. Arafat's control. They have taken credit for the bombings. Tanzeen, 4/17, the Fata Umbrella Group. They have been responsible for three-quarters of the bombings.

So it is time for us to say good-bye to Mr. Arafat. It is time to tell the Palestinians, no state, unless you have responsibility, unless you show responsible leadership; and it is time for the United States to continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with the people of Israel in fighting the terrorism around the world.

HOLDING CORPORATE AMERICA ACCOUNTABLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BONILLA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, this morning I read the following quote from Matthew Ruane, director of listed trading at Gerard Klauer Mattison and Company: "There's a lack of liquidity, a lack of reason to buy, terrorism fears and earnings issues out there, especially in the drug sector."

The statement was in response to a question regarding the continued decline of the major stock indexes in America. I have no quarrel with the facts included in this statement. It is the omission that troubles me. In the mind of many Americans, this American included, there is an integrity crisis on Wall Street and in corporate America.

I am a businessman of 34 years, former director of two banks, an investor in the stock market and a strong believer in the power of the free enterprise system. Yet with that power comes responsibility. In the past year, the American investor has seen a host of disturbing news stories centered on the issue of corporate integrity and few, if any, have been encouraging.

I have great confidence and respect for American businesses and the men and women who run them. But the silence of these good men and women is becoming deafening. Enron, Arthur Andersen, Wall Street brokerage houses, executive compensation, document shredding, insider trading and other stories confront the average American every day, with little or no response from corporate America, other than an explanation.

Corporate America is not a fraternity, nor should it be. Neither should Wall Street brokerage houses be a fraternity. I acknowledge they have common interests, but those interests are secondary to the interest of the American economy, the American investor and their individual stockholder.

What is my point? Simply put, corporate America and Wall Street face a crisis that will not pass on its own; and just as the shareholders of Enron were the big losers in their crisis, many Americans now fear that they, not the corporate boardroom, will be the big losers.

It is time for corporate executives to speak out. Wall Street needs to look in the mirror and ask itself serious questions, the answer to which is not "this too shall pass."

Unlike 20 years ago, more and more Americans depend on their 401(k) and investments for their retirement; and, because of that, more Americans than ever are in the stock market. Wall Street has become an insider's game played with outsider's money. The strength of the market has become more dependent on individual confidence of average Americans, but that confidence is eroding.

Endless reports of questionable practices and alleged crimes have only served to accelerate investor concerns that began with the market's decline in the first quarter of 2000. It is my judgment there is too little accountability on Wall Street. Some will tell you that corporations and their leaders are accountable because they lose equity and lose value when their stock declines. While true to an extent, individual investors lose too, and collectively far more than corporate executives.

If corporate America wants to improve the environment on Wall Street, then it is time for corporate executives and corporate directors to hold themselves more accountable and demonstrate to the market a zero tolerance for questionable practices and poor judgment. Every investor understands, or should understand, that investing in the market involves risk; but that risk should not be compounded by moral and ethical failure in the corporate office, executive office, or the corporate boardroom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. LANGEVIN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SAVE THE CAPITOL'S OLDEST TREE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. BASS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk for a minute or two about an issue that may not be the most pressing issue before the Nation today, but it is one that is, nonetheless, important for the historical nature of the U.S. Capitol and its grounds.

The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN) and I have been made aware recently that the oldest tree on the Capitol grounds may be cut down on the recommendation of the Architect of the Capitol and his arborist advisers.

Frankly, despite earlier assurances to Congress that many trees planted by Frederick Law Olmsted, one of the Capitol's earliest landscape architects, would be saved, far too many trees have been sacrificed for this new visitor's center.

The oldest tree, which, by the way, is right outside the door here, if you go outside the door and look at about 1 o'clock you will see it there, it was planted by Frederick Law Olmsted, as I said. He was the Capitol's earliest Architect. We were told it would be saved.

Now, this tree is a rare English Elm, reputed to be over 175 years old, and it was never slated in the original plans to be removed. In fact, earlier assessment by a notable national tree company employed by the Architect of the Capitol said that it should be preserved.

Reports now that the tree is "dangerous" seem to have little factual foundation, other than a more recent report by the same arborist. Furthermore, other old trees on the Capitol grounds are no more or less dangerous than this elm tree.

I would point out that recently these fences have been built around these trees, and it is impossible for the tree really to be dangerous, unless some kind of typhoon moved through.

Far more alarming to the tree's health is the news that the visitor's center contractor wants to dig a 60 foot hole at the base of the elm along the drip line, to dig a hole for whatever purpose, for a possible staging area for construction, or as part of the new paved area for temporary parking for Members of Congress.

I think this is totally indefensible, the idea we would cut down one of the oldest trees on the Capitol grounds so that Members of Congress can have a temporary parking place while they are building the visitor's center.

I hope my colleagues will join the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN) and me in urging that this tree be saved.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my friend, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN).

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. BASS) and other Members of the House for their support of protecting this very famous English Elm.

Mr. Speaker, as the House of Representatives works to protect the U.S. Capitol building and all symbols of our democracy, we need to be mindful that such changes must be reasonable and respectful of our history. Our Capitol continues, as it always has been, to be accessible to millions of people who visit each year.

It is estimated that nearly 20,000 visitors up to September 11 entered the building daily, and Congress has addressed the new security and safety demands of this many people visiting, especially during the construction of a new Capitol visitor's center to facilitate their entrance into the Capitol proper.

This center project has already resulted in changes to what Frederick Law Olmsted, the Landscape Architect of the Capitol, a very famous American, envisioned and implemented back