

combined with strong remedies for noncompliance, the Agreement will contribute to improved worker rights and high levels of environmental protection in Central America and the Dominican Republic.

By supporting this Agreement, the United States can stand with those in the region who stand for democracy and freedom, who are fighting corruption and crime, and who support the rule of law. A stable, democratic, and growing Central America and Dominican Republic strengthens the United States economically and provides greater security for our citizens.

The Agreement is in our national interest, and I urge the Congress to approve it expeditiously.

GEORGE W. BUSH,  
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 23, 2005.

**REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE EXTREMIST VIOLENCE IN MACEDONIA AND THE WESTERN BALKANS REGION—PM 15**

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*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 to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the Western Balkans emergency is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2005. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on June 25, 2004, 69 FR 36005.

The crisis constituted by the actions of persons engaged in, or assisting, sponsoring, or supporting (i) extremist violence in the Republic of Macedonia, and elsewhere in the Western Balkans region, or (ii) acts obstructing implementation of the Dayton Accords in Bosnia or United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 of June 10, 1999, in Kosovo, that led to the declaration of a national emergency on June 26, 2001, has not been resolved. Subsequent to the declaration of the national emergency, I amended Executive Order 13219 in Executive Order 13304 of May 28, 2003, to address acts obstructing implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 2001 in the Republic of Macedonia, which have also become a concern. The acts of extremist violence and obstructionist activity outlined in Executive Order 13219, as amended, are

hostile to U.S. interests and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to the Western Balkans and maintain in force the comprehensive sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH,  
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 23, 2005.

**EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2706. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Letter Report: Sole Source Agreements Issued by the Executive Office of the Mayor and Office of the City Administrator Failed to Comply with Procurement Law and Regulations"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2707. A communication from the Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's calendar year 2004 report on category rating; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2708. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semi-Annual Report and the Corporation's Report on Final Action; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2709. A communication from the Administrator, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2710. A communication from the Attorney General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2711. A communication from the Chairman and the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period of October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2712. A communication from the Acting Director, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Retirement Coverage of Air Traffic Controllers" (RIN3206-AK73) received on June 16, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2713. A communication from the Acting Director, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Regulations" (RIN3206-AJ71) received on June 16, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2714. A communication from the Acting Director, Employee and Family Support Policy, Office of Personnel Management, trans-

mitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Employees Health Benefits Program Revision of Contract Cost Principles and Procedures, and Miscellaneous Changes" (RIN3206-AJ10) received on June 16, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2715. A communication from the Acting Director, Employee and Family Support Policy, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Employees Health Benefits Acquisition Regulation: Large Provider Agreements, Subcontracts, and Miscellaneous Changes" (RIN3206-AJ20) received on June 16, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2716. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a Presidential appointment reduction plan; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2717. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of the Chief Acquisition Officers, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-04" (FAC 2005-04), Interim Rule (Item IV-FAR Case 2004-35), and nine Federal Acquisition Regulations: ((RIN9000-AK04, RIN9000-AK03, RIN9000-AJ97, RIN9000-AK17, RIN9000-AK02, RIN9000-AJ79, RIN9000-AJ67, RIN9000-AJ93)(48 CFR Chapter 1)) received on June 16, 2005; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2718. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, the report of a draft bill entitled "Unemployment Compensation Program Integrity Act of 2005" received on June 14, 2005; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2719. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Labor's annual report on the fiscal year 2002 operations of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2720. A communication from the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the actuarial status of the railroad retirement system, including any recommendations for financing changes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2721. A communication from the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's 2005 annual report on the financial status of the railroad unemployment insurance system; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2722. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Presidential Determination 2005-24 relative to the suspension of limitations under the Jerusalem Embassy Act; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2723. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles that are firearms controlled under category I of the United States Munitions List sold commercially under a contract in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more with Ghana; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2724. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Qualification of