

Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, in which they divided Poland between themselves;

Whereas Nazi Germany invaded Poland from the west on September 1, 1939, and the Soviet Union invaded Poland from the east on September 17, 1939;

Whereas over 60,000 Polish soldiers died in combat defending Poland from these invasions;

Whereas, after the Red Army invaded Poland, it captured thousands of Polish military personnel and civilians, many of whom had fled east from the Nazi invasion;

Whereas the Soviet People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs, or NKVD, took charge of the Polish prisoners from the Red Army and transferred them to the Kozelsk, Starobilsk, and Ostashkov internment camps in the western Soviet Union, where many were subject to lengthy interrogations;

Whereas, on March 5, 1940, Soviet General Secretary Josef Stalin and three Soviet Politburo members signed an NKVD order to execute nearly 22,000 prisoners by shooting that also identified more than 10,000 additional Polish prisoners for possible execution;

Whereas, in April and May 1940, the NKVD summarily executed the condemned Polish prisoners at several sites in the Soviet Union, including at the Katyn Forest west of Smolensk in the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic, and buried them in mass graves;

Whereas, in April 1943, occupying Nazi troops discovered eight mass graves in the Katyn Forest with the remains of many of those Polish prisoners;

Whereas, following this discovery in the Katyn Forest, the mass executions by the Soviets of the Polish prisoners from all three camps became known as the Katyn Massacre;

Whereas the 21,892 victims of the Katyn Massacre included military officers, chaplains, professors, doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, journalists, and refugees, many of whom were military reservists who had been mobilized as a result of the Nazi invasion;

Whereas between 700 and 900 Polish Jews were killed in the Katyn Massacre;

Whereas the Soviet Union falsely blamed Nazi Germany for the massacre and broke off diplomatic relations with the Polish government-in-exile following a request by the government-in-exile that the International Committee of the Red Cross examine the Katyn mass graves;

Whereas an international medical commission excavated the area in Spring 1943 and determined that the massacre occurred in 1940, when the area was under Soviet control;

Whereas the Soviet Union continued to deny responsibility for the Katyn Massacre, blaming the Nazis and concealing evidence of its guilt, for nearly 50 years;

Whereas, on September 18, 1951, the United States House of Representatives established the Select Committee to Conduct an Investigation and Study of the Facts, Evidence, and Circumstances of the Katyn Forest Massacre, which is referred to as the Madden Committee;

Whereas, after reviewing witness testimony and relevant documents, the Madden Committee unanimously found that the NKVD, and thus the Soviet Union, was responsible for the executions and recommended a trial before the International World Court of Justice;

Whereas scholars in the United States and United Kingdom published books and articles demonstrating the truth of the Katyn Massacre during the decades of Soviet denial;

Whereas, in Poland in 1981, the Solidarity movement erected a memorial with the inscription "Katyn, 1940" that the Communist government removed and replaced with a

memorial falsely blaming the Nazis for the massacre;

Whereas, in 1988, demonstrators marched in Warsaw to demand an official inquiry into the Katyn Massacre;

Whereas, on April 13, 1990, 50 years after the executions of the Polish prisoners and 47 years since the day the discovery of the mass graves was announced, the Soviet government issued a statement accepting responsibility for the Katyn Massacre and calling it "one of the most heinous crimes of Stalinism";

Whereas on that day Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev gave the Government of Poland copies of Soviet archival materials pertaining to the executed prisoners that confirmed Soviet responsibility for the massacre;

Whereas, in recent months, President Vladimir Putin and other Russian officials have attempted to propagate a false narrative that Poland was responsible for the outbreak of World War II, ignoring the facts of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact and the coordinated Nazi and Soviet invasions of Poland;

Whereas, in October 2019, Russian officials ordered the removal of a plaque at a former regional NKVD headquarters in Tver commemorating the estimated 6,000 Poles murdered in the building as part of the Katyn Massacre;

Whereas President Putin and the Government of the Russian Federation use these historical revisionist narratives, including false accusations about Polish responsibility for World War II, as a tool in their attempt to whitewash Soviet history, elevate Russia's international position, and sow political discord among its neighbors and adversaries;

Whereas the Katyn Massacre fits into a larger pattern of Communist governments around the world persecuting their citizens and denying their people freedom, which has resulted in the deaths of up to 100,000,000 people since the Russian Revolution of 1917; and

Whereas the year 2020 marks the 80th anniversary of the Katyn Massacre: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the lives and legacies of the approximately 22,000 Polish soldiers and civilians who were murdered by the Soviet People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs, or NKVD, during the Katyn Massacre 80 years ago;

(2) recognizes the witnesses, scholars, activists, and demonstrators who fought to bring the truth of the Katyn Massacre to light in the face of the cover-up campaign orchestrated by the Soviet Union;

(3) condemns both past and present attempts to cover up truth of the Katyn Massacre;

(4) condemns broader efforts by the Government of the Russian Federation to spread disinformation about the history of World War II; and

(5) encourages education about the facts of the Katyn Massacre, including the horrors of the massacre itself and subsequent attempts to deny it or cover it up.

SENATE RESOLUTION 567—COM-MENDING CAREER PROFESSIONALS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR THEIR EXTENSIVE EFFORTS TO REPATRIATE UNITED STATES CITIZENS AND LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. COONS, Mrs. SHA-

HEEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. ROMNEY, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 567

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has caused an unprecedented disruption in global commerce and travel;

Whereas foreign governments around the world have limited and restricted commercial travel arriving and departing from their countries to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by closing airports, seaports, and borders;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting travel restrictions abroad left tens of thousands of United States citizens and legal permanent residents overseas without a direct way to return to the United States;

Whereas it was an extraordinary challenge for the Department of State to help so many Americans seeking repatriation from around the world at the same time;

Whereas on March 19, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the mounting repatriation demand from United States citizens and legal permanent residents living abroad, the Department of State created a Repatriation Task Force to facilitate the repatriation of these Americans and to notify Congress and any Americans needing repatriation assistance of these efforts;

Whereas career professionals at the Department of State, with exemplary contributions from the members of the Department's Repatriation Task Force and embassy and consulate staff around the world, in partnership with commercial airlines and the United States Transportation Command, brought home more than 78,000 Americans on 833 flights originating from 128 countries and territories during an 18-week period;

Whereas Department of State officers, their family members, and locally engaged staff faced personal risk, long hours, and rapidly changing local circumstances to assist Americans needing transportation to the United States;

Whereas Department of State officers and contract employees across the United States have worked to ensure that vital visa and passport services remain operational, including for tasks critical to the support of our national security, health care systems, and food supply chains; and

Whereas at least 450 Department of State personnel were diagnosed with COVID-19, including 5 who died from the illness: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the tremendous work done by Department of State career professionals—

(A) to address the extraordinary challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(B) to bring home more than 78,000 American citizens during a time of crisis;

(2) thanks Department of State career professionals who volunteered to work at all hours to meet the Department's highest priority, which was helping fellow citizens in a time of dire need and stress;

(3) commends the Repatriation Task Force for their efforts to facilitate the repatriation of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents;

(4) thanks the employees at United States embassies and consulates throughout the world, particularly career consular officers, for their work to identify flights and execute the departure procedure of thousands of individuals, despite difficult operating conditions on the ground;

(5) thanks the United States Transportation Command for its assistance in securing flights for United States citizens and legal permanent residents;

(6) recognizes the efforts made by partners overseas to help United States embassies and consulates secure the flights and ground transportation need to allow these Americans to return home;

(7) expresses its condolences to the families, friends, and colleagues of those Department of State personnel who died as a result of COVID-19; and

(8) urges the employees of the Department of State to continue the important work of bringing home United States citizens and legal permanent residents who remain stranded in foreign countries.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce a resolution with Senator RISCH, as well as other colleagues, to thank countless State Department career officials for their extensive efforts to bring home over 78,000 United States citizens and legal permanent residents during the COVID-19 pandemic. This pandemic caused an unprecedented disruption in global travel, leaving tens of thousands of United States citizens and legal permanent residents stranded overseas with no direct way to return to the United States. While we will have ample opportunity in the future to examine and better understand the decisions made by senior leadership at the Department of State at the onset of the COVID-19 crisis that could have allowed the United States to more effectively respond to this pandemic, including to identify and mitigate repatriation challenges, I will note that once the Department recognized the enormity of the repatriation crisis, it's career professionals sprung into action and, characteristically, rose to meet the challenge and serve their nation with distinction.

Staying true to the Department's most fundamental mission, to protect U.S. citizens abroad, State Department officers, family members, and local employees faced great personal risk and long hours to assist U.S. citizens during a time of dire need and stress. For that, my colleagues and I are tremendously grateful. We commend the extraordinary work done by the Repatriation Task Force, embassy and consulate staff around the world, and the United States Transportation Command. Their efforts resulted in the repatriation of over 78,000 Americans on 833 flights originating from 128 countries and territories in just an 18-week period. I would also like to extend my deepest thanks to Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Ian Brownlee and Deputy Assistant Secretary Hugo Yon for their exemplary leadership of and contribution to the Repatriation Task Force, as well as to Wendy Kennedy for her work with the Bureau of Legislative Affairs. Furthermore, I would like to thank Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Julie Chung, Deputy Assistant Secretary Kevin O'Reilly, Consul General Dana Deree (Honduras), Consul General William Bent (El Salvador), Consul General John Barrett (Recife),

Deputy Chief of Mission Denison Offutt (Lima), Director for Central America Affairs Marta Youth, and Country Consular Coordinator Alexander Delorey (Quito) for their leadership in facilitating the repatriation of thousands of Americans citizens from countries in the Western hemisphere. I recognize that in calling out these individuals who were especially helpful to me and to my office that I run the risk of not naming the tens, if not hundreds of others who worked just as hard and contributed just as much; they have my thanks as well.

I, along with my colleagues, are profoundly grateful to the Department of State personnel who have worked tirelessly these past few months, who have served the United States above and beyond the call of duty, and who have helped their fellow citizen in a time of dire need. I urge the Department to continue its good work and to remain ready to bring home American citizens and legal permanent residents as the COVID-19 pandemic persists.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1581. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3608, to amend the CARES Act to provide flexibility in use of funds by States, Indian Tribes, and municipalities; which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1581. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3608, to amend the CARES Act to provide flexibility in use of funds by States, Indian Tribes, and municipalities; which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations; as follows:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Coronavirus Relief Fund Flexibility for State and Local Government Act".

SEC. 2. FLEXIBILITY IN USE OF CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND PAYMENTS.

Effective as if included in the enactment of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116-136), section 601(d) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001(a) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, is amended to read as follows:

"(d) USE AND AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), funds paid to a State, Tribal government, or unit of local government under this section may be used for operating expenses not related to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), and shall remain available until expended.

"(2) LIMITATION.—No funds paid to a State, Tribal government, or unit of local government under this section may be used for any costs of, or payments from, a pension fund or plan of the State, Tribal government, or unit of local government in its capacity as an employer."

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 5 requests for committees to meet

during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 7, 2020, at 9:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing following nominations: Kenneth H. Braithwaite to be Secretary of Navy, James H. Anderson to be Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, and General Charles Q. Brown Jr. to be Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 7, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 7, 2020, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

RECOGNIZING THE HERITAGE, CULTURE, AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICAN INDIAN, ALASKA NATIVE, AND NATIVE HAWAIIAN WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 565 submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 565) recognizing the heritage, culture, and contributions of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian women in the United States.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the measure.

The resolution (S. Res. 565) was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

APPOINTMENTS

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, upon the recommendation of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to