

mind, the Honolulu Council thought a relationship between Honolulu and Hiroshima would be a fitting one, brought together through similarities and a resonance of cultural familiarity. This “sister city” agreement holds special significance for me and my family, as I was born in Honolulu and my maternal grandparents were from the Hiroshima Prefecture.

Fifty years later, this relationship, as well as the overall United States—Japan relationship, has formed into an enduring partnership of nations. This valued alliance has matured through the years, and it is my privilege to serve as honorary chairman of the 50th anniversary committee for the sister city relationship. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognition of this momentous occasion.●

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13405 OF JUNE 16, 2006, WITH RESPECT TO BELARUS, AS RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON JUNE 12, 2009—PM 23

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 to the Federal Register for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency and related measures blocking the property of certain persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Belarus are to continue in effect beyond June 16, 2009.

Despite some positive developments during the past year, including the release of internationally recognized political prisoners, the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Belarus and other persons that have undermined democratic processes or institutions, committed human rights abuses related to political repression, and engaged in public corruption 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 and related measures blocking the property of certain persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Belarus.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 12, 2009.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:53 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. R. 1687. An act to designate the federally occupied building located at McKinley Avenue and Third Street, SW., Canton, Ohio, as the “Ralph Regula Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 125E) to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications in the Thrift Savings Plan, the Civil Service Retirement System, and the Federal Employees’ Retirement System, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 40. A joint resolution to honor the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the United States, and for other purposes.

The enrolled joint resolution was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. REID).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1687. An act to designate the federally occupied building located at McKinley Avenue and Third Street, SW., Canton, Ohio, as the “Ralph Regula Federal Building and United States Courthouse”; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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-1955. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “South American Cactus Moth; Quarantine and Regulation” (Docket No. APHIS-2006-0153) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 9, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1956. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Norman R. Seip, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1957. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General John L. Hudson, United States Air

Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1958. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Frances C. Wilson, United States Marine Corps, and her advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1959. A communication from the Chief, Congressional Inquiry Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a final decision on the public-private competition affecting the Central Heat Plant Function, 341st Space Wing, Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana on May 21, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1960. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, a report on proposed legislation entitled “Extension of Temporary, Limited Authority to Use Operation and Maintenance Funds for Contingency Construction Projects Outside the United States”; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1961. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, a report on proposed legislation entitled “Travel and Transportation Allowances for Designated Individuals of Wounded, Ill, or Injured Members for Duration of Inpatient Treatment”; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1962. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, a report on proposed legislation entitled “Exemption from Federal Advisory Committee Act for Combatant Command Advisory Bodies that Include Foreign Government or Foreign Military Members”; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1963. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual Developing Countries Combined Exercise Program report of expenditures for Fiscal Year 2008; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1964. A communication from the Commissioners of the Commission on Wartime Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission’s Interim Report to Congress; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1965. A communication from the Assistant Director for Policy, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Final Rule Amending 31 CFR Part 538 to Expand the Scope of the Authorization for Sudanese Diplomatic Missions in the United States” received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1966. A communication from the Legal Information Assistant, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fair Credit Reporting Affiliate Marketing Regulations; Identity Theft Red Flags and Address Discrepancies under the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003” (RIN1550-AC30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 8, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1967. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, the report of a legislative proposal relative to the National Defense Authorization Bill for Fiscal Year 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1968. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, a report entitled