

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Burma May 17, 2004

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. I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the Burma emergency is to continue beyond May 20, 2004, to the *Federal Register* for publication. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on May 19, 2003.

The crisis between the United States and Burma, constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of Burma, including its policies of committing large-scale re-

pression of the democratic opposition in Burma that led to the declaration of a national emergency on May 20, 1997, has not been resolved. These actions and policies 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 this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency with respect to Burma and maintain in force the sanctions against Burma to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
May 17, 2004.

NOTE: The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks to the American Israel Public Affairs Committee May 18, 2004

Thank you all very much. Thank you all. Please be seated. Go ahead. Finally, AIPAC elected a president I could kiss. [Laughter]

I'm honored to be here at AIPAC. Thank you for such a warm welcome. It's good to be with so many friends, friends of mine and friends of Israel. For more than 50 years, the United States and Israel have been steadfast allies. AIPAC is one of the reasons why. You've worked tirelessly to strengthen the ties that bind our nations, our shared values, our strong commitment to freedom.

By defending the freedom and prosperity and security of Israel, you're also serving the cause of America. Our Nation is stronger and safer because we have a true and

dependable ally in Israel. I appreciate—[applause]—I'm just getting warmed up. [Laughter]

I want to thank Amy for her leadership. I appreciate you taking time to serve a cause that—in which you believe deeply. I want to thank Bernice for her willingness to serve as well. I've known Howard for a long time. He's effective. [Laughter] I want to thank the AIPAC board members for their friendship and leadership.

I'm honored to be in the presence of my friend the Ambassador from Israel, Danny Ayalon. I appreciate you being here, Danny.

Ehud Olmert is with us. Ehud, it's good to see you again. Thank you, sir. I