

I am pleased that Ambassador Martin Indyk will lead the U.S. negotiating team as U.S. Special Envoy for Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations. Ambassador Indyk brings unique experience and insight to this role, which will allow him to contribute immediately as the parties

begin down the tough, but necessary, path of negotiations.

NOTE: The statement referred to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel; and President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Lebanon

July 29, 2013

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days 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 with respect to Lebanon that was declared in Executive Order 13441 of August 1, 2007, is to continue in effect beyond August 1, 2013.

Certain ongoing activities, such as continuing arms transfers to Hizballah that include in-

creasingly sophisticated weapons systems, undermine Lebanese sovereignty, contribute to political and economic instability in the region, and continue to constitute 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 in Executive Order 13441 with respect to Lebanon.

Sincerely,

BARACK OBAMA

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to John A. Boehner, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the Senate. The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks at the Amazon Chattanooga Fulfillment Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee

July 30, 2013

Hello, Chattanooga! Hey! Well, it is good to be back in Tennessee. It's great to be here at Amazon.

I want to thank Lydia for the introduction and sharing her story. Give Lydia a big round of applause. So this is something here. I just finished getting a tour of just one little corner of this massive facility, size of 28 football fields. Last year, during the busiest day of the Christmas rush, customers around the world ordered more than 300 items from Amazon every second, and a lot of those traveled through this building. So this is kind of like the North Pole

of the South right here. Got a bunch of good-looking elves here.

Now, before we start, I want to recognize your general manager, Mike Thomas; my tour guide and your vice president, Dave Clark; you've got the mayor of Chattanooga, Andy Berke; and you've got one of the finest gentlemen I know, your Congressman, Jim Cooper. So thank you all for being here.

So I've come here today to talk a little more about something I was discussing last week, and that's what we need to do as a country to secure a better bargain for the middle class: a