

they need from their leadership. And hopefully, as a consequence of meetings like this translated into action, we'll be saving lives for many years to come.

All right. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:51 a.m. in the South Court Auditorium of the Dwight

D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building. In his remarks, he referred to Margaret Chan, Director-General, World Health Organization; and Melvin Korkor, physician, Phebe Hospital in Bong County, Liberia. He also referred to Executive Order 13676, which is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Statement on the End of Anders Fogh Rasmussen's Term as Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

September 26, 2014

Today marks the end of Anders Fogh Rasmussen's term as Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. As Secretary General, he has been a dedicated leader and tireless advocate for the importance of the transatlantic alliance as the cornerstone of Euro-Atlantic relations and security. Under his leadership, NATO allies have worked together to address a wide range of security challenges, from continuing our work in Afghanistan and the Balkans to leading the international effort in Libya. In the final year of his tenure, his leadership has been critical in guiding NATO's response to unexpected and serious challenges posed to our common security by Russia's aggressive actions in Ukraine and the growing threat of ISIL in the Middle East. Secretary General Rasmussen's strategic vision for the alliance has helped guarantee our readiness to meet any threat, and our alliance is stronger because of his leadership.

Anders brought a deep personal commitment to assuring a Europe that is whole, free, and at peace, based upon his unwavering commitment to the shared common values that bind us as allies: freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and the dignity of the individual. So, as he leaves his post today for the last time, we express our gratitude for his friendship and selfless service to NATO, a sentiment I know is shared deeply on both sides of the Atlantic.

As Secretary General Rasmussen's term comes to an end, we warmly welcome his successor, former Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg. Secretary General Stoltenberg will bring energy, experience, and a keen understanding of the importance of defending our values and maintaining our commitments to each other's security, and I look forward to working with him to address the new and emerging challenges we face as an alliance.

Memorandum on Deferred Enforced Departure for Liberians

September 26, 2014

Memorandum for the Secretary of Homeland Security

Subject: Deferred Enforced Departure for Liberians

Since 1991, the United States has provided safe haven for Liberians who were forced to flee their country as a result of armed conflict and widespread civil strife, in part through

granting Temporary Protected Status (TPS). The armed conflict ended in 2003 and conditions improved such that TPS ended effective October 1, 2007. President Bush then deferred the enforced departure of the Liberians originally granted TPS. I extended that grant of Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) to September 30, 2014. I have determined that there are compelling foreign policy reasons to again extend DED to those Liberians presently resid-