

American of the importance of respecting those of all faiths and beliefs. This past year, New York City Public Schools announced adding Eid to their official school calendars alongside Christmas, Hanukkah, and other holidays, an acknowledgement of the great diversity and inclusiveness that adds to the richness of our Nation. During this year's White House iftar, I had the opportunity to meet inspiring young Muslim Americans who are leading efforts for greater understanding and unity across diverse communities. Following the iftar, one of the young attendees helped spearhead an effort that raised more than \$75,000 for the churches

burned in the wake of the shooting at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina. Americans of all faiths and beliefs must stand together to protect our democracy and strengthen our country as a whole.

Michelle and I hope today brings joy to all of your homes, both here in the U.S. and around the world. From my family to yours, *Eid Mubarak*.

NOTE: The statement referred to Faatimah Amatullah Knight, graduate student in religious studies, Chicago Theological Seminary.

Remarks During a Visit With Women's Army Auxiliary Corps World War II Veteran Emma Didlake

July 17, 2015

Just very briefly, I want to introduce everybody who have not had a chance to meet her. Ms. Emma Didlake is our oldest living veteran: 110 years old, born in 1905, and served with distinction and honor and received all sorts of commendations for her service during World War II.

We are so grateful that she is here with us today. And it's a great reminder of not only the sacrifices that the greatest generation made on our

behalf, but also the kind of trailblazing that our women veterans made, African American veterans who helped to integrate our Armed Services. We are very, very proud of them. That's why we've got to make sure we do right by them.

So it's a great honor to have her here.

Thank you, everybody.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:30 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to the Former Liberian Regime of Charles Taylor

July 17, 2015

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 the former Liberian re-

gime of Charles Taylor declared in Executive Order 13348 of July 22, 2004, is to continue in effect beyond July 22, 2015.

Although Liberia has made significant advances to promote democracy, and the Special Court for Sierra Leone convicted Charles Taylor for war crimes and crimes against humanity, the actions and policies of former Liberian President Charles Taylor and other persons, in particular their unlawful depletion of Liberian resources and their removal from Liberia and secreting of Liberian funds and property, still challenge Liberia's efforts to strengthen its