

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

MARTHA C. MORRISON
Deputy Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 20, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit sealed envelopes received from the White House on June 20, 2003, at 1:45 p.m. and said to contain messages from the President whereby he submits a copy of a notice filed earlier with the *Federal Register* continuing the emergency with respect to the Western Balkans first declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001, and where by he submits a 6-month periodic report in accordance with 50 USC 1641 (c) and 50 USC 1703 (c) on the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

MARTHA C. MORRISON,
Deputy Clerk.

SIX-MONTH REPORT ON NATIONAL
EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO
WESTERN BALKANS—MESSAGE
FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 108-
86)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans that was declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001.

GEORGE W. BUSH,
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 20, 2003.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL
EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO
WESTERN BALKANS—MESSAGE
FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 108-
87)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee

on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

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. Consistent with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the Western Balkans emergency is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2003, to the *Federal Register* for publication. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on June 25, 2002, 67 Fed. Reg. 42703.

The crisis constituted by the actions of persons engaged in, or assisting, sponsoring, or supporting, (i) extremist violence in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and elsewhere in the Western Balkans region, or (ii) acts obstructing implementation of the Dayton Accords in Bosnia or United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 of June 10, 1999, in Kosovo, that led to the declaration of a national emergency on June 26, 2001, has not been resolved. Subsequent to the declaration of the national emergency, acts obstructing implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 2001 in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, have also become a concern. All of these actions 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 these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to the Western Balkans and maintain in force the comprehensive sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH,
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 20, 2003.

PRIVILEGED REPORT REQUESTING
PRESIDENT TO TRANSMIT TO
HOUSE DOCUMENTS RELATING
TO IRAQ'S WEAPONS OF MASS
DESTRUCTION

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, from the Committee on International Relations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 168) on the resolution (H. Res. 260) requesting the President to transmit to the House of Representatives documents or other materials in the President's possession relating to Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on

motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR VIC-
TIMS OF ALGERIAN EARTH-
QUAKE

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 264) expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquake that struck Algeria on May 21, 2003.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 264

Whereas, on the evening of May 21, 2003, a devastating and deadly earthquake of a magnitude of 6.8 on the Richter scale with a depth of 6 miles struck northern Algeria, killing more than 2,260 people, injuring more than 10,000, and leaving more than 200,000 homeless;

Whereas the earthquake of May 21, 2003, has left thousands of buildings in ruins and has severely disrupted health services, water supply lines, electricity, and telecommunications in Algeria and affected cities;

Whereas severe aftershocks with magnitudes greater than 4.0 have continued to terrify the people of Algeria and hamper rescue efforts;

Whereas the strength, courage, and determination of the Government and people of Algeria has been displayed since the earthquake;

Whereas the people of the United States and Algeria share strong friendship and mutual respect;

Whereas the United States airlifted to the earthquake-affected population 17,000 blankets, 1800 tents, electrical equipment, water purification kits, and 3 medical supply kits that will benefit 10,000 people over 3 months;

Whereas the United States has released \$50,000 to the Algerian Red Crescent Society for emergency relief supplies; and

Whereas the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) launched an emergency appeal for humanitarian and relief assistance to address the devastation caused by the powerful earthquake: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses its deepest sympathies to the people of Algeria and particularly to the families of the victims and the survivors for the tragic losses suffered as a result of the earthquake of May 21, 2003;

(2) expresses its support for the people and to the Government of Algeria as they continue their efforts to rebuild their cities and their lives;

(3) expresses support for humanitarian assistance provided by the United States Agency for International Development and other American and international relief organizations;

(4) recognizes the important role that is being played by the United States and the international community in providing assistance to alleviate the suffering of the people of Algeria; and

(5) encourages a continued commitment by the United States and other countries and international organizations to the rebuilding of the earthquake-affected areas in Algeria.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 264.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for bringing H. Res. 264, expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquake that struck Algeria on May 21, 2003, before us today.

As many of you know, on May 21, an earthquake registering 6.8 on the Richter scale struck northern Algeria, 45 miles east of the capital of Algiers. This was followed with a series of aftershocks, five with magnitudes greater than 5.0, and at least 19 with magnitudes ranging between 4.0 and 4.9. These were the worst quakes to strike Algeria since 1980.

The impact was devastating. 2,268 Algerians were killed, making this deadlier than all of the other earthquakes in the world over the past 2 years combined, including the 2002 earthquake in Afghanistan which killed 1,000.

Thousands of buildings have been destroyed, and health services, water supplies, electricity and telecommunications have been severely disrupted. Confidence in the government has also been shaken as press reports link the high death toll with poor building construction and mismanagement of the housing sector.

The international response to this disaster has been vigorous. The U.S. contribution to the relief effort is currently valued at \$1.6 million, including \$827,107 in grants and relief supplies from the U.S. Agency for International Development Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance; \$424,000 in relief supplies from the Department of Defense/Defense Security Cooperation Agency; and \$368,000 in relief supplies from the Department of Defense/U.S. European Command. For other donors, the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies are taking the lead.

Through this robust response, major catastrophes have been diverted, including cholera outbreaks. However, there is still a long way to go on the path towards recovery. Thousands of homes need to be rebuilt, and structures able to withstand earthquakes will need to be erected.

The great American educator, Catherine Beecher, said, "The delicate and

infirm go for sympathy, not to the well and buoyant, but to those who have suffered like themselves." Unfortunately, we Americans are no strangers to tragedy and loss.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Algeria and their government stood with us after our own tragedy of September 11, 2001. They have been stalwart allies in our war on terrorism, and now it is our turn to aid our friends in a time of great need. It is with this in mind that we now express our solidarity with and our sympathy for those who have suffered in Algeria.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, which I had the privilege of writing.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express at the outset my appreciation to my able assistant, Robin Roizman, for working on this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express my thanks to my colleagues, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN); the distinguished chairman of our committee, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE); the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE); and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS), for joining me in introducing this important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 264 expresses the deepest sympathy of the American people and of this Congress for the victims of the devastating earthquake that struck Algeria on May 21, 2003. This was the most tragic earthquake to hit that country in almost a quarter century. With a Richter scale reading of 6.8, the earthquake devastated the country, severely disrupted its health services, water supply, electricity and telecommunications.

The earthquake and its aftershocks have killed over 2,000 innocent people of Algeria, injured over 10,000, and left over 200,000 Algerian citizens homeless.

We immediately responded to this disaster by providing emergency humanitarian supplies. My resolution encourages our administration to continue providing assistance to the people of Algeria in this very difficult time.

The resolution expresses our sympathy for the Algerian people and calls on our administration to monitor conditions there and to continue providing all necessary assistance to the government and people of Algeria.

I want to note, Mr. Speaker, that we have in the gallery the distinguished Ambassador from Algeria, and I want to express to him personally our deep support and commitment to help in these difficult days for his country.

□ 1415

I urge all of my colleagues to support H. Res. 264.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ADERHOLT). All Members are reminded

not to introduce or refer to people in the balcony.

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 264.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMENDING PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA FOR CONDUCTING FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS AND PEACEFUL AND ORDERLY TRANSFER OF POWER

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 177) commending the people of the Republic of Kenya for conducting free and fair elections, for the peaceful and orderly transfer of power in their government, and for the continued success of democracy in their nation since that transition, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 177

Whereas on December 27, 2002, the Republic of Kenya successfully held presidential, parliamentary, and local elections;

Whereas these elections were widely praised by objective international observers as free and fair;

Whereas the Department of State stated that with these elections the Kenyan people "have made a strong demonstration of their democratic commitment and established an important example for the region and for the world";

Whereas the European Union stated that "the overall conduct of the elections constitutes an example for other countries in the region";

Whereas these elections signal a major step forward for Kenyan democracy, particularly when compared with other elections held in Kenya since it became an independent state in 1963;

Whereas the transition of power put in motion by these elections culminated on December 30, 2002, when former President Daniel Toroitich arap Moi peaceably transferred the Kenyan presidency to President Mwai Kibaki; and

Whereas these elections and the subsequent transfer of power from leader to leader represent the birth of a successful new democracy in Kenya: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the people of the Republic of Kenya for conducting free and fair elections, and the Government of Kenya for its successful completion of a peaceful and orderly transition of power;