

access to college, because he understands education is the one thing that levels the playing field. It does not make any difference what one's ethnicity or economic situation is, or who one's parents are or where you come from; if you get an educational opportunity, you have a chance to make it. He knows firsthand that a quality college education really is the key to the American dream.

I predict to my colleagues that as Vice President, he will fight to promote education, because he does know, as I have already said, it levels the playing field for everyone and gives them that chance for success. Those are the values that have made America great, and those are the values that he brings to this ticket. Those are the values that JOHN KERRY saw in JOHN EDWARDS when he made that decision. I predict to my colleagues that they will make a great team. They will make a difference in America; and that, as has been said by all of my other colleagues this evening in one way or another, they will give America hope again, because there are those who want to provide fear. They are about optimism and hope and dreams and possibilities and opportunities, so people can feel good not only about America, but our position with our allies and friends around the world, and that every person takes responsibility for themselves as we move forward into the 21st century.

Let me now close by thanking my colleagues for joining me this evening. And since I only have a couple of minutes, I want to close with a little poem. I think it says a lot about this ticket of JOHN KERRY and JOHN EDWARDS. It is written by the person who writes more lines than anyone else. It is anonymous. It is entitled "The Builder." It goes like this.

"I watched them tear a building down, a gang of men in a busy town. With a ho-heave-ho and a lusty yell, they swung a beam and a side wall fell. I asked the foreman, 'Are these men skilled, the kind you would hire if you had to build?' He smiled and said, 'No, indeed. Common labor is all I need, for I can wreck in a day or 2 what men have taken years to do.' I thought to myself as I went my way, which of those roles have I tried to play. Am I being careful to measure the world by the rule and a square, or have I been content to roam the town, content to do nothing but tear things down?"

Madam Speaker, I predict to my colleagues that JOHN KERRY and JOHN EDWARDS will be builders. What this country needs is people with a good attitude, with a vision to build, bring people together, and let America be America again.

SUDAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HARRIS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I have one issue that brings me to the floor tonight and that I hope to get to in a moment. As I listened, however, to my colleagues, it does come to mind that there would undoubtedly be a new vision for America if the ticket that they were extolling the virtues of actually becomes the leadership of the country as President and Vice President. It is true that there would be a difference in the way we look at life, the way we look at government in particular. It is certainly true that for those people who believe that the government is the primary focus of all of our activity and strength as a Nation, those people who believe that taxation can be euphemistically described as investment; those people who believe that the Constitution is really nothing more than a document that deserves to be interpreted, restructured, and changed by courts and judges; those people who believe that America's best days are behind us, those folks will indeed be happy if, in fact, the Kerry-Edwards ticket prevails.

Good men, I think, all good men are running for the office of President and Vice President of the United States. Certainly good things can be said about all. But it is undeniably true that we can also talk about the fact that incredible differences exist between the ways in which these people view their responsibilities as chief executive, as Commander in Chief; the way they look at the role of the United States in the world. One sees the United States as being subservient in many ways to international bodies, world courts, United Nations, other international organizations that I believe Senator KERRY and Senator EDWARDS think should have priority in terms of deciding how America actually goes about its business and determines its own policies.

Or President Bush, Vice President CHENEY, who recognize that although interaction with the world community is important, America must be strong enough and resilient enough to actually establish its own set of goals and purposes, and then act to achieve them, hopefully with the agreement of a large part of the world community; but even if that agreement were not to be reached, to understand that our goals may be unique to us, and that, therefore, we may have the responsibility of trying to achieve them, even by ourselves.

So there are certainly differences, undeniably true. That is the one thing with which I can totally agree with what our colleagues on the other side were talking about for the last hour, the differences that exist. But I believe that when the final tally is made, that most Americans will decide that the person who will decide who, for instance, is on the Supreme Court of the United States and will be making laws, interpreting laws for the next generation or two, because that is really how much of an effect it will eventually

have if two or three members of that Supreme Court have to be, or actually end up being, changed.

And when people think about the fact that we are in a war that does threaten our very existence, even if it is not described on the front pages every day as a war between armies and one moving and advancing, but one retreating, but nevertheless an understanding that we are in a clash of civilizations; when one thinks about these things, one will come to the conclusion that it is better to have people in charge who think about the Constitution as strict constructionists do, that it is a document to be adhered to because it was divinely inspired. They will think about the fact that those folks who they want making a decision about their national security are people who are desirous of having the support of the international community, but not willing to be subservient to it; and, I think, of course, they will come to the conclusion that they will keep the President, the present President and Vice President on for the next 4 years.

But that really was not the main purpose of my coming down to the floor tonight. When I came to this Congress in 1998, I determined that there were a number of issues that I wanted to focus on. One of them dealt with a situation that was developing in a land far, far away, a land that very few people really knew much about. I had become acquainted with it mostly through discussions at my church about the persecuted Christians throughout the world.

This land is known as Sudan. It is one of the largest countries in Africa. It is the poorest country in Africa. It has suffered through an enormous amount of pain. It has sustained itself after 27 years of internal strife. Two million, at least 2 million, are dead; four million, at least, displaced in this civil war that has been ongoing, as I say, for over 25 years. Little is known about it. Certainly, in 1998, very few people thought much about Sudan or, frankly, almost any other country on the African continent. But certainly, Sudan was not on the top of anyone's list as a nation that we should be concerned about, a nation that had any relevance for us in the United States or really anywhere else in the world. Yes, it was just another one of those countries that was involved with internal strife.

Many people died, but that is just the way it is over there, and that was the thought. That was, to the extent that anybody gave it any thought, to the extent that Sudan mattered to anyone, it was just another place on the African continent where people were dying and were dying because of the internal conflicts that we thought we had nothing to say about.

Well, in fact, several Members, including myself, Senator BROWNBACK, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) talked about this issue at great length every time we had the opportunity. Anyone who would listen, we

would talk about what was happening in Sudan. We would talk about this incredible tragedy that was evolving in front of our eyes. And we would ask people to be concerned, because it was a human tragedy of enormous proportion. And we found ourselves, frankly, in this strange sort of situation where the focus of the world was always taken away to a different place, to a different set of circumstances. Yugoslavia, Bosnia, Croatia, Serbia.

Mr. Milosevic, a name that most people in this body and certainly many Americans will recognize, Mr. Milosevic was the head of a country that was, as we determined, as this body determined, conducting genocide, that it was involved with ethnic cleansing, where thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, of people were being killed. And we spent a great deal of time and we debated in this body at great length exactly what actions should be taken by the West, by the United States in particular, and by NATO, if the United Nations would not get involved. And the United Nations chose not to get involved, but the United States led the way with NATO to go in to Yugoslavia and to, in fact, change the situation there. And we did so at the cost of a significant amount of our treasure and, certainly, many lives were lost in the process.

But there was a general agreement that that was the right thing to do because something terrible was going on in the country at the time in Serbia. And so there was a debate on the floor and the permission was given and we went to war, essentially, with the United Nations and eventually overturned the regime, and the United Nations is now involved with trying to do some sort of rebuilding effort of the country.

□ 2300

By the way, it was not very successful. The economy is disastrous. There are now signs of ethnic controversy and conflict starting all over again. This time it is the Albanian Muslims against the Christian Serbians, but the United Nations seems helpless to try and do anything about it. And so we did that, and that was where all of our attention and resources were focused, at a time when, as I say, another part of the world was suffering far more, under any criteria you want to establish as to why anybody else should be concerned.

If you look at the Sudan, you will see a nation tormented, and you will see a level of human sacrifice, a level of human rights violations that is unprecedented since the Second World War. And yet no focus. Nobody cared.

And we talked and we talked about it, and finally I remember I got a call from Senator BROWNBACk's office, and I had only been in Congress for a couple of months. His staff person called our staff person and said, "I understand your boss is interested in Sudan. Well, so is mine, and we are going over there

in May, and does he want to come?" And I said, "Gee whiz, the Sudan? I have only been in Congress a couple of months, and I am really not sure. I always thought that our first trips were, like, Paris or Rome or someplace like that." That is what everybody always told me, that we were going to head out on these really exciting and cosmopolitan places, but in fact I said, okay, and I went with Senator BROWNBACk and with Congressman PAYNE to Sudan. And what I saw was, with my own eyes, the pictures of what many have seen of strife and horror and degradation of the human spirit, but I saw it with my own eyes, and it was a very moving experience, of course. It was one of those life-altering experiences.

I will never forget. There was a town called Yei, and it was a town that had been bombed often. And I remember there were a lot of chickens that the people would be watching, and people would talk about the fact that if the chickens started to run, because they could hear the engine of planes coming before the people, that the chickens ran, then the children ran, and then the adults ran, because they knew that was their early warning system, was the chickens who heard the actual planes coming.

And all these kids came around me and Senator BROWNBACk and others, and they gathered so close, you could hardly move. And they were shouting and they were looking up and they were pointing at the sky, and I asked the interpreter who was with us, I said, "What are they saying?" He said they are saying that they are going to stay as close to you as possible, because they do not think that they will be bombed. They do not think they will bomb an American Congressman. So they stand as close as they possibly can so they will not be hurt."

I said, "Well, you know, I hope they are right, but I don't think that anybody knows that I am here, but I hope they are right, of course." And I could see in their eyes the terror that they live through every single day. Most of them had lost parents, brothers and sisters. Many, many thousands and thousands were homeless, thousands were orphaned, and what they looked for was some degree of hope.

Now that was the situation in 1998, and we came back here and worked very hard, and we passed something. I introduced a bill, and it passed, and it is called the Sudan Peace Act. And it established certain criteria that had to be met by both the north and the south in terms of good-faith bargaining to come to some sort of peace agreement. And if they did not have that kind of good-faith bargaining, then there would be certain sanctions that we would apply.

Eventually, and just a few months ago, really, peace did come to that part of the Sudan that was afflicted by the civil war, and we are, of course, happy. A peace agreement was reached. The

details now have to be worked out, but the fighting between the north and the south stopped.

Now I have explained that part of this, well, that the world was told that the civil war in Sudan started because you have an Arabic Muslim north and a black Christian south, and really the cultures were in conflict. Certainly true. And that the north where the government exists in Khartoum was always oppressive, acted oppressively against the south, and that is certainly true. In fact, the north sponsored raids, actual slave raids.

Sudan is one of the countries left in this world that actually has institutionalized slavery, and slave raids were encouraged by the government of the north in Khartoum. The Arab Muslims would come down, raid villages, take people away, back into both sexual slavery and just slavery for the labor that could be obtained.

But this was the conflict, Arabic Muslim, black Christian. Well, because of the enormous amount of international pressure that eventually developed after years, literally years of pressing every government we could think of, including our own, to force some sort of peace in this war-torn area of the world, peace finally occurred of a sort. But then, almost I guess because it was too good to believe, there was too much hope that in fact some degree of tranquility could overtake this troubled land, another problem, another conflict began to develop, and this is in the Darfur region, western region of Sudan, mostly in the north, where again Arabs were confronting black Africans.

This time, however, there was no difference of religion. This is the very interesting aspect of this particular conflict, because it really does go to the heart of the entire conflict that has been there for 27 years, yet really is not Muslim against Christian. It is Arab against black. It is genocide. Yes, the word is genocide.

They have talked about this for a long time, the north, about how they wanted to essentially cleanse the south, but they certainly wanted to move everyone out of the north that was in fact black African. They have now embarked upon a genocidal war in this province of Darfur. So far, around 50,000 dead, 200,000 displaced, and the numbers are growing every single day.

The government of Sudan in Khartoum is aiding and abetting the Janjaweed. The Janjaweed, they are Arabs, traders, Arab militiamen, essentially, who raid, kill and rape, and they are given the arms and the go-ahead by the government of Khartoum to pursue this.

Of course, the Khartoum government tells us and the rest of the world they have nothing to do with it, they will try their best to stop this, but the only thing that they have stopped so far is the transportation of any resources, the transportation through Sudan into

this particular area of any of the food-stuffs that USAID or other NGOs, non-government organizations, are trying to deliver. They have done everything possible to halt any humanitarian effort to the region. They have done everything possible to aid the activities of the Janjaweed and to encourage them in this bloodbath.

Rape has become a tactic to advance the strategy of genocide. The women are told at the time of rape that they are impregnating them with lighter-skinned children and that they should leave once the child is born of that rape, that they could leave and leave the child, because the child would be of lighter skin.

The camps that have been established in and around the interior in Darfur, camps because, of course, people have been driven out of their villages and into these camps, the camps are surrounded by the Janjaweed. They patrol it, and they wait for people to walk outside. And the women come out in the morning, and they try to get out earlier and earlier to avoid attack, but the women are raped. The men are killed the minute they get outside of this camp. So there is no sustenance, there is no food, and now the rains are starting in Sudan in this part.

□ 2310

We have camps now with, as I say, a couple of hundred thousand people and more arriving every single day. There is no sanitation. There is very little food. All of them have been walking for some times hundreds of miles to get there. They are weak. They are starving. The rains are coming. Disease will spread and hundreds of thousands will die and it is planned. This is not just an accident. It is not just what is going to happen simply because of the forces of nature. It is going to happen because the government of Khartoum, the government of Sudan in Khartoum has designed this plan, to kill or move out the black people who inhabit this part of their country.

This is amazing. This is incredible that this could be happening in the world today, and again, relatively few people care.

Now, to the government's credit, Secretary Powell has gone to this area, just returned I think last week. He said that something like, well, I do not think we should argue about what it is called, whether it is genocide or something else. We have to do something. But the reality is we have to argue about what it is called because what it is called matters. If you say it is genocide, then there is a course of action that must be taken.

There is a 1948 agreement. It was signed by many nations of the world, including the United States. It is called The Genocide Treaty, and it sets up some criteria. And it says if this criteria are met, then in fact genocide is what is happening and you have to do certain things, including eventually maybe even military intervention. And

that is what scares everybody off, and it certainly scares us because, God knows, we are spread thin, it is true.

But I nonetheless believe that we must go to the United Nations, and we must ask them for a declaration of genocide, because everything that is happening in Darfur, in the Sudan meets those criteria. It is purposeful. It is designed to actually eliminate a certain specific group of people. They are black. That is their crime. They are Muslims. But they are being killed by Muslims who are Arabic. It is racism. It is the most virulent form of racism we can possibly imagine.

The world has to focus on this even though there are things that pull us away, I know.

It is interesting, there is an article in the Guardian Review, "Human Rights on Trial" by Nick Cohen, May 16, 2004. It says, we choose to ignore atrocities committed in the third world when it is politically expedient as in Sudan. It goes on to say that "there is a bell curve in the international appreciation of atrocity. Safe countries receive no coverage for the obvious reason that there is no atrocities to cover in, say, Denmark or Belgium. The curve begins to climb from these dull lowlands and hits its peak in countries which are dangerous but not too dangerous to make reporting to them impossible, today's Iraq and the former Yugoslavia in the age of Milosevic.

"From here the curve slithers down again until it reaches countries at the furthest extreme from civilized life which are either too dangerous or too tyrannical for free investigation to be an option for anyone but the recklessly brave, the Congo and North Korea today or Iraq before the war. The lesson for tyrants is they risk becoming the objects of global outrage when they are not tyrannical enough."

Is that not just great? Is that not an absolutely perfect description of what is happening in the world? There is this range or atrocity that we will cover because it is safe enough to do it, but then once it gets beyond that, no coverage, nobody pays attention to the worst of all.

"The rulers of Sudan know this well," Mr. Cohen goes on to say. "Foreign journalists are not murdered there but pretty much everyone else is. An extraordinary Islamists regime filled with apocalyptic fervor of the fundamentalist revival has enslaved Christians and animist tribes in the black African south, as it prosecuted a civil war which has claimed the lives of 2 million since the early 1980s. Two million is the provisional estimate of the number killed by the Khymer Rouge in Cambodia. But while every politically sentient person has heard of Pol Pot and the killing fields, I doubt if many know of President Omar al-Bashir of Sudan and Hassan al-Turabi, a cleric who provided the ideological justification for the terror until he fell out with his murderous patron.

"If the names ring a bell, my guess is that you are active in one of the Chris-

tian or human rights campaigns which has doggedly monitored the extermination campaigns. The killings have subsided," the peace act is in force, "and there is now a faint hope of peace agreement but this seemingly happy prospect has only made the randomness of global compassion more unhinged and unprincipled.

"This year is the tenth anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda. It has seen Kofi Annan apologize for ignoring warnings that a mass slaughter was about to begin. And every Western government except those that were guilty of sins of omission, except, inevitably, the French, whose despicable role in Rwanda came close to the sin of commission. As the air was filled with the drumming of chests being beaten and the cries of 'never again' being belted in languages except French, another African disaster was being ignored. Since the autumn of last year, Arab militias have driven 1 million people from their homes of the Darfur province of Sudan. Government forces have overseen and participated in massacres, the summary execution of civilians, and the burning of towns and villages. Those who escape now face the risk of famine."

Atrocities must be allowed to flourish so other atrocities can be prevented. That is one of the strange sorts of anomalies of foreign policy that we are dealing with. I think this article was fascinating for its insight into how we handle issues of this nature and how difficult it is to get the world to go act in situations like this.

Is it does seem odd, does it not, that we are willing to do so much more in other places of far less significance in terms of human rights tragedies? But we are all God's children. We are all made in his image and likeness, be we black, or brown or white or yellow. And for that reason we have to show compassion to those who are being persecuted. And we should act as vigorously in Sudan as we have in other parts of the world.

The Secretary of State should go to the United Nations tomorrow and demand a genocide statement be accepted and that the world, therefore, take action in Sudan. The government, every single time they have been pushed to the end, have retreated. They need to be pushed to the end again here. I hope and pray that we will do what is the right thing to do, what is expected of us as those occupying the moral high ground in the world, which we are. But in order to maintain that position, in order to keep the moral high ground, it is imperative that we pay attention to places like Sudan, even though I know our attention is being pulled in so many other places. And it is difficult because I do not know that there were any votes that anybody can count on if they champion this issue. I certainly cannot say that is true.

□ 2320

There are things that we should do here simply because they are the right

thing to do, not because there are any votes connected to it, not because there are any lobbying groups that are pressuring us, not because anybody's giving us money in order to champion a cause, but simply because it is the right thing to do. It is what we are asked to do as human beings of conscience, which is what I want to believe the United States still is, and I do believe it. It just needs to have its attention drawn to the areas of the world that command it.

So I do hope, Madam Speaker, that we will encourage our government to take every action possible, as I say, including any action that is designed to influence a decision by the United Nations that would lead to a declaration stating that genocide is actually what is happening.

Yes, the word matters. It is not the seeds of genocide. It is not a potential genocide. It is, in fact, genocide. Say it, let the chips fall where they may, and we can all rest easier because we have done what we can do, and that is all really God expects of any of us.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CAPUANO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of personal matters.

Ms. CARSON of Indiana (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of personal reasons.

Mr. ENGEL (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of airline delays.

Mr. GUTKNECHT (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and July 13 on account of attending a funeral.

Mr. QUINN (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and until 2:00 p.m. July 13 on account of family medical reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. KAPTUR) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BLUMENAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GREEN of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. McDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. TERRY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. OSBORNE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, July 19.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and July 13, 14, and 15.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, July 15.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, July 13.

Mr. GINGREY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HENSARLING, for 5 minutes, July 14.

Mr. NUSSLE, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 218. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 103. An act for the relief of Lindita Idrizi Heath.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House reports that on July 8, 2004 he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 1731. To amend title 18, United States Code, to establish penalties for aggravated identity theft, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 13, 2004, at 9 a.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8986. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Aspergillus flavus* NRRL 21882; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-2004-0164; FRL-7364-2] received July 7, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8987. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection

Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — C8, C10, and C12 Straight-Chain Fatty Acid Monoesters of Glycerol and Propylene Glycol; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-2003-0379; FRL-7352-6] received July 7, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8988. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Lactic acid, n-propyl ester, (S); Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-2004-0040; FRL-7362-3] received July 7, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8989. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Sulfuric Acid; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-2004-0190; FRL-7364-4] received July 7, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8990. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of the enclosed list of officers to wear the insignia of the grade indicated in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8991. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Thomas C. Waskow, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8992. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Gordon S. Holder, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8993. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Donald A. Lamontagne, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8994. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans: State of Alaska; Anchorage Carbon Monoxide Nonattainment Area; Designation of Areas for Air Quality [Docket #: AK-04-001; FRL-7777-1] received July 7, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8995. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Commonwealth of Virginia; Emission Standards for Mobile Equipment Repair and Refinishing Operations in the Northern Virginia Volatile Organic Compound Emission Control Area [VA150-5079a; FRL-7777-7] received July 7, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8996. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Illinois; Definition of Volatile Organic Material or Volatile Organic Compound [IL218-2a; FRL-76618] received July 7, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8997. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection