

“condemning the violence,” and then acts as if this is somehow a courageous or principled response to a bloody assault on innocent human life.

This State Department and this President ought to learn from President Reagan and his State Department. President Reagan always advocated for those who were persecuted. And Secretary Baker and the Bush administration always advocated.

This administration is silent. And, quite frankly, this Congress, House, and Senate are silent.

The suffering church takes little solace in this approach, nor should we. In fact, I profoundly reject this approach. The Congress should profoundly reject this approach. And I humbly submit, the church in the West should demand more, for, if not them, who?

With a few notable exceptions, among them the Catholic Church, specifically, Cardinal Dolan, who, in his farewell address as head of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, beckoned the bishops to extend their efforts to the “dramatic front lines of this battle, where Christians are paying for their fidelity with their lives.”

Too few in the American church are burdened with this point of action for their suffering brethren.

Reverend Martin Luther King’s “Letter from a Birmingham Jail” is addressed to his fellow—and everyone ought to read Martin Luther King’s “Letter from a Birmingham Jail.” It was addressed to his fellow clergymen. Earlier in the letter, he speaks of his love for the church, a love that I share, but then he goes on to admonish his fellow clergymen. This is what Martin Luther King said:

I must honestly reiterate that I have been disappointed with the church. When I was suddenly catapulted into the leadership of the bus protest in Montgomery, Alabama, a few years ago, I felt I would be supported by the White church. I felt that the White ministers, priests, rabbis of the South would be among our strongest allies. Instead, some have been outright opponents. All too many others have been more cautious than courageous and have remained silent behind the anesthetizing security of stained glass windows.

Could we not substitute a few words and be left with a similar critique today? Might the imprisoned Pakistani Christian lament, “I thought I would be supported by the church in the West”? Might the fearful Coptic Christians cry, “I thought the ministers in America would be among our strongest allies”?

If the church slumbers, Washington will scarcely lead the way. Do not expect the Congress or the administration to lead the way if the church does not lead the way.

Advent is the season of expectant waiting rich and spiritual meaning for believers the world over. My prayer this Advent is that the suffering church would no longer suffer alone, and that we would stand with them and seek a day when, in the words of the beloved Christian carol, “all oppression shall cease.”

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

PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS WORLDWIDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, as a follow-up to my dear friend, FRANK WOLF from Virginia and the discussions he was having, this needs further emphasis.

Here is an article from the Dallas Morning News dated 10 November 2013, “The Triple Tragedy of Christian Persecution in the Middle East.” It explains that Christians in the broader Middle East, it seems, are in the cross-hairs.

In September, two Taliban suicide bombers rushed All Saints Church in Peshawar, Pakistan, as worshippers exited. One exploded his bomb outside, one inside. Eighty-two people were slaughtered. Eighty-two people trying to peacefully attend a Christian church in Pakistan, where we are sending so much money, were slaughtered, with no consequences coming from the Pakistani Government that we keep engorging with our money.

Back to the article.

In March, it says, two churches and about 100 Christian homes were ransacked in Lahore. Today, millions of Christians and other religious minorities are facing vile persecution. Many Christians are struggling to escape from the countries where their ancestors have lived for two millennia. The human tragedy unfolding in these countries is profoundly disturbing, but the tragedy extends beyond the suffering of individuals and families.

Next month, in Rome, Georgetown University, in partnership with Baylor University, where I went to law school, will showcase the findings of a 2-year study on Christianity and freedom. Three dozen scholars will assemble to discuss what Christians have contributed to freedom and prosperity in their own country and, implicitly, what will be lost if those countries are emptied of their Christian populations.

Might be worthy of parenthetically inserting that, in Afghanistan, where thousands of Americans have shed their blood for Afghan freedom, where billions and billions of dollars have been spent, we help them with a constitution that makes shari’a law the law of the land, that makes the President, basically, almost a dictator.

As some of the regional leaders have told me, DANA ROHRBACHER, STEVE KING, and others, look, if you would just help us with an amendment to the Afghanistan constitution, we would have a shot at staying alive after you pull out.

The Northern Alliance that actually defeated the Taliban completely within

a few months after we started providing them aerial support, embedded special ops, and intelligence, less than 500, they defeated the Taliban, provided some weapons. They defeated the Taliban.

□ 1415

People have forgotten, but for years, in Iraq, people referred to Afghanistan—even Senator Obama. That is where the real fight is. That was where it was done well. And it was done well.

The Taliban was defeated. It was routed by some of the most incredible and fearless fighting, led by General Dostum. We have got people in this administration now calling him and others war criminals because they fought for themselves, their own freedom, to rid themselves of tyrannical radical Islamists. They are Muslims. They are my Muslim friends. They defeated our enemy. They are the enemy of our enemy. And yet this administration is releasing Taliban.

One of the Taliban leaders that has been on national Afghan television was released from Guantanamo by this administration for humanitarian purposes. And the humanitarian purposes are, now he is back leading the Taliban and making it clear that the Taliban will control all of Afghanistan once the United States pulls out. He likes to talk in terms of how the U.S. has been greatly defeated, and that is why we are begging the Taliban, offering to buy them things, give them things if they will just let us exit gracefully.

We are embarrassed around the world. We do no longer have the world’s respect. There are a lot of countries that have never admired us. Tyrannical leaders have not admired the United States because we are the only nation, that I am aware of, in the history of the world that shed our blood and our treasure for other people to have freedom. That is why they still speak Japanese in Japan. That is why they still speak German in Germany. We have never been about building some great empire. We have been about freedom, liberty. No other country has done that. No other country has died for the cause of liberty for people they didn’t know.

And now it seems that this administration keeps committing us to support countries that are persecuting Christians, persecuting secularists, persecuting those who do not have the strict radical Islamist beliefs that the radical Islamic believers have, the leaders, as radical Islamist believers have.

This article in the Dallas News goes on and says:

The countries include Egypt, where the holy family fled when Jesus was a baby. Many Christians now are exiting Egypt in the wake of the badly misnamed “Arab Spring.” In August alone, scores of churches were torched, some of them dating to the fifth century.

They include Syria, Paul’s destination when he was called by Jesus. Today, many Syrian Christians have fled, fearing the prospects of an Islamist regime. One village,

Maaloula, is one of the last places on Earth where Aramaic, the language of Jesus, is still spoken. In September, it was overrun by Islamist terrorists.

Those, by the way, are the Islamist rebels that this administration is supporting.

It has been publicly reported, this administration—without Congress making a move to stop them—has sent tons and tons of weapons to the radical Islamist rebels in Syria who are killing, raping, and torturing Christians in Syria.

If there is a God, as I know with all my heart there is, if the God that had his protective hand on Israel—until Israel stopped honoring the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—if that God exists, as I know in my heart he does, then how long will he continue to have a hand of protection on a nation that has, in the last 2 years, repeatedly betrayed and stabbed Israel in the back, taken whatever actions it could to prevent Israel from defending itself, and in this last act of ignorance, in trying to negotiate with Iranian terrorist leaders who want the little Satan, Israel, wiped off the map—they made that very clear—who want the great Satan, the United States, wiped out the map.

Of course they will talk to the United States. Of course. They are working as allies with North Korea. And North Korea can explain to them, as we have talked about here on the floor, how in 1994 they convinced Bill Clinton, Madeline Albright, and Wendy Sherman, who was the policy director for North Korea for the Clinton administration, to do a deal where the United States would give them nuclear reactors, help them, get them running, fuel, whatever they needed, and in return, we were basically asking them to renounce nuclear weapons and promise they wouldn't develop nuclear weapons. And we additionally agreed to not be inspecting their nuclear facilities, which actually allowed them to develop the nuclear bombs and the ballistic missiles by which they are assisting Iran.

Wendy Sherman actually briefed this Congress this week. She is the lead negotiator for the Obama administration. I mean, that makes as much sense as an administration hiring a company to do an absolutely essential critical Web site for people's health and well-being as someone who has no track record of being terribly successful. I mean, surely an administration wouldn't do that. Oh, yes, they did do that with ObamaCare. Oh, yes, they are doing it in negotiating with terrorist thugs who want us wiped off the map.

I mean, this is the same kind of inane thinking that would have an American President in the 1970s proclaiming the Ayatollah Khomeini as a man of peace when he was a terrorist and took over a nation and its military, for the first time in generations that a terrorist Islamic leader had been the leader of a country with a powerful military.

Here is another article, from Townhall.com, December 5, 2013, by Conn Carroll:

Violence against Christians is rising across the Middle East. Open Doors USA's CEO David Curry investigates for the December issue of Townhall magazine.

Christians in the Middle East and around the world are being persecuted, imprisoned, and martyred for their faith. There is widespread, systematic violence, and no one in the mainstream media and government seems to have noticed. We may see the elimination and extinction of Christianity in its very birthplace, without a whimper of protest from the West.

I have got to say, if the God who protected Israel in its inception through many generations until they stopped honoring the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—which, by the way, no country has ever fallen while it was truly honoring the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. So if you were completely a-religious, completely atheistic, but you wanted to have a free country and you wanted to have it safe and protected, then it would sound like, from historical purposes, that it might be a good thing to encourage those who believe in God to keep doing so, because when a nation's leaders honor that God, that nation is protected. It is only when it turns away that it falls.

The article goes on:

Middle Eastern Christians are not persecuted because they are criminals, anarchists, or for participating in uncivil behavior. They are persecuted because of what they believe. They are not promoting any particular political party or agenda. They simply want the freedom of faith and religion that Americans experience every day.

It is puzzling why most of our media and political leaders remain silent, despite overwhelming evidence of a major humanitarian crisis. When the scope of the persecution is seen, it's hard to understand how this could have slipped under the radar of nearly all our leaders in Washington. One is left wondering if the oversight is intentional or merely a giant blind spot the size of the entire Middle Eastern region.

Consider what occurred during a 4-week period during August and September: Syrian rebels attacked the historic Christian enclave of Maaloula, damaging some iconic churches while driving out most of the Christians as well as other residents.

Jihadi terrorists blew up a church in Peshawar, Pakistan, taking more than 85 lives and injuring many more. After the attack, Pakistani Christians protested in the streets, to no avail, demanding protection of their churches and schools, which are under daily threat of harassment and destruction.

Muslim Brotherhood forces in Egypt attacked and burned 73 churches, hundreds of Christian-owned businesses, properties, and schools.

These are but a handful of attacks that make news. Each day, Christians in the Middle East are suffering all manner of indignities for their faith. Those include destruction of property, harassment, targeted rape of Christian women, and a legal system that ignores the rights due to their faith. Many governments fail to pursue, capture, and prosecute jihadist radicals who perpetrate these crimes against Christ's followers.

Then it goes on to talk about a broader pattern. Leadership in a vacuum.

An article from Crossmap.com says:

One Christian Killed Every 11 Minutes: U.K. Parliament is Told Christianity is "Most Persecuted Religion."

The plight of Christians around the world was discussed in a 3-hour debate at the Houses of Parliament in London yesterday. Members of the House of Commons were told that the persecution of Christians is increasing, that one Christian is killed around every 11 minutes around the world, and that Christianity is the "most persecuted religion globally."

A long list of countries in which life as a Christian is most difficult was discussed, including Syria, North Korea, Eritrea, Nigeria, Iraq, and Egypt.

M.P. Jim Shannon said the persecution of Christians is, "the biggest story in the world that has never been told." He said that although the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, there are many countries in which these rights are not given.

Shannon alleged that 200 million Christians will be persecuted for their faith this year, while he said that 500 million live in "dangerous neighborhoods."

He added that in Syria Christians are "caught between opposing sides in the conflict," and mentioned the "specific targeting" of Christian-dominated locations, such as Sadad and Maaloula.

M.P. Sammy Wilson said that in Syria, "50,000 Christians have been cleared from the city of Homs," while in Sudan, 2 million Christians were killed by the regime over a 30-year period.

□ 1430

He added:

Within the last month, hundreds of people, from Nigeria to Eritrea to Kazakhstan to China, have been arrested and put in prison simply because of their faith, and when they go into prison, they are denied due process. They are denied access to lawyers. They are sometimes even denied knowledge of the charges facing them. They can languish in prison for a long time and in horrible conditions.

This is not only happening in Muslim countries. From Morocco to Pakistan, Christians in Muslim countries are under threat, but it happens elsewhere, too.

There is an article from Religious Freedom Coalition from October 18 of this year. It says:

On Wednesday evening, Senator John McCain was on NBC Nightly News and was asked what he thought about Congressman Louie Gohmert suggesting that he was supporting al Qaeda-linked groups in Syria.

To this, McCain responded that he considered Representative Gohmert to be a "person of no intelligence"—clearly suggesting that Gohmert was dimwitted and not worthy of dealing with.

In responding to McCain's attack on his intelligence, Gohmert issued the following statement to the media.

"Obviously, Senator McCain would be better off with 'no intelligence' since he doesn't know the Syrian opposition he met with is infested with al Qaeda and terrorist kidnapers. His 'intelligence' even caused him to support the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt that burned churches and killed Christians, as the Senator stood against the will of the massive majority of Egyptians, including moderate Muslims, Christians, and secularists who demanded the Muslim Brotherhood extremist persecutions must end."

I want to add here that this administration has supported the Muslim Brotherhood leadership of President Morsi in Egypt while Christians were being persecuted and as the largest

arising, gathering of people in protest of the history of the world rose up in Egypt and demanded an end to the radical Islamic rule of President Morsi after he had vastly exceeded, repeatedly, the constitutional powers.

And as they told me in my last trip to Egypt, unfortunately, the constitution that we should have helped them do a better job with did not include any provision for impeachment. I can't understand why the Obama administration would not have encouraged a country developing a new constitution to put in a provision for impeachment. I don't know why this administration would not have encouraged that, but it wasn't there.

So when President Morsi vastly exceeded the authority of the constitution and began moving toward being a monarch, millions of people—reportedly 20, 30, 33 million Egyptians rose up—90 million people in the whole country—they rose up and demanded that the President be removed.

The Christian Pope in Egypt told me personally that this was the will of the people. Please tell the administration and people in America this was not a coup. This was the people of Egypt rising up, as he talked about arm-in-arm the moderate Muslims, secularists, Christians joined hands, joined arms, and protested and demanded that the military remove President Morsi. And they did.

As these articles have talked about, the violence in August, the violence in the summer against Christian churches—73 or so burned down, Christians killed and tortured—that was by the Muslim Brotherhood. And because the people of Egypt and the military could see the persecution of Christians, and they wanted to stop it, they basically disbanded the Muslim Brotherhood as a party, as an organization in Egypt; and the burning of churches stopped and the persecution of Christians stopped.

And to such a great and noble thing that the Egyptians have done in bringing an end to this radical Islamist Muslim Brotherhood control of Egypt, bringing an end to the burning of churches, bringing an end to the killing and torturing of Christians in Egypt, how has this administration reacted to reward Egypt for doing such a noble thing?

The aid that this administration was providing to Egypt when it was controlled by the Muslim Brotherhood has now been cut off because the Egyptian people had the temerity to demand an end to radical Islamic reign and the killing and persecution of Christians.

It is unbelievable that I live in a country that rewards groups that persecute Christians and withdraws assistance to those who stop the persecution of Christians.

This article says:

Of course, McCain is doing exactly what someone who has been busted usually does: he smears his accuser. Why else would McCain defend the likes of Reid, Schumer, and Durbin while accusing Gohmert of hav-

ing "no intelligence"? The answer is that Gohmert is doing what no one at his level or higher is doing: he's calling McCain out for siding with America's enemies.

Those were comments of former PLO terrorist Walid Shoebat. He has seen the light, ended his time as a terrorist, and is trying to educate people on the dangers of radical Islam.

The article points out that our friend, Senator McCain, had hired a Syrian Islamist propagandist, Elizabeth O'Bagy, to become one of his legislative assistants after she was exposed for lying about her Ph.D. and being paid shill for Islamists seeking to overthrow President Assad of Syria.

As former terrorist, Walid Shoebat explains:

Congressman Louie Gohmert should be getting reinforcements from the more conservative elements in the Republican Party. But will he? Frankly, we doubt it.

Congressman Gohmert deserves our praise, our vocal support, and our prayers for having the courage to hold another Republican responsible for promoting national security policies that endanger the lives and freedoms of millions of Syrians and Egyptians who do not wish to live under an Islamic dictator.

I appreciate their commendation. I know that there is not a Senator in the U.S. Senate that wants to do harm to this country or to Christians around the world. But that is why it is so important to take a look at what this country's, this administration's policies are doing to the cause of persecution of Christians around the world.

An article from Christian Today, dated Wednesday, December 4:

Seventy Christians killed at the hands of Boko Haram in Nigeria.

Further attacks against Christians in Nigeria have been reported, bringing the total number killed in the past year to an estimated 900. According to Release International, 34 Christians were murdered in Borno State in the northeast last month, and raiders killed an additional 37 in the central Plateau State on 26 November.

Church leaders believe the attacks in the north were carried out directly by Islamist terrorist group Boko Haram, while those in central Nigeria were carried out under their direction.

What is going on around the world right now with the persecution of Christianity is tragic. Or as the UK Parliament was told, Christians are the most persecuted people in the whole world. In fact, even in the United States right now, Christians are about the only group in America against whom it is okay to discriminate. It is okay to hate them and ascribe hatred to the believers and the man of love and peace, Jesus Christ. It is rather tragic.

And as the world sees, this administration continues. As leaders in the Middle East told a handful of us back in September, What do you not understand? It was the Muslim Brotherhood behind the attack on 9/11 of 2001. It was the Taliban, but basically the Muslim Brotherhood in Afghanistan you went to war against. It was the Muslim Brotherhood that was killing Christians in Egypt. It was the Muslim Brotherhood—al Qaeda—that attacked

you in Libya, that helped in Libya, and now you are helping them in Syria.

We don't understand what you don't understand. The people you declared war on that hate you and want to destroy you, you are supporting in Syria and you supported in Egypt. We don't understand.

And for moderate Muslims around the world, our friends in Afghanistan, our friends in the Middle East, they don't understand how we keep rewarding those who hate Christians and hate the United States, and we persecute leadership like in Egypt right now that stopped the persecution of Christians. We ought to be sending people rushing over to Egypt saying thank you for stopping persecution of especially Christians, but also moderate Muslims and secularists in Egypt. You have done a good thing. We ought to be helping them set up their next elections, which they want to do.

As I am sure people are aware, CNN has got a story here about, "China claim of air rights over disputed islands creates risk of incident."

China has wanted to claim this part of the ocean for decades, but they were always afraid of making a move to physically exert claim over this area of the blue water. And yet they have obviously come to believe that the United States is so weakly led right now that they could make claim to this part of the sea that they were scared to claim in the past and overtly take control over it. It hurts our friend Japan; it hurts other allies for us not to take a stand.

And yet we get reports that this administration was telling our allies, Well, just do what China requests for now. Just do what they request—instead of showing strong leadership to stand up against a move of aggression.

We see Russia moving more radically than we have seen in decades. People just thought Russia had gone away. The Soviet Union did go away, but Russia now has perceived a vacuum in world leadership since the United States seems to be taking a leave of absence; and now we have Putin being considered more powerful than our U.S. President.

Well, I can see how some would see the aggressive leadership he has taken and believe that he is more powerful. It is not right. Our President has all the power he needs if he would use it.

But it is time to take a stand, even for those who like to belittle Christianity, even those who have far different beliefs. This Nation has had an invisible protective hand that has guided it, led us away from slavery, led us to proper civil rights.

□ 1445

Then it seemed we were at about the peak of enforcing our Constitution so that it didn't discriminate, so that the words of the Declaration of Independence were fully embraced:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are

endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Yet, as churches have been behind the movement to establish the Constitution, the movement to eliminate slavery, the movement to recognize civil rights so people are not judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character—as was the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Junior, an ordained Christian minister—now we have turned full circle, and now we are starting to persecute and reward those who abroad persecute the very churches that made America the freest country—the only country from which people have fought and died for the liberty of others—the most generous and giving Nation in the history of the world, where more freedoms, liberties, and assets have been attained by individuals than in any country in the history of the world.

It is exceptional, but we are losing our exceptionalism because we are refusing to stand up for the beliefs of Christians here and around the world.

If we want to extend this little experiment in democracy, as one of the Founders said—if we want to acknowledge Ben Franklin's comment “it is a Republic if you can keep it,” and we want to keep it—it is time to rise up, not through violence. Just stop rewarding those who persecute Christianity. Those who burn churches, those who kill Christians, quit rewarding them—quit providing them arms—because, if we don't, we will slip down the slide of history into the dustbin of history, and people will only be able to look back and say, “What an amazing country that once was.”

I am here in Congress because I believe we have the chance to salvage this great country and get back our international leadership we once had and stand for freedom of religion in the world and in America, but God help us if we don't.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DOYLE (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of a family illness.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 49 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, December 9, 2013, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3994. A letter from the Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, transmitting a letter regarding the Farm Bill of 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture.

3995. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-71; Introduction [Docket No.: FAR 2013-0076, Sequence No. 7] received November 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3996. A letter from the Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the System's final rule — Truth in Lending (Regulation Z) [Docket No.: CFPB-2013-0035] received December 2, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3997. A letter from the Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Consumer Leasing (Regulation M) [Docket No.: CFPB-2013-0034] received December 2, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3998. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility (Mason County, WV, et al.) [Docket ID: FEMA-2013-0002] received November 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3999. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility (Webster County, KY, et al.) [Docket ID: FEMA-2013-0002] received November 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4000. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Spirulina Extract; Confirmation of Effective Date [Docket No.: FDA-2011-C-0878] received December 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4001. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; State Boards Requirements [EPA-R03-OAR-2013-0650; FRL-9903-78-Region-3] received December 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4002. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Oregon; Revised Format of 40 CFR Part 52 for Materials Incorporated by Reference [EPA-R10-OAR-2013-0419; FRL-9900-70-Region 10] received December 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4003. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Direct Final Approval of Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incinerator Negative Declaration for Designated Facilities and Pollutants: Michigan and Wisconsin [EPA-R05-OAR-2013-0678; FRL-9903-33-Region-5] received December 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4004. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agen-

cy's final rule — Disapproval, Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plan Revisions; Infrastructure Requirements for the 1997 and 2006 PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Prevention of Significant Deterioration; Wyoming [EPA-R08-OAR-2011-0728; FRL-9903-58-Region 8] received December 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4005. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Prevention of Significant Deterioration for Particulate Matter Less Than 2.5 Micrometers — Significant Impact Levels and Significant Monitoring Concentration: Removal of Vacated Elements [EPA-HQ-OAR-2006-0605; FRL-9903-84-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR99) received December 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4006. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's ninth annual report on Ethanol Market Concentration, pursuant to Section 1501(a)(2) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4007. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by 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), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4008. A letter from the Special Assistant to the President and Director, Office of Administration, transmitting the personnel report for personnel employed in the White House Office, the Executive Residence at the White House, the Office of the Vice President, the Office of Policy Development, and the Office of Administration for FY 2013, pursuant to 3 U.S.C. 113; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4009. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 20-219, “Cottage Food Amendment Act of 2013”; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4010. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 20-220, “Trauma Technologies Licensure Amendment Act of 2013”; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4011. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 20-221, “Extension of Time to Dispose of the Strand Theater Temporary Amendment Act of 2013”; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4012. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; New Designated Country — Croatia [FAC 2005-71; FAR Case 2013-019; Item II; Docket No.: 2013-0019, Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AM66) received November 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4013. A letter from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments [FAC 2005-71; Item III; Docket No.: 2013-0080; Sequence No. 5] received November 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.