

In addition, according to a recent Human Rights Watch report, the extremist group ISIL has carried out systematic rape and other sexual violence against Yazidi women and girls in northern Iraq.

ISIS forces took several thousand Yazidi civilians into custody in northern Iraq's province in August 2014, according to Kurdistan officials and community leaders. Witnesses said that fighters systematically separated young women and girls from their families and other captives and moved them from one location to another inside Iraq and Syria.

The 11 women and 9 girls Human Rights Watch interviewed had escaped between September 2014 and January 2015. Half, including two 12-year-old girls, said they had been raped—some multiple times and by several ISIS fighters. Nearly all of them said they had been forced into marriage; sold—in some cases, a number of times; or given as “gifts.” The women and girls also witnessed other captives being abused. Violence against women must stop.

Today, there are fewer than 100 surviving Comfort Women women across the Asia Pacific. Each year, this number declines. The survivors are dying by the day. They deserve the justice that has been due to them for the past 70 years. They deserve the justice that has been denied them. These women want and deserve an official apology.

In 1991, with the swift courage of Kim Hak-sun, she brought to light her story of being a sex slave to the Japanese Imperial Army. Her story was the spark that ignited the flames of justice.

Since then, we have the courageous survivors, such as Grandmother Lee, who continues to be a voice for the voiceless. We also have the courage of Ms. Jan Ruff O’Herne, who now resides in Australia.

Ms. O’Herne was born in Java in the former Dutch East Indies, known today as Indonesia. When she was 19 years old, Japanese troops invaded Java. They were interned in Japanese prison camps.

Two years later, she was selected, along with several other girls, and was told by the Japanese military that they were there for the sexual pleasure of the Japanese military.

As Ms. O’Herne relayed during the 2007 House Foreign Affairs hearing on Protecting the Human Rights of Comfort Women, a Japanese officer ran his sword all over her body and forced himself on her.

The trauma these women—these girls—endured is unimaginable. That is why my patience for securing justice for the dignity of these victims is running out.

The opportunity to speak to a joint session of Congress is an honor that is reserved for the heads of state of our closest allies. It is my sincere hope that, for Ms. O’Herne’s sake, for Kim Hak-sun’s sake, for Grandmother Lee’s sake, Prime Minister Abe will take the privilege to address the joint meeting

of Congress and finally and firmly apologize and commit to educating the future generations honestly and humbly. The spirit of these women—these girls—deserves no less.

In closing, I am going to quote Grandmother Lee’s comments when she testified before our subcommittee in 2007. She said:

If you cannot apologize to me, give me back my youth.

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

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep concern for women around the world who are targeted victims of violence. It is estimated that 1 out of every 3 women around the world will be beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime. Women in areas of conflict are in even more danger. We know that rape and sexual assault are tools of war used around the world to terrorize entire communities. Displaced, refugee and stateless women are at an increased risk of violence, and they are often forced to exchange sex for food and humanitarian supplies. These tactics are not new, they have been used as tools of war throughout the centuries and these despicable practices have been ignored for far too long.

Today, sitting in the House Gallery, is Grandmother Yong Soo Lee, a courageous survivor of war. In the 1930s and 1940s, women and girls were forced to provide sexual services for Japanese soldiers. These women are known as comfort women, and Grandmother Lee is one of the few remaining survivors still alive.

Every country, including our own, has made mistakes in the past. At one time or another, each country has had to apologize for actions unbefitting its values and principles.

Since the end of World War II, Japan has been one of the United States’ most important allies and we have enjoyed a successful partnership based on respect and cooperation. However, the historical record on comfort women must be universally accepted, without wavering on the horrific details.

In 1993, the Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono apologized to the victims and admitted responsibility by the Japanese military. Despite this apology, in the past twelve years, government officials have made statements that seem to call the Kono Statement into question. These discrepancies are an impediment to a successful tri-lateral relationship between the United States, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s scheduled address to a joint meeting of Congress next week is a landmark moment for U.S.-Japan relations. I look forward to hearing Prime Minister Abe speak and it is my hope he uses this opportunity to clarify any remarks that have been interpreted as a revocation of the Kono Statement.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman HONDA for hosting this very important Special Order this evening.

Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury for women in America.

More often than not, cases of violence against women go unreported.

Over 80% of women who were victimized experienced significant short-term and long-term impacts related to the violence and were more likely to experience Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and long-term chronic diseases such as asthma and diabetes.

Every year in the United States, 1,000 to 1,600 women die at the hands of their male partners, often after a long, escalating pattern of battering.

In 2009, 111 women were killed by their former or current husband, intimate partner or boyfriend in the State of Texas.

Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury for women in America.

Every nine seconds a woman in the United States is assaulted or beaten by stalkers or her partner.

Another form of violence against women is sex trafficking.

Trafficking ensnares millions of women and girls in modern-day slavery.

According to the FBI, sex trafficking is the fastest-growing business of organized crime and the third-largest criminal enterprise in the world.

More than 300,000 American children are at risk of becoming victims of sex trafficking annually in what is estimated to be a \$9.8 billion industry.

Women and girls represent 55 per cent of the estimated 20.9 million victims of forced labor worldwide and 98 per cent of the estimated 4.5 million forced into sexual exploitation.

Similar to current sex trafficking crimes is the past atrocity of the crimes that were committed towards the Korean women.

The “comfort women” system of forced military prostitution by the Government of Japan, considered unprecedented in its cruelty and magnitude, included gang rape, forced abortions, humiliation, and sexual violence resulting in mutilation, death, or eventual suicide in one of the largest cases of human trafficking in the 20th century.

Today, there are now only just 59 known survivors that were comfort Korean victims.

There are about 200,000 women are estimated to have worked as comfort women in Japan’s military brothels.

Today, the comfort women issue remains taboo and controversial topic, just like other violent crimes committed to women.

These women are not victims but also survivors, survivors from a brutal crime.

The comfort women issue is not just about the past, but it is very relevant today.

The world’s strength to oppose killing today is made greater by accountability, for actions present, but also past.

It’s weakened by denial of accountability and obfuscation of past acts.

History is a continuum that affects today and tomorrow.

Women everywhere should not be victims of such an atrocity.

It’s much harder to get tomorrow right if we get yesterday wrong.

Today, we call on to the Japanese government to apologize to the few women who continue to live with the shame of the crimes committed against them.

SAN JACINTO DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ABRAHAM). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today is April 21, 2015. April 21 is an important day. It is an important day not

only in Texas history, but I think in world history. But it is more important to my mother. Because today, Mr. Speaker, my mother is 90 years young.

When I was growing up in Texas, April 21 was a holiday. We did not go to school on April 21 in Houston. And my mother told me the reason we did not go to school was because it was her birthday and everybody got off from school on her birthday.

Of course, I believed her—and she still says that is the reason we get off—but it wasn't until I took fourth-grade Texas history that I learned there was another reason why April 21 was an important day and a holiday. It is called San Jacinto Day, Mr. Speaker.

San Jacinto Day is based upon Texas history that occurred on April 21, 1836—179 years ago. That was the day that the Battle of San Jacinto took place on the marshy plains where Buffalo Bayou meets the San Jacinto River, near the Gulf of Mexico, in a place that we now call Harrisburg, which is near Houston, Texas. It was a battle that was successful for liberty and freedom for people who lived in Texas.

The Battle of San Jacinto was won by Sam Houston defeating the invading Mexican army led by Santa Anna. And I will get back to that in a moment. I think it is important, though, we have a little history lesson so we understand why this battle for freedom is so important to all people who believe in freedom.

Texas, Mr. Speaker, was wanted by a lot of folks. The French claimed Texas. Of course, the Comanches, the Apaches, and a lot of other Native American tribes claimed Texas—and wanted Texas.

But Spain controlled Texas for a great number of years. From 1690 to about 1821, Texas as we know it was part of Spain. In fact, we still have Spanish land grants in Texas, where people own land that they can trace back to the Spanish when they controlled Texas.

In about 1821, a portion of Spain—Spanish Texas and Spanish Mexico, if you will—decided they wanted independence from Spain. So, Mexico as we now know it had their war of independence from the European power of Spain, and they were successful in defeating the Spanish and declaring independence and becoming a democratic republic south of the border called the Republic of Mexico. That was 1821. Texas was a part of that revolution and that rebellion. Texans fought in those battles.

And all went well until about 1835, when a person by the name of Santa Anna took over the Presidency of Mexico—a republic, a democracy—and made himself a military dictator. He abolished the Constitution—dictators have a habit of doing that, even to this day—dismissed the assembly or Congress, and he was in total control of Mexico.

Now, this did not set well with people in Mexico, which includes what we now know as Texas.

Here is a map of the region in about the time of 1821 to 1836. This portion here was Texas. It was part of another state in Mexico called Coahuila.

When dictator Santa Anna took control of this entire area, 11 of the states rebelled. They wanted their own independence from their dictator, who destroyed the democracy, or the democratic Republic of Mexico.

Several of the states rebelled. In fact, some were somewhat successful. The Republic of Yucatan lasted for a while, went back to Mexico, gained independence again, and was a republic for about 7 years in the 1840s, and then joined Mexico again.

There were several other states—and I will put in the RECORD the names of those states—that wanted independence from Mexico, to go their own way, and some were more successful than others.

And what Santa Anna did is assemble his army. He went through Mexico, retaking this land, putting down the rebellion of all of the individuals who were trying to be independent from the Mexican dictator.

After he had successfully done that, he moved across the Rio Grande River, where those Texans were causing the same type of controversy of wanting freedom and independence. And what started the actual fighting between the people of Texas—and they were of all races. Tejanos is a special unique name of Texans of Spanish or Mexican birth. Tejanos, Anglos, and Blacks in that area wanted independence. Not all, but many of them did. And there was a controversy, and there were political disputes with the Mexican government. But what set it all off occurred in a small, little town of Gonzales, Texas.

In Gonzales, Texas, they had a cannon. It wasn't really much of a cannon, but it was a cannon. And it was to protect themselves from the Karankawas, the Apaches, and other folks.

□ 1945

The Mexican Government decided they were going over to take that cannon away from the settlers. The settlers objected. They said, You can't have it. They made themselves a flag that said, "Come and take it." We still have that flag. "Come and take it." It had a cannon with the words "Come and take it."

So the Mexican military shows up. The settlers have a skirmish with the Mexican military. Shots were fired. I don't think anybody was really hurt too bad, but the Mexican Army retreated. They left Gonzalez, but they left without the cannon.

It is an interesting note that the Texas war of independence started because government tried to take the firearms, the weapons, the guns of the people. If you recall American history, Mr. Speaker, which I know you know quite well, there is a little place called

Lexington and Concord, up in Massachusetts, where the British tried to take the guns from the colonists, to take the guns from the armory at Lexington and Concord. The colonists objected.

The shot heard around the world started the American war of independence, successful just like the Texas war of independence was successful, but the fighting started when the government showed up to take the weapons of the settlers.

In any event, the Battle of Gonzalez took place. The fighting was on. Texans moved into Bexar, which is now San Antonio, which was the central city in the Republic, or in Texas, and took that away from the Mexican military that was there, ran them out of town, and that was toward December of 1835.

Then we get to early part of 1836, and this part of history is what most Americans are aware of: Santa Anna now is coming across the Rio Grande River with his three armies to retake Texas and make it part of Mexico again, as he had done with these other rebellious states in Mexico.

He showed up at a little place, a beat-up old Spanish church that was over 100 years old at the time, in February of 1836. We call it the Alamo, the cradle of Texas liberty.

Assembled at the Alamo, in Bexar—San Antonio, if you will, same place—were 187 Texas volunteers. Now, most of them were not from Texas. In fact, the only natives there were the Tejanos. Eleven Tejanos fought in the Texas revolution at the Alamo, but they were from all the States, 13 foreign countries, and of all races, volunteers, led by my favorite person—William Barret Travis, a South Carolina lawyer—came to Texas; and he is 27, the commander of the Alamo.

Santa Anna's army, historians disagree on how many thousands there were, but there were a lot of them; and, after 13 days—we all know the rest of the story. After 13 days of holding the Mexican Army at bay and Santa Anna, Santa Anna was able to breach the walls and kill all of the defenders, all the volunteers at the Alamo.

After that occurred, people who lived in Texas started moving from that direction of central Texas towards the east, towards Louisiana. It is called the Runaway Scrape.

Why were they running? Because the Mexican armies have invaded Texas and are coming after the settlers in that portion of the State, that portion of Texas—so Sam Houston, who had already come to Texas, was building an army to fight and defend the State of Texas and to fight and defend, from the invaders, Texas liberty. He was building this army.

It is interesting how he got to Texas. Sam Houston was famous in his own right before he made it to Texas. He was from Tennessee. He was an attorney general, Member of Congress—twice elected to Congress—and Governor of Tennessee.

He eventually left the Governorship and came back to Washington, Mr. Speaker, and advocated on behalf of the Cherokee Indians who he was living with in what is now Oklahoma.

He got into a dispute with an Ohio Congressman named Stanbery. Stanbery had impugned the integrity of Sam Houston, and Sam Houston didn't like that. That conversation, apparently, by Stanbery occurred on this House floor.

One morning, Sam Houston is coming out of his home, his dwelling over here on Pennsylvania Avenue, and he sees Stanbery. Sam Houston carried a cane. You may see the pictures of Sam Houston with his cane. Sam Houston comes upon—I get all choked up telling the story, Mr. Speaker.

Sam Houston comes up on Stanbery. He is walking down the street. Sam Houston, remembering the bad things that Stanbery said about him on the House floor, and he starts to thrash Stanbery with his cane, beats him pretty bad.

Stanbery had a pistol. He pulls it out of his vest. He pokes the pistol in Sam Houston's chest and pulls the trigger. The gun misfired; and, therefore, Sam Houston lived. He was tried on this House floor for demeaning a Member of Congress. The Supreme Court sat in judgment of him. The trial lasted a month. Sam Houston took the House floor and talked over a full day, defending himself.

After the trial was over, Sam Houston was found guilty, ordered to pay a \$500 fine for demeaning a Member of Congress. Sam Houston was represented by Francis Scott Key—yes, the same lawyer that wrote our Star-Spangled Banner.

Rather than pay the fine, rather than deal with Congress anymore and Mr. Stanbery, he left Washington and ended up in Texas and became a political figure there. They loved Sam Houston when he came to Texas. They didn't care about his troubles here in Washington, D.C., and he was made general of the Texas Army.

So the Alamo takes place. William Barret Travis, the commander, they were all killed. Sam Houston builds his army, and he is ready to defend Texas against the invading army from Santa Anna.

That brings us to April 21. Sam Houston did not engage Santa Anna quickly. In fact, he kept moving east. He got as close as he could to Louisiana, and then he moved south, down towards the Gulf of Mexico. Santa Anna is chasing him.

Finally, Sam Houston stopped on those marshy plains of San Jacinto, where Buffalo Bayou meets the San Jacinto River—Santa Anna's army, about 1,800; Houston's army, 700, 800—outnumbered.

Remember, Santa Anna's armies had yet to be defeated, in all those battles in Mexico, Alamo, a place called Goliad, where Santa Anna killed all the Texas defenders, yet to be defeated. Sam Houston has yet to fight a battle.

They assemble there, April 19, 1836. Most battles, even today, are fought when the sun comes up, sunrise; and they were then. They were for thousands of years. Everybody expected battle on April 22 at sunrise, but the Texas Army did not want to wait, so on the afternoon of April 21, there was a council of war. Sam Houston decided that now is as good a time as any.

Well, less than a mile away was Santa Anna's army, but it is in the afternoon. Many of the soldiers in Santa Anna's army were taking a siesta.

Legend has it that Santa Anna was occupied with a mixed-race lady by the name of Emily Morgan. She was keeping him busy during this time. I don't know if that is true or not. We believe it is true. We named buildings after Emily Morgan. We call her the Yellow Rose of Texas. We still honor ladies in Texas by calling them the yellow rose.

But anyway, so he is busy. The Texans line up in one column. There weren't a lot of them; there were only 700 or 800 of them. They didn't have uniforms. They were wearing buckskins and frontier clothes. They have bowie knives and pistols in their belts, tomahawks, rifles.

Juan Seguin, Hispanic Tejano, his cavalry are riding the flanks, protecting the flanks, also didn't have uniforms. So that the Texans would not mistake them for the enemy, Juan Seguin had all of his cavalry put in their sombreros, their hats, a playing card so they would know that these are the good guys and they wouldn't mistake them for the enemy.

They are marching in a single file, if you can imagine this, this odd-looking bunch of folks. Leading them was a fife guy—a fifer, on a fife—another person carrying a flag. It was Miss Liberty that they were carrying the flag of.

Miss Liberty was a partially nude female with the word "liberty" written across her. The fifer, he only knew one song. It was called "Come to the Bower." The Bower was a house of ill repute, so he is playing this house of ill repute song on his fife, and the Texas Army is marching down the hill, ready.

The Mexican Army, not prepared, no scouts, no lookouts, no one is watching; and they charge in broad daylight in the middle of the afternoon, when battles are never fought.

Santa Anna was caught napping. The Mexican Army was caught by surprise. In 18 minutes, a lot shorter time than I have already talked, Mr. Speaker, the battle started, and it was ended. Half the Mexican Army was killed, the other half captured. More were captured than were in the Texas Army. Texas casualties, nine were killed. The enemy was caught by total surprise. They were caught fleeing.

Santa Anna changed his clothes, took off his fancy general, Presidential uniform and put on the uniform of a Mexican private, but he was caught, and he was brought to Sam Houston, who happened to be one of the few that

were wounded. He was shot in the ankle off his horse.

The Texans wanted to hang Santa Anna right there from the closest oak tree. Sam Houston was not about to have a lynching of the enemy leader, and he held him for bargaining power later, to get a better deal for Texas independence.

The Texans at San Jacinto, like at the Alamo, all volunteers, they came from every place. They were of all races. They came from several foreign countries. They came from many of the States. One was from Rhode Island, another from Vermont; several were from New York.

In fact, several New Yorkers helped in Texas' independence, at the Alamo and at San Jacinto, but from most of the States and, as I said, foreign countries as well.

□ 2000

They succeeded in defeating Santa Anna.

Texas declared independence earlier that year, on March 2, 1836, about 6 weeks before the Battle of San Jacinto, declared independence from Mexico. And it was won. It was successful on April 21, 1836, which we call San Jacinto Day today.

After that battle was over with, military historians say it was one of the most decisive battles in Western Hemisphere history because of the massive amount of land that changed hands because of one battle.

After the Battle of San Jacinto, you can see what modern-day Texas looks like right through here, this area. Texas not only claimed what is now modern-day Texas, but it claimed parts of Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, and all the way up to Wyoming.

This was the Republic of Texas in April of 1836. This land was all claimed by Texas. Texas established a constitution, a government, and became an independent, free nation that lasted for 9 years. Sam Houston, of course, was the President of the Republic of Texas and got elected twice to the Republic of Texas.

The Republic of Texas, as I said, lasted for 9 years, and then the majority of Texans wanted to join the United States. It was not an easy task. Many people in the United States didn't want Texas in the Union.

Primarily the way for Texas to get into the Union was a treaty because Texas was a country. The United States is a country. There would be a treaty, and Texas would come in as a State. As we know, those folks down the hallway in the Senate, it takes two-thirds of them to approve a treaty.

Two-thirds of the States in the United States would never have approved Texas coming into the Union, so how did Texas become a part of the Union? They changed it to a joint resolution. It just takes a majority vote to get a joint resolution passed in the Senate. So Texas came into the Union

after several tries unsuccessfully when, apparently, a Louisiana Senator changed his vote from “no” to “yes,” and Texas came in under a joint resolution. Thus, the Republic of Texas was no more and became a State in the Union in 1845, in December of 1845.

When it came into the Union, Texas was allowed to fly its flag at the same height as the United States flag. If you come to Texas, you will notice there are a lot of Texas flags flying at the same level as the American flag.

Texas is allowed to divide into five States. We are not going to do that. People would debate who would be called Texas and what would the other four be called. So we are not going to divide into five States. But we have the ability, and we have the right to decide and to divide into five States.

But going back to Texas and the way it was when it came into the Union, what happened to all this land? Well, Texas had mounted a lot of debt and, to pay off its debt to the United States and to its creditors, sold this land to the Federal Government and wiped the slate clean. Therefore, Texas now looks like what we all know it looks like. The rest of that land went to the Union.

I mentioned and talked to you tonight, Mr. Speaker, about San Jacinto Day, not so much because it is really San Jacinto Day, but about the people who were there 179 years ago. I mentioned there were all types of folks. But similar to our ancestors in the colonial days who said “no” to oppression, they weren’t going to tolerate it. We still have oppression throughout the world. We have governments and dictators, military dictators oppressing their people. A lot of times, they can’t do anything about it, those people. They would like to be free and independent, but they are not.

Those folks back in 1836 made a decision that it was more important to them to be free than it was to be safe, secure in their own personal life. So they were willing to give their life for freedom. That is not a trite statement. We have had people from all over the United States who have done that since then, have fought for America, fought for liberty, fought for freedom, even for other people. They have sacrificed their lives so that other people can enjoy those words that most people have never enjoyed, “freedom” and “liberty.”

And when a dictator or any other powerful government shows up, some people have the ability to step up and say: I am not going to take it. I will give up my life so that there can be a free nation.

So we are grateful for those folks in 1836, on San Jacinto Day, and the ones at the Alamo who all died and the others who died and the ones that fought and lived, sacrificed their land to make sure that freedom rings in our State.

Texans are proud of their history. I mentioned that I learned about San Jacinto Day in Texas history. Kids

growing up in Texas today have to take Texas history twice, in the fourth grade and the seventh grade, where they learn about the history of our State.

Our history is different than the Thirteen Colonies’ history. It received its independence, but it was not from England; it was from a Mexican dictator.

And we appreciate that. We appreciate those folks—Sam Houston, William Barret Travis, Davy Crockett, Jim Bowie—all those many men and women who sacrificed life and their well-being so that we could be an independent nation that tyrants will not rule. They will not be successful. They will be defeated. And we should admire people like that. I think we do here in the House of Representatives and in the United States. We have had people like that in all of our history. That is what makes us a unique nation, because we can go all the way back to the American War for Independence and trace all of the history; and in much of it, the United States was at war and fighting for our liberty, and we thank those people.

We are still involved in war throughout the world today, the people fighting for America. So we are grateful for them, and we are grateful for those folks—Sam Houston and all of his boys of summer and boys of spring—that fought at the Battle of San Jacinto.

One hundred years after the battle, Texans built a monument similar to the one down the street, the Washington Monument. We have all seen the Washington Monument. If you come to the battlefield of San Jacinto, you will see a similar monument, but it has a big star on the top of it. It is taller than the Washington Monument because it is in Texas, and the star makes it taller than the Washington Monument.

As a side note, the Texas State capitol is also taller than this Capitol. That was built later.

And we honor those folks with that monument. We honor them on San Jacinto Day, today. It is not a holiday anymore. Kids don’t get out of school.

But it is still my mother’s birthday. I don’t know if she is watching or not, but she is certainly celebrating her birthday down in Texas.

So on behalf of those of us here, we commend those folks at the Battle of San Jacinto. And I also want to wish my mom a happy birthday on this April 21, 2015.

And that is just the way it is, Mr. Speaker.

I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. JACKSON LEE (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official business.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o’clock and 10 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 22, 2015, at 10 a.m. 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:

1215. A letter from the Principal Deputy, Reserve Affairs, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s STARBASE Program 2014 annual report, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2193b(g); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1216. A letter from the Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office, transmitting a reissued report entitled “Defense Acquisitions: Assessments of Selected Weapon Programs” (GAO-15-342SP) to reflect changes made to the quantities of one of the programs used in the Office’s calculations; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1217. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a statement, pursuant to Sec. 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended, on a transaction involving Hainan Airlines Co., Ltd. of Haikou, China; to the Committee on Financial Services.

1218. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation’s final rule — Transferred OTS Regulations Regarding Possession by Conservators and Receivers for Federal and State Savings Associations (RIN: 3064-AE17) received April 17, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1219. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation’s final rule — Removal of Transferred OTS Regulations Regarding Rules of Practice and Procedure and Amendments to FDIC Rules and Regulations (RIN: 3064-AE08) received April 17, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1220. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Federal Housing Administration (FHA): Removal of Section 235 Home Ownership Program Regulations [Docket No.: FR-5829-F-01] received April 16, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1221. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s Major final rule — Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System; Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities [EPA-HQ-RCRA-2009-0640; FRL-9919-44-OSWER] (RIN: 2050-AE81) received April 16, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1222. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s direct final rule — Vermont: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R01-RCRA-2015-0195; FRL 9926-54-Region 1] received April 16, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.