

Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich. He put it well this weekend. The former Speaker said:

Putin attacking Zelenskii's hometown and killing women and children is a deliberate insult to the United States and test of how much dishonesty[,] Brutality, and aggressiveness we will tolerate. He must be made [to] Pay for it.

And, yes, it is a test of how much we are willing to tolerate, particularly in light of the discussions that were going on. The former Speaker is correct. Mr. Putin launched this attack on women and children in the middle of cease-fire negotiations. These aren't the acts of a leader who is interested in peace. The attack is an insult and a test, but it is also a test the United States must pass. We must not tolerate Vladimir Putin's dishonesty, brutality, and aggression.

I believe the President of the United States, President Trump, shares the former Speaker's views. Early last week, President Trump signaled that he was displeased with Putin's refusal to make a deal, as well he should have been.

At last week's NATO summit, Secretary of State Marco Rubio echoed the point. He said: President Trump will not allow the Russian dictator to drag us on in endless negotiation. He said:

We will know soon enough, in a matter of weeks, not months, whether Russia is serious about peace or not.

I agree with President Trump on his assessment. I agree with Secretary of State Rubio on his statement.

But as it turns out, it wasn't in a matter of weeks or months. Putin showed us in a matter of days. Putin launched his attack the day after Secretary Rubio's words.

The message was clear. He is not interested in peace. He would like a phony deal that buys Russia time to rearm.

We must not allow Russia to waffle forever in negotiations. Vladimir Putin would prefer to. Maybe he thinks he can wait out the war forever. But let me tell you, Russia's economy and its industry show signs of cracking. A lot of the American people do not realize this, but the economy of Russia is crumbling. We must show resolve in the face of President Putin's growing weakness. We must not let him up off the mat, allowing him to shore up strength for another assault.

President Trump and President Zelenskyy will work toward a deal that will be good for the entire free world—good for Ukraine and good for the United States, but for the entire free world. As they negotiate, we must all keep in mind exactly who their third negotiating partner is. And I say, as I said on the floor a few days ago: If Vladimir Putin keeps a promise that he makes to the United States in this regard, it will be the first time he has ever kept his word on any treaty, on any cease-fire. That is who we are dealing with. We have to deal with him, but that is who he is.

Vladimir Putin has shown us again who we are dealing with: a man willing to murder children in an attempt to pressure President Zelenskyy and President Trump.

I stand with President Trump and President Zelenskyy in facing down this murderous dictator.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### WAIVING QUORUM CALL

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Colby nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 56, Elbridge Colby, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

John Thune, John Barrasso, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John R. Curtis, Bernie Moreno, Pete Ricketts, Eric Schmitt, Jon A. Husted, Marsha Blackburn, Roger Marshall, Jim Justice, Tommy Tuberville, Bill Hagerty, Joni Ernst, James E. Risch, Tim Sheehy, David McCormick.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Elbridge Colby, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Utah (Mr. CURTIS) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 192 Leg.]

#### YEAS—53

Banks	Hagerty	Mullin
Barrasso	Hawley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hoeben	Paul
Boozman	Husted	Reed
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Ricketts
Budd	Johnson	Risch
Capito	Justice	Rounds
Cassidy	Kelly	Schmitt
Collins	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Slotkin
Cramer	Lummis	Sullivan
Crapo	Marshall	Thune
Daines	McConnell	Tillis
Ernst	McCormick	Tuberville
Fischer	Moody	Wicker
Graham	Moran	Young
Grassley	Moreno	

#### NAYS—39

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Schatz
Bennet	Kaine	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kim	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Smith
Coons	Lujan	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Markey	Warner
Duckworth	Merkley	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Gillibrand	Murray	Welch
Hassan	Padilla	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Peters	Wyden

#### NOT VOTING—8

Booker	Fetterman	Sanders
Cruz	Gallego	Sheehy
Curtis	Osoff	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays are 39.

The motion is agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Elbridge Colby, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

#### RECOGNIZING THE GREAT HALL OF ROYAL

● Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize The Great Hall of Royal of Royal, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 2018, Sara and Matt Ricke acquired the historic St. Louis Catholic Church in Royal, IA. The couple envisioned preserving the religious landmark while integrating modern touches to transform the former church into an event space. Originally from Sioux City, IA, Sara and Matt spent weekends traveling to Royal, dedicating countless hours to renovating the space. Within 1 year, their hard work paid off, and The Great Hall of Royal was ready for business. Today, the venue features sleek, elegant woodwork that enhances the historic charm for any event ranging from intimate private parties to weddings and fundraisers.

Over the years, The Great Hall of Royal has become a beloved destination for families and organizations across northwest Iowa. The company has dedicated staff members that help with the diverse needs of event coordination. As the primary owner and event coordinator, Sara personally oversees each event, ensuring guests have a seamless and enjoyable experience. The Great Hall of Royal's catering services began unexpectedly when a client requested on-site food service for a one-time event. The positive feedback led to frequent catering requests, and in 2021, the business officially launched its catering division. In 2023, The Great Hall of Royal catered its first wedding, marking a milestone for the business. This March, Sara and Matt welcomed their daughters Jackie, Lexi, and Becky into the company as partners. Each daughter plays a vital role, from website design to event coordination and guest services.

The Great Hall of Royal's commitment to serving the community shines beyond their investment in bringing joy to others through social gatherings. Sara and Matt remain deeply involved in the local community. Both are active members of the Spencer Chamber of Commerce, and Sara serves on the Tourism Committee while Matt contributes his expertise to the Agriculture Committee. Additionally, Sara serves on the board of the Clay County Long Term Recovery Group (CCLTRG), where she is helping to lead the effort to restore Spencer, IA, after the devastating floods the community endured in the summer of 2024. Sara and Matt also serve as volunteer firefighters, specializing in medical care. This October, The Great Hall of Royal will celebrate its fifth anniversary in Iowa.

The entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to excellence demonstrated by The Great Hall of Royal are clear. I want to congratulate Sara and Matt Ricke, their family, and the entire team for their hard work and dedication to providing an exceptional venue for families across Iowa. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States was communicated to

the Senate by Mr. Hanley, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

NOTICE OF CERTAIN ACTIONS TAKEN TO DEAL WITH THE UNUSUAL AND EXTRAORDINARY THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES' ECONOMY AND NATIONAL SECURITY POSED BY THE UNDERLYING CONDITIONS OF OUR TRADE WITH FOREIGN NATIONS, INCLUDING A LACK OF RECIPROCITY IN OUR BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONSHIPS, DISPARATE TARIFF RATES AND NON-TARIFF BARRIERS, AND FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICIES THAT SUPPRESS DOMESTIC WAGES AND CONSUMPTION, AS INDICATED BY LARGE AND PERSISTENT ANNUAL U.S. GOODS TRADE DEFICITS—PM 20

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Consistent with applicable law, including the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*) (NEA) and the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (IEEPA), I am providing notice of certain actions I have taken to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the United States' economy and national security posed by the underlying conditions of our trade with foreign nations, including a lack of reciprocity in our bilateral trade relationships, disparate tariff rates and non-tariff barriers, and foreign economic policies that suppress domestic wages and consumption, as indicated by large and persistent annual U.S. goods trade deficits. That threat has its source in whole or substantial part outside the United States in the domestic economic policies of key trading partners and structural imbalances in the global trading system. In my judgment, action under the NEA and IEEPA is necessary and appropriate to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and economy of the United States.

Executive Order 14257 of April 2, 2025 (Regulating Imports with a Reciprocal Tariff to Rectify Trade Practices that

Contribute to Large and Persistent Annual United States Goods Trade Deficits) (the "Executive Order"), declares a national emergency arising from non-reciprocal trade as evidenced by large and persistent annual U.S. goods trade deficits. Such trade deficits have led to the hollowing out of our manufacturing base; inhibited our ability to scale advanced domestic manufacturing capacity; undermined critical supply chains; and rendered our defense-industrial base dependent on foreign adversaries.

To deal with this national emergency, I have determined that it is necessary and appropriate to impose additional *ad valorem* duties on imports of goods from our trading partners under IEEPA. The additional *ad valorem* duties shall be imposed on imports of goods from all U.S. trading partners at varying rates, subject to exceptions specified in the Executive Order. The specific foreign trading partners, and the applicable duty rate for each trading partner, are listed in Annexes I and III of the Executive Order. It is necessary to apply additional duties on the imports of goods from all U.S. trading partners to reduce the overall U.S. global goods trade deficit and incentivize trading partners to take significant steps to remedy non-reciprocal trade practices, as well as align sufficiently with the United States on economic and national security matters.

My Administration will continue to consult with the Congress on our efforts to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat described in this report and the Executive Order. As described in the Executive Order, the United States Trade Representative, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Assistant to the President for Economic Policy, the Senior Counselor for Trade and Manufacturing, and the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, is authorized to submit recurring and final reports to the Congress on this national emergency.

The Executive Order further explains the circumstances that necessitate the exercise of authority under IEEPA and the NEA; why I found that those circumstances constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat, which has its source in whole or substantial part outside the United States, to the national security and economy of the United States; the authorities exercised and the actions to be taken to deal with those circumstances; why I determined that such actions are necessary to deal with those circumstances; and the foreign countries with respect to which such actions are to be taken and why such actions are to be taken with respect to those countries.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

DONALD J. TRUMP.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, April 7, 2025.