

service that Ken Crockett has dedicated to the State of West Virginia. For the last 11 years, Ken has served as the director of the West Virginia Japan Office in Nagoya, which sits in the Aichi Prefecture of Japan.

West Virginia has opened trade offices throughout the world in order to encourage economic relationships with our State. The Japan Office has helped draw a number of Japanese businesses to open new locations in West Virginia, as well as helped the businesses already in West Virginia export their products to Japan. In addition to the economic benefits of this relationship, the Japan office has facilitated a number of cultural and educational exchanges—all under Ken's leadership.

In Ken's years as director of the West Virginia Japan Office, our State and Japan have seen a dramatic, if not astronomical, rise in their economic relations. West Virginia is currently home to 19 Japanese companies that have created thousands of direct and indirect jobs for our State's citizens. Japanese investors have been, and continue to be, outstanding corporate citizens of West Virginia—contributing economically and culturally to the quality of the State.

I have seen Ken's work firsthand on a number of occasions in Japan on trade missions with various Governors. Ken's relationships and his presence in Nagoya have been very valuable for our development efforts. He operated with a strong dedication to our collective goals and an understanding of both Japan and West Virginia.

Very soon, Ken will be embarking on a new career with NGK Spark Plugs—West Virginia's first major Japanese investor—and a trailblazer for our State's Japanese automotive industry. Ken will bring to that job the same determination, commitment, and hard work ethic he brought to the State's economic development efforts. We look forward to working with him in his new position as we continue to strengthen our ties with our State's existing Japanese investors.

Mr. President, I thank the Senate and ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Ken's service to my State and wish him the best in his future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES WOFFORD

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Charles Wofford. Mr. Wofford is retiring from the position of Alabama area director of the Social Security Administration after over 45 years of dedicated service. He has served as the Area Director in Alabama since September 1979.

Mr. Wofford graduated from the University of Alabama in 1961 with a B.S. degree in biology. He began work with Social Security that same year as a claims representative trainee. He held additional increasingly responsible jobs as a claims authorizer, field representative, operations supervisor,

branch manager, assistant district manager, district manager, and has been an area director since April 1977 and came to Alabama in 1979 to serve as the Alabama area director at that time.

He is the senior area director in the United States, and has received numerous awards throughout his career for superior performance. He received a service award for spearheading an intense direct deposit campaign and a cash award in recognition of exemplary achievement in the area of DDS and field office relations. He has strived to build a strong management team and has worked to ensure that all employees are fully trained to perform to the best of their ability. He received the Deputy Commissioner's Citation for Outstanding Contributions as a member of the National Training Vision Workgroup.

I congratulate Mr. Wofford on his retirement. He has been a valued employee and wise mentor to many other employees. He enjoys traveling, and we wish him well in the future as he has more time to enjoy this favored pastime.●

HONORING DR. DAVID TAWEI LEE

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I wish to honor Dr. David Tawei Lee, who has been Taiwan's chief representative to the United States. Dr. Lee will be assuming his new post as Taiwan's top envoy in Canada this month, leaving his post in Washington to take on this new role in Ottawa.

I have known David for decades, and he has been a staunch ally and strong advocate for West Virginia. He has helped me, and our State, to make inroads in the Taiwanese economy and has been instrumental in the continuing success of businesses with roots in both Taiwan and West Virginia. This ongoing economic relationship is enormously important for both sides and has allowed West Virginia to continue to grow its burgeoning aviation industry and to explore business opportunities we never thought possible.

As a result of the hard work of Representative LEE and others, Sino Swearingen Aircraft Company continues its push toward mass production of one of the most impressive business jets in the world. In addition, in my personal interactions with David, he has always been straightforward, honest, compassionate, and well-informed. I knew he would level with me during any difficult time and that I could count on him to fairly and accurately relay the results of our meetings to his people.

Representative LEE has worked hard during the last 2½ years to renew and strengthen the political, economic, and social ties that bind the United States and Taiwan. On many difficult occasions, David Lee has risen to the challenge, and as Taiwan's Chief Representative to the United States he has given

countless hours assisting lawmakers, administration officials, and the private sector in understanding the complex relationship between our people and ensuring that our longstanding friendship continues.

Representative LEE was educated at the National Taiwan University and received his Ph.D. in foreign affairs from the University of Virginia. David is a true democrat, firmly committed to the principles of democracy and capitalism. He has been an asset for both Taiwan and the United States, and he has served Taiwan with honor, integrity, and distinction.

Dr. Lee's record of distinguished public service to his people spans more than two decades. He began his career at the Coordination Council for North American Affairs, Office in Washington, DC, in 1982 as a staff consultant and soon rose to various important posts in Taiwan's foreign ministry. From 1997 to 1998, he was Director-General, Government Information Office, and Government spokesman for Taiwan. From 1998 to 2001, he served as Deputy Foreign Minister; from 2001 to 2004, he was Taiwan's Representative to the European Union, stationed in Belgium. Since the summer of 2004, he has served as the Republic of China's chief representative in the United States.

Our loss here in Washington will be Canada's gain. In his new role as Taiwan's representative to Canada, David will continue to be a strong advocate for policies that will encourage expanded trade and a continuing good relationship between Taiwan and the rest of the world. Again, I would like to take this opportunity to wish Representative and Madame Lee the very best of luck. They are our good friends, and we will miss them.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The following message from the President of the United States was transmitted to the Senate by one of his secretaries:

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAQ AS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13303 OF MAY 22, 2003, AS RECEIVED DURING THE RECESS OF THE SENATE ON MAY 18, 2007—PM 15

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 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication. This notice states that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003, as modified in scope and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13315 of August 28, 2003, Executive Order 13350 of July 29, 2004, and Executive Order 13364 of November 29, 2004, is to continue in effect beyond May 22, 2007.

The threats of attachment or other judicial process against (i) the Development Fund for Iraq, (ii) Iraqi petroleum and petroleum products, and interests therein, and proceeds, obligations, or any financial instruments of any nature whatsoever arising from or related to the sale or marketing thereof, and interests therein, or (iii) any accounts, assets, investments, or any other property of any kind owned by, belonging to, or held by, on behalf of, or otherwise for the Central Bank of Iraq obstruct the orderly reconstruction of Iraq. These threats also impede the restoration and maintenance of peace and security and the development of political, administrative, and economic institutions in Iraq. These threats continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Accordingly, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency protecting the Development Fund for Iraq, certain other property in which Iraq has an interest, and the Central Bank of Iraq and maintain in force the measures to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH,
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 18, 2007.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which

it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 43. Joint resolution increasing the statutory limit on the public debt.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following joint resolution was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.J. Res. 43. Joint resolution increasing the statutory limit on the public debt; to the Committee on Finance.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1962. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Aspergillus flavus AF36 on Pistachio; Temporary Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 8129-4) received on May 18, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1963. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coumaphos; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL No. 8131-4) received on May 18, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1964. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Famoxadone; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL No. 8128-6) received on May 18, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1965. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Propanil, Phenmedipham, Triallate, and MCPA; Tolerance Actions" (FRL No. 8126-6) received on May 18, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1966. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mexican Fruit Fly; Addition of Quarantined Area" (Docket No. APHIS-2007-0051) received on May 18, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1967. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, a legislative proposal that would shift funding for the research, development, and maintenance of information technology functions of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation from the Government to the insurance companies participating in the program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1968. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the National Guard Counterdrug Schools; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1969. A communication from the Associate Director, Office of Foreign Assets Con-

trol, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Former Liberian Regime of Charles Taylor Sanctions Regulations" (31 C.F.R. Part 593) received on May 17, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1970. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, the report of a draft bill intended to "amend the Mineral Leasing Act to provide for Net Receipts Sharing and for other purposes"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1971. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference" (FRL No. 8313-2) received on May 18, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1972. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Georgia; Removal of Douglas County Transportation Control Measure; Correcting Amendment" (FRL No. 8317-3) received on May 18, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1973. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule on the Treatment of Data Influenced by Exceptional Events; Correction" (FRL No. 8316-5) received on May 18, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1974. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Listing of Substitutes for Ozone-Depleting Substances-n-Propyl Bromide in Solvent Cleaning" ((RIN2060-A010)(FRL No. 8316-8)) received on May 18, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1975. A communication from the Chairman, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences: Fiscal Year 2006"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1976. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Statistical Sampling for Purposes of Section 199" (Rev. Proc. 2007-35) received on May 17, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1977. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Qualifying In-Kind Partnerships Involving Mining" (Rev. Rul. 2007-30) received on May 17, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1978. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Universal Service Support" (Rev. Rul. 2007-31) received on May 17, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.