REPORT ON NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA (UNITA)—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107–125)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1621(c), and section 1294(e) of the national Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit hereewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) that was declared in Executive Order 12965 of September 26, 1993.

George W. Bush

BLOCKING PROPERTY AND PROHIBITING TRANSACTIONS WITH PERSONS WHO COMMIT, THREATEN, OR CONDUCT TERRORISM—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107–126)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 204(b) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(b) (IEEPA), and section 301 of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1621, I hereby report that I have exercised my statutory authority to declare a national emergency in response to the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States by grave acts of terrorism and threats of terrorism committed by foreign terrorists, including the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center, New York, at the Pentagon, and in Pennsylvania. I have also issued an Executive Order to help deal with this threat by giving the United States more powerful tools to reach the means by which terrorists and terrorist networks finance themselves and to encourage greater cooperation by foreign financial institutions and other entities that may have access to foreign property belonging to terrorists or terrorist organizations.

The attacks of September 11, 2001, highlighted in the most tragic way the threat posed to the security and national interests of the United States by terrorists who have abandoned any regard for humanity, decency, morality, or honor. Those terrorist networks operate across international borders and derive their financing from sources in many nations. Often, terrorist property and financial assets lie outside the jurisdiction of the United States. Our efforts to disrupt and destroy the financial underpinnings of global terrorism must therefore be broad, and not only provide powerful sanctions against the U.S. property of terrorists and their supporters, but also encourage multilateral cooperation in identifying and freezing property and assets located elsewhere.

This Executive Order is part of our national commitment to lead the international effort to bring a halt to the evil of terrorist activity. In general the order permits actions by which to disrupt the financial support network for terrorist organizations by blocking the U.S. assets not only of foreign persons or entities who commit or pose a significant risk of committing acts of terrorism, but also by blocking the assets of their subsidiaries, front organizations, agents, and associates, and any other entities that provide services or assistance to them. Although the blocking powers enumerated in the order are broad, the Administration is committed to exercising them responsibly, with due regard for the culpability or the persons and entities potentially covered by the order, and in consultation with other countries.

The specific terms of the Executive Order provide for the blocking of the property and interests in property, including bank deposits, of foreign persons designated in the order or pursuant thereto, when such property or interest is in the possession or control of United States persons. In addition, the Executive Order prohibits any transaction or dealing by United States persons in such property or interests in property, including the making or receiving of any contribution of funds, good, or services to or for the benefit of such designated persons.

I have identified in an Annex to this order eleven terrorist organizations, twelve individuals terrorist leaders, three charitable or humanitarian organizations that operate as fronts for terrorist financing and support, and one business entity that operates as a front for terrorist financing and support. I have determined that each of these organizations and individuals have committed or pose a significant risk of committing acts of terrorism that imperil the security of the United States or the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States. I have also authorized the Secretary of State to determine and designate additional foreign persons who have committed or pose a significant risk of committing acts or terrorism that threaten the security of the United States or the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States. Such designations are to be made in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General.

The Executive Order further authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to identify, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, additional persons or entities that:

Are owned or controlled by, or that act for or on behalf of, those persons designated in or pursuant to the order;

Assist in, sponsor, or provide financial, material, or technological support for, financial or other services to or in support of acts of terrorism or those persons designated in or pursuant to the order; or

Are otherwise associated with those persons designated in or pursuant to the order.

Prior to designating persons that fall within the latter two categories, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to consult with any foreign authorities the Secretary of State deems appropriate, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General. Such consultation is intended to avoid the need for additional designations by securing bilateral or multilateral cooperation from foreign governments and foreign financial and other institutions. Such consultation may include requests to foreign governments to seek, in accordance with international law and their domestic laws, information from financial institutions regarding terrorist property and to take action to deny terrorists the use of such property. The order also provides broad authority, with respect to the latter two categories, for the Secretary of the Treasury, in his discretion, to consult with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General, to take lesser action than the complete blocking of property or interests in property if such lesser action is deemed consistent with the national interests of the United States. Some of the factors that may be considered in deciding whether a lesser action against a foreign person is consistent with the national interests of the United States include:

The impact of blocking on the U.S. or international financial system;

The extent to which the foreign person has cooperated with U.S. authorities;

The degree of knowledge the foreign person had of the terrorist-related activities of the designated person; and

The extent of the relationship between the foreign person and the designated person; and

The impact of blocking or other measures on the foreign person.

The Executive Order also directs the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and other agencies to
make all relevant efforts to cooperate and coordinate with other countries, including through existing and future multilateral and bilateral agreements and arrangements, to achieve the objectives of this order, including the prevention and suppression of acts of terrorism, the denial of the financial and financial services to terrorists and terrorist organizations, and the sharing of information about funding activities in support of terrorism.

In the Executive Order, I also have made determinations to suspend otherwise applicable exemptions for certain humanitarian, medical, or agricultural transfers or donations. Regrettably, international terrorist networks make frequent use of charitable or humanitarian organizations to obtain clandestine financial and other support for their activities. If these exemptions were not suspended, the provision of humanitarian materials could be used as a loophole through which support could be provided to individuals or groups involved with terrorism and where activities endanger the safety of United States nationals, both here and abroad.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, is authorized to issue regulations in exercise of my authorities under IEEPA to implement the prohibitions set forth in the Executive Order. All Federal agencies are also directed to take actions within their authority to carry out the provisions of the order, and, where applicable, to advise the Secretary of the Treasury in a timely manner of the measures taken.

The measures taken here will immediately demonstrate our resolve to bring new strength to bear in our multifaceted struggle to eradicate international terrorism. It is my hope that the way for civilized nations to adopt similar measures to attack the financial roots of global networks.

In that regard, this Executive Order is an integral part of our larger effort to form a coalition in the global war against terrorism. We have already worked with nations around the globe and groups such as the G–8, the European Union, and the Rio Group, all of which have issued strong statements of their intention to take measures to attack the financial roots of global networks. The Executive Order, I also have made determinations to suspend otherwise applicable exemptions for certain humanitarian, medical, or agricultural transfers or donations. Regrettably, international terrorist networks make frequent use of charitable or humanitarian organizations to obtain clandestine financial and other support for their activities. If these exemptions were not suspended, the provision of humanitarian materials could be used as a loophole through which support could be provided to individuals or groups involved with terrorism and where activities endanger the safety of United States nationals, both here and abroad.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, is authorized to issue regulations in exercise of my authorities under IEEPA to implement the prohibitions set forth in the Executive Order. All Federal agencies are also directed to take actions within their authority to carry out the provisions of the order, and, where applicable, to advise the Secretary of the Treasury in a timely manner of the measures taken.

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In that regard, this Executive Order is an integral part of our larger effort to form a coalition in the global war against terrorism. We have already worked with nations around the globe and groups such as the G–8, the European Union, and the Rio Group, all of which have issued strong statements of their intention to take measures to limit the ability of terrorist groups to operate. In the next several weeks the 33rd Session of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) General Assembly and other fora will focus on terrorism worldwide. It is our intention to insist on the G–7/G–8, the ICAO, and other fora to reach agreement on strong concrete steps that will limit the ability of terrorist groups to operate. In the G–7/G–8, the United States will work with its partners, drawing on the G–8 Lyon Group on Transnational Crime, the G–8 Group on Counter-Terrorism, the G–7 Financial Action Task Force, and the existing G–8 commitments to build momentum and practical cooperation in the fight to stop the flow of resources to support terrorism. We have both the Conventions for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and the Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings have been forwarded to the Senate, and I will be forwarding shortly to the Congress a financing legislation for both Conventions.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued, This order is effective at 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on September 24, 2001.

GEORGE W. BUSH.


RECOGNIZING SARGENT SHRIVER WITH CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

(Mr. FARR of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a Congressional Gold Medal resolution for Sargent Shriver who was the first director of the Peace Corps. I do this with my coposponsors, former members of the United States Peace Corps, myself, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL), the gentleman from New York (Mr. WALSH), the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA), and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. Pritzker).

I also do it on behalf of the 163,000 volunteers who have served the United States Government in over 135 countries. I also do this based on what I did Saturday which was to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Peace Corps here in Washington, but then on Sunday I went to the World Trade Center, ground zero in New York City, so I saw peace on Saturday and war on Sunday.

I view the destruction with a renewed resolve to rebuild the Peace Corps in order to better understand the world cultures, the world languages and the world differences.

Mr. Speaker, what better way than to authorize the President to present Sargent Shriver with a Congressional Gold Medal to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Peace Corps in recognition of its founding father.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true American hero. America owes Tom Burnett, Jr., a deep debt of gratitude for his bravery on September 11. Indeed, the Members of this body may owe their very lives to Tom Burnett, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, Tom Burnett, who grew up in Bloomington, Minnesota in the Third Congressional District, which I am privileged to represent, was aboard United Flight 93 on that darkest of days for our Nation. Tom was among the small group of passengers who confronted the hijackers that fateful morning. Department officials believe Flight 93 was headed for a target here in Washington, most likely the White House or the Capitol.

Tom was able to reach his wife, Deena, on his cell phone from the plane. She told him that other hijacked planes had crashed into the World Trade Center towers and the Pentagon.

Mr. Speaker, that is exactly what Tom Burnett did. His courage and sacrifice foiled the hijackers’ plans of mass destruction. Without regard to his own safety, Tom helped save countless lives.

In recent days, after listening to the tape from the black box, law enforcement officials have described a desperate struggle aboard the plane. As FBI Director Mueller said after being briefed on the contents of the tape, and I am quoting, “We believe those passengers were absolute heroes, and their actions during this flight were heroic.”

Mr. Speaker, Tom Burnett, Jr. has shown this kind of selfless leadership many times before. As a quarterback at Thomas Jefferson High School in Bloomington, Minnesota, Tom’s inspired play led his team to the conference championship game in 1980, the only game they lost that season. The team that beat them won the State title, in fact. He was also a leader in his remarkable business career, as chief operating officer for a medical device manufacturer in California.

No one who knew Tom Burnett is surprised at his heroism.

His football coach in high school, Bruno Waldner, said, “Tom, if anybody, would have the type of character to do that. He didn’t have to get up. He took everybody up another level. He was on an average football team that went on to play over their heads. And they almost won a championship.”

Congressman Ramstad said: “Tom was a man of action. If he knew that he could have any potential beneficial effect and he knew what the odds were, he would have taken action.” Another business associate said: “This was very much in character for Tom Burnett. He’s just the type of man he was.”