

Lazio of New York. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Ambassador Portman.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Burma

May 17, 2005

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. I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, which states that the Burma emergency is to continue beyond May 20, 2005. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on May 19, 2004 (69 *FR* 29041).

The crisis between the United States and Burma arising from the actions and policies of the Government of Burma that led to

the declaration of a national emergency on May 20, 1997, has not been resolved. These actions and policies, including its policies of committing large-scale repression of the democratic opposition in Burma, are hostile to U.S. interests and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency with respect to Burma and maintain in force the sanctions against Burma to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
May 17, 2005.

NOTE: The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks at the Republican National Committee Dinner

May 17, 2005

Thank you all very much. Thanks for coming. Thanks for coming. Please be seated. [*Laughter*] Thank you for the warm welcome. Thank you for supporting the Republican Party. I am proud to be here today to not only offer my thanks but to remind you that our party has a positive, hopeful, optimistic vision for every single person who is fortunate enough to be an American.

We are driving the debate on all key domestic and foreign policy issues. Because of our achievements, the American people see the Republican Party as the party of reform and optimism, the party of ideals and vision. And one of the reasons I asked Ken Mehlman to serve as the chairman of our party is because he is a man of vision; he is an idealistic soul. He is willing to take our message to every neighborhood