

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 29

Expressing the opposition of Congress to any deployment of United States ground forces in Kosovo, a province in the Republic of Serbia, for peacemaking or peacekeeping purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 1999

Mrs. FOWLER (for herself, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. STEARNS, Mrs. BONO, Mr. WICKER, Mr. MCCOLLUM, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. CHENOWETH, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. HILLEARY, and Mr. FOLEY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the opposition of Congress to any deployment of United States ground forces in Kosovo, a province in the Republic of Serbia, for peacemaking or peacekeeping purposes.

Whereas President Clinton is contemplating the introduction of United States ground forces into Kosovo as part of a larger North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) operation to conduct peacemaking or peacekeeping between hostile parties in Kosovo, and these United States ground forces may be subject to foreign command;

Whereas Kosovo, unlike Bosnia, is a province in the Republic of Serbia, a sovereign state;

Whereas United States national security interests in Kosovo do not rise to a level that warrants the introduction of United States ground forces;

Whereas an Act of Congress is necessary for the introduction of the Armed Forces of the United States into hostilities or situations where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, when such action is not required for the defense of the United States, its Armed Forces, or its nationals;

Whereas the Secretary of Defense, William Cohen, has opposed the deployment of ground forces in Kosovo, as reflected in his testimony before Congress on October 6, 1998;

Whereas the lessons of United States military involvement in Bosnia clearly argue that the costs and duration of any such deployment for peacekeeping purposes will be much heavier and much longer than initially foreseen; and

Whereas the substantial drain on military readiness of a deployment in Kosovo would be inconsistent with the need, recently acknowledged by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to reverse the trends which are decimating the ability of the Armed Forces of the United States to carry out the basic National Military Strategy of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring)*, That Congress hereby expresses its opposition
 3 to any deployment of United States ground forces into the

- 1 Serbian province of Kosovo for peacemaking or peacekeep-
- 2 ing purposes.

