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S. CON. RES. 27

Establishing the policy of the United States toward NATO's Washington Summit.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 19, 1999

Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. ROTH, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. HAGEL) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Establishing the policy of the United States toward NATO's Washington Summit.

Whereas the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary at a historic summit meeting in Washington, D.C., commencing on April 23, 1999;

Whereas NATO, the only military alliance with both real defense capabilities and a transatlantic membership, has successfully defended the territory and interest of its members over the last 50 years, prevailed in the Cold War, and contributed to the spread of freedom, democracy, stability, and peace throughout Europe;

Whereas NATO remains a vital national security interest of the United States;

Whereas NATO is currently conducting military operations against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to further the objective of a lasting peace in Kosovo;

Whereas NATO enhances the security of the United States by embedding European states in a process of cooperative security planning, by preventing the destabilizing re-nationalization of European military policies, and by ensuring an ongoing and direct leadership role for the United States in European security affairs;

Whereas the enlargement of NATO, a defensive alliance, threatens no nation and reinforces peace and stability in Europe, and provides benefits to all nations;

Whereas Article 10 of the North Atlantic Treaty states that “any other European state in a position to further the principles of this Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area” is eligible to be granted NATO membership;

Whereas the July 1998 communique of the NATO Summit in Madrid reaffirmed that “NATO remains open to new members under Article X of the North Atlantic Treaty” and stated that “the Alliance expects to extend further invitations in coming years to nations willing and able to assume the responsibilities and obligations of membership”;

Whereas the accession to NATO by Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary will strengthen the military capabilities of NATO, enhance security and stability in Central

and Eastern Europe, and thereby advance the interests of the United States and NATO;

Whereas Congress has repeatedly endorsed the enlargement of NATO with bipartisan majorities;

Whereas the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, a multinational body composed of delegations from the member states of the North Atlantic Treaty, has called for NATO to welcome new members through the adoption of Resolution 283 of 1998, entitled “Recasting Euro-Atlantic Security: Towards the Washington Summit”;

Whereas additional democracies of Central and Eastern Europe have applied for NATO membership;

Whereas the enlargement of NATO must be a careful, deliberate process with consideration of all security interests;

Whereas the selection of new members should depend on NATO’s strategic interests, potential threats to security and stability, and actions taken by prospective members to complete the transition to democracy and to harmonize policies with NATO’s political, economic, and military guidelines established by the 1995 NATO Study on Enlargement;

Whereas NATO must consider and debate the qualifications and potential ramifications of new members on a country-by-country basis;

Whereas the accession of Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary to NATO is an important step in the post-Cold War era toward a Europe that is truly whole, undivided, free, and at peace and must be complemented by the extension of NATO membership to other qualified democracies of Central and Eastern Europe;

Whereas extending NATO membership to other qualified democracies will strengthen NATO, enhance security and stability, deter potential aggressors, and thereby advance the interests of the United States and its NATO allies;

Whereas, because participation in missions under Article 4 of the North Atlantic Treaty is not obligatory and each NATO member is free to make an independent decision regarding participation in those missions, the United States and other NATO members are able to decide on the basis of their interests and an independent assessment of the situation whether to participate;

Whereas NATO's continued success requires a credible military capability to deter and respond to common threats;

Whereas, building on its core capabilities for collective self-defense of its members, NATO will ensure that its military force structure, defense planning, command structures, and force goals promote NATO's capacity to project power when the security of a NATO member is threatened, and provide a basis for ad hoc coalitions of willing partners among NATO members;

Whereas the members of NATO face new threats, including conflict in the North Atlantic area stemming from historic, ethnic, and religious enmities, the potential for the reemergence of a hegemonic power confronting Europe, rogue states and nonstate actors possessing weapons of mass destruction, and threats to the wider interests of the NATO members (including the disruption of the flow of vital resources);

Whereas this will require that NATO members possess national military capabilities to rapidly deploy forces over long distances, sustain operations for extended periods of

time, and operate jointly with the United States in high intensity conflicts; and

1 Whereas the principal effect of upgraded capabilities for
2 NATO members to operate “out of area” with force
3 improvements for power projection will be to make
4 NATO members more effective American partners in
5 supporting mutual interests around the globe: Now,
6 therefore, be it

7 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
8 *concurring), That (a) Congress—*

9 (1) regards the political independence and terri-
10 torial integrity of the emerging democracies in Cen-
11 tral and Eastern Europe as vital to European peace
12 and security and, thus, to the interests of the United
13 States;

14 (2) endorses the commitment of the North At-
15 lantic Council that NATO will remain open to the
16 accession of further members in accordance with Ar-
17 ticle 10 of the North Atlantic Treaty;

18 (3) believes all NATO members should commit
19 to improving their respective defense capabilities so
20 that NATO can project power decisively within and
21 outside NATO borders in a manner that achieves
22 transatlantic parity in power projection capabilities
23 and facilitates equitable burdensharing among
24 NATO members; and

1 (4) believes that NATO should prepare more
2 vigorously to defend itself against future threats and
3 to expand its primary defensive focus beyond its pre-
4 vious concentration on threats to the east.

5 (b) It is the sense of Congress that—

6 (1) the North Atlantic Council should pace, not
7 pause, the process of NATO enlargement by extend-
8 ing the invitation of membership to those states able
9 to meet the guidelines established by the 1995
10 NATO Study on Enlargement and should do so on
11 a country-by-country basis;

12 (2) the North Atlantic Council in the course of
13 the 1999 Washington Summit should initiate a for-
14 mal review of all pending applications for NATO
15 membership in order to establish the degree to which
16 such applications conform to the guidelines for mem-
17 bership established by the 1995 NATO Study on
18 Enlargement;

19 (3) the results of this formal review should be
20 presented to the membership of the North Atlantic
21 Council in May 2000 with recommendations con-
22 cerning enlargement;

23 (4) NATO should continue to assess potential
24 applicants for NATO membership on a continuous
25 basis; and

1 (5) the President, the Secretary of State, and
2 the Secretary of Defense should fully use their of-
3 fices to encourage the NATO allies of the United
4 States to commit the resources necessary to upgrade
5 their capabilities to rapidly deploy forces over long
6 distances, sustain operations for extended periods of
7 time, and operate jointly with the United States in
8 high intensity conflicts, thus making them effective
9 American partners in supporting mutual interests.

10 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

11 In this concurrent resolution:

12 (1) DEMOCRACIES OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN
13 EUROPE.—The term “democracies of Central and
14 Eastern Europe” means those nations that have ap-
15 plied or have registered their intent to apply for
16 membership in NATO, including Albania, Bulgaria,
17 Estonia, Macedonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania,
18 Slovakia, and Slovenia.

19 (2) NATO.—The term “NATO” means those
20 nations that are parties to the North Atlantic Trea-
21 ty.

22 (3) NATO MEMBER.—The term “NATO mem-
23 ber” means any country that is a party to the North
24 Atlantic Treaty.

1 (4) NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY.—The term
2 “North Atlantic Treaty” means the North Atlantic
3 Treaty, signed at Washington on April 4, 1949 (63
4 Stat. 2241; TIAS 1964).

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