

mention of it in our history books. It is not taught to our children in school. And now, the Turkish Government is funding Chairs of Turkish history at prestigious American universities in order to cleanse its image and deny its past. For example, the Republic of Turkey endowed Princeton University with \$1.5 million for its Atatürk Chair of Turkish Studies. The professor who holds this chair is the former executive director of a Turkish institute that works to discredit scholarship which mentions the Armenian genocide.

However, my colleagues and I are here today to let the Armenian people know that we will not forget. We will not forget the aggression of the Ottoman Empire against innocent lives, particularly those of women and children. We will not forget that when the genocide ended, half of the world's Armenian population had been decimated. We will not forget that by 1923, the Turks had successfully erased nearly all remnants of the Armenian culture which had existed in their homeland for 3,000 years.

I stand here today to say that the genocide did happen. Nobody can erase the painful memories of the Armenian community. Nobody can deny the photos and historical references. Nobody can deny that few Armenians live where millions lived over 80 years ago. It is our responsibility and our duty to keep the memories of this tragedy alive. A world that forgets these tragedies is a world that will see them repeated again and again.

We cannot right the terrible injustice inflicted upon the Armenian community and we can never heal the wounds. But by properly commemorating this tragedy, Armenians will be at least know the world has not forgotten the misery of those years. Only then will Armenians begin to receive the justice they deserve.

CONDEMNING THE MASSACRE IN AUSTRALIA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 1996

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest sympathies to the families and friends of the 35 people who were killed this past Sunday in Australia. Allegedly killed by a 28-year-old man with a history of mental illness, the killer was random and deadly with his rifle. The victims were visiting a popular tourist site in the Australian state of Tasmania when their day was interrupted by this horror.

Mr. Speaker, it is tragedy enough when one person is shot and killed. However, it is nearly unthinkable to have 35 dead and have the lives of many more changed forever because of this violence. The victims ranged in age from 3 to 72 and came from all parts of the world. On behalf of the people of the State of Florida and the entire United States, I extend my sincere condolences to the people of Australia and to all those who mourn this tragedy.

TRIBUTE TO ANDREW P. HOGAN

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 1996

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a man who devoted much of his life to helping and improving the lives of others through his dedication to the fire service. Andrew P. Hogan, a lifelong member of the fire service, passed away recently in his home in Woodlyn, PA on April 20, 1996.

A member of the fire service for over 40 years, Andy was a key leader in the State and national effort to improve the public's recognition of the fire community. Andy served as a lifetime member of the Woodlyn and Milmont fire companies, belonged to the board of directors of the Milmont fire company, and was active in the Pennsylvania State Firemen's Association, the Pennsylvania State Fire Police Association, the Keystone State Fire Chief's Association, and the Delaware County Fire Police Association.

During his many years of service, Andy was honored for his dedication and work on numerous occasions. In 1980, he was named Fireman of the Year by Ridley Township. Andy was also honored in 1991 by the Pennsylvania State Firemen's Association who awarded him first place in their Fire Prevention Awards.

Andy took great pride in his involvement in the fire community. Because of his efforts, the fire service in Pennsylvania and throughout the United States is better off. Mr. Speaker, I know you and my colleagues join me today in celebrating the many accomplishments and achievements of Andrew Hogan and in honoring his memory.

CLINTON PUTS FRUITS OF COLD WAR VICTORY AT RISK

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD an excellent analysis of the failures of the Clinton administration in Europe by retired Gen. William Odom.

For over 3 years, I and other Republicans have been warning of the dangers inherent in appeasement, the preferred policy of this administration. As General Odom notes, Clinton's appeasement of Russia on the question of NATO expansion puts at risk the fruits of our victory in the cold war.

What is so astonishing, Mr. Speaker, is the Clinton administration's stubborn refusal to adapt its NATO or Russia policies to the changing realities in the region. Four years ago, Russia was led by a team of young reformers determined to set Russia on a path toward democratic, free market modernity. It is these reformers whom the Clinton administration ostensibly wanted to help when it announced its massive and poorly thought out aid proposals in 1993. It is these reformers whom the Clinton administration ostensibly wanted to help when it began appeasing Russia at every turn in 1993, claming that confronting Russia would embolden the hardliners.

Well today, not one of these reformers from 1992 and 1993, not one, remains in power. The hardliners we tried to discourage a few years ago are in control and are very much emboldened. Yet despite the fact that the resurgence of these hardliners has occurred in an atmosphere of unmitigated appeasement, the response of the Clinton administration has been, well, more appeasement.

Where does this leave us? With our NATO alliance adrift. With our friends in Central Europe in limbo. With a dangerous strategic vacuum in a historically unstable region. With a Russian Government peopled entirely by ex-Communist apparatchiks whose commitment to democracy and the free market was unknown until the Clinton administration said it was so. With the U.S. taxpayer on the hook for billions of dollars which have disappeared into a black hole. And with a Russia whose foreign and military policies become more reactionary and anti-Western by the day.

In sum, Mr. Speaker, it leaves us, as General Odom puts it, with the fruits of victory in the cold war at risk.

[From the Washington Post, Apr. 28, 1996]

WE'RE RIGHT TO BE WARY

(By William E. Odom)

Europe, from the Oder River to the Ural Mountains, may appear placid, but it is fast becoming a strategic vacuum, conducive to violence and competitive diplomacy that could eventually cause major instabilities. Only U.S. leadership can reverse this trend. But on the two central issues in the region—Bosnia and the expansion of NATO—the Clinton administration dallies and speaks in contradictory language.

The proper U.S. strategy to cope with the challenge of peaceful European realignment is simple. It consists of keeping the NATO peacekeeping forces in Bosnia long after their scheduled withdrawal in December, and of a limited expansion of NATO into central Europe. As Clausewitz observed, everything in strategy is simple but very difficult. The longer the United States hesitates in central Europe, the more difficult the challenge.

At risk are the fruits of victory in the Cold War. During the years 1989-91; Europe experienced its largest strategic realignment in history. Not only was Germany reunified and kept in NATO, but Soviet military forces completely withdrew from eastern Europe. All such earlier realignments involved wars. Thus far, this one has only catalyzed small military conflicts in the Balkans—and in the Caucasus not traditionally considered part of Europe. The key was the U.S. presence in Europe. Without aggressive U.S. diplomacy, Germany might never have been reunified, much less kept in NATO.

But this achievement, while difficult to exaggerate, is still incomplete. The West must now contain and resolve the Balkan wars and consolidate the new democratic states of central Europe against resurgent Russian ambitions. The Clinton administration's approach to these two issues is not reassuring.

Rhetorically, Clinton has defined the Bosnian issue well. He told the American people that the establishment of a stable Bosnian government is the primary goal of the NATO deployment and a critical U.S. strategic interest. The architect of the Bosnian peace agreement, Richard Holbrooke, added the logical corollary: "We cannot afford to fail." But Clinton remains committed to withdrawing the NATO peacekeeping forces by December (even if U.S. officials now acknowledge that some troops will stay longer). After that, the director of the Defense Intelligence Agency has warned, the opposing forces are likely to partition

the country and then resume fighting. If withdrawal may well lead to another war, why does the Clinton administration remain committed to it.

Similarly, Secretary of State Warren Christopher has recently told Russian leaders that NATO expansion will go forward but was ambiguous about the timing. Such hesitation gives Russian hard-liners time to whip up domestic public fears and to pursue a diplomacy aimed at defeating the expansion.

Moscow has already succeeded in prodding German chancellor Helmut Kohl to retreat on the issue. He had been for it but recently called for taking it off the current agenda in light of Moscow's attitude. To be sure, the impact of Russian policy in Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia has been largely negative. When Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov visited Hungary last month, he demanded that Hungary desist from joining NATO; Hungarian Foreign Minister Laszlo Kovacs refused, reiterating Hungary's desire to enter the western alliance. Primakov was sufficiently jolted, to leave the door slightly ajar for a "compromise," "taking into account the concerns of all sides." But how long can these governments withstand Russian pressure? What alternatives will they be forced to seek?

Opponents of NATO's expansion say that the central European states should be satisfied with membership in the European Union and its security sub-group, the Western European Union. As these countries are beginning to realize, the European Union is setting economic criteria for admission that they cannot meet in this decade, and perhaps not in the next. They are likely to react by pushing much harder for early admission to NATO. If they don't get it, the only alternative for central European countries would be accommodation to Russian demands.

The hesitant U.S. policy on NATO expansion reflects anything but strong U.S. leadership. Why the delay? Several technical reasons have been advanced. The armies of these countries are insufficiently modernized to meet NATO standards. The military costs to their weak economies are too high at present. The cost to the United States of accepting the defense of these countries is too high. These arguments are mostly spurious.

The external military threat to the region is so small that it imposes virtually no risk to the United States and its NATO allies for years to come. Moreover, the cost of defending the eastern border of Poland is far less than the cost of defending the inter-German border during the Cold War. And what about the more distant eastern border of Turkey we are now committed to defend? Nor is there good reason to demand that the Polish, Czech, and Hungarian armies meet NATO standards in the short term. Spain joined NATO without being able to meet them. And some countries already in NATO hardly meet them.

The real reason for hesitating on NATO expansion is fear of Russia's reaction. Admitting even three, maybe four central European countries, some administration officials believe, will strengthen Russian hard-liners, divide Europe, and provoke a milder version of the Cold War. This fear should be taken seriously—but only because the administration's policy of forbearance on NATO expansion is encouraging Russian beligerence.

In the summer of 1993, Russian President Boris Yeltsin told the Polish and Czech governments that they could join NATO if they desired. He returned home and reversed his position under pressure from hard-liners in his military and in the parliament. This apparently convinced the administration that postponing NATO expansion would strength-

en Yeltsin and his liberal advisers. During the subsequent two and a half years, those advisers have been replaced by hard-liners, and Yeltsin now sounds like the Russian defense minister, Gen. Pavel Grachev, the ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy and the Communist leader, Gennady Zyuganov, all of whose bash NATO expansion. In other words, hesitation has strengthened precisely those Russian leaders it was intended to weaken. If Russia's intentions beyond its current borders are in doubt, the Duma's non-binding rejection in March of the treaty ending the Soviet Union should clarify Moscow's aims; today the restoration of the Soviet Union, tomorrow Russian hegemony over central Europe.

Most American opponents of NATO expansion insist that no Russian, now favors NATO expansion. This, of course, is true. The climate of intimidation that delaying expansion has allowed to develop in Moscow makes it unsafe to express honest views on the matter. In a recent visit to Moscow, I was told by two former government officials that the United States should expand NATO quickly right after the June presidential elections. That would take the air out of the balloons of the Russian hard-liners, and they would soon come to accept it. My interlocutors also confirmed my suspicions about the climate of intimidation that prevents them and others from speaking out in favor of NATO expansion.

All this is not to say that NATO expansion is simple. Legitimate questions can be raised about the security of countries not included, particularly Ukraine and the Baltic states. Still, leaders in all of these countries privately concede that a limited NATO expansion is better for them than none, especially if additional future expansion is not ruled out in principle.

The main purpose of NATO expansion is not primarily military protection for new members but to provide an umbrella that engenders confidence among democratic and market reformers and intimidates extreme nationalists who might try to exploit ethnic minority sentiments in the way former Yugoslav communists used them to create the war in Slovenia, Croatia, and Bosnia.

The opportunities for nationalist provocation are real. A large number of Hungarians live uneasily in southern Slovakia, in Romanian Transylvania and in northern Serbia. Russia has been pressing Poland for a ground corridor to its Kaliningrad enclave on the Baltic Sea (formerly East Prussia). A Polish minority lives in Lithuania, while Latvia and Estonia have large Russian minorities. Moldova formerly part of Romania, faces an uncertain status. NATO expansion is to preempt some of these problems and to give pause to those who might exploit them.

Indeed, we cannot afford to fall in Bosnia, even if it takes more than a year to succeed, any more than we can afford to encourage an irresponsible Russian foreign policy by delaying a limited expansion of NATO. The two challenges are a single piece of cloth. And they are the unfinished business of the peaceful strategic transformation of Europe.

HONORING THE EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY 1995 FOOTBALL SEASON

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 1996

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, it has been a part of our heritage as Americans to recognize

excellence. The American Dream is built upon the premise that if someone gives his best, plays by the rules and never gives up, good things will happen. Today, I want to talk about one such success story that occurred this past fall in Charleston, IL.

The 1995 Eastern Illinois University Panther football team had an outstanding 1995 campaign. Under the leadership of Coach Bob Spoo, the Panthers finished the season with a 10–2 mark—the fifth best record in school history—while qualifying for the NCAA I-AA playoffs. The team was co-champion of the Gateway Conference, and has won 14 of its last 16 games. For these accomplishments coach Spoo was named Coach of the Year by the Gateway Conference and the American Football Coaches Association Region I-AA and Co-Coach of the Year by the Football Gazette National. These are the results when a team has good leadership and is dedicated to striving for excellence.

Mr. Speaker, as their record attests, Eastern Illinois University has one of the elite football programs in the country. The Panthers have been an enormous source of pride for the surrounding community, and the prospect of spring practice is eagerly anticipated. I am honored to represent Charleston and Eastern Illinois University in Congress. I wish Coach Spoo and his players continued success as they prepare for another season in the fall.

HONORING THE SOUTHEAST VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.