

As the only survivor of the Holocaust ever elected to the Congress of the United States, I know I speak for all of my colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, in expressing our outrage at the most recent terrorist attack against children, women and old people, all civilians, in the streets of Israel.

The distinguished Republican chairman of the Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], and I are introducing a resolution denouncing this most recent outrage, calling on Yasser Arafat to pulverize the infrastructure of the terrorists and calling on the President of the United States to make our antiterrorist assets available to achieve that goal.

I ask all of my colleagues to join me in this resolution.

GENDER EQUITY IN EDUCATION

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, this week the congressional caucus for women's issues is kicking off our program for National Women's History Month. We celebrate Women's History Month because, for too long, history has only meant his story. Women's contributions have to often gone unnoticed and unappreciated.

Now is the time to get to know her story. Now is the time to talk about women's accomplishments; women's contributions; and what we need to do to make the future brighter for our daughters—as well as our sons.

However, women can only make history when they have been educated, and America has a long way to go before educational equality is achieved.

In honor of Women's History Month, please join me at a briefing on gender equity in education, this Thursday, March 7, at 1 p.m. in 311 Cannon. At this event, we will see how far we have come, and how far we need to go, to make America's schools the best in the world for both boys and girls.

Women make history all year around, but March is Women's History Month. It deserves our attention.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's previously announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House the following Members are recognized for 5 minutes each.

OUR DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY MUST BE APPLIED TO TERRORISM IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I must say this is a day where all of us

shudder at what is going on in the Middle East. While we were so optimistic about the whole peace process, today is a day where it looks like the terrorists are willing to risk anything to get it derailed. You know, making peace is not for cowards. It is for the toughest and the strongest because they will test you and test you and test you because lesser beings and the demons that are around there want so much to continue the turmoil. If they can continue the turmoil and the terror, then they feel they are in charge.

The thing I think is so important to point out on these last horrible incidents is clearly the people doing this are not acting alone. These are not just somebody who is going out and doing this by themselves. There is a tremendous infrastructure supporting them, and that infrastructure must be sought out and destroyed. These are not mere happenstance. These are not independent contractors. These are folks who belong to some well-organized group that is putting a lot of thought into how to be as destructive of human life as possible, and these people are despicable, and we should do everything we can to go at them.

Today I would like to ask Attorney General Reno and the wonderful National Institute of Justice to get to the Israelis anything we have in the technology that would help crack that infrastructure.

When I chaired the Research and Development Committee for the Department of Defense, we took all of their top-of-the-line research and put it at the National Institute of Justice so they could get together with our law enforcement people and see what they could take and apply to law enforcement and to antiterrorism, antidrugs, antianthing, because when you look at our law enforcement technology, it has lagged way behind our national security and defense technology. So this is up and running, and we have some very exciting things there, things that can detect plastics which clearly could be very helpful and many other things.

So I know that this country will be opening their doors immediately.

Necessity is the mother of invention, and we must take all of this very, very high-technology stuff the American taxpayer purchased for the Defense Department and apply it in this situation as rapidly as possible. The analogy is when the Scuds hit Israel during the gulf war, all of us were horrified and suddenly realized we had to get Patriot missiles there as soon as possible to help deflect those Scuds. This is similar. We must scurry around, get our antiterrorism groups, our law enforcement groups and everybody helping Israel get through this crisis because, if the peace process is derailed, which is the goal of these terrorists, then they win, they win, and we all lose.

So, civilized nations must stand shoulder to shoulder in this time where we are all being tried. We are being tried to see if we are really strong

enough to stay on this road. We are, and we must stand together, and we must make sure that the course is set and we will not deviate. We will bring peace to the Middle East and throw everything we have got toward that goal.

SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY RELIEF ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. MCINTOSH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House today to talk about the Small Business Regulatory Relief Act that the House will be considering tomorrow.

My subcommittee, the Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources, and Regulatory Relief, has been conducting numerous field hearings around this country where we have been hearing from average Americans about the problems that redtape causes in their lives, and let me tell you, a lot of times it boils down to the fact that this Government redtape costs us jobs in this country.

I want to read one example of testimony that we received from a Mr. Bruce Gohman, president of W. Gohman Construction Co. in St. Cloud, MN.

Now, Mr. Gohman came and told us that he purposefully keeps the number of employees in his small business fewer than 50 individuals because, if he goes over 50, a whole new set of redtape and regulations kicks in and, quite frankly, he cannot afford it at that point. That means that we are losing jobs in Minnesota because of all of this redtape right here in Washington.

Now, tomorrow we have a proposal on the House floor that is a very modest proposal to address that problem. First, it says we are going to strengthen the Regulatory Flexibility Act that requires agencies to consider the impact on small businesses of their rules and regulations. This proposal was part of the contract and is very important for us to say to small businessmen, if the agencies ignore this rule, that agency administrators have to make rules more flexible. Then you can bring them to court and require them to follow the guidelines.

This second title is administrative review, and, quite frankly, I am perplexed at this because President Clinton, on February 21, 1995, said that it is time to revise the culture in this town and change the way we write regulations. He ordered his agencies to, "go over every single regulation and cut those regulations that are obsolete."

Title II does exactly that. It tells the agencies they must go through their regulations, get rid of the ones that are obsolete, that do not make sense, that really no longer serve their purpose. Those that we need should continue to be on the books, and those that can be strengthened should be strengthened and improved—a very simple, very commonsense approach.

I was surprised to find out today that President Clinton is opposing title II and does not think it is a good idea for us to pass this piece of legislation in Congress. I think it is a shame when the President says he wants to cut back on regulations but then acts to prevent the agencies from doing that in opposing our title II provision.

There is also title III that says these regulations must come back to Congress for review, and that each House must consider them. If they do not approve the rules, they can pass a law, send it to the President, and he can sign or veto it, and the regulation will be overridden by that law; I think this is a very helpful procedure to add additional emphasis in cutting back on regulations.

But the most surprising thing to me is the demagoguery that is going along in the debate by opponents of this bill who claim that for some reason it may be gutting environmental laws, may be gutting health and safety laws, may be leaving poor and innocent Americans defenseless.

This is a very good bill that can actually strengthen those rules that make sense, get rid of those rules that do not make sense, and once again tell small businessmen like Bruce Gohman in Minnesota we are not going to have so many regulations that you would not add new jobs, create more employment in this country, because that is the reason we have to have regulatory relief.

I urge all my colleagues to keep a strong version of this bill tomorrow so we can tell the American people we have made a start in cutting back on unnecessary regulations and redtape.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

[Mr. RIGGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 927

Mr. GILMAN submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 927), to seek international sanctions against the Castro government in Cuba, to plan for support of a transition government leading to a democratically elected government in Cuba, and for other purposes:

CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 104-468)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 927), to seek international sanctions against the Castro government in Cuba, to plan for support of a transition government leading to a democratically elected government in Cuba, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate and

agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the Senate amendment, insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the "Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996".

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Findings.

Sec. 3. Purposes.

Sec. 4. Definitions.

Sec. 5. Severability.

TITLE I—STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS AGAINST THE CASTRO GOVERNMENT

Sec. 101. Statement of policy.

Sec. 102. Enforcement of the economic embargo of Cuba.

Sec. 103. Prohibition against indirect financing of Cuba.

Sec. 104. United States opposition to Cuban membership in international financial institutions.

Sec. 105. United States opposition to termination of the suspension of the Cuban Government from participation in the Organization of American States.

Sec. 106. Assistance by the independent states of the former Soviet Union for the Cuban Government.

Sec. 107. Television broadcasting to Cuba.

Sec. 108. Reports on commerce with, and assistance to, Cuba from other foreign countries.

Sec. 109. Authorization of support for democratic and human rights groups and international observers.

Sec. 110. Importation safeguard against certain Cuban products.

Sec. 111. Withholding of foreign assistance from countries supporting Juragua nuclear plant in Cuba.

Sec. 112. Reinstitution of family remittances and travel to Cuba.

Sec. 113. Expulsion of criminals from Cuba.

Sec. 114. News bureaus in Cuba.

Sec. 115. Effect of Act on lawful United States Government activities.

Sec. 116. Condemnation of Cuban attack on American aircraft.

TITLE II—ASSISTANCE TO A FREE AND INDEPENDENT CUBA

Sec. 201. Policy toward a transition government and a democratically elected government in Cuba.

Sec. 202. Assistance for the Cuban people.

Sec. 203. Coordination of assistance program; implementation and reports to Congress; reprogramming.

Sec. 204. Termination of the economic embargo of Cuba.

Sec. 205. Requirements and factors for determining a transition government.

Sec. 206. Requirements for determining a democratically elected government.

Sec. 207. Settlement of outstanding United States claims to confiscated property in Cuba.

TITLE III—PROTECTION OF PROPERTY RIGHTS OF UNITED STATES NATIONALS

Sec. 301. Findings.

Sec. 302. Liability for trafficking in confiscated property claimed by United States nationals.

Sec. 303. Proof of ownership of claims to confiscated property.

Sec. 304. Exclusivity of Foreign Claims Settlement Commission certification procedure.

Sec. 305. Limitation of actions.

Sec. 306. Effective date.

TITLE IV—EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN ALIENS

Sec. 401. Exclusion from the United States of aliens who have confiscated property of United States nationals or who traffic in such property.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The economy of Cuba has experienced a decline of at least 60 percent in the last 5 years as a result of—

(A) the end of its subsidization by the former Soviet Union of between 5 billion and 6 billion dollars annually;

(B) 36 years of communist tyranny and economic mismanagement by the Castro government;

(C) the extreme decline in trade between Cuba and the countries of the former Soviet bloc; and

(D) the stated policy of the Russian Government and the countries of the former Soviet bloc to conduct economic relations with Cuba on strictly commercial terms.

(2) At the same time, the welfare and health of the Cuban people have substantially deteriorated as a result of this economic decline and the refusal of the Castro regime to permit free and fair democratic elections in Cuba.

(3) The Castro regime has made it abundantly clear that it will not engage in any substantive political reforms that would lead to democracy, a market economy, or an economic recovery.

(4) The repression of the Cuban people, including a ban on free and fair democratic elections, and continuing violations of fundamental human rights, have isolated the Cuban regime as the only completely nondemocratic government in the Western Hemisphere.

(5) As long as free elections are not held in Cuba, the economic condition of the country and the welfare of the Cuban people will not improve in any significant way.

(6) The totalitarian nature of the Castro regime has deprived the Cuban people of any peaceful means to improve their condition and has led thousands of Cuban citizens to risk or lose their lives in dangerous attempts to escape from Cuba to freedom.

(7) Radio Marti and Television Marti have both been effective vehicles for providing the people of Cuba with news and information and have helped to bolster the morale of the people of Cuba living under tyranny.

(8) The consistent policy of the United States towards Cuba since the beginning of the Castro regime, carried out by both Democratic and Republican administrations, has sought to keep faith with the people of Cuba, and has been effective in sanctioning the totalitarian Castro regime.

(9) The United States has shown a deep commitment, and considers it a moral obligation, to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as expressed in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

(10) The Congress has historically and consistently manifested its solidarity and the solidarity of the American people with the democratic aspirations of the Cuban people.

(11) The Cuban Democracy Act of 1992 calls upon the President to encourage the governments of countries that conduct trade with Cuba to restrict their trade and credit relations with Cuba in a manner consistent with the purposes of that Act.

(12) Amendments to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 made by the FREEDOM Support Act require that the President, in providing economic assistance to Russia and the emerging Eurasian democracies, take into account the extent to which they are acting to "terminate support for the communist regime in Cuba, including removal of troops, closing military facilities, and ceasing trade subsidies and economic, nuclear, and other assistance".

(13) The Cuban Government engages in the illegal international narcotics trade and harbors fugitives from justice in the United States.