

"(4) The district courts of the United States do not have jurisdiction of any action referred to in paragraph (1)."

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(A) SECTION HEADING.—The heading of such section is amended by inserting "bid protests;" after "generally;"

(B) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 91 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking out the item relating to section 1491 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"1491. Claims against United States generally; bid protests; actions involving Tennessee Valley Authority."

(b) NONEXCLUSIVITY OF GAO REMEDIES.—Section 3556 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking out "a district court of the United States or the United States Claims Court" in the first sentence and inserting in lieu thereof "the United States Court of Federal Claims".

(c) SAVINGS PROVISIONS.—

(1) ORDERS.—The amendments made by this section shall not terminate the effectiveness of orders that have been issued by a court in connection with an action within the jurisdiction of that court on the day before the effective date of this section. Such orders shall continue in effect according to their terms until modified, terminated, superseded, set aside, or revoked by a court of competent jurisdiction or by operation of law.

(2) PROCEEDINGS AND APPLICATIONS.—(A) The amendments made by this section shall not affect the jurisdiction of a court of the United States to continue with any proceeding that is pending before the court on the day before the effective date of this section.

(B) Orders may be issued in any such proceeding, appeals may be taken therefrom, and payments may be made pursuant to such orders, as if this section had not been enacted. An order issued in any such proceeding shall continue in effect until modified, terminated, superseded, set aside, or revoked by a court of competent jurisdiction or by operation of law.

(C) Nothing in this paragraph prohibits the discontinuance or modification of any such proceeding under the same terms and conditions and to the same extent that such proceeding could have been discontinued or modified if this section had not been enacted.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 1996.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet in SR-301, Russell Senate Office Building, on Tuesday, June 18, 1996, at 9 a.m. on public access to Government information in the 21st century, with a focus on the GPO Depository Program/Title 44.

For further information concerning this hearing, please contact Joy Wilson of the committee staff on 224-3213.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet in SR-301, Russell Senate Office Building, on Wednesday, June 19, 1996, at 9:30 a.m. on public access to Government

information in the 21st century, with a focus on the GPO Depository Program/Title 44.

For further information concerning this hearing, please contact Joy Wilson of the committee staff on 223-3213

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be allowed to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 12, 1996, to consider the Food Quality Protection Act (S. 1166).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be allowed to meet during the Wednesday, June 12, 1996, session of the Senate for the purpose of conducting a hearing on S. 1726, the promotion of commerce on-line in the digital era.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask consent that the Committee on Finance be permitted to meet Wednesday, June 12, 1996, beginning at 11 a.m. in room SH-215, to conduct a markup on two tax bills.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet Wednesday, June 12, 1996, at 2 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE WHITE-WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED MATTERS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee to Investigate Whitewater Development and Related Matters be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 12, 1996, to conduct hearings pursuant to Senate Resolution 120.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

DEMOCRACY IN THE BALKANS

• Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, on May 9, 1996, Dr. John Brademas, Chairman of the National Endowment for Democracy [NED], delivered a very thoughtful address to a conference on "The Greek-U.S. Relationship and the Future of Southeastern Europe," orga-

nized by the Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis. I was fortunate to be able to attend a portion of that conference, at which some very important and difficult issues were discussed relating to the future of democracy in the Balkans. As my colleagues know, the National Endowment for Democracy is our Nation's premier institution for assisting in the transition from closed, authoritarian, and totalitarian systems to free and open systems of elected and accountable government around the world.

Dr. Brademas, a longtime friend and former colleague, is one of the Nation's most highly regarded experts on the promotion and expansion of democracy, as well as a longtime observer and analyst of development in Southern Europe. His proposal for a Center for Democracy in the Balkans is therefore worthy of special note, and I commend his remarks to my colleagues. I ask that his remarks be printed in the RECORD.

The remarks follow:

REMARKS OF DR. JOHN BRADEMAS

I am for several reasons pleased to have been invited to Washington, D.C. to take part in this conference on U.S.-Greek relations and the future of Southeastern Europe. And I should like to salute the Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis, the Constantinos Karamanlis Foundation, the International Security Studies Program of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and the Lilian Voudoris Foundation for having brought together so many outstanding authorities on the subject.

That the distinguished President of the Hellenic Republic, His Excellency Constantinos Stephanopoulos, as well as Foreign Minister Theodoros Pangalos and Education Minister George Papandreou and other prominent leaders from both Greece and the United States should be participating in these discussions is a mark of their great importance.

And that both President Clinton's meeting with President Stephanopoulos and this conference come only one month following the visit here of Prime Minister Costas Simitis is but further indication of the close ties between our two countries.

Another reason I am glad to have been asked to join you is that, as most of you know, I am a child of both Greece and the United States. My father was born in Kalamata and my mother in Indiana.

As the first native-born American of Greek origin elected to the Congress of the United States, where I served for twenty-two years, I naturally had a particular interest in issues concerning Greece. But it was an interest deeply rooted in my commitment to the principles of the Constitution of the United States. For example, I was openly and strongly critical of the military junta of 1967 to 1974, and I opposed US military aid to Greece during that period. And, 22 years ago this summer, in company with my valued friend, now the distinguished senior Senator from Maryland, Paul S. Sarbanes, and others, I was deeply engaged in the struggle between Congress and the White House following the unlawful use by Turkey of American weapons to invade and occupy the independent Republic of Cyprus. The failure of the executive branch of the US government of respect the Constitution and the rule of law contributed to the bitter legacy that, we all know, is with us still.

THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

I must cite one more reason I'm pleased to be with you and that is to speak in my capacity as Chairman of the National Endowment for Democracy. For one of the most important bonds between Greeks and Americans is that we have the good fortune to be citizens of lively democracies.

Indeed, it is about our common commitment to the institutions and practices of democracy, of self-government, that I want to offer some brief comments this afternoon.

For I believe that we in the American and Greek democracies—and the European democracies in general—have an obligation—this is not only a moral question but it is in our respective national interests—to promote free, open and democratic societies.

Let me tell you a little about the National Endowment for Democracy, or NED, because it relates directly to my talk.

Founded in 1983 by Act of Congress, the National Endowment for Democracy is a non-partisan, non-governmental organization that champions, through grants to private entities in other countries, the institutions of democracy. NED grants are made to organizations dedicated to promoting the rule of law, free and fair elections, a free press, human rights and the other components of a genuinely democratic culture.

I must add that a time when the political atmosphere in Washington is even more partisan than usual, NED is unique in enjoying strong support across party and ideological lines.

PROMOTING DEMOCRACY IN THE BALKANS

As all of us here are profoundly concerned about developments in the Balkans, let me report to you on efforts of the National Endowment for Democracy to address some of the obstacles to democratization in that region. Albeit with modest funds, NED has supported programs to encourage the resolution of inter-ethnic conflict, greater political pluralism and economic reform as well as to strengthen the independent organizations necessary to form the basis of civil society in the area.

For example, in Albania, NED is assisting a project of the American Federation of Teachers and the Albanian Teachers' Union to conduct "Introduction to Teaching Democracy" workshops.

In Bulgaria, NED sponsors the Bulgarian Association for Fair Elections (BAFE), a network of community centers to stimulate civic participation at the local level.

In Romania, NED has helped the League for Europe, which presses for better relations between Romanians and Hungarians in Transylvania.

The Endowment also supports several media outlets that produce impartial news on developments in the former Yugoslavia. Only a few weeks ago, our board approved grants to five independent media operations in Serbia/Montenegro (FRY).

Now who can deny that the challenges to building democracy in this part of the world, especially in the areas ravaged by war, are immense, indeed, daunting? But, in my view, the enormity of the challenge is all the more reason for us to act.

Certainly, it seems to me, the encouragement of free, open, stable and democratic societies throughout the Balkans must be of direct interest to the people of Greece. Not only would such developments contribute to Greek national security but to the Greek economy, too. I've already discussed with Greek business leaders the opportunities they see for expanding their markets in the region as well as enhancing the climate for foreign investment in Greece. In fact, even today Greek investments in banking and other private sector activities in the Balkans

and throughout Southeastern Europe generate economic growth and ties that can, spur the democratic process. Remember, too, a consideration important to American policymakers, that Greece is the only country in the region that is a member of the European Union, Council of Europe and NATO.

A CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY IN THE BALKANS

In my judgment, we should now take advantage of, on the one hand, the recent accords between Athens and Skopje and, on the other, the Dayton agreements on Bosnia, to consider seriously the establishment of a center to encourage democracy in the Balkans.

My own view is that an appropriate location for such a center is Greece.

I note first that Greece is the birthplace of democracy and a thriving democracy still.

Second, Thessaloniki, in northern Greece, at the crossroads of the South Balkans, is a natural site for a forum devoted to matters affecting the region. Thessaloniki is a multi-cultural, cosmopolitan city, named, as we know, by the European Union as the 1997 "Cultural Capital of Europe."

Indeed, only a few weeks ago, I took part in a conference in Thessaloniki sponsored by a recently established Association for Democracy in the Balkans. Scholars from nine Balkan countries made presentations on political institutions, on civil society in general and nongovernmental organizations in particular as well as on the role of the media in each country. By all accounts, the conference was a success.

A GENUINELY MULTI-NATIONAL CENTER

I believe it particularly important to note there that their participants in the Thessaloniki meeting made clear that a center to promote democracy should not be a Greek enterprise but one genuinely multi-national in nature.

If the seed for such a multi-national center has been planted in Thessaloniki, I'm glad to tell you of some steps to follow up those discussions.

In two weeks, there will be another conference on democracy in the Balkans, to be held in New York City, under the auspices of the National Endowment for Democracy and the American Ditchley Foundation. We shall convene a group of scholars, diplomats, journalists and others to discuss the concept, the obstacles, the opportunities and the practical steps needed to establish a center to encourage democracy in the region. Former Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke will address the conference, which I shall chair, as will Congressman Benjamin Gilman, Chairman of the International Relations Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, and Senator Paul Sarbanes, a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Here let me express appreciation to both Congressman Gilman and Senator Sarbanes for their continuing contributions to strengthening relations between Greece and the United States and pay tribute as well to another outstanding legislator who shares that commitment, Congressman Lee Hamilton, senior Democrat on the House committee, who addressed you earlier today.

Among others to take part in the New York City conference this month are President Clinton's Special Envoy on the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Matthew Nimetz, and U.S. Ambassador-designate to FYROM, Christopher Hill.

Then in June, at Ditchley Park, outside Oxford, the American and British Ditchley Foundations will sponsor another conference, which I'll also chair, with essentially the same purpose except that participants will be drawn chiefly from Europe.

A few weeks ago, as you all know, the First Lady of the United States, Hillary Rodham

Clinton, on her first visit to Greece, said of Athens that it was the city that had "given the world its greatest gift—the gift of democracy."

Let me then voice the hope that the peoples of the United States and Greece can work together—and with others—to encourage in the too-long troubled region of the Balkans the institutions and practices of self-government, "the gift of democracy."●

ENCRYPTION REFORM NEEDED NOW

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I have just become a cosponsor of S. 1726, the Commerce Promotion Act of 1996. This bill would remove export controls on encryption technology, a coding system enabling individuals and corporations to keep computer communications private.

Under current law, sophisticated encryption technology is sold without restriction in the United States. It is this technology that enables banks and other financial institutions to guarantee the confidentiality of personal and financial information. Furthermore, many analysts argue that concerns about security are restraining the Internet's growth as a commercial enterprise.

American-made software is the best in the world. Many foreign companies and individuals want to buy our products. However, because of concerns relating to international criminal activity, the U.S. Government refuses to allow the export of software that includes certain encryption technology.

The current policy is damaging American software companies. Foreign corporations and individuals will not pay top dollar for computer technology that cannot guarantee that personal information will stay private. As a result, our major trading partners are forced to buy software made outside the United States, costing American companies billions.

These export controls place U.S. software companies at a competitive disadvantage, giving foreign competitors the opportunity to encroach on our dominant position in the global marketplace. The United States enjoys a huge trade surplus in software. Our export policies should seek to strengthen U.S. companies, not give their competitors an unfair advantage.

I am very sensitive to the concerns raised by the Clinton administration about this issue. I strongly believe that U.S. intelligence agencies must retain the ability to intercept communications about terrorist attacks and other criminal acts. However, I am confident that this goal can be achieved without restraining the ability of U.S. companies to sell their products abroad for legitimate commercial uses.

Mr. President, we have a problem on our hands, but we can solve it. Congress and the administration must act together to pass an encryption technology reform bill this year.●