

TOWARD A FREE AND PEACEFUL
CYPRUS**HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 1997

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect on Cyprus' troubled history. For years, the people of Cyprus have suffered under the yoke of Turkish aggression. But I also rise to look with hope toward the future. For recent events have left the people of Cyprus with the best hopes for peace they have had in decades.

Cyprus is a unique nation, one which has always served as a bridge between the cultures of East and West. The mix of cultures of the Cypriot people was for generations a blessing rather than a curse. Almost four decades ago, when Cyprus was granted independence from Britain, it appeared that for the first time in centuries the Cypriot people would be able to determine their destiny. But that opportunity was torn from their grasp by the threat of outside aggression. In 1974, that threat was realized when the Turkish military invaded Cyprus, dividing the island and causing immeasurable pain and suffering. While the idea of ethnic cleansing was not invented on Cyprus, it was carried out with brutal efficiency. Thousands were forced out of their homes, never to return. Families were torn apart, separated only by an artificial line drawn by aggression. Cyprus' natural beauty was forever scarred by outside invaders.

As Americans, it is vital that we support the peace process in Cyprus while the opportunity remains. The United States is uniquely situated to play an important and constructive role in the effort to build peace in Cyprus. The President's recent appointment of Richard Holbrooke as his special representative to Cyprus is especially welcome. Ambassador Holbrooke has ably demonstrated his skill as a peacemaker and a diplomat. His role in the process only serves to reassure optimists that the opportunity for peace is real, and that the United States is deeply committed to the effort for peace in Cyprus. We cannot let this opportunity slip out of our grasp. We must stand with the people of Cyprus as they work to throw off the yoke of Turkish oppression.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE HAND
OVER OF HONG KONG ON TAIWAN**HON. THOMAS J. MANTON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 1997

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, on June 30th of this year, British rule over Hong Kong ended and the former British colony was returned to China. I was honored to be a member of the congressional delegation to observe the reversion of Hong Kong to PRC control. On that same day, as the celebration was taking place in Hong Kong, Taiwan's President Lee Teng-hui, authored an article which was published in USA Today discussing the implications of the hand over of Hong Kong for the future relations between the 21 million people living in a democratic society in Taiwan and the more than one billion people who have yet to expe-

rience freedom and democracy on the Chinese mainland. As President Lee correctly notes in his article, The Republic of China has undergone a dramatic transformation from a country operating under martial law to a full fledged democracy with a vibrant market economy.

President Lee is justifiably proud of the achievements his country has made in the past decade, much of which has taken place while President Lee has been Taiwan's leader. President Lee states in this article that he hopes the government on the Chinese mainland will undergo a similar democratic transformation in the next decade but properly notes that, to date, there has been little progress on the mainland toward achieving the twin goals of freedom and justice. President Lee believes when this transformation occurs on the mainland, reunification across the Straits of Taiwan will become a reality.

Mr. Speaker, having seen Taiwan make the dramatic change to market-oriented democracy, President Lee believes Hong Kong should be able to maintain its democratic status and the Chinese mainland ought to embrace democracy in the first decade of the 21st century. This is a lofty goal, but one that I know all of my colleagues hope will occur. In the meantime, we must look toward the island of Taiwan as a beacon of democracy in a very complex and rapidly changing area of Southeast Asia. In the light of the recent events in Hong Kong, I urge my colleagues to read the article I included with my statement.

TAIWAN YIELDS MODEL FOR A FREE HONG
KONG

(By Lee Teng-hui)

Today, the era of colonial rule will come to an end in Hong Kong. This is a proud event for all Chinese wherever they are, and offers a new opportunity for creating a democratic Chinese nation. We earnestly hope that the Beijing authorities will be able to maintain the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong, and will ensure that the people of Hong Kong continue to enjoy freedom, democracy and basic human rights. This is the only way to act in accord with the joint values and trends of mankind today, regional peace and development, and the common dignity and interests of all Chinese people.

Taiwan's experience offers reason for optimism.

A little more than one year ago, the Republic of China successfully held a direct presidential election on Taiwan, completing a crucial objective of our political reform. At the time, the concept of constitutional government stressed by Americans over two hundred years ago kept coming to my mind: "... all Men are created equal, ... they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, ... among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness ... to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed."

Indeed, with the joint effort of the entire populace and their government, the Republic of China has upheld the principle of popular sovereignty on Taiwan, and has succeeded in lifting martial law, liberalizing the formation of political parties, realizing the practice of free speech, re-electing all national parliamentarians who had been in office for a long time, and carrying out a direct presidential election. Through these endeavors, the Republic of China has undergone profound change, and has become a full-fledged democracy.

However, we cannot overlook the fact that still over 20 percent of the world's population, most of whom live on the Chinese mainland, have no way to enjoy these rights. The Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Strait share the same cultural and racial heritage. Thus, there is no reason why we cannot jointly build a system of democracy and freedom, and fully exercise our God-given rights.

In 1979, before martial law was lifted in Taiwan, a number of protesters demonstrating against government censorship of their magazine were arrested and jailed in what became known as the Kaohsiung Incident. At the same time, the Chinese communists authorities arrested the human rights activist Wei Jingsheng. Today, many of those involved in the Kaohsiung Incident have re-deemed themselves through the ballot box and have become important elected political leaders on Taiwan. However, Mr. Wei remains in jail. The marked differences in systems and values between the two sides are the fundamental reason why each of the two parts of the China we all want to see reunified one day still remain separate political entities.

Democracy has become a world trend, and is without doubt the greatest achievement of mankind this century. One reason civilization continues to progress is that we have the courage to realize our dreams, and we have the heart to care about each other and provide mutual support. We must continue to uphold this spirit and sentiment, so that democracy ultimately becomes the common way of life of all humanity. May people living in every corner of the global village enjoy democracy!

Thus, we cherish the young buds of democracy on the Chinese mainland. Certain forms of election in rural townships and villages have spread on the mainland in recent years. We are happy to see it succeed and call on the Chinese mainland authorities to show the courage and determination to boldly take the grand route to democracy. Join with us and bring democracy to all of Chinese society, seeking everlasting well-being and peace for the Chinese people!

Unquestionably, if Taiwan can achieve democracy, then Hong Kong should be able to maintain democracy, and there is no reason why the Chinese mainland can not do everything possible to head in that direction. This is the true way to solve the China problem.

In the 21st century, Mankind will certainly prove that "All roads lead to Democracy!"

SANCTIONS ON RUSSIAN ENTITIES

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 1997

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing bipartisan legislation to express congressional sentiment that the proliferation of missile technology to Iran from any source in Russia be stopped.

There is substantial evidence in support of allegations that Russian entities have provided assistance to Iran's missile program. According to February 1997 reports by the Los Angeles Times and the Washington Times, Russia has transferred SS-4 guidance components to Iran. In May, the Washington Times further reported that two Russian companies, the Central Aerohydrodynamic Institute and Inor, had contracted with Iran to supply missile parts and technology, including a wind tunnel

for missile design, missile design software, and laser equipment. In a recent unclassified report, the CIA said that Russia has been a primary source of missile-related goods to Iran.

The transfer of this technology is serious. Missiles modeled on the Russian SS-4 would have a reach of 2000 km—enough to threaten United States installations in the Middle East and Persian Gulf, Israel, and our NATO ally Turkey. Ironically such capabilities also threaten the territory of Russia itself.

Let's not forget the lessons of the Persian Gulf war, when Iran targeted Israel with SCUD missiles: rogue countries that have these capabilities will not be deterred. Next time they may choose to add chemical or biological warheads.

I have expressed these concerns regarding Russian assistance to Iran to Vice President Gore, National Security Advisor Sandy Berger, and the Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. They assured me that the Administration

would address this issue and subsequently, it did raise it with the highest levels of the Russian Government.

In several meetings, I have also expressed my strong concern to Russian Ambassador Yuliy Vorontsov. The Ambassador told me that the Russian Government shares our concern about the threat of proliferation. He said it is investigating seriously these allegations to determine responsibility. Yet, we have not seen any tangible efforts so far that Russia has tried to punish those entities responsible for exporting missile technology to Iran.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution expresses the sense of Congress that the Russian Government take all appropriate steps to cease the cooperation between Russian entities and Iran. The Russian Government has the legislative and regulatory tools at its disposal to stop unauthorized transactions of missile technology. We are asking that they use them.

If we do not see clear evidence that Russia has taken practical steps to stop missile as-

sistance to Iran, the resolution calls on the United States to enact the sanctions provided for in Presidential Executive Order 12938 on the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. This means freezing the assets and seizing the property of those entities responsible for proliferation.

The resolution also calls for tougher standards for providing United States aid to Russia.

Lastly, the resolution urges our European allies to join us in taking action against those Russian organizations and individuals responsible for exports that violate international agreements.

Mr. Speaker, we are aware of the special constraints on the Russian Federation as it seeks to improve its export control system—not the least of which are the economic conditions of that country. But stopping missile technology proliferation to Iran is in everyone's interest. It is time for Russia to act.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan concurring resolution