

Although it is difficult to get a firm number, at least 16 individuals were killed and over 100 were wounded. One of those who was seriously wounded was Ron Abney, an employee of the National Endowment for Democracy's International Republican Institute. He was present at this rally in his capacity as an employee of the National Endowment for Democracy, and it almost certainly cost him his life. Almost. He was seriously injured.

The United States and the international community have an enormous amount invested in the peace process in Cambodia. Following the 1991 Paris Peace accord, international donors have plunged more than \$1 billion into ensuring that peace and normality return to Cambodia.

House Resolution 121 sends the strong message that political violence should not be allowed to return to Cambodia. Assassinations, bombings, and grenade attacks are not acceptable forms of political expression. The political parties in Cambodia must be made to understand that they cannot go down the path of political violence. They must know that the international community will not tolerate or support parties that condone political intimidation or violence.

House Resolution 121 represents a balanced and constructive effort to advance democracy and human rights in Cambodia. I commend, as I said, the gentleman from California for introducing the legislation. He has a long and distinguished record as an advocate for basic political liberties. It is this Member's understanding that the gentleman from California will be working with the National Endowment for Democracy as an election observer in the upcoming election in Cambodia. While such activities can be arduous, it is nevertheless extremely important, particularly in a country such as Cambodia that has such a fragile democracy.

This Member also thanks the distinguished chairman of the Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], for moving this initiative in such an expeditious manner. While the committee's schedule has been hectic, the gentleman from New York has been very gracious in addressing special concerns, such as the resolution before the body today.

I thank the distinguished ranking member of the committee, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON], for his support, as well as my ranking member on the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. BERMAN].

Again, Mr. Speaker, I commend the careful attention of the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. HORN] on the events in Cambodia and his initiative in sponsoring this resolution. I urge support of House Resolution 121.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. PORTER], one of our leading advo-

cates of human rights and a cochairman of the Human Right Caucus in the Congress.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from New York for yielding me this time and for those kinds words.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend my colleagues for their efforts to call attention to the deteriorating political situation in Cambodia. Democracy is new in Cambodia and it is extremely fragile. The political violence that has again flared up in recent months has shaken an already unstable situation in this long-suffering nation.

The people of Cambodia have endured the brutality of the Khmer Rouge and the neglect of the international community. Now they are struggling with perhaps their greatest challenge, the effort to bring lasting peace and democracy to their country.

The deadly Easter Sunday attack on Sam Rainsy and the Khmer National Party shattered a peaceful demonstration in front of the Cambodian National Assembly. The wounded and injured were described in detail by the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. BEREUTER] in his remarks. I might say, however, that Mr. Rainsy is convinced that persons in the government, specifically Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, colluded in the attack. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that he turns out to be wrong in that assessment.

This attack represents an affront to justice, peace, the rule of law, democracy, and the desires of the Cambodian people for these ideals to take root in their country. The KNP organized this rally to call attention to the need to strengthen the rule of law and reform the Cambodian judiciary. How ironic it would be if there were no justice for the victims.

Such actions of terror and cowardice threaten to undo a \$2 billion United Nations-led national reconciliation effort sponsored primarily by the United States. The KNP is a leading pro-democracy party, and they are working with other like-minded political parties to ensure that the national elections this year secure the gains that this international involvement has brought.

If acts of political violence go unpunished, the enemies of peace and democratic transition will be rewarded. This cannot be allowed to happen. Cambodia cannot be allowed to sink back into the horrible lawlessness from which it recently emerged. I am, therefore, pleased to join my colleagues in calling on our Government to offer assistance in bringing the perpetrators of this heinous crime to justice and in urging the prime ministers of Cambodia to take advantage of U.S. technical expertise.

Our Federal law enforcement agencies have the know-how to conduct a comprehensive investigation. I hope that the Cambodian Government will accept our help. Such a move would send a clear signal that they are serious about stopping political violence.

In addition, the Congress should call on all parties to vigorously renounce political violence and reaffirm their commitment to free and fair elections.

I have recently been to Cambodia, Mr. Speaker, and I do not underestimate the many hurdles to democracy in that country.

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However, I have also seen the spirit of the Cambodian people and I know of their strong desire for a better future. I can assure the Congress that we have an extraordinary and energetic U.S. Ambassador, Kenneth Quinn, who is doing an outstanding job working with all parties in all segments of Cambodian society to build the institutions of democracy and the elements of civil society in this fragile country for which we have so much moral obligation.

We cannot tolerate political violence or intimidation. The people of Cambodia deserve the opportunity to choose their future without fear. I commend this resolution and the leadership of the gentleman from California and the chairman of the committee and ranking member to all the Members and urge their support for it.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS].

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON], for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. HORN] for bringing this issue to our attention. I am fully in support of his efforts, and I want to identify myself entirely with the words of my distinguished Republican cochairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. PORTER].

It is absolutely critical that we prevent Cambodia from sliding back into violence, dictatorship, human rights violations, and terrorism; and every effort should be made, with the assistance of all of our appropriate agencies, to bring the perpetrators of this outrage to justice.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 121.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 121.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

REAFFIRMING COMMITMENT OF UNITED STATES TO PRINCIPLES OF THE MARSHALL PLAN

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res 63) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the 50th anniversary of the Marshall plan and reaffirming the commitment of the United States to the principles that led to the establishment of that program.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 63

Whereas on June 5, 1947, in a speech at Harvard University, then-Secretary of State George C. Marshall proposed the establishment of a joint American-European program to provide assistance, "so far as it may be practical for us to do so," to assist the countries of Europe to recover from the devastation of World War II, and that program was subsequently called "The Marshall Plan" in recognition of the pivotal role of Secretary of State Marshall in its establishment;

Whereas then-President Harry S. Truman had earlier enunciated the principle of assisting democratic countries which faced the threat of communist aggression and thus laid the foundation for the Marshall Plan with the "Truman Doctrine" which provided economic and military assistance to Greece and Turkey, and this farsighted policy represented a reversal of longstanding United States policy of avoiding peacetime involvement in foreign military and political affairs;

Whereas the Marshall Plan was developed, refined, and enacted with the broad bipartisan involvement of the Congress of the United States, including in particular the efforts of Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan and Congressman Christian A. Herter of Massachusetts;

Whereas the Congress provided an estimated \$13,300,000,000 to assist the sixteen European countries which participated in the Marshall Plan during the four-year period of its existence, and this material contribution represented a significant sacrifice by the American people;

Whereas the assistance provided under the Marshall Plan served to "prime the pump" to stimulate the economies of the participating European countries and resulted in an average growth of 41 percent in industrial production and an average growth of 33.5 percent in per capita gross national product during the four years of the program;

Whereas the spectacular economic revival of the countries of Western Europe would not have been possible without the creativity, technical skills, managerial competence, and hard work of the European peoples; nevertheless, the Marshall Plan was a vital element in assisting the European peoples in the postwar economic recovery;

Whereas the multinational economic cooperation required and encouraged by the Marshall Plan was a significant impetus in fostering transnational European economic cooperation and unity which ultimately helped to pave the way for the North Atlantic Treaty, in developing the multifaceted relationship between the United States and

the countries of Europe, and in contributing to the establishment of the European Union; and

Whereas 1997 marks the 50th anniversary of the original speech by Secretary of State George C. Marshall calling for the establishment of the Marshall Plan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) urges all Americans on the 50th anniversary of the Marshall Plan to reflect upon the significance of this program as a concrete embodiment of the commitment of the United States to fostering peaceful relations with the economic prosperity of the countries of Europe;

(2) reaffirms the commitment that was expressed in the original Marshall Plan ("Economic Cooperation Act of 1948," sec. 102, Public Law 80-472) was enacted—namely, that "intimate economic and other relationships exist between the United States and the nations of Europe," that extensive and friendly relations with the nations of Europe and with the community of European nations is vital to the promotion of "the general welfare and national interest of the United States" and that the prosperity and security of Europe are essential to "the establishment of a lasting peace"; and

(3) acknowledges and commends the efforts of those countries which originally participated in the Marshall Plan to assist the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the newly independent republics of the former Soviet Union in their efforts to develop market economies and democratic political systems as a reflection of the same generous spirit that motivated the people of the United States to help these Western European countries fifty years ago.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this timely resolution draws our attention to the 50th anniversary of the Marshall plan which will be celebrated on June 5. It reminds us of the grand commitment made by Secretary of State George Marshall and President Harry Truman, supported by a farsighted bipartisan group of Congressmen and Senators. It was this commitment that made possible the economic prosperity which we have now come to take for granted in Western Europe and allowed democratic institutions to develop and thrive.

Most importantly, it allowed the peoples of Western Europe, who are now our closest allies, to emerge from the ashes of the Second World War and to rebuild their lives anew.

As we reflect back on those troubled and uncertain times that followed the end of World War II, we should renew the commitment to the principles that underlaid our actions at that time, and remember that there remain people in Central and Eastern Europe as well as the former Soviet Union who were prevented from benefiting from the Mar-

shall plan, and who now look to us to do for them what was done for the Europeans some 50 years ago.

Fortunately, today it is not up to our Nation alone to perform that task, a task made even more daunting by the legacy of the Communist system that prevailed for all the years that Western Europe was developing and getting back on its feet. Today we can count on the support of those very same nations that benefited from the vision that gave birth to the Marshall plan to do for the New Independent States what was done for them half a century ago.

This resolution rightfully acknowledges and commends the efforts of our friends and allies to assist the newly independent nations of Central and Eastern Europe and of the former Soviet Union to develop free market economies and democratic political systems.

I want to commend the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] for his good work in seeing to it that we accord this important anniversary its due recognition, and I am pleased to have been an original cosponsor of this resolution. I also commend our ranking minority member, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] in helping us bring this measure to the floor at this time. I ask the House to lend itself unanimous support to this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume and I rise in support of the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I simply want to underline the importance of commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Marshall plan. The Marshall plan laid the groundwork for the strong and close postwar political, economic, and military relationship between the United States and Europe. And, of course, that relationship remains the cornerstone of our security policy today.

I think, without any question, the Marshall plan was one of the greatest events in American political history and American diplomatic history. I want especially to thank my friend and colleague from California, Mr. LANTOS, for his leadership and for his foresight in bringing this resolution before us. And of course, I am grateful to the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] and the other cosponsors of House Concurrent Resolution 63, but it is really the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] who deserves the chief credit, I think, for bringing this resolution forward.

It is a very important resolution. It not only underscores the close transatlantic relationship that exists today, it comes at a time when many Europeans are anxious to underscore the importance of the transatlantic tie, at least as we talk about the enlargement of NATO and some of the concerns that our European friends have about the growing isolationist tendencies in this country and in the Congress.