

of the amendment is attached to this report.

On April 18, 1997, the Regulations were amended by adding a new section 585.528, authorizing all transactions after 30 days with respect to the following vessels that remained blocked pursuant to the Regulations, effective at 10:00 a.m. local time in the location of the vessel on May 19, 1997: the M/V MOSLAVINA, M/V ZETA, M/V LOVCEN, M/V DURMITOR and M/V BAR (a/k/a M/V INVIKEN) (62 FR 19672, April 23, 1997). During the 30-day period, United States persons were authorized to negotiate settlements of their outstanding claims with respect to the vessels with the vessels' owners or agents and were generally licensed to seek and obtain judicial warrants of maritime arrest. If claims remained unresolved 10 days prior to the vessels' unblocking (May 8, 1997), service of the warrants could be effected at that time through the United States Marshal's Office in the district where the vessel was located to ensure that United States creditors of a vessel had the opportunity to assert their claims. Appendix C to 31 CFR, chapter V, containing the names of vessels blocked pursuant to the various economic sanctions programs administered by OFAC (61 FR 32936, June 26, 1996), was also amended to remove these vessels from the list effective May 19, 1997. A copy of the amendment is attached to this report.

3. Over the past year, the Departments of State and the Treasury have worked closely with European Union member states and other U.N. member nations to implement the provisions of UNSCR 1022. In the United States, retention of blocking authority pursuant to the extension of a national emergency provides a framework for administration of an orderly claims settlement. This accords with past policy and practice with respect to the suspension of sanctions regimes.

4. During this reporting period, OFAC issued seven specific licenses regarding transactions pertaining to the FRY (S&M) or assets it owns or controls. Specific licenses have been issued (1) to authorize the unblocking of certain funds and other financial assets previously blocked; (2) for the payment of crews' wages, vessel maintenance, and emergency supplies for FRY (S&M)-controlled ships blocked in the United States; and (3) to authorize performance of certain transactions under pre-sanctions contracts.

During the past 6 months, OFAC has continued to oversee the maintenance of blocked accounts and records with respect to: (1) liquidated tangible assets and personalty of the 15 blocked United States subsidiaries of entities organized in the FRY (S&M); (2) the blocked personalty, files, and records of the two Serbian banking institutions in New York previously placed in secure storage; (3) remaining tangible property, including real estate; and (4) the 5 Yugoslav-owned vessels recently unblocked in the United States.

5. Despite the prospective authorization of transactions with FRY (S&M), OFAC has continued to work closely with the United States Customs Service and other cooperating agencies to investigate alleged violations that occurred while sanctions were in force.

Since my last report, OFAC has collected six civil monetary penalties totaling nearly \$39,000 for violations of the sanctions. These violations included prohibited imports, exports, contract dealings, and payments to the Government of the FRY (S&M), persons in the FRY (S&M), or to blocked entities owned or controlled by the FRY (S&M).

6. The expenses incurred by the Federal Government in the 6-month period from November 30, 1996, through May 29, 1997, that are directly attributable to the declaration of a national emergency with respect to the FRY (S&M) and the Bosnian Serb forces and authorities are estimated at approximately \$400,000, most of which represents wage and salary costs for Federal personnel. Personnel costs were largely centered in the Department of the Treasury (particularly in OFAC and its Chief Counsel's Office, and the United States Customs Service), the Department of State, the National Security Council, and the Department of Commerce.

7. In the last year and a half, substantial progress has been achieved to bring about a settlement of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia acceptable to the parties. UNSCR 1074 terminates sanctions in view of the first free and fair elections to occur in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as provided for in the Peace Agreement. In reaffirming Resolution 1022, however, UNSCR 1074 contemplates the continued blocking of assets potentially subject to conflicting claims and encumbrances until provision is made to address them under applicable law, including claims of the other successor states of the former Yugoslavia.

The resolution of the crisis and conflict in the former Yugoslavia that has resulted from the actions and policies of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), and of the Bosnian Serb forces and the authorities in the territory that they control, will not be complete until such time as the Peace Agreement is implemented and the terms of UNSCR 1022 have been met. Therefore, I have continued for another year the national emergency declared on May 30, 1992, as expanded in scope on October 25, 1994, and will continue to enforce the measures adopted pursuant thereto.

I shall continue to exercise the powers at my disposal with respect to the measures against the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), and the Bosnian Serb forces, civil authorities, and entities, as long as these measures are appropriate, and will continue to report periodically to the Congress on

significant developments pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(c).

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 30, 1997.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules but not before 5 p.m. today.

CONFERRING STATUS AS HONORARY VETERAN ON LESLIE TOWNES (BOB) HOPE

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 75) to confer status as an honorary veteran of the United States Armed Forces on Leslie Townes (Bob) Hope.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.J. RES. 75

Whereas the United States has never before conferred status as an honorary veteran of the United States Armed Forces on an individual, and such status is and should remain an extraordinary honor not lightly conferred nor frequently granted;

Whereas the lifetime of accomplishments and service of Leslie Townes (Bob) Hope on behalf of United States military servicemembers fully justifies the conferring of such status;

Whereas Leslie Townes (Bob) Hope is himself not a veteran, having attempted to enlist in the Armed Forces to serve his country during World War II, but being informed that the greatest service he could provide the Nation was as a civilian entertainer for the troops;

Whereas during, World War II, the Korean Conflict, the Vietnam War, and the Persian Gulf War and throughout the Cold War, Bob Hope traveled to visit and entertain millions of United States servicemembers in numerous countries, on ships at sea, and in combat zones ashore;

Whereas Bob Hope has been awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Distinguished Service Medal of each of the branches of the Armed Forces, and more than 100 citations and awards from national veterans service organizations and civic and humanitarian organizations; and

Whereas Bob Hope has given unselfishly of his time for over a half century to be with United States servicemembers on foreign shores, working tirelessly to bring a spirit of humor and cheer to millions of servicemembers during their loneliest moments, and thereby extending for the American people a touch of home away from home: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress—

(1) extends its gratitude, on behalf of the American people, to Leslie Townes (Bob) Hope for his lifetime of accomplishments and service on behalf of United States military servicemembers; and

(2) confers upon Leslie Townes (Bob) Hope the status of an honorary veteran of the United States Armed Forces.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP] and the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. EVANS], each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP].

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the joint resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, many consider Bob Hope's most important contribution to American society to be entertaining this Nation's troops overseas. From World War II to the Persian Gulf, Bob Hope performed for millions of American GI's stationed all over the world.

As a Navy enlisted man, I was privileged to attend two of these performances during World War II.

I also had the honor of sharing the stage with Bob Hope and other dignitaries in 1995 in Honolulu at the Waikiki Shell to commemorate the 50th anniversary of V-J Day.

The U.S. Navy recently dedicated the USNS *Bob Hope* (T-AKR 300), the lead ship in a new class of strategic sealift vessels.

On April 22d, the Air Force dedicated its newest C-17 Globemaster III aircraft in the name of Bob Hope in honor of his contributions to the Air Force.

Bob Hope has truly earned for himself the finest title this country can bestow, that of "honorary veteran."

Mr. Speaker, we have over 280 cosponsors on this resolution. I would like to commend the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. EVANS], ranking minority member of the full committee, for his support and cooperation on this resolution.

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

I want to commend the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP], chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. As a result of his efforts, he has put this resolution on a fast track, and it is an important piece of legislation and overdue, I think, in terms of recognizing the contributions of Bob Hope. I salute him for his leadership on this measure and was pleased to join him as a cosponsor of this legislation we originally introduced.

Perhaps more than any other person, Bob Hope has done more to lift the spirits of men and women in uniform when those spirits needed to be raised the most. On behalf of the countless

service men and women who Bob Hope has entertained throughout his long and distinguished career, we say to Bob Hope, thanks for the memories and for a job well done.

The honor bestowed on Bob Hope by House Joint Resolution 75 is well deserved. I look forward to favorable consideration of this resolution by our colleagues.

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

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California [Mr. DREIER].

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman of the committee for yielding me the time, and I congratulate both the chairman and ranking minority member for moving forward with this very appropriate legislation.

Last Thursday night in Los Angeles, a wonderful birthday tribute was held for Bob Hope as he marked his 94th birthday. It seems to me that this legislation is very fitting right on the heels of that important celebration.

When one thinks of the name of Bob Hope, for me the first word that comes to mind is patriot. That is why bestowing on him this title of being an honorary veteran is very, very apropos. He has spent countless days and very important days, holidays, away from his family to entertain our troops during very difficult times in our Nation's history. It seems to me when we think about the kinds of sacrifices that he has made, they clearly do certainly establish very, very good justification for Bob Hope to be named as a veteran of the armed services.

Mr. Speaker, I have considered Bob Hope and his wonderful wife Dolores and his son Tony and others in his family very good friends. They have homes in both Los Angeles and in the Palm Springs area and are very active in the community in southern California. We are happy to, first of all, mark his 94th birthday and wish him many more to come and to congratulate the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP] and the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. EVANS] for moving forward with this very important and well-deserved legislation.

Mr. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Joint Resolution 75, and to speak on behalf of my constituent and friend, Mr. Leslie Townes Hope or, as he is known to everyone worldwide, Bob Hope.

Virtually everyone is aware that Bob Hope has, for many years, been America's greatest "veteran" showman, performing countless times for our troops throughout the world. No matter how far away, or how dangerous the conditions, Bob Hope made sure that our service personnel had the chance to enjoy an entertaining show, and, at least for a brief time, a respite from the horror of war or drudgery of duty.

Although he was not born in America, Mr. Hope is as American as apple pie and forever linked to the glamour of the golden era of Hollywood and the American GI. While the honors

and accolades for Bob Hope are as countless as the shows he performed for our troops, I want to mention just a few of the awards he has received. For his humanitarian work he was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. As an entertainer he was awarded a Presidential Medal of the Arts. His honorary degrees and awards would consume pages of this record. The U.S. Navy has dedicated a ship the USNS *Bob Hope*, and the U.S. Air Force has named its newest C-17 *Globemaster III* in his honor.

As an entertainer Bob Hope is a legendary figure. But his greatest legacy will be carried in the memories of those American sons and daughters who faced adversity far from home and found a few hours of refuge in the USO tours headed by Bob Hope. Bob Hope gave our troops the gift of humor, reminding us all that one of our greatest assets in facing adversity is a sense of humor. No matter, the conditions, Bob Hope came through for our troops. His tours and annual Christmas show, performed in more than 40 countries during the past quarter century brought a piece of home to millions of American service personnel.

The time has come to give Bob Hope our thanks for his selfless commitment to our troops. Veteran groups, members of the Armed Forces, Members of Congress, and the American people have joined together to recognize Bob Hope as the first honorary veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces. I urge all my colleagues to join in this fitting tribute to a great man—Bob Hope.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Bob Hope, world renowned entertainer, humanitarian, and Cleveland.

Bob Hope started his entertainment career in the great vaudeville era with Fatty Arbuckle. He made his Broadway debut in "Roberta," by Jerome Kern. He succeeded again with "Ziegfeld Follies" and "Red, Hot and Blue." Then he starred in movies, such as "Thanks for the Memory."

Bob Hope warmed the hearts of Americans through his commitment to raising the spirits of U.S. troops. He traveled the world, to wherever U.S. troops were stationed. Always self-deprecating, he said of himself, "I still have the same rank I've always had—chicken, first class."

Bob Hope is a very successful businessman. He invested his show business earnings wisely, generating considerable wealth. Bob Hope is also a very generous man. His foundation regularly gives away half a million dollars per year to worthy education and health care projects. He has shown deep commitment to Catholic agencies and churches.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Hope is a great American. To Bob, his lovely wife Dolores and their entire family, I wish them continued happiness.

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

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member of the committee for his help. I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP] that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, House Joint Resolution 75.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION ON STRUCTURAL ALTERNATIVES FOR FEDERAL COURTS OF APPEAL

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 908) to establish a Commission on Structural Alternatives for the Federal Courts of Appeals, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 908

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTIONS OF COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Commission on Structural Alternatives for the Federal Courts of Appeals (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission").

(b) FUNCTIONS.—The functions of the Commission shall be to—

(1) study the present division of the United States into the several judicial circuits;

(2) study the structure and alignment of the Federal Court of Appeals system, with particular reference to the Ninth Circuit; and

(3) report to the President and the Congress its recommendations for such changes in circuit boundaries or structure as may be appropriate for the expeditious and effective disposition of the caseload of the Federal Courts of Appeals, consistent with fundamental concepts of fairness and due process.

SEC. 2. MEMBERSHIP.

(a) COMPOSITION.—The Commission shall be composed of 10 members appointed as follows:

(1) One member appointed by the President of the United States.

(2) One member appointed by the Chief Justice of the United States.

(3) Two members appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate.

(4) Two members appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(5) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(6) Two members appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

(b) APPOINTMENT.—The members of the Commission shall be appointed within 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) VACANCY.—Any vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(d) CHAIR.—The Commission shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members.

(e) QUORUM.—Six members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum, but 3 may conduct hearings.

SEC. 3. COMPENSATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Members of the Commission who are officers, or full-time employees, of the United States shall receive no additional compensation for their services, but shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of duties vested in the Commission, but not in excess of the maximum amounts authorized under section 456 of title 28, United States Code.

(b) PRIVATE MEMBERS.—Members of the Commission from private life shall receive \$200 for each day (including travel time) during which the member is engaged in the actual performance of duties vested in the Commission, plus reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of such duties, but not in excess of the maximum amounts authorized under section 456 of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 4. PERSONNEL.

(a) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Commission may appoint an Executive Director who shall receive compensation at a rate not exceeding the rate prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) STAFF.—The Executive Director, with the approval of the Commission, may appoint and fix the compensation of such additional personnel as the Executive Director determines necessary, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service or the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates. Compensation under this subsection shall not exceed the annual maximum rate of basic pay for a position above GS-15 of the General Schedule under section 5108 of title 5, United States Code.

(c) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Executive Director may procure personal services of experts and consultants as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, at rates not to exceed the highest level payable under the General Schedule pay rates under section 5332 of title 5, United States Code.

(d) SERVICES.—The Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall provide administrative services, including financial and budgeting services to the Commission on a reimbursable basis. The Federal Judicial Center shall provide necessary research services to the Commission on a reimbursable basis.

SEC. 5. INFORMATION.

The Commission is authorized to request from any department, agency, or independent instrumentality of the Government any information and assistance the Commission determines necessary to carry out its functions under this Act. Each such department, agency, and independent instrumentality is authorized to provide such information and assistance to the extent permitted by law when requested by the Chair of the Commission.

SEC. 6. REPORT.

No later than 18 months following the date on which its sixth member is appointed in accordance with section 2(b), the Commission shall submit its report to the President and the Congress. The Commission shall terminate 90 days after the date of the submission of its report.

SEC. 7. CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION.

No later than 60 days after the submission of the report, the Committees on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Senate shall act on the report.

SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Commission such sums, not to exceed \$900,000, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act. Such sums as are appropriated shall remain available until expended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. COBLE] and the gentlewoman from California [Ms. LOFGREN], each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. COBLE].

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

[Mr. COBLE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.]

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of H.R. 908, a bill to establish a Commission on Structural Alternatives for the Federal Courts of Appeals.

An amended version of this bill is presented for passage under suspension of the rules. The amendment to the reported bill makes the following changes:

It reduces the time established in the bill, as introduced, in which the commission must come to a conclusion to 18 months from the appointment of the sixth member of the commission as opposed to 2 years from enactment.

Second, due to the reduction in time, funding for the commission is reduced from \$1.3 million to \$900,000, \$500,000 of which has already been appropriated.

And third, the size of the commission will be reduced from 12 members to 10 members with 2 members being appointed by each of the majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, and the minority leader of the House. Additionally the President and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court will appoint one member each.

H.R. 908 was introduced in response to recurring attempts to divide the largest of the Federal judicial circuits, the ninth.

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However, if properly implemented, the commission proposal represents a sound approach to a problem of national concern, and that is the explosive growth in the caseload of all of the courts of appeals.

The time is right, it seems to me, for a careful, objective study aimed at determining whether that structure can adequately serve the needs of the 21st century. The task of the commission would be to carry out that study.

The proposed commission would be the first of its kind since the Commission on Revision of the Federal Court Appellate System, also known as the Hruska Commission, which completed its work in 1975, or more than two decades ago. Needless to say, dramatic changes have taken place in the work of the Federal courts in those two decades, but there have been no structural alterations except for the division of the old fifth circuit and the creation of the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.