

Finally, the new tobacco taxes are unacceptable to the overwhelming majority of my constituents. Under this agreement, tobacco will be hit with a complicated new tax scheme which among other things will mandate an additional 10 cents per pack tax in 2000 and another 5 cent one in 2002. As you can see, an additional 15 cents a pack will be levied by this budget deal. I believe that this is an unfair attack on a legal product, one that would hurt nearly 45,000 tobacco farmers in North Carolina (including over 4,000 in the 10th district alone), and more than 31,000 workers in related industries in my district and the state. Moreover, this excise tax is regressive, hitting hardest those who can least afford this tax increase.

In sum, although I could not vote for the compromise balanced budget package, I will continue to work to balance the federal budget. However, we can and must do so without all the unnecessary spending, unfair taxes and budget tricks included in this particular package. In fact, estimates show that we could balance the federal budget in just a few short years if we hold down spending. Why wait until 2002, if we don't have to?

□ 1615

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the conference report.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the conference report.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 346, noes 85, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 345]

AYES—346

Abercrombie	Buyer	DeLay
Ackerman	Callahan	Deutsch
Aderholt	Calvert	Diaz-Balart
Allen	Camp	Dicks
Andrews	Campbell	Dingell
Archer	Canady	Dixon
Armey	Cannon	Doggett
Bachus	Capps	Dooley
Baker	Cardin	Doyle
Baldacci	Carson	Dreier
Barcia	Castle	Duncan
Barr	Chabot	Dunn
Barrett (NE)	Chambliss	Edwards
Barrett (WI)	Chenoweth	Ehlers
Bartlett	Christensen	Ehrlich
Bass	Clayton	Emerson
Bateman	Clement	English
Becerra	Clyburn	Ensign
Bentsen	Collins	Eshoo
Bereuter	Combest	Evans
Berman	Condit	Everett
Bilbray	Cook	Ewing
Bilirakis	Cooksey	Farr
Bishop	Costello	Fattah
Blagojevich	Cox	Fawell
Bliley	Coyne	Fazio
Boehlert	Cramer	Flake
Boehner	Crane	Foglietta
Bonior	Crapo	Foley
Bono	Cubin	Ford
Boswell	Cummings	Fowler
Boyd	Cunningham	Fox
Brady	Danner	Franks (NJ)
Brown (CA)	Davis (FL)	Frelinghuysen
Brown (FL)	Davis (VA)	Frost
Brown (OH)	Deal	Furse
Bunning	DeGette	Gallegly
Burton	DeLauro	Ganske

Gejdenson	Livingston	Roemer
Gekas	LoBiondo	Rogan
Gibbons	Lofgren	Rogers
Giltchrest	Lowey	Ros-Lehtinen
Gillmor	Lucas	Rothman
Gilman	Luther	Roukema
Gingrich	Maloney (CT)	Roybal-Allard
Goodlatte	Maloney (NY)	Sabo
Goodling	Manton	Sanchez
Gordon	Manzullo	Sandlin
Goss	Martinez	Sawyer
Granger	Mascara	Saxton
Green	Matsui	Schaefer, Dan
Greenwood	McCarthy (MO)	Schaffer, Bob
Gutknecht	McCarthy (NY)	Schumer
Hall (OH)	McCollum	Scott
Hall (TX)	McCrery	Sensenbrenner
Hamilton	McDade	Sessions
Hansen	McHale	Shaw
Harman	McHugh	Shays
Hastert	McInnis	Sherman
Hastings (WA)	McKeon	Shimkus
Hayworth	McKinney	Shuster
Hefley	Meehan	Sisisky
Hefner	Meek	Skaggs
Herger	Menendez	Skeen
Hill	Metcalfe	Skelton
Hinchey	Millender-McDonald	Slaughter
Hinojosa	Miller (CA)	Smith (MI)
Hobson	Miller (FL)	Smith (NJ)
Hoekstra	Minge	Smith (OR)
Holden	Molinari	Smith (TX)
Hooley	Moran (VA)	Smith, Adam
Horn	Morella	Snyder
Hostettler	Murtha	Solomon
Houghton	Myrick	Souder
Hoyer	Neal	Spence
Hulshof	Nethercutt	Spratt
Hunter	Neumann	Stabenow
Hutchinson	Ney	Stearns
Hyde	Northup	Stenholm
Inglis	Norwood	Strickland
Jackson-Lee (TX)	Nussle	Stump
Jefferson	Olver	Stupak
Jenkins	Ortiz	Sununu
John	Oxley	Talent
Johnson (CT)	Packard	Tanner
Johnson (WI)	Pallone	Tauscher
Johnson, E. B.	Pappas	Tauzin
Johnson, Sam	Parker	Taylor (NC)
Kanjorski	Pascrell	Thomas
Kasich	Pastor	Thompson
Kelly	Paxon	Thornberry
Kennelly	Pease	Thune
Kildee	Pelosi	Thurman
Kim	Peterson (MN)	Tierney
Kind (WI)	Peterson (PA)	Torres
King (NY)	Petri	Traficant
Klecza	Pickering	Turner
Klink	Pickett	Upton
Klug	Pitts	Vento
Knollenberg	Pomeroy	Visclosky
Kolbe	Porter	Walsh
LaFalce	Portman	Wamp
LaHood	Poshard	Watkins
Lampson	Price (NC)	Watts (OK)
Lantos	Pryce (OH)	Weldon (PA)
Latham	Quinn	Weller
LaTourette	Radanovich	Wexler
Lazio	Ramstad	Weygand
Leach	Redmond	White
Levin	Regula	Whitfield
Lewis (CA)	Reyes	Wicker
Lewis (GA)	Riggs	Wise
Lewis (KY)	Riley	Wolf
Linder	Rivers	Woolsey
Lipinski	Rodriguez	Wynn
		Young (FL)

NOES—85

Baesler	Dickey	Kilpatrick
Ballenger	Doolittle	Kington
Barton	Engel	Kucinich
Berry	Etheridge	Largent
Blumenauer	Filner	Markey
Blunt	Frank (MA)	McDermott
Bonilla	Gephardt	McGovern
Borski	Goode	McIntosh
Boucher	Graham	McIntyre
Bryant	Gutierrez	McNulty
Burr	Hastings (FL)	Mica
Clay	Hilleary	Mink
Coble	Hilliard	Moakley
Coburn	Istook	Mollohan
Conyers	Jackson (IL)	Moran (KS)
Davis (IL)	Jones	Nadler
DeFazio	Kaptur	Oberstar
Delahunt	Kennedy (MA)	Obey
Dellums	Kennedy (RI)	Owens

Paul	Sanders	Tiahrt
Payne	Sanford	Towns
Pombo	Scarborough	Velazquez
Rahall	Serrano	Waters
Rangel	Shadegg	Watt (NC)
Rohrabacher	Smith, Linda	Waxman
Royce	Snowbarger	Weldon (FL)
Rush	Stark	Yates
Ryun	Stokes	
Salmon	Taylor (MS)	

NOT VOTING—4

Forbes	Schiff
Gonzalez	Young (AK)

□ 1643

Mr. CUMMINGS changed his vote from "no" to "aye."

So the conference report was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the conference report just agreed to.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Connecticut?

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING TERRORIST BOMBING IN JERUSALEM

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on International Relations be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 133) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the terrorist bombing in the Jerusalem market on July 30, 1997, and I ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I do not intend to object, I would merely like to ask the gentleman from New York to explain the resolution before us.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LANTOS. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. GILMAN. I thank the gentleman for yielding. Mr. Speaker, this concurrent resolution expresses the sense of Congress regarding the terrorist bombing in a Jerusalem market on July 30, 1997. The terrorist attack on a Jerusalem marketplace that killed 14 people and injured more than 150 is a devastating blow to the peace process.

The gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] and I have worked together in introducing House Concurrent Resolution 133 expressing the sense of Congress regarding these heinous explosions which were claimed by Hamas

terrorists who want Palestinian terrorists, including Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, released from Israeli jails.

Mr. Arafat and the Palestinian Authority are doing too little to root out terrorism. Arafat must systematically arrest suspected terrorists and those who incite violence if the peace process is to survive. He has not done so to date and his commitment and credibility are being questioned.

The legislation before us today underscores the urgent need for Mr. Arafat to immediately undertake unequivocal action against terrorists and eliminate all illegal weapons and explosives.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH], our Speaker.

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, let me first thank both gentlemen for bringing this resolution to the floor and for doing so in such a timely manner. Let me say that my only regret is that this is not even stronger. I think every American needs to look at this two-sided game that is being played.

First we see in the media that the Palestinian Liberation Organization has suffered some diplomatic slight and we are told that Israel should make more concessions. Then Israelis die, but no one is responsible. Then we are told in the media that the Palestinian Liberation Organization has suffered some slight and Israel should make concessions. Then Israelis die but no one is responsible.

Let it be very clear. For at least 7 months, Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Liberation Authority have consistently failed to pursue and lock up terrorists, they have released convicted terrorists, they have put back on the street people guilty of murder, they have turned their eye, and in fact their justice minister and their head of security have been engaged in actions which are terrorism, although so far the only recorded acts are terrorist against Palestinians who did something as bad as sell land to Israelis.

Let us be clear. Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority has an absolute obligation as a function of its existence to join in the fight against terrorism, and the United States Government should insist unequivocally that we will hold the Palestinian Authority responsible for any failure to lock up terrorists and to abide by its half of the agreement. There can be no security and no peace when innocent people are killed by terrorist bombings and, frankly, Mr. Arafat and his Authority are failing in their obligation to keep up their half of this relationship.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield further to the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

Mr. GILMAN. I thank the Speaker for his supportive remarks.

Mr. Speaker, without security cooperation by the Palestinian Authority, there is no peace process. Israel's

participation and commitment to the Oslo accords are predicated on this. But it has been clear that since March the Palestinian Authority has drastically curtailed its security cooperation with Israel. That is evident by the lack of a compliance report by the State Department certifying that the PLO is in compliance with its commitments. We have no report. And we will have no certification because the State Department knows it cannot certify Mr. Arafat and the PLO as being in compliance with their commitments voluntarily undertaken to fight terrorism at its core.

Today's explosion magnifies those concerns among the American people and heightens the lack of trust. Mr. Arafat must make a 180-degree turn against terrorism, incitement to violence and releasing dangerous suspects. The Government of Israel warned repeatedly that terrorist attacks were brewing because of the lack of Palestinian commitment to fighting terrorism and the green light Arafat was giving to Hamas.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I condemn the actions taken today against innocent individuals in Israel. I extend my deepest sympathy to the families of the dead and injured, reiterate my support for the Government and people of Israel for peace, and urge our colleagues to support the Lantos-Gilman measure that is now before us.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I would like to express the condolences of the Congress of the United States and the American people to the families of the victims and to the people of Israel for the loss of life and the 172 serious injuries that have been suffered in this preposterous and outrageous terrorist bombing in a Jerusalem market. I wish to express the solidarity of the American people with the people of Israel in the face of this tragic, senseless, brutal, bloody act. I would like to reaffirm the determination of the Congress, Mr. Speaker, to join with the Government of the State of Israel in fighting international terrorism. I want to urge Yasser Arafat to undertake immediately and unequivocally action to bring to justice the leaders of all the terrorist organizations and extremist groups currently residing in territory under his control, to confiscate their weapons and their explosives, and to keep convicted criminals and terrorists in prison and not to release them.

I wish to reaffirm, Mr. Speaker, the commitment of the Congress of the United States to the peace process in the Middle East. I want to urge all parties to work together to bring lasting peace and security without violence and terrorism in this region.

I also want to urge President Clinton and our Department of State and other executive agencies to provide all appropriate assistance to the Government of Israel, to provide medical and other assistance to the victims of this terrorist act, and to bring to justice the terror-

ist leaders behind this and similar acts of violence and to work to prevent future such terrorist acts.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to identify myself fully with the words of the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH] our distinguished Speaker. He made it clear that there is an asymmetry in the Middle East peace process; that from time to time outrageous terrorist events occur, dozens of innocent Israeli men, women and children are massacred, and then there is some diplomatic move which presumably calls for evenhanded action.

I think the time is long past due for Yasser Arafat to live up to his obligation, to use his vast police apparatus to ferret out the terrorist nests and to put an end to this nightmare. It is unacceptable for a civilized society to have to live with constant terrorist threats.

At Oklahoma City we learned what it means to have a terrorist act take place on the territory of our own Nation. We are a Nation of 260 million people, and in the last few years we had two terrorist acts of significant proportions, the one at the World Trade Center, and the one at Oklahoma City. The people of Israel suffer from such terrorist acts on a regular basis. A country of a few million people, every one of these incidents hits every single family because they have a sense of community and commitment and belonging.

It is long overdue, Mr. Speaker, that the United Nations also show some balance in recognizing the threat under which Israel lives day in and day out: the Islamic Jihad, the Hamas and the other terrorist organizations, hellbent on destroying the attempt to create peace in the region that millions of decent Israelis and Arabs so desperately crave.

Mr. YATES. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LANTOS. Further reserving the right to object, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. YATES. Mr. Speaker, I should like to associate myself with the very eloquent remarks of the gentleman from California in support of the resolution which is now pending. It was a most despicable act that took place today and certainly our Government must make clear to the PLO that our Government will not tolerate such actions. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. LANTOS. I thank the gentleman for his contribution.

Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL].

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for putting forth this resolution with the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN]. All people of goodwill are outraged at the terrorist bombings that happened today in Jerusalem. All people of goodwill throughout the world cannot and will not tolerate acts of terrorism.

Mr. Arafat and the Palestinian authorities have to understand that there

is a limit to people's patience, that the United States supports and helps facilitate the peace process, but if all sides are not actively working towards peace, there unfortunately can be no peace.

I think it is not a coincidence, Mr. Speaker, that as the peace process has seemed in the last few days to perhaps get back on track, American envoy Dennis Ross is going to the Middle East, it is not a coincidence that these bombings happened because the people that are doing this want to disrupt the peace process, they want to disrupt peace. They do not want to see peace happening. We cannot allow them to succeed. However, Mr. Arafat has to stop talking out of 16 sides of his mouth. He has to stop mouthing certain words and saying he supports peace while at the same time he and some of his ministers and some of the people in the highest ranks of the Palestinian Authority are fanning the fires of terrorism by winking, or looking the other way, or keeping the rhetoric going and showing that they are dissatisfied, and when the terrorist attack inevitably happens, they say, "Well, it wasn't me. My hands are clean. It wasn't me."

But what has Mr. Arafat done to prevent it? What has he done to try to stop terrorism from occurring? The Palestinians arrest people who they know are terrorists and then they release them. It is a revolving door system of justice. This has gone on and on and on for months and even years. So until the Palestinian Authority and Mr. Arafat and his people are serious about combating terrorism, terrorism will never be eradicated.

The Prime Minister of Israel, Mr. Netanyahu, said many, many times that the people of Israel do not expect 100 percent results in combating terrorism, but they certainly expect 100 percent effort. We in the Congress, we in the United States feel the same way.

□ 1700

If the effort is not made, then terrorism will not be eradicated, and Mr. Arafat cannot have it both ways. We in the U.S. Congress provide a lot of funding. In MEPFA we provide money to keep the peace process going. I support the peace process very, very much, but I must say that our patience is wearing thin. We cannot keep saying and making excuses and saying, "Well, OK, we're going to keep providing money, let's overlook this incident because it really wasn't Arafat's fault, and let's overlook that incident because it really wasn't his fault." How many times can we overlook it until we say enough is enough?

So I would personally like to serve notice on Mr. Arafat and the PLO, and I think by this resolution we are serving notice, that our American patience is wearing thin and money will not continue to flow unless there is an absolute commitment to eradicating terrorism. Again, a 100-percent commit-

ment, a 100-percent effort, not necessarily a 100-percent results, but if they have a 100-percent effort, they will approach a 100-percent results. But if they are not making the effort, they will never have the results.

And so I think that we have to ensure that Arafat and his people go after the terrorists, stop the revolving door of justice. Enough is enough. Too many innocent people have been killed, men, women and children. Terrorism is never an acceptable vehicle for negotiations, and that is what the Palestinians are doing. They are using the spectrum of terrorism to kind of hold it over everybody's head and say that if we do not like what is happening, we are going to use rhetoric to say, "Well, you know terrorism might happen because we don't like what the Israeli government is doing." That is what the Palestinians are saying. Well, terrorism is not acceptable, it never will be acceptable, we in the Congress will not accept it, and by passing this resolution we are sending word to Mr. Arafat enough is enough, our patience is wearing thin.

My heart goes out to all those massacred today, to all those maimed today and to the Israeli people. The United States of America will stand by Israel and the fight against terrorism.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, under my reservation of objection, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON].

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin just my short, very brief remarks by just saying I would like to associate myself with the remarks of the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL] and the others who have spoken and to say that as terrible, as terrible as today's event was in Jerusalem, where there were at least 18 people killed and up to 200 apparently injured by 2 suicide bombers, today's event unfortunately was not unique. It was not unique because when people are killed in a cafe in Tel Aviv or a fruit and vegetable market in Jerusalem or any of the other in a long series of events like this, civilized people in a civilized society cannot tolerate it, and obviously those of us who are here who feel as deeply as the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL] obviously does and others do as well, that we have got to take steps which are left to our devices to see to it that those events stop.

And without going into further explanation, I would just say that either later tonight or tomorrow or the next time we consider the continuation of the foreign ops bill that we are going to start momentarily, I have filed an amendment which will do that. It makes a very strong and substantive statement on direct aid, I underline the words "direct aid," to the Palestinian Authority and puts very strong and certain conditions which must be met by the Palestinian Authority and Mr. Arafat before any further funds are released directly to the PA.

So I hope that when we get to that bill we can find unanimous agreement

in this House that this is the proper course at this time, given the string of events which were capped by the event in Jerusalem today.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend for his comments, and under my reservation of objection I yield to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. SHERMAN].

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS], who time and time again tirelessly has brought to the attention of this Chamber the misery and the death that have occurred, brought to our attention the victims of terrorism in the Middle East, and we ought to take a minute, as several of the other speakers have indicated, to reflect on the 18 or more who died today.

We ought to remember how the Palestinian Authority came to control territory in the West Bank in Gaza. That territory came under Israeli administration because Israel defended itself in a war of aggression.

Mr. Speaker, how often does a country seize territory in a defensive war and then voluntarily give that territory up? But the territory was put under Arafat's control, initially the Gaza Strip, and then additional areas, land for peace. Where is the peace? Instead, we see pieces of men and women whose lives and bodies have been shattered by explosives in a market in Jerusalem.

We can do something positive today. We cannot only mourn the dead, but we can do something positive. The State Department could announce today that we are moving our embassy to Jerusalem, that we are acknowledging Jerusalem as the indivisible permanent capital of the State of Israel.

Congress has called upon the State Department to do this again and again. It would have the positive effect, the positive impact, of telling all the terrorists in the Middle East that they cannot fight for Jerusalem with terror, that this issue is off the table and that America stands behind Israel's decision long ago to make all of Jerusalem its indivisible and indisputable capital.

So perhaps today can be the last time when terrorists believe that the way to negotiate over the status of Jerusalem is through terrorism. I want to thank the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] for yielding.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for his comments, and under my reservation of objection I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX].

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today's bombings represent yet another failure by the Palestinian Authority to clamp down on terrorism as well as their failure to work with Israel to prevent such attacks. By failing to fulfill its commitments with Israel, the Palestinian Authority has sent a very clear and strong signal to the enemies of peace that it is just a step in obtaining its ultimate goal, the destruction

of Israel. The failure again, Mr. Speaker, of the Palestinian Authority to contain terror and to work with Israeli authorities to maintain security for Israeli citizens is written in blood again of 13 bodies of today's attack. The use of terrorism as a tool to win concessions from the Israeli Government is unacceptable and it must be stopped.

Mr. Speaker, we call on the Palestinian community to condemn this horrific attack and continued use of terrorism in the strongest terms. Palestinian Authority Chairman Yassir Arafat in his condolence call to Prime Minister Netanyahu is meaningless if it is not accompanied by a serious effort to assure that future acts of violence against Israeli citizens do not occur.

Our hearts go out to those killed and wounded in today's attack and to their families. It is our deepest hope that the people of Israel will soon be able to live in true peace and security, and I urge my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 133, and I thank the gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS] and the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the chairman, for their leadership on this issue and for ever being strong and making sure we defend the rights of those who are peace loving, and also thank the gentleman from California [Mr. BERMAN] and the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON] and the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL] for their support of the Lantos and Gilman legislation.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania, and under my reservation of objection I yield to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. MORAN].

Mr. Speaker, the suicide attacks today in Jerusalem's open air market are cause for deep sadness on everyone's part. First and foremost, the sympathies of all people of conscience go to the victims and their families. The loss of life and limb in such circumstances is painful beyond words. Our heart goes out to those who have suffered from this callous act of terrorism. These were innocent people who did not deserve to die, who did not deserve to have their bodies mangled for life.

Beyond the individual tragedy is the impact this crime will have upon the peace process. The risks which any government is willing to take for peace are limited by its concerns for the security of its citizens. The limits of trust between negotiating parties are defined by the integrity of each in resolutely safeguarding the security of the other.

Both sides have been disappointed. Israel has been repeatedly disappointed in its request from the Palestinian Authority for a return to previous co-operation in preventing attacks on civilians and bringing perpetrators to justice. It is not likely that there will be concessions of autonomy and territory if the result is going to be terrorism. Without mutual cooperation, the

cycle of hostility will continue delaying, perhaps destroying, the peace which Israelis and Palestinians alike desire.

Mr. Speaker, I condemn entirely the terrorist act in Mahane Yehudah and the terrorists who perpetrated and who strategized it. They must be brought to justice, and there must be no gain for them from this crime. I urge all the parties involved to find constructive responses which preserve the ability of citizens to live peaceful lives and prevent the extremists from achieving their goal of derailing the peace process.

Mr. Speaker, this was a clearly calculated effort to destroy progress toward peace between Arabs and Jews. Let us resolve not to let it succeed.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia for that eloquent statement and, further reserving the right to object, I want to emphasize in concluding, Mr. Speaker, that this House is united in denouncing this outrageous and brutal act of terrorism.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues in the House, once again bombs have exploded in the streets of Israel killing at least 13 and wounding more than 150. Living with this kind of senseless violence is unbearable for all in the region and my deepest condolences go out to the families, friends, and neighbors who lost a loved one in the explosion. Every time an innocent life is taken through violence, especially a child's it is a tragedy. It chips away at the fabric that binds us together as a human race. More than lives were killed in its explosion—the explosion struck a deadly blow to the peace process. The attackers, Hamas claimed responsibility in a leaflet, whose overall aim has been to scuttle the peace process achieved a short-term goal: President Clinton postponed a new peace initiative by U.S. envoy Dennis Ross, who was to arrive in the region on July 31, 1997. No new date for the trip was set.

This latest example of violence leads me to ask the question—what kind of peace is this? Since the signing of the Oslo Accords in 1993, the world has witnessed rioting and bombs exploding in the streets of Israel, buses exploding, and Prime Ministers assassinated. I do not want to see the Israelis and Palestinians retreat from the principle of peace but peace they don't have. The time is at hand, and has been, for the U.S. To demand compliance under the Oslo accords. Tangible and measurable results are possible and we need to stick to the task of requiring compliance as a condition of sending U.S. aid to the region. Unfortunately, the Administration and many in Congress are willing to turn a blind eye to evidence of Palestinian violations and misconduct in the name of the peace process. Again, I ask what peace is there? As a result of Congressional inaction, \$100 million annually in U.S. assistance is available to the Palestinians.

Since the signing of the Oslo Accords, the Palestinian Authority has engaged in blatant violations of the agreement in addition to disregarding international norms and practices. With the Fiscal Year 1998 Foreign Operations Appropriations bill, Congress has an opportunity to press the Palestinian Authority to

comply with its agreements by suspending aid for 3 months to the Palestinian Authority until the President can report and certify that various aspects of the Oslo accords and other human rights conditions are met. Suspending aid to the Palestinians for 3 months is an important demonstration of the American determination to hold both Israelis and Palestinians equally accountable for their actions in the peace process. Until we can be confident that the Palestinians have closed the spigot of violence, we should not be squandering taxpayer dollars on the Arafat regime.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 133 expressing the sense of Congress with regard to the terrorist bombing in the Jerusalem marketplace.

Certainly, I can agree with the language in the resolution that this attack is a violent, vicious, and reprehensible assault upon the individual citizens in Israel. For the victims and the victims' families I have the utmost sympathy. However, while expressing my sincerest personal condolences to these families and victims, I, at the same time, take very seriously my oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution.

Insofar as H. Con. Res. 133 “[u]rges the President and appropriate Executive agencies to provide all appropriate assistance to the government of Israel . . . [and] . . . bring to justice the terrorist leaders . . . [and] . . . prevent such terrorist acts in the future,” I am unable to vote in favor of this Resolution. Constitutionally, it is not within the enumerated powers of the National Government to police the world. At the same time we are asked to support this resolution to urge intervention by the United States Government to “prevent such terrorist acts in the future” in Israel, would we be so receptive to allowing foreign entities to, for example, intervene to bring to justice the individual who initiated the bombing in Atlanta, GA, during the recent Olympic games.

It is not the responsibility of foreign governments to police the United States and constitutionally, it is not the responsibility of the United States to police the world. Mr. Speaker, for these reasons and with the deepest regrets for the victims and families of this act of brutality in Jerusalem, I oppose passage of H. Con. Res. 133.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 133

Whereas on July 30, 1997, two terrorist bombs exploded almost simultaneously in the open market in Jerusalem killing at least 13 people and wounding more than 150 others, and

Whereas this attack is a violent and vicious assault against the peace process and against citizens of Israel: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) Expresses the deep condolences of the Congress and the American people to the families of the victims and to the people of Israel for the loss of life and the serious injuries that have been suffered in the terrorist

bombing in the Jerusalem market and expresses the solidarity of the American people with the people of Israel in the face of this tragic and senseless act;

(2) Reaffirms the determination of the Congress to join with the government of Israel in fighting against international terrorism;

(3) Urges Yassir Arafat and officials of the Palestinian Authority to undertake immediately unequivocal action to bring to justice leaders of terrorist organizations and extremist groups and to eliminate all weapons and explosives in the hands of such groups;

(4) Reaffirms the commitment of the Congress of the United States to the peace process in the Middle East and urges all parties to work together to bring lasting peace and security without violence and terrorism to that region; and

(5) Urges the President and appropriate Executive agencies to provide all appropriate assistance to the government of Israel to provide medical and other assistance to the victims of this terrorist act, to bring to justice the terrorist leaders behind this and similar acts of violence, and to work to prevent such terrorist acts in the future.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the concurrent resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill (H.R. 2159) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, and that I may include tabular and extraneous materials.

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

There was no objection.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, July 24, 1997 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2159.

□ 1712

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2159) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending

September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, with Mr. Thornberry in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, July 24, 1997, the bill is considered read for the first time.

The gentleman from Alabama [Mr. CALLAHAN] and the gentlewoman from California [Ms. PELOSI] each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. CALLAHAN].

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

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

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Chairman, it is my privilege today to summarize the work of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations as well as the full Committee on Appropriations in developing the fiscal 1998 Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Agencies appropriation bill.

First, I want to publicly express my appreciation for the cooperation extended by my colleague the gentlewoman from California [Ms. PELOSI], San Francisco to be specific, and her staff for their help in crafting this bill. Like the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON] and the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] before us, the ranking minority member and chairman do not agree with every detail of this bill, but we jointly recommend this bill to the House.

Again, this year the committee recommends a bill that is less than in previous years. We as well as our counterparts in the Senate fully recognize that foreign programs are not entitlements and must be subjected to the same scrutiny as domestic programs.

This year less than 5 percent of the money in this bill goes to the headline countries, such as Bosnia and Cambodia and Haiti. Another 43 percent supports the Middle East peace process, and that amount will not increase. But most of the money goes elsewhere to places where diplomats are seldom seen. What is it used for? It helps children, it protects victims of disasters and war, it promotes responsible economic growth in poor countries, it creates jobs at home through trade and investment, and that is why the \$12.267 billion is needed to fund this appropriations bill.

□ 1715

Let me move on to some of the specifics in this bill, beginning with the possible impact of the Congressional Budget Resolution.

At \$12.267 billion in discretionary budget authority, this bill is now \$233 million under our 602(b) allocation, it is \$4.6 billion less than the President's request, and \$4.5 billion less than the Senate bill. It is also \$87,000 below last year's appropriation bill. Let me once again reemphasize that this year, once

again, in voting for the final passage of this bill, Members will be cutting foreign aid as we have done for the last 2 years.

Not every dollar level nor every policy in this bill will find its way into the final conference report in September. The President has no objection to the House passage of this bill, but his advisers signal that he is unlikely to sign a bill at this appropriation level. The House conferees will do our best to hold the line, but the final outcome will be different from what we recommend today, I am sure.

Let me move on to some of the policy issues we have addressed this year, and then to some of the major programs funded through this measure.

The committee again directs through the report language that Israel and Egypt receive the traditional amount of economic and support funds and military assistance. However, leaders of Israel and Egypt have publicly indicated their intention to gradually reduce the burden of economic support by American taxpayers. Our efforts are complicated by the urgent needs of Jordan, Israel's principal peace partner today.

With regard to the South Caucasus and Black Sea-Aegean region, the committee has worked hard to develop a balanced approach. The bill language directs the administration to provide humanitarian assistance to conflictive zones throughout the South Caucasus, including Karabagh for the first time.

We also provide for democracy training in Azerbaijan, and a cap of \$40 million in ESF for Turkey, half of which is to be in the form of projects for specific purposes, as directed by section 571. Finally, the committee has reiterated current law with regard to trade and export agencies in the region.

Our chairman, the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON], and the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. PORTER] and the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. KNOLLENBERG] have worked hard on the provisions I have just discussed.

They and the managers oppose all amendments that would disadvantage the United States' efforts to mediate conflict in the Caucasus and Aegean regions.

There are several policy regions involving spending in our own hemisphere. Many of our Members favor tighter control over training at the School of the Americas. We have included language in the bill this year which I believe will address most of the concerns. Before taking a position on any amendment to ban IMET funding for the School of the Americas, I ask all Members to take time to read the committee's bill language on page 29.

Guatemala, Haiti, and Panama are three other countries that have drawn attention from many Members. The committee welcomes and supports the peace settlement in Guatemala. Several Members had the opportunity to witness this first hand in April of this year.