

The following named officer for appointment as Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Navy and for appointment to the grade indicated under title 10, United States Commission, section 5148:

To be rear admiral

Capt. John D. Hutson, 0000

The following-named officer for appointment in the U.S. Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, United States Code, section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Lee F. Gunn, 0000

IN THE COAST GUARD

Vice Admiral Roger T. Rufe, U.S. Coast Guard, to be Commander, Atlantic Area, U.S. Coast Guard, with the grade of vice admiral while so serving.

Rear Admiral James C. Card, U.S. Coast Guard, to be Commander, Pacific Area, U.S. Coast Guard, with the grade of vice admiral while so serving.

The following regular officers of the United States Coast Guard for promotion to the grade of rear admiral lower half:

Thomas J. Barrett	George N. Naccara
James D. Hull	Terry M. Cross
John F. McGowan	

The following regular officers of the U.S. Coast Guard for the appointment to the grade of rear admiral lower half:

Robert C. North	John T. Tozzi
Timothy W. Josiah	Thomas H. Collins
Fred L. Ames	Ernest R. Riutta
Richard M. Larrabee,	
III	

IN THE ARMY

The following U.S. Army Reserve officers for promotion in the Reserve of the Army to the grades indicated under title 10, United States Code, sections 14101.14315 and 12203(a):

To be major general

Brig. Gen. William F. Allen, 0000
Brig. Gen. Craig Bambrough, 0000
Brig. Gen. Peter A. Gannon, 0000
Brig. Gen. Francis R. Jordan, Jr., 0000

To be brigadier general

Col. James P. Collins, 0000
Col. William S. Crupe, 0000
Col. Alan V. Davis, 0000
Col. John F. Depue, 0000
Col. Bertie S. Duett, 0000
Col. Calvin D. Jaeger, 0000
Col. John S. Kasper, 0000
Col. Richard M. O'Meara, 0000
Col. James C. Price, 0000
Col. Richard O. Wightman, 0000

The following-named officer for appointment in the U.S. Army to the grade indicated under title 10, United States Code, section 624:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Gregory A. Rountree, 0000

IN THE COAST GUARD AND NAVY

Coast Guard nomination of Brenda K. Wolter, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 5, 1997.

Coast Guard nominations beginning Kelley Elizabeth Abood, and ending Andrew James Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 5, 1997.

Navy nominations beginning Michael J. Bailey, and ending Stan A. Young, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 25, 1997.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 49, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 49) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 49) was agreed to.

EXTENDING CERTAIN PRIVILEGES, EXEMPTIONS, AND IMMUNITIES TO HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of calendar No. 49, S. 342.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 342) to extend certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities to Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read for the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be placed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 342) was deemed read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 342

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PRIVILEGES, EXEMPTIONS, AND IMMUNITIES TO HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICES.

(a) APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IMMUNITIES ACT.—The provisions of

the International Organizations Immunities Act (22 U.S.C. 288 et seq.) may be extended to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same conditions as such provisions may be extended to a public international organization in which the United States participates pursuant to any treaty or under the authority of any Act of Congress authorizing such participation or making an appropriation for such participation.

(b) APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN STATE AND LOCAL TAXATION.—The President is authorized to apply the provisions of Article I of the Agreement on State and Local Taxation of Foreign Employees of Public International Organizations, done at Washington on April 21, 1994, to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices.

(c) DEFINITION.—The term "Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices" refers to Hong Kong's official economic and trade missions in the United States.

EXPRESSING CONCERN FOR THE CONTINUED DETERIORATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFGHANISTAN

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of calendar No. 50, Senate Concurrent Resolution 6.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 6) expressing concern for the continued deterioration of human rights in Afghanistan and emphasizing the need for a peaceful political settlement in that country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment and an amendment to the preamble:

(The parts of the resolution intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the resolution intended to be inserted are shown in italic.)

S. CON. RES. 6

【Whereas Congress recognizes that the legacy of civil conflict in Afghanistan during the last 17 years has had a devastating effect on the civilian population in that country and a particularly negative impact on the rights and security of women and girls;

【Whereas the longstanding civil conflict in Afghanistan among the warring political and military factions has created an environment where the rights of women and girls are routinely violated;

【Whereas the Afghan forces led by Burhanuddin Rabbani and Abdul Rashid Dostum are responsible for numerous abhorrent human rights abuses, including the rape, sexual abuse, torture, abduction, and persecution of women and girls;

【Whereas Congress is disturbed by the upsurge of reported human rights abuses, including extreme restrictions placed on

women and girls, since the Taliban coalition seized the capital city of Kabul;

【Whereas Afghanistan is a sovereign nation and must work to solve its internal disputes; and

【Whereas Afghanistan and the United States recognize international human rights conventions, such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, which espouse respect for basic human rights of all individuals without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, or gender: Now, therefore, be it】

Whereas Congress recognizes that the legacy of civil conflict in Afghanistan during the last 17 years has had a devastating effect on the civilian population in that country, killing 2,000,000 people and displacing more than 7,000,000, and has had a particularly negative impact on the rights and security of women and girls;

Whereas the Department of State's Country Reports on Human Practices for 1996 states: "Serious human rights violations continue to occur[...] political killings, torture, rape, arbitrary detention, looting, abductions and kidnappings for ransom were committed by armed units, local commanders and rogue individuals.";

Whereas the Afghan forces affiliated with Burhanuddin Rabbani and Abdul Rashid Dostum are responsible for numerous abhorrent human rights abuses, including the rape, sexual abuse, torture, abduction, and persecution of women and girls;

Whereas Congress is disturbed by the upsurge of reported human rights abuses in Taliban-controlled territory, including extreme restrictions placed on women and girls;

Whereas the Taliban have provided safe haven to suspected terrorists and may be allowing terrorist training camps to operate in territory under its control;

Whereas Afghanistan is a sovereign nation and must work to solve its internal disputes; and

Whereas Afghanistan and the United States recognize international human rights conventions, such as the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, which espouse respect for basic human rights of all individuals without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, or gender: Now therefore, be it.

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

【(1) deplores the violations of international humanitarian law by the Taliban coalition in Afghanistan and raises concern over the reported cases of stoning, public executions, and street beatings;

【(2) condemns the Taliban's targeted discrimination against women and girls and expresses deep concern regarding the prohibition of employment and education for women and girls;

【(3) takes note of the recent armed conflict in Kabul, affirms the need for peace negotiations and expresses hope that the Afghan parties will agree to a cease-fire throughout the country.

【(b) It is the sense of Congress that the President should—

【(1) continue to monitor the human rights situation in Afghanistan and should call for an end to discrimination against women and girls in Afghanistan and for adherence by all factions in Afghanistan to international humanitarian law;

【(2) review United States policy with respect to Afghanistan if the Taliban coalition and others do not cease immediately the harassment and other discriminatory practices against women and girls;

【(3) encourage efforts to procure a durable peace in Afghanistan and should support the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan led by Norbert Holl to assist in

brokering a peaceful resolution to years of conflict;

【(4) call upon the Government of Pakistan to use its good offices with the Taliban to reverse the Taliban's restrictive and discriminatory policies against women and girls;

【(5) call upon other nations to cease providing financial assistance, arms, and other kinds of support to the militaries or political organizations of any of the warring factions in Afghanistan.

【SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this concurrent resolution to the President with the request that he further transmit such copy to the United Nations and relevant parties in Afghanistan.】

That (a) Congress hereby—

(1) deplores the violations of international humanitarian law by the Taliban coalition in Afghanistan and raises concern over the reported cases of stoning, public executions, and street beatings;

(2) condemns the Taliban's targeted discrimination against women and girls and expresses deep concern regarding the prohibition of employment and education for women and girls;

(3) urges the Taliban and all other parties in Afghanistan to cease providing safe haven to suspected terrorists or permitting Afghan territory to be used for terrorist training; and

(4) takes note of the continued armed conflict in Afghanistan, affirms the need for peace negotiations and expresses hope that the Afghan parties will agree to a cease-fire throughout the country.

(b) It is the sense of Congress that the President should—

(1) continue to monitor the human rights situation in Afghanistan and should call for adherence by all factions in Afghanistan to international humanitarian law;

(2) call for an end to the systematic discrimination and harassment of women and girls in Afghanistan;

(3) encourage efforts to procure a durable peace in Afghanistan and should support the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan led by Norbert Holl to assist in brokering a peaceful resolution to years of conflict;

(4) call upon the Government of Pakistan to use its good offices with the Taliban to cease human rights violations, end provision of safe haven to terrorists and terrorist training camps, and reverse discriminatory policies against women and girls; and

(5) call upon other nations to cease providing financial assistance, arms, and other kinds of support to the militaries or political organizations of any of the warring factions in Afghanistan;

(6) undertake a review of United States policy toward Afghanistan.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this concurrent resolution to the President with the request that he further transmit such copy to the United Nations and relevant parties in Afghanistan.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote for Senate Concurrent Resolution 6—a resolution disapproving the alarming human rights conditions in Afghanistan and highlighting the deleterious effects increased political strife has had on Afghan women and girls.

Intensification of armed hostilities and the proliferation of human rights abuses have characterized Afghanistan for too long. In both the countryside and in urban areas nearly two decades of civil conflict and chaos have wreaked havoc and disaster on innocent Afghan civilians. And, unfortunately the likelihood of peace for Af-

ghans seems to grow dimmer with each new political development.

After successfully ousting the Soviet military in 1992, foreign threats to peace were almost immediately replaced by civil threats. Rivalries among political and military Afghan intensified the civil turmoil. Regional conflicts reached a new level of severity in September 1996, after the Taliban coalition seized the capital city of Kabul.

Upon seizure of Kabul and approximately two-thirds of Afghanistan, the Taliban imposed extreme restrictions on civilians including banning music and books, and specifically prohibiting women and girls from working or attending school. Penalties for those who do not observe the Taliban's strict code of conduct have been extreme ranging from verbal abuse, street beatings, amputations, to death. Western journalists were quick to report the upsurge of human rights abuses, writing about the summary justice used to punish Afghans, and the unusually brutal methods by which the Taliban killed Mr. Najibullah the former President. Amnesty International and other non-governmental organizations reported on the severity of the human rights situation in Afghanistan and urged greater international attention. The United Nations created a special rapporteur on human rights in Afghanistan to monitor the situation more closely.

Among all the accounts of human rights abuses in Afghanistan what has been particularly disturbing to me is the treatment of women and girls. Though under the Taliban women are no longer treated as spoils of war, women and girls have been subjected to a series of extreme restrictions including the prohibition to work, attend school, or leave one's home during the day. Without the ability to work, mothers, many widowed due to armed conflict, have no means to support their families. Without the ability to leave their homes to buy food, clothing, attain medical attention, women are unable to care for themselves and their families. Without education, girls are not being taught how to read or write—basic skills necessary for adulthood. The conditions under which Afghan women and girls live is unacceptable, and I can think of no reasonable justification for such circumstances.

Taliban leaders have been quick to point out in their defense that other political and military factions have committed numerous other human rights abuses. The Taliban is right to point this out. And while it is true that, none of the political factions vying for power in Afghanistan have thus far demonstrated a commitment to uphold international standards of human rights or decency. This does not diminish the gravity of those abuses committed by the Taliban, or the obligation of the international community to speak out against such abuses.

The need for peace in Afghanistan is clear, but it is equally clear that peace

will not be sustainable in an environment where human rights are routinely violated and disregarded. Internationally recognized rights such as freedom from torture, freedom of expression, and equality before the law regardless of race, gender, religion, or beliefs have long been absent in Afghanistan. Any ruling coalition, must know that the international community, and the United States in particular, will not turn a blind eye to a rights-abusive regime.

Though, we, in the United States, can not singlehandedly solve the crisis in Afghanistan, for that is a process which must take place internally, we can and should do something. As a first step I have offered this resolution—a sense of the Congress which emphasizes the plight of Afghan women and girls, expresses support for the United Nations-led peace negotiations, and recommends that the administration reevaluate United States policy toward Afghanistan.

I believe this resolution will send a strong message to the warring factions in Afghanistan that the United States is deeply concerned about the deteriorating human rights conditions. Further I hope this resolution will provide some hope to Afghan women and girls who silently disagree with the Taliban's code of conduct.

As the United States strongly supports an end to the armed conflict, we should emphasize that peace is not only defined by the absence of armed conflict but also the absence of human rights abuses. It has long been the experience of many other states that only with a rights-protective regime can there be any lasting prospects for peace.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 6, a resolution expressing concern over the continuing deterioration of the human rights situation in Afghanistan and calling on the United States and the international community to redouble efforts to bring peace to that war-torn land.

Indeed, with yesterday's announcement that the Taliban militia have apparently seized power in the northwestern province of Faryab, it is especially fitting that we consider this resolution today.

I am particularly concerned about the situation in Afghanistan because, with the seizure of power by the Taliban militia, it appears that another tragic chapter in the story of the suppression of women's rights is being written. Worse still, this situation has unfolded with scant international attention, let alone condemnation.

Afghanistan has been embroiled in an almost constant state of war for close to two decades.

From 1979 to 1989 the Mujahedeen fought and finally outlasted the invading army of the Soviet Union. Then the Muslim warriors turned on each other. Since 1979 more than 1 million of Af-

ghanistan's 16 million inhabitants have been killed, and millions more have become refugees. The capital city of Kabul has been obliterated by the factional fighting, with over 45,000 civilians killed, and almost every prominent building damaged or destroyed.

In the last 2 years of the seemingly endless Afghan civil war the Taliban—who grew from a movement of former religious students and Islamic clerics along the Afghan-Pakistani border—have emerged as the strongest of the five major factions. After beating back its rivals, the Taliban movement now control more than two-thirds of Afghanistan, including Kabul, which they captured last September.

With the ascendancy of the Taliban, Afghanistan is experiencing a new conflict: What some warriors call true Islam, others, including the U.N. General Assembly, say is an abuse of human rights.

Although the peculiar version of Islamic religious Sharia law espoused by the Taliban has fallen harshly on many in Afghanistan—in Kandahar this past July a man and woman accused of adultery were stoned in public, men have been forced to grow beards, and Taliban militia members harass men in the streets if they do not rush to the mosques for prayers—women, in particular, have come to feel the full brunt of the new extremism.

Afghani women have been banned from work.

Women have been banished from school.

Reportedly, Taliban soldiers have been so threatening that some women have not left their homes for months.

But there is nothing in Afghan tradition that can account for the Taliban phenomenon. The type of secret-police state that they are fostering and the widespread denial of women's basic human rights has little precedent in Afghan culture or history.

The new brand of extremism fostered by the Taliban and their gross violations of women's basic human rights have pushed an already war-torn and war-weary Afghanistan to the brink of disaster.

It is estimated, for example, that close to 500,000 to 800,000 war widows have been forced out of their jobs and have no opportunity to earn money for food, clothing, or shelter for either themselves or their children. In Kabul's stark ruins hordes of children—12,000 according to one estimate—paw each day through the shattered bricks and masonry in search of scrap metal that can be sold. And their mothers, many who previously worked in professional jobs, have been reduced to begging in the hopes of being able to feed their children.

The ban on women in the workplace has also compounded the already precarious food situation. With the war having killed more than 9 million head of cattle and sheep and destroyed much of Afghanistan's croplands, irrigation systems, and roads, the average Afghan

has a caloric intake equal to less than a pound of bread a day. Relief needs are so critical that the United Nations expects to have to feed one in five Kabul residents this year.

Ironically, many of the relief and other local humanitarian agencies find that they can no longer hire local women—many of whom are highly skilled. An orphanage in Kabul has reportedly lost all but 100 of its 450 employees, decimating its ability to provide food, education, and medical care to thousands of children. In fact, in light of the continuing conflict, U.N. development agencies in Afghanistan have recently put operations on hold until an assessment of the situation is complete.

It is little surprise that a recent U.N. report on human rights in Afghanistan concluded that "deprivation of basic rights and freedoms" are coupled with "newly emerging threats to basic rights," especially women's.

The silence from the world's capitols in light of these systematic abuses has been deafening. Former U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali warned the Taliban that the United Nations objects to the extreme discrimination practiced against women. The European Union's Minister to the U.N. Food Conference expressed "deep concern" over the situation. Theresa Loar, the State Department's senior coordinator for women's issues has assured us that the situation in Afghanistan is "very high on the United States agenda."

In the nuanced language of diplomacy, these milquetoast statements are the equivalent of an international shrug of the shoulders.

Where is the world's outrage? Fully half of Afghanistan's population cannot work for a living or be educated. The world has responded by issuing mild denunciations and turning away. This is unacceptable.

In calling for the President to monitor the human rights situation in Afghanistan, and the situation of women in particular, this resolution calls on the United States to play a leading role in the international community in raising the salience of respect for women's rights.

For too long and in too many other tragic circumstances we have remained silent, placing women's rights on a second tier of concerns in our conduct of international affairs. Other Muslim nations with which the United States enjoys good relations and which respect women's rights, such as Turkey and Indonesia, can provide much needed leadership in this area, and assist the United States in our diplomatic efforts. It is incumbent upon us to call upon the nations of the international community—regardless of religious persuasion or cultural heritage—to take a strong stand in recognition of fundamental rights of women.

Because the United States lacks significant influence in Afghanistan, this resolution calls on the administration to urge the other states in the region