

Whereas, the people of Bikini have recently learned from well-respected scientists who have conducted extensive radiological cleanup cost estimates for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that the restoration costs for cleanup and resettlement of Bikini Atoll will exceed several hundred million dollars; and

Whereas, this means that many Bikini elders, who have not been back on their home islands for 53 years, will probably die without returning home; and

Whereas, of the 167 of our elders who were moved off our islands in 1946, fewer than 90 are still alive; and

Whereas, most of these elders live on Kili, an island one-ninth the size of Bikini Atoll which must support six times the number of people who lived on Bikini; and

Whereas, we wish to compensate these elders with a one-time 3% distribution from the corpus of the Resettlement Trust Fund; and

Whereas, unlike people living on other atolls in the Marshall Islands, our people on Kili cannot fish because Kili has no lagoon and no reef, thus requiring our community to supplement our U.S.D.A. food by purchasing other canned goods at great expense; and

Whereas, a one-time 3% distribution from the Resettlement Trust Fund will not require an appropriation of any funds by the U.S. Congress; and

Whereas, given the good management of the Resettlement Trust Fund a 3% distribution would not diminish the original corpus of the trust fund; and

Whereas, Congress has previously authorized ex gratia per capita payments from the Resettlement Trust Fund; and

Whereas, the House Resources Committee (formerly the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs) has held many oversight hearings on Bikini-related issues during the past 25 years, covering such issues as health care, education, agricultural and food programs, establishment and oversight of ex gratia trust funds for the Bikini people, Bikini Atoll cleanup, Compact of Free Association Section 177 Agreement cover-up of the 1954 Bravo shot, and vaporization of islands at Bikini;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that: (1) The Council requests a one-time only 3% distribution from the existing corpus of the Resettlement Trust Fund, with the understanding that the primary beneficiaries of this distribution will be the Bikini elders.

(2) The Council agrees that the amount of such distribution shall be deducted from any future additional ex gratia payments made by the U.S. Congress into the Resettlement Trust Fund.

(3) Legal counsel Jonathan M. Weisgall is instructed to forward a copy of this Resolution to Allen P. Stayman, Director, Office of Insular Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior; Senator Frank Murkowski, Chairman, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee; and Representative Don Young, Chairman, House Resources Committee, and to urge these Senate and House Committees to hold hearings, as necessary, to determine the appropriateness of the above request and to obtain information concerning the status of cleanup efforts at Bikini Atoll, current estimates of cleanup and restoration costs, questions concerning the guarantee of Bikini Atoll's safety, and other appropriate issues.

Final and passed by the KILI/BIKINI/EJIT LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL on the 12th day of March, 1999, at a meeting on Kili Island.

APPROVED:

TOMAKI JUDA,
Mayor

Witness: Nathn Note, Clerk

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
SUSIE MUSHATT JONES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the rich and full life of Susie Mushatt Jones as she celebrates her 100th birthday on July 6, 1999. Mrs. Jones is from the first generation of African-Americans after the abolition of slavery. In the life of Mrs. Jones, she had the opportunity to witness many pivotal events in history. She is a source of history that we need in our community. The experiences of Mrs. Jones can help us better understand the world we live in. She has experienced the great depression, two world wars, the Harlem Renaissance, the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's, and many more historical events. She has helped to build the foundation of our community. Mrs. Jones has positively influenced the lives of family and friends from her advice and assistance.

The life of Mrs. Jones must be acknowledged because she has advice on how to live a full and long life. Seniors, such as Mrs. Jones, act as pillars in our community. People in our community need to follow in her "foot steps" because Mrs. Jones has accomplished something that many people dream of achieving. The resounding strength of Mrs. Jones will continue to permeate in the lives of the people that surround her.

We pray that God will continue to bless Mrs. Jones.

COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) was created by Congress in 1977 to encourage federally insured financial institutions to help meet the credit needs of the communities they serve. Fair and equal access to capital and credit should be a fundamental right, yet for too long it has been a privilege based on race or economic class. By any measure, the CRA has been a success in creating jobs, businesses, affordable housing and homeownership in minority and poor neighborhoods.

In my home county of Lorain, OH, the FirstMerit Bank challenge under CRA garnered over a \$20 million commitment from FirstMerit for mortgage lending in low and moderate income tracts. More importantly, the FirstMerit challenge started the Community Development initiative in earnest and led to a \$33 million commitment from local public officials, banks and foundations on a community based development system for the county.

Blatant discrimination in lending is declining and homeownership and small business opportunities are on the rise. We can attribute much of this progress to the Community Reinvestment Act. CRA has proven that working together with local leaders, advocacy organizations, and financial institutions, we can make local investment not only good for busi-

ness, but good for improving the quality of life for low and moderate income residents in our communities. Let's continue to make the American dream a reality for more Americans.

"A SALUTE TO THE MILITARY" IN
HONOR OF THE UNITED STATES
MARINE CORPS, EL TORO, CALI-
FORNIA

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, on November 10, 1775, the Continental Congress met in Philadelphia, passing a resolution that "two battalions of Marines be raised" for service as landing forces with the fleet. This resolution, sponsored by John Adams, established the Continental Marines and marked the birth of the United States Marine Corps.

From that time forward, and throughout the history of the United States of America, the Marines have proven themselves to be among the bravest and most heroic divisions of the military. The Marines have fought valiantly in the American Revolution, the Battle of 1812, the Mexican War (1846-1848), the Civil War (1861-1865), the Spanish American War (1898), World War I, World War II, and the Gulf War. They have fought from "the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli" to keep our nation free.

El Toro was commissioned as a Marine Corps Air Station in March of 1943. The base was used as a staging area and training facility for the battle with the Japanese in the Pacific. Built on a bean field, the first Marines were housed in bean barracks until the new barracks were constructed. From that point forward, Marine troops poured into the base and soon the first squadrons were formed, flying operational missions into combat in the South Pacific.

Just as the war in the Pacific ended, Congress threatened to close the base. However, with new conflicts beginning in Korea, the base was kept open. At this time it became apparent that a Western base was definitely needed on the Pacific Coast. After the Korean War, the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing was moved from Florida to El Toro. The base was expanded to accommodate the increasing military expansion. With Vietnam, El Toro again became a training, staging, and debarkation point for the Marines.

In 1975, Vietnamese refugees were flown into the base, before being sent to refugee camps in Camp Pendleton. And, in 1983, El Toro received the F/A-18 Hornet, the most advanced fighter-attack aircraft in Naval history. By now the base has grown from the original 2,300 acres and 30 Marines to 4,700 acres and 15,000 personnel.

In the 1990's, the Marines were called into action during Operation Desert Storm and Operation Desert Shield. After America's victory in the Persian Gulf, the Department of Defense embarked on an initiative to restructure and realign America's military and as a result, El Toro was recommended for closure.

El Toro Marine Base, which has played a most significant and important part of history, will now become part of history. As we bid farewell to the men and women who have so

nobly served our country, we will never forget the indelible impression that these dedicated Marines have made on the lives of so many individuals. True to their motto, the Marines will be "Always Faithful," Semper Fi.

SECRETARY ALBRIGHT PROVIDES THE BLUEPRINT FOR U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IN THE POST-KOSOVA WORLD

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday in an address to the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, our exceptional Secretary of State, Madeleine K. Albright, discussed the current international interests of the United States as we move beyond Kosovo. She presented a thoughtful and insightful analysis of our nation's role in the post-Cold War world.

Mr. Speaker, the 11 week NATO campaign to protect the rights of ethnic Albanians in the province of Kosovo was an important turning point in the history of Southeastern Europe. For the past decade we have dealt with inflamed Serbian nationalism incited and fomented by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic for his own narrow political goals. The war over Kosovo has established the vital principle that ethnic cleansing and racial discrimination against a minority cannot and will not be tolerated by the international community.

Three months ago, Mr. Speaker, press pundits and politicians—many of them here on the floor of this House—were quick to criticize and to express doubts about the policy of the Administration, which was ably articulated and implemented by Secretary Albright. Now we have succeeded in removing the threat to ethnic Albanians in Kosovo and have begun the process of implementing the principles of the Rambouillet agreement that was signed by Albanian representatives shortly before the Serbian reign of terror was unleashed upon the Albanian population of Kosovo.

Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Secretary Albright for her outstanding leadership and her tireless diplomatic efforts which were so critical to the success of our military action in Kosovo. Secretary Albright has provided the vision that has guided our action in Kosovo.

Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, Secretary Albright again provided that vision as she discussed with the members of the Council on Foreign Relations her view of the role of the United States in the post-Kosovo world. The military action of the NATO allies in Kosovo is a critical victory that will help define the nature of international relations.

Secretary Albright was thoughtful in articulating the role that the United States should play in the post-Kosovo world. "Some hope, and others fear, that Kosovo will be a precedent for similar interventions around the globe," she told the Council. "I would caution against any such sweeping conclusions." At the same time, she expressed the hope that the NATO action against Serbia would serve to deter rogue governments in the future from engaging in such ethnic, religious, and racial repression: "By meeting massive ethnic cleansing in the Balkans with a red light, we make

it less likely that NATO will be called upon to use force in the future."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Secretary Albright's thoughtful address to the Council on Foreign Relations be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to give it careful attention.

[Address to the Council on Foreign Relations, June 28, 1999]

AFTER KOSOVO: BUILDING A LASTING PEACE

(By Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright)

Thank you Les, and good evening to you all. Members of the Council on Foreign Relations and distinguished colleagues, friends and guests. NATO's confrontation with Belgrade over Kosovo has ended in accordance with the conditions the Alliance set. Now, we face the even harder task of building a lasting peace there and throughout Southeast Europe. This evening, I would like to discuss with you this historic challenge.

Churchill once described Russia as a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma. In Kosovo today, we see a success folded within a tragedy stamped with a question mark.

Consider the reactions of the refugees and displaced as their time of exile ends. For some, coming home means a joyous reunion of family and friends. For others, it means a heart-stopping confirmation of terrible fears as bodies are identified and mass graves found. For all, it means uncertainty about what will come next.

As a result, Kosovo today is a cauldron of grief mixed with exhilaration, of unresolved anger and unfulfilled dreams. Out of this the international community, and the area's people, must build a future secure and free.

A starting point is provided by UN Security Council Resolution 1244, and the military and political arrangements to which it refers.

In accordance with these, Serb forces have left, KFOR is deploying, and the Kosovo Liberation Army will demilitarize over the next 90 days.

In addition, the United Nations Interim Mission is being set up. It will operate in partnership with the EU, the OSCE, donor countries and KFOR. And its duties will encompass civil administration, humanitarian relief, economic recovery, and the creation of democratic institutions, including—most crucially—a new local police.

Assembling the nuts and bolts of a durable peace in Kosovo is a daunting challenge. Our expectations should be realistic. The mission will take time; complaints will surely be heard; and despite KFOR's presence, the danger of violence will persist. As is usual, the good news will often be treated as no news, while setbacks receive the spotlight. Success will require an extraordinary team effort.

Notwithstanding all this, I am hopeful—for three reasons.

First, for most of the past decade, Kosovo Albanians coped with Serb repression by maintaining parallel political, educational and social structures. They have experience managing institutions.

Second, in past weeks, I have seen an extraordinary determination on the part of European officials to get this job done and done right. This is true from London to Helsinki and from Ankara to Lisbon. Failure is not an option.

Third, the international community has learned some hard lessons in recent years about the do's and don'ts of building peace in post-conflict situations.

It is essential that, in Kosovo, these lessons be heeded. The military and civilian components must work together well both internally and with each other. Both must take effective use of their mandates and focus on results. Donors must back them not

just with promises, but with resources of sufficient quantity and timeliness to make a difference.

Above all, we must have faith that the mission's underlying principles of democracy and tolerance, economic reform and the rule of law, are the right ones for all the people of Kosovo.

There are some who see an insurmountable obstacle in the desire of many Kosovars for immediate independence, a position that neither NATO nor governments in the region support.

Having met with the Kosovar leadership, I know the yearning for independence is powerful.

But I also know that Belgrade's withdrawal has altered the reality within which the people of Kosovo will formulate their aspirations. Until now, independence has seemed the only alternative to repression.

But in the future, Kosovars will have something they have never had, which is genuine self-government. They will be out from under Milosevic's boot, with the freedom to choose their own leaders and shape the laws by which they are governed. Milosevic, meanwhile, won't be able to arrest so much as a jaywalker in Kosovo. And his henchmen won't have the capacity to intimidate Kosovars or deny them their rights.

That is why the Kosovar Albanian leadership signed on to the Rambouillet Accords, despite the absence of an independence guarantee. And while I will go out on a limb and predict that KFOR will receive strong cooperation from most Kosovars in the months ahead.

Another key issue is whether the new Kosovo will include its ethnic Serb, Roma and other minorities, and whether they will be able to live safely now that Belgrade's forces have withdrawn.

Given the extent of destruction inflicted by Serbs, the risk is obvious that some that ethnic Albanians will take the law into their own hands. Many unacceptable incidents have already occurred.

But KFOR takes seriously its mandate to protect all Kosovars, including Serbs. And its effectiveness will increase as deployment continues, and demilitarization gains steam.

Kosovo will be a better place if Serbs who did not commit crimes stay and help rebuild. But that is their decision to make. We will measure our success by whether the rights of all those who choose to live in Kosovo are respected.

The same principle, incidentally, should apply elsewhere in the region. The international community must continue to press for the safe return of other refugees, including ethnic Serbs to the Krajina region of Croatia. This is crucial, for there could be few greater gifts to the 21st Century than to bust the ghosts of Balkans past and consign Milosevic's tactics of hate to the trash bin of history.

Even as we work to help Kosovo regain its feet, we are acting to secure the future of the region. With our partners in the European Union playing a big role, we have launched a Pact to stabilize, transform and eventually integrate all of Southeast Europe into the continent's democratic mainstream.

We undertake this effort because it is right, but also because it is smart; for we know that America cannot be secure unless Europe is secure, which it will not be if its southeast corner remains wracked by division and strife.

Our strategy, with our partners, is to apply the model of help and self-help reflected in the Marshall Plan half a century ago, and in efforts to aid democratization in Central Europe this decade. In this spirit, President Clinton will meet with his counterparts in the region this summer.