

was no allied occupation. The killing fields remained under the control of those who committed the genocide. To this day, Turkey still denies that the Armenian genocide took place.

Mr. Speaker, during the Second World War there were strong indications that the Nazi persecution of European Jews had reached a new level of barbarism. There are many indications that the allied governments were largely aware of the Nazi holocaust while it was going on, although this information was not known to the general public. With the defeat and occupation of Germany and the liberation of the concentration camps, it became apparent for the world to see what had occurred was a degree of mass murder so extreme a new word had to be invented, the word genocide.

The evidence of the holocaust was documented. The world was utterly shocked by what happened and the international community solemnly vowed: "Never again." The genocide was documented, but only after 6 million Jews and millions of other victims had been murdered.

What we have seen in Kosovo may represent a major historical turning point. Not only have we documented genocide as it occurred, but we have acted to prevent more widespread slaughter. And I hope this will serve as a precedent for our future resolve and commitment. More important, I hope our action in Kosovo will deter a future Milosevic before he embarks on a policy of genocide.

To quote again from the Star-Ledger editorial:

Our intervention in Kosovo demonstrates our internationalist tradition is still in place and that a multi-national intolerance of mass murder has developed. While we cannot be policemen to the world, we are also not willing to see this type of barbarism prevail, particularly in an area that was a battleground for two world wars.

Mr. Speaker, America's military intervention, with our NATO allies, on behalf of the people of Kosovo, was a just and a moral cause, a noble effort. The successful campaign in the Balkans, like so many of our country's international triumphs, was motivated both by idealism and by our national interests.

There was clearly an altruistic motive in stopping the Serb dictator Milosevic from carrying out his plans to drive the ethnic Albanians from their homes in Kosovo. But there was also the pragmatic recognition that instability in the heart of Europe threatens American interests. We fought two world wars on European soil, and held the line against Soviet expansionism for nearly half a century. We have learned the lesson of history, that a murderous, aggressive, genocidal regime must be stopped before causing widespread instability and death.

We can be very proud of the courage and professionalism of our men and women in uniform who carried out this operation. We can be proud of the American technology that allowed us to achieve our objectives so successfully with no combat casualties. And we should also be proud of our political leaders for taking a stand against aggression and eth-

nic cleansing, and for staying the course when a successful outcome appeared far from certain. President Clinton and his national security team deserve great credit for their leadership. The leaders of some of the allied nations faced difficult internal opposition but still showed great resolve, for which they deserve our respect and gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, in the past few months, there has been a shocking lack of support for our commander-in-chief on the floor of this House, as members of the Republican Party, including some in very senior leadership positions, have talked about the Kosovo campaign as the "Clinton-Gore War," trying to score cheap political points while our armed forces were involved in combat operations. I don't want to cast this debate in purely partisan terms; there were some members of the Republican Party who strongly supported this operation, while other Republicans at least had the decency and good taste to express their reservations in more restrained language. And there were also members on this side of the aisle who expressed misgivings about the operation. Fair enough; this is a democracy and this House should be a place of vigorous, sometimes partisan debate. But now that we have clearly achieved a military victory and are implementing our political objectives, I would have hoped that the opponents of the Kosovo operation would offer at least grudging support. Instead, during the recent debate on the Defense Authorization bill, there were some in this House who, because of their animosity for our President, still saw fit to criticize the President and his national security advisers and to try to argue that the Kosovo operation was not a success.

I guess you have to accept a certain amount of partisanship, but I still remember the days when our differences ended at the water's edge. You only have to go back to the early part of this decade, to the Gulf War. I voted to support President Bush's decision to use force to oust Iraqi forces from Kuwait. Many in my party did not support that decision. But once the conflict began, there was bipartisan support—not only for the troops and the operation, but for the President himself and his national security team. After our victory in the Gulf War, President Bush, a Republican, received an enthusiastic, triumphant reception here from a Democratic Congress. I hope we can get back to that kind of bipartisan consensus when it comes to our nation's international commitments.

Mr. Speaker, I did want to cite one positive development that came out of the human tragedy in Kosovo. Thousands of Kosovar refugees have been given temporary shelter at Fort Dix in my home state of New Jersey. The outpouring of support from the community has been extremely impressive. I think it says a lot about the true character of the American people, about our willingness to help out those who are in need.

Mr. Speaker, it's true: NATO did get it right. We still have a lot of hard work ahead of us. Slobodan Milosevic and his henchmen must be held accountable for their crimes. The challenges of rebuilding Kosovo are enormous. Likewise, helping a post-Milosevic Serbia get re-integrated into the family of civilized nations is a daunting, but urgent challenge. I am very hopeful that we can move forward as a nation—with the support and commitment of our European allies—to achieve these goals.

In the half-century since the Holocaust, we have said "Never again." In Kosovo, we finally proved that we meant it.

Mr. Speaker, I provide for the RECORD the complete article I referred to earlier.

[From the Sunday Star-Ledger, June 20, 1999]

NATO GOT IT RIGHT

The case for our intervention in Kosovo is still being made. The evidence turns up daily—corpse by corpse, mass grave by mass grave, massacre by massacre.

Claims of ethnic cleansing were treated with a certain skepticism while the bombing went on. Were the atrocities really that bad or was this just a case of wartime exaggeration? We now have our answer.

As NATO troops entered Kosovo, they found each day substantial evidence of widespread slaughter. Much came from eyewitnesses, but there was accompanying testimony from those who could not speak, the dead, buried in mass graves.

The assessment by the British Foreign Office that 10,000 Kosovars had been the victims of mass executions by the Serbs is chilling. Still, how much worse would it have been if NATO had not intervened? The dimensions of unchecked genocide are a matter of guesswork.

The international war crimes tribunal has begun its forensic investigation in Kosovo, and it will not be hard to find further proof of such atrocities. While the war may have been bungled and the assumptions that prompted our tactics were sometimes naive, there now should be little doubt that our resolve that action had to be taken was well-founded.

Our intervention in Kosovo demonstrates that our internationalist tradition is still in place and that a multinational intolerance of mass murder has developed. While we cannot be policemen to the world, we are also not willing to see this type of barbarism prevail, particularly in an area that was a battleground for two world wars.

There is one more step to be taken. Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic has been cited as a war criminal by an international tribunal. We must see that he, along with the other butchers of Bosnia and Kosovo, answers to these charges.

EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN U.S. IS DEFICIENT IN PRODUCING SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the Congress about a matter of great importance, and that is our future economic well-being.

We are blessed with an excellent economy today, and when we ask why that is and look at the statistics we find out that approximately one-third of all the economic growth today in our Nation arises from information technology; computers, Internet and so forth. And if we look at how much is caused by scientific developments in technology and engineering, overall it is greater than one-half of our economic expansion. Clearly, the economic health of our Nation depends very strongly upon good scientists, good engineers, good mathematicians and good research.

The reason I rise to speak here today, my colleagues, is that there is a danger that we are not recognizing the importance of these issues. We have not funded scientific research as well as we should have the past half decade. We do very well with health issues in the National Institutes of Health, but we have not done as well with some of our other enterprises, such as NASA, the Department of Energy, National Science Foundation and other very important endeavors. But perhaps the greatest problem lies in the deficiencies of our educational system in producing scientists and engineers and educating our citizens.

Particularly in our elementary and secondary schools, we are falling short not only of what we should achieve, but even more importantly we are falling short compared to the other nations of the world. In international comparisons, such as the Third International Mathematics and Science Study, we came in near the bottom of the developed nations in our high school science programs. We came in at the bottom in our high school physics programs. And overall we had a dismal record.

Now, how do we address this? There are various things we must do. First of all, we have to find good teachers; we have to train good teachers; we have to recruit good teachers; and, above all, we have to keep good teachers.

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When we talk about training teachers, it is not just a matter of training the new ones. We have to have good professional development programs to help teachers in the classrooms now because the science that should be taught today is not the science that they learned when they were in colleges and universities. The field changes too dramatically, too rapidly.

We also need better curricula, curricula that recognize the nature and substance of science today and also that recognize the needs of the teachers in the classrooms so that they can effectively teach science.

I am not here to cast aspersions upon any group or any individuals, I think we are all trying very hard. But the simple point is we are not succeeding, and so we have to do better.

If we look at our graduate schools today, across our Nation in science and engineering we have more graduate students from other nations than we do from our own Nation. This tells us that our students competing on a level playing field in our own universities cannot make the grade and other nations' students are filling in.

We have to change that. And I believe we have to change our math and science educational system from preschool through grad school to ensure three things. First of all, that we have an adequate number of good scientists, engineers, and mathematicians. Secondly, that our graduates of our schools are ready for the workplace of

tomorrow. Because the workplace of tomorrow is going to require considerable knowledge of mathematics, science, and technology. Finally, we have to improve our educational system so that we will have better consumers and better voters in this Nation.

We need better consumers because today increasingly in the marketplace technical information is needed and is often provided but many in the public are not able to interpret it, whether it relates to health foods, whether it relates to medicine or other areas of life.

So I think, for those three reasons, producing better scientists and engineers, making our students ready for the workplace of tomorrow, and educating good consumers and good voters for the future, we must improve our math and science educational system. I am dedicating myself to helping the Congress and the Nation to improve our math and science educational programs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BOEHLERT (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of attending daughter's wedding.

Mr. GARY MILLER of California (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of family reasons.

Mr. ROGAN (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. MENENDEZ (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of attending son's graduation.

Ms. SLAUGHTER (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNulty) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. EHLERS, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, June 29, 1999, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2754. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, et al.; Revision of the Sampling Techniques for Whole Block and Partial Block Diversions and Increasing the Number of Partial Block Diversions Per Season for Tart Cherries [Docket No. FV99-930-2 IFR] received June 11, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2755. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revisions, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District and Tehama County Air Pollution Control District [CA 192-0132a; FRL-6334-5] received May 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2756. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Approval Under Section 112(1); State of Iowa [IA 069-1069a; FRL-6340-3] received May 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2757. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Utah; Foreword and Definitions, Revision to Definition for Sole Source of Heat and Emissions Standards, Nonsubstantive Changes; General Requirements, Open Burning and Nonsubstantive Changes; and Foreword and Definitions, Addition of Definition for PM10 Nonattainment Area [UT10-1-6700a; UT-001-0014a; UT-001-0015a; FRL-6340-1] received May 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2758. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maine; Approval of Fuel Control Program under Section 211(c) [ME61-7010A; A-1-FRL-6338-2] received May 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2759. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Appendix A—Test Methods: Three New Methods for Velocity and Volumetric Flow Rate Determination in Stacks or Ducts [FRL-6337-1] received May 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2760. A letter from the Acting Chief, Enforcement Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communication Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Truth-in-Billing and Billing Format [CC Docket No. 98-170] received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2761. A letter from the Chief, Fees Section, Financial Operations Division, OMD, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of the Schedule of Application Fees Set Forth