

And the rebels in Sierra Leone received weapons and support in exchange for their diamonds from Liberian President Charles Taylor.

I have repeatedly asked this Administration to name all those involved in the atrocities, Sierra Leonians and Liberians, as war criminals, and I have repeatedly asked the Administration to seriously address the issue of conflict diamonds. The control and trafficking of conflict diamonds in Sierra Leone and several other African countries has fueled and funded rebel movements that otherwise had little to no sources of income.

On March 16 in a letter to Secretary of State Albright I wrote:

Congressman Hall has introduced legislation, H.R. 3188, to certify the country of origin of all diamonds. Thus a diamond buyer will know where a diamond has been mined and a purchaser can avoid buying conflict diamonds. Passage of Congressman Hall's bill will be a huge stride in ending this practice. Your support for this important legislation would be very helpful.

Promised U.S. action if the rebels do not comply with the conditions for disarmament should be:

they and their families will not be allowed entry into the U.S., Britain or any other country—no visas should be issued to rebels or their family members;

if the rebels have bank accounts in the U.S. and in Europe, they should be frozen and they should be denied access to these accounts and to future commerce with the U.S., bank accounts of rebel family members should be included in this prohibition too;

the rebel leaders should be declared war criminals by the U.S. and other Western countries and direct its intelligence and police agencies to actively pursue apprehending rebels who have not disarmed.

These same conditions should also be applied to Liberian Charles Taylor and all Liberians who have assisted the rebels in Sierra Leone. It has come to my attention that Taylor escaped from a Massachusetts prison and fled to Liberia. Taylor and many Liberians have blood on their hands from their support of these rebels. By being the primary conduit for trading the conflict diamonds mined by the rebels, and by reportedly supplying the rebels with military assistance, Taylor and others have fueled the atrocities committed by the rebels upon the people of Sierra Leone. The U.S. should enact similar measures and conditions against Taylor and other Liberians as those I proposed for the rebels in Sierra Leone.

If the rebels are not disarmed and if Taylor and other Liberians continue to traffic in conflict diamonds and to provide the rebels with military assistance, Taylor and others should be named as war criminals and they should not be allowed to travel outside of their country. You should fix a date that you think is reasonable and helpful.

In a letter dated July 12 I wrote to President Clinton, Secretary Albright, and National Security Advisor Samuel Berger asking for the Administration's support for an amendment submitted by Representative TONY HALL and myself that was included in the Treasury, Postal Service and General Government appropriations subcommittee that would have addressed the problem of conflict diamonds in Sierra Leone and Africa, saying:

Yesterday the House Treasury, Postal Service and General Government appropriations subcommittee voted to include language submitted by Rep. Tony Hall and me in the FY 2001 Treasury spending bill that addresses the massive problems of conflict diamonds in Africa. I have heard reports that

for some reason, your Administration opposes this provision.

The problem of conflict diamonds is one of the major reasons for the instability, death, and gross human rights abuses that are occurring throughout Africa. Your Administration to date has not addressed the issue of conflict diamonds. The language approved by the subcommittee yesterday will help to prevent the types of atrocities against millions of people, like the young girl and the young men in the enclosed pictures, who have had their limbs cut off by rebels intent on controlling and trafficking in conflict diamonds.

This is an opportunity for your Administration to take bold action to help the suffering people of Africa. Please support this effort. It is the right thing to do.

This language was never supported by the Administration. In fact, the Administration circulated a memo stating that they opposed the amendment, and this amendment was taken out of the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government appropriations on the floor of the House, in part because of the Administration's opposition.

In a subsequent meeting with a staff member of the National Security Council, she declared to my staff and to Congressman TONY HALL that the Administration would work with us to draft and move legislation addressing conflict diamonds. Several months later, to my knowledge, this Administration has offered no legislative proposals to us, nor have they attended any subsequent legislative meetings or drafting sessions.

In a May 1, 2000 letter to President Clinton, I urged him to act quickly to prevent the continuing bloodshed and trafficking of conflict diamonds in Sierra Leone, saying:

An op-ed by Michael Kelly, from the July 19, 2000, Washington Post comments on an article published in the New Republic that describes how the verbosity of the Administration does not match their actions. Kelly observed how the Administration pushed the Government of Sierra Leone into accepting the Lome Peace Accords, an agreement that placed rebel leader Foday Sankoh as head of the diamond commission and that allowed the prosperous diamond regions to remain under rebel control:

[U.S. Department of State spokesman Philip Reeker said] "The United States did not pressure anybody to sign this agreement . . . We neither brokered the Lome peace agreement nor leaned on President Kabbah to open talks with the insurgents . . . It was not an agreement of ours' This is, in a sense, true. The United States was not a signatory to the Lome agreement; so it is not an agreement of 'of ours' But in a large sense, the surrender of Sierra Leone to the murdering mob was very much our handiwork . . .

And what did the U.S.-pushed agreement entail? Only that . . . "the democratic president of Sierra Leone . . . hand over much of his government and most of his country's wealth to one of the greatest monsters of the late 20th century." Sankoh was made vice president and given control of Sierra Leone's diamond mines; the RUF [Revolutionary United Front] was granted amnesty.

The bottom line is, like the rest of its Africa policy, this Administration is all talk and no action—they have had a touchdown policy where handshakes and smiles are exchanged, but where facts on the ground no unchanged and unaddressed.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RESEARCHERS AND FARMERS FREEDOM FROM TERRORISM ACT

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation that will strike at the heart of a campaign of terror. Few people are aware of the growing terrorist threat that is festering here in America. I am speaking of the growing threat of animal rights violence.

All across America, animal rights terrorists have declared war on our nation's researchers and farmers. These terrorists claim that they are fighting for a noble cause. However, their violent reign of terror is not a noble or just cause; it is a threat to all Americans security and liberty. This campaign of violent, threatening, obstructive, and destructive conduct is aimed at researchers working towards cures for AIDS and cancer and family farms. The extent and interstate nature of this conduct place it beyond the ability of any single state or local jurisdiction to control. Such conduct has included blockades and invasions of research and farming, arson and other destruction of property, assaults, death threats, attempted murder, and murder. This violence can and should be prohibited. The right of injured parties to seek redress in the courts can be established without abridging the exercise of any rights guaranteed under the First Amendment to the constitution or under any other law.

For these reasons, I am introducing legislation to protect our nation's researchers and farmers from terrorists campaigns in the name of animal rights who restore to violence, property destruction, attempted homicide, blockades, and other vigilante tactics. We must take federal action to deal with the ongoing wave of violence aimed at our researchers and farmers across the country.

This legislation is titled the "Researchers and Farmers Freedom From Terrorism Act of 2000." It is my hope that we as a Congress will take steps to protect the farmers which feed America's children and the researchers who may someday cure cancer, AIDS or any thousands of diseases. We must protect them from the terrorists who, through their extreme agenda, would deny America the fruits of the future. This legislation makes a strong three pronged attack on these terrorists.

First, the bill makes violations of the Animal Enterprise Terrorism statutes (18 U.S.C. Sec. 43) punishable as RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization) crimes to expand the civil and criminal consequences of this terrorist activity.

Second, the bill increases penalties for Animal Terrorism by lowering the standard for prosecution by removing the requirement that prosecution prove the "intent" of the criminal; the bill increases the penalties for arson and property destruction from 1 year to 5 years, and the bill also includes similar penalties specifically directed at explosive or arson crimes against animal enterprises. This section also expands the definition of animal enterprises to

include "the offices or headquarters of any" animal enterprise organizations.

Finally, the bill establishes the National Animal Terrorism and Ecoterrorism Clearinghouse at the Federal Bureau of Investigation to help law enforcement agencies gather and exchange information on animals and ecoterrorists nationwide.

I am introducing this legislation because groups such as the Animal Liberation Front and Earth Liberation Front are openly advocating the destruction of property through pipe-bombing, firebombing, sabotaging, and raiding of facilities that house both animals and medical research personnel. More dangerously, these groups advocate the harassment of people that have a prime goal of the betterment to mankind. These noble researchers are actively searching for the cures to the diseases such as AIDS, cancer, Multiple Sclerosis, heart disease, malaria, and tuberculosis.

The "harassment" of these researchers has included personal and physical violence. These threats of poisoning and personal harm which have now escalated to action. In October 1999, dozens of university scientists were mailed letters booby-trapped with razors. Had the razors gone undetected, they would have caused serious injury to the researchers or their college student assistants. On April 5, 1999, a University of Minnesota lab was destroyed, causing millions of dollars of physical damage from destroyed computers, microscopes, and medical equipment. This vandalism resulted in a 2-year setback to research on both Alzheimer's disease and cancer cells critical to developing a vaccine against cancer. The most tragic circumstance, however, was the fact that irreplaceable scientific information that was to be sent to the Food and Drug Administration to begin trials of a human cancer vaccine was destroyed.

Mr. Speaker, over 1,000 major acts of terrorism have occurred since 1980, causing \$42.8 million in damages. Two-thirds of this amount has occurred in the last five years, demonstrating a sharp rise in terrorist attacks. Congress can and must act now to protect our nation's researchers and farmers. The right to peaceful protest is protected by the Constitution and nothing in this legislation undermines that basic right. Peaceful expression of animal rights importance will not be barred. But violent, intimidating, and destructive conduct has no such protection, and will be met with severe penalties under this legislation.

By stating that "extreme action" is the strategy of the animal rights activist, as opposed to "legitimate pressure," on their own website, www.animal-rights.com, these terrorists openly acknowledge that they are committing actions both unlawful and threatening. Moreover, Alex Pacheco, the Director of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, has deemed "arson, property destruction, burglary and theft as acceptable crimes (Associated Press, January 15, 1989)."

The "Researchers and Farmer's Freedom and Terrorism Act" bill deserves the support of all those who believe in the right to peaceful protest and abhor those who resort to violence. It will send a message that extremist actions will not be tolerated in our society, and that medical research personnel and research facilities deserve the full protection of the law against those who violate the safety of others.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

IN HONOR OF TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, the Republic of China on Taiwan will celebrate its birthday on October 10, 2000. Taiwan has much to celebrate. It is a modern country led by newly elected President Chen Shui-bian, who believes that Taiwan's future lies in a strong democracy and a free enterprise system. Taiwan is highly admired as a successful example of democracy in much of the developing world. In March of this year, Taiwanese citizens freely chose Chen Shui-bian, the candidate representing the Democratic Progressive Party, as their president. Since his inauguration on May 20, President Chen has convincingly demonstrated his leadership in all areas.

In recent years, Taiwan has experienced unprecedented economic success. In addition to its well-known industrial prowess, Taiwan leads most Asian nations in its production of computers, computer chips, and telecommunications equipment and has contributed tremendously to the world wide high technology boom. Taiwan's citizens enjoy one of the highest living standards in the world.

On the occasion of the Republic of China's National Day, it is important to remember that Taiwan has a strong relationship with the United States and we hope that this relationship will continue to flourish in years to come. I look forward to working with President Chen and wish the people of Taiwan well on this special day.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, one of our largest trading partners, the Republic of China on Taiwan, is celebrating its National Day today, October 10, 2000. I wish to join my colleagues in Congress and others throughout the world in commending President Chen Shui-bian and Ambassador C.J. Chen of the Republic of China as they continue to lead Taiwan to greater economic prosperity and fuller participation in international activities abroad.

I am proud of Taiwan's economic and political accomplishments in recent years and am hopeful this success will continue for years to come. I join with my colleagues in Congress to wish President Chen Shui-bian and his people all the best as they prepare their National Day celebrations. Good luck and good cheer.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ABEL AND MARY NICHOLSON HOUSE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE STUDY ACT OF 2000

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce H.R. 5399, the Abel and Mary Nicholson House Historic Site Study Act of 2000. This bill would require the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Abel and Mary Nicholson House, located in Elsinboro Township, Salem County, New Jersey, in my Congressional district, as a unit of the National Park System. As part of the study the Secretary would also be required to consider management alternatives to create an administrative association with the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route. This study is the required first step in designating the site as a national park.

The Abel and Mary Nicholson House was built in 1722 and is a rare surviving example of an unaltered early 18th Century patterned brick building. The original portion of the house has existed for 280 years with only routine maintenance. This house is a unique resource which can provide significant opportunities for studying our nation's history and development.

I was pleased to announce the designation of this house as a National Historic Landmark on March 1, 2000, which made it the first National Historic Landmark site in Salem or Gloucester Counties, in New Jersey. The U.S. Department of the Interior designated the Nicholson House as a National Historic Landmark because of its historical importance to the entire nation and listed it in the National Register of Historic Places.

As one of the most significant "first period" houses surviving in the Delaware Valley, the Nicholson House represents a piece of history from both Southern New Jersey and early American life, and should remain protected and preserved to continue as a valuable teaching tool for generations to come.

SUPPORT MORE AWARENESS TO
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to remind Americans that domestic violence and other forms of violence against women are still widespread in the United States of America.

On Friday, October 6, 2000, the Boston Herald reported that the number of victims killed in domestic violence incidents in Massachusetts increased by more than 50 percent over last year's numbers. This is a frightening development, particularly when the state's average for other violent crimes decreased over the same period.

When women decide that they have had enough of their abusive relationships, they frequently turn to a local shelter that provides