

HONORING CAL RIPKEN, JR.

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I also rise in support of H. Res. 247 sponsored by Representative EHRlich that recognizes the outstanding contributions Cal Ripken, Jr. has made both on and off the baseball field. He is an American icon symbolizing integrity, team spirit, and discipline, and has exemplified true leadership throughout his twenty-one season baseball career.

Since 1978, Mr. Ripken has been honored with several prestigious awards including Rookie of the Year, Most Valuable Player, Golden Glove, Lou Gehrig Award, and Most Valuable Oriole. Baseball's "Ironman" has broken several significant American and personal records such as ending a 2632 consecutive games-played winning streak in 1998, scoring his 400th home run in 1999, and hitting his 3000th career hit in 2000. These moments will never be forgotten.

His greatest contribution has been the ability to take this success off the diamond and outside the walls of Memorial Stadium and Camden Yards by contributing significant time and energy towards various charitable organizations within the greater Baltimore area. Along with his wife, Kelly, he established the Kelly and Cal Ripken, Jr. Foundation which supports adult and family literacy, youth recreational, and health-related programs. They have also been greatly involved in the Baltimore Reads Ripken Learning Center and other organizations within the area.

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend opening day in Baltimore this season, and saw firsthand the all star abilities of this great baseball player. Cal Ripken is a winner in every sense of the word and his contribution to our national pastime will live in the minds of fans forever. He deserves the nation's recognition today. He is truly a living legend.

IN HONOR OF MIKE BYRNE

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2001

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the selfless contributions of one of the Oregonians I am privileged to represent, Mike Byrne of Malin, Oregon. I am also pleased to observe his 50th birthday today and offer up my sincere hope that he is blessed with another half century among his friends and family.

Mike Byrne is a long-time rancher on the southern Oregon—northern California border. He is a devoted husband and father and a tireless servant of his fellow Oregonians. But Mr. Speaker, he is much, much more. He is a patient confidant, a visionary, and a man of uncompromising principle. Perhaps most importantly, to me and to the people of his community, he is simply a good friend.

Mr. Speaker, in April of this year the Bureau of Reclamation announced that, based on biological opinions rendered by the National Ma-

rine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the farmers and ranchers of the Klamath Basin would be denied irrigation water for agriculture from Upper Klamath Lake. This decision, coming on the heels of a severe drought, has subjected the local agriculture community to extreme financial hardship. The combination of drought and misguided decision-making by the federal government has literally put the future of their way of life in doubt, as farming as it has existed in the Basin for over 100 years has virtually ceased.

Before the ink on the government's decision was dry, Mike Byrne was hard at work raising awareness about the Klamath crisis and rallying the local community. He has been in the trenches everyday, Mr. Speaker—in town hall meetings, in negotiations with federal, state and local authorities, and around kitchen tables throughout the Basin—to lend what help he could in seeing the farmers and ranchers of the region through this difficult time. Mike was one of the principal organizers of the historic Bucket Brigade on May 7, 2001, which raised the visibility of the crisis and brought the plight of the Klamath Basin to living rooms across America.

Since the crisis first arose in the Klamath Basin, Mike has been at the forefront of the effort to bring diverse groups together to achieve a workable solution. Mike understood that the future of agriculture in the Klamath Basin—and throughout the United States—laid in finding a balanced, workable solution to the conflict between farming and species protection. When this problem is solved and a practical resolution is agreed to by the many parties involved, it will be because of the patience and dedication of people like Mike Byrne.

Mr. Speaker, I take enormous pride in Mike's ceaseless efforts on behalf of his fellow ranchers and farmers. The perseverance he and others like him have demonstrated during this crisis has literally made the difference between despair and hope for so many of the farmers in the Klamath Basin. Mike Byrne represents the best of what citizenship in America means. I offer him both my praise and my most sincere gratitude for working on behalf of the people of the Klamath Basin, who have faced such significant trials. Many hurdles remain in the path of Klamath farmers, and I am grateful that I'll have Mike Byrne by my side throughout the challenges that lie ahead. Happy 50th birthday, Mike.

Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to share with my colleagues the extraordinary service of this outstanding American.

INTRODUCING THE VISA INFORMATION SECURITY ACT OF 2001

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Visa Information Security Act of 2001 (VISA Act)—legislation that increase the security of the American people by closing some of the loopholes within our visa application system. This legislation requires that all non-immigrant visa applicants submit a biometric fingerprint as of the routine visa application process.

Specifically, it would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require that non-immigrant visa applicants provide a biometric identifier, such as a fingerprint, that is machine readable, to be contained the visa or other documentation required for admission at their port of entry into the United States.

The recent terrorist attacks have highlighted the need to review the visa application process and we call improve the screening process used by U.S. Consular offices abroad. Usually, visa applicant names are checked against the State Department database for admissibility. However, some individuals use false information from their country of origin when they apply for a visa or use stolen visas to enter the U.S. As the Washington Post reported today, in the last few years, one country lost approximately 60,000 visas.

While it is impossible to screen every single individual who enters our country, with advanced technology and better coordination with the intelligence community we can better secure our nations border. However, in order to effectively authenticate individuals, we need a method based on inherent characteristics of a person that cannot be lost, changed or duplicated. Through biometric fingerprints, we would have an accurate and clear idea of who is entering our country.

This process is quick and efficient and can be run through our national criminal database to see if the applicant should or should not be allowed into the country. Additionally, when the individual enters the country through the port of entry, his fingerprints will be scanned to verify authenticity. Adding this technology requirement would not add significant time to the visa application process. But it would certainly prevent known terrorists and criminals from entering the country, while at the same time decrease fraudulent visa requests.

In addition, this legislation authorizes the Attorney General to impose a new fee on all visa applicants to cover the costs of implementing this important program. I want to note that my legislation will not apply to NAFTA participating countries and actually allows the Attorney General maximum discretion to decide what methods to utilize for those types of border crossings.

Mr. Speaker, we need to collect more information about the individuals trying to enter this country, but we must do it in a way that does not overburden our consular offices and still allows for visitors to enter the United States. My legislation is an economical first step in increasing our national security and I intend to work tirelessly for its passage.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3049, AFGHANISTAN FREEDOM ACT OF 2001

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have today introduced the "Afghanistan Freedom Act of 2001", H.R. 3049.

This legislation is intended to underscore to the American people and to the international community our unequivocal commitment to the war on terrorism that was thrust upon us by the barbaric September 11th terrorist attack on

our nation. This legislation further underscores that the enemy in this war includes not only the terrorists who attacked us, but also the regimes that harbor those terrorists.

One such regime is the Taliban in Afghanistan.

Since 1996, the Taliban has harbored Osama bin Laden and his al Qaeda organization, who were the authors of the September 11th attack on our nation. The Taliban cannot claim that they were unaware that Osama bin Laden was plotting war against our nation from the refuge they afforded him in Afghanistan.

Osama bin Laden and a number of his associates were indicted for orchestrating the 1998 bombings of our embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, and the United Nations Security Council joined our nation in demanding that the Taliban surrender them to stand trial for their crimes. The Taliban refused. As a result, the United Nations Security Council imposed mandatory sanctions on the Taliban in 1999.

Following this action, the Taliban chose to continue harboring Osama bin Laden rather than take the steps necessary to end the United Nations sanctions. Because the Taliban chose to place the interests of Osama bin Laden over the interests of the Afghan people, he was able to orchestrate from his base in Afghanistan the September 11th terrorist attack on our nation that claimed approximately 6,000 lives.

In view of these facts, there can be no doubt that the Taliban shares responsibility for the September 11th terrorist attack on our nation. In waging this war that has been thrust upon us, our objectives must include not only the capture of Osama bin Laden and the destruction of his terrorist organization, but also the removal from power of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.

This legislation gives the President important authorities that he can use to help our nation succeed in this effort. It authorizes him to provide up to \$300 million in military assistance to resistance organizations in Afghanistan that are today fighting to overthrow the Taliban. It affords the President wide latitude in selecting which organizations should receive this assistance. In addition, the legislation authorizes \$300 million in humanitarian assistance to refugees and other victims of the conflict in Afghanistan. And it mandates the establishment of a Radio Free Afghanistan to broadcast a message of hope to the people of Afghanistan.

Finally, the legislation seeks to put teeth in the existing United Nations sanctions on the Taliban. It requires regular reports to Congress regarding whether any governments are violating those sanctions, and it authorizes the President to impose severe penalties on any governments that he determines are endangering our U.S. military personnel or other U.S. citizens by aiding the Taliban in defiance of United Nations mandates.

By this legislation, we do not declare war on the Taliban. Rather, we recognize that the Taliban has declared war on us, and we seek to equip the President with some of the tools he will need to prevail in this conflict.

H.R. 3049

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Afghanistan Freedom Act of 2001".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The rise to power of the Taliban in Afghanistan has caused a drastic decline in the human, political, and civil rights of the Afghan people, particularly among women, girls, and ethnic minorities.

(2) In the year 2001, millions of Afghans are on the verge of starvation, the largest such group in the world.

(3) The United States is the single largest donor of humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan, totaling more than \$185,000,000 in fiscal year 2001.

(4) There are approximately 2,000,000 Afghan refugees in Pakistan, 1,500,000 Afghan refugees in Iran, and 1,000,000 internally displaced persons in Afghanistan, most fleeing oppression, violence, and economic hardship.

(5) During the period of Taliban rule, Afghanistan has become the world's largest source of illegal opium, and proceeds from the sale of raw opium to drug traffickers are used by the Taliban to finance its war on the Afghan people.

(6) Under Taliban rule, Afghanistan has become a training ground, operational base, and safe haven for terrorists and international terrorist organizations, many of whom gain experience fighting alongside Taliban forces inside Afghanistan prior to conducting terrorist operations outside Afghanistan.

(7) The Taliban have, since 1996, harbored and protected terrorist leader Osama bin Laden and members of his terrorist al Qaeda network.

(8) Osama bin Laden and his al Qaeda associates were indicted for the August 7, 1998, bombings of the United States embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, as a result of which the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1267 (1999), demanding that the Taliban surrender Osama bin Laden for trial and determining that the Taliban's continued provision of sanctuary to international terrorist organizations constitutes a threat to international peace and security.

(9) In order to compel the Taliban to surrender Osama bin Laden and terminate support for international terrorist organizations, the United Nations Security Council has imposed progressively more comprehensive sanctions on the Taliban under Resolutions 1267 (1999), 1333 (2000), and 1363 (2001), which sanctions are binding on all members of the United Nations under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

(10) As a result of the Taliban's failure to comply with the demands of the United States and the United Nations Security Council, Osama bin Laden and his al Qaeda network were able to orchestrate from Afghanistan the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the United States in which approximately 6,000 Americans and foreign nationals were murdered.

(11) The Taliban have, since the September 11th attack on the United States, rejected all entreaties by the United States and other governments to surrender Osama bin Laden, close down international terrorist operations in Afghanistan, and comply with the other demands that have been made by the United Nations Security Council.

(12) Afghanistan is an ethnically diverse nation that can prosper only under a representative government that affords all citizens of that nation their basic human rights, restores peace and security, eradicates the drug trade, and brings all terrorists and terrorist organizations in Afghanistan to justice.

SEC. 3. UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARD AFGHANISTAN.

It shall be the policy of the United States to promote the removal from power of the

Taliban regime in Afghanistan so as to diminish the risk of future terrorist attack on the United States and restore basic human freedoms to the people of Afghanistan.

SEC. 4. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO AFGHAN RESISTANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE.—

(1) TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—The President is authorized to direct the drawdown of defense articles from the stocks of the Department of Defense, defense services of the Department of Defense, and military education and training for eligible Afghan resistance organizations.

(2) AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—The aggregate value (as defined in section 644(m) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961) of assistance provided under paragraph (1) may not exceed \$300,000,000.

(b) ELIGIBLE AFGHAN RESISTANCE ORGANIZATIONS.—An Afghan resistance organization shall be eligible to receive assistance under subsection (a) if the President determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that such organization, or coalition of organizations, is committed to—

(1) the removal from power of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan;

(2) preservation of the territorial integrity and political independence of Afghanistan;

(3) respect for internationally recognized human rights; and

(4) the suppression of terrorism in all of its forms and the surrender to justice of all international terrorists in Afghanistan, including perpetrators of the September 11, 2001, attack on the United States.

(c) REIMBURSEMENT FOR ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Defense articles, defense services, and military education and training provided under subsection (a) shall be made available without reimbursement to the Department of Defense except to the extent that funds are appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under paragraph (2).

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the President for fiscal year 2002 such sums as may be necessary to reimburse the applicable appropriation, fund, or account for the value (as defined in section 644(m) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961) of defense articles, defense services, or military education and training provided under subsection (a).

(B) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under subparagraph (A) are authorized to remain available until expended, and are in addition to amounts otherwise available for the purposes described in this section.

(e) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.—Activities under this section may be undertaken notwithstanding any other provision of law.

SEC. 5. DISASTER AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN.

(a) DISASTER AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.—Chapter 9 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2292 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following: "**SEC. 495L. AFGHAN RELIEF, REHABILITATION, AND RECONSTRUCTION.**

"(a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—Congress recognizes that prompt United States assistance is necessary to alleviate the human suffering of the people of Afghanistan from four years of extreme drought and 20 years of civil war and to restore the confidence of the people in that country.

"(b) ASSISTANCE.—The President is authorized to furnish assistance on such terms and conditions as the President may determine for the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction needs of the people of Afghanistan, including displaced persons and other needy

people. Assistance provided under this section shall be for humanitarian purposes with emphasis on providing food, medicine and medical care, clothing, temporary shelter, and transportation for emergency supplies and personnel.

“(c) **POLICIES AND AUTHORITIES TO BE APPLIED.**—(1) Assistance under this section shall be provided in accordance with the policies and general authorities of section 491.

“(2) Assistance under this section or any other provision of law to alleviate the human suffering caused by famine and disease in Afghanistan shall be provided, to the maximum extent practicable, through international agencies, private voluntary organizations, and any eligible Afghan resistance organization.

“(d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to the President to carry out this section \$100,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2002 and 2003. Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under the preceding sentence are in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes and are authorized to remain available until expended.”

(b) **OTHER ASSISTANCE FOR AFGHANISTAN.**—

(1) **ASSISTANCE.**—The President is authorized to provide assistance from funds made available to carry out chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (relating to the economic support fund) for the provision of food, medicine, or other assistance to the Afghan people, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(2) **AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.**—In each of fiscal years 2002 and 2003, not less than \$50,000,000 of the aggregate amount of funds made available to carry out chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 is authorized to be made available for assistance to the Afghan people pursuant to paragraph (1).

SEC. 6. ESTABLISHMENT OF RADIO FREE AFGHANISTAN.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Broadcasting Board of Governors is authorized to make grants for surrogate radio broadcasting by RFE/RL, Incorporated (formerly known as Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty) to the people of Afghanistan in languages spoken in Afghanistan, such broadcasts to be designated “Radio Free Afghanistan”.

(b) **SUBMISSION OF PLAN TO BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS.**—Not later than 15 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, RFE/RL, Incorporated, shall submit to the Broadcasting Board of Governors a detailed plan for the establishment of the surrogate radio broadcasting described in subsection (a).

(c) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—

(1) **FISCAL YEARS 2002 AND 2003.**—In addition to such sums as are authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal years 2002 and 2003 for “International Broadcasting Operations”, \$8,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year 2002 and \$6,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year 2003 for “International Broadcasting Operations” to be available only for the surrogate radio broadcasting described in subsection (a).

(2) **TRANSMITTER.**—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated by paragraph (1) for the fiscal year 2002, \$1,500,000 shall be available only for a new transmitter for the surrogate radio broadcasting described in subsection (a).

SEC. 7. COMPLIANCE WITH MEASURES DIRECTED AGAINST THE TALIBAN BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL.

(a) **REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than one month after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every three months thereafter

until the President determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that the Taliban no longer exercises power in any part of Afghanistan, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that identifies the government of each foreign country with respect to which there is credible information that the government has, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, violated, or permitted persons subject to its jurisdiction to violate, measures directed against the Taliban pursuant to United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1267 (1999), 1333 (2000), or 1363 (2001), or pursuant to any other United Nations Security Council resolution adopted under the authority of Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

(b) **CONTENT OF REPORTS.**—Each report submitted under subsection (a) shall detail with respect to each government of a foreign country identified in such report the nature of the violation (other than violations detailed in previous reports submitted pursuant to this section), and shall evaluate—

(1) the importance of the violation to the efforts of the Taliban to remain in power in Afghanistan;

(2) the importance of the violation to the efforts of terrorist groups to continue operating from Afghanistan; and

(3) the risk posed by such violation to the safety of the United States Armed Forces and the armed forces of other countries acting in coalition with the United States.

(c) **AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE UNITED STATES SANCTIONS.**—The President is authorized to impose one or more of the United States sanctions provided in subsection (d) if the President determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(1) a government of a foreign country identified in a report submitted under subsection (a) has knowingly violated, or knowingly permitted persons subject to its jurisdiction to violate, measures directed against the Taliban pursuant to United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1267 (1999), 1333 (2000), or 1363 (2001), or pursuant to any other United Nations Security Council resolution adopted under the authority of Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations; and

(2) such violation has put at risk the lives of members of the United States Armed Forces, or other United States citizens.

(d) **UNITED STATES SANCTIONS AUTHORIZED TO BE IMPOSED.**—The United States sanctions referred to in subsection (c) are the following:

(1) No assistance may be provided to that government or nationals under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or the Arms Export Control Act.

(2) No license may be issued for any transfer to that government or nationals of any goods, services, or technology controlled under the Arms Export Control Act, the Export Administration Act of 1979, or the Export Administration Regulations.

(3) The restrictions of subsections (a) and (b) of section 3 of the Trading With the Enemy Act (50 U.S.C. App. 3(a) and (b)) shall apply to relations between the United States and the government of a foreign country and all nationals of that country with respect to which the President makes a determination described in subsection (c).

SEC. 8. SUBMISSION OF DETERMINATIONS AND REPORTS IN CLASSIFIED FORM.

When the President considers it appropriate, determinations and reports to the appropriate congressional committees submitted under this Act, or appropriate parts thereof, may be submitted in classified form.

SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Inter-

national Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(2) **NATIONAL.**—The term “national” means, with respect to a foreign country, a national of the country, including a natural person, corporation, business association, partnership, or other entity operating as a business enterprise under the laws of the country.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RONALD FLORES RIVERA

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, each of us in our own way adds to the history of our community; some people make history conspicuously, with flamboyant deeds and actions; others do it subtly, with powerful words quietly spoken. If a history maker is one who contributes significantly to the social, political or economic evolution of a community, then we in Guam are laying to rest a history maker, my good friend and confidant, Ronald Flores Rivera.

On September 27, 2001, the people of Guam lost a dedicated advocate who was steadfast in his political beliefs, free with his thoughts, judicious with his words and gentle in his manner. Ron Rivera, the son of Fay Naputi Flores and Francisco Afaisen Rivera, earned the respect of many on our beloved island. Born in Tamuning, Guam, on October 9, 1953, he grew up and attended grade school in the southern village of Inarajan. Ron graduated with honors from John F. Kennedy High School at age 16.

While an employee of the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, Ron was selected for training and education by then federal consultant at the University of Guam, Wally Kearns, with whom he shared a lifelong friendship. Ron was sent to attend the University of Arizona in Tucson where he earned both a Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degree in Rehabilitation. Ron was a very intelligent and motivated individual and was often sought by his peers for his counsel. He was admired by his colleagues not only for his in-depth knowledge within his realm of expertise, but also for his ability to understand and absorb vast amounts of information in many other areas.

While away for his studies, Ron never forgot his home island of Guam. His good natured character, determination and perseverance emanated with the love and commitment to return to the island and continue working for the benefit of the people of Guam. As with his early educational endeavors and the desire to return home, Ron managed to complete his educational program and earn both degrees in less than the average time expected for such specialties.

In addition to his rehabilitation work, Ron also got involved with Guam's tourist industry, selling handicrafts both in Guam and Saipan. He eventually went into business full-time for himself, operating Ronsan Beach House, a recreational rental business on Tumon Bay. Running his own business allowed him the freedom to devote time and energy to his political activities.