

Yet, in fact, the Department of Interior and the United States Department of Agriculture have determined otherwise in that Title III payments will affect an eligible county's PILT payments because the funding is directly received and spent by them. I have been told that the margin of impact could be anywhere from fifty cents (\$.50) to a dollar for dollar reduction in PILT depending upon the amount the county could elect to receive under Title III. For example, Ferry County, located in northeast Washington, received a PILT payment in 2001 of approximately \$200,000. The county elected to receive \$182,000 under Title III for fiscal year 2002. Conservatively, an estimate of fifty (\$.50) cents on the dollar would equate to a \$91,000 reduction in PILT. Further, eligible counties are required to specify their allocations under PL 106-393 prior to the PILT calculations, so they have no way of knowing the impact their allocations may have on their PILT payments from year to year. It is also important to note that no other source of federal funding could replenish the PILT funding lost. Although Title III funding is received directly, specific parameters are set to its spending. Bluntly put, PL 106-393 pits a county's potential desire and need for reimbursement for the emergency services it renders on federal land against its need for PILT funding for general operations. This is contrary to the intent of PL 106-393.

The legislation I introduce today is narrow in scope. It will amend PL 106-393 to re-establish the stability and predictability of payments by directing that Title III funds not be considered when PILT payments are calculated.

Time is of the essence. It is imperative Congress act before we adjourn this session. Please join me in cosponsoring this most important measure.

HONORING VERLYAN RUTH BYRD

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2002

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Verlyan Ruth Byrd, an honorable federal employee who loyally served her country throughout her life.

During World War II, Mrs. Byrd was recruited by the United States Army as a typist at the Granite City Army Depot in Granite City, Illinois. She worked part time at the depot as a high school student, and upon graduation she got a job as a full-time clerk typist. She continued to serve her country with the Department of Defense through 1978, when she suffered a severe heart attack. Mrs. Byrd was forced into early retirement in 1979.

Upon her retirement, the Social Security Administration told Mrs. Byrd that she could file for social security upon her 65th birthday. However, when she entered the office after she reached the age of 65, she was told that due to the Government Pension Offset (GPO) law she was not eligible to receive Social Security.

This law, which went into effect after she was forced to retire, reduces pension funds for spouses for work that was not covered by Social Security. While the law was originally intended to prevent "double dipping" into social

security funds by government workers who receive substantial pensions, many seniors have been forced by the law to live in poverty while being denied the money they paid into the system.

Mrs. Byrd spent the latter years of her life living in an old house that was desperately in need of repairs. She also had substantial medical bills and used as many as 15 prescription drugs on any given day. Despite her life as a loyal government employee, Mrs. Byrd was forced to live in poverty in the waning years of her life.

Mrs. Byrd was said by her friends to be a considerate, generous, family oriented woman with a kind disposition. She wrote to government officials to have the GPO law repealed, but action was not taken quickly enough. Mrs. Byrd died on Sunday, July 28, 2002 at 7:20 p.m. She was not alone in her struggle with the GPO law. Many other government employees, particularly in the teaching community, are ill-served by this law.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Ruth Byrd and wishing the best for her family, and to urge immediate action by the House of Representatives to pass H.R. 664, legislation I have cosponsored to address the GPO problem.

ACT NOW

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last Friday (September 6, 2002), an outstanding article by our distinguished former Secretary of State, George P. Shultz, was published in a number of American newspapers. Secretary Shultz eloquently explained why he believes we must act decisively against Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

As Secretary of State for President Ronald Reagan, George Schultz exhibited remarkable experience in foreign affairs. Since leaving the Department of State, Secretary Shultz has continued to deal with international relations as a Distinguished Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, an institution dedicated to public policy analysis of international and domestic questions. In recognition of Secretary Schultz's outstanding commitment to education and public service, the Hoover Institution's Foreign Service Institute was recently renamed in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that all of our colleagues in the United States Congress would benefit from reading Secretary Schultz's excellent analysis on the issue of Iraq, and I ask that it be placed in the RECORD.

ACT NOW—THE DANGER IS IMMEDIATE SADDAM HUSSEIN MUST BE REMOVED

(By George P. Shultz)

Are we to be the Hamlet of nations, debating endlessly over when and how to act? Saddam Hussein's performance as ruler of Iraq is a matter of grave concern not just for the United States but for the international community as a whole. The major debate going on in the media, in Congress and with our friends and allies is necessary. But it is also necessary to move beyond debate and create the clarity that is the basis for action.

The world now has entered the third decade of crises and dangers to international

peace and security created by Saddam Hussein. In 1980 he launched an eight-year war against Iran. Chemical weapons were used, and at least 1.5 million people were killed or severely wounded. In 1990 he invaded Kuwait in a war aimed at eradicating another state's legitimate sovereign existence. As he was forced out, he deliberately created environmental degradation of gigantic proportions. He has used chemical weapons against the Kurdish people in an attack on a genocidal scale, and he has sent his forces into Kurdistan to conduct widespread slaughter. He has relentlessly amassed weapons of mass destruction and continues their development. He has turned Iraq into a state that foments, supports and conducts terrorism. No other dictator today matches his record of war, oppression, use of weapons of mass destruction and continuing contemptuous violation of international law, as set out by unanimous actions of the U.N. Security Council.

Against this background, much of the current debate ignores the facts of the United Nations' long series of steps to rein in Saddam Hussein and authorize action against his regime. A strong foundation exists for immediate military action against Hussein and for a multilateral effort to rebuild Iraq after he is gone.

A remarkable series of U.N. Security Council resolutions in 1990 and 1991 authorized war to oust Hussein's forces from Kuwait. This was the basis for the Desert Storm campaign that won the Gulf War in 1991. With that military victory, a Security Council resolution declared the "suspension" of offensive operations, deliberately leaving intact the original authorization to use force. Then Security Council Resolution 687 imposed a series of demands upon Iraq with the objective of restoring peace and security in the area. This carried the case against Hussein beyond the matter of liberating Kuwait to focus on the elimination, under international inspection, of his weapons of mass destruction. In other words, the threat to the region and the world of a decisively armed Iraq was fully recognized and declared unacceptable.

In the first years after Desert Storm, U.N. inspectors uncovered Iraqi facilities used to manufacture weapons of mass destruction. They dismantled uranium-enrichment and other nuclear weapons installations and destroyed a chemical weapons plant and hundreds of missile warheads armed with poison gas. Threats of Iraq's noncooperation were countered by U.S. airstrikes. But even limited Iraqi compliance decreased sharply over time.

The U.N. inspectors did what they could. They found a lot, but they missed even more. In 1995 Lt. Gen. Hussein Kamel Hassan Majeed, a son-in-law of Saddam Hussein, defected and revealed that Hussein was making biological weapons at a center where inspectors had found nothing. The center, which had produced 30,000 liters of biological agents, including anthrax and botulinum toxins, was destroyed, but the inadequacy of inspections in Iraq was demonstrated.

In 1997 Saddam Hussein escalated his campaign of harassment, obstruction and threats against the inspection effort. He activated ground-to-air missile systems to deter inspection flights. He expelled all American members of the inspection teams. In early 1998 Hussein refused access to "presidential sites"—the numerous palaces he had built for himself around Iraq. The United States responded with a military buildup, including ground troops deployed to Kuwait. In a speech at the Pentagon in February 1998, President Clinton gave details of Iraq's violations and declared that Hussein must grant

"full, free and unfettered" access to inspectors or the United States would launch attacks to compel his compliance.

In an attempt to defuse the crisis, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan negotiated that same month a Memorandum of Understanding between Iraq and the United Nations, which pledged "immediate, unconditional and unrestricted access" for inspections. A Security Council resolution endorsed the Memorandum of Understanding and warned Iraq of the "severest consequences" if the memorandum was violated.

In September 1998, the chief U.N. inspector informed the Security Council that Iraq was again barring inspections, and the council, in yet another resolution, condemned Iraq for suspending its cooperation. A further U.N. effort to regain Iraq's cooperation failed as Iraq declared that it was suspending all cooperation with U.N. inspections. In an emergency session, the Security Council passed Resolution 1205 on Nov. 5, 1998, condemning Iraq's action as "a flagrant violation" of the original resolutions of 1990-91. Since then, nothing consequential has been done. The failure to take military action against Hussein after his flagrant violation in 1998 has given him nearly four years to continue unencumbered in his development and accumulation of weapons of mass destruction.

Iraq by its own actions has, in effect, terminated the cease-fire established in 1991 at the end of the Gulf War and reactivated the "suspended" authorization to use military force against Iraq. No longer can anyone plausibly claim that Iraq's weapons of mass destruction can be eliminated by an inspection program. The Security Council's judgment still stands: A Saddam Hussein armed with weapons of mass destruction is not acceptable. Military force against Hussein is both necessary and authorized to rid Iraq of weapons of mass destruction.

The full range of reasonable legal, diplomatic and other alternatives has been exhausted. All conceivable forms of leverage have been employed: sanctions; embargoes; massive military buildups to threaten him into compliance; limited military operations in the form of air and cruise missile strikes; the encouragement of internal opposition; positive inducement through the "oil for peace" program; and diplomacy in all forms—unilateral, multilateral, private, public, direct and through intermediaries. Nothing has worked. Any further steps will only provide him with more time and heighten the danger.

Self-defense is a valid basis for preemptive action. The evidence is clear that Hussein continues to amass weapons of mass destruction. He has also demonstrated a willingness to use them against internal as well as external targets. By now, the risks of inaction clearly outweigh the risks of action. If there is a rattlesnake in the yard, you don't wait for it to strike before you take action in self-defense.

The danger is immediate. The making of weapons of mass destruction grows increasingly difficult to counter with each passing day. When the risk is not hundreds of people killed in a conventional attack but tens or hundreds of thousands killed by chemical, biological or nuclear attack, the time factor is even more compelling.

The moment is racing toward us when Hussein's possession of nuclear weaponry could transform the regional and international situation into what, in the Cold War, we called the balance of terror. Some argue that to act now might trigger Hussein's use of his worst weapons. Such self-imposed blackmail presumes easier judgments when he is even better equipped than now. Time is his ally, not ours.

Concern over the future of Iraq is legitimate. Following the end of the current Iraqi

regime, a new Iraq can emerge as a territorially integral sovereign state with a federal-style form that respects the Kurdish, Sunni and Shia communities. A set of phased transitional steps, including referendums and elections, can be carried out and involve the range of Iraqi political parties, factions and groups in exile and internally opposed to the Hussein regime over the years.

For the Middle East, a major source of and support for terror and instability will have ended. Those who argue that the Iraq crisis should be deferred until progress is achieved between Israelis and Palestinians are proposing an impossible task. For the Arab world as a whole, a new Iraq offers the opportunity to start a reversal of the stagnation detailed in the "Arab Human Development Report 2002" recently released by the United Nations. The report describes how Arab societies are being crippled by a lack of political freedom, repression of women and isolation from the world of ideas that stifles creativity.

The history of Iraq, the achievements of its peoples, its high civilization of the past, and its extensive natural resources all point to the possibility of a positive transformation once Hussein's yoke is lifted. In the process, a model can emerge that other Arab societies may look to and emulate for their own transformation and that of the entire region. The challenge of Iraq offers an opportunity for a historic turning point that can lead us in the direction of a more peaceful, free and prosperous future.

This is a defining moment in international affairs. Authorization for action is clear. We have made endless efforts to bring Saddam Hussein into line with the duly considered judgments of a unanimous U.N. Security Council. Let us go to the Security Council and assert this case with the care of a country determined to take decisive action. And this powerful case for acting now must be made promptly to Congress. Its members will have to stand up and be counted. Then let's get on with the job.

The writer was secretary of state from 1982 to 1989. He is the Thomas W. and Susan B. Ford Distinguished Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2002

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded on rollcall No. 384, Expressing the Sense of the Congress on the anniversary of the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001. I was with my constituents of Staten Island and Brooklyn on this sad anniversary. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

For the past year, our nation has grieved over the loss of nearly 3,000 brave men and women who were cruelly and unfairly taken from God's earth much too soon. These past 365 days have been a time of immense sadness for our nation. We have buried too many innocent souls—too many mothers, too many fathers, too many sons and too many daughters.

Today is officially known as Patriot's Day as a result of legislation that I passed in Congress. I chose this name because I thought it best described the victims of September 11th—men and women who loved their country and who died in its name. While they were not soldiers, they certainly were patriots.

Indeed, no one among us will ever forget the indelible images of brave firefighters, police officers and other emergency services personnel entering the burning towers bound by honor, duty and courage. Or the pictures of ordinary Americans leading their friends, co-workers and even strangers out of the rubble because they were taught to help those in need. In an age when the word heroism is bandied about much too often, we watched true heroes in action.

And so today, we remember these patriots—to recall their smile, their laugh, their kindness. Their loss is an injustice to humanity. And while they can never be replaced, they must be remembered and honored for making the greatest of all sacrifices.

The American story is far from finished. Indeed, the best chapters are yet to come. We must believe that, for I know in my heart that it is our destiny.

We also must believe that there is a just God directing our people in a just cause of liberty. That cause, like others before, which crushed fascism and communism, is now to forbid the tyranny of terrorism. The terrorists sought to destroy America by crushing brick and twisting steel. They didn't understand that the source of America's strength is its people, and that its people embody a spirit of optimism and hope that can never be destroyed. Our hearts may still be heavy, but our soul is stronger and more vibrant than ever. The values of America will forever stand firm and resolute.

My prayers go out to every family that lost a loved one on September 11th. My words cannot ease your suffering, so I simply tell you that you remain in my thoughts. God Bless you and God Bless America.

I ask unanimous consent that this statement be printed in the appropriate part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

TRIBUTE TO REV. JOHN A TOTH

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2002

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, all over the United States we are blessed with a wonderful sense of community, where neighbor helps neighbor. One important reason for this great blessing is the inspired guidance of our religious leaders.

In my home state of Michigan, one of those leaders has been bringing God's word for over 30 years. The Rev. John A. Toth, of the First Presbyterian Church in Dimondale, has been a beacon of faith and prayer, of hope and service, and of charity and outreach to the less fortunate. His life's work has been devoted to the service of others—his faith, his family, his community and his country.

John has been supported in his ministry by his remarkable wife Joanne. Thanks to their work, Dimondale is a better place to live and raise a family.

I am honored today to rise in recognition of the steadfast service and commitment of this fine American and a principled man of God, Reverend John A. Toth.

Reverend Toth pastored the First Presbyterian Church in Dimondale, Michigan for 30 years and has been a positive and energetic