

nation. While he will be missed by the men and women of good will in my community and beyond, I will join my constituents in celebrating the wonderful gift of his life at the funeral services this Monday, March 11, 2002 at Glendale Baptist Church. We will honor and thank God for sending Rev. Coats to grace our paths and take up our struggles at a time when we most needed him.

My pride in sharing his friendship is only exceeded by my eternal gratitude for all that he has sacrificed on our behalf. This is the magnificent legacy by which we will honor his memory.

IN HONOR OF JUSTICE HUGH J.
O'FLAHERTY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former member of the Supreme Court of Ireland, Justice Hugh J. O'Flaherty as an honored guest to our country and to welcome him to celebrate St. Patrick's day with the Cleveland law firm, Collins & Scanlon. Justice O'Flaherty displayed integrity, character, and intelligence throughout his nine year tenure on the Court. We are fortunate to have him visit our country and share his knowledge.

Hugh J. O'Flaherty, was born in Killarney, County Kerry, Ireland. He studied law at the University College in Dublin. He was called to the Bar of Ireland in 1959 and became senior counsel in 1974. In 1990 Mr. O'Flaherty was appointed to the Supreme Court of Ireland. The court holds jurisdiction similar to the Supreme Court of the United States. Justice O'Flaherty carried out his duties with sound judgement and expertise. He has shared his wisdom by lecturing at the law schools at Fordham University and Duquesne University and by addressing numerous bar conferences in the United States as well as Australia.

I ask my colleagues to join me in rising to honor this truly remarkable individual for his distinguished years of service to Ireland's judicial system.

OPPOSING CERTIFICATION OF
SERBIA

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2002

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my opposition to certification of Serbia to receive U.S. assistance. Belgrade has not met the conditions included in the law by Senator MITCH MCCONNELL and does not deserve to be certified by President Bush. As my colleagues are aware, certification must take place by March 31, 2002.

Until Serbia releases all of the Albanian prisoners under its control, stops funding parallel institutions in Bosnia and Kosova, protects minority rights and the rule of law, and fully cooperates with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, it should not be certified to receive assistance from the

United States. While I look forward to the day when Belgrade is a constructive and cooperative player in the Balkans, the President must apply the standards Congress has laid down in law and deny certification.

In support of this position I include a letter from Richard Lukaj, Chairman of the Board of the National Albanian American Council, in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

March 17, 2002.

DEAR SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE: On March 31, 2002, the United States Congress will consider Serbia's eligibility for continued U.S. donor assistance. The National Albanian American Council would like to share with you some of its concerns, as well as point out Serbia's failure to fulfill any of the conditions posed by Congress last year.

According to Congress's decision, financial assistance to Serbia will continue after March 31, 2002 only if the President has made the determination and certification that Serbia is:

Cooperating with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia including access for investigators, the provision of documents, and the surrender and transfer of indictees or assistance in their apprehension;

Taking steps to implement policies which reflect a respect for minority rights and the rule of law, including the release of political prisoners from Serbian jails and prisons, and

Taking steps that are consistent with the Dayton Accords to end Serbian financial, political, security and other support which has served to maintain separate Republika Srpska institutions.

A quick overview of these conditions indicates that Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) have failed to comply with any of them, and moreover, they have engaged in additional actions that run counter to Congress' intent and the administration's efforts to bring peace and stability to the region.

COOPERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL

The trial of former Yugoslav dictator Slobodan Milosevic at the ICTY raised the hopes of many in the Balkans that the victims of war crimes will finally see justice being served. However, while the new Serbian government extradited Milosevic to The Hague at the last moment in a clear attempt to get financial support, it is doing disappointingly little to cooperate with the ICTY in the arrest of other indicted war criminals. Just last month, the Tribunal's Chief Prosecutor, Carla Del Ponte, labeled Yugoslav president Vojislav Kostunica as the "chief obstacle" to cooperation and denounced his direct complicity in the efforts to protect Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb general wanted by ICTY for masterminding and executing some of the most heinous crimes against humanity during the Bosnian war. Recently, the Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic emphatically stated that his government would make no efforts whatsoever to apprehend Mladic.

In addition, four other Milosevic associates wanted for war crimes committed in Kosova remain free men and actively engage in high governmental or military positions. One of the indicted war criminals, Milan Milutinovic, maintains his post as president of Serbia, while Dragoljub Ojdanic, the former Chief of Staff of the Yugoslav Army, continues to hold a high ranking post within the Yugoslav Army. On March 9th, Kostunica's party, a key member of the ruling alliance, refused to endorse a draft law on cooperation with the UN Hague Tribunal. Moreover, both Kostunica and Djindjic, rather than seizing the opportunity presented by

Milosevic's trial to initiate a debate within Serbia on the issue of war crimes, have instead made statements denouncing the Tribunal as the "last hole on the flute," thus seriously undermining its legitimacy and credibility in the eyes of the Serbian public.

These and additional facts are mentioned in the recently published human rights report by the U.S. Department of State. The report forthrightly notes that "[w]ith the exception of the transfer of Slobodan Milosevic and a few other war criminals, the Government's cooperation with the Yugoslav War Crimes Tribunal (ICTY) decreased significantly during the year. [...] At year's end, several indictees remained at liberty, and, in at least one case, still in an official position in Serbia." The report further states that the FRY government "has been uncooperative in requests for documents regarding crimes committed by Serbs against other ethnic groups, and in arranging interviews with official and nongovernmental witnesses."

Clearly, the post-Milosevic governments of Serbia and Yugoslavia are failing utterly in keeping their international commitments for cooperating with the ICTY. The Secretary of State should use the upcoming March 31 cut-off date for U.S. assistance to the FRY government to press for full cooperation by the FRY government with the ICTY. The administration, too, should signal to Belgrade and beyond that it values international justice, and overcome perceptions that it does not fully support the tribunal's work.

RELEASE OF ALBANIAN POLITICAL PRISONERS FROM JAILS AND PRISONS AND THE RULE OF LAW

Despite Congress' unequivocal language and the pressure from the international community, Serbia continues to hold hostage 157 Kosovar Albanian prisoners, rounded up and transported to Serbia during the withdrawal of Serb forces from Kosova in 1999. These prisoners were tried in artificially created courts, tortured brutally, and forced to make false confessions under extreme duress. While President Kostunica frequently claims his respect for the rule of law, he has too easily overlooked many of the legal discrepancies involved in the cases of the Albanian prisoners. To date, Mr. Kostunica has overturned just two cases and this only after direct intervention by leading political figures of the international community.

The recently published human rights report by the U.S. Department of State also has indicated Serbia's failure to adequately address the issue of these prisoners, alongside a host of other problems in its treatment of minority populations. We could not agree more with what Senator Helms stated in the floor debate last year: "Each day Belgrade keeps people like Albin Kurti, Isljam Taci, Berisa Petrit, and Sulejman Bitici [Albanian political prisoners] locked behind bars is another day that Belgrade has continued the horrors and injustice of the Milosevic regime. And this is totally unacceptable." The United States Congress, as well as the international community, should condemn any attempt by the Serb and FRY authorities to continue to use these Albanian prisoners as hostages, should resist the temptation to equate them with ordinary convicted criminals, and should ask for their immediate and unconditional release.

Furthermore, the reality of today's Serbia and FRY is very far from our country's notions of the rule of law. Aside rampant corruption and organized crime, the government and the justice system in Serbia and FRY not only are failing to bring about any resemblance of rule of law and justice in their

country, but are engaged in systematic efforts to obstruct justice by destroying all evidence pertaining to war crimes issues. In the words of Natasa Kandic, a leading Serb Human Rights activist, even "judges, prosecutors and police chiefs are destroying any remaining papers that might implicate them [for war crimes in Kosovo], forging documents, and testing the strength of the wall of silence." For example, despite the concern expressed by Senator McConnell last year, the investigation into the murder of the three American brothers of Albanian descent from New York, cold bloodedly killed after the war and whose remains were found in a mass grave in Serbia, had not started as late as February 4, 2002 according to Ms. Kandic.

Ironically, even Vojislav Sescelj, leader of the nationalist Serbian Radical Party has recently accused police generals Sreten Lukic and Goran Radosavljevic of "initiating, organizing, transporting, and burying bodies of Kosovar Albanians in locations near Belgrade" and accused the "authorities for keeping quiet about it!" Over 800 hundred bodies of Albanians found in mass graves in Serbia are under the supervision of the head of the Serb police since April, 2001. There has been no effort to return these bodies to the families in Kosovo. As Ms. Kandic so poignantly writes "[N]o more questions are asked in Serbia about mass graves, the people whose remains are buried in them, their names, how they died, who gave the orders, who carried them out, and who covered up the evidence." Instead, Serbia's own Milosevic is cheered by the public and politicians as a star in a basketball game.

ENDING SERBIAN FINANCIAL, POLITICAL, SECURITY AND OTHER SUPPORT FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF SEPARATE OR PARALLEL INSTITUTIONS IN BOSNIA AS WELL AS KOSOVA

Although this letter is not focused on Serbia's or FRY's relations with Bosnia and Herzegovina, it is relevant to mention that instead of taking steps towards complying with this condition, Serbia and the FRY have been very obstructionist to the Dayton Peace Accords in a variety of ways. The FRY has never ratified the Accords and continues to finance the entire Republika Srpska Army (VRS) and security forces. Furthermore, VRS command and control structures tie directly into Yugoslav Army structures, violating Annex 1-A of the Dayton Peace Accords.

On top of violating Dayton Peace Accords, Serbia and the FRY are in clear violation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244. Belgrade continues to finance and maintain illegal parallel administrative, police, and security structures in Kosovo. Paradoxically, a large quantity of the funds that supports these illegal parallel structures is drawn from international aid and potentially from assistance that is given by the United States. According to Deputy Premier Nebojsa Covic, Serbia has on its payroll as many as 29,800 people who illegally operate inside Kosovo. The most visible example are the so called "bridge-watchers" in the town of Mitrovica who, in an all too clear attempt to partition this territory from the rest of Kosovo, violently prevent the free movement of the Albanian population into their own homes as well as do not allow the Government of Kosovo and the UNMIK representatives to establish and assert their authority in the northern part of the town. Covic himself has admitted that these troops operate under Belgrade's control and with Belgrade's direct financial support.

OTHER ACTIONS OR INACTIONS THAT PRESENT A THREAT TO THE REGIONAL STABILITY

In addition to the failure to fulfill the conditions posed by the U.S. Congress, Belgrade continues to present a threat to the regional

stability by refusing to take responsibility for the carnage and suffering its predecessors instigated in this last decade but instead choosing to continue fuel nationalistic and hate propaganda to their constituents, as well as by embarking in a foreign policy agenda that is a prelude of further destabilization.

As it is clearly stated in a recent report by a well known international think tank (attached herein), in Serbia, the parliament, media, and even its religious institutions frequently serve as a setting and an instrument for the most blatant and prejudiced hate speeches particularly against Albanians, Jews, and other minority groups. While Yugoslav officials led by President Kostunica himself have firmly discouraged any efforts to openly and honestly face the past and tell the Serbian public the truth for the events of this past decade, Serbia's leaders, including Serbian Premier Zoran Djindjic and Deputy Premier Nebojsa Covic, have been all too willing to continue to refer to all Albanians as "terrorists," just as Milosevic is doing in the Hague, in a clear attempt to exploit to their political advantage our country's tragedy of September 11 and raise discontent among America's politicians and public towards Albanians. This at a time when it is widely known, and recently confirmed by a Gallup poll, that together with Israel, Albanians are after September 11, as well as before, among the strongest supporters of the United States in the world, second only to the American people.

Furthermore, Belgrade has set sail in a foreign policy agenda that is a prelude of further regional destabilization. There are clear indications that Belgrade and Skopje are forging anti-Albanian alliances with anti-Western character. For example, despite the efforts of the United States and the international community to discourage the selling of weapons to Skopje, according to Macedonian sources, Belgrade is the second biggest supplier of military aid after Ukraine. It is noteworthy that while the military structures of Albanians in Kosovo, FYROM, and Southern Serbia have kept their promises and have demilitarized beyond the extent required by the international community, while the U.S. is contemplating a reduction of the U.S. forces in the region and has suggested the same for the military structures of the Republic of Albania, all of Albanian's neighbors are continuously beefing up their military arsenal, dangerously shifting the military balances in the area.

Most importantly, in a clear provocation to the Kosovar Albanians and to the authority of the United Nations, last year Belgrade and Skopje signed an agreement that attempts to change Kosovo's borders and gives away 2500 hectares (close to 6000 acres) of Kosovo's land to FYROM. This move has been widely rejected by the Kosovar Albanian political leaders as well as the population at large. This agreement should not be endorsed or supported by the United States Congress and Administration as it creates the dangerous precedent of giving Belgrade the authority to give away Kosovo's territory in complete disregard of the United Nations mandate over Kosovo as well as against the will of Kosovo's citizens.

These actions do not contribute to peace and stability. On the contrary, they are designed to stir up tensions, provoke the Albanian population, and then present them as the source of instability in the region and thus justify FRY's actions and inactions and thereby divert attention from problems within the FRY and originating in Belgrade.

CONCLUSION

The failure of Serbia and FRY to fully cooperate with ICTY, the refusal to release the

Albanian prisoners, its continued maintenance and support of illegal parallel structures inside Kosovo, the unwillingness of Belgrade to openly face and denounce the calamity its predecessors have caused, the continued tolerance and active support for hate speech and similar mentality, the highly destabilizing and provocative actions in relation to its neighbors, all confirm that Belgrade continues to be a source of future tension and instability in the region and as such, it should not be rewarded by the United States Congress and the international community.

Upon the fall of the Milosevic regime, Yugoslavia was readmitted to the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. While in our opinion, such reinstatement was done hastily and without full guarantees of cooperation and compliance, Belgrade's further reintegration and the financial aid it receives from the United States and the rest of the world should be conditional upon at least the following:

In relation with cooperation with ICTY the FRY should: (1) Transfer all indictees to The Hague, including those on active political or military duty as well as the retired officials. (2) Provide ICTY access to all relevant archives and documents. (3) Clearly and visibly change its policy of public denigration and dismissive attitude towards the ICTY and its legitimacy. (4) Provide information and assistance in tracing Milosevic's and other criminals' funds be them in Serbia or in illegal bank accounts in Greece or elsewhere. (5) Provide information on the discovery of other known mass graves located in Serbia.

In relation with Kosovo the FRY should: (1) Release all the remaining Kosovar Albanian prisoners. (2) Stop financing, training, and operating parallel security forces and counterintelligence personnel as well as parallel civilian administrative structures. (3) Support (and not hinder) the Kosovar Government and UNMIK efforts to assert their authority in the north of Kosovo. (4) Stop all efforts to depict Albanians as "terrorists" but rather publicly admit their wrongdoing as an important good will effort towards reconciliation. (5) Return to their families the bodies of the Albanians found in mass graves.

In relation with its neighbors the FRY must demonstrate its commitment to regional peace and stability by: (1) Not hindering international community's efforts to sustain peace in FYROM. (2) Discontinuing to funnel and sell weapons to FYROM in a clear disregard of international community's will and policy (3) by bringing to an end its efforts to stir up tensions in the region by forging dubious alliances and signing and attempting to enforce provocative agreements.

As the U.S. Administration and Congress assist the FRY in the quest for normalization, it must face—and act on—the reality that the FRY still causes significant regional instability and is not in compliance with the conditions established under the impending March 31, 2002 deadline. No matter what actions the Yugoslav or Serbian government takes out of pragmatism in these remaining few weeks, we urge our government to insist on a clear and clean break of the current Yugoslav and Serb government from the policies and practices of its predecessor. It should do so by refusing to certify Serbia's eligibility for further U.S. assistance, by not extending the Most Favorite Nation status to FRY, and by insisting that all the above-listed conditions are fulfilled before FRY's efforts for further integration in the international community are endorsed.

We as Albanian-Americans are looking forward to the time when Serbia will become a constructive player that contributes to the

peaceful and harmonious development of Southeastern Europe. However, until that time comes, our Congress and the international community must avoid the temptation to bend the rules for Belgrade and must hold FRY to the same high standards that have been rightly required of other countries in the area.

On behalf of the National Albanian American Council,

RICHARD LUKAJ,
Chairman, Board of Trustees.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MR. LES CAMPBELL

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2002

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the public service contributions of Mr. Les Campbell of Belchertown, MA. Mr. Campbell's work as a nature and wildlife photographer is well known in Massachusetts' First District and throughout New England. In addition to founding several photography organizations and serving as an active or honorary member of countless others, Mr. Campbell is a tireless resource for the young photographers with whom he enjoys sharing his knowledge. Mr. Campbell, now retired, was a lifelong government employee at the Quabbin Reservoir. He has been a champion for keeping that magnificent body of water untouched by development.

On March 29, 2002 The Valley Portfolio, a community photographic resource center in Springfield, MA will present to Mr. Campbell a lifetime achievement award at a reception. On this day, members of our community will gather to celebrate his contributions and accomplishments. Mr. Campbell's awards and citations could fill a gallery. He may be the only photographer ever to receive four awards from the Photographic Society of America: (1) the Buxton Award (1958) as the world's leading exhibitor of nature prints that year, (2) the Stuyvescent Peabody Award (1972) as "the PSA member who has contributed the most to pictorial photography," (3) the Victor H. Scales award (1973) for "diligent and meritorious service to photography and the Society and especially for his untiring efforts to teach and interest young people in photography and the arts," and (4) the Appreciation Award (1981), the Society's highest award and the only one selected by its officers.

Mr. Campbell's organizational skills are legendary among those who have served alongside him in the various clubs and organizations he founded to which he belonged. In 1967 he originated Focus: Outdoors, an annual three-day environmental conference that drew as many as 1,000 participants. Mr. Campbell was named an honorary member of the New England Camera Club Council in 1968, that organization's highest award.

As president of the New England Camera Club Council he took a sleepy organization with only 13 member clubs and increased that number to 83, increased the council's treasury from less than \$25 to more than \$7,000, and created a weekend conference at the University of Massachusetts that grew from 300 to 2,000 participants in five years.

Most recently, Mr. Campbell began the Pioneer Valley Photographic Artists, a group of

talented photographers committed to elevating photography's role as a fine art.

Mr. Campbell's skills also extend to the mechanical side of photography. He invented the Vis-0-Tray slide storage and editing system in the 1960s to facilitate organizing slides for presentations. To photograph water skiers, he created a special platform on the towboat that has since been copied by other photographers.

Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to thank Mr. Les Campbell for his creative and positive influence on the art of photography in our community.

GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to inform my colleagues of the success of the Gilman International Scholarship Program established to benefit low income college students receiving benefits in its first year of operation. Our Scholarship Program sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and administered by Institute of International Education, encourages American students to study abroad by providing specified grants. This is an opportunity to gain knowledge and experience first hand that they may not have otherwise due to the costs.

In the 2001–2002 academic year 302 awards were made to students from among 2,771 applicants from 44 states plus Puerto Rico. The awards were split with 68 percent going to semester long programs, 24 percent to academic year programs, and 8 percent to quarter and other programs. These numbers by themselves are impressive, however, when they are combined with the number of states and institutions represented it gets even better. These students represent 172 different colleges, universities, and community colleges. I am proud that this Scholarship Program has reached such a broad cross-section of eligible students. Moreover, it is gratifying that 32 percent of that cross-section represents minority students.

Our Scholarship Program is placing students in countries other than the more traditional Western Europe states. I am happy to note that only 41 percent of our students have studied in Western Europe. Asia and Oceania drew 28 percent of our participants and the Western Hemisphere drew 17 percent. The remaining 14 percent chose either Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, or had a program that allowed them to travel to multiple regions. It is gratifying that with the world opening to them these participants chose to take advantage of it and study in every region available to them. The idea of an open world also carries over to the fields of study represented. There are 41 different fields represented between the 4 different programs offered.

The I.I.E and State Department have admirably implemented this program, and the reward is with the number of students seeking to participate. With such interest, I hope our scholarship will continue to grow to provide more students with this excellent opportunity.

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM STATISTICAL OVERVIEW: ACADEMIC YEAR 2002

Total applications received: 2771.

Total awards: 302.

Home States represented: 39 plus DC and PR.

Institutions represented: 170.

Destination countries: 41.

\$5000 awards given 261

\$3000 awards given 41

LENGTH OF STUDY ABROAD

Semester: 69%.

Academic/full year: 25%.

ETHNICITY (AS REPORTED BY APPLICANT)

Asian or Pacific Islander: 12%.

Black/Non-Hispanic: 11%.

Hispanic: 8%.

White: 55%.

Other: 5%.

No answer given: 9%.

WORLD REGION DISTRIBUTION (USING COUNTRY OF DESTINATION)

Africa: 8%.

Asia and Oceania: 29%.

Middle East: 1%.

Europe(including Russia & NIS): 42%.

Western Hemisphere: 20%.

GENDER

Female: 72%.

Male: 28%.

LEVEL OF STUDY

Freshman: 1%.

Sophomore: 10%.

Junior: 53%.

Senior: 36%.

REPRESENTATIVE CAPPS RE- MARKS TO THE AMERICAN MED- ICAL ASSOCIATION

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2002

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to the skill, tenacity, and leadership of our colleague and my friend, Rep. LOIS CAPPS. I have served with many fine people over the course of my career in the House of Representatives and she is among the best. She fights every day for the people of her district, and for causes that affect virtually every member of our society. She does this with great skill and even greater courage. I have come to admire her strength, compassion, commitment, and drive. It is with great respect and affection that I request that a copy of her recent remarks to the American Medical Association be included in the Record. I recommend that all of my colleagues read them with great care.

STATEMENT OF REP. LOIS CAPPS, AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE, MARCH 10, 2002

OPENING

Thank you very much for inviting me here to speak today. It is an honor to spend some time with my colleagues in health care.

I have been asked to speak to you about the Democratic Party's agenda on health care.

But I am not sure there should be a separate "Democratic" or "Republican" agenda on health.

Though politics often suffuses the debate about health care, we should not come at this issue from a political perspective.