

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

James W. Pardew, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Bulgaria.

Richard Monroe Miles, of South Carolina, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Georgia.

Peter Terpeluk, Jr., of Pennsylvania to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Luxembourg.

Lawrence E. Butler, of Maine, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Robert Patrick John Finn, of New York, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Afghanistan.

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Robert B. Holland, III, of Texas, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the International Bank For Reconstruction and Development for a term of two years.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Emmy B. Simmons, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development. (New Position)

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

FOREIGN SERVICE

PN1310 Foreign Service nominations (3) beginning Jeffrey Davidow, and ending George E. Moose, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 20, 2001.

PN1311 Foreign Service nominations (95) beginning Gustavo Alberto Mejia, and ending Joseph E. Zadrozny, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 20, 2001.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 2804

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding that H.R. 2804, which was just received from the House, is at the desk. I ask for its first reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2804) to designate the United States courthouse located at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco, California, as James R. Browning United States Courthouse.

Mr. REID. I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

EXTENDING PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF TERRORIST ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to H.R. 3986.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3986) to extend the period of availability of unemployment assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act in the case of victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3986) was read the third time and passed.

CONDEMNING INVOLVEMENT OF WOMEN IN SUICIDE BOMBINGS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. Res. 229, submitted earlier by Senator BOXER and others.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 229) condemning the involvement of women in suicide bombings.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 229) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The text of the resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Submitted Resolutions.")

URGING FAIR ELECTION PROCESS IN UKRAINE

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 328, S. Res. 205.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 205) urging the Government of Ukraine to ensure a democratic, transparent, and fair election process leading up to the March 31, 2002 parliamentary elections.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 205) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 205

Whereas Ukraine stands at a critical point in its development to a fully democratic society, and the parliamentary elections on March 31, 2002, its third parliamentary elections since becoming independent more than 10 years ago, will play a significant role in demonstrating whether Ukraine continues to proceed on the path to democracy or experiences further setbacks in its democratic development;

Whereas the Government of Ukraine can demonstrate its commitment to democracy by conducting a genuinely free and fair parliamentary election process, in which all candidates have access to news outlets in the print, radio, television, and Internet media, and nationally televised debates are held, thus enabling the various political parties and election blocs to compete on a level playing field and the voters to acquire objective information about the candidates;

Whereas a flawed election process, which contravenes commitments of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on democracy and the conduct of elections, could potentially slow Ukraine's efforts to integrate into western institutions;

Whereas in recent years, government corruption and harassment of the media have raised concerns about the commitment of the Government of Ukraine to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law, while calling into question the ability of that government to conduct free and fair elections;

Whereas Ukraine, since its independence in 1991, has been one of the largest recipients of United States foreign assistance;

Whereas \$154,000,000 in technical assistance to Ukraine was provided under Public Law 107-115 (the Kenneth M. Ludden Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2002), a \$16,000,000 reduction in funding from the previous fiscal year due to concerns about continuing setbacks to needed reform and the unresolved deaths of prominent dissidents and journalists;

Whereas Public Law 107-115 requires a report by the Department of State on the progress by the Government of Ukraine in investigating and bringing to justice individuals responsible for the murders of Ukrainian journalists;

Whereas the disappearance and murder of journalist Heorhiy Gongadze on September 16, 2000, remains unresolved;

Whereas the presidential election of 1999, according to the final report of the Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of OSCE on that election, was marred by violations of Ukrainian election

law and failed to meet a significant number of commitments on democracy and the conduct of elections included in the OSCE 1990 Copenhagen Document;

Whereas during the 1999 presidential election campaign, a heavy proincumbent bias was prevalent among the state-owned media outlets, members of the media viewed as not in support of the president were subject to harassment by government authorities, and proincumbent campaigning by state administration and public officials was widespread and systematic;

Whereas the Law on Elections of People's Deputies of Ukraine, signed by President Leonid Kuchma on October 30, 2001, was cited in a report of the ODIHR dated November 26, 2001, as making improvements in Ukraine's electoral code and providing safeguards to meet Ukraine's commitments on democratic elections, although the Law on Elections remains flawed in a number of important respects, notably by not including a role for domestic nongovernmental organizations to monitor elections;

Whereas according to international media experts, the Law on Elections defines the conduct of an election campaign in an ambiguous manner and could lead to arbitrary sanctions against media operating in Ukraine;

Whereas the Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) on December 13, 2001, rejected a draft Law on Political Advertising and Agitation, which would have limited free speech in the campaign period by giving too many discretionary powers to government bodies, and posed a serious threat to the independent media;

Whereas the Department of State has dedicated \$4,700,000 in support of monitoring and assistance programs for the 2002 parliamentary elections;

Whereas the process for the 2002 parliamentary elections has reportedly been affected by apparent violations during the period prior to the official start of the election campaign on January 1, 2002; and

Whereas monthly reports for November and December of 2001 released by the Committee on Voters of Ukraine (CVU), an indigenous, nonpartisan, nongovernment organization that was established in 1994 to monitor the conduct of national election campaigns and balloting in Ukraine, cited five major types of violations of political rights and freedoms during the precampaign phase of the parliamentary elections, including—

(1) use of government position to support particular political groups;

(2) government pressure on the opposition and on the independent media;

(3) free goods and services given in order to sway voters;

(4) coercion to join political parties and pressure to contribute to election campaigns; and

(5) distribution of anonymous and compromising information about political opponents;

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) acknowledges the strong relationship between the United States and Ukraine since Ukraine's independence more than 10 years ago, while understanding that Ukraine can only become a full partner in western institutions when it fully embraces democratic principles;

(2) expresses its support for the efforts of the Ukrainian people to promote democracy, the rule of law, and respect for human rights in Ukraine;

(3) urges the Government of Ukraine to enforce impartially the new election law, including provisions calling for—

(A) the transparency of election procedures;

(B) access for international election observers;

(C) multiparty representation on election commissions;

(D) equal access to the media for all election participants;

(E) an appeals process for electoral commissions and within the court system; and

(F) administrative penalties for election violations;

(4) urges the Government of Ukraine to meet its commitments on democratic elections, as delineated in the 1990 Copenhagen Document of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), with respect to the campaign period and election day, and to address issues identified by the Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of OSCE in its final report on the 1999 presidential election, such as state interference in the campaign and pressure on the media; and

(5) calls upon the Government of Ukraine to allow election monitors from the ODIHR, other participating states of OSCE, and private institutions and organizations, both foreign and domestic, full access to all aspects of the parliamentary election process, including—

(A) access to political events attended by the public during the campaign period;

(B) access to voting and counting procedures at polling stations and electoral commission meetings on election day, including procedures to release election results on a precinct by precinct basis as they become available; and

(C) access to postelection tabulation of results and processing of election challenges and complaints.

CONDEMNING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CHECHNYA

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 329, S. Res. 213.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 213) condemning human rights violations in Chechnya and urging a political solution to the conflict.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, that the amendments to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble as amended be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements therein be printed in the RECORD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendments to the preamble were agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 213) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 213

Whereas the United States Department of State Country Reports on Human Rights for 2001 reports that the "indiscriminate use of force by [Russian] government troops in the Chechen conflict resulted in widespread civilian casualties and the displacement of hundreds of thousands of persons";

Whereas the United States Department of State Country Reports on Human Rights for 2001 reports that Russian forces continue to

arbitrarily detain, torture, extrajudicially execute, extort, rape, and forcibly disappear people in Chechnya;

Whereas credible human rights groups within the Russian Federation and abroad report that Russian authorities have failed to launch thorough investigations into these abuses and have taken no significant steps toward ensuring that its high command has taken all necessary measures to prevent abuse;

Whereas there are credible reports of specific abuses by Russian soldiers in Chechnya, including in Alkhan-Yurt in 1999; Staropromyslovskiy and Aldi in 2000; Alkhan-Kala, Assinovskaia, and Sernovodsk in 2001; and Tsotsin-Yurt and Argun in 2002;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has cracked down on independent media and threatened to revoke the license of RFE/RL, Incorporated, further limiting the ability to ascertain the extent of the crisis in Chechnya;

Whereas Chechen rebel forces are believed responsible for the assassinations of Chechen civil servants who cooperate with the Government of the Russian Federation, and the Chechen government of Aslan Maskhadov has failed unequivocally to condemn these and other human rights abuses or to distance itself from persons in Chechnya allegedly associated with such forces; and

Whereas the Department of State officially recognizes the grievous human rights abuses in Chechnya and the need to develop and implement a durable political solution: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the war on terrorism does not excuse, and is ultimately undermined by, abuses by Russian security forces against the civilian population in Chechnya;

(2) the Government of the Russian Federation and the elected leadership of the Chechen government, including President Aslan Maskhadov, should immediately seek a negotiated settlement to the conflict there;

(3) the President of the Russian Federation should—

(A) act immediately to end and to investigate human rights violations by Russian soldiers in Chechnya, and to initiate, where appropriate, prosecutions against those accused;

(B) provide secure and unimpeded access into and around Chechnya by international monitors and humanitarian organizations to report on the situation, investigate alleged atrocities, and distribute assistance; and

(C) ensure that refugees and displaced persons in the North Caucasus are registered in accordance with Russian and international law, receive adequate assistance, and are not forced against their will to return to Chechnya; and

(4) the President of the United States should—

(A) ensure that no security forces or intelligence units that are the recipients of United States assistance or participants in joint operations, exchanges, or training with United States or NATO forces, are implicated in abuses;

(B) seek specific information from the Government of the Russian Federation on investigations of reported human rights abuses in Chechnya and prosecutions against those individuals accused of those abuses;

(C) promote peace negotiations between the Government of the Russian Federation and the elected leadership of the Chechen government, including Aslan Maskhadov; and