

Balkans between ethnic Albanians and ethnic Serbs. I chair the Albanian Issues Caucus in the Congress and have done extensive work in the Balkans and extensive work in Kosovo. I believe that ultimately the situation in Kosovo can only be resolved through self-determination. The people of Kosovo have to have a future and have to understand that they have the right to determine their own future.

The ethnic violence which happened yesterday is a tragic undertaking, a tragic tragedy, and I must call on both sides to stop the violence. Violence is never a solution to anybody's perceived problems or indignities. It must be solved peacefully.

However, having said that, I think that the violence that erupted yesterday was inevitable, and it was inevitable because in 1999, when the United Nations came in, including our troops, and prevented genocide, prevented Slobodon Milosovic from his ethnic cleansing, from cleansing Kosovo of its Albanian population, we stepped in and prevented that from happening. And that was a wonderful thing that we did. However, since that time, very little has been done to move to a resolution of the final status of Kosovo.

When there is no resolution of the final status, the people in a country become restless because they see no future. They see no end point. They only see the status quo. And we have become the status quo in that country. UNMIK, the United Nations, and NATO have to be seen as people who are resolving this issue, who are moving it to final status to give the people of Kosovo hope. Right now there is rampant unemployment. Right now there is very little hope for a future. That has to end.

Self-determination and, ultimately, independence for the people of Kosovo is the only solution. When people do not see a chance for self-determination, tensions fester beneath the surface when you do not move to resolution.

What we have seen with the United Nations, with UNMIK and NATO, is this ridiculous plan called standards before status. To me, it only means status quo. We put forward benchmarks and we tell the people of Kosovo they have to achieve these benchmarks before we can even look at a resolution and at self-determination. And somehow or other, something always intervenes, the benchmarks are never there, so the status is never achieved and we delay, and we delay and we delay, and we push it to the back burner.

I very much regret that our administration has pushed the whole issue of Kosovo to the back burner. It needs to be on the front burner. We need to resolve this problem. We need to give the people of Kosovo hope. We need to have a resolution. Self-determination is what is needed, and we need to push that; not be pushing off the day of reckoning again and again and again and again.

And let me tell my colleagues why self-determination and, ultimately, independence is the only solution. There are only two other solutions, which do not work. One is to have Kosovo go back under Serb control. That will never happen after the ethnic cleansing of 1999. The overwhelming Albanian population will never, rightfully so, accept it. Secondly, the only other alternative would be for Kosovo to continue to be an international protectorate, which is what it is now, with troops of many countries there, United Nations troops and NATO troops. That cannot happen indefinitely. So the only solution is independence, and the only solution is to give the people of Kosovo some hope.

So I would hope that the administration would move to resolve this problem now, to give the people of Kosovo hope for the future. The status quo only aids and abets violence. And while we are at it, we have to resolve the whole situation with privatization. The people there have to know if they invest in property for the future, to help the people there, they must know that it will be secure.

So, again, I want to condemn the violence, I want to show my sympathy for the victims of the violence, but I want to again tell the administration that we need to ratchet it up and come to a resolution of final status for the people of Kosovo.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CONYERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE GOVERNOR MIKE O'CALLAGHAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, last week, with the passing of Governor Mike O'Callaghan at the age of 74, Nevada lost a giant who helped shape our State's history, Las Vegas lost one of its most compassionate and articulate voices, and I lost a friend and someone who was like a second father to me.

When I first met Mike, I was a 19-year-old college student in Las Vegas. At that time, I was student body president of UNLV, and for whatever reason, Mike O'Callaghan saw something in me that I did not even see in myself. He became my mentor and a trusted friend. Of all the giants in the State of Nevada, he was head and shoulders above them all, and I have never known a finer man in my life.

Born Donal O'Callaghan on September 10, 1929 in La Crosse, Wisconsin, Governor Mike, as he was affectionately known by all that knew him, was a member of the greatest generation.

Raised on a farm during the Great Depression, he joined the Marines at 16 and served with the Pacific Fleet as an anti-aircraft gunner from 1946 to 1948. After ending his active duty in 1948, Mike served in the Marine Corps Reserve until 1950. And then he joined the Air Force as an intelligence operator and was assigned to the Aleutian Islands. In 1952, he joined the Army infantry so that he could serve his Nation in Korea. It was during this conflict he earned a Silver Star, a Purple Heart, and a Bronze Star with a V for valor.

According to an official Army account from February 1953, and I quote, "While his company was being subjected to a barrage of heavy artillery from Chinese Communist forces during a night attack, Sergeant O'Callaghan was informed that men on an outguard post had been cut off by this enemy action. Immediately, he voluntarily exposed himself to enemy fire, located the men, and brought them, together with a wounded member, safely back to the trenches."

After taking a direct hit in the leg by a mortar round, Mike made a tourniquet out of telephone wire and continued to direct the firefight for the next 3 hours. As a result of these wounds, his left leg was amputated below the knee.

After military service, Mike attended the University of Idaho, and in 1956 he graduated among its top 10 graduates. He then moved to a small community in Nevada by the name of Henderson where he taught high school economics and history and coached boxing. It was as a teacher and a coach that Mike came to know a young man named Harry Reid, who now serves as a distinguished senior Senator from the State of Nevada and that body's assistant minority leader.

Mike also served as Las Vegas' chief probation officer and as director of Nevada's Health and Welfare Department. Later that year, he moved to Washington, D.C. to serve as Job Corps Conservation Centers program management director, a position he held until 1966.

Despite being labeled the underdog, Mike ran for Governor of Nevada in 1970. His hard work and record of service ultimately propelled him to an unexpected victory. Four years later, he earned the respect and admiration of even those who did not give him a chance the first time and he rode a wave of popularity to the polls and was reelected to a second term. He remains to this day the choice of many Nevadans who, when asked, will say he was our Nation's and our State's greatest Governor.

Throughout his 8 years in office, he was a hands-on leader and a relentless champion for those he served. He was known to make surprise visits to prisons, mental hospitals, and other State-run institutions, and could often be seen eating in the cafeteria so he would know firsthand what life was like for those in those facilities.

As Governor, he fought for fair housing, civil rights, disadvantaged children, prison reform, and to protect the unique beauty of Lake Tahoe and aid for workers injured on the job.

After his career in public service, he went on to become executive editor of the Las Vegas Sun, where he used his column to draw attention to a wide array of causes and concerns that he continued to care about long after leaving office.

Mike was a deeply, deeply religious man, who attended church on a daily basis. He was known as much for his works of charity as he was for his political victories. If you were a millionaire or if you were homeless, Mike treated you with the same dignity and respect. He was legendary for his efforts on behalf of those who were down on their luck.

He also shared a deep interest in international affairs. He made countless trips to Israel to support the Israeli defense force. He was called upon to visit Central America to promote democracy and worked for fair elections in the nation of Nicaragua. He repeated his role in northern Iraq in 1992, helping observe free elections for the Kurds in that divided nation.

While he will be remembered for his lasting contributions as Governor and coach and newspaper executive, his greatest legacy was his family: his wife of nearly 50 years, Carolyn; his five children, Michael, Mary, Teresa, Brian, and Timothy; and his 15 grandchildren.

There are literally thousands of Nevadans and people around the world whose lives have been touched by this extraordinary man. He was one of my best friends, one of my closest friends. I will miss him as if he were my father, and I share the loss with his family.

While Mike will long be remembered for his lasting contributions as a Governor, teacher, coach and newspaper executive, perhaps his greatest legacy is the O'Callaghan family, which includes Mike's wife of nearly 50 years Carolyn, his five children Michael, Mary, Teresa, Brian and Timothy and his grandchildren.

There are literally the thousands of people in Nevada and around the world whose lives were touched in different ways by the efforts of Mike O'Callaghan.

As communities across southern Nevada mourned the loss of this great figure last week, endless personal stories about Mike and his many deeds filled memorial services, the airwaves and the pages of the newspaper. So many stories and so many lives, all touched by this humble, hard working, hard-nosed man with a heart of gold.

The State of Nevada is a far better place because of Mike O'Callaghan and he will forever be remembered as a man whose life was defined by his service to our Nation, his devotion to his family and friends, his rock solid religious beliefs, his steady leadership as Governor and his love of the underdog.

As one newspaper columnist put it, "Mike O'Callaghan believed heart and soul in the family of man. He has gone away, but we'll hear his voice for a long time to come."

While another wrote: "Although the word 'hero' is tossed about lightly these days, I can

honestly say that Mike O'Callaghan is the only true hero I've ever met, and I count myself fortunate for the honor."

I also count myself among those lucky enough to have known and loved this great man and to have had the honor to call him my friend. Mike, you will be missed, but you will never be forgotten.

□ 1530

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa?

There was no objection.

TERRORISTS INFLUENCE SPANISH ELECTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a subject matter, and that subject matter has to do with Spain.

First, I would like to thank the Spanish people and the Spanish leadership that they have had over the past several years for their allegiance to the principles that built this great Nation that we have the privilege to live in, their commitment to free enterprise and their commitment to the allies that we have pulled together in Iraq.

I have watched their economy grow in Spain as free markets took hold, and I have seen that Spain has become a competitor with us and made us both be stronger economically. They stood with us in times of toil, and they stood with us in times of terror. They have stood with us in Iraq, and the warm feeling we got when President Aznar was here to speak before this Chamber was a heartfelt appreciation for a nation that shares with us many of the same ideals and principles.

However, there has been a situation which has changed things dramatically in Spain. We also stand together with the Spanish people in their grief for having lost 201 of their citizens and hundreds of them wounded in the cowardly bombing attack on the trains in Madrid just 2 days before the election. There are not many people on this planet that do not believe that the elections were profoundly changed because of those terrorist attacks.

We know not what went on in the minds of the voters in Spain that would bring them to the conclusion that going down the path of appeasement was preferable to going down the path of fighting terror wherever we find it. But that decision was made by the Spanish people, and we respect their decision. However, the challenge to our President that has been issued by Prime Minister-elect Zapatero that they would withdraw their troops from Spain and realign themselves, and presumably realign themselves with some of the nations in Europe that have opposed our policy in Iraq is a regretful situation.

And we have not seen a leader of a foreign country challenge a seated President in the time of an election as we do on this particular circumstance. In fact, the question I think has been answered, the question of the apparent Democrat nominee for President in this Nation has stated that he has the support of foreign leaders. He will not name those foreign leaders, but I believe one of them has come out and made the endorsement to support the Democrat candidate for President of the United States, thus injecting himself into our domestic politics, thus identifying an individual that might have been referenced by our candidate; thus taking them both down the path to appeasement.

This is a regrettable circumstance. The headline I am looking at is from the Salt Lake Tribune and it says, "Spanish socialist supports Democratic-apparent nominee." Spanish socialist, that should tell us something. Spanish socialist appeaser. The legacy of Neville Chamberlain hangs in the atmosphere across all of Europe today, and the message sent to the terrorists is, you have won.

Al Qaeda understands they have won the election in Spain by blowing up innocent civilians and moving the electorate in Spain toward the socialist candidate, the appeasement candidate.

I do not know what goes on in the minds of voters in a time of grief, but I have to believe and I have to pray that American voters, if confronted with the same thing, will react in an entirely differently fashion. For the last 3 weeks, I have been warning the people in my district and across the country that I fear a terrorist attack in this Nation prior to our Presidential election and an effort to change the election results in this country and elect the candidate who has been endorsed by the socialist from Spain.

Well, I believe the character of the American people is different than the response that we have seen by the Spaniards; and I believe that we will stand up, if that tragic time comes to pass, and now they have certainly been encouraged to attack us in this country because of their success in Spain. I believe we will stand up, and I believe we will stand with George W. Bush, our President, the man who understands terror, defines terror, and knows we