

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 664

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the Clinton Administration's lack of cooperation and efforts to impede the investigation by the General Accounting Office into the implementation of United States policy toward United Nations peacekeeping operations.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 30, 2000

Mr. GILMAN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the Clinton Administration's lack of cooperation and efforts to impede the investigation by the General Accounting Office into the implementation of United States policy toward United Nations peacekeeping operations.

Whereas at the request of the Chairman and the ranking member of the Committee on International Relations, the United States General Accounting Office (GAO) initiated a review on March 23, 2000, of the executive branch's application of United States policy in the approval of new or expanded United Nations peacekeeping operations in East Timor, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

Whereas in the course of this 7-month long investigation into the Presidential Decision Directive 25 (PDD–25) process, providing guidance for making choices about which United Nations operations the United States will support, the GAO encountered substantial problems in obtaining access to records pertinent to its review;

Whereas PDD–25 directs officials to consider whether such operations serve United States national interests and have timetables for the completion of their mandates, clear exit strategies, integrated political and military strategies, specified troop levels, and firm budget estimates;

Whereas the State Department withheld information from GAO investigators for months about the existence of numerous PDD–25 documents and the GAO still believes that there are additional documents in department files that have a direct bearing on the investigation;

Whereas the National Security Council is in possession of 26 remaining documents and memorandums which have only recently been shown to GAO investigators in heavily redacted form; and

Whereas in past assignments the GAO has had access to this type of information and used it to report to Congress on similar peacekeeping policy issues without damaging the deliberative process on operations of the government: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-  
2   resentatives that after seven months of delay the Adminis-  
3   tration should stop impeding the investigation by the Gen-  
4   eral Accounting Office into how it has applied its peace-

1 keeping policy process to several ongoing United Nations  
2 peacekeeping operations and that the following rec-  
3 ommendations would help to bring the investigation to a  
4 successful conclusion:

5           (1) The President is urged to direct the Sec-  
6           retary of State and all other relevant government of-  
7           ficials to cooperate fully with the investigation, in-  
8           cluding prompt compliance with outstanding docu-  
9           ment requests and full cooperation with the efforts  
10          of the Committee on International Relations to con-  
11          vene a briefing with State Department officials on  
12          this matter.

13          (2) The GAO should consider taking enforce-  
14          ment action against the Administration for any con-  
15          tinuing failure to provide requested documents.

16          (3) The Administration should provide to the  
17          GAO the full text of any documents, policy papers  
18          or memorandums that it has agreed to make avail-  
19          able to any other member country of the United Na-  
20          tions General Assembly.

21          (4) The Administration should cooperate fully  
22          with the GAO and with Congress in their efforts to  
23          oversee future United States participation in United

- 1 Nations or other multilateral peacekeeping oper-
- 2 ations.

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