MARKUP OF H.RES. 292, H. RES. 181, H.R. 2608, H. CON. RES. 187, H.J. RES. 65, AND H. RES. 297

MARKUP

BEFORE THE

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MARKUP OF H.RES. 292

Thursday, September 23, 1999

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
Washington, D.C.

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 1:40 p.m., in room 2172, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Benjamin A. Gilman (Chairman of the Committee) presiding.

Chairman GILMAN. The Committee on International Relations meets today in open session, pursuant to notice, to mark up several items of legislation.

We will now consider H. Res. 292, relating to East Timor. The Chair lays the resolution before the Committee.

The clerk will report the title of the resolution.

Ms. RUSH. House Resolution 292, a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the referendum in East Timor, calling on the Government of Indonesia to assist in the termination of the current civil unrest and violence in East Timor, and supporting a United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force for East Timor.

[The information referred to appears in the appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. This resolution was referred to the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and reported without amendment.

Without objection the clerk will read the preamble and operative language of the resolution, in that order, for amendment. The clerk will read.

Ms. RUSH. Whereas on May 5th, 1999, the governments of Portugal and Indonesia and the United Nations——

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the resolution is considered as having been read. It is open to amendment at any point.

I now recognize the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, the distinguished Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, for 5 minutes to introduce the resolution. I understand he has an amendment in the nature of a substitute which he may offer now or at the end of his remarks.

Mr. Bereuter.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I do have an amendment in the nature of a substitute at the desk. I would offer it at this point. It is on the Members' desks.

Chairman GILMAN. The clerk will read the amendment.

Ms. RUSH. Amendment by Mr. Bereuter. Amend the preamble to read as follows: Whereas on May 5th, 1999, the Governments of——

[The information referred to appears in the appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the amendment is considered as having been read.

The gentleman is recognized on his amendment.

Mr. BEREUTER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My colleagues, as an author of H. Res. 292, I am offering this amendment in the nature of a substitute in order to update certain parts of the original resolution, and to better reflect recent developments on East Timor and Indonesia.

This legislation was marked up by the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee last week, and was expected to be taken up by the Full Committee on Wednesday, September 15th, but as you know, a hurricane changed our schedule here. A number of things have happened in the meantime, and we have prepared this amendment in the nature of a substitute to reflect that fact.

The most notable of those happenings has been Indonesia's reluctant acceptance of a multinational force for East Timor. On September 20th the initial deployment of this multinational force began, led by a very large contingent of Australians.

The Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, jointly with our Senate Foreign Relations counterpart, held a detailed hearing on East Timor, and subsequently has held update briefings on the situation; therefore, I believe I do not need to provide a lengthy background comment regarding the tragedy in East Timor and our serious concerns about Indonesia's failure to fulfill its international obligation.

The amended resolution does the following: It supports the referendum that occurred in East Timor and our acceptance of the results. It expresses concern about Indonesia's failure to fulfill its international obligations to provide safety and security to the people of East Timor; and it condemns the militias and the elements of the Indonesian military that have engaged in violence.

It also urges the international community to investigate the human rights abuses that have occurred, and calls on Indonesia to hold accountable those responsible for such acts. It urges the unrestricted access to, and safe return of refugees and displaced persons in West Timor and elsewhere. It supports a consideration of additional economic and other sanctions against Indonesia, should Indonesia not cooperate with or hinder the multinational force, UNAMET, in its efforts to ensure the safe return of refugees or the transition to independence for East Timor. It supports U.S. logistical and other technical support for the multinational force for East Timor, and it strongly commends Australia for its willingness to lead this force, and for rapidly deploying its initial contingent forces.

This is the largest and most important deployment of Australian forces abroad since World War II, and the Australians deserve our praise and support for taking on this responsibility.

The resolution also recognizes that an effective U.S. foreign policy for the region requires an effective near-term response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in, and progress toward independence for East Timor. It also requires a long-term strategy for supporting stability, security, and democracy in Indonesia.

I think this provision is very important because when CNN and many of us focus on the crisis affecting the 700,000 people on East Timor, we must not lose sight of the important relationship we need to maintain with 209 million remaining Indonesians. It is in our own short-term and long-term national interest to help Indonesia make the democratic and economic reforms it so desperately needs.

I want to thank Chairman Gilman for moving this legislation, for his cosponsorship, for the help and the assistance in cosponsorship of the distinguished Ranking Democrat of the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee, Mr. Lantos, the Ranking Democrat of the Full Committee, Mr. Gejdenson, and other Members of the Committee who are cosponsors, including Messrs. Hastings, Smith, Faleomavaega, Gillmor, Ackerman, Berman, Rohrabacher, Crowley, Radanovich, and Delahunt.

I urge the adoption of the amendment in the nature of a substitute, Mr. Chairman.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Bereuter.

I want to thank the distinguished Chairman of the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee, Mr. Bereuter, for bringing this very timely measure before us today. It has broad bipartisan support. I am proud to be a cosponsor. I am still troubled by the situation in East Timor, as many of our colleagues are. Although the first elements of the multinational force, led by our friends the Australians and supported by American troops, have landed on the island, there are still many important challenges ahead. The extent of these challenges is only now becoming known. First, the Government of Indonesia must abide by its commitment to respect the results of the August 30th referendum and the rights of East Timorese to raise a peaceful transition to independence.

President Habibie comments, though tragically late, that Indonesia must honor and accept that choice, an important step. I hope his words will be fulfilled by his deeds. Accordingly, the Indonesian parliament must ratify the popular decision of the people of East Timor at an early date. Second, the Indonesian military, which participated in the violence against innocent civilians, aided and abetted by the militia, should fully withdraw from East Timor. That will allow refugees and displaced persons to return home from West Timor and elsewhere confident of their safety. It will also reduce the likelihood of a clash with a multinational force.

Third, I urge the international community to investigate the human rights abuses and atrocities which occurred in the aftermath of the elections, and call upon the Government of Indonesia to hold fully accountable those responsible for such reprehensible acts.

Finally, in light of these devastating events, the Administration is going to have to reevaluate its military relationship with the Indonesian arm forces. The Pentagon should conduct a full scale review of its military-to-military relationship with Djakarta, including the effectiveness of the IMET Program, joint training exercises, and armed sales. The Pentagon should not reinstitute any aspect of the military relationship without full consultation with the Congress.

Once again, I thank Mr. Bereuter, and I look forward to bringing this resolution to the Floor next week for early consideration by the entire House.

Mr. Faleomavaega.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I commend you and the International Relations Committee Ranking Member, Mr. Gejdenson, for bringing this measure regarding the recent developments in East Timor for the markup of the Committee. I would further like to deeply commend the Chairman and the Ranking Member of the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee, a good friend from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, and Mr. Lantos, for cosponsoring this resolution and their consideration at this time.

I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, that I am honored to be an original cosponsor of the resolution. Mr. Chairman, with respect to the events in the past weeks, the Indonesian Government should be condemned in the strongest terms for allowing untold atrocities to be committed against the innocent, the unarmed civilians of East Timor.

I commend President Clinton for terminating all assistance to, and ties with the Indonesian military. The United Nations estimates that up to 300,000 East Timorese, over one-third of the population of East Timor, have been displaced, and it remains to be seen how many hundreds if not thousands have been killed in the mass blood pillage and carnage. A call for an international war crimes tribunal to punish those responsible for the atrocities should be heeded.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly support the intervention of the United Nations-endorsed multinational force in East Timor. I am heartened that with their arrival in Dili early this week, a little less than half of the 7,500 troops' peacekeeping force is on the ground. They have already had a significant effect of stabilizing the situation.

I trust the isolated outbreaks and gunfire and recent killings, such as that yesterday of the Dutch journalist, will be stopped by the Australian-led multinational force. While I believe America's role in the peacekeeping mission should have been greater, certainly the contribution of the United States airlift and logistical support has been invaluable.

Mr. Chairman, with Indonesia being the fourth largest nation, and the largest Muslim country in the world, which should strike major ceilings of communications in trade, certainly we have a substantial national interest in preserving stability, not only in Indonesia but in Southeast Asia as well, and to prevent a U.N. initiative from turning into a catastrophic humanitarian disaster.

Mr. Chairman, the resolution has a great meaning to the people of East Timor. Especially at the outset, some 25 years ago, the Indonesian military, under the leadership of Dictator Suharto, unilaterally sent forces and massacred, tortured, killed, whatever you call it. As a result, over 200,000 East Timorese were dead by that illegal and unlawful takeover, if I might add.

Mr. Chairman, this resolution is especially meaningful to the people of East Timor because finally, after 25 years of pleading with the international community, to this country as well as to members of the United Nations-I call it neglect, Mr. Chairman, on

our part, on the part of the international community not giving heed to the pleadings of the East Timorese people. God knows how many more thousands of East Timorese have been killed by the hands of the Indonesian military.

Mr. Chairman, I support the resolution, the substance, and I personally feel that it falls far short of what we should have been doing in the past 25 years. I might add, Mr. Chairman, let us wait for the next chapter to unfold—and I am not going to get into it, I just want to mention one word, West Papua New Guinea should be next in line.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Faleomavaega.

Mr. Lantos.

Mr. LANTOS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to commend my friend and colleague from Nebraska for taking the initiative on this. Of course, I strongly support the resolution.

There are two observations I would like to make, Mr. Chairman. First, I want to commend Australia for taking the lead, and this obviously ought to be a pattern to be followed in other parts of the globe where crises of this kind are likely to erupt. The United States needs to play a role wherever appropriate, but we certainly do not need to play the lead role everywhere. I think the Australians have given a superb example to many other countries in accepting their regional responsibility.

At the same time, Mr. Chairman, I want to express profound disappointment in the continuing failure of Japan to play any role in any such activities. Now, I am no longer impressed by the fact that the Japanese constitution of half a century ago places some obstacles in the way of Japan's participation. But if we can see German troops in the former Yugoslavia—and I am very pleased to see German troops in the former Yugoslavia, because Germany is a democratic nation that has fully accepted its international responsibilities—the time is long overdue for Japan to accept its international responsibilities. To see a crisis in Asia where troops from a dozen countries participate, ranging from the United Kingdom to the Philippines, with Japan studiously avoiding the slightest degree of participation, I think it is irresponsible, appalling, and needs to be called to the attention of our colleagues in the Japanese Diet, and of the Japanese Government. I intend to do so, and I hope some of my colleagues will do so, in a letter to the Prime Minister of Japan on this issue.

The final observation I would like to make, Mr. Chairman, is an alert to my colleagues that I am working on legislation that will make Indonesia fully financially responsible for all of the reconstruction in East Timor. I think this vandalism which has unfolded, partly perpetrated by the militia and partly perpetrated by the Indonesian military, and certainly condoned and acquiesced in by the Indonesian military, will have to be rectified by Indonesia.

It is not the responsibility of the American taxpayer to pay for the arson perpetrated by Indonesian militia and military troops. The legislation I am working on makes any future World Bank assistance and IMF assistance contingent upon Indonesia paying directly the full expense of the outrages that have been perpetrated beyond the killing of individuals.

We cannot undo the killing of individuals, but we certainly can make the Indonesian Government pay for all of the horrendous damage that, in a reckless and irresponsible fashion, they perpetrated on this tiny little half-island of East Timor. To allow this to go unpunished in a financial sense, I think, would be stupid and irresponsible.

I call on all of my colleagues to join me in this legislation, which I understand already has some interest expressed in the other body.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Lantos. Mr. Rohrabacher.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would like to associate myself with the remarks of Mr. Lantos. Mr. Lantos made several important points, especially Australia taking the lead, how the United States should be playing a role in different parts of the world, but not necessarily the lead role everywhere in the world. I think that we have a measured response to that situation now in East Timor, as we are playing a supportive role to the Australians. We need to allow the Australians, as Mr. Lantos suggested.

Also, I associate myself with the understanding that Mr. Lantos says, who should pay for these horrible atrocities that have been committed against the East Timorese people; I agree with that as well.

I would also like to associate myself with the remarks of my good friend Mr. Faleomavaega, who suggests that we should do more than just note these crimes, but there should be a human rights tribunal for those people who committed these crimes against humanity.

Finally, for myself, and not just associating myself with the remarks of my friends, but let me just say I was horrified and dismayed by what were clearly human rights abuses that were sanctioned by the Indonesian military.

The Indonesian military bought a great deal of good will from people around the world when they played a positive role in the transition out of the Suharto regime into more democratic elections. It was a very volatile moment in Indonesian history, and the military there played a very positive role. Unfortunately, they squandered much of the good will that they achieved throughout the world by permitting this mayhem and wanton bloodshed that took place in East Timor, and I would hope that they get the message that any repeat of that is going to basically—they will be labeling themselves as human rights pariahs if this ever happens again—and we are watching very closely, and that is what this amendment is all about, and I gladly support it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Rohrabacher.

Mr. Hastings.

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Chairman, firstly, let me commend you for expediting this matter, and certainly the Chairman of the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee is deserving of our commendations. I would like to utilize my time to ask my friend and colleague Mr. Bereuter just one set of questions regarding language in the

amendment to the—or at least an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Mr. Bereuter.

Mr. BEREUTER. Yes, go ahead.

Mr. HASTINGS. At page 6, line 17, while I am pleased and happy to be an original cosponsor of the base bill, seeing the amendment in the nature of a substitute for the first time causes me to at least raise a question regarding that particular area.

I agree that we should strongly commend Australia for what they are doing in leading the multinational force, but is it unwarranted for us to identify the 12 nations presently in the second portion of the paragraph that I am referring to? The language is that we welcome the participation of other nations. I agree with that, but could it not be that we could say that we commend the participation of other nations, and I refer specifically to other people, New Zealand and the Philippines, for example, who came immediately to involve themselves in a similar manner, as well as the United States?

Would it be unwarranted for us to consider an amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute that would say that we commend the participation rather than just welcome the participation? And I invite your advice in that regard, Mr. Bereuter.

Mr. BEREUTER. If the gentleman would yield.

Mr. HASTINGS. I would yield to the gentleman.

Mr. BEREUTER. I thank the gentleman for his excellent suggestion. We are at that point where we are completing our markup. We know what the list is at this moment, and I would welcome this friendly amendment to actually welcome and to commend, and then we will list the countries that are currently providing personnel. I would suggest that we would say at the conclusion of that phrase, "and others that will participate." And if the gentleman would make that——

Mr. HASTINGS. I so offer that amendment to the motion allowing an amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute to bear the language that Mr. Bereuter just suggested.

Mr. BEREUTER. The Members understand then that the current list as of this moment of countries will just be added here in alphabetical order. Thank you. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. HASTINGS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. If there is no objection to the proposed amendment, the amendment is agreed to.

Mr. Crowley.

Mr. CROWLEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I first want to thank you for holding this important markup on the resolution regarding the situation in East Timor, and supporting the United Nations Security Council multinational force in East Timor. I would also like to commend Congressman Bereuter and Congressman Lantos for crafting this bipartisan resolution, which I am proud to be a cosponsor of, and I would like to associate myself with the remarks of Congressman Lantos.

The situation in East Timor has deteriorated so rapidly that the international community was caught off guard, despite previous warnings of possible violence by pro-Indonesia militias. I am pleased and encouraged that the U.N. Security Council approved the resolution to deploy multinational forces in East Timor, and

that troops are currently on the ground restoring a semblance of order.

This sorely needed action by the U.N. will provide the security and hope that East Timor needs to build itself into an independent nation. However, food and medical care remains scarce. Hundreds of thousands of East Timorese are in hiding or refugees, many of whom are detained in West Timor.

Put simply, the situation in East Timor is volatile and it will remain so for some time, and that is why I believe it to be of critical importance, and I hope, Mr. Chairman, that you agree, that the Full House International Relations Committee ought to hold hearings as soon as possible regarding East Timor.

This Committee needs to address this issue and plan for the future of U.S. policy toward East Timor and Indonesia. Mr. Chairman, I hope that you will see fit to call a hearing as soon as possible to address this critical foreign policy issue.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Crowley. We certainly will take your suggestion under advisement.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Mr. Smith.

Mr. SMITH. I will be very brief. I want to thank Mr. Bereuter and yourself and my friends on the Democratic side of the aisle for this bipartisan resolution. I think Mr. Crowley made a good point when he said we were caught off guard, but we were warned, as he knows, and as he said and noted, many were warning that there was a very real possibility that the militia would move, they would move quickly, they would also get very substantial support from the Indonesian military—and just in terms of the Indonesian military, I hope there will be no effort made by the Administration to rejoin the cooperation with that military until there is a real and genuine and authentic vetting of that military's ranks from the very top down to the bottom.

We had hearings in my Subcommittee last year, and we pointed out that the JACIPS Program was actually training people from COPASIS, and there were no records kept, Mr. Chairman, none whatsoever, as to where those people took those skills and employed those skills.

We heard from people who had been tortured by COPASIS, the so-called Red Berets. I think it behooves us to be very slow before there is any kind of cooperation with that military except to say get your act together, we will work with you on that, but we will not be training you in sniper training and urban guerrilla warfare and other kinds of actions that make them more efficient, increasing their efficacies in hurting innocent civilians, as they have done in East Timor, as they did previously in Djakarta.

I do hope the Administration will not move—I know they cut off the cooperation, but that cooperation should have been cut off months ago as these allegations substantiated by the human rights community became known. We should not have been caught off guard, but the response, thankfully, led by the Australians, was a good one. It was slow in happening, but, thank God, it is happening, and hopefully it will have a relatively positive end.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Smith.

Ms. McKinney.

Ms. MCKINNEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had wanted to lend my voice of support for the Bereuter resolution. Of course, right now it is a little bit difficult, but I do want to associate myself with the very strong remarks of my colleague from New Jersey, Mr. Smith.

I have a statement that I would like to submit for the record.

[The prepared statement of Ms. McKinney appears in the appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, your full statement will be made part of the record.

Chairman GILMAN. Mr. Gejdenson.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think all of us share some responsibility here, having watched the situation in East Timor for decades from the days of the Portuguese leaving. The Indonesians came in and took over East Timor. The struggle there for freedom has been a long one, and the tragedy that has now left somewhere between 3- and 600,000 people having fled their homes, as many as several hundred thousand over in West Timor, is a warning to all of us. In areas of the world where we see crises coming, we need to act in a much faster manner.

It also restates the importance of the United Nations. It would have been difficult, if not impossible, to get international agreement in placing the troops in East Timor without the United Nations as the vehicle, and it behooves us as Members of Congress to expedite full funding for the United Nations, including the paying of our debts. The United Nations has been a vehicle that has fostered American foreign policy interests and world peace, and this is just one more instance where the United Nations hopefully has shortened the moments of terror for the people of East Timor.

I commend Mr. Bereuter and Mr. Lantos, Mr. Faleomavaega, and others who have been involved in this effort, and commend the Chairman for moving it so rapidly.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Gejdenson.

Mr. Chabot.

Mr. CHABOT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I will be very brief. I also would like to associate myself with the comments of the gentleman from California, Mr. Lantos, as did Mr. Rohrabacher. I think he made several excellent points. I agree with all of them. I would like to be involved in the letter that was referred to with relation to Japan. I think it is time that Japan, and it is understandable why early on after World War II they were not involved around the world, but at this point that is a long, long time, and I think it is time that they bear their share of responsibilities. So I would very much be interested in involving myself with respect to that letter.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chabot.

Are there any other Members seeking recognition? If not, and if there are no further amendments, the question is on the Bereuter amendment in the nature of a substitute as amended. All those in favor of the amendment in the nature of a substitute as amended say aye.

All those opposed say no.

The ayes have it.

The gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, is recognized to offer a motion.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank my colleagues for their support and their comments. I move that the Chairman be requested to seek consideration of the pending resolution, as amended, on the suspension calendar.

Mr. BRADY. Mr. Chairman, I was seeking recognition because I have an amendment at the desk. I think it will only take about 2 or 3 minutes, if I may.

Chairman GILMAN. By unanimous consent we will vitiate what has occurred. Please distribute the Brady amendment.

Mr. Brady is recognized. The clerk will read the amendment.

Ms. RUSH. Amendment by Mr. Brady, in paragraph 13 A.

[The information referred to appears in the appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. The amendment is considered as having been read. Mr. Brady is recognized for 5 minutes to speak on his amendment.

Mr. BRADY. Thank you. I first want to commend Mr. Bereuter, as he should be, for his leadership in his role, and to you, Chairman Gilman, for your time and action on this important resolution. The resolution expresses the view of the House of Representatives on East Timor, an important area for us.

This amendment simply ensures that this resolution reflects an informed view of America's role in this region. The amendment requests the President, in effect, to estimate the additional costs of this new deployment and identify how it will be paid for. It is an important amendment long term for us, because as you know, we have stretched our troops and our military resources so thinly around the world today we need to know how much this new deployment will further stretch our precious security resources.

The amendment is common sense, because one by one over the years these deployments have added up to more than $17 billion. These new costs have diverted billions of unbudgeted dollars from our existing commitments and have reached a level where we are squeezing other of America's important priorities. This amendment should be bipartisan, because the President and Congress, we are all on the same team here on world peace, on America's team.

As we work hard together to set our financial priorities this year and in the future, we need to know, ought to know, what is of less priority. In the past, these deployments have come either directly out of the Social Security Trust Fund or have diverted dollars from national security. It is important, I think, in our planning purposes that we know, if they are not to come from Social Security or from national security, how many veterans will be affected because of less dollars; how many seniors will get less health care; how little education will we have; what aid to other countries might be reduced or limited because of these actions.

I think it is important—as Mr. Faleomavaega pointed out, he has a strong opinion of who should be next in line for our assistance—it is important for us to plan for that help and also to set our priorities as a Congress, as partners, the White House, whoever may be there, and Congress, whoever may be here. I believe this is a very responsible common sense amendment that takes nothing away

from the substance and, if anything, sets a precedent that, little by little, will be important for future planning.

I would respectfully urge support.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Mr. Lantos.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Chairman, I want to speak in the strongest possible terms against the adoption of this amendment, which far from it being bipartisan or nonpartisan, it is an appalling piece of policy, particularly in view of the fact that we have designated easily foreseeable items such as the Census as emergency items, not requiring any offsetting provisions. To take this item, which is so clearly an emergency, as is the earthquake in Taiwan or Turkey, and make it one that requires offsetting items would be both hypocritical, nonsensical and awfully bad public policy.

I don't want to take more time on this, despite the fact that my views are expressed in very mild tones, but I think it is extremely important that we overwhelmingly and on a bipartisan reject this. This is a military emergency where the United States is playing a relevantly minor supporting role, and to call for offsetting cuts in other budgetary categories, I think, is absurd.

I strongly urge my colleagues to reject this amendment.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Lantos.

Mr. Bereuter.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, reluctantly, I oppose the amendment as written. I am reluctant only because Mr. Brady is such a valuable Member of the Committee and I am sure has good intentions in offering it. Indeed, I share some of the concerns of Mr. Brady about the number of the open-ended, unfunded commitments this Administration seems to have been making around the world. Actually, I have been vocal on this issue.

We were bypassed in some ways in the involvement on Kosovo and Bosnia, and I think it is incumbent upon the Administration to consult closely with Congress before it considers further assistance in East Timor. However, this is not Bosnia or Kosovo. We have already deployed, or are in the progress of deploying, 200 personnel, most of whom are going to Darwin. The operation is underway. For us to suggest now that this should be contingent is inappropriate.

I remind my colleagues that Australia is a key strategic non-NATO treaty ally of the United States. Australia is certainly in a different status. I cannot think of a more loyal ally that we have had over the last 80 years. Every time we have been involved in a conflict, the first people to show up with us have been the Australians. I urge you sometime to visit the war memorial in Canberra. It does anything but glorify war. It shows an incredible number of times that the Australians have come in to help on the right side of a conflict. They have erected an extraordinary memorial to America's involvement with them and saving, as they put it, Australia during World War II.

For these and other reasons, I am opposed to making our support for these limited operations contingent upon the President providing offsets. We are already helping the Australians and others in that multinational force. Now, if Mr. Brady wants to change "contingent upon" to "call upon the President to provide spending

offsets," I can support that. I think we all know, want to know, where the resources are going to come from for this operation.

Finally, I remind my colleagues not to read more into the resolution than it actually says. Support the base resolution that provides for emergency deployment of this very limited U.S. logistical and other technical assistance. Our treaty ally has asked us for this limited support. They are leading a multinational effort. It is the kind of support a fire company provides to a neighboring fire department to help it extinguish an immediate blaze. It pledges nothing else.

Clearly the Committees on Oversight Appropriations, Armed Services, and International Relations will demand cost information from the Administration, and will subsequently act upon it. Given the emergency nature of the situations, the fact that we are already properly assisting the Australians and the other countries in what is really only a limited supporting role, I cannot support making current ongoing operations contingent on the President providing offsets, especially when the amendment provides no time line for such actions.

So, although I appreciate the gentleman's intent and his track record, I think it is very important that we reject the gentleman's amendment.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Bereuter.

Mr. Sherman.

Mr. SHERMAN. I would also oppose the amendment. I would point out that Congress has not been excessively strict in defining what is an emergency. But this, by any definition, let alone the more liberal definitions we seem to have adopted, is an emergency. Certainly at the beginning of this fiscal year, the one that we are in now, we could not have fathomed what has happened in East Timor.

Second, this is a period when we do have a Federal budget surplus. Finally, this is an international conflict where we are doing far less than the American people would expect that we would have to do, because the Australians are doing far more than other allies of ours have done in other parts of the world. So here is a case where we are bearing our proportionate share, or even less than a proportionate share of dealing with this crisis, and we ought to strongly support that effort.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Sherman.

Mr. Rohrabacher.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I rise in strong support of what Mr. Brady is trying to accomplish, and support his amendment. We can sit here all day long and posture about what—how we believe in human rights and we believe in this and we believe in that. But the American people have every right to ask us, in relationship to what do we believe in, these things.

We aren't willing to prioritize, we don't believe in any of this stuff. The fact is that we believe, and those of us who believe in human rights and are advocates of human rights believe that at a certain price tag that we want to make sure that Americans will go out and do this. But I for one, for example, am not willing to support this operation down in East Timor if it would cost the same as what we are spending in Kosovo, or in Bosnia. The Amer-

ican people have every right to know what the price tag is, and to find out where it is coming from. Then they will find out what we really believe in.

The fact is that I think that this is going to be a cost effective operation. I support this operation, mainly because it is limited in the amount of money that we are going to drain away from other priorities. But there are other things we can take this money from. How about—if Mr. Brady is willing to put himself out and get beat up for it—how about we take it out of the aid to Egypt and Israel. There is a big billion dollar package for you. No, but everybody wants to have it all—everything for everybody.

No, Mr. Brady is being very courageous today by trying to make sure that we are being responsible, making sure when we tell people that we believe in something, we really believe in it and we are willing to prioritize to prove that.

Mr. BEREUTER. Would the gentleman yield.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I certainly will.

Mr. BEREUTER. I thank my colleague from California for yielding. As I said to the gentleman from Texas and would just reiterate it here for emphasis, if the gentleman would call upon the President to provide spending offsets, it would seem to me to be an entirely appropriate request from the Congress and a bipartisan one. However, when you say that our support must be only contingent upon offsets received from the President, that is a different matter.

I would just like to make that distinction for the gentleman.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I am happy to let you have that time. But I, of course, disagree with that point. There again, you are either making it real or you are not. Mr. Brady's approach is making it real. We really do believe in human rights enough to insist that, contingent upon other things being cut, that we are not going to get involved in this. Otherwise we don't believe in it. Otherwise, we are just saying the American people can absorb any amount of cost that we decide, and we are not going to reduce spending elsewhere in order to come up with this money.

So, Mr. Brady, thank you very much for this amendment. Thanks for putting us on the spot. I guess many of us would prefer not to be put on the spot. I would have preferred not to be put on the spot. But I think it is important for us to keep these types of things in mind. Every time we do call for spending somewhere, it is coming out of somewhere else.

Mr. BERMAN. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Certainly I will to my good friend from California, Mr. Berman.

Mr. BERMAN. Thank you, Mr. Rohrabacher. Putting someone on the spot, that would be an amendment that said we are going to take it from here, and we are going to take it from here, and we are going to take it from here, in order to put it here. That is an amendment that puts people on the spot. This is not an amendment that puts people on the spot; calling on the President to come up with offsets is not an amendment that puts people on the spot.

The President sent, at the beginning of the budget year, a series of offsets to justify the levels of the spending that he was proposing in his budget, and the Republican majority has rejected each and almost every single one of those offsets, and rather than substitute

their own offsets, they have declared the Census an emergency. They have proposed forward funding. They have pushed things to supplementals that will come, but come a little bit later.

When we talk about putting people on the spot, let us remember what people putting people on the spot really is.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Reclaiming my time, I think the gentleman has made some very good points. Listen, I am not here defending everything that the Republicans do. I think what you just said makes very good points. Perhaps this is the first step toward going in the right direction. But I agree with the points you made.

Chairman GILMAN. The gentleman's time has expired. Is anyone else seeking recognition?

If not, I want to commend the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Brady. Many of us agree with the objectives of his amendment. I believe that the gentleman from Texas thinks that the Administration should have to identify how it expects to pay for deployment; however, I believe that our Nation's participation in a multinational force should not be contingent upon the identification of such offsets.

Our forces are already participating in a logistical and supportive role, so the amendment is overtaken by events. While I commend the gentleman for his amendment, I cannot support his proposal. Is anyone else seeking recognition?

If not, the question is now on the Brady amendment. All in favor signify in the normal manner.

Those opposed.

The amendment is not agreed to.

Mr. BRADY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate it.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you.

Mr. BRADY. I know when I am not on a roll.

Chairman GILMAN. Are there any other Members seeking recognition for any other amendments?

If not, the question is on the Bereuter amendment in the nature of a substitute as amended.

All those in favor of the Bereuter amendment in the nature of a substitute as amended say aye.

All those opposed say no.

The ayes have it.

The gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, is recognized now to offer a motion.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I reiterate, I move that the Chairman be requested to seek consideration of the pending resolution, as amended, on the suspension calendar.

Chairman GILMAN. The question is now on the motion of the gentleman from Nebraska.

All those in favor of the motion say aye.

Those opposed say no.

The ayes have it, and the motion is agreed to.

Further proceedings on this measure are postponed.

We will now move to H. Res. 181, condemning the murder of Americans by the FARC, or the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.

The Chair lays the resolution before the Committee.

The clerk will report the title of the resolution.

Ms. RUSH. House Resolution 181, a resolution condemning the kidnapping and murder by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, of 3 United States citizens, Ingrid Washinawatok, Terence Freitas, Lahe'ena'e Gay.

[The information referred to appears in the appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. The resolution was referred to the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere and reported without amendment.

Without objection, the clerk will read the preamble and operative language of the resolution, in that order, for amendment.

The clerk will read.

Ms. RUSH. Whereas Ingrid Washinawatok, a member of the Menominee Indian Nation of Wisconsin, Terence Freitas——

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the resolution is considered as having been read and open to amendment at any point.

Does any Member seek recognition?

Mr. Berman.

Mr. BERMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I urge support for House Resolution 181. The Colombian rebel group FARC's murder of three innocent American citizens earlier this year can only be described as senseless and horrific. These individuals, including Terence Freitas, whose mother lives in my congressional district, were in Colombia only to provide humanitarian assistance to indigenous people in the northeast part of the country.

Regrettably, although FARC has admitted that their guerrillas are responsible for the killings, they have refused to cooperate with Colombian or U.S. authorities to resolve the case. This important resolution condemns that heinous crime, and demands that those responsible are swiftly brought to justice.

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Berman.

Ms. Lee.

Ms. LEE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Let me just say that Terry Freitas, who was kidnapped and murdered by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, was a constituent. He and his companions were traveling and were brutally murdered, and they were there trying toprotect the land, the land sustained from U.S. and Colombian petroleum developers. Now in our meeting yesterday—and thank you very much for the invitation to that meeting—with the President of Colombia, we learned a great deal about the Colombian Government's new plan for peace and their economic development and counter drug efforts.

But I would like to indicate that there has been a letter written by Mr. Berman's constituent, Julie Freitas, the mother of Terry Freitas, who wanted to make sure that we understand that she does not want to see these tragic murders utilized in a way to try to fund additional military aid to the Colombian armed forces.

I would like to insert the letter for the record. It was published in the Washington Post on May 22nd, 1999.

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection.

[The information referred to appears in the appendix.]

Ms. LEE. Thank you very much. I urge all of the Committee Members to support this resolution, because I do believe that those

responsible for the murders of Terry and his colleagues should be arrested and brought to trial.

Thank you very much.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Ms. Lee.

Mr. Crowley.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, on February 25th, 1999, three U.S. citizens were kidnapped and later murdered in Colombia by the terrorist organization, the FARC. These Americans were not in Colombia to hurt anyone, to spy for anyone, or to cause trouble. They were there to help the U'wa people by providing educational assistance. Yet they were brutally executed because of a continuing reign of terror which makes no distinction between combatants and innocent civilians.

Atrocities are being committed every day in Colombia, and not just by the FARC. Right wing paramilitary groups supported by the Colombian military, and even elements of the Colombian military itself, have been linked to numerous human rights violations, and many critics believe that U.S. policy—blame U.S. policy for helping to bring about the state of affairs in Colombia today.

Mr. Chairman, I was in Colombia on February 25th, the day the Americans were kidnapped. Like my colleagues, I mourn this senseless act and want to see the perpetrators brought to justice.

I support this resolution. I look forward to the opportunity to debate the larger problems of Colombia and U.S. policy in the region at a later time.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Crowley.

Any other Members seeking recognition.

The gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. Green, and a bipartisan group of cosponsors brought this important resolution before our Committee. In early March, these three Americans were in Colombia trying to help an indigenous group when they were brutally murdered by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.

The FARC, designated by the State Department as a foreign based terrorist group, killed these people in cold blood. These senseless deaths have brought the toll of innocent American lives taken in Colombia to date by the FARC and the National Liberation Army to 15. As of today, 7 Americans are still being held hostage by these terrorist groups. In addition, we still do not know the fate of the longest held captives, Mark Rich, David Bankins, and Rich Tennenhof, kidnapped by the FARC in 1993.

This morning I wrote to Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to ask that the perpetrators of the murders of these three innocent Americans who are the subject of this resolution be forced and they be included under the Department of State's counterterrorism reward program.

I recently sponsored legislation for an increase of reward under that program to $5 million. I hope that widely publicizing this reward in Colombia will help to speed the arrest and conviction of those responsible for this reprehensible crime.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

If there are no other Members seeking recognition or offering amendments, the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, is recognized to offer a motion.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Chairman be requested to seek consideration of the pending resolution on the suspension calendar.

Chairman GILMAN. The question is now on the motion of the gentleman from Nebraska.

All those in favor of the motion say aye.

Those opposed say no.

The ayes have it. The motion is agreed to.

Further proceedings on this measure are now postponed.

We will now move to consider H.R. 2608, to amend the definition of major drug transit countries.

The Chair lays the bill before the Committee.

The clerk will report the title of the bill.

Ms. RUSH. H.R. 2608, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to clarify the definition of "major drug transit country" under the international narcotics control program.

[The information referred to appears in the appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the first reading of the bill is dispensed with. The clerk will read the bill for amendment.

Ms. RUSH. Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America and Congress assembled, Section 1. Amendment to——

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the bill is considered as having been read. It is open to amendment at any point. This bill is within the jurisdiction of the Full Committee, and I will recognize myself briefly to introduce the bill.

A recent front page story in the Miami Herald indicated that the Administration has launched a full scale review of the role of Cuba in the international drug trade. It is a review that, along with many others here in the Congress, I fully welcome. We especially look forward to learning of the Administration's conclusions on Cuba's links to drug trafficking targeting our own Nation.

The Miami Herald also points out that as part of the State Department's review its lawyers are having a hard time sorting out what a major drug transiting nation may be under current Federal law. It is struggling with whether the designation of a major transit nation should take into account drugs that may just pass over Cuban skies or through its territorial waters on the way to our own Nation. Today, in fact, the waters and air space over Cuba play an important role in drug trafficking into southern Florida.

Loads of drugs are moved through Cuban air space and dropped into the waters near Cuba for fast boat transport to our Nation. A common sense interpretation of the law should consider whether the mere transport of these illicit drugs over the skies of Cuba, or through its territorial waters, has a significant effect on our Nation, therefore qualifying Cuba as a major transiting country.

If that interpretation of drug trafficking impacts us significantly, then these types of drug shipments should be considered a factor in determining whether a nation like Cuba is a major drug transiting country. While debate over this interpretation has caused some confusion in the State Department, we can rectify that today by passing this measure, H.R. 2608.

The bill before us, which I introduced along with Chairman Burton, is very simple. It addresses the issue of what a major

transiting nation list determination is under the Foreign Assistance Act, section 481(e), as it relates to drugs headed for our own Nation. Each year that list is provided to the Congress on November 1st.

This bill merely classifies that the term "through which is transported" expressly includes drugs passing through the territorial air space and/or waters of a country on the way to our Nation, and that in doing so, the level of drugs entering our Nation is significantly affected. There should be no need for any more legal resource time on this issue with our State Department if we enact this simple bill.

The State Department must get on with the compilation of this year's majors list due here in November and do it in a straightforward and honest manner based on the facts. Accordingly, Committee staff, after extensive discussions with the International Narcotics Bureau at the State Department, concluded that this bill would not create any new criteria that the INL isn't already using when they make the majors determination.

The bill before us helps make this majors list determination a clear, honest, and open one. So I say let the chips fall where they may, on Cuba or whatever other transit nation meets the statutory and common sense criteria for a major drug transiting nation.

Is there any other Member seeking recognition?

Mr. Gejdenson.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am glad to hear you say let the chips fall where they may. If the chips only seem to be aimed at Cuba, I don't have a problem with that myself.

But my question is, Mr. Chairman, what you are saying is if the plane or the boat goes in a country's territorial water or air space, that country then gets described as a bad guy country, is that correct, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman GILMAN. That is correct. The State Department INL Bureau has told us, our Committee staff, that this bill doesn't create any new criteria that would innocently add places like Nicaragua and Costa Rica——

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Chairman, I only have a little bit of time. I am just trying to get a sense of what is happening here. So if a plane leaving with drugs from Colombia were to fly to Miami International Airport, of course every American state that is a border state is exempt because they are not foreign nations, but if we use that standard on every one of our states, every one of our states would be listed as a bad guy state, because for drugs to get into the country, they have to go through the state's waters or air space.

So for instance, every one of the American Airlines flights that brought drugs from Colombia to the United States, even if those planes flew over Cuba, they also flew over American air space, but we are not dealing with America here today.

So I guess what I am saying is, how do you decide if the American Airlines planes taking drugs, leaving Colombia, if they had gone over French and English possessions in the Caribbean, which still exist much to my dismay, are the French and English governments to be listed as drug facilitating states, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman GILMAN. If the gentleman would yield——

Mr. GEJDENSON. Yes, I would be happy to yield.

Chairman GILMAN [continuing]. Allow me to respond.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Yes, please don't read that paragraph again, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. I will read you another paragraph.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Excellent. I am happy to get a new paragraph.

Chairman GILMAN. The Foreign Assistance Act, section 4815(a) and (b), defining a major drug producer or major transit nation refers to drugs that, and I quote, "significantly affect the United States or are a direct source." It is clear what the target is, it is not every nation, only those whose territory significantly impacts our nation on the use of illicit drugs.

Allow me to complete my explanation——

Mr. GEJDENSON. Yes, please, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. What is going on in the skies over Cuba, as well as its territorial waters, is affecting our Nation, let there be no mistake about that. The only issue is whether or not it is significantly impacting our Nation.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Chairman, as my crack staff here reads the section, it basically says traveling through the country's territorial air space or water.

Now, again, if I am leaving from Colombia on an American Airlines plane filled with drugs, if it flies over Cuba, which seems to be the country you are after, even though you said you wanted the chips to fall where they may, but aside from Cuba, if that plane were to travel over British and French possessions, are we then to place Britain and France on the drug bad guy country list?

The French are making an effort to stop drugs, I assume. The English are making an effort to stop drugs, I assume. But if they are making an effort but we know that from the evening news that dozens of flights carrying drugs from Colombia went over their possessions' air space, is the State Department now to designate England and France in the same category as other countries that we think are bad guy countries?

Chairman GILMAN. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEJDENSON. Yes.

Chairman GILMAN. This bill merely changes section 5(b)and makes it clear that through which are transported such drugs or substances, including the territorial air space, land and water of a country. Now, let me note that the President, on December 4th of 1998, in accordance with the provisions of section 490(h)(8)of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, determined that the following countries are major illicit drug producing or drug transit countries, and he noted Afghanistan, Aruba, the Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Laos, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Taiwan, Thailand, Venezuela and Vietnam.

The President made that determination.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Chairman, excuse me for not understanding, but the President is not offering this amendment. The State Department is not offering this amendment. You and Mr. Burton apparently are offering this amendment. I have nothing

against this amendment. I just want to understand what you want to occur as a result of its passage. This is not a trick question.

Chairman GILMAN. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEJDENSON. Let me reclaim my time for a moment because your answers have taken up most of my time. If a plane leaving Afghanistan has drugs on it and it flies across Eastern Europe covering every one of our European allies' skies, and we then catch them at JFK, are we to place—under your definition, not the President's, not anybody else's, whatever your staff is telling you now or whatever you are determining—are we to place all of those countries on the drug bad guy list of countries?

Chairman GILMAN. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEJDENSON. Yes.

Chairman GILMAN. The intent of this legislation is to try to stop nations from allowing transiting through their waters or air space——

Mr. GEJDENSON. I understand that.

Chairman GILMAN [continuing]. That will substantially affect our own Nation. That is what we are trying to do. I am asking the gentleman now will he respond; is the gentleman objecting to our trying to——

Mr. GEJDENSON. I will answer that question without a written statement, the answer is no, I want to stop drugs from coming into this country. What I do not understand, and frankly, I don't know what this amendment is going to do, and that is what I am trying to determine, I understand if a plane leaves Colombia and flies over Cuba you want the government to put Cuba on the bad guy states that helped transit drugs?

Chairman GILMAN. If Cuba—would the gentleman yield.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Yes.

Chairman GILMAN. If Cuba is allowing their air space to be continually utilized for transiting of drugs or allowing their territorial waters to be utilized——

Mr. GEJDENSON. Cuba goes on the list.

Chairman GILMAN. Cuba would go on the list.

Mr. GEJDENSON. If we know now, as you and I both know from watching the evening news, that American Airlines planes have been flying drugs across British and French possessions, should we put Britain and France on the drug bad country list?

Chairman GILMAN. Will you yield?

Mr. GEJDENSON. You said you weren't talking about any countries from the beginning?

Chairman GILMAN. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEJDENSON. Yes.

Chairman GILMAN. We are talking about any transport which substantially affects or significantly affects our own Nation.

Mr. GEJDENSON. My understanding is that the FBI said that what American Airlines employees were doing was significant, there were lots of drugs. It came in the food carts, it came in large quantities. If the same plane, if somebody went down and bought a 727 and filled it full of cocaine and flew through Cuban waters, or flew through Cuban air space, or took a boat that went through Cuban waters, you would then determine, it is my understanding, that Cuba was facilitating drug transit.

I am asking you if we then find out that that same plane flew over French and British possessions, do we put France and the U.K. on the same list?

Chairman GILMAN. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEJDENSON. Yes.

Chairman GILMAN. We are talking about multi-kilo loads.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Multi-kilo loads, the same——

Chairman GILMAN. As it has been occurring in Cuban waters where they allow flights to drop off drugs into its territorial waters for transit to our own Nation.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Let me just say——

Chairman GILMAN. You asked what our objective is.

Mr. GEJDENSON. The objective is to get Cuba.

Chairman GILMAN. No, the objective is to try to reduce transiting of narcotics through nations that surround our Nation.

Mr. GEJDENSON. I am going to quit, Mr. Chairman, because I am not getting anywhere. We have other things to do. Again, if the same plane that is carrying a ton of cocaine flies over Cuban waters and the Cubans don't catch it, and that same plane had flown over Jamaica, French possessions, English possessions, are we going to put all of these other countries on the list?

Chairman GILMAN. The flights that go over Cuba, they drop their substance into the waters, territorial waters in Cuba, and are allowed to be picked up by other fast-moving boats to be transited to our Nation, and that is what we are concerned with. We are trying to reduce the amount of shipment of drugs into our Nation country.

Mr. GEJDENSON. That helps me.

Chairman GILMAN. We are trying to provide——

Mr. GEJDENSON. Thank you.

Chairman GILMAN [continuing]. A clear definition for the State Department that has been wrestling with this problem.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Thank you. Let me try to get to it. Now what you are saying, the plane flies over a country's waters and it drops the drugs in the water and high speed boats take those drugs away.

Chairman GILMAN. That is what has been happening.

Mr. GEJDENSON. What happens if the country is making an effort to catch those people, and just a poor country, they don't have a lot of money, I am not talking about Cuba now, I am talking about Haiti, I am talking about one of these French possessions, they don't have a large navy. The plane flies over, it drops the drugs in the water, the high speed boat comes, and do we still put the country on the bad guy list even if it is trying to catch them?

Chairman GILMAN. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEJDENSON. Yes.

Chairman GILMAN. The answer is yes. The President has put people—put nations on the major illicit drug-producing or drug-transiting countries list that have been friendly and trying to cooperate, but they are on the list because they have not completed their efforts to prevent transiting.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You have been very generous with time. It seems to me that we ought to put Florida and all our border states on the same list, because clearly those

drugs are dropped in waters off of Florida and brought into Florida by boats. It is happening in Texas. I am sure it happens in every state along the coast.

If that is your standard, then you ought to include, I guess, every state in the Nation on your list of bad guy states. Thank you.

Chairman GILMAN. We are talking about foreign nations right now and not our own Nation states. We have enough problem with our own Nation states.

Mr. Rohrabacher.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I would like to commend the Chairman for his efforts to get at a very real problem. I don't know how effective interdiction is going to be as long as there is a market in the United States where people use drugs. But I know that this Chairman is making a serious effort at trying to stop this problem, and the Ranking Member is making frivolous comments about this.

Let me finish, Mr. Ranking Member, the fact is the Chairman is here in all seriousness, and the points that you were making were obviously not helping the situation, but belittling the Chairman's efforts. The fact is that we know that there is a problem in which Cuba is being used, their air space and their water space is being used, and you yourself acknowledged this, to transship drugs into the United States of America.

The Chairman is very serious in his efforts to try to stop this.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Not until I finish, then I will be very happy to yield to my good friend Mr. Gejdenson.

Now, we have a dictatorship in Cuba that hates the United States of America. Fidel Castro for the last 30 years since he came to power has had a visceral hatred for the United States. This has been his primary motive for the policies of his country, and this is one of the primary reasons we don't have a good relationship with the people of Cuba.

Robert Vesco, it is no accident that Robert Vesco finds a safe haven in Cuba today. Robert Vesco is down there. Now we can't prove it. But there is every reason to believe that Robert Vesco has helped the drug cartel in Latin America organize a distribution system taking full use of Cuban air space and water space to distribute, to supply drugs to the United States of America.

Castro managed to shoot down planes that were dropping pamphlets asking the people of Cuba to consider other opinions rather than Fidel Castro's. Now he can shoot down those airplanes, he has got that capability. Haiti perhaps doesn't have that capability of shooting down planes.

Castro doesn't shoot down drug carrying planes. He doesn't interdict drug carrying ships, what he does is shoot down airplanes that drop pamphlets and ships that are carrying refugees. He is sick.

This is a terrible regime, and his hatred of the United States is leading him to try to destroy us, destroy people in our inner city by smuggling, by helping in the drug smuggling. The Chairman is trying to be serious about this. By saying, oh, well, in order to do this we have to make sure every state in the Union that the plane crosses over is put on that list, that is a frivolous point, Mr. Ranking Member, a frivolous point.

I would say this is a serious problem. We should thank the Chairman for trying to come to grips with it, trying—rather than trying to find little ways to try to undermine the effort. I applaud the Chairman. Thank you very much.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Yes, I would.

Mr. GEJDENSON. I am not going to judge if the Chairman's efforts or results will be frivolous. I don't think that my questions have been frivolous. You can make your own determination obviously. We have been trying to get answers to this question for some time. It seems very clear that the Chairman and lots of Members of this Committee are out to get Cuba.

I am not a friend of any dictator. I am not a friend of Fidel Castro. But when you write legislation that, I think, is as badly written as this is, that the net result is you ought to just write an instruction to the State Department, put Cuba on the bad guy list, irrespective of what is going on, because the language in the legislation could lead one to the conclusion that any country that has an air transit route over it or any country that boats happen to go through that they can't stop are bad guy countries.

As far as the examples that you gave, we shot down the entire Iraqi and the Bosnian air force, and we can't stop drugs coming into this country. Now, there is some discussion going on with the Castro government. Some people are optimistic about that. There are some people that are pessimistic about it. But I frankly think that a real effort, we ought to have a real standard by which we are going to place countries on a bad guy drug list and not try to create something to target Cuba. If you want to put Cuba on a bad guy list, put it on a bad guy list.

But this language would lead you to believe that every country where drug transit occurs is a bad guy country. I don't think you can make that case.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Reclaiming my time for one second, because we are running out of time here, the Chairman fully recognizes, and the rest of us should recognize, what intent means. In fact, the fact is Fidel Castro has over and over again expressed his intent toward the United States. That is to do us harm, and the fact that he is able to shoot down airplanes that drop leaflets and sink boats with poor refugees on those boats, that indicates that he has some capabilities, but he never seems to be able to initiate those same kinds of actions against the drug runners.

Plus there is an intent on his part, and yes, he should be put on the list, and I applaud the Chairman's attempt to see Cuba put on that list. I would yield to the Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Rohrabacher, we appreciate your supportive remarks.

Mr. Hilliard.

Mr. HILLIARD. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am not going to question the intent of the amendment, but let me discuss with you the effectiveness of that amendment. What it actually means is that all of the nations in the southern hemisphere below the states of Alabama, Georgia, and Florida will be designated as a nation—that may be designated rather as a nation that is involved with drug transiting.

Now, the effect of that—and, of course, you stated you didn't add anything, but the effect of that would make it applicable—would make all the other provisions of that act applicable to all of those countries. We have countries that our are our friends, countries like Aruba, countries like Haiti, other countries that do not have the type of coast guard, do not have the type of army and air forces that we have, that would be subjugated to this act, and the effect of it would be that we have perhaps had a relationship with countries that have aided and assisted us as much as they possibly could in fighting the war on drugs.

We are turning around and punishing them, because of their geographical location. This amendment is bad. The definition is overly broad and has unfairly targeted those countries that are geographically located in the southern hemisphere.

So I hope that each Member of this Committee would take that into consideration and vote against it.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Hilliard.

Ms. Ros-Lehtinen.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman. I think it has been documented time and time again by our own Nations officials that Cuba is, and has become, a transit point for drug trafficking and for money laundering. Our south Florida television stations have actually filmed drug running boats going from South America, coming from the Caribbean straight into the shores of Cuba. Our customs officials, our Coast Guard officials say they can't keep up with those boats and they have seen those going into the shores of Cuba.

I think it is disingenuous at best to think that anything can happen in a totalitarian police state, which is the reality of Castro's Cuba, without the direct participation of Fidel Castro.

The FBI, as Congressman Rohrabacher has pointed out, has a long list of fugitives from U.S. law who have sought refuge and have gotten refuge in Cuba, and that again is part and parcel of the Castro dictatorship to help those individuals who are breaking the law, escaping from U.S. justice, and he is giving them a safe refuge. Many of those have convictions for serious drug trafficking.

To think that Cuba is a partner in our efforts to eliminate drugs is absolutely ridiculous. I think that we should come to grips with the reality that Cuba is a totalitarian police state, which not only condones drug trafficking, but allows those drug traffickers to seek refuge, and allows their shores to be used as transit points for illegal drug shipments, and allows money launderers. That is an important part of the drug trafficking trade, to seek refuge in Cuba.

I congratulate the Chairman for dealing with this reality that is Castro's Cuba.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Ms. Ros-Lehtinen.

Mr. Faleomavaega.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank you for introducing this legislation. I certainly want to commend you for this program—or the issue of drug trafficking or just the issue of drugs, period. You have certainly been one of the most outstanding leaders on this Committee in pursuing this issue.

I just want to ask if there is a representative of the State Department here with us, if it is all right, Mr. Chairman, if the per-

son from the State Department could comment. I think there is no question about the intent, it may be the wording or for better clarification that we can work on this. I certainly would be open to any suggestions.

I think it takes into consideration what Mr. Gejdenson expressed earlier, that it does not affect those countries that do not have histories, but just the fact of air flight over these countries I think raises the question.

So I would like to ask the representative of the State Department.

Chairman GILMAN. Would you please identify yourself?

Ms. JACOBS. I am Susan Jacobs, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs at the Department of State. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Ms. Jacobs, I might note before you start that on July 28th, I sent this letter to the Secretary, Secretary Albright, "the Committee would appreciate receiving comments from the Department of State on the following measure, H.R. 2608, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to clarify the definition of 'major drug transit country' under the International Narcotics Control Program. It would be appreciated if we could receive your written views as soon as possible, since the Committee intends to consider this legislation next week and a copy of the measure is enclosed. Please direct the Department's response to us," et cetera.

September 9th, we sent a similar letter, and we have been calling weekly to try to get a response but have not received any response.

You may please proceed.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. I would like to thank you for taking the initiative and letting the Administration know, perhaps they have been a little slow in responding to the legislation. But I would appreciate, ma'am, if you could comment on that.

Ms. JACOBS. OK. We don't believe that this legislation is necessary. We believe that the legislation we already have that identifies countries that allow the transit through their air space, through sea or over land—and it has a significant impact on the drug traffic in the United States—we already have the ability to label those countries.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Faleomavaega.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Chairman, still reserving my time.

Chairman GILMAN. Yes.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. I think there seems to be a suggestion here about a country that does a dominant amount, a majority amount of transiting seems to have a difference. Does that differentiate from the current provision of the law——

Ms. JACOBS. Yes.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA [continuing]. As the State Department——

Ms. JACOBS. The way the law is now written, in order for a country to be placed on a major drug trafficking——

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Major.

Ms. JACOBS. Major drug trafficking list, the traffic through that country has to have a significant impact on the drugs entering the United States.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. So if this American Airlines flight comes from Colombia and goes through Dominican Republic or Haiti or a French or British territory, that does not qualify under that interpretation, does it?

Ms. JACOBS. No, sir, it wouldn't, not if they had no control over it.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Does the State Department already have the authority to designate a country as a major trafficking transit country?

Ms. JACOBS. Yes, we do, sir.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Does the Administration consider this language to reinforce that?

Ms. JACOBS. We don't believe that this language is necessary.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Thank you.

Chairman GILMAN. Mr. Burton.

Mr. BURTON. Mr. Chairman, I can't for the life of me figure out why we are arguing this so extensively. Just recently, the Colombian National Police told the world there was seven and a half tons of cocaine that was going to Cuba and Castro tried to palm it off as being controlled, when it got to Cuba, by a Spanish company that Cuba owned the controlling interest in.

I can tell you from the research we have done over the past many years, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and myself, Lincoln Diaz-Balart and others, Bob Menendez, that nothing goes on in Cuba that Castro doesn't know about. For 7½ tons of cocaine to go through a front company in Cuba that was destined for the United States, and the Administration tried to say that that cocaine was not destined for the United States, it was going to Europe, to Spain and elsewhere.

The fact is when we talked to the Drug Enforcement Agency, the DEA people, they said they never said that, and that there was a misunderstanding, and that they didn't have any indication that it was going to Europe. Those drugs were going to go through Cuba, probably to a pop company into Mexico and into the United States.

Now they are a major drug trafficking country. Raul Castro, Fidel Castro's brother, is still under indictment in Miami, Florida for drug trafficking, as well as other Cuban officials. Now, they have been involved in drugs for a long, long time, and I think this legislation is timely. I think the Chairman is to be commended for sponsoring it.

If we are concerned about drugs on our streets that are killing our kids, if we are concerned about the horrible crime problem in this country—over 70 percent of all crime is drug-related—then we certainly ought to hold Fidel Castro's feet to the fire for being a major transit point of drugs. There is no question he is doing it. We all know it, and I think we ought to pass this legislation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Burton.

Mr. Meeks.

Mr. MEEKS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It seems to me, hearing from the Administration, that there is a process that is in place that will put someone on the drug majors list, and that process has due process and there are other things that are going into it. What this bill does it not add anything to it, in fact, what it is, and what

I hear from my colleagues from the other side of the aisle, is they just want to go specifically after one country; that is like trying to establish a law because you are trying—you see someone you don't like and so, therefore, you create a law just for them, irrespective of what happens to everyone else.

That is not the way of business, that is not the way things are done. If you want to have a legitimatized process, you cannot say I don't like this particular person in this process, so, therefore, I am going to change something else so that—and not effect other individuals in other countries. That is what this legislation does.

Clearly we understand that—and I just don't understand, either, some of the statements, that as if Cuba is the one that is bringing all of the drugs into this country and killing all of our kids and all of that. Cuba is not the one—I don't know of any drugs actually being produced in Cuba. If we want to go over the drugs, let us go after where they are being produced, let us go there. Let us do what we have to do to stop it there so it can't fly over Cuba or anyplace else for that matter. If we stop it there, we don't have to worry about it coming into this country.

That is where our fight should be, not just all over this, trying to change this piece of legislation when there are policies in place currently to put someone, a country, on a drug majors list if, in fact, they deserve to be there.

We must make sure that we don't—I mean there is—I know of a number of instances where drugs have come in from Canada, and we can do the same thing there. But if we are going to try to target one country, don't try to make legislation that is going to do it in this sense that really demeans what is currently in existence.

I yield back.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Meeks.

Mr. Chabot.

Mr. CHABOT. I will be very brief. I would like to address this to the State Department official again. In the existing legislation, the term "through which are transported," is it your testimony that that would—under existing law—could include land or water or air space over the land?

Ms. JACOBS. Yes, sir.

Mr. CHABOT. OK. So to clarify it in this manner doesn't harm anything?

Ms. JACOBS. But the way this could be interpreted is any air space, any territorial water or any land, not necessarily having the significant impact that is now written into the current legislation.

Mr. CHABOT. It doesn't say any territory. It says includes a territorial air space. I think what the Chairman is doing is clarifying that these areas are to be included, including air space, which could be included right now, or water or land.

I think it is very helpful legislation. If Cuba would be affected by this, so be it. I think it is appropriate for the Chairman to offer this legislation. I would commend him for doing so.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chabot.

Ms. Lee.

To our Members, we will vote on this, we will reconvene right after the votes on the Floor and come back and finish two quick measures.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I will be very brief. Let me just say that it is no secret where any of us stand in terms of U.S. policy toward Cuba in terms of what the issues are, in terms of Fidel Castro. Let me say, however, that I believe in this instance all of us are, or at least both sides, those who support normalizing relations in Cuba and in the embargo and those who don't, see this as a broader effort to deal with Cuba in the strictest sense, not an effort really to deal with the whole anti-drug effort.

I believe our government has been engaged in—General McCaffrey, all of our officials have really been engaging in counternarcotics efforts, and I believe they are working. I think we should allow the process to move forward. I don't think we need to muddle it up with any issues with regard to our views, our political views, with regard to Fidel Castro, and for those reasons I oppose this.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Ms. Lee.

Are there any other Members seeking recognition?

Mr. BURTON. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. If not, the gentleman from Indiana, Mr. Burton, is recognized.

Mr. BURTON. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Chairman be requested to seek consideration of the pending bill on the suspension calendar.

Chairman GILMAN. The question is on the motion of the gentleman from Indiana.

All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

Those opposed say no.

The ayes have it.

The motion is agreed to.

Further proceedings on this measure are postponed.

We will reconvene following the conclusion of the measures before the Congress right now.

Thank you. The Committee is recessed.

[Recess.]

Chairman GILMAN. The Committee will come to order.

We will now consider H. Con. Res. 187, relating to the airplane engine regulations of the European Union.

The Chair lays the resolution before the Committee.

The clerk will report the title of the resolution.

Ms. RUSH. House Concurrent Resolution 187, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the European Council noise rule affecting hushkitted and reengined aircraft.

[The information referred to appears in the appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection the preamble and operative language of the resolution will be read in that order for amendment.

The clerk will read.

Ms. RUSH. Whereas for more than 50 years the International Civil Aviation Organization in this resolution refers——

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the resolution is considered as having been read, and it is now open for amendment at any point.

This resolution is in the original jurisdiction of the full Committee. We are an additional Committee on this resolution, and it is primarily in the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation

and Infrastructure. But both Mr. Gejdenson and I have cosponsored it.

I recognize myself briefly on the resolution. Then I believe Mr. Gejdenson, who has been very active and constructive on this very important issue, will have something to say.

The European Union has passed very regrettable legislation that is supposed to help control noise around their airports, but the European legislation will, in fact, let noisy European airplanes fly, and will ban quieter American airplanes.

It imposes a design standard rather than a performance standard that, oddly enough, favors European interests. Europeans often accuse our Nation of unilateralism, but this regulation strikes at the heart of an international agreement on whether aircraft can fly internationally or not. European legislation will come into full effect this spring if nothing is done.

There are negotiations now under way to achieve a settlement acceptable to both sides. But while the European legislation will come into effect automatically, we have no ready response. One response that has passed the House is a bill which would result in a ban on a Concorde landing in the United States if this law takes effect. Banning the Concorde would result in a lowering by about 20 percent of the airport noise in New York, by the way.

This legislation asks the Administration to bring a case under the International Civil Aviation Organization, ICAO, and determine what our rights are. I think that this procedure, which will take some time, is a good counterweight to the impending European legislation.

In closing, I say that we hope that a solution that permits an improvement in noise control standards over time by international consensus can be reached, and it may be that bringing this ICAO case will help put some pressure on the Europeans to come to a reasonable solution. Therefore, we hope that Members will support this resolution.

I recognize Mr. Gejdenson.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I want to commend you for your fine work on this issue, and your leadership on it; also thank Mr. Shuster and Mr. Oberstar for the work they have done. We have what is clearly an outrageous attempt by the Europeans not to use decibel levels to deal with the noise issue, but really to show their hand by looking at the design of engines and trying to use the design not to deal with noise, but to deal a disadvantage to American jet engine manufacturers.

If the United States gives in to the Europeans in this instance we will see, sector by sector, American products blocked under the ruse of either safety or noise regulations. What is clear, these regulations have nothing to do with noise and everything to do with giving European jet engine manufacturers a competitive advantage.

This resolution is a very measured response. It simply suggests the EU and the United States deal with this at the appropriate international agency. But I can tell you that if we fail to resolve this fairly, the Europeans will see from this Congress, and this Member of Congress in particular, a response that will be equal to theirs. This is an outrageous act. For whatever reason, by whatever

course it has occurred, it clearly has nothing to do with noise, it has everything to do with trying to disadvantage Americans in international competition. It will not serve the Europeans to take this course.

Mr. Chairman, again I want to commend you for your work on this and hope you would go to your leadership and ask to have this put on the Monday suspension calendar.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Gejdenson.

Are there any other Members seeking recognition? Ms. Danner.

Ms. DANNER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would just like to associate myself with the remarks that have been made. As a Member of the Aviation Subcommittee, I have sat in on hearings with regard to this issue, and several things that I might bring to the body's attention they may not be aware of. It was only when we got into this hushkit issue that I learned that we had been very generous with the Europeans, and that we allowed the Concorde to come to this country for many, many years when they exceeded the noise levels.

So we have been very understanding of them. The loss to our aviation industry is enormous, as has been cited, and it isn't just a question of landing rights at this time, but the question of the eventual sale of these aircraft to perhaps smaller countries, and the countries that are smaller than ours that might be tempted to buy our aircraft are not going to do so, because they know they wouldn't be able to land them. So we preclude the landing of these planes.

It has an effect that is ongoing. So I very much agree with this resolution and would also agree that I hope we can bring it up in a very timely fashion.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Ms. Danner.

Dr. Cooksey.

Mr. COOKSEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I, too, would commend the Chairman for this resolution, and would like to point out that this EU regulation basically is targeted at American aircraft, and it is very obvious and it is very blatant. This is surprising that the EU or the EC would do this at a time when we are supposed to—that we are in a period of globalization, that we are in the Information Age, and they would use this parochial tactic to basically preclude our aircraft, and our aircraft engines, from being in the skies over Europe.

So I think it is indeed an outrage, as my friend Mr. Gejdenson says. I feel that it not only necessitates, it demands strong action on the part of this country to stand up and take a strong position and make it clear to the people in Europe that they cannot do this at this time, at this point in history, if they really want to be part of the global markets.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Dr. Cooksey.

Are there any other Members seeking recognition? If not—Mr. Meeks.

Mr. MEEKS. Yes. I just want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for this bill. Coming from the 6th Congressional District in Queens, where JFK is and we have tolerated for years the Concorde—that

is where it lands—and its excessive noise, for the European Union to now try to discriminate against American companies, I think we need to come down hard and not allow this.

I agree with the comments of my colleague earlier that we should not tolerate this discriminatory practice on behalf of the European Union, and I just want to thank the Chair for bringing this forward.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Meeks.

If there are no other Members seeking recognition, I now recognize the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Chairman be requested to seek consideration of the pending resolution on the suspension calendar.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Bereuter.

The question is on the motion of the gentleman from Nebraska.

All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

Those opposed say no.

The ayes have it.

The motion is agreed to.

Further proceedings on this measure are postponed.

We now have before us H.J. Res. 65, relating to the Battle of the Bulge.

The Chair lays the bill before the Committee.

The clerk will report the title of the joint resolution.

Ms. RUSH. H.J. Res. 65, a joint resolution commending the World War II veterans who fought in the Battle of the Bulge and for other purposes.

[The information referred to appears in the appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the preamble and operative language will be read in that order for amendment. The clerk will read the bill for amendment.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Chairman GILMAN. First allow us to submit the measure, then we will take up the amendment.

Mr. SMITH. I am sorry.

Ms. RUSH. Whereas the Battle of the Bulge was a major German offensive in the——

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the resolution is considered as having been read. It is open to amendment at any point.

I will recognize Mr. Smith.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Chairman GILMAN. The clerk will distribute the amendment.

The clerk will read the amendment.

Ms. RUSH. Amendment in the nature of a substitute by Mr. Smith. Amend the preamble to read as follows——

[The information referred to appears in the appendix.]

Mr. SMITH. I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read.

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the amendment is considered as having been read.

I recognize Mr. Smith on his amendment.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

It will only take a few moments of my colleagues' time. This amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.J. Res 65, which I introduced in August along with a number of cosponsors, including yourself, Mr. Bereuter, Lane Evans, Bob Stump, and many others, commends the World War II veterans who bravely fought in the Battle of the Bulge in both Belgium and Luxembourg.

This resolution reaffirms our Nation's deep gratitude to the veterans of this crucial military engagement on its 55th anniversary, and commemorates the sacrifices and services of our World War II vets, those slain, those who survived, and all of their families.

I would just point out, parenthetically, this would be the first time that Congress has gone on the record in recognizing those particular survivors and those who died at that particular battle.

Mr. Chairman, from mid-December 1944 through January 25th of 1945, in an engagement that was three times as large as the battle of Gettysburg, 600,000 American troops fought to repel a massive Nazi offensive, which included on the Nazis' part the element of surprise; they almost succeeded.

Our troops, assisted by about 55,000 British soldiers, resisted 1,000 Panzer guns and artillery fire, and even frostbite from the bitter cold conditions.

The ordeal, or the campaign, was often called the great gamble by Hitler. He thought a massive offensive might split the American, the Allied lines, and might actually change the fortunes of the war, but the price of victory for the Allies was incredible.

There were 81,000 American casualties, including 19,000 KIA, killed in action. Mr. Chairman, without their sacrifice and bravery, stopping Hitler's war machine would have been much more of a difficult task and perhaps would have resulted in even more lives lost on both sides.

I would just point out, Mr. Chairman, that one American hero—and there were a number of men who got the Congressional Medal of Honor, 17 in all—but one, Bud Thorn, was awarded that great medal posthumously for his bravery at the Battle of the Bulge. His sister came to me recently and asked if I would do this resolution to remember her brother, but also the many others who died, and also to commemorate and remember those who have lived.

So, I just want to say to my colleagues, I hope we will all support this. They are meeting in convention, those survivors of the Battle of the Bulge, this weekend, and hopefully we can be on the Floor very shortly with this. There are a number of remembrances planned in the coming weeks and months in Belgium, in Luxembourg, and in the United States. So I think it is very fitting that we go on record applauding their heroism and the great feat that they accomplished many years ago.

I yield back the balance.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Smith, and thank you for sponsoring this resolution.

Mr. Gejdenson.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just commend Mr. Smith and others who sponsored this legislation. In the Ambrose book, I think he points out how the individual American soldier, in small groups and by themselves, pulled themselves together in small groups and individuals to really hold the line. I think with-

out any question, in the final analysis, we would have triumphed, but it could have taken much, much longer, at the cost of many more lives.

I commend the gentleman for his action.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Gejdenson.

This joint resolution commends our American servicemen who fought in one of the most decisive battles of World War II, the Battle of the Bulge. In December 1944, just prior to the holidays, Hitler's generals, in a desperate gambit, launched an offensive in the Ardennes Forest intended to split the lines of U.S. forces.

The Germans sought to break out of their containment and regain the offensive. Aided by a combination of the element of surprise and bad weather, which prevented our forces receiving air support, the Germans were nearly successful. The German commanders, however, made a crucial mistake in underestimating the resolve of our American forces whom they faced in this monumental battle.

From the dog-faced privates to our top generals, our troops were undaunted by the savageness of the German assault or by the forces of nature, which seemed to be arrayed against them. The spirit of our troops was best encapsulated in a famous incident when the German general demanded the surrender of U.S. troops. Brigadier General Anthony McAuliffe, of the 101st Airborne Division, replied with the epithet "nuts."

I commend the gentleman from New Jersey, Chairman of our Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, for bringing this measure before our Committee as we near the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge, and ask our Members to unanimously report it to the House.

Is there any other Member seeking recognition? If there is no other Member——

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman GILMAN. Mr. Bereuter.

Mr. BEREUTER. I would yield such time to the gentleman from New Jersey as he might seek.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much.

Chairman GILMAN. The gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. SMITH. Congresswoman Danner just made a very good point in the resolution where we say "American forces overcame great odds." Whereas the success of American forces, while the American forces were the overwhelming bulk of the fighting force in that campaign, the British forces were also very important.

I would ask unanimous consent that wherever we have American troops, where appropriate, we also put "and British forces" as well.

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

Mr. SMITH. I want to thank the gentlelady from Missouri for pointing that out.

Mr. BEREUTER. I yield back.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Bereuter.

Are there any other Members seeking recognition?

If not, the question is now on the amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Mr. Smith.

All those in favor signify by saying aye.

All those opposed to the amendment say no.

The amendment is agreed to.

The gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, is recognized to offer a motion.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Chairman be requested to seek consideration of the pending resolution as amended on the suspension calendar.

Chairman GILMAN. The question is now on the motion of the gentleman from Nebraska. As many as in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

As many as are opposed say no.

The ayes have it, the motion is agreed to.

Further proceedings on this measure are postponed.

We will now consider H. Res 297, expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastation that struck Taiwan on September 21st, 1999.

The Chair lays a resolution before the Committee.

The clerk will report the title of the resolution.

Ms. RUSH. H. Res 297, a resolution expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquake that struck Taiwan on September 21st, 1999.

[The information referred to appears in the appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. This resolution has not been referred to the Subcommittee as of yet.

Without objection, the clerk will read the preamble and operative language of the resolution in that order for amendment.

The clerk will read.

Ms. RUSH. Whereas on the morning of September 21st, 1999, a devastating and deadly earthquake shook the country.

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the resolution is considered as having been read, and it is open to amendment at any point.

I now recognize the sponsor of the resolution, the distinguished Chairman of our Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, to introduce the resolution.

Mr. BEREUTER. Thank you, Chairman Gilman. I thank you for agreeing to place H.R. Res 297 on the markup today, and thanks to Ranking Democrat Gejdenson and the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee Ranking Democrat Lantos, all three of you who have cosponsored the bill. The earthquake that occurred this week in Taiwan has literally decimated major parts of that island. It has become an all too familiar site, and the casualties are thousands.

There are hundreds of thousands homeless, buildings collapsed, roads destroyed, village destroying mud slides, dams cracked and in danger of failing. Taiwan will no doubt persevere. The Taiwanese are strong, and they are courageous. They have faced adversity before, but it is only appropriate that we comment on this tragic natural catastrophe and indicate our assistance, sympathy, and concern.

H. Res. 297 extends our deepest sympathy to the people of Taiwan. It notes with approval the assistance being offered under the auspices of the U.S. Agency for International Development. It also notes with approval the willingness of other nations to come to the assistance of Taiwan in their time of need. Among those offering

assistance include Japan, Singapore, the People's Republic of China, and Turkey, which recently suffered its own similar catastrophe.

Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk that I would like to offer at this point.

Chairman GILMAN. The clerk will distribute the Bereuter amendment.

The clerk will read the amendment.

Ms. RUSH. Amendment by Mr. Bereuter, on page 1——

[The information referred to appears in the appendix.]

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read.

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the amendment is considered as having been read.

Mr. Bereuter is recognized on his amendment.

Mr. BEREUTER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The amendment simply updates events in Taiwan. Regrettably it increases the casualty list—now more than 2,000 dead and more than 7,800 injured. Regrettably, we have to leave it sort of open ended language until the rescue activities are completed.

I also thank Mrs. Ros-Lehtinen for alerting us to the fact that elements of the Miami Dade County Fire and Rescue Team have been dispatched in Taiwan, and we include the language "and others," since units other than those from Fairfax County and Miami Dade County are undoubtedly going to be involved.

I ask for the adoption of the amendment.

Chairman GILMAN. Is there any objection to the adoption of the amendment?

If no objection, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

Opposed.

The amendment is carried.

I want to thank the distinguished Chairman of the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee, Mr. Bereuter, for responding so quickly to the tragic earthquake in Taiwan by drafting this resolution, which I am pleased to cosponsor, and I encourage my colleagues to join with us in expressing our sympathies to the people of Taiwan in their time of need.

I personally want to express my deepest sadness about the devastating earthquake that struck Taiwan on the morning of September 21st, 1999. I want to convey to the citizens of Taiwan, who recently warmly hosted our congressional delegation during a visit to Taipei in August, our profoundest sympathies about the tragic loss of life and property.

I am calling upon the Administration and other nations to do everything possible to assist Taiwan in its recovery from this unfortunate act of nature.

Are there any other Members seeking recognition?

If there are no other Members seeking recognition, I recognize the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, in addition to yourself, Mr. Gejdenson, Mr. Lantos, Mr. Royce, Mr. Hastings, Mr. Rohrabacher, Mr. Ackerman, Mr. Smith, Mr. Berman, Mr. Burton, Mr. Brown of Ohio, Mr. Faleomavaega, Mr. Payne, Mr. Hilliard, Mr. Wexler, Mr.

Wynn and Mr. Gillmor are cosponsors and we welcome others who wish to bring their name to the attention of the staff.

Mr. Chairman, I move that the Chairman be requested to seek consideration of the pending resolution, as amended, on the suspension calendar.

Chairman GILMAN. The question is now on the motion of the gentleman from Nebraska.

All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

All those opposed say no.

The ayes have it.

The motion is agreed to.

Further proceedings on this measure are postponed, and this concludes our business for today.

The Committee stands adjourned. I thank our Members for coming back.

[Whereupon, at 4:30 p.m., the Committee was adjourned.]

A P P E N D I X

SEPTEMBER 23, 1999

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 292

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the referendum in East Timor, calling on the Government of Indonesia to assist in the termination of the current civil unrest and violence in East Timor, and supporting a United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force for East Timor.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER (for himself, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. GOSS, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. GREENWOOD, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. POMBO, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. BROWN of Ohio) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

---

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the referendum in East Timor, calling on the Government of Indonesia to assist in the termination of the current civil unrest and violence in East Timor, and supporting a United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force for East Timor.

Whereas on May 5, 1999, the Governments of Portugal and Indonesia and the United Nations concluded an historic agreement intended to resolve the status of East Timor

through a popular consultation based upon a universal, direct, and secret ballot;

Whereas the agreement gave the people of East Timor an opportunity to accept a proposed special autonomy for East Timor within the unitary Republic of Indonesia or reject the special autonomy and opt for independence;

Whereas on August 30, 1999, 98.5 percent of registered voters participated in a vote on the future of East Timor, and by a vote of 344,580 to 94,388 chose the course of independence;

Whereas after the voting was concluded, violence intensified significantly in East Timor;

Whereas the declaration by the Government of Indonesia of martial law in East Timor has failed to quell the violence;

Whereas it has been reported that hundreds of people have been killed and injured since the violence began in East Timor;

Whereas it has been reported that as many as 200,000 of East Timor's 780,000 residents have been forced to flee East Timor;

Whereas it has been reported that East Timor militias are controlling the refugee camps in West Timor, intimidating the refugees and denying access to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, relief agencies, and other humanitarian nongovernmental organizations;

Whereas it has been reported that a systematic campaign of political assassinations that has targeted religious, student, and political leaders, aid workers, and others has taken place;

Whereas the compound of the United Nations Mission in East Timor (UNAMET) was besieged and fired upon, access to food, water, and electricity was intentionally cut off, and UNAMET personnel have been killed, forcing the closure of UNAMET in East Timor;

Whereas Catholic leaders and lay people have been targeted to be killed and churches burned in East Timor;

Whereas the international community has called upon the Government of Indonesia to either take immediate and concrete steps to end the violence in East Timor or allow a United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force to enter East Timor and restore order;

Whereas on September 9, 1999, the United States suspended all military relations with Indonesia as a result of the failure to quell the violence in East Timor; and

Whereas on September 12, 1999, Indonesian President B.J. Habibie announced that Indonesia would allow a United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force into East Timor: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved,* That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) congratulates the people of East Timor on
3 their exemplary participation in the August 30,
4 1999, popular consultation;

5 (2) commends the professionalism, determina-
6 tion, and courage of the United Nations Mission in
7 East Timor (UNAMET) personnel in support of the
8 August 30, 1999, vote on the future of East Timor;

1 (3) recognizes the overwhelming expression of
2 the people of East Timor in favor of independence
3 from Indonesia;
4 (4) condemns the violent efforts of East Timor
5 militias and elements of the Indonesian military to
6 overturn the results of the August 30, 1999, vote;
7 (5) notes with grave alarm the failure of the
8 Government of Indonesia, despite repeated assur-
9 ances to the contrary, to guarantee the security of
10 the people of East Timor and further notes that it
11 is the responsibility of the Government of Indonesia
12 to restrain elements of the Indonesian military and
13 paramilitary forces and restore order in East Timor;
14 (6) calls upon the Government of Indonesia to
15 recognize its responsibilities as a member of the
16 United Nations and a signatory to the Universal
17 Declaration of Human Rights to cooperate with ap-
18 propriate United Nations authorities in the restora-
19 tion of order in East Timor;
20 (7) urges the Government of Indonesia to allow
21 unrestricted access to refugees and displaced persons
22 in West Timor and to guarantee their safety;
23 (8) calls upon the Government of Indonesia to
24 hold accountable those responsible for the violence

1 and human rights abuses and atrocities in East
2 Timor;
3 (9) notes with approval the decision of the
4 United States to suspend military relations with,
5 and the sale of any military weapons or equipment
6 to, the Government of Indonesia until order is effec-
7 tively restored;
8 (10) expresses approval of Indonesia's belated
9 decision to allow a United Nations Security Council-
10 endorsed multinational force into East Timor and
11 strongly urges Indonesia to accept the rapid deploy-
12 ment of this force and to cooperate fully without
13 preconditions on the composition and deployment of
14 this force;
15 (11) expresses support for a rapid and effective
16 deployment throughout East Timor of the United
17 Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational
18 force;
19 (12) urges that the United States consider ad-
20 ditional measures to end the current civil unrest and
21 violence in East Timor, including the suspension of
22 bilateral and international financial assistance (ex-
23 cept for humanitarian assistance and assistance de-
24 signed to promote the development of democratic in-
25 stitutions) to the Government of Indonesia until

1 such time as it has demonstrated cooperation with
2 respect to the deployment of a multinational force in
3 East Timor and such force is fully deployed,
4 UNAMET is fully operational in East Timor, refu-
5 gees and displaced persons are able to return to
6 East Timor safely, and order and respect for human
7 rights are restored in East Timor;
8 (13) expresses approval of United States
9 logistical and other technical support for deployment
10 of a multinational force for East Timor;
11 (14) commends Australia for its readiness to
12 lead the multinational force for East Timor and wel-
13 comes the participation of other nations in this
14 force;
15 (15) urges the Indonesian People's Consultative
16 Assembly to expeditiously ratify the vote of August
17 30, 1999, in East Timor and to otherwise speed the
18 transition to full independence for East Timor; and
19 (16) recognizes that an effective United States
20 foreign policy for this region requires both an effec-
21 tive near-term response to the ongoing violence in,
22 and progress toward independence for, East Timor
23 and a long-term strategy for supporting stability, se-
24 curity, and democracy in Indonesia and East Timor.

○

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H. RES. 292 OFFERED BY MR. BEREUTER

Amend the preamble to read as follows:

Whereas on May 5, 1999, the Governments of Portugal and Indonesia and the United Nations concluded an historic agreement intended to resolve the status of East Timor through a popular consultation based upon a universal, direct, and secret ballot;

Whereas the agreement gave the people of East Timor an opportunity to accept a proposed special autonomy for East Timor within the unitary Republic of Indonesia or reject the special autonomy and opt for independence;

Whereas on August 30, 1999, 98.5 percent of registered voters participated in a vote on the future of East Timor, and by a vote of 344,580 to 94,388 chose the course of independence;

Whereas after the voting was concluded, violence intensified significantly in East Timor;

Whereas the declaration by the Government of Indonesia of martial law in East Timor failed to quell the violence;

Whereas it has been reported that hundreds of people have been killed and injured since the violence began in East Timor;

Whereas it has been reported that as many as 200,000 of East Timor's 780,000 residents have been forced to flee East Timor;

Whereas it has been reported that East Timor militias are controlling the refugee camps in West Timor, intimidating the refugees and limiting access to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, relief agencies, and other humanitarian nongovernmental organizations;

Whereas it has been reported that a systematic campaign of political assassinations that has targeted religious, student, and political leaders, aid workers, and others has taken place;

Whereas the compound of the United Nations Mission in East Timor (UNAMET) was besieged and fired upon, access to food, water, and electricity was intentionally cut off, and UNAMET personnel have been killed, forcing the temporary closure of UNAMET in East Timor;

Whereas Catholic leaders and lay people have been targeted to be killed and churches burned in East Timor;

Whereas the international community has called upon the Government of Indonesia to either take immediate and concrete steps to end the violence in East Timor or allow a United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force to enter East Timor and restore order;

Whereas on September 9, 1999, the United States suspended all military relations with Indonesia as a result of the failure to quell the violence in East Timor;

Whereas on September 12, 1999, Indonesian President B.J. Habibie announced that Indonesia would allow a United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force into East Timor

Whereas on September 15, 1999, the United Nations Security Council approved Resolution 1264, authorizing the establishment of a multinational force to restore peace

and security in East Timor, to protect and support UNAMET in carrying out its tasks and, within force capabilities, to facilitate humanitarian assistance operations, and authorizing countries participating in the multinational force to take all necessary measures to fulfill this mandate; and

Whereas on September 20, 1999, the multinational force led by Australia arrived in East Timor and began to deploy for an initial period of four months until replaced by a United Nations peacekeeping operation, or as otherwise determined by the United Nations Security Council: Now, therefore, be it

Amend the text after the resolving clause to read as follows:

1 That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) congratulates the people of East Timor on
3 their exemplary participation in the August 30,
4 1999, popular consultation;

5 (2) commends the professionalism, determina-
6 tion, and courage of the United Nations Mission in
7 East Timor (UNAMET) personnel in support of the
8 August 30, 1999, vote on the future of East Timor;

9 (3) recognizes the overwhelming expression of
10 the people of East Timor in favor of independence
11 from Indonesia;

(4) condemns the violent efforts of East Timor militias and elements of the Indonesian military to overturn the results of the August 30, 1999, vote;

(5) notes with grave alarm the failure of the Government of Indonesia, despite repeated assurances to the contrary, to have guaranteed the security of the people of East Timor and further notes that it was the responsibility of the Government of Indonesia to restrain elements of the Indonesian military and paramilitary forces and restore order in East Timor;

(6) calls upon the Government of Indonesia to recognize its responsibilities as a member of the United Nations and a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to cooperate with appropriate United Nations authorities in the restoration of order in, and the safe return of refugees and other displaced persons to, East Timor;

(7) urges the Government of Indonesia to allow unrestricted access to refugees and displaced persons in West Timor and elsewhere and to guarantee their safety;

(8) urges the international community to investigate the human rights abuses and atrocities which occurred with respect to the situation in East Timor

1 subsequent to August 30, 1999, and calls upon the
2 Government of Indonesia to hold accountable those
3 responsible for these acts;
4 (9) notes with approval the decision of the
5 United States to suspend military relations with,
6 and the sale of any military weapons or equipment
7 to, the Government of Indonesia until the Indo-
8 nesian military has effectively cooperated with the
9 international community in facilitating the transition
10 of East Timor to independence;
11 (10) expresses approval of Indonesia's belated
12 decision to allow the United Nations Security Coun-
13 cil-endorsed multinational force into East Timor;
14 (11) expresses support for a rapid and effective
15 deployment throughout East Timor of the United
16 Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational
17 force;
18 (12) urges that the United States consider ad-
19 ditional measures, including the suspension of bilat-
20 eral and international financial assistance (except
21 for humanitarian assistance and assistance designed
22 to promote the development of democratic institu-
23 tions) to the Government of Indonesia should it cur-
24 tail or suspend cooperation with the multinational
25 force in East Timor, interfere with the full deploy-

1 ment of this multinational force, hinder the oper-
2 ation of UNAMET, hinder the safe return of refu-
3 gees and displaced persons to East Timor, or other-
4 wise interfere with the restoration of order and re-
5 spect for human rights in East Timor;
6 (13)(A) expresses approval of United States
7 logistical and other technical support for the multi-
8 national force for East Timor; and
9 (B) declares that neither subparagraph (A) nor
10 any other provision of this resolution—
11 (i) shall constitute a waiver of any right or
12 power of the Congress under the War Powers
13 Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.); or
14 (ii) shall be construed as authority de-
15 scribed in section 8(a) of the War Powers Reso-
16 lution (50 U.S.C. 1547(a));
17 (14) strongly commends Australia for its will-
18 ingness to lead the multinational force for East
19 Timor and for rapidly deploying its initial contingent
20 of forces and welcomes the participation of other na-
21 tions in this force;
22 (15) urges the Indonesian People's Consultative
23 Assembly to expeditiously ratify the vote of August
24 30, 1999, in East Timor and to otherwise speed the
25 transition to full independence for East Timor; and

1 (16) recognizes that an effective United States
2 foreign policy for this region requires both an effec-
3 tive near-term response to the ongoing humanitarian
4 crisis in, and progress toward independence for,
5 East Timor and a long-term strategy for supporting
6 stability, security, and democracy in Indonesia and
7 East Timor.

Amend the title so as to read: "A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the referendum in East Timor, calling on the Government of Indonesia to assist in the termination of the current civil unrest and violence in East Timor, and supporting the United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force for East Timor.".

CYNTHIA A. McKINNEY
4TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–1011

Statement of

Representative Cynthia A. McKinney

Ranking Member,

Subcommittee on International Operations

and Human Rights

H. Res. 292

"A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the referendum in East Timor, calling on the Government of Indonesia to assist in the termination of the current civil unrest and violence in East Timor, and supporting a United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force for East Timor"

September 23, 1999

Mr. Chairman, perhaps the greatest tragedy of the genocide in Rwanda was that the UN, US, and other nations knew well in advance of the slaughter that a blood bath was imminent. The colossal failure of the international community to respond to the impending crisis in Rwanda, has now been repeated in East Timor. The message is clear: If you are European or sit on a vast supply of oil, you are a humanitarian crisis. If you're African or a poor strategically unimportant island, you get to be the subject of hand-wringing self-recriminations and editorials titled: How could we stand by let this barbaric slaughter happen? It is not enough to deplore the violent retaliation of the Indonesian military and militias against the people of East Timor following the overwhelming vote for independence on

August 30,1999. It is not enough to mourn for those who have been killed, reported to be in the thousands, and it is not enough to be appalled by the targeted attacks on the Catholic Church. Our close relationship with the repressive government of Indonesia, our arms transfers to their military, our military training of some of the very Indonesian military units which are widely believed to have orchestrated the killing fields in East Timor and our failure to act with resolve and dispatch to end the killing makes such utterances seem trite. I welcome the suspension of aid by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and President Clinton's suspension of military and financial aid to Indonesia. But let us not forget, that is was with tacit U.S. approval that Indonesia invaded East Timor in the first place, that it is because of U.S. arms sales and military training over the past two decades that Indonesia has been able to wage its campaign of brutal repression. According to the U.S. State Department, 90 percent of the weapons used in the 1975 invasion of East Timor by Indonesia came from the United States. After the invasion, the United States doubled military aid to Indonesia, resulting in weapons sales of over $1.1 billion since then. Since 1975, the international community has remained deaf, dumb, and blind as more then 200,000 Timorese people have died at the hands of the military, representing one-third of the pre-invasion population. President Clinton's recent concern for the East Timorese people cannot undue the past. We can only ask the forgiveness of the people of East Timor for our government's support of the Indonesian military machine which has terrorized them for so long. The peacekeeping force that belatedly entered East Timor must oversee the immediate withdrawal of all Indonesian military and paramilitary forces from East Timor. Acceptance of these actions by the Indonesian government, while welcome, is in fact not needed

for the United Nations to intervene, since the United Nations has recognized that East Timor is an illegally-occupied country, forcibly annexed by Indonesia in 1975. East Timor with our support can become the first true new democracy of the 21st century. We should support that effort. In the short term we should also provide immediate humanitarian aid from the United States to the people of East Timor to assist with emergency food and medical needs for Timorese refugees and for reconstruction. The amount should at least equal to the $1.1 billion was spent on arming Indonesia's brutal repression. I will work to insure that military and economic aid to Indonesia is not resumed before the following occurs: the successful transition of East Timor to an independent, democratic state; the release of all East Timorese who were forcibly relocated to West Timor; and the creation of a war crimes tribunal to prosecute those guilty of war crimes, as suggested by Nobel Peace Prize winner Bishop Carlos Belo of East Timor. Finally, I would like to commend the efforts of the UN personnel who remained in Dili until the 1,500 East Timorese people who had taken refuge in the UN compound could be rescued. I also want to commend the heroic efforts of reporter Allan Nairn who remained in East Timor at great risk in order to bring the truth to light.

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 292
OFFERED BY MR. BRADY OF TEXAS

In paragraph (13)(A) of the resolved clause, add at the end before the semicolon the following: "contingent upon the President providing to the Congress appropriate spending offsets".

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 181

Condemning the kidnapping and murder by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) of 3 United States citizens, Ingrid Washinawatok, Terence Freitas, and Lahe'ena'e Gay.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 1999

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin (for himself, Mr. FARR of California, Ms. LEE, and Mrs. MINK of Hawaii) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

---

RESOLUTION

Condemning the kidnapping and murder by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) of 3 United States citizens, Ingrid Washinawatok, Terence Freitas, and Lahe'ena'e Gay.

Whereas Ingrid Washinawatok, a member of the Menominee Indian Nation of Wisconsin, Terence Freitas of California, and Lahe'ena'e Gay of Hawaii, were United States citizens involved in an effort to help the U'wa people of northeastern Colombia;

Whereas Ms. Washinawatok, Mr. Freitas, and Ms. Gay were kidnapped on February 25, 1999 by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), a group designated a foreign-based terrorist organization by the United States Department of State;

Whereas the FARC brutally murdered these 3 innocent United States civilians, whose bodies were discovered March 4, 1999;

Whereas this Congress will not tolerate violent acts against United States citizens abroad;

Whereas the FARC has a reprehensible history of committing atrocities against both Colombian and United States citizens, including over 1,000 Colombians abducted each year and 4 United States civilians who were seized for a month in 1998;

Whereas it is incumbent upon the Government of Colombia to quickly and effectively investigate, arrest, and extradite to the United States those responsible for the murders of Ms. Washinawatok, Mr. Freitas, and Ms. Gay; and

Whereas the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is empowered to investigate terrorist acts committed against United States citizens abroad: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved,* That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) decries the murders of Ingrid
3 Washinawatok, Terence Freitas, and Lahe'ena'e
4 Gay;

5 (2) strongly condemns the Revolutionary Armed
6 Forces of Colombia (FARC);

7 (3) calls on the Government of Colombia to
8 find, arrest, and extradite to the United States for
9 trial those responsible for the deaths of these United
10 States citizens; and

1 (4) emphasizes the importance of this investiga-
2 tion to the United States Federal Bureau of Inves-
3 tigation (FBI) and urges the FBI to use any and
4 every available resource to see that those who are re-
5 sponsible for the deaths of these United States citi-
6 zens are swiftly brought to justice.

RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK

Campaign Home

In the Press

What You Can Do

Send a fax for the U'wa

Other U'wa Defense Working Group Websites:

Action Resource Center

Amazon Coalition

Amazon Watch

Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund

Project Underground

Sol Communications

Beyond Oil

The Washington Post

May 22, 1999
Page A18

The Meaning of My Son's Murder

By JULIE FREITAS

I have watched in disbelief as editorial commentators and some members of Congress have attempted to use the murder of my son, Terence Unity Freitas, and of his two companions, Lahe'ena'e Gay and Ingrid Washinawatok, to justify an increase in military aid to the Colombian armed forces. I am equally appalled that the killing of my son by left-wing guerrillas is being used to undermine the peace process in Colombia, a process aimed at ending years of violence that has taken thousands of lives, including now my son's. Amid my grief, I am further distressed to see the ideals my son lived and died for -- nonviolence, indigenous sovereignty and justice -- diminished by vocal pro-militarization politics in Washington.

I am specifically referring to Rep. Benjamin Gilman's (R-N.Y.) March 23 remarks reported in the Miami Herald following the murders and to Robert D. Novak's syndicated column "Terrorism Close to Home" [op-ed, April 17]. Rep. Gilman asked that the killings of Terence, La'he and Ingrid be taken as a "wake-up call to the United States" to end its support for the Colombian peace process by "refusing to deal with terrorists." The terrorists to which he refers are the Colombian Armed Revolutionary Forces (FARC), the long-standing Colombian guerrilla group responsible for these murders.

Mr. Novak reprimands members of the Clinton administration for continuing to support efforts for peace in Colombia in the wake of the killings. He repeats Rep. Gilman's claim that Colombia is "Balkanizing." Both men have requested increased militarization.

Let me be clear. I deplore the use of kidnappings and executions as political, economic and military tools. I demand that those responsible in this case be arrested, given a fair trial and, if proven guilty, sentenced severely, with full respect for due process of law. However, I differ from Rep. Gilman and Mr. Novak. I do not believe that violence is a legitimate means to obtain justice and peace.

I strongly object to having my son's murder used to pressure the Clinton administration to abandon support for peace initiatives in Colombia. Employing his death as a means to continue perpetuating violence in Colombia grossly contradicts everything my son believed in.

I urge the Clinton administration, our elected representatives and the people of the United States to reflect on why my son was in Colombia. He and his companions traveled as guests of the U'wa's, a traditional indigenous nation, to learn more about U'wa culture and spirituality. The U'wa's lush ancestral land is coveted by both the Colombia state oil concern, Ecopetrol, and the U.S. multinational Occidental Petroleum Corp. The U'wa face violence from all fronts. But they continue to sustain their land and their culture without taking up arms.

In a report my son wrote, he said that the cycle of violence that threatens the U'wa's survival -- the same cycle that consumed his life and the lives of his companions -- stems from the dramatic increase in militarization that accompanies oil development. He clearly understood that the U.S. military training and assistance to Colombia would bring more violence from all sides.

If our congressional representatives hear any "wake-up call" following the execution of my son, I urge it to be this: Remember your high standards of justice and peace by refusing to further U.S. military aid to Colombia. Doing the hard work of peace takes a lot more guts than empowering more men with guns.

JULIE FREITAS
North Hollywood, Calif.

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106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2608

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to clarify the definition of "major drug-transit country" under the international narcotics control program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 1999

Mr. GILMAN (for himself and Mr. BURTON of Indiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

---

A BILL

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to clarify the definition of "major drug-transit country" under the international narcotics control program.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.

Section 481(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 "For purposes of paragraph (5)(B), the term 'though
2 which are transported' includes the territorial airspace,
3 land, and water of a country.".

○

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 187

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the European Council noise rule affecting hushkitted and reengined aircraft.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 22, 1999

Mr. SHUSTER (for himself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. GILMAN, and Mr. GEJDENSON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the European Council noise rule affecting hushkitted and reengined aircraft.

Whereas for more than 50 years, the International Civil Aviation Organization (in this resolution referred to as the "ICAO") has been the single entity vested with authority to establish international noise and emissions standards and, through the ICAO's efforts, aircraft noise has decreased by an average of 40 percent since 1970;

Whereas the ICAO is currently working on an expedited basis on even more stringent international noise standards,

taking into account economic reasonableness, technical feasibility, and environmental benefits;

Whereas international noise and emissions standards are critical to maintaining the economic viability of United States aeronautical industries and to obtaining their ongoing commitment to progressively more stringent noise reduction efforts;

Whereas European Council Regulation No. 925/1999, banning certain aircraft meeting the highest internationally recognized noise standards from flying in Europe, undermines the integrity of the ICAO process and undercuts the likelihood that new Stage 4 aircraft noise standards will be developed;

Whereas while no regional standard is acceptable, European Council Regulation No. 925/1999 is particularly offensive because there is no scientific basis for the regulation and because the regulation has been carefully crafted to protect European aviation interests while imposing arbitrary, substantial, and unfounded cost burdens on United States aeronautical industries;

Whereas the vast majority of aircraft that will be affected by European Council Regulation No. 925/1999 are operated by United States flag carriers; and

Whereas implementation of European Council Regulation No. 925/1999 will result in a loss of jobs in the United States and may cost United States aeronautical industries in excess of $2,000,000,000: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

1 (1) if European Council Regulation No. 925/
2 1999 is not rescinded by the European Council at
3 the earliest possible date, the Secretary of Transpor-
4 tation should take all appropriate actions to ensure
5 that a petition regarding the regulation is filed with
6 the International Civil Aviation Organization pursu-
7 ant to Article 84 of the Chicago Convention; and
8 (2) the Secretaries of Commerce, State, and
9 Transportation and other appropriate parties should
10 use all reasonable means available to them to ensure
11 that the goal of having the regulation rescinded is
12 achieved.

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106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 65

Commending the World War II veterans who fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 5, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. STUMP, and Mr. EVANS) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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JOINT RESOLUTION

Commending the World War II veterans who fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and for other purposes.

Whereas the battle in the European theater of operations during World War II known as the Battle of the Bulge was fought from December 16, 1944, to January 25, 1945;

Whereas the Battle of the Bulge was a major German offensive in the Ardennes forest region of Belgium which took Allied forces by surprise and was intended to split the Allied forces in Europe by breaking through the Allied lines, crippling the Allied fuel supply lines, and exacerbating tensions within the alliance;

Whereas 600,000 American troops participated in the Battle of the Bulge, overcoming numerous disadvantages in the early days of the battle that included fewer numbers, treacherous terrain, and bitter weather conditions;

Whereas the Battle of the Bulge resulted in 81,000 American casualties, of whom 19,000 were killed, 33,400 were wounded, and 2,000 were either captured or listed as missing in action;

Whereas the worst atrocity involving Americans in the European theater during World War II, known as the Malmédy Massacre, occurred on December 17, 1944, when 86 unarmed American prisoners of war were gunned down by elements of the German 1st SS Panzer Division;

Whereas American forces overcame great odds throughout the battle, including most famously the action of the 101st Airborne Division in holding back German forces at the key Belgian crossroads town of Bastogne, thereby preventing German forces from achieving their main objective of reaching Antwerp as well as the Meuse River line;

Whereas the success of American forces in defeating the German attack made possible the defeat of Nazi Germany four months later in April 1945;

Whereas thousands of United States veterans of the Battle of the Bulge have traveled to Belgium in the years since the battle to honor their fallen comrades who died during the battle;

Whereas the people of Belgium, symbolizing the friendship and gratitude toward the American soldiers who fought

to secure their freedom, have graciously hosted countless veterans groups over the years;

Whereas the city of Bastogne has an annual commemoration of the battle and its annual Nuts Fair has been expanded to include commemoration of the legendary one-word reply of "Nuts" by Brigadier General Anthony McAuliffe of the 101st Airborne Division when called upon by the opposing German commander at Bastogne to surrender his forces to much stronger German forces;

Whereas the Belgian people erected the Mardasson Monument to honor the Americans who fought in the Battle of the Bulge as well as to commemorate their sacrifices and service during World War II;

Whereas the 55th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge in 1999 will be marked by many commemorative events by Americans and Belgians; and

Whereas the friendship between the United States and Belgium is strong today in part because of the Battle of the Bulge: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That Congress—
4 (1) commends the veterans of service in the
5 United States Army who fought during World War
6 II in the German Ardennes offensive known as the
7 Battle of the Bulge;
8 (2) honors those who gave their lives during
9 that battle;

1 (3) authorizes the President to issue a procla-
2 mation calling upon the people of the United States
3 to honor the veterans of the Battle of the Bulge with
4 appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities;
5 and
6 (4) calls upon the President to reaffirm the
7 bonds of friendship between the United States and
8 Belgium.

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AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H. J. RES. 65 OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY

Amend the preamble to read as follows:

Whereas the battle in the European theater of operations during World War II known as the Battle of the Bulge was fought from December 16, 1944, to January 25, 1945;

Whereas the Battle of the Bulge was a major German offensive in the Ardennes forest region of Belgium and Luxembourg which took Allied forces by surprise and was intended to split the Allied forces in Europe by breaking through the Allied lines, crippling the Allied fuel supply lines, and exacerbating tensions within the alliance;

Whereas 600,000 American troops joined by 55,000 British soldiers participated in the Battle of the Bulge, overcoming numerous disadvantages in the early days of the battle that included fewer numbers, treacherous terrain, and bitter weather conditions;

Whereas the Battle of the Bulge resulted in 81,000 American casualties, of whom approximately 19,000 were killed, with the remainder wounded, captured, or listed as missing in action;

Whereas the worst atrocity involving Americans in the European theater during World War II, known as the Malmédy Massacre, occurred on December 17, 1944, when 86 unarmed American prisoners of war were gunned down by elements of the German 1st SS Panzer Division;

Whereas American forces overcame great odds throughout the battle, including most famously the action of the 101st Airborne Division in holding back German forces at the key Belgian crossroads town of Bastogne, thereby preventing German forces from achieving their main objective of reaching Antwerp as well as the Meuse River line;

Whereas the success of American forces in defeating the German attack made possible the defeat of Nazi Germany four months later in April 1945;

Whereas thousands of United States veterans of the Battle of the Bulge have traveled to Belgium and Luxembourg in the years since the battle to honor their fallen comrades who died during the battle;

Whereas the peoples of Belgium and Luxembourg, symbolizing their friendship and gratitude toward the American soldiers who fought to secure their freedom, have graciously hosted countless veterans groups over the years;

Whereas the city of Bastogne has an annual commemoration of the battle and its annual Nuts Fair has been expanded to include commemoration of the legendary one-word reply of "Nuts" by Brigadier General Anthony McAuliffe of the 101st Airborne Division when called upon by the opposing German commander at Bastogne to surrender his forces to much stronger German forces;

Whereas the Belgian people erected the Mardasson Monument to honor the Americans who fought in the Battle of the Bulge as well as to commemorate their sacrifices and service during World War II;

Whereas the 55th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge in 1999 will be marked by many commemorative events by Americans, Belgians, and Luxembourgers; and

Whereas the friendship between the United States and both Belgium and Luxembourg is strong today in part because of the Battle of the Bulge: Now, therefore, be it

Amend the text after the resolving clause to read as follows:

1 That Congress—

2 (1) commends the veterans of service in the
3 United States Army and British Armed forces who fought during World War
4 II in the German Ardennes offensive known as the
5 Battle of the Bulge;

6 (2) honors those who gave their lives during
7 that battle;

8 (3) authorizes the President to issue a procla-
9 mation calling upon the people of the United States
10 to honor the veterans of the Battle of the Bulge with
11 appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities;
12 and

13 (4) calls upon the President to reaffirm the
14 bonds of friendship between the United States and
15 both Belgium and Luxembourg.

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 297

Expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquake that struck Taiwan on September 21, 1999.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 21, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. HOEFFEL, and Mr. ORTIZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

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RESOLUTION

Expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquake that struck Taiwan on September 21, 1999.

Whereas on the morning of September 21, 1999, a devastating and deadly earthquake shook the counties of Nantou and Taichung, Taiwan, killing more that 1,700 people, injuring more than 4,000, and leaving more than 100,000 homeless;

Whereas the earthquake of January 21, 1999, has left thousands of buildings in ruin, caused widespread fires, and destroyed highways and other infrastructure;

Whereas the strength, courage, and determination of the people of Taiwan has been displayed since the earthquake;

Whereas the people of the United States and Taiwan share strong friendship and mutual interests and respect;

Whereas the United States has offered whatever technical assistance might be needed and has dispatched the Urban Search and Rescue Team of Fairfax County, Virginia; and

Whereas offers of assistance have come from the Governments of Japan, Singapore, the People's Republic of China, Turkey, and others: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses its deepest sympathies to the citizens of Nantou and Taichung and all of Taiwan for the tragic losses suffered as a result of the earthquake of September 21, 1999;

(2) expresses its support for the people of Taiwan as they continue their efforts to rebuild their cities and their lives;

(3) expresses support for disaster assistance being provided by the United States Agency for International Development and other relief agencies; and

(4) recognizes and encourages the important assistance that also could be provided by other nations to alleviate the suffering of the people of Taiwan.

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Amendment Offered by Mr. Bereuter

H.Res. 297

On page 1, first whereas clause, strike "killing more than 1,700" and insert in lieu thereof "killing more than 2,000";

On page 1, first clause, strike "injuring more than 4,000" and insert in lieu thereof "injuring more than 7,800";

On page 2, third whereas clause, after "the Urban Search and Rescue Team of Fairfax County, Virginia" insert "the Fire Rescue Team of Maimi-Dade, Florida, and others."