

However, affirmatively, I believe that we should place our confidence and place our faith in the individual who has the constitutional responsibility to lead United States efforts in a matter of this type, and that is the President of the United States.

On Friday, I met with the President at the White House, and I was impressed with the degree to which he was personally knowledgeable of the minute details of this issue; that he had been in personal contact with key figures who have the capability of bringing maximum pressure upon the Iraqis, and his commitment to see that these two men are released as expeditiously and in the best possible circumstances.

So, Mr. President, I support the resolution that is before us today. I think it is important that the United States Senate send a strong signal to Baghdad as to our outrage at their action and that their action will not secure any steps which will be beneficial to the country of Iraq.

The irony is that the control of the future of Iraq and its people, the ability to lift the economic sanctions and to begin a process of restoring Iraq to a membership in an international community of law-abiding nations lies totally within the Government of Iraq itself and particularly its leader, Saddam Hussein.

For months, that regime has rejected its opportunity and responsibility to take those actions. Now they are potentially attempting to use these two innocent Americans as a lever to achieve that result.

They shall not succeed. The United States, with our international allies and with the coalition that is being organized by President Clinton, will bring both maximum force, maximum diplomatic, economic and, if necessary, other initiatives in order to achieve the release of these men, while at the same time standing firm behind the sanctions which Iraq imposed upon itself by its lawless activities.

So, Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to adopt this resolution and send the signals that have the best opportunity to achieve the release of these two men to the regime in Baghdad and to reinforce the leadership which is being provided by our President in Washington.

Thank you, Mr. President.

EXHIBIT 1

MARCH 24, 1995.

Senator BOB GRAHAM,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR GRAHAM: Thank you for your letter of 23 March 1995 expressing your grave concern for the two United States citizens who have been detained by the Government of Iraq since 13 March after accidentally crossing the border between Kuwait and Iraq. Please be assured that I share your concern.

Since the incident occurred, General Krishna Thapa, the Force Commander of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM), which is situated along

the international border between the two countries, has been repeatedly in contact with Iraqi authorities to ascertain the whereabouts of the two individuals, obtain assurances of their well-being, and urge the Government to release them immediately.

Mr. Kofi Annan, Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping, has also been in touch with the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations to protest the incident and to urge the Government of Iraq to take immediate steps to obtain release of the detainees. Mr. Annan is also keeping the Permanent Representative of the United States informed of any developments in this regard as they occur.

You may be assured that the United Nations will continue to do everything we can to bring about the rapid release of the detainees. Please convey to their families my deep concern, together with my personal wishes that their families will soon be reunited.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I commend the Senator from Iowa, Senator HARKIN, for his leadership on this issue. The virtual kidnaping of two innocent American businessmen by Iraq is a very serious matter.

Obviously, I will vote for this amendment because it strongly condemns the Government of Iraq for its unjustified action. I also think it empowers the President as he strives to assure the prompt release and safe exit of our two citizens from Iraq.

At the same time, though, I want to explain for the RECORD that in voting for a resolution which urges the President to "take all appropriate action" in this matter, I do not believe that Congress is authorizing any broad use of military action. While the President may initiate an emergency operation to rescue American citizens, any military action beyond that into Iraq would have to be specifically authorized by Congress.

I make this point, Mr. President, because I have seen in the past how sometimes we quickly and quite appropriately pass some foreign policy resolutions to express a sense of the Senate, only to have them reinterpreted as a broad authority for some unforeseen or even unanticipated military action later. I hardly expect that to be the case with this amendment, but I wanted to set the record straight from the outset.

Mrs. HUTCHISON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

#### UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to conduct morning business and request that the Senate stand in recess following my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mrs. HUTCHISON and Mr. NUNN pertaining to the introduc-

tion of S. 635 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent, if I might, to be listed as an original cosponsor of the legislation just introduced by the Senator from Texas and extend my commendations to her for proposing this long-overdue reform in the treatment of our highest national military leadership.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I am proud to have the Senator from Florida be an original cosponsor of the bill, and I look forward to working with him to correct this inequity that we have seen occur over the last few years.

RECESS UNTIL 2:15 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate now stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:31 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. ASHCROFT).

#### REGULATORY TRANSITION ACT

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 411

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question occurs on amendment No. 411 offered by the Senator from Iowa [Mr. HARKIN].

On this question, the yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. LOTT. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. SMITH] is necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. SMITH] would vote "yea."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 99, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 116 Leg.]

YEAS—99

Abraham	Craig	Hatfield
Akaka	D'Amato	Heflin
Ashcroft	Daschle	Helms
Baucus	DeWine	Hollings
Bennett	Dodd	Hutchison
Biden	Dole	Inhofe
Bingaman	Domenici	Inouye
Bond	Dorgan	Jeffords
Boxer	Exon	Johnston
Bradley	Faircloth	Kassebaum
Breaux	Feingold	Kempthorne
Brown	Feinstein	Kennedy
Bryan	Ford	Kerrey
Bumpers	Frist	Kerry
Burns	Glenn	Kohl
Byrd	Gorton	Kyl
Campbell	Graham	Lautenberg
Chafee	Gramm	Leahy
Coats	Grams	Levin
Cochran	Grassley	Lieberman
Cohen	Gregg	Lott
Conrad	Harkin	Lugar
Coverdell	Hatch	Mack