EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 416

HON. JAY KIM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. KIM. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of House Resolution 416, the resolution to establish a select subcommittee of the International Relations Committee to investigate the United States role in Iranian arms transfers to republics of the former Yugoslavia. As a member of International Relations Committee, I feel it is our duty to the American people to closely examine the Clinton administration's foreign policy decisions, especially those of such questionable intent.

As we all know, in September 1991, the United Nations imposed an international arms embargo on the area comprising the former state of Yugoslavia. The United States, under the leadership of President Bush, supported the passage of U.N. Security Council Resolution 713 as means to stem the flow of arms to the warring parties. When President Clinton took office in January 1993, his administration proposed lifting this multilateral embargo in order to help the besieged and poorly armed Bosnian military forces. After failing to gain international approval for lifting the arms embargo, the Clinton administration decided instead to abide by this resolution and even began helping enforce it.

Over the next 2 years, the Clinton administration consistently and repeatedly voiced its opposition to lifting the arms embargo by arguing that such a shift in policy would result in a pullout of European peacekeepers involved in the United Nations Protective Force (UNPROFOR) operation. In addition, the administration claimed that lifting the embargo would enrage our allies, endanger U.N. forces, necessitate further United States military deployments and weaken other international sanctions against Iraq, Libya, and Serbia.

During those 2 years, this Congress voted twice to unilaterally lift the embargo on Bosnia, in response to a growing sentiment among the American people. Unfortunately, the Clinton administration continued to resist these efforts through vetoes. The irony is, however, that while the Clinton administration publicly opposed a lifting of the embargo, it tacitly allowed arms into Bosnia from, of all countries, Iran.

The sad truth is this administration did not inform Congress of its decision to turn a blind eye, the news media did! According to the press, in April 1994, the Clinton administration was approached ''with the idea of opening an Iranian arms pipeline through Croatia into neighboring Bosnia.'' National Security Advisor Anthony Lake and Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott then presented the proposal to President Clinton who, on April 27, 1994, formally signed off on the idea. If this is not the epitome of hypocrisy, I don't know what is.

According to Clinton administration's own Department of State, Iran remains atop the list of countries that sponsor terrorism throughout the world. Iran is also considered one of the most egregious violators of human rights. Now I ask you, how can a President, who allegedly stands against terrorism and human rights violations allow one of the worst violators of basic United States foreign policy to obtain a foothold in Bosnia? In addition, if President Clinton was so worried about endangering U.N. forces when he opposed lifting the embargo, how can he explain allowing Muslim extremists to deliver arms into a country where U.S. forces are now stationed? Does he believe U.S. forces are less important than U.N. forces? I should hope not.

Once again, the Clinton administration has apparently mastered the art of flip-flopping on foreign policy. These questions that remain, however, are more serious than just U.S. credibility abroad. The most important of which is—did the administration violate U.S. law by allowing these transfers to occur? This, and many other questions, need to be answered to this Congress and the American people. That is why I strongly support House Resolution 416 which will establish a temporary select subcommittee to investigate this behind-the-door activity and determine what actions must be taken if U.S. laws were violated. It is unfortunate that it comes to this, but without congressional oversight into the actions of executive agencies and the President himself, every law is at risk of being broken. In that regard, I urge my colleagues to support the passage of House Resolution 416.

TRIBUTE TO DOREEN ''PAM'' STENEBERG

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and a number of my colleagues to recognize Doreen ''Pam'' Steneberg of El Cerrito, CA, on the occasion of her naturalization as a U.S. citizen on Tuesday, May 14, and in celebration of her 60th birthday on Wednesday, May 15, 1996.

Pam is an incredible woman and humanitarian. She is foremost a loving mother and wife, whose unswerving commitment to her family is only rivaled by her infinite dedication to our Nation's children with disabilities. Learning of her own daughter's developmental disabilities in the early 1970's, Pam was thrust into a movement which now credits her as one of its driving forces. Ever acquiring expertise in the morass of our special education and related services systems, Pam quickly found herself guiding other families through the bureaucracies which she herself had been forced to traverse on behalf of her daughter. This intimate understanding and insight uniquely positioned her to be an effective agent for change, and through this realization was born an advocate.

Pam is as driven by the disability movement as the movement is driven by her. Whether in her professional capacity as the parent advocate with the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, Inc., or in her numerous volunteer roles—president of the National Parent Network on Disabilities, chair of the California Developmental Disabilities Area Board V, to name just two—Pam's enthusiasm is ever present. I know that I am not the lone Member of this Chamber to have been overwhelmed and captivated by the fiery person passion which lies just beneath her diminutive stature and refined British accent.

Pam is a truly remarkable woman, and I am deeply honored and proud to call her my friend, and now the newest voter in my congressional district. Mr. Speaker, I invite all my colleagues to join me in saluting Pam Steneberg, welcoming her a citizen of the United States, and wishing her a very happy birthday.

THE IMPORTANCE OF STRONG UNITED STATES-INDIA RELATIONS

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to the attention of Members of the House the op-ed piece written by William Safire that appeared in the May 2, 1996, New York Times. In his essay, Mr. Safire points out the significance of the recent elections in India and the importance of strong United States-India relations. As a member of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans, I gladly submit Mr. Safire's article for the RECORD.

WASHINGTON.—In 1975, when Indira Gandhi assumed dictatorial control of India and threw her opponents in jail, President Ford asked his U.N. delegate, Daniel P. Moynihan, what to make of that.

''Look at it this way, Mr. President,'' said Moynihan with a courtler's irony. ''Under your Administration, the United States has become the world's largest democracy.''

When Mrs. Gandhi later confidently stood for election, India's voters threw her out. Freedom was back, and the U.S. happily became the world's second-largest democracy.

This week, with dignity, honest balloting and relatively little violence, 400 million of India's citizens—65 percent of eligible voters, higher than here—go to the polls to select candidates from 500 political parties. It is the most breathtaking example of government by the people in the history of the world.

Americans don't hear a whole lot about it. President Clinton is busy being campaign manager for the Labor party in Israel's May 29 election, in effect telling Israelis to vote for Shimon Peres or else.

When he is not intervening shamelessly in Israel's political affairs, Mr. Clinton is barnstorming with Boris Yeltsin, trying to help him defeat Yavlinsky's reformers and Zyuganov's Communists in Russia's June 16 election. Washington is also headquarters for