

22D ANNIVERSARY OF THE
INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 17, 1996

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 22d anniversary of the invasion of Cyprus by Turkish military forces.

This illegal invasion has been roundly condemned by the international community for the last 22 years. And yet, for the last 22 years, the Turkish Cypriot minority under Rauf Dentkash has refused to negotiate in good faith or to alter its goal of permanently partitioning the island. Today, 22 years later, 30,000 Turkish troops still occupy the northern third of Cyprus.

Since 1974, the United Nations has attempted to resolve the conflict and reunify the island as an independent state under a single central government. The Turkish Cypriots have consistently rejected such a solution, insisting instead on an independent sovereign Cypriot state in the northern third of the island. The United Nations has consistently recognized the Greek Cypriot Government in Nicosia as the only legitimate Cypriot Government. Turkey is the only country that recognizes the Turkish Cypriot Government as a sovereign state.

The United Nations has repeatedly attempted to mediate an agreement between the interested parties, but recalcitrance on the part of the Turkish Cypriots and their supporters in Turkey has thwarted any notable progress. Just last month, the U.N. Security Council extended the mandate of the U.N. Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus [UNFICYP] again and reiterated its concern that negotiations have dragged on for too long without resolution. And yet, today, the Turkish Cypriots still obstinately refuse to comply with the U.N. Security Council resolutions addressing Cyprus, and 30,000 Turkish troops still occupy military positions in northern Cyprus.

In 22 years, tensions on the divided island have not dropped appreciably. The Green line—the U.N.-supervised zone separating northern Cyprus from the rest of the island—is one of the most heavily militarized areas in the world. As recently as last month, a Turkish Cypriot soldier shot and killed a Greek Cypriot guardsman in the zone.

Last month, the Clinton administration initiated another attempt to resolve the conflict over the Turkish occupation of northern Cyprus by sending Special Presidential Emissary Richard Beattie to the region. While domestic turmoil in Turkey suggests that the prospects for a breakthrough are slim, the need to address the recent increase in tension between Greece and Turkey provides a compelling reason to make the effort. Nevertheless, it seems clear that the Turkish Cypriots will show no flexibility in their position until the Turkish Government—and the Turkish military in particular—decides that the cost of maintaining the military occupation of northern Cyprus is unacceptably high. Facilitating such a decision must be the goal of the world community.

It is my belief that the international community can compel Turkey to remove its occupation troops by actions like denying Turkey membership in the European Union until it takes such action. Such an approach is en-

tirely appropriate. The European Union has every right to withhold economic privileges from a state that maintains a military occupation of another European country. The question is whether such action alone will suffice, or whether other economic incentives like cuts in United States aid to Turkey are necessary as well. Finally, I hope that the United States special emissary, Mr. Beattie, will strongly emphasize to the Turkish Government that the United States' patience on this matter has worn thin.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Cyprus have suffered long enough.

TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST ARME-
NIAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF FRESNO

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 17, 1996

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the First Armenian Presbyterian Church of Fresno, which is preparing to celebrate its 99th anniversary on Sunday, July 28, 1996. It is indeed an honor and a pleasure for me to bring this time of celebration to the attention of my colleagues in the House of Representatives.

The First Armenian Presbyterian Church was originally founded on July 25, 1897, by 34 men and women from the Fresno area. The church was the first Armenian church to be founded in California and was received into the fellowship of the Presbytery of Stockton in October 1897. From 1897 to the present, the First Armenian Presbyterian Church has continued to grow in faith and numbers to nearly 300 members.

Over the years, the First Armenian Presbyterian Church has continued to be a source of inspiration and strength to the Fresno Armenian community. The foundations and teachings are passed from generation to generation within the church and children continue to learn about the traditions and lives of their ancestors. As a place of sanctuary, the church has offered people comfort during times of trial and hardship. Under the leadership of Senior Pastor Rev. Bernard Guekguezian, the church has offered continuous guidance and support. I am proud to have someone of Rev. Guekguezian's ability and knowledge in the 19th Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, the First Armenian Presbyterian Church of Fresno has been a remarkable organization of unity and vitality for 99 years. This congregation exemplifies perseverance and dedication to their families, the community of Fresno, and the State of California. I offer my sincere congratulations to the First Armenian Presbyterian Church on this special day.

MOLLIE BEATTIE HONORED

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 17, 1996

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to memorialize a great public servant and a good

person, Ms. Mollie Beattie, director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the occasion of the unanimous passage in the House of Representatives of the Mollie Beattie Wilderness Area, S. 1899.

Mollie Beattie was unfortunately struck down in the prime of her life by a dreadful illness and we shall all miss the humor, hard work, good sense, and dedication she brought to her post. It is unfortunate to lose her for so many different reasons. Sadly enough, she leaves behind a husband and family.

Mollie Beattie also leaves behind a group of dedicated wildlife protectors in this Congress who felt a kinship in working with her. I know I am one of those Members of Congress who will miss her greatly.

I remember a meeting with Mollie not too long ago. We are discussing an issue important to my district that has been dragging on and on for 5, 6, 7 years. Mollie turned to my constituents during that meeting and so succinctly expressed their concerns that they were stunned. They were delighted because they knew they were dealing with a representative of the Federal Government who understood their interest in providing habitat for species. Mollie then turned to me and told me what needed to be done and what she would do about it. She was a no nonsense, cut-to-the-chase type of thinker and we all appreciate that around here. And we all appreciated that quality in her. I know that she will be greatly missed by the members of her staff and of her Agency. She will be missed in the Halls of Congress.

It is with great pleasure and much sadness that I join in the dedication of the Arctic Refuge Wilderness Area as the Mollie Beattie Wilderness Area. God Bless her and her family.

REPORT FROM INDIANA—A
PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 17, 1996

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to give my Report from Indiana for the week of July 17, 1996.

This week I would like to share with you the program of a very, very special celebration that my wife Ruthie and I were so honored to attend over the Independence Day recess—"A Patriotic Celebration," music performed by the staff and residents of the Henry County Youth Shelter in New Castle, IN.

As the children performed, their young faces glowed with pride. Their deep love of country resonated in my heart as they sang so eloquently. Being included truly moved me. It brought tears to my eyes, put a lump in my throat, and filled my heart with hope.

Words cannot adequately convey the sincere and heartfelt appreciation for what it was like to be a part of their event. From the bottom of my heart, I would like to say thank you. Each and every one of the residents and staff of the Henry County Youth Shelter should be commended.

The performance was spectacular. And I would like to include the attached program into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for my colleagues to review: