and, therefore, a market condition such that no power sales contract can be executed.

Again, the legislation provides for a 6-year construction extension. This is not an unreasonable request for a project already under construction. This project has received no challenges and has been determined environmentally sound and nonthreatening by all applicable local, State, and Federal agencies.

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado, Mr. DAN SCHAEFER, that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1217.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill H.R. 1217 was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1217, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

RELATING TO 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF REUNIFICATION OF THE CITY OF JERUSALEM

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 60) relating to the 30th anniversary of the reunification of the city of Jerusalem.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 60

Whereas for 3,000 years Jerusalem has been the focal point of Jewish religious devotion;

Whereas Jerusalem today is also considered a holy city by members of the Christian and Muslim faiths;

Whereas there has been a continuous Jewish presence in Jerusalem for three millennia and a Jewish majority in the city since the 1840's;

Whereas the once thriving Jewish majority of the historic Old City of Jerusalem was driven out by force during the 1948 Arab-Israeli War;

Whereas from 1948 to 1967 Jerusalem was a divided city and Israeli citizens of all faiths as well as Jewish citizens of all states were denied access to holy sites in the area controlled by Jordan;

Whereas in 1967 Jerusalem was reunited by Israel during the conflict known as the Six Day War;

Whereas since 1967 Jerusalem has been a united city, and persons of all religious faiths have been guaranteed full access to holy sites within the city;

Whereas this year marks the 30th year that Jerusalem has been administered as a unified city in which the rights of all faiths have been respected and protected;

Whereas in 1990 the United States Senate and House of Representatives overwhelmingly adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 106 and House Concurrent Resolution 290 declaring that Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, ''must remain an undivided city'' and calling on Israel and the Palestinians to undertake negotiations to resolve their differences;

Whereas Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel later cited Senate Concurrent Resolution 106 as having ''helped our neighbors reach the negotiating table'' to produce the historic Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed in Washington, D.C. on September 13, 1993; and

Whereas the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–45), which became law on November 8, 1995, states as a matter of United States policy that Jerusalem should remain the undivided capital of Israel: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) congratulates the residents of Jerusalem and the people of Israel on the 30th anniversary of the reunification of that historic city;

(2) strongly believes that Jerusalem must remain an undivided city in which the rights of every ethnic and religious group are protected as they have been by Israel during the past 30 years;

(3) calls upon the President and the Secretary of State to affirm publicly as a matter of United States policy that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital of the State of Israel; and

(4) urges United States officials to refrain from any actions that contradict this policy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. Gilman asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 60, legislation that I sponsored with our colleague from New York, Mr. SCHUMER, which commemorates the 30th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] for his leadership on this issue and commend him for his steadfast commitment to Israel and Jerusalem. I also want to commend our ranking minority member, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON], for his support of this legislation.

The legislation before us today reinforces the strong relationship between the American people and the nation of Israel. From Israel's independence in 1948 until the miraculous reunification of Jerusalem in 1967's Six-Say War, Jerusalem was a divided city and Israeli citizens of all faiths, as well as Jewish citizens of all states, were denied access to holy sites in the area, which was controlled by Jordan. The once thriving Jewish majority of the historic Old City of Jerusalem was driven out by force in 1948, not to return again for 19 long years.

Despite the more than 3,000 years of Jewish residency in Jerusalem, Jews were once again cast out from King David's capital by overwhelming force. Once Jerusalem was one city again, the Israeli Government took important steps to guarantee freedom of religious access, not only to the Jews who had been denied their holy sites all those years, but also for Christians and Muslims. With the reunification of the city under Israel's jurisdiction, persons of all religious faiths have been guaranteed full access to their holy sites in Jerusalem.

Congress, in its role as the representative of the American people, has stated its support for Jerusalem as the capital of Israel on numerous occasions. We believe that Jerusalem must remain an undivided city forever. Indeed, the landmark legislation which became law in 1995, the Jerusalem Embassy Relocation Act, states these beliefs as a matter of U.S. policy.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 60 congratulates the residents of Jerusalem and the people of Israel on the 30th anniversary of the reunification of that historic city; reiterates the belief that Jerusalem must remain an undivided city in which the rights of every ethnic and religious group are going to be protected as they have been by Israel during the past 30 years. It also calls upon the President and the Secretary of State to affirm publicly as a matter of United States policy that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital of the State of Israel; and urges United States officials to refrain from any actions that contradict this policy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues' strong support for this important measure.

Mr. Speaker, I do not have any further requests for statements. I would like to thank the Speaker, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH], for his special interest in this resolution, as well as the balance of the leadership on both sides of the aisle for their support of the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Concurrent Resolution 60.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to note that the legislative business on suspensions will be concluded with the adoption of this resolution and that any Members having amendments with regard to the State Department authorization measure are urged to come to the floor at this time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am going to rise in opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 60 relating to the 30th anniversary of the reunification of the city of Israel. I do so

reluctantly because I support the unity of the city of Jerusalem. I also value the many positive contributions Israel has made in and to Jerusalem over the last three decades.

I believe that it is critical for the United States to refrain from any actions that undermine the unity of this city which is holy for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. I also believe that the United States should eventually move its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, which Israel considers its capital.

I regret that the Committee on International Relations was given no opportunity to consider this resolution before the House took it up under this suspension, where amendments are not possible. A single change to the language of the resolution would have gained my support and that of others who support the unity of Jerusalem, but also support forward progress in the Middle East peace process and oppose unnecessarily provocative actions to or by any of the parties to that process.

It would be totally consistent with U.S. policy to say that Jerusalem must remain an undivided city. It would even be acceptable to describe Jerusalem as Israel's capital and then state, as did House Concurrent Resolution 290, which this resolution cites, that it should remain an undivided city.

However, it is not consistent with United States policy articulated over several decades under several administrations of both parties to state, as this resolution does, that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital of the State of Israel.

Taking such action at this time also hurts U.S. policy more immediately and directly. It will make it more difficult to get an already stalled peace process back on track.

I oppose the resolution at this time for three reasons. First, I do not think it is in the U.S. national interest to take any action that could hinder the peace process or the ability of the United States to continue to play an indispensable role in that process. We need to preserve our role as trusted intermediary, particularly now that we are moving toward permanent status negotiations in which Jerusalem will be a subject.

The United States has a vital interest in seeing the peace process move forward. Such forward movement is not likely to occur if we do serious damage to the critical U.S. role. We cannot preserve this role if the Congress succeeds in its attempt to force a U.S. policy that prejudges an issue as contentious as the final status of Jerusalem, an issue which the Declaration of Principles, signed by both parties in 1993, states will be determined by the parties to the conflict in their final status negotiations.

Second, the issue of Jerusalem has been left for the final status negotiations because of the strong emotion it engenders, because of the controversy it promotes, and because of the need to build confidence among the parties in any proposed solution of the Jerusalem issue. That confidence does not exist among the parties today. This resolution is another unilateral action that can make it more difficult to prepare for the key final status talks.

Finally, I think we need to view this suspension resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 60, together with the other provisions relating to the Middle East that are being discussed and will be voted upon when H.R. 1757, the State Department authorization bill, comes before the House for further consideration later today.

In addition to this resolution on Jerusalem, that bill contains additional problematic language on Jerusalem. We also will vote today on amendments with respect to Syria, actions by the Palestinian Authority with which we disagree, and a possible amendment on reducing aid to Egypt. Each of these amendments has some merit. I agree with much of what they say, but their cumulative effect is to have the United States appear very one-sided on matters where our continued ability to be trusted by all parties is critical.

So, Mr. Speaker, while I join my colleagues in saluting and celebrating a united Jerusalem, I cannot support this resolution at this time. I have, of course, no doubt about the strong support for the resolution. I just think it is appropriate for a few of us to speak out for a nearly 50-year-old American policy in the Middle East, a policy supported by 10 successive Presidents, that has served the Nation and the Middle East well.

□ 1245

I urge my colleagues not to make a difficult peace process even more difficult. I would urge a no vote on House Concurrent Resolution 60.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation with regard to the reunification of Jerusalem has been considered and adopted by the House in prior years, so its consideration should not be considered controversial. President Clinton has stated his support for an undivided Jerusalem. Since the onset of the peace process in 1992, Congress has gone on record on this issue on several occasions. Accordingly, this should not be seen as impairing the peace process. It has not stopped the negotiations from going forward, even when we adopted the Jerusalem Embassy Relocation Act.

Accordingly, I urge our colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York [Mr. SCHUMER], the original sponsor of this measure.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] for yielding me this time and for his leadership on this issue; I thank the ranking member, even though we disagree, for his consideration.

Mr. Speaker, just 30 years ago, Jerusalem was a city divided, divided by barbed wire, divided by faith and divided by violence. In 1948, Jews, who have looked to Jerusalem for 3 millennia as their holy place, were systematically expelled from their holy city. The houses of worship were destroyed, the cemeteries were desecrated. Gravestones served as roads for construction in the city. The most holy of religious sites, the Western Wall, was used ignominiously as a garbage dump. Jews from around the world were unable to worship at their holiest of holy sites.

At the time, the free world rightly declared this heinous act of war illegal but did nothing, absolutely nothing, to change it. Thirty years ago all that changed. Jerusalem was liberated. Jews from around the world could once again pray in Jerusalem. Today Jerusalem is a city reunited, united in geography, united in respect for faith and united in search for peace.

Since 1967, Jerusalem has been the united sovereign capital of Israel, which no Israeli Government, Labor or Likud, would ever agree to divide. There are many issues that divide the Jewish community these days, both here in America and in Israel. This is not one of them. I say to my colleagues that Jewish citizens of America, Jewish citizens of Israel are virtually unanimous in the view that Jerusalem should remain the undivided capital.

I remind Members that under the last 30 years, the holy sites of all three great religions have been open to those who wish to pay their respects and pray there, unlike the period of 1948 to 1967.

In my judgment, the Palestinian Authority has no claim on Jerusalem, not only in fact and in history but because of what they did between 1948 and 1967. They lost it. To make the Wailing Wall a garbage dump? That is absolutely disgraceful and an abomination.

So over the years, recognizing that Congress has affirmed the policy that Jerusalem remain the undivided capital of Israel through numerous resolutions and laws, but never has it been more important that the United States speak with one voice to make the policy clear, that Jerusalem is and will always be the undivided capital of Israel. We in the U.S. House of Representatives understand the significance of Jerusalem to the Jewish people. Today, like Jerusalem, we stand united in congratulating the people of Jerusalem on the 30th anniversary of their city's reunification, united in commending Israel for guaranteeing the right of people of all faiths, Jewish, Christian, Muslim, to pray at their holy sites, united that this holy city never be divided again.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to offer this resolution today to congratulate the people of Jerusalem on the 30th anniversary of their city's reunification, to say that it is my belief that the United States ought to stand foursquare behind that reunification and not do anything, anything at all, to undercut the

fact that we will stand by Israel in its goal to keep Jerusalem united and prevent it from being divided. I say to those who do not believe that, that the peace process in my judgment, if it is based on the view that it ultimately must have a divided Jerusalem, will ultimately fail, and we ought to affirm that now and forever and once and for all.

Mr. Speaker, for 3,000 years, since the destruction of the second temple, the people of Jerusalem and world Jewry have said the following: ''Jerusalem, if I forget thee, let my right hand be severed.'' We will never forget Jerusalem, and we are here to celebrate its permanent reunification.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] for his leadership on this issue and for his very eloquent words in support of the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS], the distinguished former chairman of our House Intelligence Committee.

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution. I believe it is extremely appropriate that we tell the world that we are happy to celebrate this occasion and that we are still committed very much to overseeing our responsibilities toward peace in the area.

I take the view that we are in the business here of underscoring our commitment to the peace process. I do not believe that one can raise the issue of Mideast geopolitics without somehow conveying the idea that there is controversy. But I think that the issue before us is without controversy. It is on the suspension calendar, and I think it is merely a question of acknowledging the leadership of those who have made this possible to come before us. I associate myself with the distinguished remarks of the gentleman from New York, who I think put them so eloquently. I would suggest that to fail to pass this today would send a very bad message. On the other hand it deserves our unanimous support. I congratulate the distinguished chairman for bringing this to our attention.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from New York [Mrs. LOWEY].

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this resolution congratulating the Israeli people on the 30th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem. Today we in this House reaffirm our commitment to Jerusalem as the unified capital of Israel now and forever. It is especially fitting that we rise today to celebrate the Israeli capital as the people of the Middle East are struggling to bring peace to the region.

In these difficult times it is critical that we show our support for a safe and secure Israel, with Jerusalem as its undivided capital. Jerusalem has been and must remain a center of ethnic and religious diversity where individual rights of worship are respected and protected. Torn apart by war for almost two decades, Jerusalem was united as the capital of the State of Israel 30 years ago and so it shall remain. I commend my colleagues for bringing this important resolution to the floor, and I urge its passage.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute.

Mr. Speaker, I simply wanted to point out that the Department of State opposes this resolution. It opposes it on constitutional foreign policy and operational grounds. Quoting from their memoranda,

> The intent of this legislation is to force the administration to recognize Jerusalem as part of the territory of the State of Israel and indeed as the capital of the State of Israel. Our view of Jerusalem is guided by the Declaration of Principles, Oslo I, in which the two sides agreed that Jerusalem will be addressed in permanent status negotiations.
>
> Our objection to this bill is based on our long-standing policy toward Jerusalem and on the fact that this provision raises serious constitutional issues because it purports to limit the President's exclusive authority to conduct the Nation's diplomatic relations and others.

The point simply is that this resolution does not state American policy in the Middle East as it has been for many, many years, supported by 10 Presidents. Members should be aware of the fact that when they vote for this, for all kinds of good reasons, they are nonetheless departing from the U.S. position on the Middle East peace process that has served this Nation and served the Middle East, I think, very well for many years.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 60, and I urge its adoption by the House of Representatives.

Two years ago, I joined many others in the Capitol rotunda to commemorate the 3,000th anniversary of the founding of the city of Jerusalem. It is in the spirit of that powerful ceremony, and in the spirit of Jerusalem itself, that I rise today in support of this resolution.

There is no question that Jerusalem is among the most important sites of modern civilization—a triumph of faith and freedom not just for the Jewish people, but for all people. And although people have fought over Jerusalem for thousands of years, today it stands as a city of peace, in which different races and religious faiths live together.

That is why Jerusalem should remain an undivided city, and be recognized as the capital of Israel. After all, Jerusalem embodies the very notions of liberty, justice, and freedom from persecution upon which Israel was founded. And it is only fitting that the holiest city in the world be celebrated as the center of the Jewish people, who have strived for so long simply to be able to express their faith freely and openly. That's why I supported and Congress passed legislation in 1995 to move the United States Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem.

Today's resolution reiterates the message we delivered in 1995 and which the Congress has expressed in prior years. We must be clear, however, that it is not enough simply to celebrate the past 3,000 years of Jerusalem's existence, or its past 30 years as an undivided city. We must seek to keep Israel and Jerusalem strong for the next 3,000 years. That's part of what the Middle East peace process is all about—and what the United States' unwavering support for Israel is all about.

In closing, I congratulate the residents of Jerusalem and the people of Israel on the 30th anniversary of that city's reunification, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for House Concurrent Resolution 60, congratulating the people of Israel on the 30th anniversary of the reunification of the city of Jerusalem.

It has been 30 years since Israel in the course of the 6-day war reunified the city of Jerusalem and opened its holy sites to people of all faiths. It has also been the policy of the United States ever since the historic reunification of this most holy city that it should never again be divided.

As a nation, one of our most fundamental principles is the principle of freedom of religion. With this vote, we in Congress reaffirm our belief that an undivided Jerusalem is integral to maintaining the rights of every ethnic and religious group in the city of Jerusalem, and we recognize and commend the people of Israel for protecting this right over the past 30 years.

I would also like to again urge the President and the Secretary of State to affirm publicly what we in Congress have consistently voiced for many years, that Jerusalem is the Capital of Israel. I also call on the President to move forward at this time with the selection of a site for the new American Embassy in Jerusalem.

Mr. BRADY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 60. I am pleased to support this resolution which congratulates the residents of Jerusalem and the people of Israel on the 30th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem, calls upon the President and the Secretary of State to publicly affirm—as a matter of U.S. policy—that Jerusalem must remain the undivided Capital of Israel, and urges U.S. officials to refrain from any actions that contradict this policy.

For three thousand years, Jerusalem has been the religious, spiritual, and cultural center of the Jewish people. It is also important to note that Jerusalem has sites that are also important to other religious faiths. Furthermore, during the period 1949–1967, the eastern part of Jerusalem was under Jordanian control and people of all faiths were denied access to their holy sites. However, since Jerusalem was reunited in 1967, it has been a city open to people of all religions.

In addition to House Concurrent Resolution 60, the House is also considering another important piece of legislation, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act (H.R. 1757), affecting U.S. policy toward Jerusalem. Both of these bills reaffirm positions taken by Congress in 1995, when it overwhelmingly passed the Jerusalem Embassy Act. While that legislation become law on November 8, 1995, President Clinton, unfortunately, did not sign it. The Jerusalem Embassy Act declares that official U.S. policy should recognize Jerusalem as the Capital of the State of Israel. The bill also supports Jerusalem remaining an undivided city where the rights of every ethnic and religious group are protected. Finally, it requires that

the United States move its Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem by May 31, 1999. We are also committed to seeing this happen and have included provisions to do so in H.R. 1757.

I urge my colleagues to vote for both House Concurrent Resolution 60, as well as H.R. 1757, which reaffirm our belief that Jerusalem should remain Israel's undivided capital.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CALVERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 60.

The question was taken.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 1998 AND 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 159 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 1757.

□ 1257

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1757) to consolidate international affairs agencies, to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes, with Mr. EWING—Chairman pro tempore—in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, June 5, 1997, the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SMITH] had been disposed of.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, June 5, 1997, each further amendment to the bill, and all amendments thereto, shall be debatable for 10 minutes, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, except for the following amendments which shall be debated without a time limit:

1. Amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] pursuant to the previous order;
2. The amendment by the gentleman from Rhode Island [Mr. KENNEDY] regarding Indonesia;
3. The amendment by the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER] regarding Cuba;
4. The amendment by the gentleman from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] regarding Egypt;
5. The amendment by the gentleman from New York [Mr. PAXON] or the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL] regarding Palestinian land transactions;
6. The amendment by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. NEY] regarding Libya;
7. The amendment by the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SANFORD] regarding authorization levels;
8. The amendment by the gentlewoman from Georgia [Ms. MCKINNEY] regarding arms transfer code of conduct;
9. The amendment by the gentleman from California [Mr. CAPPS] regarding Tibet;
10. The amendment by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] regarding counternarcotics authorities;
11. The amendment by the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON]; and
12. The amendment by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

□ 1300

It shall be in order at any time for the chairman of the Committee on International Relations, or his designee, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member of that committee, or a designee, to offer amendments en bloc. Those amendments en bloc shall be considered read, shall not be subject to amendment, shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question, and may amend portions of the bill previously read for amendment.

The original proponents of an amendment included in such amendments en bloc may insert a statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD immediately before the disposition of the amendments en bloc.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, we are now resuming consideration of the foreign relations authorization bill for fiscal years 1998 and 1999. We have a unanimous-consent agreement that makes in order several amendments to be considered under the 5-minute rule without any special time limitation. Other amendments not mentioned in the unanimous-consent request are debatable for up to 10 minutes equally divided between a Member in support and a Member in opposition on the amendment. I request that any Members having an amendment would advise our committee if they plan to offer an amendment. It would help facilitate our work here for the remainder of the day.

I would also like to point out that we are continuing to work with the administration to reach an agreement on reorganization of the foreign affairs agencies. The President has directed that consolidation of USIA and the Arms Control Disarmament Agency take place over a 2-year period. That is our responsibility, to implement that decision. It is my intention to find a solution. I hope that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will work with us to that end, and I want to thank the ranking minority member, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON], for his cooperation. We will try to move this bill as expeditiously as possible, and we appreciate the cooperation of our colleagues to work within the agreed time limits.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GILMAN

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore (Mr. EWING). Is the amendment one of those specifically listed in the order of the House of June 5, 1997?

Mr. GILMAN. Yes, it is, Mr. Chairman.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. GILMAN:

At end of Title XVII (relating to foreign policy provisions) add the following new section (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

SEC. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 481(e)(4) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291(e)(4)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(ii), inserting ''or under chapter 5 of part II'' after ''(including chapter 4 of part II)''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: '', other than sales or financing provided for narcotics-related purposes following notification in accordance with procedures applicable to reprogramming notifications under section 634A of this Act.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to assistance provided on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, the euphemism, war on drugs, is often misused to describe the struggle against the illicit narcotics which destroy our communities and takes the lives of so many of our young people. However in Colombia, the major drug producing nation in our hemisphere, there is a raging narcotics based drug war, and it is only a short 3 hours away by aircraft from Miami. The Colombian National Police, the CNP, our longtime courageous and honest allies in the fight against the drug cartels and their narcoguerrilla allies, in the last 10 years alone they have lost nearly 3,000 police officers. These heavy casualties were taken fighting ours as well as their own grave struggle against the illicit drug trade. These brave police officers captured or killed all of the leadership of the ruthless Medellin cartel as well as all of the key kingpins of the more sophisticated and powerful Cali international drug cartel.

The administration twice decertified the Government of Colombia over the last 2 years without a national interest waiver because of alleged corruption surrounding the Presidency. At the same time, it has badly hurt the Colombian National Police and military fighting the real drug war from the safe and secure office of the Presidency in Bogota.