

BOSNIA SPRING

• Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, spring has arrived here in Washington, the Grounds of the Capitol are looking their best and we welcome the change. Unfortunately, spring in Bosnia is not a welcome event. Spring in Bosnia means the cease-fires of winter melt away and the war will resume with all its ferocity.

I have taken this floor many times to decry the ethnic cleansing that continues in Bosnia and to urge our Government, and the U.N. Security Council, to act more responsibly in addressing this terrible tragedy. It comes as no surprise that those affected by our inaction are astonished at our apparent indifference, and chastise us for failing to uphold basic moral and legal norms.

On Wednesday, the Washington Post printed a portion of a statement by Vinko Cardinal Puljic, archbishop of Sarajevo. While the United States, along with the U.N. Security Council and NATO sit on our hands, we cannot also cover our ears. The archbishop of Sarajevo knows of what he speaks. The Senate would do well to listen.

I ask that the article be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Washington Post, Apr. 5, 1995]

FOR THE RECORD

(By Vinko Cardinal Puljic)

I, like so many in Bosnia-Herzegovina, am astonished and bewildered . . . at the international community's indifferent, half-hearted, inconsistent and ineffectual response to aggression and "ethnic cleansing." Not only has [it] not acted decisively, it has even contributed to the ethnic division of Bosnia and has legitimized aggression by failing to uphold basic moral and legal norms.

If the principles of peace and international justice are buried in the soil of the Balkans, Western civilization will be threatened. . . . I am convinced that there are moral means to thwart immoral aggression. The international community must have the will to use the means available to it to protect threatened populations, to encourage demilitarization and to establish other conditions necessary for progress toward peace. The solution cannot be simply to give up and withdraw. If the United Nations and the international community do not now have effective means to respond to the humanitarian crisis in Bosnia and elsewhere—and it is clear that they do not—then nations have the responsibility to take the steps necessary to develop more effective international structures.

This is not a religious conflict, but some would misuse religion in support of ethnic division and extreme nationalism. Therefore, as a religious leader, I believe I have a special responsibility to stand beside those who are victims of injustice and aggression, regardless of their religious, ethnic or national identity. I also believe that, even though a just peace seems far off, religious and other leaders must not wait for an end to war to begin the daunting task of reconciling deeply divided communities.●

THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, last night, I voted for final passage of the supplemental appropriations bill.

The bill, as amended by the compromise substitute, is a distinct improvement over the legislation reported by the Appropriations Committee. The compromise reduces Federal spending by nearly \$16 billion and restores funding to a number of critical programs affecting children and education.

This includes a broad range of programs that I very strongly support: Head Start, education reform, safe and drug free school programs, the Women Infants and Children Program, the childcare block grant program, title I programs to improve reading, writing, and math skills for educationally disadvantaged kids, impact aid, and the TRIO Program for first generation college-bound students, and the national service college scholarship program—AmeriCorps.

However, the legislation still cuts too deeply into important programs which the American people approve of such as assisting the States in protecting the quality and safety of our drinking water, the opening of Jobs Corps centers already announced, and for which communities across the country have expended funds and resources and funding for the promised environmental cleanup of military bases.

One of the great disappointments on this bill was the defeat of the Mikulski amendment by a vote of 68 to 32.

The Mikulski amendment would have restored funds for a number of important national programs such as the housing program, and also would have funded the EPA Center in Bay City, the CIESIN facility in Saginaw, and announced Job Corps centers in nine cities across the country, including Flint.

I have already begun discussions with colleagues in an effort to restore some of these cuts in conference between the House and the Senate.●

U.S.-HONG KONG POLICY ACT REPORT

• Mr. MACK. Mr. President, the March 31, 1995 report required by the U.S.-Hong Kong Policy Act made some useful contributions to the historical record of Hong Kong's transition from a dependent territory of the United Kingdom to a special administrative region of the People's Republic of China. The report correctly assessed Governor Patten's highly touted legislative reforms as modest.

The account given of threats to press freedoms was also important, in light of the People's Republic of China's recent actions against Hong Kong and other journalists. While the report included the case of Xi Yang, the Hong Kong reporter imprisoned inside mainland China for "stealing state financial secrets," it would have been appropriate for the report to have included the detail that the secrets were planned increases in interest rates and the sale of gold.

Most important, the report expressed U.S. support for "continued development of democratic institutions * * * and the conduct of free and fair elections after July 1." I hope the United States Government is making this position clear to the People's Republic of China in no uncertain terms.

The report neglected to discuss a number of important developments which I highlight here because they are so critical to the future of the territory.

Much as China's treatment of the press has had a chilling effect on Hong Kong journalists, the People's Republic of China's harsh and arbitrary treatment of businessmen is having pernicious effects in Hong Kong. The People's Republic of China frequently arrests, imprisons, and holds incommunicado, foreign businessmen—almost 20 in the past 3 years—particularly those with whom People's Republic of China state-owned enterprises have commercial disputes. For example, at the instigation of the People's Republic of China, James Peng, an Australian citizen, was arrested by Macau police and deported to Shenzhen in Guangdong Province. Mr. Peng's offense was that he won a legal battle to retain control of his company, a Sino-foreign joint venture listed on the Shenzhen stock exchange. Another businessman, Zhang Guei-Xing, who holds an American green card, was jailed under horrific conditions in a detention camp in Zhengzhou for 2½ years. A Miami businessman, Troy McBride, has been detained in Anhui province since mid-March, his passport confiscated, because of a commercial dispute. In the People's Republic of China today, economic disputes have become economic crimes. Arrests, detention, and harassment of businessmen are just one more business practice. The ultimate goal is a settlement involving the surrender of property or other assets—in effect, a ransom payment.

Hong Kong's Independent Commission Against Corruption [ICAC] reports a sharp increase in corruption complaints as the People's Republic of China and Hong Kong markets become more intertwined. The People's Republic of China's treatment of businessmen, the absence of the rule of law, and the insidious spread of corruption from the mainland to Hong Kong, must be included in future U.S.-Hong Kong Policy Act reports.

The report's recognition of the lack of progress and even stalling on rule of law issues within the joint liaison group is also important. However, the report should have acknowledged that the role the joint liaison group has assumed in this transition period is contrary to the terms of the joint declaration, which expressly states that the joint liaison group is "not an organ of