

Last fall, President Clinton appointed Richard Beattie as Special Presidential Envoy for Cyprus to lend new impetus to United States efforts to resolve the Cyprus problem. Last month, President Clinton also elevated State Department Special Coordinator for Cyprus James William to ambassadorial rank to provide a further indication of U.S. resolve. The United States has also initiated, in conjunction with Great Britain, confidential talks between Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots. While these talks were to eventually break down due to Turkish intransigence, the resolve of the United States and the Clinton administration remain unshaken in its support for a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus division.

The international community has also spoken with a clear voice against the continued division of the Island of Cyprus. U.N. Security Council adopted Resolution 939 on July 29, 1994, which calls for a Cyprus settlement "based on a state of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded, and comprising two politically equal communities as described in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in a bicomunal and bizonal federation, and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or part with any other country or any form of partition or succession."

The Greek Cypriots are also speaking with a clear voice in support of a peaceful resolution to the division of Cyprus. Greek Cypriot President Clerides recently issued a demilitarization proposal that seeks to bring an end to Cyprus' status as what U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali called "one of the most highly militarized areas in the world. President Clerides' proposal states that the Government of Cyprus will disband its military

force, turn over its military hardware to the U.N. peacekeeping force, and pledge all out-year appropriations that would be otherwise earmarked for defense toward maintaining the U.N. force if the Republic of Turkey will end its illegal occupation of this island. The way is clear for ending the division of Cyprus which has brought so much suffering to the people of the island if the Turkish Government will embrace this opportunity to obtain a peaceful end to the division of Cyprus.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that the people of Cyprus will soon live free from foreign occupation and illegal division. Twenty-one years of occupation is far too long and I want to join with my colleagues in urging the Government of Turkey to end its occupation of Cyprus.

THE TURKISH OCCUPATION OF
CYPRUS MUST END

HON. DICK ZIMMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. ZIMMER. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 21st anniversary of the illegal Turkish occupation of 40 percent of the island of Cyprus. As I have in the past, I once again urge Turkey to end that occupation so that the people of Cyprus can work toward a peaceful, democratic and independent future.

This House recently approved an amendment by Congressman PORTER to reduce United States aid to Turkey. This amendment was in part the result of Turkey's blind disregard for the territorial integrity of Cyprus.

The Porter amendment represented the second time we have voted to reduce aid to Tur-

key because of its abuses of human rights and international law. I hope it will be the last.

Turkey must realize that we are growing impatient with its empty promises to address the Cyprus problem. For 20 years it has ignored or rejected virtually all calls to end its occupation and resolve the problems it has created.

As a result, there are still five Americans whose whereabouts remains unknown after they were swept up in the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974. There are also 1,614 Greek Cypriots who were abducted during that invasion and who remain unaccounted for today.

Seventeen years ago, Congress agreed to lift the partial arms embargo it had imposed on Turkey for treaty violations on the condition that Turkey would work toward a lasting resolution of the Cyprus problem.

And what has happened in 17 years? Nothing, Mr. Speaker. Rather than trying to resolve the problem, in fact, Turkey has aggravated it by declaring, in 1983, the independence of its occupied land on Cyprus and naming it the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus."

That was not the peaceful resolution that Cyprus had expected. And it is time that we make it clear that our patience with procrastination and broken promises is exhausted.

Mr. Speaker, I continue to support legislation offered by Mr. ANDREWS and Mr. PORTER that would ban all aid to Turkey until the Turkish Government complies with a number of conditions relating to human rights, as well as the condition that Turkey withdraw its troops from Cyprus.

Until Turkey withdraws its troops, we have little hope for a resolution. If we do not demand decisive action by Turkey and hold that nation accountable for its deeds, we will be back here next year sadly noting the 22d anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus.