

prove that Croatia is a country that respects the human rights of all people living in Croatia; that Croatia lives up to its international commitments, particularly the Washington Agreement of March 1994; and that Croatia is committed to a peaceful solution to both the Bosnian and Croatian conflicts.

I agree with President Clinton that the Croatian victory could provide a window of opportunity to resolve the Bosnian and Croat conflicts diplomatically. Whether or not that occurs, however, will depend to a very large part on Croatia. Accordingly, we must let Croatia know what we expect.

BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, as of the close of business yesterday, Thursday 10, the Federal debt stood at \$4,943,017,430,508.20. On a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child in America owes \$18,763.78 as his or her share of that debt.

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES FOREIGN AID TO NICARAGUAN CONFISCATORS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, on July 26, Secretary of State Christopher waived the prohibition on United States foreign aid to the Nicaraguan Government—on what he called national interest grounds—even though the Nicaraguan Government has failed to resolve the claims of properties stolen from Americans. Nicaragua has not resolved even one-third of the cases involving confiscation of properties owned by American citizens.

In order to comply with United States law, the Government of Nicaragua has four options: First, it can return the properties to the rightful owners, second, compensate the owners, third, develop a viable process to resolve claims, or fourth, submit cases to international arbitration. Despite this considerable statutory latitude, the Nicaraguan Government has nonetheless failed miserably in meeting the criterion required by United States law before any United States aid can properly be provided.

Since November 1994, following elections in which the Democrats lost control of both the United States House and the United States Senate, the Nicaraguan Government did pick up a bit of occasional speed and resolved in 6 months twice as many cases as were resolved in the previous 4 years, proving that the problem is not the Nicaraguan Government's inability to resolve these cases and thereby comply with United States law; no, it is the Nicaraguan regime's unwillingness to do so.

This is a problem of political will. So the Nicaraguans prevailed upon the Clinton administration to bail them out. Secretary of State Christopher dutifully complied so that United States foreign aid would continue to flow to the Chamorro regime which is still largely under the control of the Com-

munist Sandinistas who brought ruin to Nicaragua while they were in control of the government in Managua.

Thus Secretary Christopher and the Clinton administration rewarded Nicaragua, claiming that foreign aid to that country is in the United States national interest.

Mr. President, I have received scores of letters from American citizens whose properties in Nicaragua were confiscated by the Sandinistas. These citizens reject the nonsense that assistance to the Nicaraguan Government is in the national interest of the United States taxpayer. In fact, they assert, it is the height of folly to send further foreign aid to a government that refuses to return their properties to them or fairly compensate them.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that 20 of these letters be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks. The others are available for inspection by anyone desiring to see them.

There being no objection, the letters were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

JULY 31, 1995.

Hon. JESSE HELMS,
Chairman, U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR HELMS: We were appalled to learn of the Waiver to Section 527 of the Department of State Authorization Act exercised by Secretary Warren Christopher.

Progress on the resolution of property claims of U.S. citizens does not justify this waiver, as there are still over one thousand cases after 5 years of the Chamorro Administration.

We urge you to extend our protest to the Department of State.

Sincerely,

PETER R. SENGELMANN.

—
GLENDALE, CA,
July 31, 1995.

Senator JESSE HELMS,
Senate Foreign Relations Committee.
Att: Elizabeth Demoss

DEAR SENATOR HELMS: Our American property that was confiscated illegally by the Nicaraguan government in 1979 has not been returned yet. We have done everything they have asked us to do for the last 16 years, and nothing has happened. Just dilatory tactics and lies, pure lies.

As long as we keep giving them money, the American Properties will not ever be returned. Please DO NOT send them any more money. I work very hard to pay my taxes, please do not give them away.

I beg you.

Sincerely yours,

RENE CARDENAS AND JILMA CARDENAS.

—
MANAGUA, NICARAGUA,
August 1, 1995.

Mr. JESSE HELMS,
U.S. Senator, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR HELMS: I have been learning that you are one of the best friends of the American-Nicaraguan Citizens who were expropriated or confiscated by the Sandinista Government.

This petition is sent to you, asking for your continuous effort to intervene before the U.S. Congress, so that the Nicaraguan government activates the due process of all of the U.S. Citizens who are still awaiting for a favorable resolution of our expropriated properties.

I have been claiming since 1990 and doing what I think I have to do to get my property back. At the moment, I could not find the way to get my problem solved.

Once more, I want to let you know how grateful all American citizens are knowing that you and our Republican party are interested in bringing back the justice to Nicaragua and its people, as well. Thank you for your time and hope for success.

Sincerely yours,

LILIANA ARGUELLO DE VARGAS.

—
MIAMI, FL,
July 31, 1995.

Hon. JESSE A. HELMS,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR: It is appalling to hear that aid has again been released to the corrupt government of Nicaragua.

My property was stolen from me by the previous Sandinista regime and to date, I have not been able to recover my house. I don't understand how the Clinton administration can continue to send my tax dollars to the thieves that are using what rightfully belongs to me.

I, along with numerous other Americans, feel betrayed by Clinton and his inept people in the Department of State that are contributing to the coverup of the Nicaraguan reality.

CHARLES W. KETTEL.

—
KEY BISCAYNE, FL,
August 1, 1995.

Hon. JESSE HELMS,
Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR HELMS: President Clinton's decision to grant a waiver to Nicaragua demonstrates a blatant betrayal to US citizens like myself who have been struggling for the last 17 years to recuperate properties that were confiscated by the Sandinistas and blatantly stolen by Chamorro's government.

This letter is in total support of any legislation that will enable Congress and not the President to have the authority to grant any future aid to Nicaragua. The Clinton Administration has its own agenda and the protection of rights of American citizens is obviously not a part of it. What President Clinton has forgotten is that he in an elected official placed in such office by our votes. His granting this waiver to Nicaragua denotes his blatant disregard for the safety and wellbeing of US citizens abroad. Such move will not only affect him but his entire Democratic Party as well. Hopefully Congress will wake up and realize we are the voters.

Sincerely,

ANNA SOLORZANO RIVERO.

—
CARROLLTON, TX,
August 1, 1995.

Hon. JESSE HELMS,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Att: Elizabeth deMoss

DEAR SENATOR HELMS: My wife and I are among the many U.S. citizens owning property in Nicaragua which has been expropriated by the ex-Sandinista government. We urge you not to support the Clinton administration's attempt to continue aid to that country until it demonstrates a willingness to return these properties to their lawful owners.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM T. CRISWELL.

—
MANAGUA,
August 1, 1995.

Hon. JESSE HELMS,
Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR HELMS: It is amazing that my Government seems satisfied with the