

gendarme force for Bosnia, which I described earlier, to handle a variety of civilian security tasks. This is eminently do-able and would provide a tremendous boost to Dayton implementation.

Second, although we will almost certainly reduce the size of the American troop commitment in the post-SFOR force from the current eight thousand five hundred, the President must make clear to the American public that he is prepared to raise that number again if our commander on the ground in Bosnia certifies that the security situation warrants it.

Third—and this may not sit well with some of my colleagues—I believe that if a continued American troop presence in Bosnia is an important national interest, as it manifestly is—then I think this priority should be reflected in a supplemental appropriation that does not reprogram other military funding. In other words, we should not sacrifice readiness elsewhere to pay for Bosnia. Both are essential, and we can afford both.

Fourth, we should support Republika Srpska Prime Minister Dodik by speedily providing assistance to his central government and to localities that implement Dayton, but not provide it in an indiscriminate way. What do I mean by that?

I mean that henceforth in order to receive American USAID assistance, all Bosnian municipalities, both in the Republika Srpska and in the Federation, by a reasonable date-certain would have to join the Open Cities Program to welcome returning minority refugees, seat their municipal councils that were legally elected last September, and deny sanctuary to indicted war criminals.

I would also design USAID reconstruction projects that designate for returning minority refugees housing units or jobs in rebuilt factories.

Let me underscore, Mr. President—and this is key—my plan means not providing assistance to localities until they comply. The date-certain must be reasonable, but firm.

The restrictions I propose are not intended to undercut Prime Minister Dodik, whom I support. But we must be clear: the American policy goal is not just to have a rhetorically friendlier Republika Srpska government, but is rather to help build a multi-ethnic, democratic Bosnia.

Fifth, as a specific corollary of this last point, we should force the Bosnian Muslim SDA Party, the senior partner in the Federation government, to welcome returning Bosnian Serb and Bosnian Croat refugees back to Sarajevo and to enact legislation to enable non-Muslims to reclaim their former apartments in “socially owned,” that is, public housing.

I have advocated these steps for months. Last week, under pressure from our talented Special Envoy Ambassador Bob Gelbard, Bosnian President Izetbegovic finally agreed to

admit twenty thousand Serbs and Croats and to introduce the property legislation. We must now hold him to his word, using assistance as a lever.

The Bosnian Muslims, the principal victims of the carnage of the last four years, know that they have no stronger defender in Congress than me. But they must also realize that all groups in Bosnia—Muslims, Croats, Serbs, and others—deserve equal treatment as the country is rebuilt and made healthy again. I cannot stress this point enough.

Sixth, in the preparations for the pivotal Bosnian national elections next September we should greatly increase our support for the non-nationalist, multi-ethnic parties in the Federation and the Republika Srpska.

Until now, this task in the field has been handled principally by the U.S. National Democratic Institute, which has done superb work.

We should now pressure the OSCE to involve the multi-ethnic parties in the work of the Provisional Election Commission, which sets the ground rules.

For example, until now, incredible as it may sound, only the nationalist parties have had access to voters' lists!

Mr. President, Bosnia has come a long way since the horrifying days only two-and-a-half years ago when daily mortar attacks and snipers terrorized Sarajevo and Mostar, when thousands were brutally murdered in Srebrenica and elsewhere, and when women were degraded in bestial rape camps.

Much work remains to be done, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. A peaceful, democratic Bosnia is central to the peace of Europe, and therefore to America's national interest. And American leadership is absolutely essential to the rebuilding of the country.

For all these reasons, I am confident that in the coming weeks when the Congress is called upon to support an extension of the American commitment to Bosnia, it will respond affirmatively.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

COPYRIGHT COMPULSORY LICENSE IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, my good friend and colleague Mr. COBLE, the Chairman of the House Judiciary Intellectual Property Subcommittee introduced in the House today the Copyright Compulsory License Improvement Act. I had intended to introduce similar legislation in the Senate today, but have decided to allow some of my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee time to review this important legislation and join me in presenting legislation to the Senate.

Let me first thank Mr. COBLE for his leadership in this area. He and his staff have worked tirelessly to develop the bill he introduced today. It is legislation that will set the stage for increased competition in the multi-channel video delivery market, and that

means greater viewer choice in getting television. It is always a pleasure to work with Chairman COBLE, and I look forward to working with him as we perfect this legislation and move it to enactment. I have also worked with the ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senator LEAHY, who has provided valuable input into the Senate legislation.

I must also acknowledge the input of the Register of Copyrights and Copyright Office staff. They worked along with congressional staff in creating this legislation.

Let me say that I believe the legislation that Chairman COBLE and I have worked on effectively balances the various interests affected by the legislation. While I look forward to perfecting the legislation, I expect it to undergo revision as it moves through the process, I believe that the essential balance must be maintained for this legislation to move this year. And it is important that we enact legislation this year allowing satellite carriers to provide local carriage of broadcast signals within a broadcaster's local market. No reform is more important to making satellite competitive with cable for the long term. I believe the other reforms also set the stage for vigorous competition between satellite and cable, with adequate protections for the other interested parties whose works are delivered by them to viewers, which should result in lower prices and increased choices for viewers. This is important legislation for all of our constituents, but particularly for those in states with rural or mountainous areas such as my home state of Utah. I hope my colleagues will help work to enact these reforms this year so that the next generation of satellite television delivery can become a reality in the very near future.

I welcome input from all interested parties and my colleagues. And I look forward to introducing a companion to Mr. COBLE's bill when we return from our President's Day recess.

INNOCENT SPOUSES NEED RELIEF

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I want to commend the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator BILL ROTH, for the very thoughtful and determined way that he has handled the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) reform effort.

Had he simply bowed to calls from some on the other side of the aisle to sweep problems with the IRS under the rug and rush the IRS reform bill to a vote, we probably would not have had the chance to shed light on the serious abuses that innocent spouses have experienced at the hands of the IRS. And we certainly would not have the chance to ensure that an effective fix for innocent spouses is included in the IRS reform legislation.

I think it is important to say at the outset that most IRS employees are law-abiding and professional, and most