When the Turkish troops invaded the island, they took 1,614 Cypriots and five Americans and have never been seen or heard from since. For 24 years their families have had to wonder whether they are. This spring, the remains of Andrew Kassapis were brought home to his parents in Michigan. I was touched and honored to have had the opportunity to take part in a memorial service with his family and other Hellenic leaders on the steps of the Capitol. This report is only the beginning. We must find out the fates of the 1,614 Cypriots who have also been missing since 1974. I will continue my work in Congress to bring answers to the families and friends of the Cypriots who are still missing and to bring the remains of the other four Americans, including George Anastasiou and Christaci Loizoi, home to their families. The Kassapis family was able to experience some closure and I want to see these other families afforded the same right.

Others that must not be forgotten are the people detained in the enclaved areas of Northern Cyprus. In 1974, 20,000 Greek-Cypriots did not leave their homes after the Northern portion of the island was occupied. There are strict restrictions on where they are allowed to travel. If they leave their villages, they are no longer allowed to return. Those 20,000 people have been the victims of persecution and discrimination that has caused their depletion. Now only 540 people are left. And, Greek Cypriots that want to visit their family and friends in the enclaved area are forced to pay $30 for each visit.

Using Cyprus's European Union membership aspirations as a pretext, Turkey has recently embarked on an increasingly hostile pursuit of its long-standing objective to partition Cyprus.

Illegal military overflights of Cyprus have increased, Turkish occupation forces have brought new weaponry into the occupied area, and they have provoked incidents along the UN cease-fire line, killing four Greek Cypriots in 1996. Turkey has also made plans for the construction of two new naval bases and an air force base in the occupied area and has upgraded its bases on the southern coast of Turkey, which is only 50 miles from Cyprus.

Most ominous of all, Turkey has threatened to ''integrate'' the occupied area of Cyprus if Cyprus joins the EU, and the Turkish Cypriot leader has said that ''there will be war if Cyprus joins the EU.'' Turkey has, in fact, already signed a number of ''agreements'' with the illegal Turkish Cypriot regime that lay the groundwork for an eventual annexation of the occupied area.

In August 1997, Cypriot President Clerides provided the Turkish Cypriot community's leader with a proposal to engage in a dialogue to resolve security concerns of all parties. On June 20 of this year, President Clerides requested U.N. Secretary General Annan to undertake a personal initiative to reduce military tensions. President Clerides reiterated to Annan his commitment to reconsider the acquisition of missiles if progress is made leading to the demilitarizations of Cyprus.

Last year, this Congress passed a resolution urging the Administration to launch an initiative to resolve the Cyprus problem, setting forth the parameters for such a solution, including demilitarization. The Turkish side, however, has refused to come to the negotiating table unless the occupied area is first recognized as an independent state and Cyprus withdraws its application to join the EU. The U.S. has opposed these conditions as unacceptable obstacles to progress in resolving the Cyprus problem.

We must stress that Turkey must come to the negotiating table with no preconditions and open to peace;

We must stress that demilitarization of the island is necessary to obtain peace;

And, we must stress that there will be severe consequences if further military action against Cyprus is taken.

We must take a firm stand in obtaining peace on Cyprus in the upcoming year so that next year we may celebrate peace instead of remembering war.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO AUTHORIZE A NATIONAL VETERANS CEMETERY TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN METROPOLITAN ATLANTA IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce to my colleagues in the House of Representatives that I am introducing legislation authorizing a national veteran's cemetery to be constructed in the metropolitan Atlanta area in the State of Georgia.

I urge my colleagues in the House to support this effort not just on behalf of the veterans in Georgia but veterans across our nation.

Our nation has a sacred obligation to fulfill the promises we made to our veterans when they agreed to risk and, in many cases, give their lives to protect the freedoms we all enjoy. One of those promises was a military burial in a national cemetery.

Speaker GINGRICH is an original cosponsor to this important piece of legislation. The Speaker has been a dedicated advocate of the veterans in the state of Georgia and of this country. In addition, I want to thank the other Members of the Georgia delegation for their support of our efforts. Congressmen COLLINS, KINGSTON, LINDER, CHAMBLISS, DEAL, LEWIS, and BISHOP realize the importance of the veterans in Georgia.

Sadly, the access of many veterans in Georgia to military burial has been blocked due to the lack of a national cemetery near their homes and the homes of their loved ones. Georgia has no National Cemetery space available. None. This situation is inexcusable, and we must take immediate steps to remedy it.

The legislation we are introducing today is an important first step in creating a new national veterans cemetery. Senators CLELAND and COVERDELL are introducing a companion measure in the United States Senate.

Establishing a national cemetery in Georgia would give veterans and their families accessibility and the recognition they deserve.

There are currently over 700,000 veterans living in Georgia. Some 450,000 of these veterans live in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Atlanta is the largest metropolitan area in the United States without a useable national cemetery.

Georgia currently has only one national cemetery located in Marietta. However, this resting area for so many veterans has been full since 1970. The nearest national cemeteries accepting burials are in Alabama and Tennessee; neither of which are accessible to Georgia's 450,000 veterans who live in the Atlanta Metropolitan area.

Placing a national cemetery in the Atlanta area will alleviate the pressure on the cemeteries in Tennessee and Alabama.

According to a National Cemetery System report, Atlanta, Georgia was listed as one of the ten geographic areas in the United States in which a need for a burial space for veterans is the greatest. The Atlanta area has had this designation now for two decades.

This legislation is supported by Pete Wheeler, Commissioner of the Georgia Veteran's Association, and the Georgia Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion, and other veterans' groups. I ask all veterans groups to support this legislation because it is only appropriate for Georgia's heroes to be allowed to be laid to rest in their home state.

This has been a long awaited process for Georgia veterans. These men and women deserve a proper resting place. The legislation we are introducing today is an important first step in creating a new national cemetery.

ADDRESS OF JOHN BRADEMAS AT ROYAUMONT PROCESS CONFERENCE

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, our distinguished former colleague in the House of Representatives from my native State of Indiana, Dr. John Brademas, who as Members know, served as Majority Whip of the House from 1977 to 1981 and then President of New York University, has since 1994 been Chairman of the Board of the National Endowment for Democracy.

Earlier this month, on July 9, 1998, Dr. Brademas delivered the Keynote Address at a conference in Salonika (Thessaloniki), Greece, sponsored by the European Union Royaumont Process for the ''Promotion of Stability and Good-Neighborly Relations in Southeastern Europe.''

Because I believe Members will read with interest Dr. Brademas' remarks on this occasion, I ask unanimous consent to insert his address at this point in the RECORD:

KEYNOTE ADDRESS OF DR. JOHN BRADEMAS

Distinguished guests and friends, I count it a great privilege to have been invited by the distinguished European Union Coordinator of the Royaumont Process, Dr. Panayotis Roumeliotis, and Professor Panayotis Korliras of the Lambrakis Foundation, to offer some remarks at the opening here of this important conference sponsored by the Royaumont Process to Promote Stability and Good-Neighborly Relations in Southeastern Europe.

In the first place, I feel at home here. My father was born in Kalamata, Greece, and I was the first native-born American of Greek origin elected to the Congress of the United States.

Second, I am glad to be back in the great city of Thessaloniki, one of the most important centers, culturally, economically, politically and religiously, in this part of the