

IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTION 565 OF THE FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 1998

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday during consideration on the floor of H.R. 4569, I had prepared a statement regarding implementation of section 565 of that bill, "Limitation on Assistance to Security Forces". That portion of my statement was inadvertently left out of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and I would like to repeat what I intended to say yesterday as manager of that legislation.

Some problems have developed in the implementation of section 565 regarding assistance to the security units of foreign countries. Concerns have been expressed that the State Department has taken far too long to respond to inquiries as to whether there is credible evidence that a unit of a foreign security force has committed gross violations of human rights, or whether the government of such country is taking effective measures to bring the responsible members of the security forces unit to justice.

Especially for the purchase of goods and services financed by our international credit agencies, it is important that the Department expedite such reviews. In my view, if within a reasonable period of time, such as 60 days, the State Department cannot issue an opinion, funds should be released for such purposes. This provision is intended as a guide to reason and not as an excuse to unnecessarily delay the provision of funds to accomplish important foreign policy and export financing goals.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 1998

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote 447, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted Aye.

On rollcall vote 448, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted Aye.

On rollcall vote 449, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted Nay.

RECOGNIZING PETER ANTHONY BERRIO

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, in our daily lives, it is too often we overlook the true heroes who have been among us for so long. Therefore, when the opportunity to honor such an individual presents itself, I feel a special obligation. Peter Anthony Berrio of Colombia is the only one of his countrymen to have served in the second world war, in addition to being the oldest Colombian-American veteran. While he may be of foreign origin, Mr. Berrio fought bravely on behalf of the United States from 1942 through 1949, in the Pacific theater. As a Sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Corps, he served with uncommon valor, distinguishing himself as an outstanding soldier.

While some fifty years may have passed, the chance to honor such a man is finally upon us. On Thursday, November 19, 1998, Mr. Berrio will receive his due recognition during a ceremony in the Simon Bolivar Salon of the offices of the Provincial Government in Quindio Armenia, Colombia. He will receive medals for "Efficacy, Honor, and Fidelity," "World War Two Victory" and the "Insignia of Honor" from the United States, as well as the "Order of Quindio" and the "Knight of the First Order" from Colombia. I would like to send my best wishes and heartfelt thanks to Mr. Berrio for his service to this Nation.

STATEMENT IN HONOR OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. CASIMIR'S POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH IN ROCHESTER, NY

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 1998

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay special tribute to the legacy of St.

Casimir's Polish National Catholic Church in Rochester, New York. The parish will celebrate its 90th year of ministry during a special Con-celebrated Pontifical High Mass of Thanksgiving on September 26, 1998.

St. Casimir's Polish National Catholic Church in Rochester was organized on March 4, 1908, after a visit to Rochester by His Grace, The Most Rev. Prime Bishop Hodur, the first Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church. The parish was established with approximately 150 families, under the leadership of the first Pastor, Father Valentine Gawrychowski. Their building was located on Hudson Avenue in Rochester, New York.

The parish increased in membership and erected a church building and rectory within two years. They were fortunate to burn the mortgage on this property in 1944. In 1950, a recreational building, including bowling lanes, was erected, and between 1956 and 1961 the church building was renovated internally and externally.

In more recent years, the congregation voted to relocate to the Town of Irondequoit, New York. Their new building was completed in March, 1977 and was consecrated by The Most Rev. Thaddeus Zielinski, Prime Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church. The mortgage burning ceremony for this building was celebrated in December, 1993, in conjunction with the 85th Anniversary Parish Festivities.

I take great pride in knowing many parishioners of this long established and influential parish in my home District. I am grateful for the many contributions the church has made in and around the Rochester, New York area. Today, I ask that my colleagues pause with me to honor the legacy of one of America's greatest parishes: The St. Casimir's Polish National Catholic Church of Rochester, New York. I am greatly honored to join many others in congratulating St. Casimir's for 90 years of service to humanity.