

the Mexican gangs may soon take over the drug trafficking from the Cali cartel. It is ironic then that Colombia, the source country, was decertified while Mexico was fully certified.

I must also add that I have heard that some foreign officials believe our certification process is illegitimate. This is the height of arrogance. What is illegitimate about placing conditions on our foreign aid and requiring the recipient to curb the flow of drugs?

The certification process has the net effect of bringing the drug problem to the forefront, not only for the United States but also for Mexico. It seems as though only when a government is forced to confront the problem as difficult as the drug trade will a solution be found.

As a result of the amount of drugs that are found to have come into the United States through Mexico, we know that Mexico has failed to stem the international drug trade. If this administration does not want to recognize Mexico's failure, then it is up to Congress to do so. Again, I encourage my colleagues to join us in this effort.●

RECOGNIZING THE ODELSON FAMILY

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, the late Sam and Rose Odelson of Chicago had 13 children, 8 of whom served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II. Their contributions should be recognized.

Four sons served in Europe, three in the Pacific, and one in the States. Two were injured in combat, and altogether, they earned 20 battle stars.

Oscar served in the United States Army in Italy. Sidney, an Army veteran who landed at Omaha Beach served in France and Germany. Joe was also in the Army, serving near the tail end of the war in southern France. Julius was 89th Airborne, Roy was in the Army Air Corps, Ben served with the 13th Air Force in the South Pacific for over 2 years, and Mike was an MP in the Philippines.

All the eight Odelson boys returned home after the war. A few stayed in Chicago, the others moved out to sunny California to work in the insurance, furniture, or restaurant business.

With the recent commemoration of the 50th anniversary of World War II, it is fitting to recognize the achievements of this family. I salute these brothers and their family for their selfless commitment to our country.●

CONDEMNING THE CAMPAIGN OF TERROR AGAINST ISRAEL

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, in a statement last week I condemned two terrorist bombings which took place in Jerusalem and Ashkelon 12 days ago. I did not think that it would be so soon that events would bring me once again to this floor to condemn another pair of cowardly attacks against innocent people, including young children.

Today, Israelis are justifiably shocked, disgusted, and angry. To bring home just what Israel is experiencing, let me provide a vivid comparison. On a proportional basis, the number of people killed by terrorists in Israel over the past 12 days would be equivalent to over 3,000 Americans killed. Imagine what our reaction would be if over 3,000 Americans were murdered in terrorist attacks in such a short period.

I dare say that our fundamental sense of stability and security as a nation would be shaken to its very core. That is what Israelis are feeling today.

As difficult as it is in this moment of grief and anger, we have to recognize the motive of those behind these dastardly attacks. Their single-minded aim is to end the peace process cold.

We cannot let them have the satisfaction of that kind of victory. We must resist the urge of our raw emotions in the wake of these outrageous attacks. We must not discard the remarkable achievements of the past 3 years, for that would play directly into the hands of the terrorists.

Last week, I urged that the peace process continue. I believe that even more firmly now.

The terrorists can be defeated through a two-pronged strategy. First, there must be intensified efforts to destroy the infrastructure and network that are ultimately behind terrorist actions. In that regard, I commend President Clinton for offering technical assistance to the Israelis and Palestinians in the war against terror. Second, we must prove to the terrorists that their actions are not producing the desired results. That means moving forward undaunted with the peace process.

Last week, I appealed to the Palestinian majority that supports peace to join the battle against terror with renewed vigor because it is their future that is most at stake. I renew that call today. If these attacks continue, then the Palestinian experience with self-government could become a fleeting memory.

Mr. President, in my remarks today I have used the term "war"—the same term Prime Minister Shimon Peres has used to describe the state of affairs between Israel and Hamas. It is an appropriate term to use, and unlike many wars this one is a clear-cut conflict between good and evil.

A victory by the pro-peace majority of Israelis and Palestinians could lead the way to a thriving, vibrant, and cooperative Middle East. A victory by Hamas and its extremist allies on both sides will mean conflict, bloodshed, and division long into the future.

In this war, as in all of Israel's wars, the United States will stand by Israel and do whatever it takes to ensure victory.

Mr. President, Israel has endured much suffering in its short history, and it has shown remarkable fortitude in the face of terrorism and other at-

tempts to destroy it. The Israeli people have always thwarted the designs of those who have tried every means to eliminate their country. I have no doubt that they will prevail in their present struggle against those who have declared war against Israel, the peace process, and, indeed civilization itself.●

REPORT OF SENATE DELEGATION'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST

● Mr. PELL. Mr. President, in February, I led a congressional delegation on a trip to Jordan, Syria, Israel, and Cyprus. I was pleased to be joined on this trip by the distinguished Senators from Virginia and Oklahoma—Senators ROBB and INHOFE.

On our trip, Senator INHOFE, Senator ROBB, and I focused primarily on the Middle East peace process, including prospects for a peace treaty between Israel and Syria, as well as the implementation of Israel's peace agreements with Jordan and the Palestinians. During our stop in Cyprus, we examined the conflict between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots and the likelihood of a peaceful, negotiated settlement.

Since our return, the Middle East—and specifically Israel—has been wracked by an unimaginable wave of violence and terror. The murder of scores of innocent Israelis, as well as Palestinians, Americans, and other civilians, has cast an unmistakable pall over the peace process. To be frank, I am not sure that any supporter of the peace process, be they in Israel, the Palestinian autonomous zone, or the United States, has a clear idea of what the future holds.

My own hope is that the process can survive this unspeakable assault. Our recent trip reaffirmed for me the clear fact that the terrorists are the enemies of peace. If the terrorists succeed in destroying the peace process, then they will be rewarded for their depravity. I do not think such an outcome would be right or fair.

Mr. President, the Senate already has responded to some of the terrorist bombings in Israel. Scarcely a week ago, the Senate passed a resolution to condemn the perpetrators, to commiserate with the victims, to express continued support for our ally, Israel. In a shocking indication of how frequent these incidents have become, however, the Senate will soon consider yet another resolution that condemns two more bombings that have occurred since the passage of the last resolution.

Above and beyond these resolutions, I would expect that there may be some deep soul searching in both the Congress and the administration about the American role in coordinating the peace process. In this regard, I thought it might be useful to share with my colleagues the report that our Senate delegation made on its recent trip to the Middle East. As I said a moment ago, our trip preceded the recent wave