

GUAM'S ROLE IN OPERATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Guam [Mr. UNDERWOOD] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, yesterday on Guam, the first of some 2,500 Kurdish refugees arrived as part of Operation Pacific Haven. The movement of these Kurdish refugees who have been associated with United States Government activities is timely and necessary and makes good on an implicit American commitment to their safety.

As was the case 2 weeks ago with the B-52 strikes on Iraq, the role of Guam in the events unfolding in the Middle East is of enormous importance and consequence to our country's actions. Although any map will clearly show that the utilization of Guam might not make geographic sense for Operation Pacific Haven, any understanding of today's world shows that Guam is one of the few reliable places which this country can use in a moment's notice. Without Guam, a reliable United States base, American military flexibility is reduced. For the military planners managing the Mideast crisis, Guam is between Iraq and a hard place.

Given the cumbersome need for fly-over rights as well as the need to seek prior approval of allies, our Nation's mobility and capacity for independent action must increasingly rely on mobile forces, friendly faces, and dependable bases. Guam fits this bill and is proud to play a key role in both the strikes against Iraq and the on-going humanitarian mission for providing safe haven in the Pacific for the Kurdish refugees.

I am grateful for the advance notice and consultation which the White House gave to my office for the latest operation and I hope this level of consultation will continue for any future and sudden change in military activity on Guam. I also urge the Department of Defense to take all necessary steps to ensure the safety of the refugees as well as the community of Guam during the time that it takes to process the refugees for resettlement in the continental United States.

But Mr. Speaker, while Guam remains a cornerstone of America's strategic reach in the world, we on Guam are at times concerned that we are ignored in calmer times, at those times when we craft policy for the territories and for Guam specifically.

Guam has had a long relationship with the United States military—in fact, Guam's relationship with the United States in issues of land, immigration, political status change is always evaluated with an eye to the consequences for America's power projection and strategic reach.

We are proud to play a part in the security of the world, but we should be rewarded for our role rather than penalized or ignored. Guam should be

given additional consideration rather than less consideration and Guam should be treated according to its contribution rather than utilized on the basis of its value.

Mr. Speaker, we have some legislation on the return of land to the Government of Guam once the military no longer needs it and declares it excess. The lands in question have been identified as potentially releasable. The lands in question were condemned by military officials and adjudicated in military courts on Guam in the period from 1945 to 1949, before civil government was re-established.

The legislation which we seek simply puts Guam at the head of the line over other Federal agencies when the Department of Defense decides that they no longer need the land. We are not asking the DOD to release land they need to conduct these operations; we are asking them to release land which their own planners have indicated they no longer need. We are not asking to go beyond Federal laws in how the land is to be handled; we are only asking that given Guam's unique history and given Guam's unique contribution, that Guam be placed at the head of the line for releasable property.

This is a good deal for Guam, but it is more than that. It is a fair deal for all concerned. I urge the members of this institution to support this legislation and I hope that the administration will now support this legislation.

DRUG ABUSE AND MISUSE UNDER THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. MICA] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor again today, I was here last week, I was here last year, I was here every year since I was elected in 1992, to talk about the problem of drug abuse and drug misuse in our country.

I am here, sadly, 3½ years later again talking about what has taken place with this administration. We see across our great land and in my district the results of what has taken place. Mr. Speaker, let me recap what has taken place with this administration on the question of drug use and drug abuse.

First, this President came in, and what did he do? He cut. He gutted, in fact, the White House drug czar's office from 140 to just a handful of people.

The next thing he did, he employed as the chief health officer of our Nation Joycelyn Elders. Joycelyn Elders began the campaign of just say maybe, kids. Just try it, kids. Maybe we should legalize it, kids. Sending out that message, there was such an uproar that she finally was dismissed.

Then the President took the step of dismantling the drug interdiction program. He dismantled it piece by piece, stopping drugs at their source. We know that cocaine, 100 percent of it is

grown in Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia. We know its transit points, and we can stop it inexpensively at its source. Yet, he dismantled, he gutted this program.

Then finally the ultimate insult to the American people and to the Congress and to the high office of the Presidency, the White House, which is supposed to set the standard for Americans, to set the highest level of performance of acceptability in our society and our Government. What did they do? Things got so bad in the folks that they were employing, and I sat on the committee that heard this testimony and was appalled. The Secret Service was so alarmed that folks were being hired with recent and past drug use histories, and we are not talking about marijuana here folks, we are talking about hallucinogenic drugs. We are talking about crack, about cocaine. We are talking about hard drugs being acceptable, used in the past, recent past in some cases for employment in the White House.

Mr. Speaker, this is not acceptable. And this is what has been done by this administration, what has been done by this President, and this is the result. This is the result in my community. Look at this headline: Long Out of Sight, Heroin Is Back Killing Teens. In the past year central Florida has had more teenage heroin deaths than all the rest of the State.

It is epidemic among our children. This is the result. Look at this: With Reagan and Bush, drug use and abuse went down in this country among our teenagers. And in 1992 it starts to shoot off the charts. Look at how it has affected our children with heroin, with crack, with marijuana, with hallucinogenic drugs. It is epidemic.

We now have 1.6 million Americans in our prisons across this country, and 70 percent of the people that are in our prisons are there because of drug use and abuse. So we have set a bad example from this White House and this administration, and we can see the bad results here, crime and death.

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The wrong Americans, too, are behind bars. Our elderly and senior citizens across this Nation are afraid to go out at night because of the crime that this has created. And we know, again, that nearly 70 percent of those incarcerated and convicted of crime are drug-related incidents.

But there is hope. This Congress, under the leadership of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Chairman CLINGER, under the leadership of the gentleman from New Hampshire, Chairman ZELIFF, we are restoring the funds for the drug czar's office and the positions that were cut by this administration. We are bringing back together interdiction. We are going to use the military. We are going to use the coast guard. We are going to stop drugs at their source.

Mr. Speaker, we are not going to just spend all the money on treatment.