

March 12, 1998, a Turkish court acquitted ten policemen who were accused of beating and sexually abusing a group of teenagers. According to an article in the "Washington Post", the teenagers were arrested in December 1995 on charges of scrawling leftist graffiti and of belonging to a radical leftist armed group, a charge for which they were later acquitted. Over the course of the eleven days in which they were detained by police, the teenagers were allegedly blindfolded, stripped, molested, raped with police batons, and subjected to electric shocks to the genitals.

According to the State Department's 1997 Country Report on Human Rights Practices, a judge in the case not only allowed the policemen to remain on active duty during the trial, he also relieved them of their obligation to personally appear in the courtroom. While these ten policemen walk freely, the teenagers will struggle with the physical and emotional consequences of their ordeal for years to come.

Turkish officials have made some attempts to reduce abuses perpetrated by security officials against detainees. However, despite a constitutional ban on torture, improvements in government cooperation with foreign human rights inspection teams and new police training programs, torture remains common. According to the State Department, the climate of impunity fostered by the rarity of convictions of police or other security officials for killings and torture, "remains the single largest obstacle to reducing human rights abuses."

Mr. President, I welcome Prime Minister Yilmaz's pledge to make progress on implementing human rights reforms. I applaud the recent decision to acquit the members of the Human Rights Association. However, as the brutal incident involving the teenagers illustrates, there is a great deal more to be done. Turkish officials must take an active, visible, and sustained role in addressing all facets of human rights—from promoting civil and political liberties to upholding the rule of law. Lasting reforms will not be realized in Turkey until Prime Minister Yilmaz's pledge is backed by consistent efforts to bring human rights violators to justice. ●

MASTER CHIEF ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN (SURFACE WARFARE QUALIFIED) JOHN HAGAN, MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE NAVY

● Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, on March 27, 1998, Master Chief John Hagan passes on the duties of Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy after more than five years in this prestigious position. When Master Chief Hagan steps aside and hands responsibilities to Master Chief James L. Herdt, he ends the longest tenure of any Senior Enlisted Advisor to serve our great Navy.

Through his tenure in office, Master Chief Hagan has traveled the globe lis-

tening to and answering the needs of Sailors. His extensive travels have included stops on every continent—from the northern reaches of Naval Air Station Keflavik, Iceland, to the ice capped McMurdo Station, Antarctica. He has shared Christmas day with Sailors deployed onboard ships in the Arabian Gulf and July 4th visiting Sailors at Naval Support Activity Naples, Italy. In every way, on every day, he has dedicated his life to serving Sailors, not only during his service as Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, but throughout more than 32 years of service since his initial enlistment in Asheville, North Carolina.

Master Chief Hagan worked very hard to gain the support of Congress on a variety of issues on behalf of Sailors. Every Sailor serving today and every Sailor who serves in the future owes a debt of gratitude for the service of John Hagan. Master Chief Hagan garnered support for volunteer education issues making it possible for those serving at sea to complete college courses. His work ensured Sailors housing allowances better meets their actual needs to ensure safe, affordable housing. Master Chief Hagan worked closely with Congress to facilitate the revitalization of family housing and bachelor quarters throughout the Navy, and his work facilitated a greater understanding in Congress of the full spectrum of issues unique to Sailors.

Master Chief Hagan participated in virtually every decision impacting the lives of enlisted Sailors over the last five and one-half years. He helped strengthen the core of Navy's Recruit Training at Naval Training Center Great Lakes, participated in the establishment of leadership training through the Navy's Leadership Continuum, building the quality of the Navy's Senior Enlisted Academy, improving the Navy Physical Fitness program, increasing the number of females serving onboard surface warships and so many more.

Master Chief Hagan faced many challenges head on during his tenure. Not the least of which were concerns over the Navy's traditional Chief Petty Officer Initiation. Master Chief Hagan met this challenge head on by guiding this event away from any reasonable criticism into a season of events the Navy can point to with great pride. Today, CPO Initiation Season begins the day the list of those selected for promotion is announced and ends eight weeks later with the formal advancement ceremony. This season includes a series of team building exercises, social events, physical fitness training and efforts to link with Naval heritage. Master Chief Hagan will long be remembered within the Navy for producing the Naval Heritage/Core Values Reading Guide. This part of CPO Initiation Season requires the Navy's newly selected Chief Petty Officers to read a book of non-fiction, Naval heritage to facilitate a discussion of the Navy's Core Values of Honor, Courage and

Commitment. This encourages Sailors to link with their heritage and better understand the qualities required of Sailors.

Master Chief Hagan stepped forward in May 1996 to speak on behalf of all Sailors at the Memorial Service for Admiral Mike Boorda, Chief of Naval Operations. Hagan said of Admiral Boorda, "He was the leader we longed for and looked to; he came from among us and rose so high, always remembering the lonely, insecure, frightened recruit, which all of us are in the beginning, before we discover that the Navy is a family." Those words were true of Mike Boorda and they are true of John Hagan.

In March 1997 he spoke to the assembled brigade of midshipmen at the United States Naval Academy where he told the Navy's leaders of the next century "The very honor of our Navy and our nation has been repeatedly upheld by Sailors throughout our history." Master Chief Hagan has not only upheld the very honor of our Navy and our nation, he has raised the stake to new heights.

Today's Navy is the greatest Navy the world has ever known and this can be said in clear conscious because of the service of Master Chief John Hagan. ●

APPOINTMENT BY THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 105-119, appoints A. Mark Neuman, of Illinois, to serve as a member of the Census Monitoring Board, vice Max W. Williams, of Mississippi.

PRINTING OF SENATE DOCUMENTS

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following Senate Documents be reprinted in the usual number: Senate document 99-33, Senate document 98-29, and Senate document 97-20.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 324, S. Res. 171.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 171) designating March 25, 1998, as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BIDEN. Madam President, today, we commemorate the great moment

when Greece began to reassert its historic role as a leading light of democracy. In 1821, when valiant Greeks raised the flag of revolt against their Ottoman Turk oppressors, they were striking a blow for liberty that captivated freedom-loving men and women all over Europe, and in the young American Republic. Thomas Jefferson was inspired enough to become involved in the Greek struggle in the twilight of his life. In the summer of 1823 the Greek Hellenist and patriot Adamantios Koraes wrote to our third president, requesting advice on drawing up a constitution for the liberated Greece he was certain would be achieved.

Jefferson's lengthy reply detailed his views on the fundamentals of democracy—freedom of religion, freedom of person (habeas corpus), trial by jury, the exclusive right of legislation and taxation reserved to the representatives of the people, and freedom of the press. The 80-year-old scholar-president concluded his letter with a moving tribute to Greece's unique importance to the world.

It took nearly a decade more of struggle until Greeks once again became masters in their own house. And maintaining Greece's independence and freedom over the ensuing 163 years has proven not to be easy.

Greece has had to cope with internal divisions and external threats. Seemingly unending arguments over the Greek constitution and form of government occupied much of the nineteenth century. Then came the two Balkan wars, World War I, the Anatolian War, World War II, the Civil War that pitted Greek against Greek, and after a peaceful, if troubled, interlude, the short-lived dictatorship of the Colonels.

Thankfully, today we can celebrate nearly a quarter-century of restored democracy and peace in Greece. Greece is now solidly integrated economically and politically in the European Union.

Greece's relations with most of its neighbors have improved. Despite some lingering problems, relations are relatively good with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and with Albania. Greece continues to maintain a solid relationship with Bulgaria.

I will not hide the fact that—like every other country—Greece still faces formidable problems. Athens' relations with Ankara remain stormy. Turkey continues its illegal occupation of Northern Cyprus and its belligerent behavior in the Aegean.

Moreover, the state of the Greek economy still leaves much to be desired. Let us be honest—as in the United States, there have been gross inefficiencies and wasteful policies. Greece will have to put its financial house in order if it hopes to take part fully in the ambitious integration that the European Union foresees in the coming years. I am confident that Prime Minister Simitis' reform program will bear fruit.

Improving Greece's economy and finding ways to improve relations with Turkey are daunting tasks. But one look at hard-working, talented Greek-Americans, assures me that Greeks everywhere will continue to triumph over adversity and will remain an inspirational democratic ally.

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 171) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 171

Whereas the ancient Greeks developed the concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern was invested in the people; Whereas the Founding Fathers of the United States of America drew heavily upon the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy;

Whereas the founders of the modern Greek state modeled their government after that of the United States in an effort to best imitate their ancient democracy;

Whereas Greece is one of the only 3 nations in the world, beyond the former British Empire, that has been allied with the United States in every major international conflict this century;

Whereas the heroism displayed in the historic World War II Battle of Crete epitomized Greece's sacrifice for freedom and democracy as it presented the Axis land war with its first major setback and set off a chain of events which significantly affected the outcome of World War II;

Whereas these and other ideals have forged a close bond between our 2 nations and their peoples;

Whereas March 25, 1998, marks the 177th anniversary of the beginning of the revolution which freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire; and

Whereas it is proper and desirable to celebrate with the Greek people and to reaffirm the democratic principles from which our 2 great nations were born: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 25, 1998, as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy"; and

(2) requests the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 238, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 238) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds

for a breast cancer survivors event sponsored by the National Race for the Cure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements on this resolution appear in the RECORD at this point.

There being no objection, the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 238) was considered and agreed to.

PERMITTING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL FOR A CEREMONY

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 206, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 206) permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I ask consent the resolution be deemed agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 206) was deemed agreed to.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1998

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, before closing I ask consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 19; immediately following the prayer, the routine requests through the morning hour be granted and the Senate then begin a period for the transaction of morning business until the hour of 11:30 a.m. with Senators permitted to speak up to 5 minutes each with the following exceptions: Senator COVERDELL or his designee, 30 minutes from 9:30 until 10:00; Senator REID, 30 minutes from 10:00 until 10:30; Senator HAGEL or his designee, 30 minutes from 10:30 until 11 a.m.; Senator TORRICELLI for 10 minutes; Senator BRYAN for 10 minutes; and Senator GRAHAM of Florida for 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. I also ask unanimous consent that at 11:30 a.m. the Senate proceed to executive session to resume