

Johnson said Tuesday, "I don't see that as contradictory of what I'm doing . . . I have every intent that this will be a full inquiry."

She also said that naming an outside counsel could get in the way of the committee making its own judgments.

"We need original source information where it's practical and where it's reasonable," she said. "I think we're going to do a better job than those who would have turned it over to someone."

Others have said that only an outside counsel could conduct a complete, impartial investigation.

Johnson disagreed with those who say the committee has established special rules for Gingrich, and she defended the committee's action in setting aside the ethics manual in the speaker's case.

"My job, as I perceive it, is not to fulfill some sort of generic expectation," she said. "My job is to provide just consideration of the complaints that come before us."

The ethics manual says that once the committee decides a complaint meets certain criteria, it may begin a formal inquiry. The panel then is to split into subcommittees—one to investigate the complaints and the other to hear sworn testimony and decide the validity of the complaints.

Instead, the committee has yet to vote to conduct a formal investigation while the full panel has taken sworn testimony from more than a dozen witnesses, including Gingrich and Murdoch.

Johnson said the committee's 1992 investigation of members who bounced checks on the now-defunct House Bank showed the ethics manual process to be an "utter and total disaster." McDermott served on the ethics sub, that recommended making public the names of only 24 members who abused their banking privileges.

But Johnson and three other committee Republicans objected that all those who wrote bad checks should be named. Eventually, Johnson's position prevailed. She said the bank investigation unfairly harmed the reputations of many members, adding, "I don't want a result like that."

Government watchdog groups that have recently joined the call for an outside counsel with unlimited authority to handle the Gingrich case include Common Cause, Public Citizen and the Congressional Accountability Project, a Ralph Nader organization.

#### A "YES" VOTE ON BOSNIA MEANS TROOP DEPLOYMENT

(Mr. NEUMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon we will be addressing the Defense appropriations bill on the floor of the House. While the chairman, the gentleman from Alaska [Mr. YOUNG], and the chairman, the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON], deserve praise for hitting the budget targets, we need to be aware of one other happening because of this bill. We need to be aware of the fact that this bill allows President Clinton by himself to deploy United States troops, young men and women, United States men and women, to Bosnia.

Make no mistake, a "yes" vote on the Defense appropriations bill means United States troops will be deployed into Bosnia. If we deploy United States troops in Bosnia, we, the United States, must be prepared to accept the

consequences. The Post this morning reports that the White House is now coming to ask for this deployment. If these troops are deployed, we must be prepared for our young men and women coming home in body bags, and we must be prepared for \$3 billion price tag that goes with the deployment of United States troops in Bosnia.

The Defense appropriations bill originally contained an amendment that would have required the President to come to Congress for a vote of confidence, for an acceptance of the expenditure of these funds prior to deploying troops into the Bosnian arena. If we vote yes on the Defense appropriations bill today, we must be prepared to accept the consequences.

I do not even wish to advocate a yes or no vote but, rather, I would encourage my colleagues to be prepared for the consequences of the votes they make, and the consequences clearly are our young people being returned in body bags and a \$3 billion expenditure.

#### EXTENDING AUTHORITIES UNDER MIDDLE EAST PEACE FACILITATION ACT

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on International Relations be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2404) to extend authorities under the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994 until November 1, 1995, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HEFLEY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

Mr. HAMILTON. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to object, and I yield to the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], chairman of the committee, to explain his unanimous-consent order.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2404 temporarily extends the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994, which otherwise would have expired on October 1, 1995. That act was previously extended by Public Law 104-17 and by Public Law 104-22.

H.R. 2404 extends the act until November 1, 1995, and includes a transition provision to make certain that there is no lapse in the act's authority.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, continuing my reservation of objection, I do not intend to object, I simply want to note that I do not think it is helpful to Israel, to the Palestinians or to maintaining momentum in the peace process to have to come to this floor every 30 or 45 days to extend these authorities on a short-term basis. I hope that we will be able to make this the last short-term extension of the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act and that we can instead fashion a provision that holds the parties to the Middle East peace process to the terms of the agree-

ments they have negotiated but which does not go beyond those terms.

Mr. Speaker, continuing my reservation of objection, I yield to the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL].

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Indiana for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, this is now the third time that we are renewing the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act. This, in my opinion, is not really the way to go about it. Each time we renew it, we say it is for a temporary moment until we can put the law together and pass a new Middle East Peace Facilitation Act and each time there is just a simple renewal.

I do not think this is a good process. We have had legislation introduced. I have introduced a bill. We have had no markups on the committee. We had one hearing last week, but we have not had any markups.

The Senate is moving ahead with its foreign ops bill. Senator HELMS and Senator PELL are putting together language. Quite frankly, I see no reason why we should cede our authority to the Senate. Why should the Senate language ultimately be the language that is adopted?

I think that this House has a very important role to play and, frankly, I think that our Committee on International Relations ought to put all the legislation that has been proposed at a hearing, talk about it, do a markup, have a markup of the bill, and we ought to come up with new MEPFA language. That is the way I think that we ought to proceed.

Yasser Arafat's feet must be held to the fire. I know there is a signing going on in the White House today. I intend to be there. All of us hope and pray for Middle East peace, but I think a just peace will only be a just peace if there is compliance on all sides, and that includes the PLO and it includes Mr. Arafat.

I believe that United States money should continue to flow for this process, if the Palestinians, if Mr. Arafat is keeping his pledges. If he does not, then I think the money ought to stop; only Mr. Arafat and the PLO can determine that.

So I do not think an automatic renewal is the way to go. I understand it is only for 30 days and I will not object to the 30 days, but I will be hard-pressed 30 days from now to come here and agree to another extension.

Again, I think that the peace process will only work and American money should only continue to flow if both sides are adhering to what they agreed. We do not have that now. The covenants are still in place, talking about the destruction of Israel, the PLO covenants, and Yasser Arafat's track record has been less than admirable. So I think that while we probably have no choice today, again, I think that our committee, and I would hope that the chairman, in fact, I wonder if the chairman would give a commitment that we would have a markup of my