

DOD authorization bill that fell within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Commerce, and for which Chairman BLILEY and I served as conferees. The first issue related to reforms of so-called restoration advisory boards, which are community involvement organizations developed by the Department of Defense to ensure citizen participation in decisionmaking on environmental cleanups of DOD facilities. The Commerce Committee is very concerned that the bill's provisions may ultimately have the effect of putting an inappropriate burden on the Superfund trust fund, and I understand that an exchange of letters between Chairmen BLILEY and SPENCE will be included in the record of this debate. I simply rise to emphasize the point, and to assure my colleagues that, as the Commerce Committee considers its Superfund reform legislation in 1996, we will be keeping a close eye on this issue.

The second matter of importance to the Committee was a direct amendment to Superfund relating to DOD's ability to lease parcels of its property. We worked closely with the Senator from New Hampshire in the other body to make commonsense reforms in this area. Nevertheless, the Commerce Committee clearly retains jurisdiction over these provisions, and I intend to review them as our Superfund reform bill progresses.

COMMENDING SAMUETTA H. DREW, PRINCIPAL OF ANNA STUART DUPUY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BIRMINGHAM, AL

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I insert the following for the RECORD:

Whereas, Dupuy Elementary School under the guidance and leadership of Principal Samuetta H. Drew implemented the ABC's of Etiquette Training Program which has been recognized by CBS Good Morning America Show and CNN's Parenting Today; and

Whereas, Dupuy Elementary School has been instrumental in the development of programs such as the Builders Club, Beta Club, Safety Patrol, Student Council, Scouting and the DARE Program, such programs have help enhanced the organizational skills of our future leaders as well as strenghted their self esteem; and

Whereas, Dupuy Elementary School is involved in positive activities and desiring those things pleasing to God and that the Dupuy Elementary represents the type of educational environment deserving of praise and recognition by all in the Seventh Congressional District: Now therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That I hereby most highly commend Mrs. Samuetta H. Drew all the staff of Anna Stuart Dupuy Elementary School for the Implementation of the ABC's of Etiquette Program, for taking the extra initiative to develop the social and organizational skills of our youngsters and just for a job well done.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DEBATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THREE MEASURES RELATING TO UNITED STATES TROOP DEPLOYMENTS IN BOSNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 302 as introduced by Representatives SKELTON and BUYER that would reiterate our serious concerns about the planned deployment of 20,000 United States ground troops to Bosnia to help implement the Dayton peace accord. This resolution also expresses the deep pride and confidence of our Nation in the brave and courageous U.S. troops supporting this complicated and dangerous mission. This is certainly the message that we want to send to our proud men and women in uniform.

Without question, the decision to send United States troops to Bosnia is one of the most difficult foreign policy choices our Nation must confront. The risk our troops will face is real, and the long-term success of the Dayton agreement is far from certain. From the outset, I have been opposed to sending United States troops because the situation in Bosnia does not involve a vital and compelling national interest. This mission is not clearly defined, other than the exit date, and there is a great deal of potential danger and confusion entailed in nation-building. The Dayton accord involves assuring fair and free elections and resettling the refugees. As horrible as this strategy has been, the current situation in Bosnia could be solved with NATO and United Nations assistance.

However, in the event that the remaining 20,000-member contingent of U.S. troops is deployed, we must ensure that our military commanders have everything they need to do their job effectively. Furthermore, we must be certain that the requests of the military commanders in Bosnia will be addressed immediately and completely. Moreover, in the interest of maintaining the moral and confidence in our young men and women in uniform, we must make them understand that their Government and their Nation completely supports their cause and stands behind them in this mission, once the President has sent them into Bosnia.

I certainly welcome all efforts to reach a peace in Bosnia, but I oppose any increased United States military role in this volatile area. American soldiers should be deployed when and if American national interests are at stake. We should deploy our forces when treaties are broken and when our troops are threatened. There may be other circumstances for U.S. involvement. We should reflect these principles in a thoughtful doctrine or policy, not a pick and choose method.

U.S. foreign policy has always come to the defense of sovereign democratic allies that came under external military attack. This is not consistent with the current situation in Bosnia. As heart-wrenching as this tragedy has been, this does not seem to justify the loss of American lives. It is certainly not something I can justify to my constituents, who have sons and daughters who may not come home.

One can only wonder how meaningful a peace agreement is when it requires 60,000

foreign troops, including 20,000 Americans to enforce it. As horrible as this tragedy has been, the current situation in Bosnia might be solved without American troops. In fact, General Shalikhshvili testified that from a strictly military perspective, the task of implementing a peace accord in Bosnia could be accomplished solely by European forces. The United States can and probably should bring some unique support capabilities to any peacekeeping operation, but these would not require a ground presence of up to 20,000 U.S. troops.

We were also told that the United States must play a leading role on the ground because the United States is the leader of NATO and that Alliance solidarity would crumble if we did not. However, to argue that the credibility and effectiveness of NATO rest upon committing American forces to an ill-defined peacekeeping mission is suspect. In fact, the strains of a prolonged military deployment, in support of ambiguous objectives could do more to pull the alliance apart in the long run than to solidify it.

Our message should be, "Do not send our young men and women to Bosnia," and I agree strongly with that message. This body should say "No" right now to a mission that lacks concrete strategic objectives. I have voted twice to do this.

As we have learned from Somalia and Haiti, we cannot put troops in harm's way in a foreign country without a clear, achievable objective and a clearly defined exit strategy. It is a recipe for disaster and we certainly cannot put those lives on the line without an American chain of command.

I do not rise in support of this resolution to undermine our President. I am an ardent supporter of our Armed Forces, and I am a strong supporter of humanitarian aid to the people of Bosnia. I support the resolution for the same reason that I voted against lifting the arms embargo against the Governments of Bosnia and Herzegovina: to prevent the Americanization of the Balkan conflict and save American lives. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DEBATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THREE MEASURES RELATING TO UNITED STATES TROOP DEPLOYMENTS IN BOSNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 1995

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I support House Resolution 302, but with one important objection. I support it because I have severe reservations about the President's policy and implementation plan. Specifically, it is not at all clear to me that the situation in Bosnia will be any better after our troops depart 1 year from now. This is because, in my view, the plan fails to articulate the kind of explicit objectives and success criteria necessary for the success of such a deployment. What exactly do we expect to achieve over the next 12 months in order to preserve peace, and how will we know whether we've succeeded when the appointed exit time arrives? Unless these questions are answered more satisfactorily, our