

portion, of such gold to charitable organizations to assist survivors of the Holocaust.

(b) AUTHORITY TO OBLIGATE THE UNITED STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—From funds otherwise obligated in the Treasury of the United States, the President is authorized to obligate subject to paragraph (2) an amount not to exceed \$30,000,000 for distribution in accordance with subsections (a) and (b).

(2) CONFORMANCE WITH BUDGET ACT REQUIREMENT.—Any budget authority contained in paragraph (1) shall be effective only to such extent and in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts.

SEC. 103. FULFILLMENT OF OBLIGATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the President such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 1998, 1999, and 2000, not to exceed a total of \$25,000,000 for all such fiscal years, for distribution to organizations as may be specified in any agreement concluded pursuant to section 102.

(b) ARCHIVAL RESEARCH.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the President \$5,000,000 for archival research and translation services to assist in the restitution of assets looted or extorted from victims of the Holocaust and such other activities that would further Holocaust remembrance and education.

TITLE II—WORKS OF ART

SEC. 201. FINDINGS.

Congress finds as follows:

(1) Established pre-World War II principles of international law, as enunciated in Articles 47 and 56 of the Regulations annexed to the 1907 Hague Convention (IV) Respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land, prohibited pillage and the seizure of works of art.

(2) In the years since World War II, international sanctions against confiscation of works of art have been amplified through such conventions as the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, which forbids the illegal export of art work and calls for its earliest possible restitution to its rightful owner.

(3) In defiance of the 1907 Hague Convention, the Nazis extorted and looted art from individuals and institutions in countries it occupied during World War II and used such booty to help finance their war of aggression.

(4) The Nazis' policy of looting art was a critical element and incentive in their campaign of genocide against individuals of Jewish and other religious and cultural heritage and, in this context, the Holocaust, while standing as a civil war against defined individuals and civilized values, must be considered a fundamental aspect of the world war unleashed on the continent.

(5) Hence, the same international legal principles applied among states should be applied to art and other assets stolen from victims of the Holocaust.

(6) In the aftermath of the war, art and other assets were transferred from territory previously controlled by the Nazis to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, much of which has not been returned to rightful owners.

SEC. 202. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING RESTITUTION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY, SUCH AS WORKS OF ART.

It is the sense of the Congress that consistent with the 1907 Hague Convention, all governments should undertake good faith efforts to facilitate the return of private and public property, such as works of art, to the right-

ful owners in cases where assets were confiscated from the claimant during the period of Nazi rule and there is reasonable proof that the claimant is the rightful owner.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 1564, the Senate bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa?

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HON. SONNY BONO, REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 338) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 338

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Sonny Bono, a Representative from the State of California.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS), the dean of the California Congressional delegation, is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. BROWN).

(Mr. LEWIS of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it was with great sadness that I was awakened in the middle of the night during the recess. I want to share with my colleagues that I was struggling in my subconscious, attempting to put together words that were of condolence to my colleague the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. KENNEDY] regarding the recent tragic loss in his family, only to be awakened by a telephone call from a reporter, Jim Specht, who writes for a number of newspapers in our region, Jim told me of the tragic accident that led to the death of our friend and colleague, SONNY BONO.

To say the least, we were all shocked by this development. SONNY BONO is one of those very, very unusual people you meet very rarely in public life or in life in general.

SONNY is survived by his oldest children, Christy and Chastity, and by his lovely wife Mary and their children, Chesare, who is 9 years of age, about to be 10, and Chianna, who is 6.

During the time he was with us, SONNY demonstrated to all of us that he is one of the most unusual characters you could ever meet. But by way of background, SONNY BONO came to California when he was 7 years old and moved to Los Angeles. Following high school he got his first job, that of being a meat truck driver. I think we all know that his heart lay in the entertainment business. In those early days he was developing his skills as a music writer. Often on those trips around the city of Los Angeles making stops for his product purpose, he would also drop off at various locations various songs that he had developed.

SONNY's talent became very apparent to all the world when his then girlfriend, Cherilyn Sarkasian, and he made their first recording together, among a number of recordings that led to that show known as Sonny and Cher. Between 1971 and 1974, Sonny and Cher were among the great hits across the country. They had an impact upon young people of that age that is remembered by all.

Following that work, which eventually came to an end, the partnership came to an end, about 1974, SONNY went on with his business over a period of time. He then took the next step in terms of his most amazing career. In the early 1980s, he established what were to become known as Bono Restaurants, first in Los Angeles, then in Texas. I began to personally get to know SONNY when he opened such a restaurant in Palm Springs, California. At that time, the location of the restaurant was actually in my own district.

In Palm Springs, he quickly became known by anybody who enjoyed both the entertainment as well as the fun restaurant opportunity in Palm Springs. As he developed that process in Palm Springs, he found himself having some difficulty with local government regulations. It seems there was a conflict that arose over a sign that he needed for his restaurant. Local bureaucracy, he would suggest, was getting in the way. That kind of led to a minibattle that caused SONNY a different way, perhaps for the first time, to especially focus upon politics.

With that confrontation, when the local person resisted what he thought was sensible public policy, he indicated that maybe the best alternative for him was to run for office and become that person's boss, SONNY wanted to make sure that sense was made out of local policy. With that, SONNY became the mayor of Palm Springs.

Known by all in Southern California in connection with that, after some time carrying forward that work, he ran for the U.S. Senate. I mention that, even though he was unsuccessful in the primary process, only by way of