brushfire war has now claimed lives unnecessarily on both sides, and it must be ended. Mr. President, the CIS peacekeepers are a major part of the problem and the reason the war continues.

As the Times of London noted on July 27th, the CIS authorized and accepted the deployment of peacekeepers only under duress, because the UN blinked. These CIS peacekeepers, the Times points out, have not exactly distinguished themselves by their impartiality. They are "entirely drawn from Russian, Ukrainian and Georgian units commanded from Russian, not CIS, headquarters. Of its four battalions, one fought the Georgians in the 1992-93 war, while another two are recruited from anti-Georgia nationalities." It is hard to imagine that this formula can create anything but conflict, and indeed, there have been constant complaints from Georgia that these so-called peacekeepers are merely part of a Russian strategy to destabilize Georgia, a strategy that includes several assassination attempts on President Shevardnadze.

From the beginning, the Abkhaz conflict in Georgia has been widely acknowledged to be Russia's doing. The separatists who want to break off Abkhazia from Georgia and create a new Abkhaz country and encourage them are people who are not distinguished by their impartiality. They are "entirely drawn from Russian, Ukrainian and Georgian units commanded from Russian, not CIS, headquarters. Of its four battalions, one fought the Georgians in the 1992-93 war, while another two are recruited from anti-Georgia nationalities." It is hard to imagine that this formula can create anything but conflict, and indeed, there have been constant complaints from Georgia that these so-called peacekeepers are merely part of a Russian strategy to destabilize Georgia, a strategy that includes several assassination attempts on President Shevardnadze.

As early as 1992 Russia provided the Abkhazians with weapons to conduct the war, and the Russian government today supports the Abkhaz leadership in its unwillingness to bring the conflict to a close through negotiation. One member of the Abkhaz leadership wrote in the Russian nationalist press in 1992 that "Abkhazia is Russia." Since then, Russia has managed to scuttle all budding negotiations, even while serving as the putative "mediator" at the recent Geneva talks between representatives of Georgia and Abkhazia, and it has unfailingly sided with the Abkhaz against Georgia at the inefficient bargaining tables and on the battlefield.

Let us be frank: These Russian peacekeepers do not want peace. Rather, they seek to extend the hostilities so that Georgia will find it difficult to consolidate its hold over this breakaway region. These so-called peacekeepers have helped to create thousands of homeless, hungry refugees. Georgia's many requests in recent years to the United Nations to condemn this blatant genocide have fallen on deaf ears, and most Georgians now attribute the Abkhazians' continued use of ethnic cleansing to UN inaction. Georgia has once again asked the UN to intervene in Abkhazia, but its willingness to do so, especially with Russia holding a seat on the Security Council, is in doubt.

How is it possible that ethnic cleansing can highh behind a transparent veil while the UN shirked its duty to protect these vulnerable Georgians, when it seems willing, even eager, to condemn genocide elsewhere in the world? Where is the indignation and outrage from our esteemed representatives of the Security Council? Where are the leaders of human rights advocates that usually visit the corridors of our departments and ministries?

The Abkhazians (who constitute less than 20 percent of the population of the region they claim as their own) and their Russian supporters, should harbor no illusions about the ultimate outcome of this struggle: Abkhazia will remain part of Georgia. The Georgian government will never acquiesce in territorial claims on its historic territory, and the US government will never support such claims. Meanwhile, Abkhazians are poised to miss what could be one of the most exciting periods in the development of the South Caucasus. The opening of energy pipelines from the Caspian will create unprecedented opportunities for growth and development, and the forgoing of the Eurasian Transport Corridor, the New Silk Road, and other initiatives in Georgia, foretells a future in which all Georgians, including Abkhazians, should prosper.

Those of us who believe in human rights and respect for the rights of all individuals, regardless of religion, ethnicity, or gender—where is the sense of humanity that is required to redress the wrongs done to our fellow human beings? We must not allow the peacekeepers to be above the law, above the war in which they are acting. These so-called peacekeepers are merely part of a Russian strategy to destabilize Georgia, a strategy that includes several assassination attempts on President Shevardnadze.

Whereas the legacy of the war in Afghanistan has been a failure to observe these restrictions; whereas in recent years Afghan maternal mortality rates have increased dramatically, and the level of women's health care has declined significantly; whereas there has been a marked upswing in human rights violations against women and girls since the Taliban coalition seized Kabul in 1996, including Taliban edicts denying women and girls access to schools and health care, and direct access to humanitarian aid; and whereas peace and security in Afghanistan are conducive to the full restoration of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Covenant on the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, which espouses respect for basic human rights and freedoms as fundamental to the achievement of social and international peace and security.

Whereas the use of rape as an instrument of war is considered a grave breach of the Geneva Convention and a crime against humanity.

Whereas people who commit grave breaches of the Geneva Convention are to be apprehended and subject to trial.

Whereas there is significant credible evidence that warring parties, factions, and powers in Afghanistan are responsible for numerous human rights violations, including the systematic rape of women and girls; whereas the use of rape as an instrument of war, while another two are recruited from anti-Georgia nationalities. It is hard to imagine that this formula can create anything but conflict, and indeed, there have been constant complaints from Georgia that these so-called peacekeepers are merely part of a Russian strategy to destabilize Georgia, a strategy that includes several assassination attempts on President Shevardnadze.

Whereas Afghanistan recognizes international human rights conventions such as the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Covenant on the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, which espouses respect for basic human rights and freedoms as fundamental to the achievement of social and international peace and security.

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job training, federally funded job training, in this country much more accountable. It will also involve the business community much more in the development and design of job training.

The one thing Chairman Jeffords and I have learned from the hearings on this matter over the years is that if you want job training to work, it has to be run locally and it has to have great input from the local business community. This bill will make sure that we have that. We have to have remember who the consumers are. When you are talking about job training, there are two consumers. One is the person who wants the job and wants to be trained for the job. But the other, equally as important, is the company or the individual who wants to hire that person, and so you have to involve them both in the design of job training.

That is what this bill does. This bill also dramatically reforms Job Corps. Job Corps is a Great Society-era job training program, residential, that is run by the Federal Government. It costs over $1 billion a year. It is targeted at our most at-risk young people in this country, people who desperately need help, desperately need assistance. What this bill does is make sure that $1 billion will be correctly spent. And again, we do that by measuring the results.

One of the things that Chairman Jeffords and I, I think, and the rest of the committee, were so shocked about when we held hearings several years ago on this—actually former Senator Kassebaum was chairman—I think that Job Corps did not really measure success or failure of the young people. It didn’t measure the success or failure of a particular job training program. They looked at it and saw whether or not a person had a job for 2 weeks. If they kept a job for 2 weeks after graduating from the program, they didn’t matter what the job was—the program was considered a success. The contractor who was in charge of getting that person a job got paid, and then no one ever looked back.

What we do with this bill is say we are going to measure success or failure after 6 months. We are going to measure success or failure after 12 months. And then we are going to be able to tell which programs work and which do not work in regard to Job Corps.

Another change we are making in Job Corps is to involve the local business community. Too often Job Corps has herded young people from 500, 600, 700 miles a way. They go to the Job Corps. They stay there for awhile, they go to the Job Corps. They complete their program, and then they go back home, and it is very difficult to involve the local business community when they know that person is not going to be there to work for them. And so we change those priorities in regard to Job Corps as well.

We also in this bill make a major step forward to link the regular job training programs of this country with