

The IMF bears responsibility for Asia's troubles. With the U.S. Treasury in 1995, it delivered unprecedented sums to bail out banks and investors who made reckless loans to Mexico. That rescue then encouraged investors to make riskier extensions of credit to Asia, Russia and Latin America. That led to overcapacity—too many factories unprofitably producing computer chips, cars and clothes, often under government direction—and to the current crisis.

Instead, incredibly, "the free market and the unfettered flow of capital across borders are being vilified as causes of this disaster," writes economist John Makin of the American Enterprise Institute. The French and the British actually want to give the IMF more power, and plans to restrict capital flows abound.

Still, someone has kept his head. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin has advanced a sensible proposal: Make credit available to sound countries that may be suffering liquidity problems (that is, need cash) but that haven't fallen into deep crisis.

I'd like to expand this idea and obviate the need for an IMF altogether. Set up a streamlined international lending institution that would have constantly available funds, under these four conditions:

(1) Loans would be made only at "penalty rates"—certainly higher than the 4.5 percent that Korea recently paid.

(2) Nations borrowing money must put up their best collateral, such as U.S. Treasury bills or gold.

(3) Borrowers must allow foreign banks to operate within their borders and be able to purchase their domestic banks. The best way to reform a rotten financial system is to admit good, free-market bankers.

(4) Borrowers must subscribe to a new bankruptcy convention that would adopt laws similar to those in the United States and Europe. Lenders have to know that they can seize assets in a default.

At the same time, the world's financial moguls need to: (a) pressure Japan, another villain in the tale of Asia's collapse, to fix its banking sector immediately and reflate the yen; (b) reaffirm the importance of free trade and reject restrictions on the flow of capital; and (c) use the World Bank to alleviate the suffering of innocents in countries such as Indonesia, victims of economic crimes committed by others, including the IMF.

As for the extra money that the IMF wants and Congress has failed to approve: for credit under these new arrangements, as long as Japan reorganizes its banking sector, yes; otherwise, no. Right now, withholding cash is the best leverage for reform that we've got.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S NATIONAL
DAY

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call attention to the National Day of Republic of China on Taiwan. This day commemorates the Wuchang Uprising on October 10, 1911, which led to the establishment of the ROC on January 1, 1912.

The United States' relationship with Taiwan dates back to the end of World War II. In the 1950s and 1960s, U.S. forces used Taiwan as a forward base against Sino-Soviet communism in Asia. Over the years, we have developed strong economic, political and social

ties with both the government and people of Taiwan.

Today, Taiwan is one of our most significant trading partners. With one of the largest economies in the world, the nation has done remarkably well during the current economic turmoil that has been engulfing other Asian countries. Taiwan's sound fiscal policies have enabled it to remain strong and provide economic assistance to its neighbors during this difficult time.

Over the past decade, the Republic of China has moved rapidly toward becoming a democratic society. Free and fair elections are routinely held at the local and national levels, and approximately 70 percent of engine voters participate in ROC elections. Taiwan is a shining example of freedom and democracy in a part of the world in need to role models.

America must stand by its long-standing commitment to the people and government of Taiwan. I hope that we will be able to continue our partnership and friendship with the ROC well into the next millennia.

I want to extend my best wishes to the people of Taiwan on the occasion of the Republic of China's National Day.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. MOUSTAPHA
ABOU-SAMRA

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Moustapha Abou-Samra, this year's recipient of the Physician of the Year Award from the Ventura County Medical Resource Foundation.

Dr. Abou-Samra, a neurosurgeon who practices at Community Memorial Hospital, Ventura County Medical Center and St. John's Hospital, has made valuable contributions to Ventura's medical community for nearly 20 years.

He is president of the Community Memorial Hospital Foundation, serves on its Board of Trustees and is a member of the Benefactor's Committee. At Ventura County Medical Center, Dr. Abou-Samra served as president of the medical staff, was Chief of Surgery, and served as Chairman of the Quality Assurance Committee and of the Ethics Committee.

Dr. Abou-Samra also taught classes on "Understanding Cancer." He served as the president of the board for the American Cancer Society and was presented the prestigious Golden Sword Award by the organization. Dr. Abou-Samra introduced and coordinated the "Think First Program," a head and spinal prevention program that has become recognized nationwide.

Dr. Abou-Samra also has served on numerous other boards, including the Easter Seals Board of Medical Directors, the Ventura County Symphony and St. Paul's Parish Day School. He is currently on the board of the Ojai Festival.

Dr. Abou-Samra is obviously deserving of this award.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in recognizing Dr. Abou-Samra for his many years of promoting a healthy America and wish him many more years of service to the medical community.

COMMENDING THE MEMBERS OF
THE MARINE SECURITY GUARD

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House the bravery and heroics of the members of the Marine Security Guard at our embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania following the horrific and tragic bombing there on August 8. I have the honor of submitting for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a report filed by Lt. Colonel Dennis Sabal which details the devotion to duty and courage under fire exhibited by the Marines who were charged with the responsibility of guarding those two embassies. It is a credit to our Nation that our Marines have and will continue to guard, in the words of Lt. Col. Sabal, "Americans and America's interests abroad, as marines have done for over 222 years."

COLONEL BURGESS: It has been almost 96 hours since the devastating blasts ripped through the American Embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. With the situation at both embassies now somewhat stabilized, I want to take a few moments and attempt to paint a picture of the events leading up to the blasts as well as provide you with a commander's perspective of the actions of our Marines subsequent to the explosions.

On Friday morning, 8 August 1998 at 10:30 am local Kenyan time (03:30 EST), Corporal Samuel Gonite was standing Post One in the American Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya. At approximately 10:35, Marine Sergeant Jesse "Nathan" Aliganga walked into the embassy to cash a check. Corporal Gonite watched Sergeant Aliganga walk past Post One, get onto the elevator, and ascend to the bank.

At the same time and unbeknownst to anyone in the embassy, two men pulled up to the rear guard shack of the embassy, which was manned by the local Kenyan security force. This parking lot, which was sandwiched in between a 60 story bank building and a smaller bank building, was also the entrance into the underground garage for the embassy. Reportedly, a man approached the local guard and demanded he open the gate (leading into the embassy's underground garage) to which the local guard refused. At this time, the man hurled what was believed to be a grenade in the direction of the guard.

Inside the embassy, people heard the explosion and reportedly got up to look out of their windows when at 10:40 am, a truck filled with explosives crashed into the rear wall of the embassy adjacent to the underground garage, and exploded. Corporal Gonite was immediately knocked to the ground by the concussion of the blast. The glass surrounding Post One was shattered but remained in tact. The detachment commander, Gunnery Sergeant Cross, upon hearing the first blast, immediately went for the ladder well and was shielded from the main blast. The Chancery was in shambles.

When the truck exploded, the small bank building behind the embassy collapsed onto the chancery's emergency generator, spilling thousands of gallons of diesel fuel into the basement of the embassy. The diesel fuel ignited and smoke and fire were billowing throughout the embassy. As injured and confused people were running out of the chancery screaming and choking, the Marines were running into the building looking for survivors.

With no thought for their own lives, having no idea what else may happen, or whether or not the shattered structure would cave in on them, the Marines immediately reacted and began a sweep of the building.

Sergeant Briehl, who was waiting outside the embassy in the car, immediately darted into the building looking for Sergeant Aliganga. He ran to the elevator shafts behind post one, which were completely destroyed, and fell two floors down into the shaft, breaking three ribs and sustaining multiple lacerations and bruises. Sergeant Briehl managed to climb out of the elevator shaft and continued his search for Sergeant Aliganga. Sergeant Outt, who was in Nairobi from Bujumbura for a dental appointment, as well as Sergeant Harper, who was on COT leave in Nairobi from Accra, immediately reached with the Marines and manned posts around the embassy.

At this time, we had Gunnery Sergeant Cross, Sergeants Russel, Jiminez, Briehl, Outt, Harper, and Corporal Gonite on board. These Marines immediately made their way through the rubble, fire and smoke looking for survivors, fended off local looters who swarmed the embassy moments after the blast, secured classified material, and most importantly to them, began the search for their brother, Sergeant Aliganga.

To provide a bit of situational awareness, the embassy in Nairobi is a seven floor concrete structure with five above ground and two below ground levels. It was situated on two major avenues of approach with minimal stand off distance between the road and the structure. When the bomb exploded, the force of the blast was so devastating that it blew out almost every closed window and frame on the building. 12 inch thick concrete walls on all floors of the embassy were shattered like thin plates of glass. Solid wooden doors mounted on steel frames were sent airborne landing throughout the structure. Windows on office buildings over a quarter of a mile away were shattered. There was not an office space that survived inside of the embassy. Bodies were spread all over, most of which were buried under up to eight feet of rubble.

At the same time, the Regional Security Officer for the American Embassy in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, John DiCarlo, a former Marine Security Guard, had taken post one from Corporal Johnson in order for him to make a head call.

At approximately 10:40 am, a truck bomb exploded outside the security gate, ripping through the embassy. Corporal Johnson was knocked to the deck. He stood up, and immediately ran to Post One where he found it intact, but inoperable. Corporal Johnson immediately reacted the Marines, which were all at the Marine BEQ during the explosion, and informed all mission personnel to evacuate the building. Corporal Johnson donned his react gear and took control of the Command Center.

The detachment commander, Gunnery Sergeant Kimble, arrived at the Embassy approximately 4-5 minutes after the blast and began checking offices throughout the chancery to insure all personnel were safely out of the building. One of the casualties of the explosion was Gunnery Sergeant Kimble's wife Cynthia, who sustained bruises and eye injuries from flying glass. While Cynthia was flown to London to receive eye surgery. Gunnery Sergeant Kimble never lost focus on the mission at hand. Within eight minutes of the blast, Sergeant Sivason, and first post's Corporals Bohn, Hatfield, Johnson, and McCabe began working through the chancery clearing all rooms of personnel. No direction was required as each Marine knew exactly what had to be done.

Due to the enormous amount of smoke and fire, the decision was made to evacuate Post

One and the Marines fell back to their secondary positions.

Corporal Johnson took security for the mission personnel at the rear of the Embassy, and all other Marines took up perimeter security around the building. The force of the blast blew out every window in the chancery, and all doors except post one. The hardline doors, which are located on the opposite side of the embassy, were forced open by the blast. Emergency fire exits on the opposite side of the building in which the blast occurred were blown off the hinges. Concrete walls within the Embassy were knocked down and safes were moved and in some cases knocked over. During the search of the building the Marines had to bust through walls in order to get to areas unattainable during their sweep. Within four hours of the truck bomb, which damaged diplomatic properties and houses up to 1000 meters away, the embassy was secure with MSGs maintaining 24 hour security on the building until the arrival of the FAST team.

In Nairobi, Marines continued to work throughout the day cleaning the embassy, providing local security (as the local constabulary proved worthless), moving the injured and the dead from the rubble to safety. The condition of many of the dead was horrific, making the task of search and rescue that much more difficult for all concerned. By 03:00, I arrived on the scene with my XO, 1stSgt, and admin chief, all of whom had been stationed in the Nairobi embassy for over a year and knew the ground, and two MSGs from the Pretoria det, who quickly took up posts around the embassy.

By 04:00, a number of Army special forces NCOs had volunteered to stand post to give the Marines a much needed break. 1stSgt Quzman took the post from the det commander and I ordered the Marines home to shower and sleep. At first light, all of the Marines were back to continue their Mission while looking for Sergeant Aliganga. After hours of digging by hand through tons of rubble, behind Post One and in the elevator shafts, we moved to the area of the bank. This was one of the hardest hit areas as it was one floor up and only about 50 feet from the blast site. Twelve inch slabs of reinforced concrete were piled up to the ceiling, while desks, computers, and file cabinets were reduced to scrap. The Marines and Army S/F personnel, along with DOS personnel worked frantically against the clock. By this time, over thirty bodies had been recovered from the rubble, including ten Americans.

Finally, at exactly 14:30 local time, after 27 hours and fifty minutes of relentless digging with their bare hands, the body of Sergeant Aliganga was recovered from the rubble. Once positively identified, the Marines then gently wrapped Sergeant Aliganga in the American flag, and very purposefully marched him through the rubble and out of the embassy to the waiting vehicle. Although there were no cameras present, nor was there any music playing, the crowds seemed to still, and people stood erect, with tears running down their faces, as the body of another United States Marine, who gave his life in defense of his country, was ushered away.

By nightfall, the FAST team arrived and quickly took up the perimeter security of the embassy, freeing the MSGs to return to the still ongoing task of recovering classified material and equipment from the rubble.

Sir, I apologize that my words are insufficient to more accurately describe the true essence of this horrific tragedy. What must not be missed is the incredible bravery and heroism displayed by our Marine Security Guards. Without any regard for their own lives or safety, they maintained incredible presence of mind in the face of tremendous

devastation. Each marine continued to serve our country and our Department of State with distinction. Even through the chaos and the fog, our Marines never lost focus of their mission. They were models of strength to be emulated by all.

As you finish reading this synopsis, the Marines from Nairobi and Dar Es Salaam, augmented by Sergeant Harper from Accra, Sergeant Lawlor from Bonn, Sergeant Outt from Bujumbura, Sergeant Boudah from Dublin, Corporal Graff and Sergeant Wolf from Frankfurt, Sergeant Salizar from the Hague, Sergeant Alberto and Corporal Durden from London, Sergeant Jackson from Paris, Sergeant Smith and Corporal Cornell from Pretoria, and Sergeant Reynolds from Rome, are manning makeshift embassies as our MSGs continue to support our Department of State. They have not missed a beat and will continue guarding Americans and America's interests abroad, as marines have done for over 222 years.

Semper Fidelis and Very Respectfully,
DENNIS SABAL,
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps.

HONORING POLICE CHIEF JOHN
AMBROGIO FOR EXCELLENCE IN
SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a dedicated and highly respected member of the Hamden Police Department whose decision to retire ended a career in law enforcement which spanned more than forty years. Chief John Ambrogio leaves a legacy of dedication, integrity, and excellence spanning over four decades, and he will not be forgotten by his fellow officers or by the citizens of Hamden.

Chief Ambrogio dedicated nearly a third of his life to leading the Department of Police Services with dignity and virtue, and his work has had a profound effect on the quality of life in Hamden. Eighteen departmental commendations as well as various other professional accolades reflect the commitment and devotion John has given to Hamden and its residents. John's good work is reflected in dramatic reductions in crime rates, the inauguration of the annual Halloween party, and the development of a progressive and highly effective police department—just a few examples of the contributions he has made to the Hamden community.

As a professional law enforcement officer, the various ways John has influenced the community are innumerable. Hamden residents credit John's work as Chief of Police as the most important factor in keeping Hamden a safe community, which is relatively free of criminal activity and drug trafficking. John Ambrogio has become an indispensable figure in Hamden and replacing him will be a tremendously difficult task.

It is with great pleasure that I join with his wife, Maureen, his children, and grandchildren, as we honor my dear friend Police Chief John Ambrogio for more than forty years of dedication and commitment to the Town of Hamden. I wish him many happy years in his retirement.