

Ohio, with dual American-Israeli citizenship. David's family has been waiting 27 years for justice, to find the killers and to bring them to justice.

Palestinian terrorist Abu Daoud says he plotted the senseless murders in Munich. Now is the time for the United States and the world community to marshal its forces to capture Mr. Daoud and bring him before a court of law. We must do this for the memory of David Berger. We must do this for the families of all of the athletes who perished, and we must do this to fight terrorism wherever and whenever we find it.

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow thousands and thousands of African Americans in Galveston, Texas, the birthplace of Juneteenth, and around the Nation will celebrate this holiday of freedom and justice. President Abraham Lincoln technically ended the right to own human beings in 1863, but most slaves gained their freedom only after Union troops took control of Confederate territory and released them from bondage.

It took 2½ years after the Emancipation Proclamation for the Union Army to reach Texas, the last place where slavery was not only allowed, but also enforced.

After Union General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston and announced to the States' 200,000 slaves that they were free, they immediately erupted into jubilant celebration, much like the 4th of July.

As we look ahead to the next millennium, I challenge all of us to take this opportunity while we celebrate the rich history of this celebration of freedom to rededicate ourselves to the value of equal opportunity for all Americans, because that is at the heart of Juneteenth and the American ideal.

WASTING TIME IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, after the high school shooting in my district last year, in my hometown of Springfield, Oregon, I talked to hundreds of residents. We had an incredible community dialogue about the causes and the possible solutions for youth violence. Everyone agreed it was complex. They had a long list of things they would like to see done. They would like to see something done about violence in the media.

After 66 amendments and dozens of hours of staying in session until 2 o'clock in the morning, this House has done nothing about violence in the media. After a day and a half on the

very sensitive issue of gun control, this House has done nothing to extend instant check and background checks to people who purchase guns at gun shows. After 66 amendments and dozens of hours and late into the night, we have done nothing to add to the services to serve at-risk youth and their families and prevent them from getting into violence. Nothing. Zero.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my constituents and I hope my colleagues' constituents were watching. What we did here does not even meet the common-sense laugh test. It was a disgrace for this House of Representatives.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS BILL AND U.S. CAUCASUS POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, in the other body, the Senate, the Appropriations Committee, marked up the foreign operation appropriations legislation for fiscal year 2000. The legislation reported out yesterday addresses several key issues concerning U.S. policies and priorities for the Caucasus Mountain region of the former Soviet Union, an area of vital and growing importance for the U.S. in the 21st century.

Here in the House, action on the foreign operations bill is not expected until later this summer. I wanted to take a few minutes to cite some of the key provisions in the Senate legislation that I hope the House will address, as well as to cite some additional areas where the Senate did not act, but I hope the House will.

As cochair of the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues, I plan to put my suggestions into a letter to the House Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, and that subcommittee, I should point out, has many good friends of Armenia, and I look forward to working with them.

First, the good news, Mr. Speaker. The Senate Foreign Operations bill earmarks \$90 million in assistance to the Republic of Armenia. This represents an increase over the slightly less than \$80 million that was reported in fiscal year 1999, and is certainly an improvement over the \$71.5 million requested by the administration in its budget. I believe it is important for the United States to maintain our support and partnership with Armenia, which continues to make major strides towards democracy, as evidenced by last month's parliamentary elections, as

well as market reforms and increasing integration with the West.

However, Armenia's strides towards providing a better life for its people at home and being a partner for peace and stability with the West continue to be challenged by the blockades imposed by the neighboring countries, Azerbaijan and Turkey. Provisions of U.S. support provides at least some relief from the difficulties imposed by the blockades and represents a moral statement by our country that we should try to offset the effects of the illegal blockades imposed on Armenia by its neighbors. I would urge the House subcommittee to provide the same \$90 million earmark that has been included by the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, another area where I will be working to have the House follow the Senate language is with regard to something that is not there, and that is repealing section 907 of the Freedom Support Act, which restricts aid to Azerbaijan until that country lifts its blockade of Armenia and Nagorno Karabagh.

Last month, Secretary of State Albright called on the Senate appropriators to repeal section 907. When the Freedom Support Act was adopted in 1992, establishing our post-Cold War U.S. foreign policy for the Newly Independent States of the former Soviet empire, section 907 was included as a way of holding Azerbaijan accountable for the blockade of its neighbors. Azerbaijan has continued its strategy of trying to strangle Armenia and Nagorno Karabagh. I am glad the Senate appropriators resisted the administration's proposal to lift section 907.

As I just indicated, Azerbaijan's blockade is against both the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Nagorno Karabagh. Nagorno Karabagh is an historically Armenian-populated region that Stalin's mapmakers included as part of Azerbaijan. Because Nagorno Karabagh's independence has not been officially recognized by the United States, it was a tremendous breakthrough when Congress approved \$12.5 million in assistance for Nagorno Karabagh in the fiscal year 1998 legislation. Unfortunately, much of that assistance has yet to be obligated, and while the Senate is silent on this issue, I will be working with my Armenia issues caucus colleagues to ensure the House bill also provides report language directing the Agency for International Development to expedite delivery of this assistance.

Another area where the Senate bill is silent is on the issue of the peace process for Nagorno Karabagh. The U.S. has been one of the countries taking the lead in the peace process under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. And late last year, the U.S. and our negotiating partners put forward a proposal known as the Common State Proposal as a basis for moving the negotiations forward. Despite some serious reservations, the elected governments of both

Nagorno Karabagh and Armenia have accepted this Common State Proposal to get the negotiations moving forward, but Azerbaijan has flatly rejected our peace proposal.

I will work, Mr. Speaker, to include language in the House foreign operations appropriations bill to urge the administration to stay the course in the Nagorno Karabagh peace process and not let the rejectionist policies of the Azerbaijan cause us to back down in the search for a just and lasting solution to this conflict, providing for the full self-determination of Nagorno Karabagh.

I do appreciate the fact that the Senate did not buy into the administration's inexplicable proposal to increase aid to Azerbaijan and decrease aid to Armenia. As I indicated, the Senate language provides for an increase in assistance to Armenia. It does not provide any specific mention of aid to Azerbaijan.

With the break-up of the Soviet Union, as the countries of the collapsing empire attained their independence, Azerbaijan attempted to militarily crush Nagorno Karabagh and drive out the Armenian population. But the Karabagh Armenians ultimately won their war of independence, and a cease-fire was signed in 1994.

American humanitarian assistance to Azerbaijan, via Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) has not been affected by Section 907. In recent years, further exemptions to Section 907 have been carved out. It is important that, at a time when Azerbaijan continues to reject good-faith efforts to achieve a negotiated settlement to the Nagorno Karabagh conflict, while illegally blockading supplies of fuel, food and other essential supplies to its neighbors, that we not reward this country with additional U.S. assistance.

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Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with my friends on the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs to craft legislation that supports Armenia.

JUSTICE FOR THE BERGER FAMILY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, as Americans, we have a right to expect that justice will be served whenever an American citizen is murdered, either on our soil or on foreign land.

David Berger, the son of Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin Berger of Shaker Heights, Ohio, was murdered nearly 20 years ago, but unlike too many others whose lives are senselessly lost, his death was not relegated to the police blotter section of the local paper.

Instead, the killing of David Berger was broadcast around the world and splashed across the front page of virtually every newspaper in the world.

Still, for his family there has been no justice and no closure.

David Berger, a dual American-Israeli citizen, was one of 11 Israeli athletes killed by Palestinian terrorists in 1972 at the Olympic Games in Munich. David Berger, a championship weightlifter, had emigrated to Israel so he could compete in the Olympics as a member of the Israeli team.

Many of us remember the 1972 Olympic games perhaps from Mark Spitz and the 7 gold medals that he won in swimming. Others recall with delight the pint-sized Olga Korbut, who captured our hearts and also captured gold, but for the Berger family the 1972 Olympic games are scarred with painful images that are permanently etched in their minds and hearts, a machine gun toting terrorist with a black ski mask in the window of the dormitory where their son and his teammates were staying, the white pine coffin that held his remains when he was returned to the United States for his funeral.

Mr. Speaker, David Berger was the only American to die in this horrific act of terrorism that changed our world, that caused the Olympics to lose its innocence and forced the world to take the reality of terrorism far more seriously. If it could happen at the Olympics, it could happen anywhere.

Mr. Speaker, I share the story of David Berger now because at this very moment in history the United States has an unprecedented opportunity to deliver justice to the Berger family.

The Palestinian guerilla long suspected as the mastermind of the terrorist acts at the Munich games not only has admitted his part in this plot, but has written a book and plans to profit from it. Abu Daoud has written his autobiography, and it was recently published in France, called "Palestine: From Jerusalem to Munich." In his book he admits to being the mastermind of the hostage taking at the Munich games.

Based on those admissions the German government last week issued an Interpol arrest warrant for Abu Daoud and plans to try him as an accessory for murder for planning the attack. Now this terrorist is in Jordan. The Israeli government last week denied him access to Israel, making it impossible for him to return to his home on the West Bank.

Mr. Speaker, regrettably it appears that Abu Daoud cannot be held accountable for his crimes in the United States or in Israel. Therefore, it is imperative that the Jordanian government honor the Interpol arrest warrant and return him to Germany. I have called today, Mr. Speaker, upon President Clinton to immediately demand the Jordanian King Abdullah that he turn over Abu Daoud to Germany for prosecution. It would be reprehensible if the United States would now turn its back and refuse to do all within its power to see that an assassin of an American citizen is brought to justice.

Mr. Speaker, Abu Daoud's book is not yet available in the United States.

However, any American citizen can log on to the Internet, call up Amazon.com and read a breezy synopsis which says, "Twenty-five years ago after he masterminded the tragedy of the 1972 Munich Olympic games, one of the legendary figures of Palestinian terrorism comes out of hiding to tell his story."

Daoud has chosen this time in history to reveal to the world his role in this senseless execution of 11 Olympic athletes. While it sickens me to the core, Mr. Speaker, to think that anyone could profit from this type of terrorism, it would sicken me even more if our country were to fail to intervene and assist the Berger family of Shaker Heights, Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Benjamin Berger is now 81 years old. He still practices medicine and is on the board of trustees at Fairmount Temple, where his eldest son was eulogized more than a quarter of century ago. He and his wife Dorothy have two grown children. The Bergers were left with many wonderful reminders of their son's life: A memorial at the Jewish Community Center, a gym at his high school, and a 19-year-old grandson named after the wonderful son they lost.

As we can imagine, it is painful for David Berger's mother Dorothy to relieve the horror that befell her family nearly 27 years ago. Mr. Speaker, Dorothy Berger cannot fathom why Abu Daoud has chosen to admit his criminal acts in a book. Maybe he is proud of it. He has gotten away with it all these years.

Mr. Speaker, an American citizen was killed nearly 27 years ago in one of the most heinous, well-known terrorist acts of this century. We must not allow Abu Daoud to get away with it one day longer.

Mr. Speaker, may justice prevail. May God bless the Berger family and the United States of America.

COMMONSENSE MEASURES TO CURB GUN VIOLENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. EHRlich) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EHRlich. Mr. Speaker, just a few thoughts on the events taking place on the floor in the last few days.

Mr. Speaker, I and most of us support the rights of law-abiding citizens to possess guns for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is self-defense. This view derives from my observation that many gun control initiatives have proven a failure in reducing crime.

For example, in the case of the Colorado shootings, the two criminals responsible for the carnage broke 19 State and Federal laws in the preparation and commission of those crimes.

Some of my constituents have written to me about gun control proposals which seek to limit gun owners to purchasing one gun a month and a minimum 3-day waiting period. Previously, waiting periods were necessary in order to allow for background checks to be