

Another suspect, Ibrahim Ghanimat, linked to the shooting deaths of Yaron Unger and his wife Efrat, spends his nights in prison but is free to come and go during the day. Adnan al-Ghul, Yusuf Samiri, and Mohammad Dief, three other suspects involved in the killings of Americans, are all at large. Nafez Sabi'h was implicated in a bombing that killed three Americans, but was believed to be serving in the Palestinian police force until several months ago.

In recent years, other suspects implicated in the murder of American citizens have served in the Palestinian police force. In July 1998, the Israeli Government released a report stating that four terrorist suspects involved in the February 1996 Jerusalem bus bombing, in which three American citizens were killed, were serving in Palestinian security forces.

A climate conducive to terrorism is the most serious threat to a lasting peace settlement in the Middle East. When Abul Abbas, the hijacker of the Achille Lauro, lives freely in Gaza and is a close associate of Yasser Arafat; when the Palestinian Authority's official media arm, the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation, airs programming which teaches Palestinian children to hate Israelis; when terrorist suspects are given positions in the Palestinian security forces—genuine peace is undermined and U.S. interests endangered in the Middle East.

It is time for the United States to get serious about defending its own. President Clinton promised that no quarter would be given to terrorists who killed 12 Americans in the Africa embassy bombings in August 1998. But I fear this administration has not been pursuing aggressively terrorist suspects implicated in the murder of a similar number of Americans in Israel.

Recent testimony by top administration officials does not indicate that our resolve to prosecute these cases is strengthening. Martin Indyk, Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East, was called to testify before the Senate Appropriations Committee last March on terrorism against U.S. citizens, but his written testimony did not even discuss these cases or what the State Department is doing to resolve them.

George Washington once said that if we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it. A credible defense deters aggression and war, and a similar principle is at work in meeting the threat of terrorism today. If terrorists know they will suffer for attacking Americans, they will be less likely to engage in such violence. President Reagan's response to Libyan terrorism quieted that government for over a decade.

While we cannot prevent violence against every American abroad, we can ensure that terrorists who attack U.S. citizens are pursued relentlessly. I call on the administration to wage a more aggressive campaign against terrorists who have killed Americans, and this

report will give Congress the ability to review the administration's efforts more effectively. I thank Senator HELMS and Senator BIDEN for their assistance with this amendment.

#### EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, on Thursday, June 17, 1999 and Friday June 18, 1999, I was not present during Senate action on rollcall vote No. 174, a motion to table Senator MCCAIN's amendment No. 685; rollcall vote No. 175, a motion to table Senator MURKOWSKI's amendment No. 686; and rollcall vote No. 176, H.R. 1664, the Emergency Steel, and Oil and Gas Loan Guarantee Act. Yesterday, I was not present during Senate action on rollcall vote No. 177, Senator SARBANE's amendment to S. 886, the State Department reauthorization bill. During these times, I was in Connecticut attending to matters related to my marriage on June 18, 1999, to Jackie M. Clegg.

Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted aye in each case.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, June 21, 1999, the federal debt stood at \$5,589,358,011,973.65 (Five trillion, five hundred eighty-nine billion, three hundred fifty-eight million, eleven thousand, nine hundred seventy-three dollars and sixty-five cents).

Five years ago, June 21, 1994, the federal debt stood at \$4,594,505,000,000 (Four trillion, five hundred ninety-four billion, five hundred five million).

Ten years ago, June 21, 1989, the federal debt stood at \$2,782,728,000,000 (Two trillion, seven hundred eighty-two billion, seven hundred twenty-eight million).

Fifteen years ago, June 21, 1984, the federal debt stood at \$1,510,017,000,000 (One trillion, five hundred ten billion, seventeen million).

Twenty-five years ago, June 21, 1974, the federal debt stood at \$470,147,000,000 (Four hundred seventy billion, one hundred forty-seven million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,119,211,011,973.65 (Five trillion, one hundred nineteen billion, two hundred eleven million, eleven thousand, nine hundred seventy-three dollars and sixty-five cents) during the past 25 years.

#### MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time and placed on the calendar:

S. 1256. A bill entitled "Patients Bill of Rights."

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-3858. A communication from the Acting Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fees for Applications for Contract Market Designations", received June 16, 1999; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3859. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Program to Assess Organic Certifying Agencies" (LS-99-04), received June 18, 1999; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3860. A communication from the Legal Counsel, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reallocation of TV Channels 60-69, the 746-806 MHz Band" (ET Docket No. 97-157) (FCC 98-261), received June 18, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3861. A communication from the Legal Counsel, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Allocation of Spectrum at 2 GHz for Use by the Mobile-Satellite Service" (ET Docket No. 95-18) (FCC 98-309), received June 18, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3862. A communication from the Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adjustment of Appendices to the Dairy Tariff-Rate Import Quota Licensing Regulation for the 1999 Tariff-Rate Quota Year" (7 CFR Part 6), received June 18, 1999; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3863. A communication from the Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Programs to Help Develop Foreign Markets for Agricultural Commodities (Foreign Market Development Cooperator Programs)" (7 CFR Part 1550), received June 18, 1999; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3864. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the Office of Inspector General; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3865. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3866. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 96-04; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-3867. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 95-10; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-3868. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the incidental capture of sea turtles in commercial shrimping operations; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.