EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF SUPERVISORY SPECIAL AGENT TERRY SHUMARD ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that today I pay tribute to Supervisory Special Agent Terry Shumard on the occasion of his retirement. Terry has proudly served the Federal Bureau of Investigation for thirty years—demonstrating a remarkable dedication to public service.

During his career, Terry was assigned to several offices, including Miami, New York, and San Juan, before he arrived to the New Haven Division as the primary assistant to the Special Agent in Charge for the State of Connecticut, directing all administrative and investigative operations. Terry was responsible for establishing and directing the Public Affairs and Community Relations Programs throughout Connecticut. With his hard work and exceptional talent, Terry soon became the FBI's liaison to Connecticut's state and federal elected officials. It was in this capacity that I first had the opportunity to work with Terry. His expertise and commitment to the public has been an invaluable asset to both myself and my staff.

Over the past year, Terry has enjoyed tremendous success as the Project Coordinator for a U.S. Department of Justice pilot program, Strategic Approaches to Community Safety Initiative (SACSI). Requiring participation from the entire community, SACSI is designed to enhance the working relationship between the U.S. Attorney's office, local elected officials and community organizations. In a collaborative effort, this coalition of leaders analyze and identify the root causes of local crime issues and design targeted strategies and interventions to prevent and reduce crime. As one of only five cities chosen nationwide to participate in this program, leadership and experience were vital to the success of this project. With his strong background with the FBI and extensive experience working with local officials, Terry was an integral part of the success of this program.

His commitment has made New Haven and the State of Connecticut a safer place to raise our children and families. Terry exemplifies what is best in law enforcement and public service. I consider myself fortunate to call him my friend. For his many years of service, compassion and dedication, it is with great pride that I stand today to recognize the outstanding career of Terry Shumard and extend my best wishes to him for continued health and happiness as he retires from public service. My sincere thanks and appreciation for his many contributions to our community.

HONORING WILLIAM J. FELTY

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a great Arkansan, and I am proud to recognize Billy J. Felty in the Congress for his invaluable contributions and service to our nation.

Next week Bill retire as Chief Engineer of the St. Francis Levee District, thereby completing a distinguished career that spanned more than four decades. He was first employed by the district as an assistant engineer in 1959—shortly thereafter he became a member of the engineering committee of the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association, and has since served two terms each as the committee's secretary and vice-chairman, and was named chairman in 1982 and 1984. In this capacity he headed a committee that studied the Birds Point-New Madrid Floodway, concluding that the floodway is an essential part of the approved flood control plan for the Lower Mississippi Valley, and recommending that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers be prepared to utilize the floodway immediately in emergency circumstances.

This kind of leadership naturally led to Bill's promotion to Chief Engineer in 1989, which made him responsible for the maintenance and operation of the approximately 160 miles of main line Mississippi River levee and 70 miles of interior levee in the District. His work in this capacity earned him the Army Commanders Award for Public Service, the Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal, the Army Bronze Order of the de Fleury Medal, and a Plaque for Dedicated and Devoted Service from the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association.

In addition to this outstanding record of accomplishment, Bill also found time to be an active member of his community, assuming many influential roles, including President of the West Memphis Jaycees; Charter Member of Senator Blanche Lincoln's State Agriculture Advisory Committee; Chairman of the West Memphis City Board of Adjustments; President of the J.W. Rich Girls Club; and chairman of church committees.

Bill dedicated his life to protecting the lives and fortunes of his fellow citizens, and he deserves our respect and gratitude for his contributions. On behalf of the Congress, I extend my best wishes to my good friend Billy Felty on his retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EXPORT WORKING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. MANZULLO Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce H.R. 4944. The Export Working Capital Improvement Act of 2000. The Export Working Capital Guarantee Program (EWCGP) is subset of the popular 7(a) loan program at the Small Business Administration (SBA). It provides 90 percent guarantee for revolving capital needs for small business export financing. The SBA acts on loans for small business exporters that are under $750,000—the Export-Import Bank of the United States (Ex-Im) provides export working capital for loans over $750,000. These working capital loans are generally short-Term financing. Loans can be made for single or multiple export sales and can be exended for pre-shipment working capital and post-shipment exposure coverage. However, this is a very underutilized program.

The problem is that the SBA would like to be able to sell these loans on the secondary market. However, secondary market sales of guaranteed loans are conducted every six months. Current law requires that all 7(a) loans, including Export Working Capital loans, must be fully disbursed to the borrower prior to being included in a secondary market sale. Export Working Capital loans are often approved, disbursed, and repaid so quickly that they miss the window of opportunity for inclusion in a secondary market sale.

The purpose of the Export Working Capital Loan Improvement Act of 2000 is to exempt Export Working Capital loans from the disbursement requirement under the SBA's 7(a) loan program. This change will allow the inclusion of Export working Capital loans prior to disbursement in sales to the secondary market.

The Office of International Trade at the SBA believes that if Export Working Capital loans are allowed to be sold on the secondary market, more export finance would be available to small business exporters in many regions of the country. This would provide one answer to the problems of a lack of trade finance for small business exporters.

According to the Commerce Department, between 1987 and 1997, the number of small business exporters has tripled, going from 66,000 to 202,000. Small businesses now account for 31 percent of total merchandise export sales spread throughout every industrial classification. What is more surprising is that the fastest growth among small business exporters has been with companies employing fewer than 20 employees. These very small businesses represented 65 percent of all exporting companies in 1997.

Despite these encouraging statistics, there is still more work that needs to be done. Even

though the number of small business exporters tripled, they form less than one percent of all small business in the United States. Even among these cutting-edge firms, nearly two-thirds of small business exporters sold to just one foreign market in 1997. In fact, 76 percent of small business exporters sold less than $250,000 worth of goods abroad. In other words, these are ''casual'' exporters. The key is to encourage more small businesses to enter the trade arena and then to prod ''Casual'' small business exporters into becoming more active.

Increasing the availability of export finance can help achieve this goal. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Export Working Capital Loan Improvement Act of 2000.

HONORING MINNIE ELIZABETH SAPP

HON. VAN HILLEARY

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great joy that I honor Minnie Elizabeth Sapp, who recently celebrated her one-hundredth birthday. Mrs. Sapp had the rare fortune of seeing a complete century unfold. It was on July 12, 1900 that Mrs. Sapp was born—in the log house built by her grandfather, James Waymon Mitchell, on Lost Creek in White County, and it was on July 12, 2000 that we celebrated her one-hundredth birthday.

On Christmas Day in 1921, Mrs. Sapp married Homer Floyd Sapp in the same room in the log house where she was born. The couple traveled by buggy to Homer's father's home, at what is now Rim Rock Mesa at Bon Air. Six years later they moved to a forty-acre farm on Corolla Road.

The couple has seven children. The two boys died as infants, and sadly one daughter, Helen, passed away at 14. The other four daughters survived: Josephine, Norma, Evelyn, and Betty. Although her husband Homer died in 1980, Mrs. Sapp continues to live at the farm that the couple moved to 73 years ago.

In 1993, Mrs. Sapp wrote her personal memoirs, and among her memories are recollections of lighting the house with coal lamps and making lye and soap. The United States has changed much since the days of her childhood, but her memories of quilting, walking barefoot to free school and later attending boarding school at Pleasant Hill Academy, carrying water from the spring, and keeping the fire going year round have shaped a strong, loving woman who is devoted to her family and friends.

Two weeks ago I had the honor of attending Mrs. Sapp's birthday celebration, and on the 16th of July the Bon Air United Methodist Church honored her with a service, singing, and presentation of a plaque. The family and friends who surround her serve as a testament to the impact this amazing woman has on all who meet her.

Truly, Minnie Elizabeth Sapp is a blessing to her community. Mrs. Sapp's devotion to family and religion has seen her through 100 years, and I am confident that it is her love of life which will fill every day that is to come. That is why it is the spirit of all who know and love her that I wish to congratulate Mrs. Sapp on her one-hundredth birthday celebration.

RECOGNIZING JOHN RUSSELL BERGENDAHL AND THE CROMWELL CHILDREN'S HOME'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. LARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize a true World War II hero, John Russell Bergendahl. For most of his brief life, Mr. Bergendahl was a resident at the Cromwell Children's Home in my district, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. He lived at the Home until his graduation from Middletown High School, and this year his classmates are holding their 60th class reunion in his honor.

While his unique role and his supreme sacrifice on D-Day are paramount in this recognition, it is also important to emphasize the example Mr. Bergendahl provided to so many of his peers as a friend, a serious academic student, an outstanding athlete, and a dependable worker during his years at the Children's Home.

Although an only child whose parents died early in his life. Mr. Bergendahl never reflected on his family tragedy. He had a remarkably positive attitude, an outgoing personality, and the physical and mental discipline needed for military service at the time, and would have been the key to his success in civilian life. He was a model resident at the Cromwell Children's Home, a reflection of the dedication of its staff and its program.

Russ Bergendahl and Jim Broman, who first brought Mr. Bergendahl's story to my attention, were in military training when they last met in Cromwell several months before being sent to England in early 1944. During that meeting, Mr. Bergendahl expressed that he did not expect to survive the war because of his assignment to the 82nd Airborne. Although Jim and Russ attempted to meet again when they were deployed overseas, these attempts were futile because Jim's assignment to the 101st Airborne, also limited outside contact prior to D-Day.

After D-Day, Mr. Broman was unable to learn anything about his friend Russ until nearly two weeks later when he was told that a Bergendahl was killed by a sniper six days after the invasion. It was not until 55 years later when Mr. Broman returned to Normandy and visited Russ Bergendahl's grave at Omaha Beach that he learned Russ was actually killed on D-Day, June 6, 1944, after the American landing.

It is not possible to document, or likely even comprehend, what Mr. Bergendahl experienced when he landed in Normandy prior to the massive airborne landings conducted by the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions a few hours later. He may have merited the highest of military honors, but none of us will ever know. However, we do know that his sacrifice and service is what allows us all to be here today to remember him under the banner of liberty and freedom he fought to maintain, and for that we should honor him as a true hero.

The 100th anniversary of the Cromwell Children's Home is an appropriate occasion to establish and maintain a memorial to John Russell Bergendahl at the place where he made his home for most of his brief life. This memorial is a tribute to his courage and bravery, and also recognizes the contribution of the Cromwell Children's Home and the many dedicated staff members to the lives of children, such as John Russell Bergendahl, during their 100 years of service. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join with me in this tribute to remember the life of John Russell Bergendahl.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed rollcall No. 429, a vote to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4700, a bill to grant the consent of Congress to the Kansas and Missouri Metropolitan Culture District Compact. Had I been present, I would have voted in the affirmative.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF NATO AIRSTRIKES ON THE FORMER REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Vojin Joksimovich, a well respected scholar of the Balkans, has given a thorough analysis of the environmental impact that the NATO airstrikes have had on the ecosystem of the Former Republic of Yugoslavia. His research and analysis are profound and compelling, that I am inserting them into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD so it may become public knowledge.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF YUGOSLAV RECONSTRUCTION: NATO ECOCIDE IN SERBIA

(By Vojin Joksimovich, Kennedy School of Government-Harvard University, April 25, 2000)

INTRODUCTION

In considering America's role in the world, it is worth starting from the premise that this has in general been extremely beneficial and positive. America's contributions to the defeat of the twin menaces of fascism and communism in this century are events of epic proportions. I myself am a refugee from Tito's brand of communism and my daughter fled from Milosevic's version. So I am personally grateful for America's role in combating this twin menace.

With this positive image of America's role in the front of my mind, I take no pleasure in saying that NATO's Kosovo war does not fit this positive pattern. In fact it was a source of evil. Many of the charges against the war are familiar to you: that it was illegal, unnecessary, counter-productive, damaging to global US interests and so on. I discuss all of these in my book ''Kosovo Crisis: A Study in Foreign Policy Mismanagement.''

Today, however, I want to draw on my professional background as a nuclear and industrial safety specialist to discuss an aspect

with which you may be less familiar, namely the huge environmental catastrophe that was wrought by NATO. As a part of my professional career, I have studied the anatomy of catastrophic nuclear and non-nuclear accidents such as Chernobyl, Three Mile Island, Bhopal, Challenger, Piper Alpha, and others. As a member of the National Academy of Sciences Committee, I have studied oil spills such as the Exxon Valdez, Amoco Cadiz and many others. These were however, caused by man (operators) or management negligence.

Indeed, I want to introduce you to a new term added by NATO to the vocabulary of war. This is ecocide. For those with environmental background this is a familiar concept. But it may be new for students of war. I mean by ecocide in this context the deliberate and conscious causation of environmental damage to achieve war aims. In history, we have seen many instances of incidental damage to the environment caused by war. For example, dropping of atomic bombs on Japan to terminate WWII. As a matter of fact, wartime environmental damage is as old as the bible. The old testament states that ''the trees in the battlefield are not men that you should besiege them'' and it advised ''not to cut down trees and not to kill animals in the enemy territory.''

But my assertion is that, through NATO's use of contemporary precision weapons to demolish the infrastructure and poison the human habitat not as a byproduct of war but as pro-active instrument of war policy, the Kosovo war broke new ground. It is a new phenomenon. This justifies the use of the new word in military vocabulary-ecocide. It is a chilling concept. I hope

NATO ECOCIDE IN SERBIA

Almost daily attacks on the chemical, petrochemical, pharmaceutical plants, plastic factories, refineries, fuel storage tanks, and the electric power grid have caused numerous industrial accidents throughout Serbia. Chemical substances released plus depleted uranium (DU) are carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic, and as such cause perilous consequences to human, plant, and animal life. Most of these substances are unlikely to kill people instantly. Soaked into the soil they percolate into the aquifer and hence the people of Serbia and the entire region will be repeatedly exposed to them. Large quantities of ammonium and ammonium elements, oil and oil derivatives, acids, and alkali leaked into rivers—including the Danube River destroying aquatic flora and fauna. The Danube, Europe's most important waterway that runs almost 2,000 miles through 11 countries, is partially dead, although it provides drinking water for some 10 million people. Furthermore, one must take into account effect on the habitat and the ozone layer of kerosene, which fueled over 1200 NATO planes participating in destruction of Yugoslavia.

Herewith, we are dealing with deliberate and calculated poisoning of the human habitat. According to a NATO spokesman, targeting encompasses an environmental assessment. Hence, the consequences should have been known. Chris Hedges, reporting in the New York Times, called NATO officials in Belgium who told him that the environmental damage caused by the attack was taken into consideration. ''When targeting is done we take into account all possible 'collateral damage', be it environmental, human, or to civilian infrastructure.'' It is apparent that NATO showed disregard for human life and the environment. We are talking about low intensity chemical and radiological warfare banned under the Geneva Convention and by the International Court. It is also a violation of the 1992 Rio Declaration on the Environment and Development, which explicitly protects the environment during war conflicts. This is a hideous stain on the moral fabric of the U.S. and its NATO allies.

In this country we celebrate the Earth Day. The Clinton-Gore administration takes a great pride in its environmental record. The environmental goals have been incorporated into the mainstream of U.S. foreign policy. In her April 10 speech to the World Resources Institute Secretary Albright stated: ''Our citizens cannot be secure if the air we breathe, the food we grow and the water we drink are at risk because the global environment is in danger.'' This is well said. My point is that we embrace environmentalism as a domestic priority. We should not subvert this internationally as we did by deliberate poisoning of Serbia, Balkans and Eastern Europe.

PANCEVO HOT SPOT

NATO repeatedly pounded Pancevo, a town of 80,000 inhabitants, located on the Danube river only 12 miles from Belgrade with its 2 million population. Pancevo is a major industrial complex including a petrochemical plant, a fertilizer plant, and a major oil refinery. An artificial canal carries wastewater and stormwater runoff directly into the Danube. NATO destroyed all 3 major industrial plants with bombs and missiles: City Refinery (seven attacks), Petrohemija petrochemical plant (two airstrikes), and Azotara fertilizer nitrogen processing plant. Petrohemija and the oil refinery were leveled. Various noxious substances were released into the environment either directly or as a result of fires. Fires raged for 10 days. The cloud of smoke was more than 10 miles long. The sun was blotted out for a day. Black rain fell on the city and surroundings. Much of the town's population was evacuated following the strikes on April 17/18.

The following substances were intensely released from the refinery as a result of burning of 80,000 tons of oil and oil products: CO_2, NO_X, soot and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Strikes at the petrochemical polyvinyl (PVC) plant and the ammonia and nitrogen fertilizer plant destroyed a reservoir with 1200 tons of vinyl chloride monomer (VCM) and 6 train cisterns of 30 tons of VCM each. 8 tons of metallic mercury leaked in the electrolysis system. Only 200 kg reached the wastecanal and 50–100 kg were found on the concrete floor. The rest likely evaporated. As a preventive measure 250 tons of liquid ammonia were released into the canal.

Fears of birth defects have tormented pregnant women. Mark Fineman reported in the Los Angeles Times, physicians recommend that all women who were in town on April 18, 1999 avoid pregnancy for at least the next 2 years. Women who were less than 9 weeks pregnant were advised to obtain abortions.

NOVI SAD

With 180,000 population, Novi Sad, located on the Danube river, is second largest city in FRY. NATO heavily targeted it with rail and road bridges across the river destroyed together with water pipelines carried by the bridges. Another principal target was the city oil refinery located only about a mile upstream from the filtration wells used for the city's water supply. The groundwater table beneath the refinery is located only 1–2 m below the surface. The water supply of Novi Sad was contaminated after 100 fuel tanks and the refinery was hit 12 times spewing oil. About 73,000 tons of crude oil and oil products burnt or leaked. Novi Sad streets were drenched with slimy, sooty rainwater. Danube was heavily contaminated. Even vast quantities of fire-extinguishing foam needed to control the 11-day blaze pose their own ecological threat.

OTHER TOWNS

Other places have been affected, such as Kragujevac, Kostolac, Lazarevac, Nis, Belgrade, Boor, Pharos and Smederevo. Bombings of the Zastava car factory in Kragujevac resulted in high levels of PCB's and dioxins; high levels of PCBs around high voltage transformers, contaminated water tanks. Some of the transformers used the highly toxic and cancerous coolant piralen. Severe air pollution from sulfur dioxide emissions, PCB contamination at transformer stations in the town of Bor in Eastern Serbia near the Bulgarian border.

APRIL 17/18 SIMULTANEOUS RELEASES

Essentially simultaneous releases of smoke plumes occurred from April 17/18 bombings of Pancevo and Novi Sad with the burning rate of 2000 tons per hour during the first 12 hours. With the methodology applied in the case of the Kuwait oil smoke plume, Prof. of Environmental Studies at Belgrade's Alternative Educational Network, Zorro Vukmirovic, and the Belgrade Institute of Meteorology estimated the trajectories of air pollution using the ETA model. The analyses show that the pollutants moved eastward over Romania, Bulgaria, Moldavia, Ukraine and the Black Sea. The lower level trajectories from Pancevo indicate pollutant tansport towards the Belgrade area in the first day. The regional transport of PAHs, dioxins and furans originating from Pancevo were registered at Xanthi in Greece.

OTHER BEYOND FRY EFFECTS

Rumania reported acid rain. The pH level of the rain stood at 5 indicating acidity instead of the normal level of 7. In many towns in the southwestern region, crops and forests were damaged and leaves fell from trees. Vineyards and crops in the southern region were also damaged. Bulgarian farmers near the towns of Kula and Belogradcik reported that flowers fell from fruit trees and vegetables began to rot on their land. Measurements of pollutants in northern Greece showed rising levels of toxin on the days the wind blew south. In Macedonia, radiation levels had risen 8 times over. Moldavia and Ukraine were affected as well.

UN ENVIRONMENT PROJECT REPORT

In late October, 1999 the UN Environmental Program and the UN Center for Human Settlements (UNCHS) issued a Balkan Task Force (BTF) report titled: ''The Kosovo Conflict: Consequences for the Environment.'' The BTF, led by former Finnish Environment Minister Pekka Haavisto, has delivered the report in timely and professional manner. The report's highlights are as follows:

The BTF established an international scientific team from 19 countries, and organized five technical missions to FRY. Governments of the following countries provided the funding: Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom. The U.S., while the principal aggressor, did not participate.

The BTF concentrated on the following five areas: (a) Environmental consequences of air strikes on industrial sites; (b) Environmental consequences of the conflict on the Danube River; (c) Consequences of the conflict on biodiversity in protected area; (d) Consequences of the conflict for human settlements and the environment in Kosovo; (e) Possible use of DU weapons in Kosovo.

The BTF concluded that, while the conflict caused widespread physical destruction, it

did not cause an environmental catastrophe affecting the Balkans region as a whole. Nevertheless, pollution detected at some sites poses a threat to human life. The BTF identified environmental hot spots in the four areas: Pancevo, Kragujevac, Novi Sad and Bor. Immediate remedial action from a humanitarian viewpoint and further monitoring and analyses were called for in order to avoid further damage to human health and ecology. Specific recommendations for the four hot spots have been developed.

Laboratory analyses of samples taken from the Danube sediment and biota revealed significant chronic pollution, both upstream and downstream of the sites directly affected by the conflict. The report strongly recommended carrying out follow-up monitoring with extension of the sampling to the confluence of major tributaries and to develop and implement an appropriate monitoring program compatible with the international standards. There is urgent need for the FRY to be integrated within international framework, which has been affected by the sanctions.

More than hundred craters were found in the Fruska Gora National Park. Craters were found in the Kopaonik and Zlatibor National Parks. A general conclusion is that conservation of biological diversity has suffered from the conflict and the sanctions.

While the BTF report represented a significant step in assessment of environmental consequences of the NATO aggression its scope was limited. As an example, the BTF

FOCUS

A team of Russian, Greek, Austrian, and Swiss experts, representing the FOCUS countries, issued a preliminary report on August 14, 1999. The principal conclusion is that Yugoslavia faces ecological disaster unless urgent measures are taken in the worst affected areas to prevent a ''possible environmental collapse''. Pancevo tops the list, followed by Novi Sad, Smederevo, Pristina, Nis, and Bor.

Some 8 tons of mercury had seeped from the electrolysis plant in Pancevo, posing a danger to human health and the environment in the Danube basin. ''The release of petroleum, oil, diesel and fertilizers into the soil and water reservoirs has resulted in the contamination of nearby facilities, towns, villages, water and mud in channels and rivers, including the Danube. This could result in changes in the ecological balance in the region and irreversible mutation in plants and animals.''

DU

NATO used armor-piercing shells loaded with the DU. This was officially confirmed in a letter from NATO Secretary General George Robertson to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. Robertson wrote that the U.S. Air Force A–10 ''tankbuster'' had concentrated their operations in disclosed parts of Kosovo but many missions were carried out outside those areas.

DU, a waste product of uranium enrichment, is essentially a radioactive waste 1.7 times denser than lead. As a waste product, it costs nothing. Its kinetic energy is sufficient to penetrate tank armor or concrete bunkers. It is both radioactive and toxic. Upon impact, the DU core partially ignites producing uranium oxide in particulates of between 0.5 and 5 microns in size. The aerosol can spread over several hundred miles, depending on wind conditions. If inhaled or ingested, it stays in the body 10 or more years (practically it does not decay because of long half-life)—irradiating the tissue around it. One ''hot particle'' in the lungs is equivalent to one chest x-ray every hour of every day for the rest of one's life. It is impossible to remove—slow irradiation takes place resulting in radiation sickness and premature death. The uranium oxide goes into the soil as well. DU's chemical toxicity presently even greater danger to human health in the short term after exposure. The kidney is the target organ. DU is incorporated into the soil taken up by vegetables, and children can handle the shrapnel.

DU has been previously used in Iraq and Bosnia. According to the Pentagon, 400,000 American and British soldiers were exposed to this DU aerosol in the Gulf War. About 200,000 of them have sought medical care since the war and about 115,000 have been diagnosed as having Gulf War Syndrome. Dr. Hari Sharma, of the University of Waterloo in Ontario, predicted an increase of 20,000–100,000 fatal cancers in veterans and Iraqi citizens. An Iraqi pediatric oncologist claims that childhood leukemia has risen 600 percent in areas of Iraq where DU was used. Stillbirths, births or abortions of fetuses with monstrous abnormalities, and other cancers in children born since 1991 have also been found. In 1996, the DU issue was brought up before the UN Human Rights Tribunal in Geneva. The tribunal condemned it and called

The Pentagon sponsored a Special Oversight Board headed by former senator Warren Rudman that produced an interim report, which recommended further studies. On the basis of studies by Pentagon and the Rand Corp., radiation was ruled out in the Gulf War illness thus far. A veterans group, the National Gulf War Resources Center, denounced the panel's findings as an ''incomplete whitewash and failure''. In addition to Dr. Sharma, Doug Rokke, a major in the U.S. Army Reserve's Medical Service Corps, is one of the biggest critics of the Pentagon.

It appears that revelations about ''friendly fire'' forced the Pentagon to admit the use of DU during the Gulf War. 29 American vehicles were contaminated by DU on the battlefield. 15 Soldiers killed and more than 60 injured by fire from DU arms. Rokke, a health physicist, was in charge of DU decontamination after the Gulf War in Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. Within 2 weeks upon return to the U.S., Rokke and other team members began developing health problems. In the 8 years since, some have died and most developed health problems. Rokke himself has difficulty breathing. His lungs are scarred and he has skin problems and damaged kidney. A urinalysis conducted 3 years later, showed a uranium level 4000 times higher than the U.S. safety limit of 0.1 micrograms per liter. ''The Department of Defense doesn't want to admit that DU is harmful because they don't want the liability.''

The British Government has been accused of a cover-up after the new evidence emerged proving that British soldiers suffered massive radiation poisoning in the Gulf. The results of urine analysis, performed by a Canadian geochemist and 500,000 times more accurate, were withheld from the public. The Government-appointed scientific advisor. Prof. Malcolm Hooper, views the Canadian results reliable and advocates a thorough investigation not only for Gulf War Veterans but also for those troops serving in Kosovo.

In spite of the above, the Pentagon confirmed that it has no plans for clean-up, despite the presence of NATO troops! Thus the hazard to Kosovo civilians and NATO troops is ignored. DU clean up is difficult and costly. The entire top layer of soil—roughly one foot deep—would have to be removed and disposed of. On October 4, 1992 an Israeli El Al cargo jet crashed in a fireball in Amsterdam killing 43 people. The plane contained 380-kg counterweights made of DU. Surface soil layer of 40 cm had been removed from the crash area.

The Sunday Times reported that 12 British servicemen are preparing to sue the British government. The Belgian government has begun a systematic review of the health of its 14,000 troops it sent to Kosovo.

YUGOSLAV MINISTRY REPORT

The author wishes to acknowledge receipt of a comprehensive report produced by the Yugoslav Ministry for Development, Science and Environment titled ''Consequences of NATO Bombing on the Environment of FRY.'' However, well-documented material in this report, other than the DU portion, has not been utilized in this write-up since it arrived only hours before this paper was finalized.

It is the only report, which has addressed the use of DU. The claim is that NATO's A–10A planes have used DU ammunition south of the 44-degree latitude including sites outside Kosovo: seven in Serbia and one in Montenegro. Evidence presented is samples and ammunition remains of 30 mm API PGI–14B and the land contamination with U–238. The coordinates of contaminated areas are marked and defined.

Tests in southern Serbia show soil samples containing concentrations of uranium over a 1000 times the natural level used as a principle for decontamination considerations. British biologist Roger Coghill said:

''This is the best first hard evidence confirming fears of scientists that parts of former Yugoslavia have been turned into nuclear wasteland. On these figures, I have no hesitation in predicting 10,000 deaths and massive increase in cancers and baby deformities as we have seen in Iraq.''

The report suggests that some mitigating measures have been undertaken including medical examinations of exposed individuals. However, the cost of decontamination or cleanup was characterized as prohibitive and cannot be done without the international aid. The report is dated February 2000 and it is not clear why the FRY government waited until April to approve it.

CONCLUSIONS

I hope you agree that I have made a convincing case that NATO's deliberate targeting and destruction of the environment in Serbia and the wider Southeast European region represents a new and deeply troubling escalation of man's inhumanity to man. I believe that the evidence is there to suggest that innocent lives of existing and even future generations have been shortened as a direct result of NATO's actions.

There seem to be two main conclusions:

In the short-term Serbia needs and is entitled to reconstruction aid from the NATO member states. NATO has a moral duty to make good the illegal destruction it caused. The economic sanctions against the Serbian people must be lifted immediately. The FRY must be allowed to rejoin international organizations it legitimately belongs to;

For the longer term, we must unite to identify ecocide as a crime against humanity

on a level with genocide and other war crimes. We must ensure that we, the civilized countries of the world, undertake never to use ecocide again.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF KEVIN J. CONNOLLY FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that today I pay tribute to a dedicated and highly respected member of the North Haven Police Department—and a dear friend—whose decision to retire ended a career in law enforcement which spanned thirty years. Chief Kevin J. Connolly leaves a legacy of integrity and commitment to excellence which will not be forgotten by his fellow officers or the citizens of North Haven.

Kevin has dedicated nearly a third of his career to leading the Department of Police Services with dignity and commitment. He has had a profound effect on the quality of life in North Haven. Nine departmental commendations, as well as various other professional accolades from local and national agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Secret Service, reflect the commitment and devotion Kevin has given to North Haven and its residents. Throughout his career, Kevin has exemplified the best qualities we associate with law enforcement officials.

I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Kevin on several issues in the time I have served in Congress. He was a tremendous help to me and my staff on the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, lending not only his knowledge and expertise, but his strong support as well. More recently he has been an invaluable resource for the many forums I have held on youth violence. As our community grapples with the pressing issue of school violence, Kevin's efforts never cease to exceed everyone's expectations. Understanding that our young people need to trust their local police force, Kevin has implemented community policing in the North Haven school district, fostering relationships with the students and curbing violence. His advocacy and hard work is a remarkable example of how law enforcement officials can partner with the community to ensure that our children are safe in their classrooms.

With his outstanding record of good work, he has demonstrated a unique commitment to public service—leaving an indelible mark on the North Haven community. It is with great pride that I join with his wife, Judy, his children, Kevin, Megan and Tara, friends, colleagues, and community members to honor my good friend, Police Chief Kevin Connolly for his outstanding service to our community. I wish him many years of continued health and happiness in his retirement.

HONORING VERNICE MCKELLAR ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Vernice McKellar on the occasion of her 100th birthday which she celebrated on June 24th, 2000. Mrs. McKellar has dedicated her life to helping others and improving her community.

Vernice McKellar was born in Kansas, but spent the majority of her years in California. At the age of seven, her family settled in Lindsay. After graduating from Lindsay High School in 1917, Vernice went on to become a registered nurse at Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara in 1926. Vernice McKellar was married to Hugh A. McKellar in 1928 and moved to Ivanhoe where she and her husband farmed a successful Sunkist Orange Ranch, which she still takes part in operating.

Vernice has been an active member of the community. Her daughter, Norene March, describes her as ''community minded.'' Her activities include volunteering for the American Red Cross, volunteer nursing in the community, and working with the PTA. Vernice is proud that she voted for the first time at age 21 and has not missed voting in an election since. Vernice encourages her friends to contribute to the Ivanhoe Youth Center in hopes of providing activities for youth and reducing gang activity in Ivanhoe.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Vernice McKellar and congratulate her on the occasion of her 100th birthday. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing her many more years of happiness and success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall vote #429 due to a late flight. Had I been present, I would have voted Yes or Aye on rollcall vote #429.