

NATO'S OBLIGATION TO THE
SERBS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, in the Boston Globe for today, Tuesday, July 27, there is an excellent editorial occasioned by the terrible murder of 14 Serb farmers in Kosovo. As the editorial notes, NATO—with the United States as a lead member—has an absolute obligation to do everything humanly possible to apprehend the murderers of these men, and of course an even greater obligation to do everything humanly possible to prevent any recurrence of this sort of outrage.

I believe that the military action in which America took the lead against Serbia was morally justified by the need to prevent the continued systematic oppression of the Albania population of Kosovo. But exactly the same moral considerations demand that we do a better job than we have of protecting the Serbian people left in Kosovo.

The Boston Globe editorial is a forceful, lucid and morally compelling statement and I ask that it be printed here.

NATO'S OBLIGATION TO THE SERBS

Precisely because NATO's justification for intervention in Kosovo was humanitarian, the NATO allies must not allow Friday's gruesome slaughter of 14 Serb peasants in Kosovo to go unpunished. A war for humanitarian motives contradicts its own purpose if it leaves one group of noncombatants unprotected.

The Serb demagogue Slobodan Milosevic understood immediately the political implications of the murders. The next day he said the slaughter of Serbs in a province that NATO still recognizes as an integral part of Serbia proves that there is a need for Yugoslav soldiers and Milosevic's special police to return to Kosovo.

Such a return of Milosevic's ethnic cleansers would, of course, vitiate NATO's military triumph. Milosevic can have no illusions about the possibility that his killers and rapists will be allowed any time soon to return to Kosovo. But his political point is well taken. If Serb civilians can be massacred at will in Kosovo, then NATO's propaganda is negated and the allies' war against Milosevic can be described as a naked power grab—an effort to steal a Serb province from its rightful owners.

To prove this was not NATO's war aim, the allies keeping the peace in Kosovo and the UN bureaucrats managing the province's rehabilitation must act quickly and decisively.

Although Hashim Thaci, the Kosovo Liberation Army's self-appointed prime minister, has said members of his provisional government "strongly condemn this act," the KLA must be encouraged to take a public role in locating the killers of the 14 Serbs. At the same time, the NATO countries must send to Kosovo the full complement of peacekeepers they promised. At present, only 60 percent of the 32,000 have arrived.

The revenge killings also illustrate the need for rapid dispatch of 3,000 more international police. Only 170, a small fraction of those committed, are yet serving in Kosovo. If the NATO allies allow Serbs to be murdered and expelled from Kosovo, they will lose in peacetime the war they thought they won from the air.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM WILSON
STERRETT

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that William Wilson Sterrett, of Independence, Missouri, passed away on June 20, 1999.

Born June 15, 1909, in Slater, Missouri, Mr. Sterrett was the son of the late Joseph B. and Elizabeth Galdwell Sterrett. He married Rachel W. Finch on December 19, 1936, in Washington, DC.

Mr. Sterrett was a 1926 graduate of Slater Higher School and a 1930 graduate of Missouri Valley College in Marshall. He attended the University of Missouri-Columbia for two years and graduated from George Washington, University Law School in 1935. He served as Deputy Circuit Clerk of Saline County from 1932-1934. He passed the Bar in December 1934 and practiced law in Saline County for 53 years at Sterrett Law Office. He was secretary to Congressman William Nelson in Washington, DC, from 1934-40. He was with the General Accounting Office in Washington, DC, for two years, the War Production board for a year, and the Air Transport Command for two years. He returned to Slater in 1946 where he served as city attorney from 1946-1981.

Mr. Sterrett was active in the community. He served as chairman of the Saline County Red Cross and on the Slater Public School board from 1948-52. He was a member, deacon, trustee, elder and Sunday school teacher at the Slater Presbyterian Church. He was president of the Saline County Bar Association from 1983-91 and vice president from 1991-93. He was a longtime member of the Slater Rotary club where he was a past president and the club's first Paul Harris Fellow in 1995. He was a United States Army/Air Corps veteran of World War II and a member of the American Legion Post #78 in Slater. He was a Boy Scout Counselor since 1950 and received the Missouri Valley College Outstanding Alumnus Award in 1996. He served on the board of directors at the State Bank of Slater for 53 years.

Mr. Speaker, I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his wife, Rachel; his two sons, Joseph and James; and his three grandchildren.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2561) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

July 27, 1999

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Chairman, in my previous statement in support of H.R. 2561, I addressed the much needed funds for KC-135 tanker aircraft that this bill provides. It is my hope that the Air Force will look at locating these reengineered National Guard aircraft consistent with ongoing total force initiatives to maximize Guard and Active efficiencies through enhanced integration and commonality of equipment.

I am also supportive of the quality of life initiatives contained in this legislation. We have provided for significant increases in spare parts, \$453 million over the request, equipment repair, \$279 million over the request, and real property maintenance, \$854 million over the request. We also provide an additional \$88 million for soldier support equipment, such as cold weather clothing and initial issue equipment. Spare parts, well-maintained facilities and quality equipment is as important to a soldier's morale as a pay raise, and this bill meets both requirements.

As Chairman of the Diabetes Caucus, I am pleased that the bill also supports a continuing project with the Joslin Diabetes Center, which serves to enhance the lives of military personnel and their dependents. The partnership with Joslin will reduce human suffering and health care costs associated with diabetes for DOD personnel and VA beneficiaries, using strengths in the areas of research, detection, prevention and managed care protocols.

This legislation will meet critical modernization and quality of life needs and deserves the support of all members.

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE BETTY
LOU STEVENSON

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the memory of Betty Lou Stevenson by submitting the following article from the Fullerton Observer, honoring her "life of inspiration", for the RECORD.

[From the Fullerton Observer, Issue Number 322, July 1999]

BETTY LOU STEVENSON—A LIFE OF
INSPIRATION

"Service Above Self" best summarizes the extraordinary life of Betty Lou Stevenson. Over 300 community members attended her memorial at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Fullerton on June 7, 1999 to honor her enormous contributions and positive, energetic spirit. She was very proud of her Scottish heritage and a bagpiper performed at her memorial service. Those in attendance also learned some of the following about this remarkable lady.

Betty Lou was born in Portland, Oregon. Her father being a construction engineer, the family moved on average of once a year, meaning Betty Lou was perpetually the "new student" in school. She learned to "go with the flow" and be comfortable in almost any social situation Betty Lou attended the University of Oregon from 1937-40, where as President of her Chi Omega sorority and of the Heads of Houses she was listed in Who's Who in America Universities and Colleges