

August 3, 1999

important educational benefits for the visitors but also provides important economic benefits to Colorado.

So, ending this program would be bad for Colorado, and something that I can't support. I urge the defeat of the amendment.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT,
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2000

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2606) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Chairman, I rise to express my support for the Moakley amendment to H.R. 2606, Foreign Operations Appropriations for FY2000.

The Moakley amendment would prohibit funding for the United States Army School of the Americas (SOA) located in Fort Benning, GA—a school which has produced some of the most notorious human rights violators in Latin America. Currently \$20 million of the U.S. taxpayers money goes to train approximately 2,000 Latin American soldiers in military techniques, ostensibly to advance respect for civil authority and human rights.

Supporters of the SOA claim this school is a key foreign policy tool for the U.S. in Latin America and the Caribbean, helping to shape the region's leadership in ways favorable to American interests. They assert that the school has played a constructive role in promoting democracy in Latin America over the last decade; in reducing the flow of illicit drugs to the United States; and in emphasizing respect for human rights and civilian control of the military through their academic curriculum.

In fact, the SOA has repeatedly proven its disregard for human rights and democratic values.

In a school professing to advance democratic values and human rights, only 15 percent of the courses offered relate to these subjects. Less than 10 percent of the student body enroll in these courses. Only 8 percent of students enroll in the counter-narcotics course in any given year. Dozens of those who have taken this course have been tied to drug trafficking.

With the help of courses such as "Methods of Torture" and "Murder 101," the SOA has produced apt pupils. When six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper, and her daughter were murdered on November 16, 1989 in El Salvador, 19 of the 26 implicated in the murders were graduates of the SOA. Two of the three officers responsible for the assassination of pacifist Archbishop Romero went to the SOA. The officer who commanded the massacre of 30 defenseless peasants in the Colombian village of Mapiripan graduated from the SOA.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Panamanian dictator and drug kingpin Manuel Antonio Noriega is one of the SOA's distinguished alumni.

These atrocious examples of terror and violence exhibit the extent to which the SOA has violated human rights and undermined democratic values throughout the Western hemisphere. Clearly, officers who attended SOA are not spreading American values of peace and democracy throughout Latin America.

It is not in American interests to continue support for the U.S. Army School of the Americas. For the sake of human rights and democracy, I urge my colleagues to support the Moakley amendment to end funding for the SOA.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2000

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2606) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, the Foreign Operations Appropriation bill for fiscal year 2000 that was reported by the appropriations subcommittee, was a fair and bipartisan bill, given the tight funding restrictions.

Although the subcommittee's allocation of \$12.8 million was \$2.7 million below the FY 1999 funding level, I am pleased that the panel included increases in critical programs such as, the Child Survival Account and the Assistance for Displaced and Orphaned and Children Account within U.S.A.I.D. These programs provide critically needed assistance to sick, needy, and orphaned children in developing countries.

I would like thank Chairman SONNY CALAHAN and Ranking Member NANCY PELOSI for including \$34 million, for the U.S. Agency for International Development's Collaborative Research Support Programs—a 100% increase over last year's funding. This program utilizes our leading universities, including the University of California, to help developing countries make improvements in agriculture. Supporting agricultural research is critical because we know that political stability is largely dependent on a developing country's ability to maintain a stable food supply. The Collaborative Research Support Program helps developing countries achieve this goal, thereby furthering our own interests as well as theirs.

However, despite the increases in these valuable programs, I must strongly object to the \$200 million that was cut from the World Bank's International Development Association at the direction of the Republican leadership. Cutting funds from this multilateral development program sends a message to other member-countries that the U.S. believes it is

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O.K. to shirk one's responsibility to developing countries. We should not send this message.

I object, not only to the substance of this cut, but also to the manner in which this cut was made. As I previously stated, the bill reported out of subcommittee was a fair, bi-partisan bill. Unfortunately, the continuing insistence of the Republican leadership to make last minute cuts to our appropriations bills during full committee and House floor consideration has sorely undermined what should be a bi-partisan process.

Not providing responsible levels of funding for our government programs not only hurts our country, but results in increased emergency spending in the long run. While I will vote in favor of the bill in order to move the process along, it is my hope that the Republican leadership will recognize the shortsightedness of this strategy and restore this bill and others to their original funding levels.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2000

SPEECH OF

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 2, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2606) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Chairman, the United States is the world's largest trader. Our exports directly support almost 12 million U.S. jobs and have accounted for 30 percent of the U.S. economic growth over the past decade. With 94 percent of the world's population and the fastest-growing markets all located overseas, there is no question that U.S. exports are key to our nation's economic success and future.

Competition for these growing markets is fierce, and competitive financing is often the critical element to winning sales for U.S. goods and services. It is therefore crucial to our nation's interest to preserve and strengthen U.S. export finance and the Export-Import Bank to provide the foundation and means for expanding overseas trade.

In FY 1998, the Bank supported \$13 billion in exports that otherwise may not have been sold. These sales have sustained tens of thousands of well-paying jobs here in the United States. Furthermore, the Bank is working to help U.S. exporters maintain a foothold in countries like South Korea and Brazil, which are suffering difficulties yet still offer important opportunities for exporters.

The Ex-Im Bank is also an important source of assistance to small businesses to sell their products overseas. Each year, the Bank services about 2,000 new small business transactions, and is involved in more than 10,000 small business transactions.

Although the overall funding for the Bank was reduced by \$1 million, the Committee did