

President who is living up to his double standard reputation once again in the twilight days of his administration, he is coming to the American people and saying: Give me more Federal firearms laws so I can enforce them and make the streets of America safer. If we have heard it once, we have heard it five times from the bully pulpit of the White House in the last 6 months: And oh, by the way, to all you Americans who did not catch my sleight of hand, I want to release a bunch of terrorists who were accused and found guilty of violating Federal firearms laws and give them clemency.

Mr. President, the American people and this Congress are simply not that dumb. We know you live a double standard and that you speak it oftentimes for political purposes. And on this one you got caught. But, because of the power of the office, you moved ahead and done it anyway.

For that I am sorry and wish we could pull that back. But at least, as a Senate, we can speak loudly, as the House did, and force this President to be honest with the American people, if not for just a moment because he has not been honest with us.

So, Mr. President, if you want to offer clemency, when somebody is found guilty of the misuse of Federal firearms laws, then do not come to this Senator or this Senate and ask for more Federal firearms laws with which you can play.

I find myself on the floor more often than I would like defending the second amendment. But I find it necessary and responsible as a Senator who takes an oath of office to uphold our Constitution because I believe the second amendment is, in fact, a constitutional right in this country. But I have been very cautious in directing or steering the Senate in the crafting of new Federal firearms laws to make sure that we do not take away from those fundamental constitutional rights, and yet the President wants sweeping new power in those areas and then wants to arbitrarily and politically decide when to forgive and forget.

Sorry, Mr. President, this time you do not get it both ways. Fool me once, my fault; fool me twice, no, I think not. That is what is happening. I am glad the American people have finally caught on.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEPLORING THE ACTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT CLINTON REGARDING GRANTING CLEMENCY TO FALN TERRORISTS—Continued

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time during the future quorum calls be charged to the minority side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on S.J. Res. 33.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SANTORUM). The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution, as modified, pass?

The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG) are necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 95, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 273 Leg.]

YEAS—95

Abraham	Daschle	Jeffords
Allard	DeWine	Johnson
Ashcroft	Dodd	Kennedy
Baucus	Domenici	Kerrey
Bayh	Dorgan	Kerry
Bennett	Durbin	Kohl
Biden	Edwards	Kyl
Bingaman	Enzi	Landrieu
Bond	Feingold	Lautenberg
Boxer	Feinstein	Leahy
Breaux	Fitzgerald	Levin
Brownback	Frist	Lieberman
Bryan	Gorton	Lincoln
Bunning	Gramm	Lott
Burns	Grams	Lugar
Byrd	Grassley	Mack
Campbell	Hagel	McConnell
Chafee	Harkin	Mikulski
Cleland	Hatch	Moynihhan
Cochran	Helms	Murkowski
Collins	Hollings	Murray
Conrad	Hutchinson	Nickles
Coverdell	Hutchison	Reed
Craig	Inhofe	Reid
Crapo	Inouye	Robb

Roberts	Shelby	Thompson
Rockefeller	Smith (NH)	Thurmond
Roth	Smith (OR)	Torricelli
Santorum	Snowe	Voinovich
Sarbanes	Specter	Warner
Schumer	Stevens	Wyden
Sessions	Thomas	

NAYS—2

Akaka Wellstone

NOT VOTING—3

Graham Gregg McCain

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 33), as modified, was passed.

The preamble, as modified, was agreed to.

The joint resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S.J. RES. 33

Whereas the Armed Forces of National Liberation (the FALN) is a militant terrorist organization that claims responsibility for the bombings of approximately 130 civilian, political, and military sites throughout the United States;

Whereas its reign of terror resulted in 6 deaths and the permanent maiming of dozens of others, including law enforcement officials;

Whereas 16 members of the FALN were tried for numerous felonies against the United States, including seditious conspiracy;

Whereas at their trials, none of the 16 defendants contested any of the evidence presented by the United States;

Whereas at their trials none expressed remorse for their actions;

Whereas all were subsequently convicted and sentenced to prison for terms up to 90 years;

Whereas not a single act of terrorism has been attributed to the FALN since the imprisonment of the 16 terrorists;

Whereas no petitions for clemency were made by these terrorists, but other persons sought such clemency for them;

Whereas on August 11, 1999, President William Jefferson Clinton offered conditional clemency to these 16 terrorists, all of whom have served less than 20 years in prison;

Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, and 2 United States Attorneys all reportedly advised the President not to grant leniency to the 16 terrorists;

Whereas the State Department in 1998 reiterated two longstanding tenets of counterterrorism policy that the United States will: "(1) make no concessions to terrorists and strike no deals"; and "(2) bring terrorists to justice for their crimes";

Whereas the President's offer of clemency to the FALN terrorists violates longstanding tenets of United States counterterrorism policy; and

Whereas the release of terrorists is an affront to the rule of law, the victims and their families, and every American who believes that violent acts must be punished to the fullest extent of the law: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That making concessions to terrorists is deplorable and that President Clinton should not have granted clemency to the FALN terrorists.

Mr. SMITH of Oregon addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.