

SENATE RESOLUTION 217

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 217, a resolution relating to the freedom of belief, expression, and association in the People's Republic of China.

SENATE RESOLUTION 220—EX-
PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE
SENATE REGARDING THE FEB-
RUARY 2000 DEPLOYMENT OF
THE U.S.S. EISENHOWER BATTLE
GROUP AND THE 24TH MARINE
EXPEDITIONARY UNIT TO AN
AREA OF POTENTIAL HOS-
TILITIES AND THE ESSENTIAL
REQUIREMENTS THAT THE BAT-
TLE GROUP AND EXPEDI-
TIONARY UNIT HAVE RECEIVED
THE ESSENTIAL TRAINING
NEEDED TO CERTIFY THE
WARFIGHTING PROFICIENCY OF
THE FORCES COMPRISING THE
BATTLE GROUP AND EXPEDI-
TIONARY UNIT

Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. LOTT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 220

Whereas the President, as Commander-in-Chief of all of the Armed Forces of the United States, makes the final decision to order a deployment of those forces into harm's way;

Whereas the President, in making that decision, relies upon the recommendations of the civilian and military leaders tasked by law with the responsibility of training those forces, including the Commander of the Second Fleet of the Navy and the Commander of the Marine Forces in the Atlantic;

Whereas the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Facility has been since World War II, and continues to be, an essential part of the training infrastructure that is necessary to ensure that maritime forces deploying from the east coast of the United States are prepared and ready to execute their assigned missions;

Whereas, according to the testimony of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Chief of Naval Operations, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps, the Island of Vieques is a vital part of the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Facility and makes an essential contribution to the national security of the United States by providing integrated live-fire combined arms training opportunities to Navy and Marine Corps forces deploying from the east coast of the United States;

Whereas, according to testimony before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the report of the Special Panel on Military Operations on Vieques, a suitable alternative to Vieques cannot now be identified;

Whereas, during the course of its hearings on September 22 and October 19, 1999, the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate acknowledged and expressed its sympathy for the tragic death and injuries that resulted from the training accident that occurred at Vieques in April 1999;

Whereas the Navy has failed to take those actions necessary to develop sound relations with the people of Puerto Rico;

Whereas the Navy should implement fully the terms of the 1983 Memorandum of Understanding between the Navy and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico regarding Vieques and work to increase its efforts to improve the economic conditions for and the safety of the people on Vieques;

Whereas in February 2000, the U.S.S. Eisenhower Battle Group and the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit are scheduled to deploy to the Mediterranean Sea and the Persian Gulf where the battle group and expeditionary unit will face the possibility of combat, as experienced by predecessor deploying units, during operations over Iraq and during other unexpected contingencies;

Whereas in a September 22, 1999, letter to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, the President stated that the rigorous, realistic training undergone by military forces "is essential for success in combat and for protecting our national security";

Whereas in that letter the President also stated that he would not permit Navy or Marine Corps forces to deploy "unless they are at a satisfactory level of combat readiness";

Whereas Richard Danzig, the Secretary of the Navy, recently testified before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate that "only by providing this preparation can we fairly ask our service members to put their lives at risk";

Whereas according to the testimony of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Chief of Naval Operations, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Vieques provides integrated live-fire training "critical to our readiness", and the failure to provide for adequate live-fire training for our naval forces before deployment will place those forces at unacceptably high risk during deployment;

Whereas Admiral Johnson, the Chief of Naval Operations, and General Jones, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, recently testified before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate that without the ability to train on Vieques, the U.S.S. Eisenhower Battle Group and the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit scheduled for deployment in February 2000 would not be ready for such deployment "without greatly increasing the risk to those men and women who we ask to go in harm's way";

Whereas Vice Admiral Murphy, Commander of the Sixth Fleet of the Navy, recently testified before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate that the loss of training on Vieques would "cost American lives";

Whereas the Navy is currently prevented as a consequence of unrestrained civil disobedience from using the training facilities on Vieques which are required to accomplish the training necessary to achieve a satisfactory level of combat readiness; and

Whereas while the Department of Defense is trying to work with the Government of Puerto Rico on a permanent solution to resolve the current training crisis, the Department of the Navy has an immediate requirement to gain access to these facilities for 13 days in December to accomplish the critical integrated training necessary to achieve a satisfactory level of combat readiness for the U.S.S. Eisenhower Battle Group and the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Secretary of the Navy should conduct the 13 days of pre-deployment training which is required to be performed on the Island of Vieques to ensure the U.S.S. Eisenhower Battle Group and the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit are free of serious deficiencies in major warfare areas, thereby reducing the risk to those men and women who we ask to go in harm's way; and

(2) the President should not deploy the U.S.S. Eisenhower Battle Group or the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit until—

(A) the President, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, the Chief of Naval Operations, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps, reviews the certifications regarding the readiness of the battle group and the expeditionary unit made by the Commander of the Second Fleet of the Navy and the Commander of the Marine Forces in the Atlantic, as the case may be; and

(B) the President determines and so notifies Congress that the battle group and the expeditionary unit are free of serious deficiencies in major warfare areas.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

DENYING SAFE HAVENS TO INTERNATIONAL AND WAR CRIMINALS ACT OF 1999

LEAHY (AND HATCH) AMENDMENT NO. 2510

Mr. GRASSLEY (for Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. HATCH)) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1754) entitled the "Denying Safe Havens to Internatioal and War Criminals Act of 1999"; as follows:

On page 30, lines 20 and 21, strike "WITH RESPECT TO IMMIGRATION LAWS".

On page 30, lines 24 and 25, strike "or proceedings under the immigration laws." and insert a period, quotation marks, and a second period.

On page 31, strike lines 1 through 8.

On page 33, line 13, insert "and" after the semicolon.

On page 33, line 15, strike "and" and insert a period, quotation marks, and a second period.

On page 33, strike lines 16 through 20.

Beginning on page 38, line 22, strike "or require" and all that follows through "transferred" on line 2 of page 39.

On page 39, line 13, after the period, insert ending quotation marks and a final period.

Beginning on page 39, strike line 14 and all that follows through line 20 on page 40.

On page 42, line 5, after "denaturalize", insert "(as otherwise authorized by law)".

NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION AMENDMENTS OF 1999

INOUE AMENDMENT NO. 2511

Mr. GRASSLEY (for Mr. INOUE) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 225) to provide housing assistance to Native Hawaiians; as follows:

On page 98, strike line 23 and all that follows through page 99, line 8.