

the President signed into law. This law requires that before American troops are deployed to Kosovo, the President must (1) certify that the presence of U.S. forces in Kosovo is necessary to the national security interests of the United States; (2) provide the reasoning behind this certification; (3) report the number of American men and women who will be deployed; (4) establish the mission and objectives of U.S. forces in Kosovo; (5) detail the expected schedule for accomplishing mission objectives; (6) outline the exit strategy for U.S. forces; (7) provide an estimate of the costs of the deployment and the funding sources that will be used to pay those costs; and (8) estimate and report the potential effects of this additional deployment on the morale, retention, and effectiveness of the Armed Forces.

These eight requirements are, in my view, the minimum amount of information a President should provide the people and their duly elected representatives prior to sending American men and women into harms way. President Clinton should follow the example of President Bush in the months leading up to the American deployments and military action in Operation Desert Storm. During that time, President Bush reached out to Congress and the American people to explain why the action was necessary and the extent and nature of its risks. Not only does President Clinton have a moral and ethical obligation to the American people to explain our interests before risking the lives of our soldiers, he has a legal obligation to report to Congress, as well. Congress was clear in its requirements, and the President must be held accountable to the law.

Regarding the interests at stake in Kosovo, it is clear that the conflict represents very little threat to American military, diplomatic, economic, or other interests. While protecting human rights is clearly an important goal of American foreign policy, it is unclear whether the deployment of U.S. ground forces will serve or complicate attempts to accomplish this goal. A long-term solution would likely be all the more difficult to reach if the U.S. intervenes as Turkey, Greece, and Russia would all likely oppose such an action. Intervention would, therefore, put U.S. troops at odds with allies and adversaries alike.

While it is unclear what effect American military action would have in Kosovo at this time, it is obvious that the current fighting has significant ramifications for Europe and North Africa. Albanian minorities in Montenegro and Greece will take cues from the international response to Kosovo, and Albania itself could face severe difficulties if NATO actions force the repatriation of tens of thousands of refugees. Clearly, Europe has an interest in stopping the violence and the flow of refugees from Yugoslavia. It is the nations of Europe, therefore, that should lead the peace effort in Kosovo and that should bear the human and economic costs of any military action.

Finally, I believe the United States should be very wary of setting a precedent for supporting independence movements within sovereign nations. While there is no doubt that Serbian forces have committed and, apparently, continue to commit deplorable acts of violence and oppression, there are political mi-

norities in virtually every country in the world that legitimately claim some degree of oppression. I do not think the American people are ready to deploy U.S. armed forces throughout the world to establish new countries for every group that seeks greater political influence. And I know that our armed forces—already stretched so thin that our readiness for engagement in a major contingency has come into question—will find it even more difficult to accomplish their primary function of national defense if the President chooses to engage in yet another unfunded, open-ended operation on foreign soil.

I have traveled to Bosnia three times and have great sympathy for all of the people living on the Balkan Peninsula. I also have great respect for the accomplishments of the peace-keeping effort in Bosnia. The crisis in Kosovo, however, represents a very different threat in need of a very different solution. I do not believe that the deployment of ground troops will serve the interest of peace, the interest of human rights, or the interests of the United States.

Furthermore, I demand that President Clinton and his administration abide by the law and provide Congress and the American people the information required under the Fiscal Year 1999 Defense Authorization Act (Pub. L. 105-262). Only through full disclosure will Congress and the American people have all the facts necessary to make a fully informed decision regarding the proposed deployment.

TERRY MCGINTY HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring the achievements of Mr. Terry McGinty to the attention of my colleagues. The Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick will honor Terry as their "Man of the Year" at this year's annual St. Patrick's Day Banquet. I am pleased to have been asked to participate in this event.

Terry is the son of Terry McGinty, Sr. and Mary Catherine McGinty of Inkerman, Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Pittston Area High School and Mansfield University, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education. Terry worked for the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for seventeen years, then moved to the Pittston Area School District to teach in the special education department. Currently, he teaches special needs students at the Martin L. Mattei Middle School. In 1990, Mr. McGinty was awarded the Annie Sullivan Award for Excellence in Teaching by the Luzerne County Intermediate Unit for his years of dedication to his special students.

Terry's love of sports has continued throughout his life. He has been a volunteer coach in several different youth sports programs including soccer and t-ball. He jointly volunteered his time with Luzerne County Commons Pleas Court Judge Mark Ciavarella at the Catholic Youth Center as coach of the

girl's swim team. Terry was honored by the Center in 1997 after leading the team to seven consecutive, undefeated championship seasons.

He has assisted coaching at the high school level in both swimming and track and has organized and coached summer programs in swimming. Terry is an avid runner and has completed two marathons and participated in triathlons and numerous other local races.

Terry and his wife, Lynn, have been hosts for Project Children which brings children from Northern Ireland to America for the summer. In 1987, the McGintys visited the family of one of their visitors in Ireland. Terry has been an active member of the Friendly Sons for many years, serving as its President in 1986 and as Program Chairman for the annual banquet for seventeen years.

Terry is a member of the American Federation of Teachers, the Knights of Columbus, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and the Laflin Homeowners Association. He and Lynn reside in Laflin and are the parents of two high school age children: Kelly and Terry, III.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with the Friendly Sons in honoring this fine educator and community volunteer as its "Man of the Year." I send my very best wishes to Terry and his family as he accepts this prestigious award.

HONORING MS. ELA CECILE TONEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Ela Cecile Toney, for her exemplary community service, and for her numerous contributions to the Brooklyn community.

Ms. Toney is a registered nurse and works as a Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner at Interfaith Medical Center. Her primary interests include reduction of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases. Throughout Ela Toney's tenure she has worked in many low income community health care organizations. She has practiced in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brownsville, East New York and Coney Island. She is a dedicated nurse who is extremely concerned about the women of her community and has lobbied in Albany to make women's health top priority.

Ms. Toney immigrated to the United States from St. Vincent and the Grenadines four decades ago. Her dream was to educate herself and help others. She has achieved both goals. She is a graduate of the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital School of Nursing and she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in nursing from Jersey City State College. Ms. Toney is a grandmother and an active member in many professional and charitable organizations.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ms. Ela Cecile Toney, who has served the Brooklyn community with pride, and is an excellent role model.