

19930

The voices of seniors must be heard—Now. I urge my colleagues in the House—lets pass a prescription drug bill before we adjourn in October of this congress. The Nation's seniors deserve more than rhetoric—they deserve action.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAMES E. ROGAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 27, 2000*

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on the afternoon and evening of September 26, 2000 and, therefore, was unable to attend any votes held during the period. Had I been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on every recorded vote. These votes include: H.R. 1248—the Violence Against Women Act; H.R. 2572—the Apollo Exploration Award Act; H.R. 5117—the Missing Children Tax Fairness Act; H.J. Res. 109—making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001; H.R. 5175—the Small Business Liability Relief Act; and H.R. 4292—the Born Alive Infants Protection Act.

PEACE THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS  
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 26, 2000*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, like all Members of this body I share the hope that Israel and its neighbors—including the Palestinians—will negotiate a comprehensive and lasting peace.

In fact, recent news suggests that Palestinian and Israeli negotiators may soon resume their formal discussions.

Does America have a role to play in helping the two sides reach a final settlement?

Of course we do.

As President Clinton has shown us—time and again—American leadership makes the difference.

But, as any mediator will tell you, there is a difference between leading—and interfering.

The measure before us is interfering.

It will have only one effect: to polarize a complex situation even further, and undermine America's ability to help the two sides come together.

That doesn't help the Israelis.

That doesn't help the Palestinians.

And it certainly doesn't help the cause of peace.

In his recent speech before the United Nations, Prime Minister Barak said: "We are standing at the Rubicon and neither of us can cross it alone."

Mr. Speaker, I for one believe America has to be prepared to cross that Rubicon with them.

But being a partner in helping to win peace, does not give us the authority to dictate its terms.s

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANTI-SEMITIC NEWSPAPER  
ARTICLE IN RUSSIA

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 27, 2000*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the fall of the Soviet Union saw the emergence of open anti-Semitism in Russia. While the government was abandoning its official policy of discrimination against Jews, anti-Semitism was being resurrected by certain political and social elements within Russian society, or "privatized," as one observer put it.

Not that anti-Semitism is a distinctly Russian phenomenon. Our own history has shown that at times of economic difficulties or societal challenge extremist figures and groups peddling anti-Semitic or other hate philosophies may arise within our midst.

Nevertheless, I was surprised and disturbed when the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews called my attention to a recent article in the Russian newspaper *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* entitled "Strategy of 'Globalization Leadership' For Russia. First Priority Indirect Strategic Actions To Ensure National Security." This article was penned by a Mr. Alexandr Ignatov, the director of a think tank under the jurisdiction of the Presidential Administration of Russia. In his lengthy opus, the author asserts that the activities of a "world government" are a key influence on globalization processes, and that a "Hasidic-paramasonic group" has usurped power within this world government. Moreover, this "Hasidic-paramasonic group" has allegedly decided that Russia should be excluded from leadership in the globalization process and be viewed exclusively as a source of raw materials for the "New World Order."

This "usurpation of power in the world government by the Hasidic-paramasonic group requires immediate correction," says Mr. Ignatov, which should include such initiatives as establishing Orthodox and Islam as state religions and imposing a departure tax on persons of childbearing age and "trained specialists."

Mr. Speaker, what can we say? Do Mr. Putin and others in the Russian Government take seriously the advice of people who prattle on about "Hasidic-paramasonic" groups usurping power in a so-called "world government"? The Ignatov article is, at best, a vacuous ramble about the "New World Order and world government, and, at worst, a vicious piece of anti-Semitism reflecting the mind set of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion. To wrap fish in it would be to insult fish.

For the record, the Russian Orthodox Church, for all its claims as the historic Christian faith in Russia, has rejected the idea of becoming the state church. Even the Soviet government backed down from the departure tax idea back in the early 1980s.

In my opinion, this article is unworthy of *Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, a widely read newspaper of a generally "centrist" orientation. I don't deny their right to print whatever they want, but I find it hard to believe that the editors of *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* want their publication to resemble some of the many anti-Semitic rags that have emerged in post-Soviet Russia.

*September 27, 2000*

In any event, I would certainly hope that the leadership of the Russian Government disavows the article, the author and certainly the policy prescriptions suggested.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 27, 2000*

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to weather delays, I was unable to participate in the following vote. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

September 25, 2000, rollcall vote 478, on recognizing the 25th anniversary of the enactment of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975, I would have voted "yea."

SERBIA DEMOCRATIZATION ACT  
OF 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARSHALL "MARK" SANFORD**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 25, 2000*

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support of H.R. 1064, The Serbia Montenegro Democracy Act of 1999. In April of last year, I offered a bill containing many of the same provisions of Mr. Smith's bill with the belief that we needed to come up with some alternative strategy, in dealing with Milosevic and the situation in the Balkans.

In wake of the alleged fraud during yesterday's election, I believe it is as important now as it was last April that we begin focusing on what we are doing in the former Yugoslavia. What this bill attempts to do is look towards the future of the region, and I believe begs a larger point of what are we doing in that part of the world.

For starters, look at the cost of our military operations in Kosovo, such as Noble Anvil, Joint Guardian, Balkan Call, Eagle Eye, Sustained Hope, Task Force Hawk thus far these programs have totaled over \$5 billion. Then add in the cost in Bosnia, roughly \$8.95 billion. Lastly, add in other missions in the Balkans and the total amount of United States taxpayers money spent in the region since 1991 comes to \$15.7 billion. I have to ask the question, where does it end?

We still have troops in Bosnia and Kosovo, despite promises to bring them home. If we have not begun to find some kind of alternative to our current strategy in Montenegro, history will repeat itself. The U.S. has already made commitment after commitment in the Balkans and a break away Montenegro would probably be no different.

So I would applaud Mr. Smith's leadership for incorporating my bill into today's legislation. I would hope that this and future administrations come up with some kind of strategy other than sending troops and bombs through the sky with the Balkans, because that seems to be our current strategy. I think that this bill is a more effective and efficient alternative.