

true democracy or to a sham democracy on the order of the one that distinguished South Africa throughout the era of apartheid?

□ 1900

It is a question we have yet to hear a satisfactory response to.

What we do know is that today ethnic Albanians are treated like second-class citizens in their own country. We know they are denied the same educational and job opportunities enjoyed by Slavic Macedonians. We know that Slavic Macedonians hold 90 percent of the public sector jobs and they compose 90 percent of the police force and that 90 percent of the university students are Slavic Macedonians. We know that Albanians are even penalized for speaking their own language. Universities which use the Albanian language are actually denied public funds.

Macedonians and Albanians should both have equal opportunities to use their native languages. Albanians are made to suffer in poorly funded schools and universities because they speak, quote, the wrong language. But that is not all. Ethnic Albanians not only have second- and third-rate schools, they have bad roads and inadequate health care.

There might be a time when Macedonia earns our applause, Mr. Speaker, but that time has not arrived and it will not until all of its people are treated equally. It will not until their constitution recognizes ethnic Albanians as citizens of Macedonia. It will not until ethnic Albanians have the right to use their own language. It will not until ethnic Albanians have the right to preserve their own cultural heritage.

Power sharing is not just about who holds the positions in the government. It is about who has what status in a society as a whole.

This is no time for baby steps or token gestures. This is the time for the Macedonian government to take action to remove the institutional discrimination against Albanian Macedonians. This is the time for the Macedonian government to take on initiatives that make amends to the Albanian people.

The challenge of democracy is that it does not ask leaders to do what is easy. It challenges them to stand up and do what is right.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion let me say that I hope that this ethnic violence in Macedonia will cease and it can only cease when equality is brought to all of its people.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION IMPROVING THE WAY WE MEMORIALIZE OUR FALLEN HEROES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GRUCCI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, with Memorial Day only 12 days from today, veterans' graves are graced with our Nation's flag on Memorial Day in my district as is customary across our Nation since the end of the Civil War.

However, too often these flags are removed immediately after the Monday observation of Memorial Day, not giving the sufficient recognition deserved these fallen heroes. The original intent of Memorial Day was for it to be a time of reflection on our hard-earned freedom and to pay our respects to those men and to those women who made the ultimate sacrifice for the citizens of our Nation and gave their lives to preserve that freedom. Yet today the true meaning of Memorial Day is often lost to a sense of commercialism.

For this reason, local veterans organizations within my district have partnered with one of our national cemeteries, Calverton National Cemetery, to improve the way we memorialize our fallen veterans. They leave the American flags in place until May 31 so that they fly in honor of our brave service men and women through to the original date of Decoration Day, May 30.

The flag is the symbol of America's greatness and all of its compassion, perseverance and values. It is part of the tapestry that has been woven with the lives and the efforts of our men and our women in uniform during times of crises that makes America what it is. It honors those brave service men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice so that freedom, peace and democracy can be assured to all of us here in this great Nation.

I and my colleagues from both sides of the aisle have sponsored House Resolution 120 which urges all cemeteries to institute this policy of maintaining the flags placed on the grave sites of American veterans on Memorial Day through at least May 31.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon my colleagues to please join me in honoring those men and women who gave their lives to preserve our freedoms.

NATIONAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues two items of concern relative to our national security. First of all, about this time last year, we heard a lot of ranting and raving in this Chamber and on national TV, allegations of massive fraud in our missile testing program. In fact, Mr. Speaker, 53 of our colleagues signed a letter to the FBI demanding an investigation of a fraud that was alleged by an MIT professor. The MIT professor said there was abuse, there was waste, that the

Defense Department deliberately lied and so did TRW.

We said let us get to the bottom because the investigation of this issue was done before. We have not heard anything from those 53 of our colleagues, Mr. Speaker, but a front page story in Bloomberg Press by Tony Capaccio cites the FBI in February throwing the whole thing out, saying it was nothing but a bunch of hogwash.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the Bloomberg news story, "FBI Clears TRW of Fraud Charge in Missile Defense Test," and the actual FBI document. The Department of Defense has been completely exonerated. For those 53 colleagues and for Ted Postol, I think you owe the Department of Defense an apology.

[From Bloomberg.com: Top Financial News, May 2001]

FBI CLEARS TRW INC. OF FRAUD CHARGE IN MISSILE DEFENSE TEST

(By Tony Capaccio)

Washington, May 4, (Bloomberg)—The Federal Bureau of Investigation cleared TRW Inc., of allegations it manipulated the test results in a program for the U.S. missile defense system, according to a government document.

It's the second time the allegation has been dismissed. A 1999 review by the Justice and Defense departments in a separate whistleblower lawsuit dealing with the same charge also found no basis for fraud in TRW's testing.

Last June, 53 members of the U.S. Congress asked the FBI to investigate charges by Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor Theodore Postol that TRW and Pentagon officials committed "fraud and cover-up," by tampering with the results of program's first test flight to conceal that company's warhead can't distinguish between decoys and the real thing.

Postol and another antimissile critic, Dr. Nira Schwartz, alleged that TRW and the Pentagon manipulated the results of a June 1997 flight test. Military and TRW officials said the company's warhead succeeded.

Postol and Schwartz claimed the data was manipulated to indicate success after the test failed. The test was conducted in a competition between TRW and Raytheon Co., which TRW eventually lost. Their charges were aired in March and June 2000 front page New York Times articles that became the basis for the congressional request and fodder for arms control critics.

The FBI closed the case in late February, saying Postol's charges were "a scientific dispute and Postol's attempts to raise it to the level of criminal conduct had no basis in fact."

The FBI's action removes a cloud over the missile defense program just as the Bush administration presses ahead with plans to expand it.

A spokesman for TRW said the company hadn't been told of the finding and is "delighted" if it's true. Both Postol and Rep. Dennis Kucinich, an Ohio Democrat who organized the congressional opposition, said they too were unaware.

TRW'S ROLE

TRW is a top subcontractor on the National Missile Defense program managed by Boeing Co. TRW provides the command and control system, or electronic brains, that receive and process target information to missile interceptors carrying Raytheon Co. hit-to-kill warheads.