

peace and quiet in the Middle East require three things: Arabs and Israelis must be treated equally; both domestically and internationally the rule of law must define the actions of governments and all members of society; and the core conflict between Palestine and Israel must be resolved in a fair, legal and sustainable manner.

Because these principles are ignored, we continue to suffer outbreaks of military savagery by Israelis and Arabs alike, for the sixth decade in a row. The flurry of international diplomacy this week to calm things down was impressive for its range and energy. But it will fail if it only aims to place an international buffer force between Hezbollah and Israel, and leave the rest of the Arab-Israeli situation as it is.

Protecting Israel has long been the primary focus of Western diplomacy, which is why it has not succeeded. For decades now Israel has established buffer zones, occupation zones, red lines, blue lines, green lines, interdiction zones, killing fields, surrogate army zones, and every other conceivable kind of zone between it and Arabs who fight its occupation and colonial policies—all without success. Here is why: protecting Israelis while leaving Arabs to a fate of humiliation, occupation, degradation and subservient acquiescence to Israeli-American dictates only guarantees that those Arabs will regroup, plan a resistance strategy, and come back one day to fight for their land, their humanity, their dignity and the prospect that their children can have a normal life one day.

In the past two decades, with every diplomatic move to protect Israel's borders and drive back Arab foes, the response has been a common quest to strike Israel from afar—because the core dispute in Palestine remains unresolved. Three Arab parties to date have missiles of various sorts that can strike Israel from greater and greater distances: Iraq, Hamas and Hezbollah. All three have made the concept of buffer zones militarily obsolete and politically irrelevant. New buffer zones imposed by the international community to protect Israel, while leaving Arab grievances to rot, will only prompt a greater determination by the next generation of young Arab men and women to develop the means to fight back, some day, in some way that we cannot now predict.

Piecemeal solutions and stopgap measures will not work any more. Ending these kinds of military eruptions requires a more determined effort to resolve the core conflict between Israel and Palestine. This would then make it easier to address equally pressing issues within Arab countries, such as Hezbollah's status as an armed resistance group or militia inside Lebanon, which itself is a consequence of Israeli attacks against Lebanon and the unresolved Palestine issue.

In Israel's determination to protect itself and the parallel Arab determination to fight back, we have the makings of perpetual war. Or, for those willing to be even-handed for once, an opening for a diplomatic solution that responds simultaneously to the legitimate rights of both sides.

In the meantime, I keep looking for a reasonably safe route back to our home in Beirut. Standing with the people of Lebanon in their moment of pain is the highest form of solidarity I can think of, and also the only meaningful form of defiance and resistance to Israel that I—and several hundred million other Arabs—can practice at the moment.

COMMEMORATION OF THE 62ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2006

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 62nd anniversary of the liberation of Guam. On July 21, 1944, Marines of the 3rd Marine Division and soldiers of the 77th Army Infantry stormed the shores of Asan and Agat to liberate the Chamorros, the indigenous people of Guam, from enemy occupation. The Imperial Japanese attacked, invaded, and then controlled Guam, at the outset of the War in the Pacific. Guam was the only American territory with a civilian population that was occupied by the enemy during World War II—an experience that had not occurred since the War of 1812.

The enemy occupation was a difficult time for the Chamorros. The Chamorro people, loyal Americans, endured atrocities including executions, beatings, forced labor, forced march and internment. They lost their freedom but remained loyal to the United States and resolute in the face of a brutal occupying force. The Chamorros proved their resilience and their patriotism during this trying time.

Today, we recall those who sacrificed. Both the liberated and the liberator are remembered. Liberation Day, which will be commemorated tomorrow on Guam, is a time for us to celebrate our freedoms and to honor those who fought and endured for our future.

The lives of many service members were lost in the battle to liberate Guam. Although the Chamorro people enjoy the freedoms they have today because of this sacrifice, the scars of their past remain. The story of the occupation and liberation of Guam is a story of courage, sacrifice, and resilience. It is a story worthy of commemoration and worthy of recognition. Liberation Day is our way of sharing and preserving this story.

The theme of Liberation Day this year is "Sustaining our Freedom, Honoring our Heroes." Last week, we honored our heroes here at our Nation's capital with a solemn Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery. I was privileged to lay a wreath with General Peter Pace, USMC, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. This wreath laying served as the national commemoration and paid tribute to the Chamorros who suffered the occupation and the Marines, Soldiers, Sailors, Coast Guardsmen, Merchant Mariners, and Airmen who lost their lives in the battle to liberate Guam.

This month the people of Guam have commemorated this sacrifice with ceremonies on our island. The people of Guam have gathered at Fena, Tinta, Faha, and Manenggon, historical sites where atrocities occurred. These sites and the stories of the horrors that occurred there remind us of the price of freedom. Tomorrow, the people of Guam will witness the annual Liberation Day parade. The parade is the culmination of the annual commemoration activities. Liberation Day is the most widely celebrated public holiday on Guam. The Liberation is a defining moment in

our island's history. It is our day to celebrate our freedom. This year we renew our commitment to the cause of freedom, we honor our manamko, and we salute our fallen veterans. Si Yu'os un benidisi Amerika yan Si Yu'os un benidisi Guahan.

THE 32ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE ILLEGAL TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 32nd anniversary of the 1974 illegal Turkish invasion of Cyprus.

I have commemorated this day each year since I became a Member of Congress.

PSEKA, the International Coordinating Committee "Justice for Cyprus", the Cyprus Federation of America, SAE, World Council of Hellenes Abroad, and the Federation of Hellenic Societies are primarily located in the 14th Congressional district of New York, which I am fortunate to represent.

These organizations have been strong advocates against the division of Cyprus and the human rights violations perpetrated by the Turkish army in Cyprus.

The United States must continue to play an active role in the resolution of the serious issues facing Cyprus. First and foremost is the ongoing illegal occupation by the Turkish military forces of the northern part of the island in violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions. The peaceful and cooperative spirit in the person-to-person, family-to-family interactions between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots is an encouraging sign for the successful reunification of Cyprus. However, it is time for Turkey to remove its troops from the island so that Cyprus can move forward as one nation.

Turkey must also show respect for the rights of the owners to their property in the north. I have introduced legislation, H. Res. 322, which expresses the sense of the House of Representatives in support of the European Court of Human Rights for its decisions in the Loizidou and Xenides-Arestis cases against Turkey. Turkey must respect these decisions while ending the illegal exploitation of Greek Cypriot properties in the areas of Cyprus under Turkish military occupation.

Earlier this month, Cypriot President Tassos Papadopoulos and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat agreed to begin a process of bi-communal discussions to find a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem. Based on President Papadopoulos' initiative, the two leaders agreed to a set of principles including a commitment to the unification of Cyprus based on a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation and political equality, as set out in the relevant Security Council resolutions; recognition that the status quo is unacceptable and that its prolongation would have negative consequences for the Turkish and Greek Cypriots; and agreement to begin a process immediately involving bi-communal discussion of issues that affect the day to day life of the people and concurrently those that concern