

CONGRATULATIONS TO MUSLIMS ON THE CELEBRATION OF EID

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my constituents and other members of the Muslim community in the United States and throughout the world who this month celebrated the holy day of Eid.

Muslims celebrate two Eids (festivals) every lunar year, Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Adha. Eid-ul-Fitr is celebrated after fasting for a whole month. During this month a Muslim distributes 2.5 percent of his annual savings in charity to the poor.

Eid-ul-Adha, Feast of the Sacrifice, takes its roots from the Patriarch of our three great faiths, Judaism, Christianity and Islam—Abraham. In recognition of the act of sacrifice and obedience with which Abraham was ready to sacrifice his beloved son, for the last 1,400 years Muslims have followed Abraham's tradition by sacrificing a lamb at the end of Hajj, the pilgrimage to Mecca.

I ask the Congress to join me in congratulating the six million Muslims in the United States and over a billion Muslims across the globe who follow the tradition of Abraham upon this occasion of celebration, sacrifice and charity.

U.S.-PAKISTAN RELATIONSHIP WORTH REPAIRING

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, some weeks ago I sent identical letters to Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and National Security Adviser Sandy Berger outlining my thoughts on some of the problems troubling the relationship between the United States and Pakistan.

I have now received replies from Mr. Berger and the Department of State. Because I believe that Pakistan is an important country and that it remains very much in the American interest to repair our tattered relations with Pakistan, I now insert this correspondence in the RECORD.

It is my hope that this will provoke a serious and sustained discussion of the U.S.-Pakistan relationship.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS,

Washington, DC, February 19, 1998.

HON. MADELEIN K. ALBRIGHT,
Secretary of State,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADELEINE: Knowing that the President intends to visit South Asia later this year, I have been giving some thought to the United States' relationship with Pakistan, particularly, the F-16 problem and other bilateral issues.

First, I am concerned that it may not be possible to have a successful presidential trip to Pakistan if we have not made any progress in addressing the F-16 issue.

You will recall that in 1995, President Clinton, meeting with then Prime Minister Bhutto, noted the apparent unfairness of the

U.S. refusal to either provide Pakistan with the F-16s it had bought or refund the money paid for the aircraft.

If, three years later, no progress has been made in resolving this issue, this will cast a cloud over the President's trip to Pakistan and preclude the resumption of anything approaching a normal relationship between the two countries.

Moreover, should Pakistan take the United States to court over this issue (as it is now considering), this would materially diminish the likelihood of a successful presidential visit and otherwise damage U.S.-Pakistan relations.

None of the obvious solutions for resolving this problem appear viable. Congress is unlikely to repeal the Pressler amendment, or to appropriate the approximately \$500 million we owe Pakistan for the F-16s. Nor does anyone hold out much hope for finding alternative buyers for these planes, which would enable us to use monies from that sale to reimburse Pakistan.

I understand there is some talk about the possibility of using a 614 waiver to permit the administration to transfer the F-16s to Pakistan, notwithstanding the Pressler amendment restrictions. I would strongly oppose this idea because of the adverse effect it would almost surely have on the credibility of our global nonproliferation policies and on our gradually warming relationship with India. I also expect that an administration attempt to use a 614 waiver in this instance would draw considerable opposition on the Hill.

Since none of the obvious solutions appear feasible, I would urge you to look into less obvious ways to deal with this problem. I understand, for instance, that some people are talking about debt forgiveness, where we would write off a portion of Pakistan's P.L. 480 or other debt in return for Pakistan waiving all claims against the United States stemming from the F-16 sale. This appears to be an idea worth exploring further.

Alternatively, I understand there is some discussion of linking the \$500 million owed Pakistan for the aircraft to a resumption of an USAID program tailored specifically to meet Pakistan's grave problems in the social sector. Under this proposal, Congress would authorize the President to enter into negotiations with Pakistan with a view to arriving at a reasonable compromise figure—perhaps in the neighborhood of \$250 million—that would be provided Pakistan, over a number of years, in return for Pakistan dropping all F-16 related claims against the United States. Even \$250 million is a considerable sum, but members of Congress might be swayed by the fairness argument so long as the planes were not being transferred, if much of this sum could be portrayed as traditional U.S. foreign assistance designed to meet basic human needs, and if the annual U.S. aid allotments were in the \$40-50 million range.

The purpose of this letter is not to advocate a specific solution, but to draw your attention to this matter, and to encourage you to redouble your efforts to ensure that the F-16 controversy does not derail the President's trip later this year.

I also believe your legal experts need to look at the specific consequences, if any, should Pakistan take the United States to court over the F-16s. I am told that at least some legal experts believe that a number of U.S. programs and sales would have to be shut down as soon as Pakistan files suit. I do not know if this is correct. If it is, Pakistan should be made aware of this at the earliest possible date, to ensure that Pakistan understands fully that bringing suit against the United States will adversely affect its own interests.

I would also urge you to investigate means by which Pakistan could be relieved of the obligation for paying storage fees for the F-16s we currently hold. Our insistence on forcing Pakistan to pay an annual storage charge for our refusal to transfer the planes costs the United States far more in ill will than it brings in revenue to the U.S. Treasury.

On a second issue in our bilateral relations, I urge you to seek legislative approval for resuming an IMET program in Pakistan. As you no doubt recall, the Senate approved such a provision last year, but it was dropped in conference, without the House ever considering the issue. While the monetary value of such a program is small, I believe resumption of this program would be perceived in Pakistan as a good will gesture and a manifestation of the United States' desire to rebuild the bilateral relationship.

Finally, while U.S. military training is an important tool for promoting American interests, I believe that the administration should place greater emphasis on helping Pakistan, within the restrictions of U.S. law, to begin to address some of its urgent domestic problems.

For instance, current law permits some population planning assistance for Pakistan. Programs of this sort should be encouraged. The administration should also renew its efforts to secure congressional approval for the democracy-building components of the Harkin amendment that failed in conference last fall.

Ultimately, the most serious threats to Pakistan are internal, not external. If we value our ties with Pakistan—and I believe we should—it would seem to be in the U.S. interest to help Pakistan address these threats, rather than encouraging Islamabad to divert scarce resources into nonproductive channels.

I would be pleased to discuss these matters with you in more detail if you would like.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

LEE H. HAMILTON,
Ranking Democratic Member.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, March 16, 1998.

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR LEE: Thank you for your very thoughtful letter regarding our relationship with Pakistan. As we prepare for the President's trip to South Asia this Fall, we are very appreciative of your insights on the important bilateral issues that complicate our relationship with that country.

Your views on the F-16 issue were of particular interest. The President fully shares your opinion on the importance of resolving this issue and on the impact it has on our bilateral relationship. I am encouraged by your helpful comments and we will give careful consideration to your suggestions of debt relief and a focused resumption of our USAID program as we review the full range of options in the weeks ahead.

I am also encouraged that you have urged the Administration to seek legislation to re-establish the IMET program in Pakistan. We continue to see IMET as an important vehicle for strengthening our ties with Pakistan and will examine how we might best go about seeking congressional support.

Thank you again for sharing your thoughts. We will consult closely with you and your colleagues as we seek solutions to these vexing problems.

Sincerely,

SAMUEL R. BERGER
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC, April 15, 1998.

Hon. LEE H. HAMILTON,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. HAMILTON: The Secretary has asked that I respond on her behalf to your letter of February 19 concerning our relations with Pakistan.

It is the Department's desire to improve our relationship and advance our long term interests with Pakistan. Like you, we believe the best way to do this is to resolve the F-16 issue while enhancing bilateral ties in other areas.

The Department is currently examining the merits of the full range of alternatives for resolving the F-16 issue. We fully appreciate that failure to settle this matter could harm bilateral relations and may precipitate a lawsuit. You may be certain that we will keep your views about debt relief and economic assistance very much in mind as we proceed.

We strongly agree with your assessment about the importance of IMET and democracy building for Pakistan and intend to seek legislative authorization to reinstitute these programs.

We also appreciate knowing of your judgment that the most serious threats facing Pakistan are internal. We agree that such matters as a stagnant economy and ineffective educational system are critical to Pakistan's long-term development and stability. Consequently, we have devoted increasing attention to helping Islamabad address these problems.

We greatly appreciate your interest in improving ties with Pakistan and look forward to working with you on all matters raised in your letter.

Sincerely,

BARBARA LARKIN,
Assistant Secretary,
Legislative Affairs.

CASIMIR S. JANISZEWSKI HON-
ORED FOR HIS OUTSTANDING
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Casimir S. Janiszewski, who will be honored May 2nd by the Pulaski Council of Milwaukee as the Polish Heritage Award Recipient at the group's annual Polish Constitution Day festivities.

Each year, the Pulaski Council of Milwaukee, which was organized to promote the civic, social and cultural interests of Americans of Polish extraction, recognizes the accomplishments of an outstanding member of the Milwaukee-area Polish community. This year's honoree, "Casey" Janiszewski, is very deserving of this prestigious award.

Casey grew up in his family's business, Superior Die Set Corporation, which was founded by his grandfather Kasimir, who immigrated from Poland in 1910. Today, Casey is the firm's President and Chief Executive Officer. His father, Casimir, is Chairman, while Casey's brother, Frank, is Executive Vice President. The company will proudly celebrate 75 years of family ownership and operation with festivities this fall.

Casey Janiszewski is truly a family man. In addition to working side-by-side for years with his father and brother, he is a loving husband

to Diane and father to Nick and Steven. He's active in his community, serving on the Board of Directors of several corporations, and the St. Josaphat Foundation. He is the Co-Chair of the Polish Fest Community Center committee, and is active in his parish, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and the Polonia Sports Club.

I applaud the Pulaski council's choice in naming Casey Janiszewski the Polish Heritage Award Recipient this year. Sto Lot!

TRIBUTE TO BILLY SUTTON

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, to paraphrase the lyrics of the great old Irish folk song, "Oh Billy, we hardly knew ye." But we loved you all the more.

For us, it all began six years before I was born. The Second World War had just ended, and a young Navy veteran named John F. Kennedy had decided to run for Congress for the old Eleventh Congressional District.

It so happened that one day in January 1946, a young Army veteran named Sergeant William Sutton was being discharged from Fort Devens. Billy loved to tell about what happened next. He'd been overseas for two years. He was finally on his way home to see his mother, and he had taken a train from Devens to North Station here. He had started up School Street, when Joe Kane spotted Billy.

Joe Kane was family, literally. Joe Kane and grandad Joe Kennedy were first cousins, and they always called each other Cousin Joe. Cousin Joe Kane knew a great deal about Boston politics, and he was the first person Grandad turned to for advice for Uncle Jack. Billy had previously worked on two campaigns in the Eleventh District and knew everyone—but everyone!—in the District. So Cousin Joe Kane knew that Billy would be a prize catch for Uncle Jack.

Cousin Joe wouldn't take no for an answer. When he caught up with Billy on School Street, he told Billy, "There's someone you have to meet. Come on over to the old Bellevue Hotel with me."

Billy said he'd been in the Army overseas for two years, and he was going home to see his mother. Cousin Joe told him, "You can see your mother later—this won't take a minute."

It took a little more than a minute, but it was love at first sight at the Bellevue. Uncle Jack loved Billy, and by the time Billy left for home, he'd signed on with Uncle Jack full time. He started the very next morning to build the organization that took Uncle Jack to victory in 1946.

A few days after that, Billy introduced Uncle Jack to another great friend of our family, a man that Billy used to sell newspapers with at the Charlestown Navy Yard, another young veteran named Dave Powers.

Two days after that, Uncle Jack made his famous visit to the meeting of the Gold Star Mothers at the American Legion Hall in Charlestown, and Billy and Dave and Uncle Jack were on their way together.

The Democratic primary that year was in June, and the day before was Bunker Hill Day, with its huge parade and celebration in

Charlestown. Billy felt they clinched the victory for Uncle Jack with their parade. Billy and Frank Dobie marched at the front with a huge banner 20 feet wide and five feet high saying "John F. Kennedy for Congress."

People used to say that Billy had organized a thousand of Uncle Jack's supporters to march in the parade. As Billy knew, it was only a little over one hundred—but they marched only three abreast, stretching themselves out as far as the eye could see, going past all the Kennedy banners they'd put on every second house along the route.

That day and many other days of Billy's ability, hard work, and incredible loyalty produced the victory that put Uncle Jack on the path to the New Frontier. He couldn't have found the way without you, Billy. We owe you big for that, and we always will.

On January 3, 1947, Uncle Jack arrived in Washington to take his seat in the House of Representatives. He had driven down overnight from Boston in a snowstorm in Aunt Eunice's Chrysler. Billy met him at the Statler Hotel. Uncle Jack was desperate for breakfast, but Billy said he was late for a Democratic Party Caucus, and Party Leader John McCormack had been calling every ten minutes to find out why he wasn't there.

But Uncle Jack said, "Mr. McCormack has been getting along without me here in Washington for 28 years. He can get along without me for another 15 minutes. Let's go into the drugstore and get some eggs."

Billy spent those first early years with Uncle Jack in Washington. In those days, he lived on the third floor of the house Uncle Jack rented on 31st Street in Georgetown. Billy had his own shower and bath, and he bragged about how often he sneaked into Uncle Jack's closet for a shirt or tie.

One day, Uncle Jack put on a pink shirt, and Billy told him in no uncertain terms, "With your complexion, a pink shirt isn't right. It's too much technicolor." So Uncle Jack took it off and handed it to Billy.

The next day, Billy walked into the room wearing the pink shirt himself. Uncle Jack looked up and said, "Well, I'm glad to see my clothes go with your complexion."

Billy was also one of the first to say to Uncle Jack that a Senate seat was winnable. And in early 1951, as the Senate race was shaping up, Billy came home to Boston to organize and help out here. And he never left again.

In Washington, he had missed his family, missed his city, and missed his state. I know how you felt, Billy.

But in all the years that followed, Billy never left us. He helped us in all of our campaigns—my campaigns, Teddy's campaigns, Dad's campaign for President—he was always there, with his trademark skill and loyalty and smile—and the legion of friends we called Billy Sutton's army.

As Billy used to say, "Compared to the Boston Irish politicians I grew up with, Jack Kennedy was like a breath of spring." Grampa Fitzgerald didn't like to hear that, but the voters understood it.

And do you know something—if it hadn't been for Billy in those early days, if Sergeant Billy Sutton had taken a different train from Fort Devens that afternoon, the Kennedys might still be in banking, and I wouldn't be here thanking Billy for making all the difference for our family.