

the end of the day. Clearly, students desire a safe haven after school, as much as their parents desire it for them.

In addition, the peak hours for juvenile crime are from 3 PM to 8 PM. We need to get kids off the streets and into safe, productive programs at their schools where they can receive help with their homework, participate in the arts, and expend positive energy on athletic competition.

We have learned so much about the development of young minds and the importance of nurturing children at a young age. Expanding after school programs will help more children benefit from supervision and constructive attention from adults. We can stimulate these young minds through tutoring opportunities, arts and computer projects, and drug prevention activities.

My bill increases the availability and affordability of quality care for 5- to 15-year-olds before and after school, as well during summers and weekends through the Child Care Development Block Grant program. It also expands the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program, which gives students a safe environment in which to do homework, receive tutoring in basic skills, benefit from college preparatory training and get experience with technology. Students also receive counseling on drug and violence prevention, learn to appreciate the arts and compete in athletics.

Finally, H.R. 3400 invests funds into after school prevention programs for areas with high at-risk youth populations. By giving these young people positive alternatives, we can dissuade them from high risk behavior and encourage productivity and positive interactions with both peers and adults.

I am proud to be the House sponsor of the America After School Act and look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to improve the care of school age children.

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

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### ENOUGH SUFFERING IN CYPRUS

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

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about a subject that has to be very difficult for anyone to listen to, particularly if one happens to be a parent.

On March 5, after nearly 24 very long years, the family of Andreas Kasapis of Detroit, Michigan, finally were assured that the remains that were found in a field on the island nation of Cyprus were that of their son, 17-year-old Andreas Kasapis. Andrew was an American citizen who, along with four other American citizens, was visiting Cyprus back in 1974 when the Turks invaded that island nation. As a result of that invasion, nearly 37 percent of the landmass of that island nation are

under Turkish control nearly a quarter of a century later; and the families of 1,619 Cypriots and Cypriot Americans have been unaccounted for.

We found out only a year or so ago in a very cursory comment from the Turkish leaders that, well, these people were all killed. Their families did not know that. For decades, their families did not know what happened, did not know if they are languishing in a prison camp, did not know if they had been killed, did not know if they were working in slavery, did not know what had happened to their families.

Here was a 17-year-old boy that, if he were alive today, would be a 41-year-old man; and only now, after spending millions of dollars in American taxpayer money to do highly sophisticated DNA tests on the bones that were found in a field, not in a grave in Cyprus, but lying in a field scattered about by plowing; and, in fact, it was very difficult, according to news reports, to find a bone that was suitable to perform the DNA test to find out that this was, indeed, the body of this 17-year-old American citizen.

Americans in this country have worried for many years and, rightfully so, about what has occurred to missing Americans who served on the battlefields of Southeast Asia and other parts of this world. We should be very concerned about this. This was not a battlefield. This was a vacation spot. This was visiting the homeland of one's parents. Americans were just in a sovereign country enjoying themselves and went through this invasion of 1974, and they were caught up, and they were killed, brutally killed.

We can only imagine how brutal the slaying had to be for these bones of the people who were killed in this one field just to be scattered and not to be dug up but to be found as farmers plow these fields and the bones come up to the surface. What a horrible, horrible picture for the family of Mr. Kasapis to have to deal with. But at least they have the peace of knowing what happened to their son. The other 1,618 families do not know what has happened.

Mr. Speaker, I would say that at this time we hope that the discovery and the identification of this one set of bones in this field nearly half a world away might lend those of us in government, those in the American community, those in the Turkish and the Greek communities, those in Cyprus, to work much harder to redouble their efforts to give answers to these families so that they can lay to rest, if not in a grave site at least in their minds and in their hearts, what happened to their loved ones nearly a quarter of a century ago.

I would hope that the world community, as we focus on Saddam Hussein and weapons of mass destruction, can take a look at what Turkey has done, take a look at the green line that divides Nicosia, take a look at the line across Cyprus that divides more than one-third of this island which prevents

Greek Cypriots from going into their homes, from worshipping in their churches, that again this sovereign nation can become one, not associated with the Greek government, not associated with the Turkish government, but as a sovereign nation where, left alone, Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots would be able to live together, would be able to have free exchanges, free elections, would be able to establish their own kind of government.

That is what the world has been waiting for. This island nation should not be divided, and the families of over 1,600 Cypriots and Cypriot Americans should not have to wait any longer.

Mr. Speaker, I say that in this nation people like Phil Christopher, who is the President of the International Coordinating Committee of Justice for Cyprus and the Pancyprrian Association; people like Andrew Manatos, the President of the National Coordinated Effort of Hellenes; and folks like Andy Athens, the President of the World Council of Hellenes Abroad; have kept this issue in the minds of the world and of Greeks and Greek Americans and, hopefully, also Turkish Americans and Turkish Cypriots. We hope that this is the beginning of putting this very painful part of history behind us, of healing the wounds and giving some peace to these families who have lost loved ones.

#### THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS REFORM AND RESTRUCTURING ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, very soon, perhaps tomorrow or next week, we will be considering H.R. 1757, the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act. This conference report not only takes an important step toward reforming the outdated structure of our foreign affairs agencies, but also it includes important provisions that I was proud to have introduced to further tighten the noose on the Castro dictatorship, while still protecting U.S. American interests.

One of the provisions that I have, for example, imposes severe limitations on the amount of assistance that the United States gives to foreign countries if those foreign countries are extending lines of credit or any kind of nuclear assistance such as petroleum, et cetera, for Cuba in the termination of their and in the completion of their nuclear power plant in Juragua, which is close to Cienfuegos, Cuba.

This nuclear power plant has been found to have severe structural defects in the construction and in the type of materials that are used; and we know that because of the individuals who have previously worked in the plant, who have defected and are now part of the United States. They have actually come to the United States Congress, testified in front of our committees, testifying that this plant suffers from

numerous structural defects; it contains inferior quality equipment.

Our concerns specifically deal with Russia, because their involvement in this perilous project was highlighted by comments made by Russian officials visiting Havana earlier this year, just a few months ago, indicating Russia's intent in providing many lines of credit for the completion of the nuclear power plant.

Russia has already extended millions of dollars in credit for the maintenance of the plant, and they will continue to do so. So it is not fair that U.S. taxpayers' dollars should go to Russia, and then Russia turns around and builds a nuclear power plant in our backyard that could have very serious security and health concerns not only for the United States citizens but for Cuban citizens and Caribbean citizens as well.

It requires also that the President gives us an annual study of those countries that are aiding Fidel Castro in the termination of this very dangerous nuclear power plant.

Other elements of this law that will be before us tomorrow or the coming week are ones that require information that has not been forthcoming from the Clinton administration, specifically the State Department, in the enforcement of title IV of Helms-Burton.

Title IV is a part of our bill that requires the State Department to deny entry into the United States of those people, those companies or individuals who are violating laws because they have illegally confiscated U.S. property from U.S. citizens; and so we wrote that law to make sure that U.S. private property rights would be protected.

Unfortunately, the administration has not been forthcoming in giving us information about who are possible violators or who they believe have not been cooperating with our laws. The Clinton administration's enforcement of this section of Helms-Burton has been, to say the least, inadequate, as only a few companies have been sanctioned, despite overwhelming evidence that dozens of companies are, in fact, in violation of this U.S. law. These reports to the U.S. Congress in a periodic fashion will make it far easier for us to make sure that this enforcement process will be actually implemented, this important part of our Helms-Burton law.

Also, we have in this bill a provision that the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) has proposed, and we were proud to help him with it, and that has to do with detailed reports that Congress should get from the Clinton administration about Cuban refugees who have been returned to Cuba. We want to make sure that U.S. officials on the island helping those refugees are suffering no reprisals from the tyrannical Castro dictatorship.

A few years ago, the administration reached this immigration accord; and it promised to monitor the Cuban refugees who are returned to Cuba to make

sure that they are not mistreated by the Castro thugs. Unfortunately, little has really been heard about these monitoring activities; and our legislation is a way to assure that this important responsibility is performed by our officials in Cuba.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, one last measure that I was proud to associate myself with and with our colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ROTHMAN), and that is to push for Israeli membership into the United Nations committee process, and that is also part of the H.R. 1757, which will be included tomorrow or next week.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, March 17, I was absent for rollcall votes number 53, 54, and 55. Had I been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on all three.

#### ISSUES FACING CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOLEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. NEUMANN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise for a variety of issues today I would like to talk about.

First, I would like to talk about a major change that has occurred that probably will not make sense to a lot of viewers in America, but has a lot of meaning out here in Washington, D.C., because the Republican Party in the change that has taken place since 1995, was being severely tested during this past week.

We heard we were going to propose a supplemental spending bill. A supplemental spending bill means we are going to spend money that was not otherwise planned during our budgetary process, spend money on things like Bosnia that had not been budgeted for; the Iraqi problem that had not been budgeted for; things like the ice storm in the Northeast, and some of the other catastrophic happenings around, emergency spending type situations around the country.

They had decided they were going to spend money on these areas that had not been included in the budget. Since 1995, every time this kind of a proposal had been made, the Republicans have gone elsewhere in the budget process, found lesser important items, and offset the new spending by eliminating items that were of lesser import. But during this past week, for the first time since 1995, for the first time they started talking about just spending this new money, without going and eliminating spending elsewhere of lesser important items.

I am happy to be here today to say congratulations to the Republican

leadership and to my colleagues that encouraged them to make the decisions to find offsets for the spending in the supplemental spending bill. We are not just going to go out and spend and spend more of our children's money. When we spend this new money, we are going to go and find other programs that are less important to eliminate. We will not spend on these lesser important programs, so we will have the money available for the expenditures that, in all fairness, whether we agree or disagree with them, have already been made; things like the Bosnian situation, Iraq, and the catastrophic happenings around the country. Those items are going to be paid for.

The money in Bosnia, whether we agree or disagree, and I disagree with our troops being there, but the fact is our troops are there, for the money to pay for those troops we are going to find offsets, find lesser important items. We are going to eliminate those lesser important items so we can afford to spend in the new areas.

This is a monumental change from where we were a week ago. A week ago the money was just going to be spent. As of today, we are hearing our leadership promise us that we are going to find offsets, find lesser important things. That is a tremendous move forward. It should not go unknown or unnoticed by the people in this great Nation we live in when those sorts of changes are made.

The other very significant issue that is being discussed out here right now is called ISTEA. What that is is reauthorization of money to build roads and infrastructure all across America. We are hearing this proposal for ISTEA is spending more money on infrastructure than what people had anticipated in the past. It is more money than some budget hawks, myself included, might originally like to see.

I think we have to look at the whole package and understand that this money, too, that is being spent over and above what was originally laid out and projected, it is being offset from areas that are of lesser significance and of lesser importance than solid roads and infrastructure for this Nation.

I think to fully understand how this came about and what is happening here, we need to understand what has happened since 1995. When we got here in 1995, the budget deficit was \$200 billion, as far as the eye could see. Even after the tax increases of 1993 the projected budget deficits were significant, as far as the eye could see.

When we got here, we controlled Washington spending. We actually got the spending growth rate in Washington to be lower than the rate of inflation for the first time in eons. By controlling the growth of Washington spending, that meant that Washington did not go into the private sector and borrow that \$200 billion out of the private sector.

It is pretty simple from here. When Washington did not take that \$200 billion out of the private sector, that