

Americans holding onto more of their hard-earned money.

We would ask that, in a bipartisan way, even with the reality of a pending election in a little more than one month's time, that we join together. For if we do not, Mr. Speaker, again, what we have done is offered a clear choice to the American people: Do they want to stand up for a plan that recognizes that we should save social security by setting aside \$1,400,000,000,000, and at the same time offering tax relief, reaffirming the promise of our individual freedoms and individual endeavors, and the fact that it is our money? Or do we want to return to the tired, old ways of the Washington bureaucracy, and the notion that Washington, D.C. knows best?

Mr. Speaker, the choice is crystal clear. But even now, while we rejoice in difference, we would ask people to cooperate, because after all, the American people have the most to gain.

CYPRUS'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to congratulate the Republic of Cyprus on the 38th anniversary of its independence today. I came down to the House floor to speak about Cyprus's Independence Day because I think it is imperative that Congress take every opportunity to highlight the fact that the Republic of Cyprus does not enjoy true independence as we understand it in the United States.

For 24 of the 38 years since Cyprus became an independent State, the northern 37 percent of the island has been occupied by an illegal Turkish occupation force. Today, some 35,000 Turkish troops remain entrenched in the self-declared Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, which has been recognized only by the regime in Ankara. This occupation continues to destabilize the region, and sadly, the Turks appear to be growing only more and more intransigent and unreasonable in moving the peace process forward.

Despite numerous outstanding U.N. resolutions calling for a negotiated settlement, and a standing offer by Cypriot President Clerides to demilitarize the island, the regime in Ankara deliberately set the peace process back.

Over the last several months, there have been some actions by the Turkish side that have been of particular cause for concern. In May, as most of us who follow the Cyprus issue know, a new attempt to resuscitate peace talks led by Ambassador Richard Holbrooke collapsed when the Turks abruptly insisted on three new and unfounded preconditions to meaningful negotiations.

These preconditions, Mr. Speaker, were absolutely ridiculous. They prompted a public rebuke from Ambassador Holbrooke, who noted that peace

talks are useless when only one party truly wants peace. Frustrated with the almost instantaneous collapse of these talks, I wrote to President Clinton urging that he adopt a hard-line policy, and use American influence with the Turkish military to get the Turks to cooperate.

Specifically, I asked that the U.S. government communicate to Ankara that there would be severe consequences in U.S.-Turkey relations if it did not prevail upon its puppet regime in Northern Cyprus to abandon these new demands and cooperate in the peace process. I have, unfortunately, seen no indication that any such message was communicated.

While I do not question the administration's commitment to bring peace to the region, I have nonetheless been disappointed with its tepid response to this newest spate of Turkish obstinance.

I am also very wary of the administration's response to another issue that I have been following closely and working on over the last few weeks. Shortly after the collapse of the peace talks, the Cypriot foreign minister was in town visiting Washington, and came to Capitol Hill to meet with Members of Congress.

At that meeting, some Members raised the issue of illegal Turkish transfers of American weapons to Northern Cyprus. This was very troubling to learn of, in light of the collapse of the peace talks, and because it was consistent with other reports of similar Turkish behavior. The illegal transfer of weapons by Turkey in fact was something I was already concerned about. On trips I had taken to Armenia, I saw firsthand American weapons that had been seized from the Azerbaijanis.

Following the meeting with the foreign minister, I decided that we ought to pursue the idea of holding congressional hearings on this topic of weapons transfers. I teamed up with the gentleman from California (Mr. BRAD SHERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN MALONEY), and sent a Dear Colleague to all Members of the House asking them to sign a letter to the chairman of the Committee on International Relations, asking him to hold hearings.

As it was being circulated, it came to the attention of Ambassador Tom Miller. Ambassador Miller is now the State Department's special coordinator for Cyprus. He subsequently contacted myself, the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), and asked if he could come to talk with us.

During the meeting, he informed me that in response to the inquiries by Members of Congress about Turkish arms transfers, the State Department would prepare a report on the matter, and that report is at this time being prepared.

In addition to the report, Ambassador Miller indicated that he would be

willing to come to my district to talk to leaders of the Greek and Cypriot communities, which he did on September 13.

I have to say, Mr. Speaker, I appreciated the Ambassador's visit to New Jersey. Everyone there, myself included, told Ambassador Miller that it was our very strong belief that Turkey with not change its behavior unless it was clear that that behavior would bring serious consequences from the international community and the United States, in particular.

But our concern was that the U.S. has not indicated to the Turkish government there would be any serious response to their activities. If anything, the U.S. gives the impression that Turkey is more important as an ally today than it was in the past, and that the administration was going out of its way to show U.S. support for Turkey in the context of its application to the European Union, its strategic significance in the Middle East, and in many other respects. Even our condemnation of human rights violations in Turkey, particularly with respect to the Kurds, I think has been insignificant.

What I would like to emphasize, though, Mr. Speaker, before I conclude tonight, is that I, along with quite a few other Members, are intent on holding Turkey accountable for its actions and bringing true independence to Cyprus. We have seen success in Northern Ireland and Bosnia. With continued vigilance, we can bring success to Cyprus.

With hard work and a hard-line policy, I must emphasize, harder than we have now, we will one day surely be able to celebrate the true independence of Cyprus on a future Independence Day.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. FOWLER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and the balance of the week on account of family medical reasons.

Ms. HARMAN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for Thursday, October 1 on account of family business.

Mr. MARTINEZ (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for Thursday, October 1 on account of personal reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CAPPS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BLUMENAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCAGGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HINCHEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HASTINGS of Washington) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. FOSSELLA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KINGSTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TALENT, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HINCHEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. WELLER, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. THUNE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. ARMEY, for 5 minutes, on October 2.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, on October 2.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, for 5 minutes, on October 5.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island) and to include extraneous material:)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

Mr. KIND.

Mr. GORDON.

Mr. TOWNS.

Mr. MCGOVERN.

Mr. HAMILTON.

Mr. GEJDENSON.

Mr. BENTSEN.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HASTINGS of Washington) and to include extraneous material:)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

Mrs. ROUKEMA.

Mr. DREIER.

Mr. PETRI.

Mr. NEY.

Mrs. MORELLA.

Mr. MCKEON.

Mr. WALSH.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

Mr. GILMAN.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MORAN of Virginia) and to include extraneous material:)

Mr. HOYER.

Mr. BENTSEN.

Mrs. CLAYTON.

Mr. KLECZKA.

Mr. STARK.

Mr. BERRY.

Mr. FARR of California.

Mr. KUCINICH.

Mr. BARCIA.

Mr. PALLONE.

Mr. DOYLE.

Mr. HINCHEY.

Mr. DAVIS of Florida.

Mr. GEJDENSON.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. THUNE) and to include extraneous material:)

Mr. PORTMAN.

Mr. MCKEON.

Mr. SAXTON.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida.

Mr. CALVERT.

Mr. GALLEGLY.

Mr. SOLOMON.

Mr. CRANE.

Mr. ENSIGN.

Mr. CANNON.

Mr. NEY.

Mr. JENKINS.

Mr. CLAY.

Mr. LANTOS.

Mr. FAZIO of California.

Mr. UPTON.

Mr. STARK.

Mr. FATTAH.

Mrs. CLAYTON.

Mr. KLECZKA.

Mr. WEYGAND.

Mr. CLYBURN.

Mr. MARKEY.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.

Mr. BERRY.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 3096. An act to correct a provision relating to termination of benefits for convicted persons.

H.R. 4060. An act making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4382. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the program for mammography quality standards.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1355. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 141 Church Street in New Haven, Connecticut, as the "Richard C. Lee United States Courthouse".

S. 2071. An act to extend a quarterly financial report program administered by the Secretary of Commerce.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, October 2, 1998, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

11387. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Acrylic Acid, Styrene, -Methyl Styrene Copolymer, Ammonium Salt; and Styrene, 2-Ethylhexyl Acrylate, Butyl Acrylate Copolymer; Exemption from the Requirements of a Tolerance [OPP-300722; FRL 6032-4] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11388. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Fluroxypyr; Pesticide Tolerance [OPP-300724; FRL-6033-4] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11389. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Mepiquat Chloride; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [OPP-300719; FRL-6032-6] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11390. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Tebufenozide; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [OPP-300721; FRL-6033-3] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11391. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Carfentrazone-ethyl; Pesticide Tolerance [OPP-300718; FRL-6032-1] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11392. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Zucchini Juice Added to Buffalo Gourd Root Powder; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-300683; FRL-6017-5] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11393. A letter from the Chief, Programs and Legislation Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting notification that the Air Force is initiating a cost comparison of Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratories (PMEL) Air-Force-wide, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2304 nt.; to the Committee on National Security.

11394. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the System's final rule—Home Mortgage Disclosure [Regulation C; Docket No. R-0999] received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.