

member command unit at the United Nations, which functions under the U.N. Security Council. In other words, this is a permanent military unit which functions directly under the control of the United Nations. It appears to be a backdoor way for creating a standing army when Congress has specifically prohibited U.S. support for a standing army.

Mr. Chairman, I want to remind my colleagues of the tragedy that occurred in Mogadishu, Somalia. We might recall watching in horror as the U.S. Army helicopter was attacked and our troops were dragged through the streets, held hostage, tortured, and killed.

Members might also recall that the multinational military unit created for the Somalia engagement functioned under the control of the U.N. An investigation revealed that the primary factor was not centralized planning, Mr. Chairman. The primary factor which led to this terrible incident was the inability of the various military commanders to communicate to one another because of the language barriers. They could not talk to one another.

If we allow another military engagement to function under the control of the U.N., similar types of tragedies are certain to happen. In fact, it happens the creation of the Rapidly Deployable Mission Headquarters could be the precursor to a deployment in highly unstable and dangerous Central African Republic. The first mission of the headquarters was reported to be in the Central African Republic, to replace the French army as it withdraws from that troubled Nation.

Just this March Congress blocked the administration's \$9.5 million request to pay the U.S. share of that mission. However, by supporting the Rapidly Deployable Mission Headquarters, the Clinton administration has simply ignored the mandate by Congress not to get our troops involved in the Central African Republic. That is the problem. That is what this amendment is addressing, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR).

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Chairman, I find myself betwixt and between two very, very good Members of this committee, two excellent Members of Congress.

If I listen to both of the Members, I find them saying almost the same thing. They are both saying we do not want a standing U.N. army, and I agree with that. The difference I see is in the point that the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) makes, which is why, when there will be a joint operation, when there will be a joint operation, do we prohibit the very best from participating?

Last October I had lunch with the head of the British forces, the head of the French forces, the head of the

Italian forces over in Bosnia, very proud people who spent their whole lives getting to the top of their profession.

It must have been very difficult for them to say what they said, but what they said was that they could not do it without the Americans; that when they went in without the Americans, their peacekeepers were chained to the light-post, and people were raped and murdered and tortured in front of them, to show them how helpless they were. All that changed when the American troops came in.

What I would like the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) to do is I would like to see the amendment of the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) move on, but I would hope that in the very long time we have between now and the conference committee, that the Members work this out so that we accomplish what I know to be the Members' mutual goals.

I would simply ask the author of this amendment if he would be willing to try to work with the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) on this, because I am hearing the Members saying way too many of the same things for us to get involved in a fight on the floor about this.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. I yield to the gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Chairman, I think the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. TAYLOR) is absolutely right. I think the goals of the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) and me are the same as the gentleman's probably are. If we can work out a better way to word this so it takes care of the concerns of the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), I will be happy to do that.

We all do not want a standing army, that is what we are all trying to avoid. I would pledge to work with the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) to see if we cannot get this wording to all of our satisfaction.

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL)

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me, and I would like to compliment the gentleman for bringing this amendment to the floor.

Mr. Chairman, I want to make a couple of points. One, the other side of the aisle has mentioned that this is only a small amount. We are just introducing this idea. We are only giving a couple of dollars now. It reminds me of the arguments in 1913, let us have an income tax, but it is only going to be a fraction of 1 percent. We know what happened. There are plans for what they are doing. This is the time to stop it.

I think another point that we ought to make is, how did they get any money already? They got it from the Defense Department. We did not even appropriate the money. They have already started it. They have used American taxpayers' money without a direct appropriation from this Congress, and it is about time we stopped that type of legislation. That is the point. Where did the money come from? The Defense Department. It goes over into the United Nations for meddling, meddling overseas. It is taken away, literally, from defense.

We have a problem in this country for national defense. We have Air Force people who do not get flying time. Our men are not trained. We do not have the right equipment. We continuously spend all our money overseas, endlessly getting involved in Bosnia and Somalia, and wherever.

I think it is policy that needs to be addressed. It is the policy that allows our administration to do this, because there is too much complicity in allowing the United Nations to assume our sovereignty.

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That is the point here. The American people deserve better protection. They deserve better protection of their money. They deserve better protection of their youngsters who may get drafted and may get sent overseas. There is a great deal of danger in the Bosnia and Kosovo area, yet here we are talking about starting a new U.N. organization that unfortunately dwells on the term and brags about rapidly deployable. That is the last thing we need from the United Nations. I would like to slow it up, but now they want to take away our sovereignty to go and get involved more easily than ever and more quickly than ever.

So this is absolutely the wrong direction that we are going in today. This is a further extension of the notion that our obligation is to police the world. We are supposed to make the world safe for democracy. Just think, since World War II, we have not had one declared war, but we sure have been fighting a lot. We have lost well over 100,000 men killed. We have lost, we have had hundreds of thousands of men injured because we have a policy that carelessly allows us to intervene in the affairs of other nations, and we allow the United Nations to assume too much control over our foreign policy.

It is up to the U.S. Congress to do something about that; that is, to take away the funding. This is a great amendment. I cannot conceive of anybody voting against this amendment and pretending that this is only a little bit.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT).

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Chairman, our President may be a