

"out-of-area." That decision already has been made and such action already undertaken. NATO has concluded that, if it is to remain relevant as a security institution, it must be able to respond beyond its traditional borders when the member-states determine that it is in their vital interest.

The question which has begun to be asked by a few of our delegates and which we must face—a question which has been indirectly discussed on several occasions this week-end—is whether NATO can act on its own, out-of-area, without a mandate from another institution such as the U.N. or CSCE.

It is certainly possible, and indeed likely, that any future NATO action could be launched under U.N. or CSCE auspices. My NATO country parliamentarians, I believe, quite strongly, that we cannot make the existence of a U.N. mandate the prerequisite for out-of-area action.

My Assembly colleagues, to do so would inappropriately turn NATO solely into a "security subcontractor" for the U.N.—a very unsatisfactory and unacceptable development.

First, while it is likely that NATO interests will coincide with the interests of the U.N. or the CSCE, we cannot depend on this happening on all occasions.

Second, we cannot always depend on action when we need it. Action can be delayed or stopped, for example, by a veto from the PRC. And the events of the last two weeks in Moscow suggest, of course, that we should not take it for granted that Russia will always, routinely, support our objectives in the Security Council.

Third, it is quite possible that the United Nations will adopt rules of engagement that NATO simply cannot accept. In Somalia, the United States is burdened with rules of engagement that have effectively undermined the ability to fulfill the mission. British, French, Canadian and other peacekeepers in Bosnia have faced similar difficulties. I would suggest that it is increasingly unacceptable for the U.N. to deny NATO peacekeepers that ability to exploit our great military capability.

Consequently, although it is not expressly stated NATO policy, I believe we must realistically acknowledge that autonomous out-of-area action is not only a possibility—it may be essential to preserve the peace. Moreover, retaining the option of autonomous out-of-area action should have a healthy deterrent value. If a potential adversary believes NATO will act out-of-area to protect its interests, such an aggressor will be less likely to provoke a crisis.

Now, colleagues, a second concern that the Presidential Task Force addressed while drafting the *America and Europe* report is the general issue of changes in force structure and ongoing reductions in defense spending. We all recognize that the risk of massive armored assault through the Fulda Gap or across the Central European Plain is now unlikely. The Cold War is over and that certainly means that it is appropriate to reduce defense expenditures within the Alliance. But, a pell-mell, preemptive, uncoordinated race to slash defense spending by the unilateral actions of our 16 member states is both reckless and counterproductive.

The members of the Alliance must coordinate our decisions on changes in force size and structure, combat support, and infrastructure. If we do not, the Alliance could well become a paper tiger. Already we see the strains brought on by existing peace-keeping commitments and the prospects for very large commitments in Bosnia.

My friends, this is too important a matter to fall back on diplomatic niceties. I must be blunt. I am concerned that my own nation may be reducing defense spending at too

rapid a rate. And, I fear that the currently announced U.S. force reductions may cause difficulties in the years ahead. But, the American reductions are modest indeed when compared with the reductions that some of our NATO allies have announced. I need not go into specifics here. In his report to the Defense and Security Committee, our Spanish colleague, Rafael Estrella, describes in detail the cascading military cuts that have begun within the Alliance.

Again, it is clear that reductions in spending and reduction in forces are now appropriate. But, I plead that these reductions take place within a comprehensive, coordinated effort. My Assembly colleagues, if our respective national parliaments refuse to support a basic minimal level for defense, the much-discussed Strategic Concept cannot protect nations when they lose either the will or means to defend themselves. We must urge our governments to use the January 1994 NATO Summit as an opportunity to realistically coordinate levels of defense spending.

In summary and conclusion, then, my Assembly colleagues, I ask you to first resist any erosion of NATO's autonomy to the U.N., WEU, or CSCE—within the territory of our NATO countries or out-of-area, and secondly to demand that our defense ministers develop by unanimous action a precise framework to strongly influence and coordinate the defense reductions and changes in our sixteen nation states.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAN MEYERS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1993

Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote 517, on H.R. 2519 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL BERRY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1993

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, over the years I have served in Congress, I have known few people who have served their community as well as Michael Berry. On Thursday, October 21, Michael will be honored before 600 people in Michigan with the presentation of the National Order of the Cedar of Lebanon Knight Award.

This special testimonial gathering of Michael's admirers, of whom I am one, will pay tribute to his professionalism and commitment to public service. He served with distinction as the chairperson of the Wayne County Road Commission. His work on that commission included his stalwart efforts on behalf of Detroit Metropolitan Airport, where his devotion and dedication resulted in the Berry International Terminal being named in his honor.

As a humanitarian, Michael Berry has made his presence and concern the object of admiration and respect. Particularly close to his heart have been his undertakings on behalf of Lebanon in the interest of peace, harmony, and justice in the Middle East. He succeeded in sending \$1.6 million worth of medical sup-

plies to three supply-drained public hospitals in Lebanon in 1992. As an executive committee member of the American Task Force for Lebanon [ATFL], he has been instrumental in providing guidance and counsel in formulating the basic principles and policies of that organization.

Mr. Speaker, it is with the same vigor and foresight that Michael has committed himself to the ongoing battle against illness and disease on the executive committee on the March of Dimes and the Board of Directors of St. Jude's Hospital. Michael has also been a contributing member of the Wayne County Citizens Committee on Juvenile Delinquency, the Keep Detroit Beautiful Committee, president of Dearborn United Community Services, board member of Children's Hospital and of the Michigan chapter of the Arthritis Foundation, and the first Muslim co-chairperson of the Greater Detroit Round Table of the National Conference of Christians, Jews, and Muslims.

Michael Berry's reputation extends beyond our community. He has served as a presidential appointee to the Small Business Conference, and was selected by the U.S. Department of State in 1966 to travel to the Near East. There, he was the featured speaker at the Dodge Hall of the American University of Beirut. He was also a featured speaker at the Palace of Justice in Lebanon, where he addressed the Lebanese Bar Association and the judiciary.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my House colleagues to join Michael's family and friends in extending the heartiest congratulations to him on the occasion of his being awarded the National Order of the Cedar of Lebanon Knight Award.

TRIBUTE TO RON NEUBAUER

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1993

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to congratulate and recognize Ron Neubauer, chief of police of St. Peters, MO, who will be elected sixth vice president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police on October 20, 1993.

This office is a volunteer position which requires an 8-year commitment. Each year, Chief Neubauer will move up a chair in the organization until he becomes the president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police [IACP]. The IACP has over 13,000 members from 83 countries. The mission of the association is to address major issues facing law enforcement throughout the world. The organization deals with national, State, and local legislation; the training of officers; testing officers and departments; and any other area that enhances law enforcement.

Ron Neubauer is a tremendous example of how members of the law enforcement community continue to make extra efforts to enhance the safety of the citizens in their community. By accepting this position, Chief Neubauer will be assisting law enforcement in St. Peters, St. Charles County, and the State of Missouri. I would ask the Members of the House of Representatives to join with me in congratulating Chief Neubauer as he accepts his new position.