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SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE FOR EMERGING DEMOCRACIES ACT OF 1990--I -- HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN (Extension of Remarks - May 23, 1990)

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HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

in the House of Representatives

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1990

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4636) to authorize supplemental economic assistance for fiscal year 1990 to support democracy in Panama and Nicaragua, and for other purposes.

Mr. DORNAN of California. Mr. Chairman, I apologize in advance for the archaic rules of the House. One of these days we will get modern and you will have a monitor under your desk where you can see what we are showing on the floor, and these cameras will be allowed, as with any studio in the world, including Romania, to come in close. Then you will be able to see what we are talking about here and can track the debate, and all those who follow the debate through you, Mr. Chairman, will understand what we are looking at.

[TIME: 1710]

Here is the plane that crashed last November in **El Salvador** carrying in surface-to-air missiles supplied by Gorbachev, on one of his worst days, through Castro. Here is the flight log of the airplane with the base that it took off from inside Nicaragua. We have this thanks to the fabulous inauguration of Violeta Chamorro, the first lady President of the Western Hemisphere--and that includes the Aztec and Inca Empires. Before she starves to death down there in Nicaragua, maybe we will get some aid to her without using the blackmail process the help the Communists in **El Salvador**

There they are, all lined up, Soviet-made surface-to-air missiles. They are shoulder-held weapons meant to terrorize and tear apart the country of **El Salvador** and possibly shoot down civilian airliners.

Mr. Chairman, the Broomfield-Byron amendment does retain some sanity in this process. This is a bill that is 2 months late. I do not know why we have let the people twist in the wind down in Panama and in Nicaragua, using **El Salvador** as a blackjack. But finally we are going to get this bill through, and the Dreier-Gilman amendment which the President dearly needs can get money down there for education, housing, and sanitation in Panama, and the Broomfield-Byron amendment will put some pressure on the government in **El Salvador**, without giving the wrong messages to the remaining

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Communist insurgency that is terrorizing, executing, and assassinating people in that little beleaguered country of **El Salvador**.

I went down there with Chairman **Moakley**, a gentleman whom I greatly respect, and he knows I mean that sincerely.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from California [Mr. Dornan] has expired.

Mr. BROOMFIELD. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 additional minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. **Dornan**].

Mr. DORNAN of California. Mr. Chairman, I went down there with Mr. Moakley. It was a group of 15. It was initially going to be all democrats, and through the pleadings of the leadership on our side, Mr. Moakley, being a gracious and fair gentleman, added five Republicans.

Now, there were some things down there that we could not interest the majority Members in doing, like visiting the home of Jennifer Casolo, the so-called church worker who had all these arms buried in her backyard. We have pictures of that, and I hope the Members will have a chance to look at those later here. But we could not interest anybody other than the five Republicans to go over to Jennifer Casolo's house.

But this is what really surprised me. When Mr. **Dreier** gets up to speak, he will show us a load of armaments captured. We met with the man who blew the whistle on this shipment, a Communist guerrilla from the insurgency named Mario. We met with him in one of the prisons. He is now talking a blue streak because he feels, without a secure situation down there, he will be the subject of an assassination. Yet we could not interest anybody on the majority side to hear the other side of the story in **El Salvador**.

The Broomfield language does what I want to see done in the name of the Jesuits. I was Jesuit-educated in all my high school years. I went to my 40th reunion Saturday night. I talked to some of the Jesuit priests at Loyola High School in Los Angeles.

It was terrible to stand in **El Salvador** at Central American University on the spot where these priests of God of the Society of Jesus were brutally slaughtered with automatic weapons by enlisted men while officers stood off in the shadows and watched. One of them, Father Joaquin Pedro Lopez y Lopez, is a cousin of the Ambassador of **El Salvador** to the United States. He was a dedicated priest who did not have anything to do with politics, ever. He was just interested in helping the poor. It is not that the others deserved to die in this horrible slaughter, but they were involved in varying degrees in politics.

I want to see justice done. But I ask the Members to consider this. Israel gets \$3 billion a year, and I voted for every nickel of that.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from California [Mr. Dornan] has again expired.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 additional minute to the gentleman from California [Mr. **Dornan**].

Mr. DORNAN of California. Mr. Chairman, Israel gets \$3 billion a year and **El Salvador** gets \$300 million, only one-tenth of what Israel gets.

There was a terrible slaughter, a human rights violation in Gaza two days ago perpetrated by a man who is undergoing tests for his sanity. He killed 8 people. The Israeli government has apologized profusely, and Israelis are going in to give blood up and down the entire length of that small

beleaguered country. This never happens when Arabs slaughter Israelis. Yassar Arafat, wherever he is hiding out, brags about any killings like that.

No one in Israel who has his sanity is suggesting that the act of this madman is a government plot, that this dishonorably discharged soldier was doing something at the government's bidding. But why is my opinion not correct on this Colonel Benevides, the officer accused in the Jesuit slaughter in El Salvador? His son had just come down with a paralyzing, debilitating disease, and he misunderstood his orders. Why am I not entitled to my opinion? I am as good an investigator as any one of the other 14 Congressmen down there. So maybe it goes no higher, and maybe there is no authorship higher than Colonel Benevides in the government. The message we are all giving to the Government down there is to pursue this case and we will not cut off aid, but we will get their attention with the Broomfield amendment.

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