

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4118

To prohibit the rescheduling or forgiveness of any outstanding bilateral debt owed to the United States by the Government of the Russian Federation until the President certifies to the Congress that the Government of the Russian Federation has ceased all its operations at, removed all personnel from, and permanently closed the intelligence facility at Lourdes, Cuba.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. DELAY, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. HYDE, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, Mr. MCCOLLUM, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, and Mr. JONES of North Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To prohibit the rescheduling or forgiveness of any outstanding bilateral debt owed to the United States by the Government of the Russian Federation until the President certifies to the Congress that the Government of the Russian Federation has ceased all its operations at, removed all personnel from, and permanently closed the intelligence facility at Lourdes, Cuba.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Russian-American
3 Trust and Cooperation Act of 2000”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 The Congress makes the following findings:

6 (1) The Government of the Russian Federation
7 maintains an agreement with the Government of
8 Cuba which allows Russia to operate an intelligence
9 facility at Lourdes, Cuba.

10 (2) The Secretary of Defense has formally ex-
11 pressed concerns to the Congress regarding the espi-
12 onage complex at Lourdes, Cuba, and its use as a
13 base for intelligence activities directed against the
14 United States.

15 (3) The Secretary of Defense, referring to a
16 1998 Defense Intelligence Agency assessment, has
17 reported that the Russian Federation leases the
18 Lourdes facility for an estimated \$100,000,000 to
19 \$300,000,000 a year.

20 (4) It has been reported that the Lourdes facil-
21 ity is the largest such complex operated by the Rus-
22 sian Federation and its intelligence service outside
23 the region of the former Soviet Union.

24 (5) The Lourdes facility is reported to cover a
25 28 square-mile area with over 1,500 Russian engi-

1 neers, technicians, and military personnel working at
2 the base.

3 (6) Experts familiar with the Lourdes facility
4 have reportedly confirmed that the base has multiple
5 groups of tracking dishes and its own satellite sys-
6 tem, with some groups used to intercept telephone
7 calls, faxes, and computer communications, in gen-
8 eral, and with other groups used to cover targeted
9 telephones and devices.

10 (7) News sources have reported that the prede-
11 cessor regime to the Government of the Russian
12 Federation had obtained sensitive information about
13 United States military operations during Operation
14 Desert Storm through the Lourdes facility.

15 (8) Academic studies assessing the threat the
16 Lourdes espionage station poses to the United
17 States cite official United States sources affirming
18 that the Lourdes facility is being used to collect per-
19 sonal information about United States citizens in the
20 private and government sectors, and offers the
21 means to engage in cyberwarfare against the United
22 States.

23 (9) It has been reported that the operational
24 significance of the Lourdes facility has grown dra-
25 matically since February 7, 1996, when then Rus-

1 sian President, Boris Yeltsin, issued an order de-
2 manding that the Russian intelligence community in-
3 crease its gathering of United States and other
4 Western economic and trade secrets.

5 (10) It has been reported that the Government
6 of the Russian Federation is estimated to have spent
7 in excess of \$3,000,000,000 in the operation and
8 modernization of the Lourdes facility.

9 (11) Former United States Government offi-
10 cials have been quoted confirming reports about the
11 Russian Federation's expansion and upgrade of the
12 Lourdes facility.

13 (12) It was reported in December 1999 that a
14 high-ranking Russian military delegation headed by
15 Deputy Chief of the General Staff Colonel-General
16 Valentin Korabelnikov visited Cuba to discuss the
17 continuing Russian operation of the Lourdes facility.

18 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON BILATERAL DEBT RESCHEDULING**
19 **AND FORGIVENESS FOR THE RUSSIAN FED-**
20 **ERATION.**

21 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
22 President—

23 (1) shall not reschedule or forgive any out-
24 standing bilateral debt owed to the United States by
25 the Government of the Russian Federation, and

1 (2) shall instruct the United States representa-
2 tive to the Paris Club of official creditors to use the
3 voice and vote of the United States to oppose re-
4 scheduling or forgiveness of any outstanding bilat-
5 eral debt owed by the Government of the Russian
6 Federation,

7 until the President certifies to the Congress that the Gov-
8 ernment of the Russian Federation has ceased all its oper-
9 ations at, removed all personnel from, and permanently
10 closed the intelligence facility at Lourdes, Cuba.

11 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON THE CLOSING OF THE INTELLIGENCE**
12 **FACILITY AT LOURDES, CUBA.**

13 Not later than 30 days after the date of the enact-
14 ment of this Act, and every 120 days thereafter until the
15 President makes a certification under section 3, the Presi-
16 dent shall submit to the Committee on International Rela-
17 tions of the House of Representatives and the Committee
18 on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report (with a classi-
19 fied annex) detailing—

20 (1) the actions taken by the Government of the
21 Russian Federation to terminate its presence and
22 activities at the intelligence facility at Lourdes,
23 Cuba; and

1 (2) the efforts by each appropriate Federal de-
2 partment or agency to verify the actions described in
3 paragraph (1).

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