

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to publicly commend the achievements of Ron Pettengill and to wish him a long and healthy retirement.

SIXTH ANNUAL HONOREES BANQUET

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, May 19, the Interracial Religious Coalition in my community will hold its Sixth Annual Honorees Banquet at the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo. The coalition is to be commended for its celebration of interracial and interreligious harmony and unity.

Four individuals who have contributed to the quality of community relations in our city will be honored at the banquet, Rev. Claude Christopher, pastor of St. Paul AME Zion Church; Joan Coleman, Toledo city councilwoman; Rev. Martin Donnelly, pastor of St. Martin DePorres; and Larry Sykes, division of business development and retail lending, Fifth Third Bank.

I also rise to commend the coalition for passing a recent resolution in response to current strife and loss of life in Lebanon:

Be it resolved that the Interracial Religious Coalition called upon its Members to pray for peace in the Middle East, pray for those who have lost their lives in the strife, and to ask our government to stop the bombing on both sides and continue the pursuit of peace.

The diplomats of Syria, Lebanon, Israel, and France brought together by the Clinton administration in Washington, DC, to arrange for monitoring of the ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah guerrillas would do well to follow their lead.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MIRA COSTA HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to salute Mira Costa High School, in the beautiful community of Manhattan Beach, on being selected for a Department of Education Blue Ribbon School Award. Mira Costa High School was 1 of only 266 schools in the Nation recognized for outstanding achievement by the students, teachers, and staff, and an education environment of the highest quality.

The Department of Education awarded Mira Costa the highest rating in areas such as instructional leadership, curriculum, student environment, and parent and community support. I am particularly impressed with Mira Costa's emphasis on technology, which is the backbone of the South Bay's economy now and in the future. In areas such as the Integrated Learning Systems Wastch Lab, the MAC lab, the school library, and as a part of the ADTECH consortium, the students of Mira Costa are developing the technological skills necessary for the 21st century.

I congratulate Mira Costa principal John Giovati, Manhattan schools superintendent

Gerald Davis, and school board trustees Kathy Campbell, Barbara Dunsmoor, Michele Memmott, Leroy Nelson, and Mary Rogers. And I especially congratulate the students and teachers of Mira Costa for setting an excellent example for other schools to follow.

A TRIBUTE TO MADELINE TAYLOR DUCKLES

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an extraordinary human being in my district, Madeline Taylor Duckles, on the occasion of her 80th birthday. The phrase, "my district" only serves to highlight the world-wide breadth of this woman's interests and achievements. Madeline Duckles, born in rural California, was fortunate to have attended the tuition-free, University of California at Berkeley and to graduate in 1937, as the first in her family to go beyond high school. While she reveled in her academic pursuits, her earlier awareness of the commonality of humankind was strengthened by the diversities of the people she met at Berkeley.

Her life at the University of California confirmed her childhood understanding that differences in peoples' outward appearance were not measures of their worth, that discrimination and hatred based on such attributes had no place in her life. The seeds of her work in opposition to discrimination, inequality, hate and war were firmly implanted during these university years.

In the 1950's the Congressional House Un-American Activities Committee [HUAC] loomed large over the country. California had its "Little Hoover" commission, and the University of California felt its own anticommunist pressures as the specter of the loyalty oath blighted freedom and integrity. Madeline, joined the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in the mid-1940's, braved the pressures and spoke out, with WILPF, against the witch hunting.

The Vietnam war grew from a buzz heard across many campuses to an early roar in Berkeley and the bay area. Madeline was one of the first American women to visit North Vietnam and was accused of providing aid and comfort to the enemy. Providing no aid or comfort, she did bring out the first information on prisoners of war held in the north. In the 1960's Madeline accepted an invitation from a women's group to address an outdoor rally in Florence. Her speech on Vietnam did not advocate the violent or otherwise overthrow of the American Government, but a report on her speech in the press brought a warning from the U.S. Consul that she might be dismissed from Italy.

A dossier on Madeline's activities exists in the FBI files, over several decades. This FBI surveillance led to concern by her family, particularly during her first trip to Vietnam, whether she would return in one piece. Despite the official intimidation, hate mail and telephone calls, Madeline visited areas and spoke with people thought by others as enemy. In each case, her choice to make that visit has been based in part or in whole on the belief that the way to peace begins by talking with those with

whom one currently has no peace. Madeline has consistently used her skills and strengths to join with those of others to make positive differences in this world.

In late 1966 physicians and concerned individuals formed the Committee of Responsibility, which sent observers to Vietnam to find war-injured children who could benefit from medical treatment in the United States. Madeline became the west coast organizer at the outset, and supervised the transit, treatment, housing, and other activities necessary for the numbers of children treated under this privately funded program. Every child whose injuries allowed for safe return to Vietnam was sent home; those who would not survive at home were helped to remain in this country where available medical skills would allow them to live. Each child, now adult, who remained in the United States is self-supporting. Madeline continued her work with WILPF/Women for Peace, which became synonymous with peaceful protest, and finally, the end to the American war in Vietnam. She served during this time as chair of the World Council for Peace.

Her activism continued after the Vietnam war. She educated us on the growth of American military power and the continued high level of armaments. She supported congressional efforts to eliminate arms stockpiling, reduction of nuclear weapons, and to focus governmental spending on strengthening our social infrastructure to enhance the lives of the children today and tomorrow.

Madeline Taylor Duckles' 80th birthday, on May 19, 1996, is the occasion for celebration by her family, friends and colleagues, and provides us the opportunity to recognize her life and dedicated work of more than half a century in support of the cherished American principles of the freedoms of speech, liberty, and equality and the right to live one's life, anywhere in peace. Madeline Taylor Duckles is a visionary who has been practicing the concept of thinking globally and acting locally throughout her lifetime; she has been a feminist before the term was coined, a humanist of the greatest kind and an American with a world vision. I am proud to have had a chance to work with her and join with her many friends in the ninth Congressional District, and all over the world to recognize her work and to salute this wonderful American.

CZECH CITIZENSHIP LAW UNAIDED BY AMENDMENT

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my disappointment regarding the progress of the Czech Republic in its on-going transition from Communist dictatorship to democracy. Overall, the Czech record is quite good. And the Czech Republic has made, possibly, the greatest strides of any countries in the region in its efforts to establishing a functioning free market. But in one particular area, the Czech record has been abysmal. Since the breakup of the Czechoslovak Federation at the end of 1992, the Czech Republic has imposed a citizenship law that discriminates against the Czech Republic's