

his country at USCG Headquarters. He later received command of another cutter, the USCGC Citrus, which was homeported in Coos Bay, OR. After finishing another productive tour, he was made chief, Cutter Management Branch, Coast Guard Pacific Area in Alameda, California.

While on duty in California, he was selected to attend the U.S. Naval War College, where he graduated with distinction, earning a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

Upon graduation, Commander Bernard was given his third command, the USCGC Decisive in St. Petersburg, Florida; he later crossdecked to the USCGC Resolute.

Most recently, he was selected in 1998 to become the liaison officer to the House of Representatives in Washington, where I can personally attest he has served every man and woman who wears the Coast Guard uniform with great distinction.

Over the course of his 24 years of service to the United States, Commander Bernard has demonstrated his versatility by serving brilliantly in both the military and legislative arenas. Al Bernard has been recognized for his achievements with numerous awards, such as the Bronze Star with "V" device for valor, the Purple Heart, and Meritorious Service Medal with an "O" device. He has also received seven Coast Guard Commendation Medals with "O" device, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon and various other awards.

He was also selected as the 1989 recipient of the U.S. Navy League's Captain David Jarvis award for professional competence and inspirational leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Commander Al Bernard on an illustrious military career. Likewise, we salute his wonderful wife, Ann, and their two children, Jason and Bernadette, who made the many sacrifices military families make in supporting their husband and father all these years. We wish Al the best of luck in all his future endeavors, for he is truly a fine example for all Americans.

56TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to take this opportunity to bring to the attention of our colleagues that today, June 6th, marks the 56th anniversary of the D-Day invasion, known as Operation Overlord.

It was 56 years ago today that a miracle of liberation began. On that morning, democracy's forces landed to end the enslavement of Europe. This miracle took place on the shores of Normandy, as 150,000 troops engaged in the largest amphibious invasion in history. Some historians have gone so far as to acclaim the liberation effort as the greatest military invasion in the history of mankind. Regardless of the label placed on the invasion, the D-Day invasion unarguably represents a noble effort to uphold democracy and free mankind from the evils of oppression and tyranny.

Operation Overlord did not represent the selfish interests of one nation. Rather, it was

a humanitarian effort that required the unification of soldiers from many nations. American, British, French, and Canadian soldiers united in a fight for freedom and liberation of not only a nation but of a multicultural, diverse continent. Rallied by this universal goal, General Dwight D. Eisenhower told his troops: "We will accept nothing less than full victory." Victory for Eisenhower and the allied troops was not just to win, it was to uphold and give back the unalienable rights that Nazi tyranny stole from the people.

The attainment of such a goal did not come without sacrifice. 6,600 Americans were killed and many more wounded.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that all Americans should join in honoring the lives that were sacrificed in that noble battle to facilitate an environment in which oppression and tyranny do not prevail.

Accordingly, I urge all of our colleagues to join in paying tribute to this red letter day in history.

TRIBUTE TO CATHERINE G. ANTON

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Cathy Anton, the Executive Director of the Safety Council of Western Massachusetts, who is leaving the Pioneer Valley to accept a new position in Florida. For over 25 years, in both the human resources and safety fields, she has consistently worked to improve the quality of life of others. As she begins the next chapter of her life, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing her, her husband Dennis, and son Geoffrey continued success.

The mission of the Safety Council is to educate and train people in business and the community in the prevention of accident and related losses, and to influence the formulation and application of safety and health policies and procedures in the region. Under the dedicated leadership of Cathy Anton, the Safety Council has done that and more. It has become the region's leading voice on health and safety issues in the workplace.

Preventing unintentional injuries on the job should be a top priority for all Americans. Safety and health are serious issues that affect every person who goes to work each day. In both the public and private sector, we have a unique responsibility to raise awareness about the importance of safety protection. With millions of workers being injured or killed each year, the need for increased education and training cannot be minimized.

Mr. Speaker, during her tenure with the Safety Council, Cathy Anton led the effort to make western Massachusetts a safer place to live and work. She has made a real difference on behalf of working men and women in Springfield and its surrounding communities. As she prepares for her next professional challenge, I would like to express my personal gratitude for all her efforts.

REMARKS OF SWEDISH PRIME MINISTER GORAN PERSSON AT THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE COMMEMORATION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 4, Members of Congress joined with representatives of the diplomatic corps, executive and judicial branch officials and hundreds of Holocaust survivors and their families to commemorate the Days of Remembrance in the Great Rotunda of the United States Capitol. The theme of this year's commemoration was "The Holocaust and the New Century: The Imperative to Remember."

After more than half a century, Mr. Speaker, we must still commemorate the horrors of the Holocaust in order to honor the memory of those victims of Hitler's twisted tyranny. At the same time, we must mark this catastrophe because mankind still has not learned the lessons of this horror, as evidenced most recently by the mass killings in Kosovo.

Mr. Speaker, the keynote speaker at this impressive event was His Excellency Goran Persson, Prime Minister of Sweden. The selection of Prime Minister Persson was particularly appropriate since he has led Sweden in its commitment to furthering Holocaust education and remembrance, both in Sweden and internationally. Under his leadership, Sweden hosted the 44-nation International Forum on the Holocaust in Stockholm last January. In his address at the closing session of the Stockholm Forum the Prime Minister issued a very appropriate call to remembrance: "It is the end of the silence, and the beginning of a new millennium . . . Although we have left the century in which the Holocaust occurred, we must continue to study it in all its dimensions, at all times. We must add more pieces to the puzzle, foster greater awareness of the causes, acquire more knowledge about the consequences."

Mr. Speaker, Prime Minister Persson has had a distinguished political career in Sweden. Since 1996, he has served as Prime Minister and Chairman of the Swedish Social Democratic Party. He previously served as Minister of Finance, Minister at the Ministry of Education, a Member of the Riksdag (Parliament), and a local government official in Katrineholm. He is married to Annika Persson, and he has two daughters.

Prime Minister Persson's remarks at this year's Day of Remembrance ceremony were moving and particularly meaningful. I ask that Prime Minister Persson's remarks be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to give them thoughtful consideration.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE OBSERVANCE, CAPITOL ROTUNDA, WASHINGTON, MAY 4, 2000

Mr. Greenberg, Mr. Meed, Excellencies of the Diplomatic Corps, Honourable Members of the U.S. Congress, Holocaust Survivors, Dear Friends: Today, we meet in the Capitol Rotunda, in the very heart of the American democracy.

Here we meet to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust and to honour survivors and liberators.

We meet to demonstrate our strong commitment to make the lessons of the past a living exhortation for the future.