

A child should live in a secure and safe environment, not in such poverty-stricken conditions that they become victims to the sex trade. Every second, more of tomorrow's leaders are orphaned. We must do all we can to ensure that the world has the opportunity to see and benefit from their leadership, their potential. Over 33 humanitarian, NGO, and child care organizations support the passage of this bill. The valuable programs in H.R. 1409 can make a world of difference for orphans, providing them shelter, medical care, food, and, eventually a new home.

Families across the United States and around the world are willing to welcome and adopt orphans from around the world. This means a new chance at a bright new future for the most vulnerable in our society. We need to do everything we can to make those possibilities a reality. I urge my colleagues to protect our children and our future by voting "yes" on H.R. 1409.

ON THE LIFE, AND VOICE, OF THE
LATE AND GREAT BILL KING

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 28, 2005

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, Holy Toledo, we've lost another great American voice.

Sadly, I rise today to commemorate and celebrate the life of Bill King—a close personal friend—and his legacy as a sports radio personality in the San Francisco Bay Area.

I was deeply saddened when I heard news of the death of this distinguished man. Over the course of the last half century Mr. King grew to become a regular presence in the lives of so many people in the Bay Area. His trademark phrase, "Holy Toledo," remains a household expression across several generations of sports enthusiasts.

Mr. King, a native of Bloomington, Illinois, began his broadcasting career with the Armed Forces Radio Network, while he was stationed on Guam following World War II. He came to the Bay Area in 1958 and worked on the San Francisco Giants broadcast team, and also for Cal football. Throughout his career he did the play-by-play for numerous historic events.

He became the first lead broadcaster for the NBA Warriors franchise when they moved to San Francisco from Philadelphia in 1962. He remained with the Warriors until 1983 and has the distinction of broadcasting through the only championship season (1974–75) in the franchise's history since moving to the Bay Area. Starting in 1966 Mr. King began a 16-year tenure broadcasting for the Oakland Raiders.

From 1981 until his passing he was the lead broadcaster for the Oakland Athletics Baseball franchise. This era included the famous 1989 "Bay Bridge" World Series between the San Francisco Giants and Oakland Athletics. The series, which the A's eventually won, was delayed for 10 days after the Loma Prieta struck the region just minutes before the start of game 3.

The Bay Area and the entire Nation will truly miss Mr. King. For so many people he was the voice that brought our national pastimes to life, play-by-play, one game at a time. I extend my sincere condolences to Mr. King's family,

including his wife Nancy Stephens, his stepdaughter, Kathleen Lowenthal, his stepson, John Stephens, and his grandchildren, Julia and John Lowenthal.

THE RENEWED JUDICIAL ASSAULT
ON MIKHAIL TREPASHKIN

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 28, 2005

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as Co-Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I would like to reiterate my concerns regarding the rule of law, or the absence of it, in the Russian Federation today. The case of Mikhail Trepashkin, which I raised in the House last November, highlights the shortcomings and corruption that plague the Russian legal system.

Trepashkin, an attorney and former Federal Security Service (FSB) officer, was arrested on October 24, 2003, just one week before he was scheduled to represent the American relatives of a victim of the 1999 bombings of two Moscow apartment buildings. He was charged with unlawful possession of a firearm. Trepashkin, at the behest of a Russian parliamentarian, had been investigating the bombings and was expected to present findings that suggested the involvement of elements of the FSB in the crime. Russian officials, however, had been quick to characterize the bombings as terrorist attacks, and blamed Chechen separatists. Trepashkin had publicly announced that his research had left him with many suspicious findings, including a statement by the landlord of one of the buildings that the FSB had forced him to falsify the identity of a basement apartment tenant, the suspected source of the blast. In addition, Trepashkin charged that a bomb discovered in an apartment building in the city of Ryazan and safely detonated before it was set to explode, was admittedly placed there by FSB officers who were reportedly conducting a "readiness exercise."

The weapon possession charge against Mr. Trepashkin fell apart in court as witnesses reported seeing a gun only in the hands of the arresting officer. However, the FSB seemed intent on derailing Trepashkin's independent inquiry, and subsequently claimed that Mr. Trepashkin had revealed classified material to unauthorized persons during the course of his investigation. In May 2004, a closed Moscow Military District Court found him guilty of divulging state secrets and sentenced him to four years in a labor camp.

Mr. Speaker, it still seems that Mr. Trepashkin was prosecuted in order to prevent him from releasing potentially damaging information regarding FSB complicity in the bombings. In other words, the security services have apparently manipulated the Russian judicial system to "get its man." As the U.S. State Department expressed it diplomatically, "The arrest and trial of Mikhail Trepashkin raised concerns about the undue influence of the FSB and arbitrary use of the judicial system."

Even though the United States and others had called for an honest and open investigation into the circumstances surrounding the case of Mr. Trepashkin, his situation remained unchanged until August 2005. Suddenly he was released early for good behavior after

completing almost half of his original four-year sentence. Regrettably, his reprieve ended as abruptly as his release. Trepashkin was detained at his home and on September 16, 2005 the regional court of Sverdlovsk overturned the lower court's early release decision. The local prosecutor who assented to Mr. Trepashkin early release has now been fired.

Trepashkin had written about the horrible jail conditions of his earlier imprisonment: hunger, sleep deprivation, withholding of medicine, and a substandard, lice-infested cell. It is now reported that conditions after his re-incarceration have become even worse. Apparently his comments to journalists during his brief release, detailing the poor jail conditions aroused the resentment of the prison guards and the administration. Trepashkin is reportedly in poor health, recently suffering an acute asthmatic attack.

Mr. Speaker, the Trepashkin case appears fraught with blatant corruption by Russian law enforcement and unacceptable manipulation of the rule of law to satisfy political vendettas. If the FSB cannot endure criticism from outside and exposure of possible malfeasance within its ranks, how effective can it be in investigating and preventing genuine threats to Russia and beyond? I believe the Russian judiciary system would be better served if the court were to adhere to its original decision to release Mikhail Trepashkin from his unwarranted confinement and allow him to return to Moscow without fear of further reprisals. Persecution of those who seek the truth is not only a violation of an individual's human rights; it further erodes Russia's already weakened democracy.

RECOGNIZING THE NAPA VALLEY
MASONIC LODGE NO. 93 OF NAPA
VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 28, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Napa Valley Masonic Lodge No. 93 of Napa Valley, California as it celebrates its 150th anniversary this Saturday, October 29, 2005.

The Napa Valley Masonic Lodge No. 93, which was founded by Napa Valley historical mason George Yount, is an institution in the Napa Valley. The first meeting was held at the Caymus Lodge in Yountville, California. In 1867, the masons of Lodge No. 93 relocated to St. Helena, my hometown, where they continue to meet today.

Since 1855, Lodge No. 93 has helped to forge a stronger brotherhood among the men of the Napa Valley. What was once a group of 13 men now boasts a membership of nearly 200. Men from all walks of life, including farmers, businessmen and doctors have joined this fraternity in an effort to not only better themselves and their families, but to also better the entire community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my fellow colleagues I would like to congratulate the Napa Valley Masonic Lodge No. 93 upon its 150th Anniversary. I wish the organization all the best in its future endeavors.