

through targeted assistance to police forces in those regions. These efforts, however, carry a degree of risk. In the case of Georgia, that risk is too high to merit the use of scarce U.S. Government resources.

We all want to be supportive of Chairman Shevardnadze in his efforts to bring peace and prosperity to his troubled country. The United States has provided more than \$250 million in food aid to Georgia since Fiscal Year 1992, which I believe demonstrates U.S. support. But the risks of establishing a police training program in Georgia outweigh any possible benefits.

Providing police training to foreign countries requires us to ask tough questions about who will benefit. Do we have reasonable assurances that those being trained are not corrupt, are committed to the rule of law, and will not engage in abusive practices?

In the case of Georgia, I do not believe we can answer "yes" to those questions. Widespread media reports, and the State Department's own reporting, indicate massive and pervasive corruption in the Government of Georgia, especially in the police forces. Much of the substantial U.S. aid already sent is reported to have been diverted—by some estimates, as much as half. Organized crime reportedly controls important sectors of the government.

Under these circumstances, it seems to me that the possibilities for abuse in a police training program are unacceptably high. The United States could too easily become associated with unlawful elements of the Georgian Government, and support for police training generally could be weakened as a result. I believe that Chairman Shevardnadze must take more forceful steps to attack criminal elements within his government before the United States put its credibility, and scarce resources, on the line with a police training program of Georgia.

I understand that an interagency team will visit Georgia in the near future to assess the need for a police training program. I believe that when you assess the risks as opposed to any possible benefits, you will agree with me that such a program at this time simply cannot be supported.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

With best regards,
Sincerely,

LEE H. HAMILTON,
Ranking Democratic Member.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC, March 7, 1995.

Hon. LEE H. HAMILTON,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. HAMILTON: Thank you for your letter of February 28 to Secretary Christopher regarding possible U.S. criminal justice assistance for the Republic of Georgia.

The Administration shares your concern that U.S. assistance and training for law enforcement personnel in the NIS not be abused by criminal or repressive elements. Recognizing the potential for misuse, our practice has been to ground our NIS programs firmly in the rule of law and respect for human rights.

Our interagency assessment team scheduled to visit Tbilisi later this month will examine precisely the issues raised in your letter. They will gather information regarding (a) Georgia's capacity to employ properly U.S. criminal justice assistance and (b) which programs might best promote democratization, human rights and the rule of law in Georgia.

In the vacuum created by the collapse of the Soviet Union, crime and corruption have gained a worrisome beachhead in the NIS. It is a problem by no means limited to Russia.

Chairman Shevardnadze, senior officials of his government and Ambassador Brown in Tbilisi repeatedly have identified crime as the most important impediment to economic and political reform in Georgia.

The danger that NIS crime poses for the nascent democracies as well as the broader international community requires a thorough consideration of the most appropriate U.S. assistance. The Georgians have asked for our help. That interagency assessment team visiting Tbilisi this month constitutes a modest response, consistent with our limited resources. We would be happy to brief you on our findings when our team returns from Tbilisi.

I hope we have been responsive to your concerns. Please feel free to call me on this or any other issue.

Sincerely,

WENDY R. SHERMAN,
*Assistant Secretary,
Legislative Affairs.*

REMEMBERING TIM SULLIVAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 1995

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, thousands of people in Monmouth, Ocean, and Middlesex Counties, NJ, were helped over the years by a dedicated public servant whose name most never knew. This public servant worked tirelessly and without personal gain or recognition assisting veterans, Social Security beneficiaries, students, and others on critical personal problems. He helped mayors and councilmen fix bridges, dredge waterways, and restore downtown areas so that men and women could work and the Jersey shore could prosper.

Timothy F. Sullivan, this public servant in the truest sense, died Saturday of a heart attack. For 17 years, from 1965 to 1982, he was administrative assistant to Representative James J. Howard, former chairman of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee.

When Jim Howard, my distinguished and accomplished predecessor, won an uphill battle for Congress in 1964, he had the good judgment to ask Tim, his good friend, fellow teacher, and campaign adviser, to come to Washington as his chief aide.

Because Democrats were rarely elected in that old Third Congressional District on any level, Jim Howard's prospects for reelection were less than bright. But Jim and Marlene Howard had been eager to take the risk and their enthusiasm was catching.

Tim and his wife, Marilyn, pulled up stakes with six young children. Tim quit his job and came to Washington to begin his long career as a trusted adviser and manager, taking the heat over the years when necessary but not claiming the credit when it was his due. He kept Jim Howard's office on an even keel through tough elections and crises in the district like life-threatening coastal hurricanes and proposals to shut down Fort Monmouth and put thousands out of work.

Through it all, he helped Jim Howard develop a reputation for excellent constituent service. Tim had a right to be proud in the early eighties when the New York Times cited a poll taken of New Jersey staffers and Members of Congress in which Jim Howard's office

operation was voted the best in the New Jersey congressional delegation.

TRIBUTE TO THE MIAMI TIMES NEWSPAPER

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the week of March 12 is Black Newspaper Week. In recognition of the important role that black newspapers have played in bringing about a fair and just society, I rise to pay special tribute to the Miami Times newspaper, one of the largest, most innovative, and important weekly newspapers in America.

After very careful and deliberative consideration Henry E. Sigismund Reeves decided that the black community could not depend on either their friends or enemies to express their ideas and aspirations. So on September 1, 1923, Henry E.S. Reeves founded the Miami Times as a voice for Miami's black community.

In its 73 years of existence the Miami Times has taken strong stances on issues such as segregation, economic opportunity, equal justice, and the positive promotion of black life. Through its efforts, the paper helped to integrate Miami's public beaches, golf courses, and played a critical role in winning concessions for Miami blacks in the successful black tourism boycott of Miami.

The Miami Times has played an important role not only as a protest journal but also as an instrument for revealing the human dimension of the black personality. White men of the day scoffed at the idea of love and family ties among blacks. By featuring blacks as parents, brides, mothers, and fathers, the paper exposed the one-dimensional treatment of blacks in the mainstream press.

Long before Ebony and Jet magazines came on the scene, the Miami Times stressed facets of black life which were ignored in white media. Black achievement, as expressed in the careers of Phyllis Wheatley, Toussaint L'Ouverture, Richard Allen, and our own Athalie "Mama" Range, Hon. Joe Lang Kershaw, and Gwen Sawyer Cherry.

The Miami Times also emphasized racial pride and other values of the black community. It chronicled the dreams, aspirations, and achievements of our community.

The Miami Times has also served as a catalyst for change between people outside of the black community. In 1987, the Miami Times became one of the first black newspapers in America to exchange editorials, letters, and articles with a Jewish newspaper, the Miami Jewish Tribune, in an effort to foster better understanding and cooperation between the two communities. At that time then, Miami Times publisher Garth Reeves believed that such a partnership between a black and a Jewish newspaper would help to close what was seen as a growing chasm between the two communities.

A few years later, the Miami Times began exchanging opinion pieces with one of America's great Spanish-language weeklies *Diario Las Americas*, in an effort to forge better links between blacks and Latinos.

Since 1923, four generations of Reeves have managed the Miami Times. Founder