

doors without Mrs. Nereson welcoming children into a classroom.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mrs. Nereson for her 57 years of educating our youth and wish her well during her retirement. Los Alamos County will be paying special tribute to Mrs. Nereson on Friday, May 19 which is being declared Jeanie Nereson Day in Los Alamos.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TONY
D'AMICO, CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 1995

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, tonight we are here to honor a gentleman who has brought so much to Joliet and to this region. He is being honored by UNICO National as their Citizen of the Year for his struggle as a young boy growing up in Italy and for his many successes as a restaurateur here in Joliet.

Mr. Anthony "Tony" D'Amico grew up in Eufemia, Italy as 1 of 11 children. Realizing his opportunities were limited in his hometown, he migrated to America in a steamship in 1920 at the age of 16. His first venture in America was in Pennsylvania where he worked at a steel company. He then moved to Joliet where he served as a member of the Local #75 Laborers Union for 22 years.

However, Mr. D'Amico's true calling was the restaurant business. He ran the lunch counter in Anderson's Gas Station from 1947-1951 and then opened his own full-time restaurant in Troy called Tony's. The short, but popular menu made Tony's a well-known eatery.

His success has not been short-lived. At the age of 91, Tony D'Amico is famous in Joliet restaurant history. He owns D'Amico's on Jefferson, D'Amico's 214, Earl's Cafe, the Sports Bar and Grill, and D'Amico's Catering, all employing 130 people.

It is Mr. D'Amico's dedication, hard work and success that brings us here tonight to honor him. He is a model citizen who represents all immigrants that have molded this great Nation of the United States of America.

So, thank you Mr. D'Amico for your inspiration and commitment to quality of life, heritage, family values and, of course, good food.

Congratulations Tony D'Amico on being named "Citizen of the Year."

HONORING A KNOX COUNTY
LEADER

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 1995

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply saddened by the death of my good friend, Herman "Vance" Mills. My family and thousands of others throughout Knox County and Kentucky are devastated by this terrible and sudden loss.

Our community has lost a topnotch businessman, an active church leader, an inspiring civic and community volunteer, a political leader, and a good Christian friend. He helped everyone he could and always was willing to sacrifice his time for others.

Vance's businesses employed dozens of local people and his high-energy, friendly style is what always stood out most.

One of Knox County's most prominent citizens, he was a man who always was known for taking care of business. In 1992, Vance received the Daniel Boone Festival Award for Outstanding Citizen because of his outstanding work for our community.

At 15, Vance started drilling wells alongside his father, Kail. In the 60's, Vance became a partner in a gas distributorship. He also owned gas stations, a rock quarry, a concrete company, a bank, and two hotels.

Vance was a man who could see the future for Barbourville, Knox County and southern and eastern Kentucky. He also had the drive and resourcefulness to make his vision a reality. These improvements meant more jobs and a better economy for the region.

Vance Mills was a great leader and a good man. He offered hope to many people in Knox County, and he will be sorely missed.

HONORING DR. PHILIP SEGAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 1995

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, On May 7, 1995 Dr. Philip Segan will be honored at the Student Sponsorship Breakfast to be held by the Riverdale Temple.

It has been noted that most of the significant life cycle events in Dr. Segan's adult life are connected to the Riverdale Temple. It is rare that we find someone so committed to his community and his religious ideals.

Dr. Segan has served as co-president of the Parents' Association and then as chairperson of the schools committee. But Dr. Segan's work with the temple did not stop when his children grew up. He went on to become temple vice president and then in 1990 became the temple's 18th president—a number with great significance in Judaism.

Dr. Segan and his family have also worked with indigent families in the surrounding community through the Kingsbridge, Riverdale, Marble Hill Food and Hunger Project. Now a former Schools Committee chairperson, still an active member, and past president of the temple, Dr. Segan remains actively involved in social and educational causes both in the temple and the community.

I join with Dr. Segan's family, friends and fellow temple members in congratulating him on this honor.

THE NEED FOR UNITED NATIONS
REFORM

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, there is growing pressure in the Congress for meaningful reforms in the United Nations system. Due to U.S. budgetary constraints, the need to pare down our contributions to the United Nations and focus our resources on its most effective programs has become more urgent.

On April 7, I wrote to Secretary of State Warren Christopher urging high-level attention

to the issue of U.N. reform. On May 4, I received the State Department's response.

Because there is a high degree of congressional interest in this issue, I ask that this correspondence be included in the RECORD.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC, May 4, 1995.

Hon. LEE HAMILTON,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. HAMILTON: Secretary Christopher has asked me to respond to your letter of April 7 regarding our UN reform efforts and the possibility that Congress will not approve the full amount of our request for contributions for the UN System.

We agree that UN reform is a high priority. Like most international—and national—institutions, the UN must adapt to changing times if it is to succeed. Today, that means learning, whenever possible, to deliver better results at a lower cost. That is a goal we are working with other UN members and the UN Secretariat to achieve.

As you rightly note, this Administration has taken the lead on UN reform in preparations for the Halifax Summit. We believe that the Group of Seven should commit themselves to improve the UN's efficiency, productivity and professionalism, and to make more equitable the scale of assessments for peacekeeping. We are working cooperatively with our G-7 partners in an effort to reach consensus on these issues and to increase the likelihood that we will gain support elsewhere. It is a fact of life that real reform cannot be achieved at the United Nations without broad support from other countries.

Overall, the Administration supports peacekeeping, management, personnel and budgetary reforms designed to produce greater value for each dollar we—and others—contribute to the UN. We agree with you that the success of the new Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) is important. A strong UN Inspector General is an essential ingredient for true UN reform. We believe that the appointment of Karl Paschke of Germany to this post was a good choice. To help ensure his success, our own Inspector General has agreed to detail a member of our OIG staff to the UN. We have also forwarded to the OIOS the names of several Americans for the position of Principal Investigator. We are doing our best to see that OIOS is adequately funded, and we appreciate the support you have shown for our efforts.

OIOS has the authority already to undertake audits and investigations of separately administered UN organs such as UNDP, UNICEF, and UNEP. We have recently taken steps to pursue the institutionalization of an "IG-type" function in the specialized agencies, beginning with the largest—UNIDO, IAEA, FAO, WHO, and ILO. We believe there is no organizational substitute for an oversight mechanism modeled after the UN Secretariat's OIOS, which affords the qualities of accountability, transparency, and operational independence to the membership of these organizations.

In addition, following up on President Clinton's proposal at last fall's UN General Assembly, we are working with the President of the General Assembly to establish a special high-level working group to review existing studies on UN reform for the purpose of developing a practical strategy for implementing key recommendations on a timely basis.

We still believe that the Administration's budget request to meet our commitments to the United Nations and other international

organizations is essential to our national interests. However, if our requests are not met, we will act to preserve U.S. leadership where it counts most.

Let us share with you some of our thoughts and actions as we prepare for that possibility:

First, we are continuing to closely scrutinize peacekeeping budgets, especially as we take factors from Presidential Decision Directive 25 (PDD-25) into consideration. For example, we limited operations in Georgia and Tajikistan to a small number of military observers, a relatively inexpensive means of maintaining a UN monitoring presence. The UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) has continued longer than we expected and has encountered several delays in achieving its objectives. Recently, however, the parties have demonstrated a commitment to the process and real gains have been made in registering and identifying potential voters, the first step necessary for holding the referendum. We agree with you that we cannot continue to support an operation that does not accomplish its goals and is not cost-effective. We will review MINURSO's progress in all areas to determine if it should be terminated or if an extension should be granted and a referendum can be successfully held.

Second, we are examining the ways and means of withdrawing from some organizations whose activities are of lesser priority to us.

Third, we are pushing for UN agency and other international organization budgets for the coming biennium that are below the zero real growth rate we have historically supported.

Fourth, we are actively reviewing options for reducing waste, decreasing costs and improving performance through the possible consolidation of agencies and programs where that is possible.

Fifth, we are opposing the scheduling under UN auspices of new global conferences or summits (and note that each of the conferences this Administration has participated in was scheduled prior to 1993).

Finally, we are prepared to signal to organizations in which we continue to participate that U.S. withdrawal from some is possible if they are unwilling to undertake needed reforms.

In the context of considering how we can pare down our contributions while limiting damage to our leadership, it is important to recognize that in the case of most UN organizations, we are obligated either by the terms of the treaty or other international agreement establishing the organization or by general principles of international law to pay assessment through calendar year 1996, even if we notify our intent to withdraw now. We also remain similarly obligated for arrears from previous withholdings.

We note, as well, that a number of the activities you cite specifically in your letter fall within the core programs of the UN Secretariat; these are not separate organizations from which we can "withdraw." Any decision on our part to reduce our contributions in an amount equal to our share of such an activity would simply be carried on the books by the UN as an arrearage to the organization as a whole. This underlines the importance of gaining UN member support and understanding for any actions that we might take.

Many UN activities are important to us; so is the success of the organization as a whole. There is a grave risk that substantial budget reductions will harm our leverage and leadership within the UN system. We must be frank about the possibility that substantial damage to our interests will result. Nowhere is this more clearly illustrated than with

peacekeeping operations which provide us options in between doing nothing and going it alone. The strategy of this Administration is to make the case for our budget as persuasively as we can, and to develop a plan for minimizing harm to our interests should the reductions nevertheless occur. In doing so, we want to emphasize that Congress must allow us to decide where to cut and not tie our hands by earmarking funds. We welcome your support and counsel with respect to this strategy.

As a matter of policy, we want to see a leaner, less-costly, more productive United Nations. We are making progress in this direction. Our prospects will be better, however, if it is clear to our allies and those around the world that our emphasis is on helping international organizations to work better, rather than on reducing costs to ourselves regardless of consequences. One approach reflects the essence of leadership; the other retreats from it.

It is not possible to paint a comprehensive picture of our thinking on this important issue in one letter. Accordingly, we would be happy to discuss this with you in more detail or put together a briefing team to meet with you at your convenience.

Thank you again for your provocative and timely letter, and for your continued leadership and support.

Sincerely,

WENDY R. SHERMAN,
Assistant Secretary,
Legislative Affairs.

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 7, 1995.

Hon. WARREN CHRISTOPHER,
Secretary of State, Department of State, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN. I write to urge you to continue to give your personal attention to the issue of reforming the United Nations.

I know you face many crises every day, and there is much which demands your attention. But U.N. reform has become a serious and urgent issue because of pending Congressional budget cuts for the U.N.

I believe this Administration generally has the right policy on U.N. reform. I also commend the Administration for the efforts undertaken thus far, such as establishing an office of Inspector General at the United Nations. Your efforts to put U.N. reform on the agenda for the upcoming summit in Halifax is an excellent way to demonstrate our seriousness of purpose on this issue. We need to keep pushing for concrete action to implement our U.N. reform policy.

It is quite possible if not likely that hundreds of millions of dollars are going to be cut from the U.N. budget, both assessed and voluntary. Supporters of the U.N. and peacekeeping will not be able to stop these cuts, and I doubt the Administration can veto them at the end of the day.

The Congress will be faced with the tough choice of either cutting indiscriminately across the board, or deciding which U.N. programs are most important to us, and trying to save those programs by de-funding or withdrawing from those which are less important.

I believe the second option is the proper one. It is better to have a smaller, more effective United Nations than a crippled and ineffective United Nations.

Reforming the U.N. is so tough that it will require sustained, high-level attention. Ambassador Albright, who is doing an excellent job in a critical assignment, needs your continued, full support and the support of the President on U.N. reform.

I would urge you to take the following steps.

First, the G-7 reform initiative is a good step, but this step needs to be tightly focused, and coordinated with US/UN reform efforts. The state Department might want to consider some sort of Task Force on U.N. reform, perhaps on an inter-agency basis.

Second, the Administration must decide its priorities in the U.N. assessed and voluntary budgets, and communicate those to Congressional Democrats. I would suggest that we closely examine whether we still need UNCTAD, UNIDO, the regional U.N. economic commissions, the ILO, and the FAO. The funding crisis is reaching the point where we must consider withdrawal from, or de-funding of, some of these activities.

Third, we must be prepared to push for a stronger U.N. Inspector General. He should have authority over the whole U.N. system, as well as adequate, trained staff and a reasonable budget. And, his reports must be made available, unchanged, to Members States. This has not yet happened, to my knowledge.

Fourth, we must give greater scrutiny to U.N. peacekeeping budgets. And, you must consider whether we can continue to vote for operations, which are very expensive and have operated for years without tangible progress, such as MINURSO in the Western Sahara.

All of these efforts will require close coordination with other major donor countries, as you have recognized through the G-7 initiative. We must continue working hard with those countries in order to make these reforms happen.

We will likely face these issues in a HIRC markup in early May. If the Administration doesn't decide on its priorities and let Democrats try to help you support them, Republicans will make these decisions for you. The only line of defense against those who want to destroy the U.N. is to reform it. But it must be *real* reform in order to get votes for U.N. funding.

I appreciate your consideration of this letter, and I stand ready to work with you in any way I can to help make these reforms happen. I would stress once again the gravity and urgency of these problems, and urge that we press ahead on U.N. reform efforts.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

LEE H. HAMILTON,
Ranking Democratic Member.

SOCIAL SECURITY CONTINUING
DISABILITY REVIEW ACCOUNT
ACT OF 1995

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 1995

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing the Social Security Continuing Disability Review Account Act of 1995. A summary of the legislation prepared by the minority staff of the Social Security Subcommittee follows.

The goal of the legislation is to protect the integrity of the Social Security Disability Insurance program. It would do this by increasing the availability of funds for conducting Continuing Disability Review [CDRs]—so that people who are no longer disabled can be reviewed and removed from the disability rolls.

The bill authorizes the Social Security Administration [SSA] to use a portion of the benefit savings it derives from conducting CDRs