

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DEPLOYMENT OF TROOPS TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, as we consider the President's decision to deploy United States military forces to Bosnia and Herzegovina, I hope that my colleagues take a moment to read the following editorials. Now is the time to ask some very hard questions about the President's policy, and I believe that these points of view are instructive in reminding us of the difficulty of this issue.

[From the New York Times, Dec. 3, 1995]

THINK HAITI AND BE REALISTIC ON BOSNIA
(By Thomas L. Friedman)

WASHINGTON.—Just a couple of months ago when you asked Administration officials exactly how the Bosnia peacekeeping operation would unfold, they would answer: "Think Haiti"—we go in big, stabilize the situation on the ground, bring in civilian reconstruction teams, hold elections and we're out of there in a year.

Well think again, Haiti is no longer being touted as the model for Bosnia, because the U.S.-led effort to restore democracy in Haiti is deteriorating. As we go into Bosnia we should still "Think Haiti"—but as a cautionary tale about the limits of American power to remake a country. The U.S. military accomplished its objectives in Haiti—busting the old regime and restoring basic security. But the political, economic and police objectives, which accompanied that military mission, are all in jeopardy today.

American officials were convinced when they restored Haiti's President, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, to power that he really had abandoned his populist, radical impulses. But several weeks ago he suggested that he would not give up power after elections for a new President on Dec. 17. Then he told U.S. officials he would. Then he told his followers: If you want three more years I will not turn my back on you." Thursday, he said he really, really will step down. In the meantime, though, the other candidates have been afraid to campaign, because it seemed Mr. Aristide might stay on, and the main opposition parties were already boycotting because of complaints that the election process is not impartial.

U.S. officials always said in Haiti that prosperity would be the ultimate peacekeeper. But foreign investors have been reluctant to come in and President Aristide has hesitated to institute the privatization reforms demanded by the I.M.F., so his Government has not received the \$125 million in foreign aid for this fiscal year, which is half its budget. The number of boat people fleeing Haiti for Florida is again on the rise.

The military plan in Haiti was for the U.S.-U.N. peacekeepers to hand over control to a newly created, uncorrupted Haitian police force on Feb. 29. Some of those new police have been trained, and put through U.S. human rights courses. Others have not. On Thanksgiving Day one of these new policemen went on a shooting spree that triggered massive rioting in Haiti's Cite Soleil slum. Few police have dared venture there since.

"It is obvious that the Administration would like to tiptoe away from Haiti, declaring it a success, but unless our objectives in the areas of elections, police and economics are more fully achieved, the effort of the international community could easily unravel," said Robert Pastor, President Carter's adviser on Haiti during Mr. Carter's mediation there. "Without a concerted effort to bring the opposition into the presidential elections, the outcome will not be stable or legitimate."

The ultimate lesson of Haiti is not that we should stay out of Bosnia. President Clinton did the right thing in Haiti—trying to restore democracy. Haiti is a better, more secure place today because of that. No, the real lesson of Haiti is a humility. Haiti reminds us that with enough troops and money, we can make some difference for the better. But even that limited improvement is easily eroded or overwhelmed by the habits of generations, unless some foreign peacekeepers, international organizations and aid workers are prepared to stay on the job for a long, long time. Bosnia will be no different.

I phoned Lakhdar Brahimi, who heads U.N. operations in Haiti, and asked him what he's learned there that might be of use in Bosnia. He captured neatly the humbling, ambiguous reality of trying to rebuild failed states. He said: "Look, Haiti is a country with 200 years of horrible history. It would be totally naive to think you can put it right with 20,000 troops in a year. With operations like Haiti [and Bosnia], the international community is embarking on something completely new for itself, and for which it does not yet have all the skills. It isn't even sure what it wants and certainly doesn't have all the money it needs to do it. So we take a country by the hand and accompany it a little bit, while it tries to stand on its own two feet. We don't do it perfectly, but it's still useful, even if it doesn't create paradise. But no one should kid themselves. It's a constant uphill struggle."

[From the Atlanta Constitution, Dec. 3, 1995]

A PAGE FROM HISTORY

(By Bradford Smith)

American troops are preparing to impose a peace settlement in Bosnia that appears to have arisen largely from the fatigue of the negotiators in Dayton. History and the posture of the Serbs in Sarajevo make it doubtful that this latest agreement will lead to "peace in our time." But how much history can we expect the negotiators to remember after pulling an all-nighter?

Bosnians nearly always have played the pawn in the political games in the Balkans. When was Bosnia last an independent state? For that, we have to look back to the 14th century. Even then, Bosnia was a divided country. In the north, the Kotroman family held sway. In the south, the Subic family ruled. In 1305, the Subic family emerged as the dominant power, but Stjepan Kotromanic seized control with a little help from Hungary—the local "superpower"—and the Serbs. The modern outlines of Bosnia resulted from his conquests.

After Kotromanic's death in 1353, Bosnia fell apart, as local nobles attempted to gain autonomy. Several provinces broke away from the Bosnian state, again with Hungarian assistance. The centers of discontent

were the region around Banja Luka and Herzegovina. The political divisions of Bosnia then conformed to the current lines of conflict.

One thing seems clear: Foreign intervention has been more likely to produce disorder than concord. Hungarian involvement consistently prevented the restoration of equilibrium. This was also true in the 1920s, when Comintern and the Italian Fascists exploited the ethnic tensions between Croats and Serbs, leading to chaos, terrorism and assassination.

Given that so many leaders have vowed not to respect the Dayton peace agreement, should we expect a new show of force to convince them otherwise? Is there any lack of foreign interest groups that could further their own agenda by giving aid and comfort to the Serbs?

The rulers of 14th-century Hungary always claimed that they were intervening in Bosnia to support oppressed Catholics from Bosnian heretics. Likewise, our intervention is justified by the ideals of "democracy" and "self-determination."

Bill Clinton is, in fact, merely continuing the policies of his two predecessors, who were trying to undo the legacy of the Cold War. Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev long ago stated that as the Soviets supported "wars of national liberation," the United States would be forced to support dictators, on the pretext that they were anti-communist.

The result of that policy was our support for a host of petty tyrants, all of whom eventually caused us much embarrassment. And ultimately we lost in Iran, Nicaragua, Vietnam and nearly everywhere else we got involved. But with Ronald Reagan a turn began when U.S. military force was used to support "freedom fighters."

The invasion of Grenada was our first attempt to "impose" democracy, and the success of that little engagement led to other glorious wars. An episode in Panama and the specter of Manuel Noriega before the Inquisitor bailed out the War on Drugs, preparing Americans for a descent on the Middle East to liberate the oil barons of Kuwait from Saddam Hussein. Soon we had Bob Hope shows and all those things we associated with good wars.

Clinton is merely trying to keep up the pace. Unfortunately, the situation in Bosnia is too ambiguous to provide the basis for a Crusade. Additional U.S. involvement is more likely to upset the balance of power even further. Unless the new Bosnian state can develop its own internal equilibrium, it cannot survive.

The United States must play a role in the negotiating process, but Clinton could find better venues for a military action to redeem his political career.

How about the Bahamas?

WELCOMING THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL, SHIMON PERES

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, today marks a historic occasion in the halls of Congress. I

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

join my colleagues in welcoming to this Chamber the Prime Minister of the State of Israel, Shimon Peres. Mr. Peres journeyed to the United States to help us pay homage to our friend, the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, and to demonstrate the unity that exists between our two nations. As he addresses this joint session of Congress, we express our appreciation to Prime Minister Peres for his willingness to make this important journey on behalf of the people and State of Israel.

The voice of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has been silenced. Hatred took from our midst a strong leader who believed that the time had come to seek peace in the Middle East. Yet, we gather today with a renewed sense of commitment to pursue peace in that region. It is, indeed, the highest tribute we can pay to Yitzhak Rabin.

Mr. Speaker, the man who addresses us as the new Prime Minister of Israel, Shimon Peres, has served his nation with distinction and honor. He brings to the post a record of distinguished service in office, and the highest level of commitment and integrity. Prime Minister Peres is a strong leader to whom we pledge our full support.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of our Nation's longstanding and close relationship with the people of Israel. Our historic and mutually beneficial relationship is a testament to international cooperation. Indeed, it exists as a model for all peace-loving nations of the world. During this period of mourning for the slain hero, Yitzhak Rabin, we remain committed to that relationship.

In the United States, we applaud President Clinton for his continued leadership in the quest for peace in the Middle East. He has demonstrated America's strong support for this effort, and he stands beside his brother, Shimon Peres, offering a strong arm of support. The leadership of these two individuals and their courage in the pursuit of peace should be encouraged by all Americans and Israelis.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the residents of the 11th Congressional District, I take pride in welcoming Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres to Washington. As he comes before us, we take this opportunity to again convey our condolences during this time of mourning for Yitzhak Rabin. We hope that Prime Minister Peres will carry back to the people of his nation our words of comfort and support. Our support is extended in the spirit of brotherhood and unity.

BREATHITT COUNTY STATE
CHAMPS

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, last week, many high schools around the Nation won high school State football championships. But, none were more exciting than Breathitt County, KY's 42-35, 2OT victory over Franklin-Simpson in the Kentucky 2A State football championship.

The Bobcats, whose program is one of the strongest in the State, won their first State championship ever while fishing the first undefeated season—15-0—in the school's long history.

And they won it in thrilling, heart-quicken- ing style.

Trailing by as many as 14 points, the determined Bobcats, led by quarterback Waylon Chapman, stormed back several times, climaxed by a 90-yard drive which tied the score in the game's final minutes.

After matching scores in the first overtime, the Bobcats faced a fourth down play from the 16 yard line. After a scramble, Chapman's pass fell into the hands of a sliding Phillip Watts in the corner of the end zone.

After a short gasp, the covering official signaled touchdown sending the Bobcats and their faithful into a frenzy.

But, it wasn't over. Franklin-Simpson had one more chance to win.

After two plays, the stiff Bobcat defense forced a fumble and recovered it to clinch the victory. and, then the real celebrating began.

Stunned and emotionally drained, Coach Mike Holcomb captured his team's thoughts best. "It's a great feeling for this community," he said. "They poured their hearts out for this team."

Yes, it is wonderful for this great community, but it is even a bigger accomplishment for the fine young athletes at Breathitt County High School. They never quit. Their determination, commitment and perseverance is something everyone in this country can respect with pride.

Coach Vince Lombardi, in his immortal speech, "What It Takes To Be Number One," said, "I firmly believe that man's finest hour—his greatest fulfillment—is that moment when he was worked his heart out and he's exhausted on the field of battle—Victorious."

The Bobcats have been to the top of the mountain, and as ABC's Keith Jackson would say, "Oh Nellie," are we proud.

GIANT HEALTH NET H.M.O. SUES
COMPANY THAT GIVES IT A BAD
RATING

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the movement to managed care is sweeping the country, and it is vital that patients know whether the HMO's and other organizations they are being asked to join provide quality care or are financially sound.

A bad sign for consumers is the lawsuit of giant Health Net HMO against the tiny rating firm of Weiss Ratings, Inc. Health Net claims that Weiss' analysis of Health Net's very shakey financial status—a "D—" rating—was harmful to the HMO.

Mr. Speaker, the law suit smacks of intimidation. The financial data was very clear. At the time of the rating, Health Net was in bad shape. Weiss has an excellent reputation for spotting companies in trouble. Customers and investors have a right to know. If lawsuits like this succeed in silencing the analysts and critics, there will be no competitive marketplace because the consumer will have no hope of making an informed decision. Ignorant customers don't make good customers—and Health Net's lawsuit is an effort to keep the public ignorant. The problem is, ignorance in picking a health plan can cause customer bankruptcy or even death.

Enclosed is a portion of the New York Times article of November 24, 1995, that describes the kind of anticonsumer lawsuit that Health Net is pursuing.

[From the New York Times, Nov. 24, 1995]

RATING AGENCIES FACING LAWSUITS FOR LOW GRADES

(By Michael Quint)

Rating agencies that grade the financial strength of companies and local governments are accustomed to lawsuits by investors who say that the ratings failed to alert them to serious problems. But the agencies are not used to being sued by the entities they rate.

Now that is changing, as agencies ranging from the giant Moody's Investors Service in New York, a unit of the Dun & Bradstreet Corporation, to tiny Weiss Group, of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., are learning that they are vulnerable to suits from companies or governments who say that their ratings were so low as to be libelous.

Rating agencies defend their right to publish opinions as a matter of freedom of the press, regardless of whether they were hired to issue the rating.

But in two current disputes, one by the second-largest health maintenance organization in California and the other by the largest school district in Colorado, rating agencies that issued unsolicited ratings were accused of using their reports to drum up business.

Unsolicited ratings can become an issue when companies and local governments that paid to be rated wanted to choose the agencies that they thought would give them the best ratings, testifying to their strength. If an unsolicited rating was much different from what the company thought it deserved, sparks could fly.

Malik Hasan, a doctor and chairman of Health Net, a California health maintenance organization, said a D- rating by Weiss "made us into their poster boy." Mr. Hasan said that Weiss used the rating to attract attention and sell more of the agency's reports. Late last year, after Weiss gave Health Net the lowest rating of any of the country's 13 largest H.M.O.'s, Health Net filed suit in Federal court in Los Angeles accusing Weiss of interfering with its business, and of defamation, slander and libel.

Martin Weiss, chairman of the rating agency, said he had spent more than \$350,000 of his own money defending the agency against the lawsuit and was in no mood to back down. "I am fighting to the bitter end, because if I cave in now, the word would get around that the way to get a better rating or to shut up Weiss is to sue him," he said.

Although Mr. Weiss has sold only 21 reports about Health Net, he hopes that H.M.O. ratings will raise his company's revenues above the \$764,000 total for 1994. The financial ratings of H.M.O.'s were important, he said, because the groups were growing and "a group that is under financial pressure could be more likely to cut corners on medical care."

Concern about his reputation led Mr. Weiss to reject a compromise settlement proposal a week ago, because it would not have made clear that Mr. Weiss did not pay any damages to Health Net, nor would he have been able to talk publicly about the case.

Dr. Hasan of Health Net said he was pushing the suit because the criteria for Weiss ratings remained secret and put too much emphasis on measures of financial strength that did not accurately reflect the ability of his company to pay the medical costs of its 1.4 million customers in California.

Mr. Weiss defended his rating formula, saying it was similar to one being developed by state insurance commissioners for H.M.O.'s.

He said that his standards did not condemn the entire industry. Nearly half the 385 H.M.O.'s he now rates are in the A or B categories, with another 32 percent in the C rating group.

THE BALANCED BUDGET ACT

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, the Balanced Budget Act of 1995 could be the best holiday gift that we ever give our children and grandchildren. This legislation could be the first step in paying off the ever-mounting debts we have accumulated for future generations. And this legislation could be the catalyst for new and better paying jobs for America's workers and for students who will be entering the job market.

But this legislation can be none of these things until the President joins us in our commitment to a true balanced budget.

The Nation's job-creating businesses are alarmed that the President has not joined the Congress in bringing fiscal discipline to the Federal establishment. Last week, Dr. Richard Leshner, President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, wrote to President Clinton to express his views on the veto of the Balanced Budget Act.

I believe that Dr. Leshner has raised important points in his letter to the President, and I would like to share it with my colleagues. Dr. Leshner's letter follows:

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, DC, December 6, 1995.

The PRESIDENT,
*The White House,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: On behalf of the world's largest business federation, representing 215,000 businesses, 3,000 state and local chambers of commerce, 1,200 trade and professional associations, and 75 American Chambers of Commerce abroad, I am writing to express our extreme disappointment over your vetoing H.R. 2491, the "Balanced Budget Act of 1995."

This historic legislation was the culmination of Herculean efforts by Members of Congress and the American people to bring about real fiscal discipline at the Federal level. It reflected a delicate balance between streamlining the Federal government, providing economic stimulus through tax relief to America's families and businesses, and ensuring that necessary government services remain strong and directed to America's truly needy.

Large and small businesses alike embraced H.R. 2491 as a means of improving the nation's economic climate and job creation. Eliminating our nation's annual deficits will lead to lower interest rates, increased savings and investment, greater productivity, additional and better paying jobs, and an overall higher standard of living for all citizens. Further, tax relief for America's families and businesses will increase capital investment, preserve family-owned businesses, and modernize outdated tax laws while making the goal of a balanced budget more attainable.

From national polls, to town hall meetings, to telephone calls and letters, the American people clearly believe the tax and spend approach of big government is unac-

ceptable. We agree. If H.R. 2491 is not the answer, it is incumbent on you and your Administration to put forth specific proposals which respond to the call for a seven year balanced budget plan.

The impending fiscal crisis threatens every level and aspect of our lives: from our competitive stance, to our standard of living, to those critical services for the needy, nothing escapes its clutches. This moral imperative is too critical to be responded to by political rhetoric and no solutions. All of us must rise above politics, exercising true leadership by coming to a timely agreement.

That is what we expect of you and our congressional leaders. The time is now for you to provide the leadership to finally achieve an agreement to balance the budget for America's future.

Sincerely,

RICHARD L. LESHER.

TRIBUTE TO COL. WILLIAM J. DALECKY, USAF

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, a friend of the Congress and a long time leader in this Nation's Air Force fighter aircraft weapons systems, Col. William J. Dalecky, is retiring from the U.S. Air Force on 1 January 1996. His most recent position has been as the Chief, Weapons Systems Liaison Division, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Washington, DC. In this position he has been responsible to the Secretary of the Air Force for legislative liaison for authorization of all Air Force weapon systems budget requests.

Colonel Dalecky has had a distinguished career of nearly 26 years of military service. After being commissioned through the U.S. Air Force Academy in June 1969 and graduating 11th in his class, he attended graduate school at the Anderson School of Management, UCLA and was awarded an MBA degree. He then entered undergraduate pilot training at Webb AFB, TX, graduating with distinction in 1971. Colonel Dalecky's first operational assignment was as an F-4D aircraft commander with the Triple Nickel—555 Tactical Fighter Squadron—Udorn, Royal Thailand AFB. During his tour in Southeast Asia, Colonel Dalecky flew extensively over North Viet Nam, logging 200 combat missions.

His next two decades of service continued to contribute directly to the aerospace defense of our Nation. After his tour at Udorn, Colonel Dalecky served as an F-4 instructor pilot at Luke AFB, as an F-4D Squadron flight commander at Spangdahlem AB, then as a T-41 instructor pilot at the U.S. Air Force Academy, instructing cadets in basic flying skills in preparation for pilot training, and finally, as an A-10 aircraft commander at England AFB. His final operational assignment was as deputy commander for operations and later commander, 52 Operations Group, Spangdahlem AB. During this assignment, he deployed two of three assigned Wild Weasel squadrons to combat against Iraq, with no losses due to enemy activity.

Colonel Dalecky attended the U.S. Army Command & General Staff College in Ft. Leavenworth, KS and the Naval War College, Newport, RI.

Colonel Dalecky also holds an MS degree in International Relations from Troy State University, a masters degree in Military Art and Science from U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and an MS degree in National Strategic Studies from the Naval War College. Colonel Dalecky has received numerous awards and decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart, and the Legion of Merit.

Colonel Dalecky is married to the former Elisabeth Houle. They have three daughters, Natalie, Selene, and Amanda.

Colonel Dalecky plans to continue his work in fighter aircraft programs in a civilian capacity in the Washington area. On behalf of my colleagues and the congressional staff who have known and worked with Colonel Dalecky, we wish him and his wife Betty the very best in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO REV. SAMUEL G. SIMPSON

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rev. Samuel G. Simpson who was honored by friends and members of the Bronx Baptist Church on Sunday, November 12, for his 31 years of service in this ministry in my South Bronx congressional district.

Reverend Simpson has faithfully led the congregation since the beginnings of the church, when it started as a mission of the First Baptist Church, in Brooklyn. That same year the congregation moved their meeting place at 2024 Honeywell Avenue, in the Bronx. The number of worshippers continue to grow and a larger location was secured, in 1970, at 331 East 187th Street.

Born in Jamaica, Mr. Simpson attended West Indies College. Soon afterward, he moved to New Jersey and obtained a bachelor's degree from Northeastern Bible College. He also holds an M.P.S. from the New York Theological Seminary, a D.D. from Asia Bible College, and a D.D. from Martha's Vineyard Theological Seminary.

Always anxious to learn, Reverend Simpson broadened his education by completing courses at New York University, New York Institute of Photography, and at Oxford University.

Besides his passion for learning, Reverend Simpson has been an active member in the community. He holds numerous memberships and has presided over many religious organizations. Among these Reverend Simpson was the president of the Baptist Convention of New York, the Metropolitan New York Baptist Association Pastor's Conference, and of the Bronx Division of the Council of Churches. He continues to preside over the Clergy Coalition of the 47th Precinct and is the chairman of the board of the Bronx Baptist Day Care and Learning Center.

Reverend Simpson's commitment to spread the gospel and to help the members of the community has been recognized by many organizations. The Bronx Council of churches honored him with the "Man of the Year" award. He was also recognized in "Who is Who, Among Black Americans," and received

the Community Services award from the Seventh Day Adventist Church of New York City, and the Community Appreciation award from the Bronx Shepherd Restoration. A highly educated man, Reverend Simpson has published numerous works, including, "Seven Beginnings."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of Reverend Simpson and his untiring service to the Bronx Baptist Church in the South Bronx community.

RETIREMENT OF DONALD ROACH

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to express my congratulations and admiration to Mr. Donald Roach of Indianapolis, IN, as he retires from Allison Transmission.

In his nearly 50 years in the work force, Mr. Roach served his community and country in several capacities.

A weapons expert in the U.S. Army in the early 1950's, Mr. Roach brought his military expertise to Allison Transmission in Indianapolis in 1981. He began as a specialist on a battle-tank development project at Allison and then served as Allison's Audit Coordinator at the U.S. Army Tank Plant in Lima, OH, for the balance of the 1980's.

Donald Roach would conclude his years of service as a regional account manager, sharing his lifelong experience and expertise with both customers and fellow Allison employees across the country.

Even in this retirement, Donald Roach will remain active in various community service organizations and social clubs, and especially with his family. He has a wife, four children, and many grandchildren with whom he can enjoy the next phase of his life. I wish Donald Roach the best as he reflects on the many memories of the last 50 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SONNY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. BONO. Mr. Speaker, on the morning of Wednesday, December 6, 1995, I was unavoidably delayed and missed roll call votes 838, H. Res. 290, the rule for the Securities litigation Reform, H.R. 1058. Were I present, I would have voted "aye" on the rollcall vote in support of House Resolution 290.

NATIONAL FUEL FUNDS DAY

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the safety net for millions of low-income and elderly families striving to keep

warm this winter is wearing awfully thin. Budget cuts and funding delays have left the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program [LIHEAP] struggling to get off the ground as the coldest winter weather approaches. This year as never before, needy households will be turning to private fuel funds to safely warm their homes and make it through the winter.

Today is National Fuel Funds Day. Sponsored by the National Fuel Funds Network, it is a time to remember the more than 285 private fuel funds around the country and to show our support for their work to warm the lives of our fellow citizens. Americans are a generous people. In fact, Americans donated more than \$72 million in support of this Nation's private fuel funds in 1993 alone. That figure pales, however, in comparison with the more than \$1 billion in fuel assistance provided annually by the Federal Government and the magnitude of the cuts currently being proposed for this vital program. The House has recommended eliminating energy assistance from the 1996 budget while the Senate is contemplating a more than 30 percent reduction in funding.

Let us remember, then, our private fuel funds on National Fuel Funds Day and support them as they fight against the tide to shore up the safety net for millions of needy American men, women, and children.

1995 ORDER OF EXCELLENCE FOR BEST NURSING HOME

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Department of Veterans Affairs and particularly the Tucson VA Nursing Home for being awarded the 1995 Order of Excellence for Best Nursing Home by the nursing home industry journal, *Contemporary Long Term Care*, which sponsors the annual competition.

The Tucson facility scored first among both public and private nursing homes around the country with fewer than 135 beds. Tucson is the first VA nursing home to win the award. In fact, this is the first time the award has been given to a public facility.

The Tucson 120-bed center serves more than 600 elderly veterans in southern Arizona through a variety of special rehabilitation programs aimed at returning the veterans home or achieving independence. In addition to physical rehabilitation, the center provides interim neurologic treatment for dementia and stroke, psychiatric and hospice care, and respite care.

I am very proud that a VA facility has won recognition as a nationally outstanding care provider. Congratulations, Tucson, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

OPPOSE THE SALE OF ADVANCED MISSILES TO TURKEY

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on December 1, DOD's Defense Security Assist-

ance Agency notified the House International Affairs Committee of the sale of 120 Army Tactical Missile Systems [ATACMS] to Turkey. Essentially a massive, guided cluster bomb, each missile is accurate at a range of up to 100 miles and delivers 950 small bombs. Many of the munitions fail to detonate, remain on the ground, and become a mortal threat to noncombatants. I rise today to voice grave concerns about this sale and question the rationale and timing of this deal. I also want to point out possible consequences of this sale and underscore the danger of unconditional military support for an unstable regime which routinely commits massive human rights abuses against its own citizenry.

Mr. Speaker, my main concern about this sale is that Turkey's regime could use these missiles against civilians as it pursues its ruthless campaign against Kurdish guerrillas. Tragically, Kurdish terrorists have killed hundreds of innocent civilians. Yet in response, Turkey's military has killed thousands, tortured and maimed countless others, destroyed almost 3,000 Kurdish villages and forced 3 million people from their homes. On November 20, 1995, Human Rights Watch detailed in a 171-page report the Turkish military's widespread use of United States-supplied equipment in campaigns which inflict death and destruction against civilians. The atrocities detailed in this report are appalling. The report cites more than two dozen eyewitness accounts and substantiates a June 1995 State Department report which also concluded that U.S. equipment was used to violate the human rights of civilians.

Mr. Speaker, advocates of the missile sale argue that Turkey would not use ATACMS against civilians because of the system's high cost and because such use can be easily detected. Both rationales are preposterous. Over recent years, Turkey has spent an estimated \$7 billion per annum fighting its internal war. The supposed deterrence due to United States detection capabilities also rings hollow given that this administration, despite overwhelming evidence that Turkey uses United States-supplied weapons against civilians, refuses to condition Turkey's use of United States equipment. I am particularly disturbed that the State Department's Office on Democracy, Labor and Human Rights has lent its support to this sale when it had opposed the sale of ordinary cluster bombs to Turkey earlier this year. The sale of such weapons appears to indicate that the United States Government is willing to ignore Turkey's ruthless suppression of its Kurdish population because of Turkey's value as a strategic and economic partner. It is worth pointing out, Mr. Speaker, that the prime beneficiary of this \$132 million contract will be the LORAL Corp., which manufactures ATACMS in Camden, AR.

Mr. Speaker, Turkey is undeniably located in a troubled and unstable region of the world. But Mr. Speaker, extending assistance to a fellow member of NATO does not mean we must shut our eyes to their violations of basic human rights. This administration has prioritized the halt of missile proliferation, and I would further question the introduction of advanced missile technology into this unstable region on these grounds.

On October 17 of this year, Mr. Speaker, a New York Times editorial entitled "America Arms Turkey's Repression" concluded that "[A]ny further [military] aid should carry human

rights conditions that would promote a political solution to a war that has undermined Turkish democracy, boosted the power of the military, drained the economy and divided Turkey from its European allies. Placing such conditions on assistance would also reduce America's complicity in Turkey's repressive internal war." Administration representatives, many of my colleagues, and political leaders around the world are urging the Government of Turkey to pursue nonmilitary solutions to the Kurdish crisis because Turkey's purely military approach has failed to do anything but prolong the bloody, divisive and costly conflict. Mr. Speaker, I would also ask how the transfer of an advanced, destructive weapons system serves long-term United States interests in promoting nonmilitary solutions to Turkey's internal conflict?

Mr. Speaker, on December 24, national elections will be held in Turkey which will have far reaching implications for United States-Turkish relations and the course of democracy in Turkey. Most observers believe the Islamic-based Welfare Party is poised to win more votes than any other party and will play an important role in, if not lead, Turkey's post-election government. This anti-Western party has declared its intentions to reevaluate the foundations of Turkey's strategic and economic relationship with the United States. This raises the question of whether United States policy makers have thought about the consequences should Turkish voters bring the fundamentalists to power? If the Turkish military is to remain subordinated to civilian authorities, then should we not think twice about providing sophisticated weaponry to a regime whose leaders have stated their opposition to United States interests in the region?

Mr. Speaker, I want to reiterate my opposition to this sale on the grounds that it is amoral and undermines U.S. security interests. Turkey's leaders have not sought to assuage concerns that such weapons would be used internally, by publicly committing to nonuse of this United States-supplied weapon on its own territory, against its own citizens. Mr. Speaker, I believe the sale of ATACMS to Turkey is a mistake we will come to regret. It is shameful that these implements of civilian death and destruction will be labeled "Made in the USA."

REMARKS BY MARVIN LENDER
ABOUT THE TRAGIC DEATH OF
YITZHAK RABIN

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to share a statement made by my dear friend Marvin Lender about the tragic assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. A resident of Woodbridge, CT, Mr. Lender is the former national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal and has a long and distinguished record in helping others. He has made countless contributions to community and civic affairs, but has concentrated his efforts on the Jewish community and the people of Israel.

Before assuming the chairmanship of the United Jewish Appeal [UJA], Mr. Lender was UJA's national chairman for major gifts, and contributed greatly to the Passage to Freedom

Special Campaign for Soviet Jewry and Operation Exodus. The success of Soviet Jewry's settlement in Israel in freedom and dignity is due to his extraordinary efforts on their behalf. He served as UJA's cochairman for the northeast region, general chairman of New Haven's Combined Jewish Appeal, and president and chairman of the boards of directors of the United Israel Appeal and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Mr. Lender currently resides in Woodbridge with his wife and three children. He serves on the board of trustees at Yale New Haven Hospital and is the cochairman of the annual drive for the New Haven chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. Mr. Lender cochairs the New Haven Holocaust and Prejudice Reduction program which helps eliminate prejudice by making school-age children aware of the horrors of the Holocaust.

Through his following statement, it is clear that his countless efforts on behalf of the Jewish Community and the people of Israel were inspired by the achievements and the example of Yitzhak Rabin. I applaud Mr. Lender's heartfelt statement remembering and honoring Yitzhak Rabin. Mr. Rabin's life and his achievements will be remembered and revered for many years to come.

I am returning to Israel after just arriving back in the states on Friday. Sleeping on the flight is impossible. My mind never stops thinking about Prime Minister Rabin. The times that I had the privilege of being with him are so vivid to me. I have feelings of sadness. I feel that the Jewish people have experienced another major tragedy. Israel is at the center of it all again—the bombing of a bus in Tel Aviv or Beit Leit—soldiers being killed in South Lebanon—and now the taking of the life of the Prime Minister of the State of Israel. Israel, the homeland of the Jewish people. And to make matters worse, if that is possible, Rabin was murdered by a Jew. For many reasons, I felt I needed to be there—to attend his funeral—to pay my respects and personally say good-bye—to be there as a representative of the United Jewish Appeal, as a strong supporter of Israel, as a Jew, and most of all, as a friend and admirer of Yitzhak Rabin. In fact, ironically, after many years of interacting with him, and especially over these last two years, I had come to know him more intimately, and to some extent he began to know more about me and how I felt about what he was doing.

Our first meeting was on the day after he was elected Prime Minister. I remember it as though it were yesterday. I remember September 13, 1993, on the lawn of the White House. I will never forget his demeanor. He was so uncomfortable. His body language was so obvious. He did not want to be there, but he knew he had to be in order to lead our people to a new phase in our history. This was the first significant step in the peace process. Rabin had the courage to take this momentous step, beginning the long rocky road that he would travel to achieve peace. He spoke, and you could hear his concern, his emotion and his passion. He concluded his poignant remarks with the Hebrew words so familiar to us, "Ose sholom binromov hu yasase sholom Olaynu v'al kol yisroayl v'imru omayn." And at the end, which was a beginning, he shook hands with Arafat, symbolizing a time for change and peace.

Immediately after the signing, Brian Lurie, executive vice president, United Jewish Appeal, Joel Tauber, president, United Jewish Appeal, and I, flew to Israel and met with the Prime Minister to define UJA's role in peace. He was very clear about our responsibility to Aliyah and Klitah (immigration

and absorption). After watching the historic vote in the Knesset, we took the message back to America. Our meeting with Mr. Rabin once again demonstrated his ties as well as expectations vis-a-vis Jews in the Diaspora. From that moment, Mr. Rabin was under a different kind of pressure. Every time an Israeli died or was injured in a terrorist attack, it was like losing his own child. He despised fanaticism and terrorism by all people. There were no distinctions between Jews and non-Jews. The Baruch Goldstein event was a tragedy for him, not unlike any Arab terrorist activity.

My image of Prime Minister Rabin is that of a shy man. One who preferred not to make speeches. He was direct and focused—yet one could sense his strong feeling and sensitivity every time he spoke. If you were fortunate to be with him in a small group, it became even more evident how bright, intelligent, sharp and knowledgeable he was about any subject. It did not matter whether it related to the United Jewish Appeal, the Jewish Agency for Israel, or any other subject matter, the Prime Minister would always offer a solution. Peace was his focus. It impacted on all of the issues that he talked about during his campaign and his term in office—the economy, immigration and absorption—as well as the social issues of the country.

A year ago, I heard the Prime Minister speak at a meeting in London. That evening, he recounted a number of significant events of the week. He spoke of the arrival of the Chief Rabbi of Syria, marking the end of a movement to free Syrian Jews, as well as the signing of the Jordanian Peace Accord in Arava.

But he spoke most emotionally as he recounted the shiva call that he had made to the family of Nachon Waxman. I saw his tears and pain as he described the attack that he authorized in an attempt to release a Jewish hostage.

There were many meetings over the last three years—from the day after he won the election, to our meetings in Washington several days ago. He was always focused, determined and very clear about his mission. However, one could see the passion and compassion that this great man possessed. He knew, and so did we, that he was making great progress on the road to peace, albeit with great sacrifice and pain. He was deeply hurt by the demonstrations and personal attacks on him by the right wing in Israel and America. But he was a man driven by his desire for peace. He did not want the children to die in a war. Little did he know that he would give his own life for peace. Yitzhak Rabin was a warm, caring man—a husband, father, grandfather, and a friend. He loved his country. He loved Jerusalem.

On October 25, in Washington, D.C., in the Rotunda, how proud I was when the Prime Minister spoke about "my Jerusalem." His words were those of a poet. How beautiful. How poignant. It really is his Jerusalem. That evening, he presented President Clinton with the Isaiah Peace Award on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal. It was truly their peace. The strong feeling of affection that they had for each other were very obvious.

At the funeral, I will always remember the siren blasting for two minutes. I watched Israelis, dignitaries from around the world, and representatives of world Jewry, as they bowed their heads in sorrow. His loss will be felt by all. When President Clinton walked by the casket and bowed his head, I cried. When I listened to Shimon Sheves, his granddaughter, and Etan Haber, I cried. The people who spoke reflected the true feelings of all of us, and all those from around the world honored him with their attendance, attesting to his greatness.

We appreciate and are grateful for having had him as our leader. Yitzhak, we will truly

miss you—I will truly miss you. May your life and commitment to peace be an inspiration to all mankind.

VIEW FROM CALIFORNIA: THROW PEOPLE OFF MEDICAID TO MAKE THEM GO TO WORK

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the Republican budget cuts Federal support for Medicaid by an unprecedented \$163 billion—over 10 times anything ever enacted by any Republican or Democratic President. The Republican plan achieves these savings by capping overall spending. This means that spending growth per beneficiary would fall from the current 7 to 1.6 percent annually—far below the rate of inflation. States cannot sustain coverage when Federal funds are increasing at only 1.6 percent per beneficiary. States will be forced to reduce benefits and/or provider payments and eliminate coverage for millions of people on Medicaid.

A recent column in the November 28 edition of the Sacramento Bee leaves me fearful for the poor in our California. The author, Mr. Dan Walters, was commenting on California's plans for Medi-Cal if the Republican welfare bill becomes law.

Currently, more than 5 million Californians receive their medical care through Medi-Cal. If the Republican welfare bill becomes law, California and other States will have to decide whether to maintain current eligibility and make up the shortfall with their own money or begin cutting caseloads. California may well slash Medi-Cal recipient rolls by hundreds of thousands.

The column reports that Eloise Anderson, California's social services director, is urging the Wilson administration to adopt a policy that would focus Medi-Cal benefits on some subgroups and deny benefits to others. She advocates a program of varying benefits that depends on one's suitability to obtain employment. Anderson is quoted as saying:

By denying or limiting Medi-Cal availability, families could be further encouraged to exercise personal responsibility and to obtain self-sufficiency through full or part-time work.

This philosophy is frightening. What will happen when a poor, non-Medicaid person gets sick? Won't those eliminated simply turn up in hospital emergency rooms? Are they supposed to go to work sick?

Ms. Anderson recommends cutting Medicaid for people on welfare or trying to leave welfare as a way to prod them into work. What if they have a minimum wage job—how much would it cost to buy a health insurance policy for a mother and a child? Is it realistic to expect that to happen? What about the extensive medical literature which shows that people who don't have health insurance tend to be sicker and less dependable workers? Are the types of jobs a welfare mom is likely to get the ones that offer employer-paid health insurance? Of course not.

The reduction in Federal support under the Republican plan could force States to deny coverage for nearly 8 million Americans in

2002 alone. California is considering a dramatic reduction in eligibility. How will other States respond? Will they also cut their program, to be competitive with California's reduced tax expenditures? Who knows—the Republicans have stripped away the Medicaid guarantee for the sick, elderly, poor, blind, or disabled. The States will have the choice whether to cover these vulnerable citizens. Statements like Ms. Anderson's point to a "race to the bottom"—a race which will leave the most vulnerable in our society sick or dead.

TRIBUTE TO LT. COMDR. PETER R. MCCARTHY

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a long time friend and constituent of mine, Lt. Comdr. Peter R. McCarthy, USMC, retired.

He has made an excellent transition from a Marine officer to a private sector businessman, providing continued support to the military, much of which is on a pro bono basis.

His philosophy is simply to pass on to the next generation for their benefit, all of the professional transition knowledge and know how that he has gained. He has been highly successful in this regard.

I am placing in the RECORD an article describing his efforts which appeared in a recent Washington Post Sunday magazine.

[From the Washington Post, June 11, 1995]

BASIC RETRAINING

(By Brigit Schultz)

"In the '60s, '70s and '80s you could carpet-bomb the marketplace with résumés and get a response." Peter McCarthy is conducting a briefing. "You could shoot a shotgun in the sky and ducks would come down." His voice is loud though his audience is small. "You could spray machine-gun fire and you'd get a hit." Eight officers are sitting posture-perfect behind oversize cards with names like Warren, Dick and Mark scrawled in big letters.

"Today you've got to be an Olympic rifle shooter." McCarthy's voice quiets and his face grows stern. "You've only got two magazines." He slams an imaginary cartridge into an imaginary rifle and holds it to his shoulder. He squints one eye, takes a step forward and aims. "You pick your targets, and boom!" He pulls an imaginary trigger. "Into the black. boom!" He fires again. "Into the black. Every time."

The officers—seven men and one woman—nod solemnly. They have reported to this room at the Radisson Executive Retreat Center in Alexandria expecting grim news, and they are getting it. The U.S. military is downsizing. These officers—Army colonels, Marine Corps majors and Navy captains—will be among those to go. They have come to learn how to search for a job.

As McCarthy's report sinks in, some of them twist their bulbous service-academy rings and stare out the window.

"P and L." He is pacing in front of them. He served in the Marine Corps for 20 years, some of them in Vietnam. "To you, that has meant professionalism and loyalty. But in the private sector, it's the 23rd of December, you've got a number of kids, and on your desk you find a pink slip. There's P and L for

you: profit and loss. A knife in the back. . . You guys are so used to knowing who's in the next foxhole, counting on him, that you've got a built-in naivete."

McCarthy has made his own foray into the private sector as a consultant specializing in helping service personnel cross to the other side. Many of them have been in uniform since the day they got out of school. Most of them are only in their forties. After 20 years in, they can draw a pension of half their base pay; for people with children and mortgages, that isn't enough. Civilian firms are eliminating the middle-management jobs for which they would be best suited.

"There's a psychological bridge between you and the private sector. At the top of the bridge is a granite wall 12 feet high and 12 feet thick. Once you walk over that bridge, it's a whole different culture. . ."

The first lesson is in "creative research." Before the officers arrived, they were asked to fill out a form titled "Understanding You." McCarthy asks them to identify their hidden skills, assets and interests that may translate to a civilian enterprise. "If you were recruiters, you're great salesmen," he says. The group brainstorms about growing opportunities in law enforcement, leisure, finance. "Child-abuse counseling seems to be a growth industry," offers one Marine colonel. McCarthy hands out a reading list: *Age Wave*, *Megatrends 2000*, *Powershift*, *What Color is Your Parachute?*

For the "primary attack," he says, you have to research companies, figure out what they need and tailor your résumé, appearance and demeanor to fit. But don't be too hasty: Get your act together first.

"Look, you're a battleship heading up this way." He draws a pencil-shaped ship steaming head-on toward enemy targets. "I don't want you to fire now. You've got one gun firing at the target. Instead, I want you to come here." He positions the ship closer to the target and swings it around, broadside. "Fire all your guns at all the targets. Mass your fire, just like a column of artillery. Get ready get organized and—boom!"

Networking is next. McCarthy tells them to run their friends, family, neighbors and acquaintances as if they were intelligence agents, using them as "listening posts" doing "recon" on the marketplace. Their "secondary attack" is to "explode" these "intel" networks, adding more and more listening posts to report back to them.

Then, résumés. McCarthy tells them not to use acronyms like CINCEUR and JIB and LANTCOM. Instead of saying Marine Corps, say "large international organization." He turns to the board and begins writing an outline: Situation. Goals. Parameters. Execution. Administration. Control. "This look familiar to you guys?"

Relief washes over their faces.

"This plan was used by Moses to cross the desert, by Arthur Andersen to expand globally, and by Norman Schwarzkopf to go into Kuwait." It is the field order that the military uses for combat and just about every other situation. McCarthy takes them through it point by point, and after "Control," he also asks them to add a "love statement"—family considerations.

After lunch, the officers study how to dress. For this representative of Nordstrom has been enlisted to outfit some mannequins with dark blue and gray suit coats, red patterned ties and braces. McCarthy shows off his own Hickey-Freeman suit and wingtips.

They start with the basics: Never wear a brown or olive suit to an interview. Never wear a plastic running watch. Do wear pressed French cuffs with gold cuff links, but skip the monogram. Do wear natural fibers. . . .

The officers are scribbling in their briefing books.

... Never wear pilot's glasses or shoulder pads. Always wear over-the-calf socks. Unbutton your suit coat when you sit down so the collar doesn't ride up. Get used to clothes that fit more loosely than your uniform. Do not accent your new suit with Corfam military shoes.

Next, interviewing. McCarthy's first advice is to scope out where you're going the day before. "It's just like in an operation. I can remember in Vietnam, if you could go out and helicopter along the line—you're been out there, you've seen it, it makes you more comfortable when going out on attack."

And loosen up: No more yes sir, no ma'am. Get rid of the 82nd Airborne Shuffle or the Eighth & I Walk. "You're no longer the captain of the fleet on the bridge. You need to soften up." But not too much: "They may be waiting to hear your spouse say, 'Joe's worked so hard in the Army, he's ready to take his pack off.'"

Recon your interviewer. Maybe he protested against the Vietnam War. Maybe she thinks military personnel are automatons. "Assess the situation, suck up to the ego if you have to. You guys are flexible enough to adjust, because that's what you do on the battlefield."

He closes the seminar day with tips on writing thank-you notes and negotiating compensation. The officers have two more days of this to go, and already they look worn out.

TRIBUTE TO REV. RUBEN DARIO COLÓN

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rev. Ruben Dario Colón who was honored on Sunday by member of the community in celebration of his 45th ordination anniversary at the Resurrection Lutheran Church in the Bronx.

Reverend Colón has lived a life of help those who have needed him. His long and fruitful career as a pastor, counselor, police chaplain, and community activist has touched thousands of individuals in our community.

Born in Puerto Rico, Reverend Colón spent most of his youth on the island. He attended the University of Puerto Rico and in 1947, he married Ms. Ramonita Orabona with whom he had a son and a daughter. Years later, he came to the United States and obtained a bachelor's degree from Alephi University. He also holds a master of divinity from the Lutheran Theological Seminary and completed courses at Fordham University.

Reverend Colón has served as pastor in many Lutheran churches in New York, including the Bronx Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Resurrection which he leads today. His ministry is faithfully committed to bringing spiritual enlightenment to the community.

As a psychiatric social worker, Reverend Colón has provided psychiatric therapy for adults and families at many institutions, including Covenant House, the Bronx Psychiatric Center, and the Puerto Rican Children Hospital. He also serves as chaplain at the Veterans Administration Hospital and is a member of the board of the Morrisania Diagnostic and Treatment Center of the New York City and Hospital Corporation.

Among the many honors bestowed upon him, Reverend Colón was sworn in as chap-

lain of the New York City Police Department with the rank of inspector by former Police Commissioner Benjamin Ward. He is also the first Puerto Rican to receive the Silver Medal of the Academic Society of Arts, Science and Literature of France.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Rev. Ruben Dario Colón for his remarkable career serving the community and bringing hope to the many individuals he has touched.

LEWIS AND EULA ALLEN CELEBRATE THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a wonderful couple in my district whose exemplary lives evoke the kind of family values and commitment this Nation can really be proud of. Lewis and Eula Allen, an extraordinary couple, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last November 29, 1995.

There are two individuals who genuinely epitomize the down-to-earth human qualities that ordinary Americans, the unsung heroes and heroines of our Nation, have always engendered into their children since time immemorial. I would not feel right at all if I did not share with the Congress the hallmark of excellence and commitment that this couple left to consecrate their godly home in the service of our fellowmen. The Allens are residents of Dade County since 1945. Into this union were born four God-fearing children, Louis Larry, Francina, and Linda, who is now deceased. Five grandchildren came to bring more joys into the Allen household, Jacob, Maya, Emory, LaDona, and Louis.

A brief description of what this couple meant to the lives of their children is so compelling as to tug at the heartfelt simplicity and awesome beauty of what countless families all over America give to their children daily, nurturing them into becoming responsible, conscientious, and productive members of society. To the Allen children, Lewis and Eula, transformed their home into as oasis of love and support and encouragement. Incessantly they prayed to have God bless their parents to weather the storms and obstacles that mark up life's vicissitudes.

With this basic belief the Allens consecrated themselves to rearing their children. As their daughter, Francina, put it succinctly, " * * * mother represented the integrity of God." It was she who instilled Judaeo-Christian principles and demanded moral excellence at all times. "Mother was our role model," she continues, "and exacted from us to do right, to be good and tell the truth—come what may."

Academic achievement in the pursuit of scholastic excellence was very important to the Allens. Mediocrity was unacceptable. The Allen children were taught to strive to be among the best. While Eula taught her children these life-long lessons. Lewis nurtured in his children's malleable minds social development and political awareness. It was Lewis who sacrificed to bring his children to PTA meetings, and chaperoned their school field trips, took them to football games, and all

sorts of kiddie parties as well as taught them how to handle money by bringing them to Burger King on Fridays.

When election time came Mr. Allen, who read the newspaper daily, would gather around the table his wife and children and discuss with them for whom they were going to vote. These family discussions enhanced the power of people's voting rights, especially when he impressed upon them that at no other time was equality exercised than during election time when the vote of the poor and the humble all over this Nation had the same worth as the vote of the rich and the powerful. As the children were old enough to exercise their right of suffrage, they looked forward to go to the polls and vote for their chosen candidates, knowing full well the issues and priorities on which they stand.

As we enter into the spirit of this holiday season, the Allen children are mindful of the wonderful times they celebrate with their parents. They are deeply thankful of the gift of love God has showered them through the blessings of such noble parents. I know that there are countless more like the Allens across this Nation. But I am indeed honored on one hand, and humbled on the other, to have been equally blessed with having the Allens give me their trust and confidence in representing them in the hallowed halls of the Congress. Truly it is people like the Allens that dignify my role as a public servant.

To Lewis and Eula Allen on their golden wedding anniversary, I say: "Warmest congratulations and best wishes. May God shower you with many more years to grace your wonderful union.

I would like to share with my colleagues a recent article that appeared in the Miami Times celebrating Lewis and Eula Allen's 50th wedding anniversary.

[From the Miami Times]

THE ALLENS CELEBRATE GOLDEN YEAR

(By Traci Y. Pollock)

They grew up together in a small Georgia town. They got married in their late teens and shared the good, the bad and the indifferent days.

And, through it all, Eula and Lewis Allen, both 69, have stayed together, comfortable in each other's company as they grew older.

This Wednesday they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

"At my age," joked Mrs. Allen, "there's no sense of my quitting. I know what I got. I don't know what's out there."

"When you got a good wife, keep her," advises Mr. Allen.

"And she's a good cook and she keeps a good house," Mrs. Allen interjects with a slight laugh.

"She's a good everything," Mr. Allen continues, "If you ask about her shortcomings, I haven't gotten to them yet. I believe through that what the Lord put together let no one separate us."

The Allens grew up together in Andersonville, Ga., population about 900. At age 19, they married and, a year later, left their closely knit community where everyone knew each other by first name.

Mrs. Allen wanted to move to Cleveland, Ohio, where her elder brother lived. But, in 1946, the couple decided to move to Miami, where her sister and two brothers resided.

She said that every once in a while she gets a chance to go up North.

"We used to work together, play together and went to school together in Georgia," Mrs. Allen said. "We really got together

when he was traveling while in the service. We did more communicating then. Then, when he got out, we courted for three years before we got married.

"I had some rough days when I came to Dade County. But I made up in my mind I was going to go through it. I was going to stay hold of my vow, I was going through it, I wasn't going around it or by pass it.

"I made it this far with God's help. I told Him what I wanted to do and that I would need His help. And since I chose to live my life for the Lord, God saved me. And that should be for anyone who wants to do something; they have to make up in their minds to do it.

"I had a lot of sad days, happy days and bad day. We've fussed. We've fought But I

just put them all together and stuck hold to him. And he's been the only man in my life.

"I had desires. There were times I wanted to give it up but I would think about my vows, 'for richer or for poorer, through sickness and in health, 'til death do us part.' And he sure ain't rich. He's poor."

Mr. Allen said there was one occasion "when we had come near to separating."

"That was when I had just left the Army and I wanted to move somewhere it wasn't cold. She wanted to go North and I wanted to stay South. I probably would have done better up North, though, but I just don't like the cold weather."

Mrs. Allen describes her husband as an honest and hardworking man, who did not have to rob or steal to provide for the family.

And he says he stayed with his wife because of her positive qualities and her caring ways.

Staying together, they have seen their children, Louis, Larry, Francina Bolden and Linda Mays grow to become productive residents of Dade County. They have watched their grandchildren, Jacob Goldwire, Maya Mays, Ladonna, Emory and Louis James Allen attend school and become active in their community.

And they renewed their marital vows in 1989, on their 44th anniversary.

Asked why they did not wait until their golden anniversary, Mrs. Allen replied with a laugh, "We didn't know we would live that long."