

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ENERGY SECURITY, 5 YEARS AFTER THE PERSIAN GULF WAR

HON. DAN SCHAEFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, what is the cornerstone of a sound and thriving economy? What is an absolute prerequisite for American national security? What is the key to this country's overall well-being?

The answer is a vibrant domestic energy industry, one which will help reduce this country's dependence on foreign oil imports.

Unfortunately, despite the development of alternative forms of energy and the tremendous gains in energy efficiency in the past two decades, we are farther now from energy independence than ever. Last year, for the first time in history, the United States imported more than half of the oil it consumed. In 1973, during the oil crisis that virtually paralyzed the country, about 35 percent of our oil supplies were imported.

Though oil appears to be plentiful and real prices for energy are at or near all-time lows, we must not be lulled into a false sense of complacency. We must ensure the viability, productivity, and competitiveness of the domestic American energy industry.

As chairman of the Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Energy and Power, I am committed to supporting policies that will help lead to greater American energy independence in the years to come.

Though the issue of energy security does not grab as many headlines these days as it did 5 short years ago during the Persian gulf war, I hope my colleagues understand that it will grab the headlines again someday in the future. We must take steps now to ensure that future generations of Americans do not suffer because of any failure on our part to safeguard the integrity and viability of our country's domestic energy industry.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on three items from March 7. I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 3021 on final passage of the extension of the debt ceiling, "yes" on the Dreier amendment to the amendment to the rule on H.R. 3019 the Balanced Budget Act, regarding title IV contingency funding being subject to reconciliation legislation, and "yes" on the adoption of the rule to H.R. 3019 the Balanced Budget Act.

CONGRATULATIONS TO RABBI AND MRS. DAVID ELIACH FOR A LIFE- TIME COMMITMENT TO RELI- GIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL LEAD- ERSHIP

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two unique individuals, Rabbi Doctor David Eliach and his wife, Prof. Yaffa Eliach for their endless dedication and tireless work in the fields of Hebrew language instruction and Judaic studies. On the eve of their retirement, I salute these two outstanding citizens for contributing to the educational achievement of students throughout Brooklyn.

At a time when religious education is often overlooked by more mainstream and secular educational training, Rabbi Eliach single-handedly inspired the parents and children of Flatbush, Brooklyn with his love and respect for the Hebrew language. As dean of the Yeshiva of Flatbush and principal of the Joel Braverman High School for over 43 years, Rabbi Eliach provided thousands of Yeshiva students with extensive training in Hebrew and Jewish history unmatched by most other educational institutions in New York. The communities of Brooklyn have benefited much from Rabbi Eliach's commitment to thorough language instruction coupled with his drive for academic excellence. His work has made an indelible impression on his students, faculty and friends of the Yeshivah of Flatbush.

Prof. Yaffa Eliach has also established note worthy life-long career in Jewish instruction and creative literature. As a highly-noted scholar of Judaic studies, founder of the Center of Holocaust Studies and creator of the acclaimed "Tower of Life" at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, Professor Eliach has made enormous contributions to the institutional knowledge of Jewish culture history throughout the world. Her works have been studied and read widely in several different countries.

These two educators have served our community with distinction. Their presence in the cultural and academic life of Yeshiva students and neighbors throughout the world will certainly be missed. As Rabbi Doctor David and Yaffa Eliach celebrate their retirement, I am honored to salute them as leaders of the Jewish community. I urge all my fellow colleagues to recognize these dedicated individuals and wish them well in their future endeavors.

WAYS AND MEANS SCHIZOPHRENIA

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, last week, the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee

delivered a speech on the 1996 schedule of the committee.

The first three pages talked about how horribly complex the current Tax Code is and how the chairman wants to tear the code out 'by its roots,' substitute a kind of sales tax, and make the IRS unnecessary.

The last two pages talks about what the committee is going to do in March in the health sector: pass medical savings accounts, which are an elaborate and complicated new type tax deferred savings plan, and increase the tax deductibility of health insurance for the self-employed, but not their workers.

Hello.

I am sure that the chairman writes his own speeches, and if I did not know that, I would say that two different people who had never met wrote that speech. How can you start a short speech saying you are going to abolish the current Tax Code and greatly simplify it, and end that speech saying you are going to add two new special incentives that will add pages of regulations and forms to the law?

LEGISLATION FOR CASA MALPAIS NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation which would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance to the Casa Malpais National Historic Landmark in Springerville, AZ. The Casa Malpais National Historic Landmark is a 14.5 acre archaeological site located near the towns of Springerville and Eager in north-eastern Arizona. The site was occupied around A.D. 1250 by one of the largest and most sophisticated Mogollon communities in the United States.

Casa Malpais is an extraordinary rich archaeological site. Stairways, a Great Kiva complex, a fortification wall, a prehistoric trail, catacombs, sacred chambers, and rock panels are just some of the features of this large masonry pueblo. Due to its size, condition, and complexity, the site offers an unparalleled opportunity to study ancient society in the Southwest and, as such, is of national significance.

My legislation would establish the Casa Malpais National Historic Landmark as an affiliated unit of the National Park Service. Affiliated status would authorize the resources and protection necessary to preserve this treasure. As a member of the family of affiliated national landmarks, the public would also have greater exposure to the Casa Malpais site.

The communities in the area support this legislation. Local officials have taken steps to ensure that all research and development of the site is conducted in consultation with affiliated local native American tribes.

I ask my colleagues to support this measure. It will enhance the landmark's attributes

• 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.

for the enjoyment and education of local communities, the State of Arizona, and the Nation. By supporting this measure, we can help open this unique window of history through which we can study and learn about our rich heritage.

EDDIE T. PEARSON BLACK
HISTORY TRAILBLAZER

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a friend and educator, Mr. Eddie T. Pearson who has devoted over 25 years of leadership in the quest for educational and racial equality. During Black History Month, this Dade County public schools region VI superintendent was honored as a role model for youth. All too often, our youth's instruction regarding historical events is so far removed that any connection to their lives is lost. Honoring Eddie T. Pearson was one way of closing that distance in time.

After graduating from Tuskegee Institute's High School with outstanding academic and athletic accomplishments, Eddie continued his education at Tuskegee Institute. He gained great notoriety as a star football player and was recently inducted into the school's athletic hall of fame. Eddie was the first member of his family to obtain a post-secondary degree, but he did not stop at that milestone. He later received his master's degree from Florida Atlantic University and a specialist degree from the University of Florida.

At 26, Eddie T. Pearson was the youngest principal appointed by Dade County public schools and he was the first black individual appointed to head a primarily non-black student body—Homestead Middle School. This assignment helped to make Eddie an ambassador of race-relations. He created an educational environment so that everyone would be given the opportunity to excel. Eddie T. successfully designed and implemented a plan that provided for the full integration of the student population.

Having served 33 years as a member of the Dade County public school family, Eddie T. Pearson is indeed a role model for our times.

CHRISTOPHER RIES IS WORLD'S
PREMIER GLASS SCULPTOR

HON. JOSEPH M. McDADE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Mr. McDADE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Christopher Ries, who is one of the world's premier glass sculptors. On March 24, the Everhart Museum in Scranton, PA, will present a retrospective of Mr. Ries' work called Glass and Light. This retrospective will showcase Mr. Ries' lifetime of effort to mold glass into works of art which capture and transform light in unique and beautiful ways.

As a student at the Ohio State University, Mr. Ries learned to appreciate the qualities of glass during course work in ceramics. He pur-

sued this interest through studying glass engineering and by designing and building a glass studio at Ohio State.

The cofounder of the Modern Glass Movement, Harvey Littleton, was so impressed with Mr. Ries' work at Ohio State that he invited him to be his assistant at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. While subsequently pursuing his master of fine arts degree, Mr. Ries opened his own studio at Mineral Point, WI.

Mr. Ries began to achieve international acclaim after establishing a relationship with Schott Glass Technologies in Duryea, PA, which creates optical glass of optimum clarity and brilliance. In a unique partnership between artist and industry, Schott allowed Mr. Ries the use of its facilities in order to produce the world's largest crystal sculptures. In 1988, these magnificent pieces were exhibited in an exclusive showing at the Cincinnati Art Museum which, according to museum officials, was the most popular in the museum's history.

Mr. Ries presently maintains a studio in Tunkhannock, PA, where he continues to mold glass into beautiful works of art. It is a privilege for the 10th Congressional District to count Mr. Ries as a resident and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his contributions to the world of art.

ARMS CONTROL IS NOT PASSE

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I am submitting two excellent editorials to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that support adequate funding for the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. These appeared in the March 5 Christian Science Monitor and the March 11 Oregonian.

ACDA is carrying out vital work as we move toward implementing START II, completing negotiations on a comprehensive test ban treaty, and ratifying the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Ridding the world of weapons of mass destruction is perhaps the most important thing we can do to advance the security of the world. I urge my colleagues to support a higher funding level for ACDA in the continuing resolution the next time it comes before us.

[From the Christian Science Monitor, Mar. 5, 1996]

FUND ARMS CONTROL

Some of the federal government's smallest agencies do some of its most important work.

One of them is the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA), a tiny, 250-person department that conducts negotiations to limit and reduce nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and verifies compliance with arms-control treaties.

ACDA has been whipsawed in the budget debate: First, it got caught in Sen. Jesse Helms' misguided attempt to eliminate it and two other foreign-affairs agencies and hand their work over to the State Department. That effort was defeated in the Senate, which passed a State Department authorization bill that includes funding for the other agencies.

But the upper chamber and the House of Representatives have not yet reconciled conflicting versions of the bill. So ACDA got

caught in a continuing resolution that provides it with only 70 percent of the funding it had last fiscal year, and only 47 percent of the funding the administration asked for this year.

The resolution expires March 15, and ACDA needs an additional \$8.7 million—for a final budget of \$44.4 million—to do its job. ACDA Director John Holum has taken extreme measures to make sure his agency stays within the continuing-resolution funding.

He has slapped on a hiring freeze, halted use of consultants, banned overtime, put a hold on promotions, and restricted travel. Most vacancies are being left unfilled. Maintenance on ACDA's phones is limited to emergency repairs.

These measures have allowed the agency to hang on and, so far, fulfill most of its missions. But if Congress doesn't appropriate additional funding for after March 15, several of those missions will be in danger.

The agency has had to withdraw a key expert who is helping the United Nations ensure that Iraq's Sadaam Hussein doesn't develop nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons.

ACDA may not have the expertise it needs to complete negotiations on the treaty to ban nuclear testing.

The agency won't have the personnel to work on ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention. It already doesn't have the money to send an expert to The Hague to work on inspection procedures that will be required when the accord kicks in.

It's not only silly, it's dangerous for Congress to appropriate money for B-2 bombers the Pentagon doesn't want and for an untested missile-defense program while at the same time starving the agency that ensures other countries abide by arms-control agreements. The extra money ACDA needs buys a lot of national security at a very low price. Congress should find the funds.

[From the Oregonian, Mar. 11, 1996]

KEEPING OUR NUCLEAR GUARD UP—CONGRESS SHOULD ADEQUATELY FUND U.S. ARMS CONTROL AGENCY TO COMBAT SPREAD OF CHEMICAL AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO TERRORISTS

Preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction is a high priority for the Clinton administration and should be a concern of all Americans.

Here's why we should worry:

China stands accused of transferring nuclear-related technology to Pakistan. It refuses to halt its own tests of nuclear weapons. It is accused by U.S. arms negotiators of throwing up roadblocks in Geneva-based talks aimed at promulgating a global Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. There are indications that China maintains an offensive biological weapons program in violation of international accords.

The Mayak nuclear complex in Russia is so secret that it didn't show up on maps during the Cold War. Enough plutonium is stored there to make 3,750 bombs. The site is protected by enough soldiers to fight a war. But inside, where 30 metric tons of plutonium are stored, security is so lax that it wouldn't take much effort for an errant worker to steal radioactive material.

The danger from within—that's the new nuclear nightmare. That's also why the U.S. Senate should ratify the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty, which not only makes chemical weapons illegal, but would make it illegal to stockpile them as well.

To protect Americans from these threats, Congress needs to spend an estimated \$10 million to restore funding for the 250-person U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, which is the nation's most effective post-Cold War watchdog. Temporary funding for the agency expires Friday. Indeed, the agency has been so strapped for money that when

the chemical weapons treaty's inspection procedures were negotiated, agency experts were forced to stay home due to the lack of travel funds.

The central mission of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency is to reduce nuclear stockpiles here and in Russia; to put an end to nuclear testing around the world; and to outlaw poison gas forever. The agency complements the work of the Pentagon by trying to remove the threats to national security through negotiated, verifiable agreements.

The nature of the nuclear threat has changed since the end of the Cold War. It is difficult to police or detect activity: Witness the mortifying prospect that as little as a kilogram of plutonium or weapon-grade uranium could fall into the hands of terrorists targeting U.S. cities.

The nation needs an adequately funded arms control agency to minimize these threats.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF MIAMI'S UNSUNG HEROINES

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to join, once again, with the citizens of the city of Miami in honoring the 1996 Unsung Heroines. Each year the city of Miami Commission on the Status of Women commemorates National Women's History Month by recognizing and honoring women who care to share their time by helping others through volunteerism.

This year, I join the city of Miami in saluting the 1996 Unsung Heroines:

Marilyn S. Bloom—a retired preschool and elementary schoolteacher, who is also an enthusiastic advocate for senior citizens and intergenerational programming in Dade County.

Dr. Castell V. Bryant—an educator for over 30 years and currently the interim president of Miami Dade Community College—Wolfson Campus, Dr. Bryant has been deeply committed to programs that help instill pride, build self-esteem and improve family life for inner-city youth.

Doris Emerson—a dedicated volunteer and board member in the Girl Scouts, the Quaker religion, and in the fields of mental health and education.

Dr. Carmen Gonzalez—an untiring chef and creator of Feeding the Mind Foundation, a scholarship for battered women. Dr. Gonzalez has chaired numerous fundraisers for Camillus House, and has actively promoted "Extra Helpings" a program that supplies meals for the homeless.

Cindy Lerner—the codesigner of a program titled "Teenage Dating Violence: Intervention and Prevention," that provides curriculum and training for educating youths about the dynamics of domestic violence.

Dr. Ann Moliver Ruben—developed programs for Dade County teachers to help combat gender inequities, and has provided voluntary psychotherapy for rape victims.

Alvia Palmer-Michel—a volunteer at the Children's Home Society, a board member of Florida Legal Services, and a courageous and dedicated advocate for AIDS awareness. She has risen through personal struggles to offer

comfort, education and hope to parents of children with AIDS.

Kathleen Sweeney and Denise Nerette—as members of the Haitian Task Force on Domestic Violence they have collaborated in promulgating domestic violence in Miami's Haitian Community.

Christina Zawisza—a child advocate and the founding member of the Florida Foster Care Review Project, who has dedicated her untiring efforts for children in need.

Marcela Viola—is the first unsung student to be honored. She attends Miami Beach Senior High School, and has dedicated time to helping children help themselves, while maintaining superior grade averages in advanced classes.

COPE Schools—Continuing Opportunities for Purposeful Education is the first program to be honored. The two schools, "North" and "South," through their dedicated principals, Dorothy Wallace and Dr. Williams Perry, have, through education, improved the quality of life to single teenage mothers and their children.

It is said that Miami is the only major city in the United States to have been created by the inspiration of a woman—Julia Tuttle. It is today that we honor women who follow that inspiration.

TRIBUTE TO MARGIE MONTES, PIO PICO WOMAN'S CLUB 1996 WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I rise to pay tribute to Margie Montes, Pio Pico Woman's Club 1996 Woman of the Year. Mrs. Montes has earned this distinctive recognition through her active involvement in our community.

Mrs. Montes became an active member of our community at a very early age, participating in sports while attending Assumption Grammar School. Later, at Our Lady of Loretto High School, Margie began showing her leadership abilities as captain of the tennis team and as yearbook editor. When she graduated in 1979, she was awarded the Bank of America Award for Home Economics. Currently, she is an executive manager for Tupperware where she has received numerous awards of recognition for her performance.

Her contributions extend throughout our community. She is currently president of the Soroptimist of Pico Rivera, where she has also held the positions of first and second vice president. She is also a member of the Pico Rivera Chamber of Commerce, where she serves on the board of directors.

She has been a member of the Pio Pico Woman's Club since 1991. For the past 2 years, she has served as chairperson for the Pio Pico Woman's Club's annual Christmas with Santa Claus dinner, as well as chairperson for the international dinner and pasta nights. She has also chaired the Dessert Fashion Show. She has selflessly contributed her time above and beyond expectations to these events, making wreaths and arranging baskets as door prizes.

In addition to all of her contributions to our community through her membership in various

organizations, Mrs. Montes is a loving mother and is as devoted to her family life as she is to her community.

Mrs. Montes has proven herself to be deserving of this award. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this year's Pio Pico Woman's Club woman of the year, Margie Montes.

BEST OF LUCK TO COMDR. SEAN
P. SULLIVAN

HON. J. C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Mr. WATTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly outstanding naval officer, Comdr. Sean P. Sullivan, U.S. Navy, who has served with distinction as Deputy Director of the House of Representatives' Navy Legislative Liaison Office. It is a privilege for me to recognize his many outstanding achievements and commend him for the superb service he has provided to this legislative body and to our great Nation as a whole.

A native of Bridgeport, CT, Commander Sullivan received his commission from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. He was commissioned as an ensign in May, 1980. Commander Sullivan then completed a rigorous nuclear propulsion training program and submarine officers basic course.

Following this initial training, Commander Sullivan reported to his first ship, U.S.S. *Plunger*, SSN-595. While on U.S.S. *Plunger*, Commander Sullivan served as reactor control assistant, main propulsion assistant, and weapons officer.

Completing a successful tour on U.S.S. *Plunger*, Commander Sullivan was selected to return to his alma mater, the U.S. Naval Academy, as a company officer. In this vital role, Commander Sullivan was charged with the training of our future naval officers.

All great naval officers can't wait to get back to sea and Commander Sullivan is no exception to that rule. Following his tour at the Naval Academy he reported to U.S.S. *Chicago*, SSN-721, where he served as the ship's engineer. While on U.S.S. *Chicago*, Commander Sullivan served in Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Completing his tour aboard U.S.S. *Chicago*, Commander Sullivan reported to the staff of Submarine Group 11 where he served as the squadron engineer. In May 1993, Commander Sullivan again returned to sea duty serving as the executive officer of U.S.S. *Maryland*, SSBN-738.

Due to his demonstrated sustained outstanding performance, Commander Sullivan was handpicked to report to his current job upon completion of his tour on U.S.S. *Maryland*. During his tenure at the Legislative Affairs Office, Commander Sullivan has provided the members of the House National Security Committee, our professional and personal staffs, as well as many of you seated here today, with superior support regarding Navy plans and programs. His valuable contributions have enabled Congress and the Department of the Navy to work closely together to ensure our naval forces are well equipped and superbly trained.

Mr. Speaker, Sean Sullivan, his wife Sharon, and their four children, Amy, Casey, Kelly,

and Maxwell, have made many sacrifices during his 16-year-naval career. Serving on three submarines, he has spent a significant amount of time underway away from his family. We are all deeply in debt to the contributions of great Americans such as Commander Sullivan to ensure the freedom we all cherish.

As Commander Sullivan now prepares to return to sea yet again, this time as captain of his own submarine, I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to wish him every success as well as fair winds and following seas.

BALANCED BUDGET DOWN
PAYMENT ACT, II

SPEECH OF

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3019) making appropriation for fiscal year 1996 to make a further downpayment toward a balanced budget, and for other purposes:

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Chairman, the Republicans believe they have a great plan to put a downpayment on a balanced budget.

They believe they have found a perfect method to cut what they consider to be excessive "social spending."

They have proposed legislation that slashes funding by \$900 million for veterans health care, veterans employment programs, and the construction of new veterans psychiatric care facilities. They have said "No" to needed VA hospitals and outpatient clinics which would have served up to 700,000 veterans. These cuts are for below President Clinton's budget request and are even below the House-passed level with regard to health care issues.

On top of all that, they have now given themselves a safety mechanism. They have invented a sure-fire way to guard their plan from criticism.

How?

By removing these indefensible provisions? By realizing the errors of their huge budget cuts?

No. Instead they choose to silence someone who has the courage and the expertise to point out the flaws in their budget plan, our Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Jesse Brown.

In the Republicans believe their plan is such a marvelous solution to our budget woes, why then are they trying to muzzle the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from during his job, advocating for adequate funding for VA programs? Why else would the Republicans aim their funding cuts at the Secretary of Veterans Affairs travel budget and staff support?

I think I know the answer.

Maybe the Republicans themselves don't believe their plan is so wise. Maybe they know their downpayment unfairly cuts funding for those men and women who served under our Nation's flag. Maybe they fear that veterans will be informed of these cuts and will vote their concerns at the ballot box next November. Maybe they are worried that the next time they drape themselves in the flag the American people won't buy it.

They know that Secretary Brown is speaking the truth. They know that he is a strong and knowledgeable advocate for veterans.

I can find no other explanation.

The Republicans must doubt their own commitment to veterans. They must fear that Jesse Brown will expose their budget for what they know it is. Why else would they prevent the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from speaking out on the issues that he knows best?

I urge my colleagues to oppose the rule for this continuing resolution. It prevents those who really care about our Nation's veterans from striking punitive language aimed at silencing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

It attacks the independence of a cabinet level agency and silences the best voice America's veterans have. It compromises Congress' commitment that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs would be an effective advocate for the millions of men and women who served in our military. This rule is bad for veterans and bad for the United States.

AMBASSADOR FERRARO RECOGNIZES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

HON. PATRICIA SCHROEDER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, on March 8, 1996, Ambassador Geraldine Ferraro, head of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations Human Rights Commission, spoke eloquently about International Women's Day. Ambassador Ferraro recognized the many high-ranking women in our Government who perform outstanding service on behalf of human rights all over the world. She spoke at length about the many human rights violations that women still face, in spite of our best efforts. I would like to have her remarks included in the RECORD.

AMBASSADOR GERALDINE FERRARO, HEAD OF U.S. DELEGATION, UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, ON THE OCCASION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY, MARCH 8, 1996

Thank you so much, Tim, for that kind introduction. It is a great honor for me to be here today on the occasion of International Women's Day with so many friends and former colleagues and to have the chance to speak with you about women and human rights and the essential role they both play in our efforts to fashion a new and better world for those who follow us.

Before I begin, however, I want you to know that you have chosen some of my favorite people to honor today, Mr. Secretary. I am pleased, but not surprised, because each of them has been at the forefront of the struggle to protect the rights of women, each of them fought for the rights of children, the poor, the disabled and the disenfranchised at home before coming to Washington. So moving into the arena of international human rights has been a natural progression for them.

These are women who are not afraid to stand up for the cases they believe in. Indeed, the desire to fight for such beliefs was why they ran for public office in the first place.

But many run and only a few win. What we see here are women who have helped make history, each in her own way, women who overcame the obstacles others so often put in their path. Together, they prove that it is not just possible for women of principle to lead, but that the public will support them when they do.

This, then, is change. And change is what this administration has achieved, both with regard to women and to human rights. You know and I know that this has not been easy. But change is taking place. There are more women at the highest levels of our Government now than ever before, demonstrating their competence, day in, day out, proving their value to the country and to the world—no nonsense women like Madeleine Albright. I don't know how many of you saw her on television the other day, when the Cubans were trying to explain how shooting down unarmed planes in international waters was somehow an act of courage. Madeleine let the world know exactly what she thought of their so-called machismo, and she called it, what it was in plain English, as well as in Spanish. Yes, Madeleine has been a most articulate spokesperson for this country no matter what the issue.

And, of course, there's Donna Shalala, Janet Reno and Hazel O'Leary, handling complex Cabinet portfolios with skill and determination. And here in the State Department: Robin Raphel is doing an excellent job with India and Pakistan; Tony Verstandig is making real contributions to the Middle East Peace Process; Melinda Kimble, proved herself a leader at the Beijing Women's Conference; and Nancy Ely-Raphel made a vital contribution to the success of the Vienna conference and more recently the Dayton accords. Both Lynn Davis and Joan Spero are among the Secretary's most trusted advisors, while Phyllis Oakley has been a pillar of strength on refugee issues. And Pru Bushnell has shown enormous leadership on African issues.

There are many more of you who also deserve to be recognized as well, women who stand in the trenches of government and do battle every day for the things we believe in. Because we don't have just a handful of exceptional women in Government any more; we've got thousands of them. In every office in every department and agency in this Government, there are women making believers of those who doubted them before. This is change.

It's a measure of your achievement that this change is, I believe, irreversible.

That doesn't mean that I think the battle to ensure women's rights is over in this country, that women have achieved equality in the workplace and in their paychecks. That doesn't mean that we have put an end to sexual harassment, that we are free to walk our streets at night, or that the fear of violence no longer haunts the daily lives of millions. Nor does it mean that those who would turn us against each other, pitting those who stay at home to raise their children against those who go to work, have suddenly seen the light. It doesn't mean that the glass ceiling is shattered or that every deadbeat dad is paying for his children now. It doesn't even mean that we, as a society, understand what it takes to be a woman today, what it means to walk a tightrope between family and the work place, at a time when so much is changing and yet so little.

No, but I'm optimistic because there is a course to history. How many women worked here in the State Department a generation ago—not just in secretarial positions—women have always filled those spots—but as analysts, office directors, desk officers? There was Eleanor Dulles, a specialist in German affairs—whose brother just happened to be Secretary of State—and who else? Not many. Look at your numbers now. Who among you thinks we're ever going back?

I'm optimistic about the future because I am convinced that the doors of opportunity which we have opened will never again be closed. The gains we have achieved will be

built on—not only in the State Department, but in Congress and in the State legislatures, on Wall Street and in Silicone Valley, in the boardrooms, the newsrooms and the classrooms of our great universities, in the science labs and in space and wherever the next chapters of our history are being written.

It will be tough. Every step of the way will be contested. Power is always contested.

But I'm optimistic for another reason. In 1984, when I was running for Vice President, the campaign had me shy away from emphasizing women's issues. I didn't have to prove to anyone where I stood on equity for women. I had to convince "the guys" that I had the courage and the intelligence to run the country. But it didn't make sense. How can a woman not address the needs of women? And so in late October, right before the election, I gave my one and only women's speech. It addressed every issue we care about and have fought for over the last dozen years. I was concerned that somehow the message would be lost if we didn't bring in the other half of the population, and so I said: "I am not only speaking to women here tonight. Every man is diminished when his daughter is denied a fair chance; every son is a victim when his mother is denied fair pay."

Those are the same points we make when we discuss women's rights as human rights as the First Lady did so eloquently in Beijing. Allowing women full participation in society benefits not just them, but society as a whole.

Many of you participated in one way or another to the effort which made the Beijing Women's Conference such a success. I was privileged to be part of the delegation. It was one of the most fascinating and exhilarating events I've ever attended. The platform for action we adopted commits the nations of the world to halting violence against women, protecting their rights to free speech, health and education, and establishing a higher standard of respect for women's rights than ever before in history.

This, in itself, is quite an achievement. But I don't think that we will have done our job until the standard we set is met—and not just in America, but everywhere. And that will take a lot of work on the part of all of us who care about women and human rights. For we all know how easy it is for some nations to agree to international standards one moment then forget them entirely the next. So will it be with the Beijing platform if you and I relax or focus too narrowly on ourselves.

It is the special fate of America to be the particular champion of human liberty. It is not always an easy burden to live with. Whether we like it or not, the hopes of millions and millions of people across the world rest on our shoulders. And we know why: When the rest of the world has proven itself incapable of unwilling to lead, the United States has accepted the challenge.

It took two generations of sacrifice to win the cold war and bring the blessings of liberty and freedom to a hundred million people. And now, in Bosnia, in Haiti and in the Middle East, the eyes of the victims are turned to Washington again. There are jobs which only we can do. Not that we can do them all, or that we can always do them by

ourselves. But the fact is, we are different; we are a catalyst. When we act, others follow.

So it is with human rights. The United States has been leading for over two hundred years. That's as it should be. Leadership in human rights is a burden we embrace in this building, in this administration, and in hundreds of private institutions and organizations throughout the country.

That's why I'm looking forward to heading back to Geneva next week for the meeting of the U.N. Human Rights Commission. There will be a lot on our plate there—China, Bosnia, Cuba and the Middle East. But despite all that, you can be sure that no delegation is going to be more active in the defense of women's rights than we will.

Human rights are universal, but they're also American through and through. They're as old as the Declaration of Independence, as new as this week's human rights reports. Despite our lapses, our institutions and policies are grounded in a genuine belief that the rights and freedoms we cherish belong to everyone. And that gives us a strength most other nations lack.

That is why I think that ultimately our views on human rights will prevail throughout the world. One day the standard we first set in our own institutions and then helped establish in the international arena will become the one by which all countries judge themselves.

Our job, then, is to take that voice and amplify it, to use the power of our institutions and the strength of our people, people like you to hold the nations of the world—our own included—accountable to the standards we have set for ourselves so many times—whether in the Bill of Rights, the U.N. Charter or the Universal Declaration of Human Rights—or more recently in the Vienna declaration, the Beijing platform and our 1996 human rights reports.

Of course, some governments won't be disseminating our reports this week. They'll be doing their best to silence them. They may succeed in the short term. They may jam the Voice of America. They may censor their newspapers, lock their dissidents in distant jails. They may oppose us at the United Nations and at the Human Rights Commission. They may bluster and rage and obfuscate. But time is no longer on their side. Eventually, with modern telecommunications the truth will find its way to even the most remote outpost of injustice. They are going to find it impossible to kill ideas which just won't die, ideas like freedom, justice and equality.

We only have to look at Bosnia or Baghdad, to Cuba or Chechnya or the desperate refugee camps in Sudan, Tanzania and Zaire to see how far we have to go. For if women's rights are human rights and human rights are universal—and all the nations of the world have agreed they are—there must come a time when the respect for these rights becomes universal, too. There must come a time when words become deeds, not just in America, but in every hut and every home in every land.

Yes, I think that time will come. It may not be in my lifetime, but it will come. There will be a time when the women of the world won't need to petition the powerful for

protection, when "poor" and "defenseless" won't be names we give to half a billion women. There'll be a time when girls are not left to starve upon a hillside because they were not born boys; when their genitals are not mutilated to please some cruel, outdated custom; when they are not violated in the name of ethnic cleansing; when girls are not sold into prostitution out of financial desperation; when they are not burned because their dowries are too small or their husbands died before them.

There will be a time when women will not be either the victims or the cause of overpopulation; when they will not bear eight children in the hope that three may live; when they are not forced into early marriage; when they will not lack the education they need to become productive citizens.

There will be a time when refugee women will not sell themselves for food; when they will not be raped by marauding soldiers; when they will not be terrorized because they come from the wrong group or the wrong city or because they chose the wrong time to gather firewood to cook the family meal.

Yes, there will be a time for all of that. There'll be a time when the women of America can walk the streets of our cities and not know fear. There'll be a time when the life of a ghetto girl will mean as much as one in the wealthy suburbs; when comparable work will mean comparable pay; and when we can look out across any meeting room in any county of this country and see as many women there as men.

But that is some time off. Until then, violence against women will remain a thread that knits the world's rich and poor together. No nation is immune. This is not a problem of the developed or developing world. It is not African or Asian or American alone. It is universal. It is our problem; it is every nation's problem, and so it will remain until women take their rightful place alongside men, in all strata and at all levels of society. For violence is a reflection of second-class status.

And so as I look around me here and see so many examples of what this country can produce when it nurtures its girls as well as boys, I can't help but feel pride that we women have begun to force history to march forward. But time has caught us in mid-step. Our work, the work of everybody here today—men and women—is but half-done.

And yet I cannot think of a more exciting time to be alive. There is so much to do and so many talented people like you to do it. Women, not just here in America, but everywhere, are on the move, brushing aside the obstacles, defending our interests, our families and our values. Women's rights are human rights.

It's been a long time in coming, but I can feel the sweep of history now. It's in this room and in this country. And it won't stop here. One day the pulse of freedom and human dignity will beat in every woman's heart, not just in America, and not just on International Women's Day, but in every village and in every nation of the world every day of the year. It may not happen soon, but I know that with all of us working together, its time is sure to come.