

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join the Carlisle Exchange Club in honoring Dr. Webb S. Hersperger as "Citizen of the Year 1995."

I have known Dr. Hersperger for many years and have valued his friendship. While his professional and community service affiliations are extensive, he is most distinguished for his important contributions to the practice of medicine and the medical community. Having served as president of the Cumberland County Medical Society, he was instrumental in the development of the emergency 911 service.

Webb's commitment to public service by no means ends in the hospital. For many years, he served his country in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. He has also worked to preserve the health and welfare of many Pennsylvanians through the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the United Way, and the YMCA, just to list a few. Be it through his medical practice, the church, or service with educational and charitable organizations, he has touched the life of each Cumberland County resident in some way.

It has been said that the health of a democratic society is measured by the quality of functions performed by private citizens. Throughout his career Dr. Hersperger has been dedicated to improving and enriching the lives of others. Through his example, he has set this standard and embodied the values of true citizenship which are vital to the well-being of our community and to the future of our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, as the representative of Pennsylvania's 19th Congressional District, I congratulate Dr. Hersperger for receiving this prestigious award. He has made Cumberland County a better place to live and raise a family. I am proud to call him a constituent and a friend.

SALUTING CUYAHOGA COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION PUBLIC SERV- ANTS MERIT AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute eight individuals who are being honored as outstanding public servants. On March 22, 1996, the Cuyahoga County Bar Foundation and Cuyahoga County Bar Association will host the 50th Public Servants Merit Awards Luncheon. At that time, the eight honorees will be presented with the Franklin A. Polk Public Servants Merit Award. The individuals are:

Valina M. Aicone; William D. Fromwiller; Sylvia E. Harrison; Patrick P. McGinty; Donald Peak; Francis A. Rutkowski; Rita M. Sobolewski; and J. Carol Wolf. The Public Servants Merit Award is named in honor of Franklin A. Polk, a distinguished lawyer who chaired the annual luncheon for 40 years. As the county bar foundation and the county bar association celebrate a historic 50th awards luncheon, Frank will be remembered for his commitment in recognizing the contributions of public servants.

I take special pride in saluting the 1996 Public Servants Merit Award recipients. I want to share with my colleagues some information regarding these outstanding individuals. They are each more than deserving of special recognition.

Mr. Speaker, Virginia M. Aicone is a resident of Brook Park, OH. She is a graduate of West High School and she has enjoyed a distinguished career with the court which spans 28 years. She began her career with the court in 1968 when she was employed as deputy clerk for the clerk of courts. She went on to serve as editor for the common pleas court.

In her current position, Ms. Aicone is responsible for supervising and training employees in the data input journal entries division. She and her staff work closely with the clerk's office, sheriff's department, and others to guarantee that accurate information is reflected on the court journals.

Ms. Aicone is the proud mother of three children; Michael, Anthony, and Madeline. Her hobbies include bowling, bingo, and coin collecting. In addition, she is active in her community as a member of the Ladies Auxiliary, Fraternal Order of Eagles, where she was named Mother of the year. In addition, she is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and Women of the Moose.

Mr. Speaker, the next honoree, William D. Fromwiller, is a resident of Claridon, OH. He is a graduate of Richmond Height High School and attended Cleveland State University. Mr. Fromwiller began his court career in 1969, following an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army. He currently serves as chief deputy for the county clerk of courts.

In his position, Mr. Fromwiller, oversees the clerk's budget, including contracts and purchasing. He also responds to procedural questions which arise concerning court rules. Throughout his career, Mr. Fromwiller has exercised the highest level of concern and compassion for those he has encountered on the job. He prides himself on being an effective communicator and problem solver.

Mr. Fromwiller is an avid fisherman, and he enjoys an annual visit to Canada for the sport. He also enjoys hunting and walking. He and his wife, Jean, are the proud parents of two children, Keith and Craig.

Mr. Speaker, our third Public Servants Merit Award recipient has worked in the criminal division of the clerk of courts office for more than 29 years. Currently, Sylvia E. Harrison is employed as assistant supervisor for the clerk of court. In this position, she assists in the preparation of judges' personal docket for

court, issues summons and warrants for defendants who fail to appear in court, and maintains and verifies computerized criminal history checks for the court.

Ms. Harrison is a native of West Virginia and graduated from Excelsior High School. She and her husband, Willie C. Harrison, are the proud parents of Marcia, Felicia, April, and Willie, Jr. They are residents of Cleveland, OH.

In her spare time, Ms. Harrison is active in the Cleveland community. Her memberships include the Urban League of Greater Cleveland, the NAACP, and the Democratic Club. In addition, she is a member of Faith Tabernacle where she serves as financial secretary. Her hobbies include camping, reading, cooking, and playing video games.

Mr. Speaker, the fourth honoree, Patrick P. McGinty, is a resident of Lakewood, OH. He is a veteran of the Korean war, and notes with pride that he is one of eight members of his family to have served in the Armed Forces at various times. Mr. McGinty began his court career in 1968. He currently serves as deputy filing clerk for the probate court. In his position, Mr. McGinty is responsible for filing and distributing probate cases to the public. He also makes certain that magistrates of the court have their daily hearings, and he assists the public in viewing microfilms. Mr. McGinty takes pride in his career in public service and his commitment to helping others.

Sharing her life with Mr. McGinty is his wife of 29 years, Margaret. They are the proud parents of three children: Christopher, Kathleen, and James. In his spare time, Mr. McGinty has volunteered his time at the Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corp., where he delivered food to needy families. He also did volunteer work with St. Augustine's Church. In addition, he has coached youngsters in basketball and boxing. His hobbies also include gardening.

The fifth recipient of the Public Servants Merit Award, Donald E. Peak, is a resident of Parma, OH. Mr. Peak began his career with the Cuyahoga County court system in 1965. He has been employed as a probation officer, case supervisor, and supervisor of placement and manager of residential services for the Cuyahoga County juvenile court.

Currently, Mr. Peak holds the position of deputy director for the department of probation and community services. In this position, he takes responsibility for ensuring that children receive proper assessment and the highest level of support services and programs designed to curtail unlawful behavior on the part of youth.

Mr. Peak is a veteran who was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army. He is an avid sports fan and also enjoys reading, walking, fishing, and coin collecting. In addition, Mr. Peak maintains a close association with and assists individuals who are mentally and physically disadvantaged. He advises that it has given him a greater appreciation of life's true priorities. Mr. Peak and his wife, Virginia Brown Peak, are the parents of three children: Jim, Joe, and Jack.

• 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.

Mr. Speaker, the next individual selected to be recognized by the Cuyahoga County Bar Association is Francis A. Rutkowski. Mr. Rutkowski is supervisor for the Cleveland municipal court. In this post, he supervises eight probation officers who prepare pre-sentence reports for court judges.

A resident of Westlake, OH, Mr. Rutkowski developed his keen sense of public service while watching his late father, Judge Anthony Rutkowski, tackle the challenges in the courtroom. Mr. Rutkowski's career has included service as a deputy sheriff and probation officer. He is also the past president of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America and served as lecturer at Cleveland State University.

Mr. Rutkowski is a graduate of John Carroll University and Alliance College. He received his law degree from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. His professional associations include the American Correctional Association, Ohio Correctional and Court Services Association, National Sheriff's Association, National Association of Chiefs of Police, and the American Bar Association, just to name a few. He and his wife, Patricia L. Buk, are the proud parents of four children; Christine, Joseph, Anne, and Michael.

The next honoree, Ria Moredock Sobolewski, is a former free lance court reporter. For the past 19 years, she has served as the official court reporter for the domestic relations court. She is responsible for the creation of a verbatim record of all court proceedings.

A graduate of West Virginia University and the Academy of Court Reporting, Ms. Sobolewski holds memberships in the National Court Reporters Association and the Ohio Court Reporters Association. She is also the recipient of numerous awards and certificates of merit for outstanding work.

Ms. Sobolewski is the wife of John Sobolewski. The couple resides in North Olmsted, OH, and have enjoyed 20 years of marriage. They are the proud parents of Amy and Johnny.

Mr. Speaker, the final recipient of the Franklin Polk Public Servant Merit Award, Jetta C. Wolf, has enjoyed a career as a legal and judicial secretary which has spanned 39 years. A graduate of Holston High School in Blountville, TN, she began her career with the court system in 1977.

Currently, Ms. Wolf serves as judicial secretary for Judge John T. Patton. In her post, she is responsible for correspondence, stenographic, and file maintenance for the judge. In addition, Ms. Wolf is responsible for circulating and releasing opinions and entering the same records into the court data system.

In her spare time, Ms. Wolf enjoys tailoring, doll making, and cake decorating. She also enjoys antiques and attending Cleveland Indian games. She and her husband, Richard, a retired Cleveland policeman, are the proud parents of Runa, Lettie, Brian, Tracy, and Angela. The Wolf family reside in North Ridgeville, OH, where they attend Shepherd of the Ridge Lutheran Church.

Mr. Speaker, I take pride in saluting the eight individuals who have been selected to receive the Public Servants Merit Awards from the Cuyahoga County Bar Foundation and Bar Association. They have exhibited the highest level of commitment to public service and personal excellence. I also applaud these distinguished organizations for recognizing the im-

portance of honoring employees who strive to make the court system work more effectively.

THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SAN FRANCISCO ART INSTITUTE

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the San Francisco Art Institute as it celebrates its 125th year of contributing to the enrichment of the artistic and cultural community of the San Francisco Bay Area and the United States. The San Francisco Art Institute has excelled in training, guiding and nurturing budding artistic talent, and these talented students and artists have shared their many gifts with the Nation and the world.

Founded in 1871 by a group of artists, writers and civic leaders, the San Francisco Art Institute has become an integral part of the heritage that has made San Francisco a thriving creative arts community. First named the San Francisco Art Association, it was then and continues to be a pioneering institution with a distinct cultural vision for the West.

After World War II, the Art Institute became the west coast center of abstract expressionism, involving an impressive group of artists, including Clyfford Still, Mark Rothko and Ad Reinhardt. In 1946, renowned photographer Ansel Adams created the Nation's first fine art photography department at the Institute, which later enticed such notable instructors as Dorothea Lange, Imogen Cunningham and Edward Weston. In the 1950s, the Institute was a center for the Nation's leading figurative artists, including Richard Diebenkorn, Elmer Bischoff, David Park and James Weeks. In the 1960s, the Art Institute established the country's first fine art film program. And in 1995, keeping up with ever changing technology and new tools for creative expression, the Art Institute launched the New Imaging Center, an important new computer resource center for the visual arts.

The Art Institute offers innovative academic programs in painting, photography, printmaking, filmmaking and sculpture. One of the keys to its exceptional success as an educational institution is the Institute's emphasis on personal exploration, growth and total immersion in one's work. The roster of stellar creative talent associated with the Art Institute throughout its last century is stunning in its breadth. The sculptor of Mount Rushmore, Gutzon Borglum, was a student. Diego Rivera created a mural at the school. Enrique Chagoya, Annie Liebowitz and the Grateful Dead's Jerry Garcia are just a few more of the notable artists who have left their mark on the Art Institute and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, on March 16, 1996, the San Francisco Art Institute will host a gala celebration of its 125 years. A city-wide arts celebration will occur this month and next, as other San Francisco museums, galleries and art spaces pay tribute to the Institute on this landmark anniversary. On behalf of the United States Congress, I salute Art Institute President Ella King Torrey and all of the great contemporary artists and teachers who have contributed throughout the years to creating and building this legacy for our Nation. Let us all

join with the San Francisco Art Institute and continue to celebrate and support the arts and their prominent place in our society for years to come.

WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL
CRITICIZES SERBIAN RESTRICTIONS
ON THE INFORMATION MEDIA
AND GOVERNMENT CLOSING
OF THE SOROS FOUNDATION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, just a few days ago, with my colleague from Nebraska, Mr. BEREUTER, I introduced House Resolution 378 deploring the recent actions by the government of Serbia restricting freedom of the press and freedom of expression and ending the legal authority of the Soros Foundation to continue its democracy-building and humanitarian activities in Serbia.

The Washington Post in an excellent editorial last week commented on the Serbian decision to close the Soros Foundation and the measures taken by the government against the independent information media. I commend this excellent editorial to my colleagues, and I ask that it be placed in the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 7, 1996]

SHUTTERING UP SERBIA

No task is more important in the former Yugoslavia than building a nongovernmental civil society to open up the ingrown local regimes. And in no place is this work more vital than Serbia, the dominant and pace-setting part of the broken-up country. Finally, in this activity no one plays a larger individual role than George Soros, who, as U.S. Information Agency chief Joseph Duffey puts it, does what the U.S. government would do if it had the money. In a score of formerly Communist countries, the billionaire speculator runs private foundations "to enable people to do things which are not centrally determined but autonomous and spontaneous." Except not in Serbia. Not anymore.

"Even as he offered himself internationally as a man who could bring peace to Bosnia, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic was further consolidating his power at home. He has made a special target of the local Soros Foundation, which does scholarships, summer camps and toys for children, relief for Serb refugees, medical institutions, nongovernmental organizations, the independent works. The foundation has sustained Serbia's only independent media, including the newspaper Nasa Borba and television's Studio B. But after a campaign (400 articles and broadcasts) in the official media, Serb authorities hoked up a technicality to close the foundation down. Evidently Mr. Milosevic, heading toward elections, wants no opposition, democratic or otherwise—least of all an open society.

The other day, a week after Belgrade closed out the Soros project, the State Department called on President Milosevic to "reverse the trend of anti-democratic repressive measures." The question arises, however, whether Mr. Milosevic had not taken a contrary clue from the secretary of state's failure to receive the independent sector when he buzzed through Belgrade last month.

The Serb leader seems to be carefully weighing what his—undeniably considerable—contributions to ending the war will

buy him in international acceptance of his tightening at home. Others must be careful not to let him conclude he has no further need to allow space for independent local actors and foreign organizations like the Soros Foundation. This is space for civility and tolerance, values the former Yugoslavia desperately needs.

POLITICS VERSUS GROWTH?

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I commend to my colleagues the attached article from Investor's Business Daily. With economic growth of only 1.4 percent last year, the possibility of a recession still casting a shadow and the middle-class being squeezed on all sides, the situation cries out for serious action. Unfortunately, the President vetoed the Balanced Budget Act of 1995 and so far has offered nothing to address the issue of economic growth.

As the Daily points out, there is room for agreement on a capital gains tax. The President has long supported a targeted one. According to one study, such a cut would have created 1.4 million new jobs between 1995 and 1999, added an additional 1 percent a year to the stock market and brought in \$9-\$18 billion in Federal revenue. We must be prepared to respond to the under performance of the economy. Let us hope the President is ready to work out an agreement. I submit the first article into the RECORD.

[From the Investor's Business Daily]

POLITICS VS. GROWTH?

The economy grew just 1.4% after inflation last year, and recession is possible this year. Congress and President Clinton should skip the political games and move now to turn things around.

Speaking in Michigan on Monday, Clinton gave us his "growth agenda." Yet that's just a new, transparent label on his old wish list: a minimum wage hike, a tax deduction for college costs, government vouchers for worker retraining, and the Kennedy-Kassebaum health-insurance reform.

Half his points—the health bill and the wage hike—plainly have nothing to do with growth. At best, they'd be good for those who have jobs.

Education and training do boost growth in the long term. Yet Clinton has yet to show how more government sponsorship of these goals will help achieve them. It hasn't worked that way in recent decades.

Don't look to other Democrats, either. House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt recently claimed we "don't know" how to boost growth. His best guess is that favorite of Labor Secretary Robert Reich: tax penalties on corporations that downsize.

In fact, Clinton certainly knows what the economy needs, and Gephardt probably does: Tax cuts, the pro-growth move that worked for Presidents Kennedy and Reagan alike.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich is ready to play ball. "All the warning signals are there" for recession, he told reporters last week. "I think if the President really wants to help us to avoid a significant recession . . . we should have a pretty substantial (budget) package in the next week or two."

Gingrich could have added. "If the President really wants to get re-elected." Clinton is riding high in the polls now, but presi-

dents who don't deliver solid growth rarely win a second term.

To Gingrich's credit, he has put jobs above politics. If a Republican Congress and a Democratic president can agree to cut taxes, Americans may just opt for more of the same. It could give Clinton a pro-business image just when he needs it.

But what kind of tax cuts should the deal contain?

The collapse of last year's talks puts us in a whole new ball game. The GOP's \$245 billion grab-bag of tax reductions is dead.

Some Republicans want to salvage part of last year's biggest-ticket proposal, the \$500 per-child credit. That might fit their political needs, but it is more social policy than economic stimulus.

And unless Clinton and Congress can agree on large spending cuts, tax cutters will need to keep their ambitions modest. Big cuts run straight into the iron wall of the "Byrd Rule." This says tax cuts must be "paid for," and the rules for "paying" overestimate how much revenue most tax cuts would lose the government.

The bind is so constrictive, the Byrd Rule so absurd, that the GOP has been reduced to considering bringing back the airline ticket tax to pay for tax cuts.

With so little room to play in, the clear choice is the tax cut that delivers the most bang for the buck: Trimming capital-gains tax rates.

GOP leaders are said to be considering a cut in the top rate from 28% to 20% for individuals only. The relief would be retroactive to the start of this year.

Clinton has long publicly backed a least a targeted cap-gains cut. And throughout the budget battle, he has said he's open to a rate cut.

If Clinton were to quietly approve, we might get something resembling the original "Contract With America" cap-gains plan. Lehman Brothers Chief Economist Allan Sinai, no supply sider, calculated that that would have added 0.7% to the gross domestic product from 1995 to 1999.

Such a cut would have created 1.4 million new jobs over the same five years boosted the S&P 500 by more than 1% a year and put \$9 billion to 18 billion in extra revenues in federal coffers, according to Sinai.

DRI-McGraw Hill projected growth of 1.9% in productivity, \$22.7 billion in higher tax revenues and a near 12% drop in the cost of capital, cumulatively over 10 years.

Thanks to organizational strength, Bob Dole may pull out ahead of the GOP presidential pack over the next week. Yet the strong showing by political neophyte Steve Forbes, and the failure of Pat Buchanan's economic pitch, prove that prosperity and opportunity sell at the ballot box.

Dole needs a message—and Clinton needs growth. For the sake of the economy, let's hope they can work together to give us a cap-gains tax cut now.

UKRAINE'S COMMITMENTS TO REFORM IN THE ENERGY SECTOR

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. I would like to bring to my colleagues' attention a letter I received from the administration concerning a commitment by Ukraine to reform its energy sector in return for United States assistance in the form of a USAID/Eximbank credit facility. In a series of communications with Mr. Richard Morningstar,

special adviser to the President and Secretary of State for United States Assistance to the NIS, I expressed my concern that United States provision of a USAID/Eximbank facility be conditioned upon Ukrainian agreement to specific reforms.

In return for a \$175 million credit facility, Ukrainian Deputy Finance Minister Shpek committed to restructure the power market. He specifically agreed to break up the power market by taking four distinct steps, as itemized in the following letter from the Department of State. The reforms agreed to by Mr. Shpek are above and beyond any existing IMF or World Bank conditionality. In my judgment, the conditions attached to this credit facility will enhance reform in the Ukraine.

The text of the letter follows:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Washington, DC, February 22, 1996.

Hon. LEE HAMILTON,

House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. HAMILTON: During your meeting last fall with Mr. Richard Morningstar, Special Advisor to the President and Secretary of State for U.S. Assistance to the NIS, you expressed interest in the Administration's program of encouraging reform in Ukraine's energy sector and the AID/Eximbank facility. We wanted to take the opportunity to describe the energy sector reforms to which the Government of Ukraine has committed as a condition of approval of the facility.

In two face-to-face official meetings, Mr. Morningstar has made clear to Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Shpek that commitment to restructure the power market is an essential condition under which we could implement the \$175 million facility. Deputy Prime Minister Shpek understood and accepted that condition and has committed to break up the state-owned power monopoly into the following parts:

Four already established, competing electricity generating companies that will be privatized; a national electricity transmission company; twenty-seven independent, joint stock local electric companies; and a competitive market for power by the end of March 1996 in which the generation companies bid to supply the local distribution companies with electricity at the lowest price.

This commitment is above and beyond any IMF conditions and any condition for any existing World Bank loan. Creation of the power market will become part of the negotiations for an upcoming World Bank loan. The AID/Eximbank credit will give the Government of Ukraine short-term funding flexibility to implement the energy market structure and will help to leverage the World Bank financing.

The AID/Eximbank facility is a special export credit insurance facility for U.S. exporters of agricultural-related goods and services to Ukraine. The purchase of refined fuel agricultural inputs—up to \$100 million of the \$175 million facility and of critical importance to the Government of Ukraine—would qualify for coverage under the program; however, the facility may not be used for broader, untied fuel purchases. We strongly believe that the commitment to the reforms outlined above justifies the inclusion of refined fuel products in the agriculture credit facility. The facility will operate according to ExIm's regulations and Eximbank will recommend whether to extend insurance coverage on a case-by-case basis. We assure you that any agricultural fuel inputs will be closely monitored and traced to agricultural use. As we go forward with this program we will be sure that it remains consistent with our broader efforts to promoting reform in Ukraine.

Please let me know if we can be of further assistance on this or any other issue.

Sincerely,

WENDY R. SHERMAN,
Assistant Secretary,
Legislative Affairs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it was necessary for me to return to my district on Thursday, March 14, before the final vote of the day was taken. I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 2854 on instructing the conferees to extend the reserve conservation program.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF TROOP 232 OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon with great pride to acknowledge an outstanding organization in Midland, TX—Troop 232 of the Boy Scouts of America is celebrating its golden anniversary and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on this distinguished milestone.

Scout master Cliff Hogue started Troop 232 in 1946, and thanks to his efforts and the efforts of so many fine young men and their families, Troop 232 has reached this impressive record of a half-century of achievement. In the last 12 years, nearly 40 young men of Troop 232 have been awarded the prestigious Eagle Scout Award. In celebrating its golden anniversary, Troop 232 is not only paying tribute to its longevity, but it is recognizing a commitment to leadership and excellence.

As a former Boy Scout myself, I am well aware of the valuable role this organization plays in providing our youth with the necessary tools to become outstanding leaders. The Boy Scouts remind us of all that is good in America, and Troop 232, through its unwavering dedication to that organization's noble principles, has enriched the lives of hundreds of young men and given its community a legacy of which to be proud.

Congratulations Troop 232. May your success continue as you begin your second half-century.

LEGISLATION TO BENEFIT REEMPLOYED VETERANS

HON. BARBARA F. VUCANOVICH

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 [USERRA] increased the protections afforded our service men and women who leave a civilian job for qualified military service. In addition to assuring these

returning veterans that their jobs would be waiting for them when they return, under USERRA a returning veteran is also eligible to have his or her pension, profit-sharing and other related benefits restored. These are the benefits that would have accrued, but for the employee's absence due to qualified military service.

The problem is, under the Internal Revenue Code [IRC], overall limits are placed on contributions and benefits under certain retirement plans. Thus the employer-sponsored pension and savings plan rights given to returning veterans by USERRA are taken away by existing rules in the IRC. If the conflicts between USERRA and the IRC are not corrected, aggrieved veterans will have to bring suit against employers to enforce their rights under USERRA. Relying on litigation to resolve this situation would benefit no one—not the courts, not employers, and certainly not veterans.

Today I am introducing the Veterans Reemployment Benefits Protection Act to allow veterans to receive the benefits Congress intended to give them when it enacted USERRA. This legislation makes technical amendments to the IRC to allow returning veterans and their employers to make make-up contributions as authorized by USERRA.

Language similar to this legislation was included in the Balanced Budget Act of 1995, H.R. 2491, as passed by the House. I have added minor technical changes to the language in H.R. 2491 at the suggestion of the Treasury Department.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will agree that this much-needed technical correction to the IRC should be passed expeditiously, either as part of a larger bill or even on its own. The dedicated young men and women who leave their jobs and families to serve in the U.S. military deserve nothing less.

ALCOHOL LABELING ACT

HON. PATRICIA SCHROEDER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, today I and my colleagues are reintroducing the Alcohol Labeling Act, which would require makers of alcoholic beverages to label each beverage container with a list of the ingredients and calories, as well as the alcohol, it contains.

This low-cost proposal establishes the unit of serving size called the drink. One drink contains 0.6 ounces of alcohol—the amount usually found in one beer, one shot of distilled spirits, or one glass of wine.

The only cost to U.S. taxpayers will be \$500,000 for a toll-free number, which would provide referral help for those with a drinking problem. This number and the required information would be legibly printed on each container.

Labeling for alcoholic beverages was not part of the nutrition labeling requirements mandated for food products in 1990. As a result, we are still burdened with an alcohol labeling law that dates from the Prohibition era. It is inconsistent that the alcohol contents of wine and distilled spirits must be disclosed, while producers of beer and malt liquor have the option of listing their ingredients on their labels.

This bill would correct that inconsistency, while providing young consumers, diabetics, and others with diet-sensitive conditions with information on what they are consuming.

I am especially concerned about the increasing problem of teenage binge drinking. This bill would give young, inexperienced drinkers user-friendly information on beverage potency and a standard gauge of the impairment caused by an alcoholic beverage. Informed teens are more likely to avoid death from overdose.

In the 103d Congress, this legislation received the support of groups ranging from the Academy of Pediatrics, to the General Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, to the National Parent Teacher Association, to the Latino Council on Alcohol and Tobacco.

Providing consumers with the information they need to make informed decisions about drinking is a sound first step in reforming our national alcohol policy.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting ingredient labeling on alcoholic beverages. As individuals, we need this information to be more responsible in our use of alcohol. As a nation, we must end marketing practices that mislead and target our youth.

AMERICA MUST STAND BY TAIWAN

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, on March 23, the people of Taiwan will hold an event we in this country much too often take for granted: a free election. As Americans, we share in their pride and hopeful anticipation of this great celebration of liberty.

At the same time, we must condemn the actions of the Mainland Chinese in attempting to intimidate the Taiwanese people. The efforts of the dictators in Beijing to somehow frighten the people of Taiwan into postponing their election have failed, and have again reminded the world of what the raw and sordid face of Marxist totalitarianism looks like.

Recently I met on Capitol Hill with Mr. Chen Rong-jye, Deputy Representative of the government of Taiwan. Mr. Chen holds the second-ranking position in the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States, the equivalent of the Taiwanese Embassy—since formal American recognition of the Communist government in Beijing, Taiwan has had no formal embassy in the United States. We discussed China's military actions in the vicinity of Taiwan's coastline, and Mr. Chen showed me on a map how close the Communist Chinese had come in their missile exercises to two major Taiwanese ports.

I was honored that Mr. Chen came to the Hill to meet with me and discuss the Taiwanese situation. Communist China's crude bullying of Taiwan has failed to sway the commitment of the Taiwanese people to democratic elections later this month, and I fully endorse their brave determination to stand for liberty, and also am strongly supportive of the recent placement of U.S. naval ships in the waters near Taiwan.

In addition, I am proud to be an original co-sponsor of the nonbinding House Concurrent

Resolution 148, a resolution that states, in part, that "the United States, in accordance with the Taiwan Relations Act and the constitutional process of the United States, and consistent with its friendship with and commitment to the democratic government and people of Taiwan, should assist in defending them against invasion, missile attack, or blockade by the People's Republic of China."

Other key supporters of this resolution include House Speaker NEWT GINGRICH, International Relations Committee Chairman BENJAMIN GILMAN (R-NY), House Majority Leader DICK ARMEY, and House Majority Whip TOM DELAY.

Ronald Reagan once reminded us that "we are a people with a government, not the other way around." The people of Taiwan understand this fundamental truth in a way the aging tyrants in Beijing perhaps never will, which is all the more reason for the United States to uphold our longtime friends on Taiwan.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO CLARIFY THAT FREQUENT FLIER MILEAGE IS NOT TAXABLE

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to clarify that frequent flier mileage is not taxable. I believe that frequent flier miles are not taxable under current law. However, in light of the Internal Revenue Service's recent advice in technical advice memorandum 9547001 and despite the fact that technical advice memorandums only apply to a given taxpayer and set of circumstances, I feel a clarification is necessary.

The technical advice memorandum would require employers that permit employees to use frequent flier miles for personal trips to report as income on workers' W-2 forms the full cost of plane tickets that led to the accumulation of the frequent flier miles. This simply makes no sense.

This is one of those areas where taxation would raise a myriad of questions for which there is no single correct answer such as appropriate timing—would miles be taxed when earned or when used; valuation—is mile earned from a credit card equal to a mile earned by flying a particular airline—what is the correct value of a ticket or a free upgrade in light of the fact that any given flight has a myriad of service classes; segregation—do employees have to try and keep track of which miles were earned for personal travel, which miles were earned for business travel, and which miles are earned from using a credit card, or using a particular long-distance carrier. Taxation of frequent flier miles would only result in mindless complication and paperwork of nightmarish proportions for millions of Americans, the airlines, and the Internal Revenue Service. And the Service should realize this.

At a time when over 15 million Americans are enrolled in frequent flier programs and suspicion that the Internal Revenue Code is not fair and needless complexity is at an all time high, it would be sheer folly for the Serv-

ice to move in this area. They have opened, closed, and reopened several projects to address the tax treatment of frequent flier miles over the years, all to no avail.

I believe that frequent flier miles are not taxable under current law and should remain that way. My bill would simply explicitly say that frequent flier miles are not taxable. I urge my colleagues' support.

ROTARY CLUB OF SAN CLEMENTE

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention an organization that has provided 50 years of outstanding service to the city of San Clemente, CA.

Founded in March, 1946, the Rotary Club of San Clemente and its members have provided hundreds of thousands of dollars, equipment, and tens of thousands of manhours in service to the city, the Nation, and the world.

Their accomplishments are numerous. In its many years of service, the Rotary Club of San Clemente has sent thousands of dollars and equipment to De Tuju, Argentina, San Clemente's "sister city". In conjunction with Rotary International, they have taken on the monumental task of eradicating polio in the world by the year 2000. Closer to home, they provide financial support to over 19 San Clemente charities and organizations, as well as, scholarships to local high school seniors.

I would like to commend and thank them for work they so selflessly perform. Their dedication is an inspiration to all.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1561, FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 1996 AND 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS J. BLILEY, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the conference report for H.R. 1561, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, fiscal years 1996 and 1997. This measure dismantles the United States Information Agency [USIA] and, in doing so, amends the Television Broadcasting to Cuba Act and the Radio Broadcasting to Cuba Act. Additionally, the conference report establishes as an urgent priority the development of an appropriate national strategy to respond to emerging infectious diseases. I am interested in these provisions as a general matter, and also as chairman of the Committee on Commerce.

Regarding the Television Broadcasting to Cuba Act, the Committee on Commerce exchanged letters with the Committee on Foreign Affairs when that committee sought to amend the Television Broadcasting to Cuba Act in the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for fiscal years 1990 and 1991 (Pub. L. 101-246). Furthermore, the Commerce Committee reported its own version of the Radio Broadcasting to Cuba Act (Pub. L. 98-111) on July

29, 1983 (H. Rept. 98-284, Part II). The committee will be interested to see the results of the pilot program to permit advertising on such television and radio broadcasts as provided for in the conference report. I look forward to continued activity on the part of the Commerce Committee in these areas, although I still believe the Television Marti and Radio Marti programs should not be administered through the Voice of America.

Turning to another point of interest in the conference report, this measure requires that the President develop a strategic plan "to identify and respond to the threat of emerging infectious diseases to the health of the people of the United States." In accordance with this committee's jurisdiction over public health and quarantine under rule X of the Rules of the House, I look forward to the opportunity to review the President's recommendations in concert with other efforts made by the Commerce Committee on that front.

Based on the jurisdiction of the Committee on Commerce over the aforementioned statutes, and on the jurisdiction of the committee over public health, I would like to note our intent to continue in the exercise of our authority in these areas.

ESSAY ON FREEDOM BY MICHELLE FUNK OF RICHMOND

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to give my report from Indiana for the week of March 11.

This week I would like to share with you an essay written by a sixth grade girl named Michelle Funk. Michelle is from Richmond, IN, in my district. Her essay won the top school award for sixth grade and first place in a Sertoma Club contest.

Michelle has entitled her essay, "Freedom." I think Michelle describes the God given right of self-determination better than many adults. Her essay begins.

Imagine this: Johnny and Mark were playing one-on-one basketball when a bully came up to them and said, "Give me that ball!" Johnny said, "I don't have to. It's a free country."

"It's a free country." Many times that just seems like an excuse for not doing things we're told to. But it's true. It is a free country. But what does that mean?

One thing is rights, the rights that are listed in the Constitution. They say that we can go to school, speak our minds, publish our ideas, and believe in whatever and whoever we want to.

A right that is very important is voting. Even though it doesn't apply to me yet, it's still important that we can choose our own leaders instead of having a ruler who's succeeded by his children and their children.

Even though we have a right to freedom, it's still a privilege, and privileges always go with responsibilities. If we are responsible now and in the future, we will make a better life for ourselves and our future families in many ways. If you're responsible, you will do better in school and in your future career. So be responsible!

But then again, you don't have to. It's a free country!

I want to thank Michelle for helping us remember the true nature of freedom. In our Nation, we are blessed with freedoms which people in so many other countries do not enjoy. Michelle reminds us that freedom without responsibility is license. Freedom with responsibility is a virtue.

Mr. Speaker, Michelle's words are an important reminder for our work here in Congress, and they bear repeating. "If we are responsible now and in the future, we will make a better life for ourselves and our future families in many ways". This sixth grader from Richmond, IN is right. Thank you Michelle.

And that is my report from Indiana this week.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 1996

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to House Joint Resolution 163, the short-term continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1996. This is the 11th short-term fiscal year 1996 stopgap spending measure in 5 months. Who would have thought that 5 months into the fiscal year, and after 29 days of a Republican politically contrived shutdown of the Federal Government which cost the American people over \$1.5 billion, fiscal year 1996 appropriations bills for a number of major Federal agencies upon which the American people depend still have not been enacted?

Now, here we are again, just hours before the current continuing resolution expires, trying to pass an 11th stopgap spending measure to keep the Government operating. In fact, this stopgap measure will not be the last one for fiscal year 1996. Expiring on March 22d, House Joint Resolution 163 will keep the Government operating for only 1 week.

The bill being voted on today still does not address all of my concerns about critical programs under the jurisdiction of the appropriations subcommittee for the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development and independent agencies—on which I serve as the ranking member—or, those under the jurisdiction of the subcommittee for the Departments of Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education on which I also serve. I am pleased, however, that our Nation's veterans will get their hardearned benefits, that our homeless, low-income families, seniors and disabled who depend on Federal housing assistance will retain support for shelter; and that our environment will be safeguarded for at least 1 more week.

Nevertheless, I remain resolute in my opposition to the cuts in these programs including:

The \$1.1 billion cut in title I which will deny over a million disadvantaged children the teaching assistance they require in reading and math;

The \$266 million cut in safe and drug free schools which means that school systems will be denied the resources they need to provide children a safe crime free drug free classroom in which to learn;

The elimination of funding for the Summer Jobs Program which means that over 600,000

young people who need and want to work will be deprived of the opportunity to do so;

The anticrime block grants which will eliminate the successful community policing and crime prevention programs;

The overall cut in funding for the Department of Commerce which will dramatically hinder our Nation's technology advancement effort; and

The irresponsible and unjust slashing of funding for the Minority Business Development Program, the Commission on Civil Rights, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission which will lead to the foreclosing of opportunities for many Americans.

Mr. Speaker, who would have thought that our Republican colleagues would have let their blind desire—to give a tax cut to the wealthy—outweigh the needs of seniors, children, veterans, and families across the country?

This continuing resolution—like the 10 that preceded it—is part of the Republicans' strategy to hold the American people hostage in an effort to force the President to accept their outrageous and lifethreatening cuts in major critical quality of life programs.

Mr. Speaker, this is the ultimate of irresponsibility. House Joint Resolution 163 is not a solution to the politically contrived budget crisis, it is only an interim step to keep the Government temporarily operating while our colleagues on the other side of the aisle decide what political game to play next. No amount of smoke and mirrors can hide the pain and suffering that is contained in the GOP's budget.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for us to put an end to this piecemeal, part-time approach to operating the Government. Let's go back to the budget negotiation table and restore funding to critical programs and services including education, summer jobs, employment training, student aid, housing, environmental protection, veterans' medical care, heating assistance, meals for seniors, and crime prevention. I urge my colleagues to vote against House Joint Resolution 163.

COMPREHENSIVE ANTITERRORISM ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2703) to combat terrorism:

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Conyers-Nadler-Berman substitute to H.R. 2703. The substitute is a reasonable and measured attempt to address threats to U.S. citizens posed by terrorism without creating threats to our fundamental constitutional protections.

In this debate, we should stipulate that all of us are concerned about the increase in domestic terrorism and that our thoughts and prayers are with the survivors of the terrible terrorist acts which we have seen perpetrated against U.S. citizens, including the terrorism directed at Federal workers in Oklahoma City. We can and must act against terrorism. At the same time, we must ensure that our actions are effective and within the bounds of the

Constitution, which has safeguarded basic American freedoms for over 200 years.

H.R. 2703 poses serious threats to civil liberties and civil rights. I have a number of concerns about H.R. 2703. The bill expands the use of the death penalty and changes the use of habeas corpus petitions, severely restricting avenues of recourse to the judicial system for people sentenced to death. The death penalty is not a punishment which should be taken lightly. Frankly, I do not believe it should be used at all. But since the death penalty is utilized, we must ensure that people sentenced to death have sufficient opportunity to petition for relief if they have not had a fair trial or competent counsel.

The bill also contains changes to asylum law which threaten our 200-year history of providing refuge for people fleeing persecution in their countries of origin. I agree that we need to be able to exclude terrorists from our shores. I do not agree that we should turn away others who come to the United States seeking haven from persecution. That protection is one of the principles upon which this U.S. standing as an international beacon of freedom and hope is built.

The Conyers-Nadler-Berman substitute addresses many of my concerns. This substitute deletes H.R. 2703's restrictions on habeas corpus appeals. It deletes the expedited asylum procedures contained in H.R. 2703. And, it provides for expedited deportation for terrorists without violating constitutional protections.

The Conyers-Nadler-Berman mechanism for expedited deportation of terrorists is in accordance with procedures for dealing with classified information and preserves a fundamental principle of our justice system which grants accused individuals the right to face their accuser and to confront evidence. Regardless of what we think of individuals and the crimes of which they are accused, we are a nation of laws. The Conyers-Nadler-Berman substitute strikes a balance by allowing for the use of sensitive information in the deportation process while also preserving the right of the accused to mount an adequate defense.

And, the Conyers-Nadler-Berman substitute prohibits foreign terrorist groups such as Hamas from fundraising in the United States.

I urge my colleagues to support the Conyers-Nadler-Berman substitute, which increases our ability to stop terrorism while continuing to preserve our precious constitutional protections. We must fight terrorism. If, however, we undermine our civil liberties in that fight, the terrorists win. They succeed not only by sowing terror through their heinous acts, but also by undermining the very system which they claim to be fighting against. The Conyers-Nadler-Berman substitute is the best option before us in this debate and I urge my colleagues to support it.

THE STORY OF VARIAN FRY AND THE EMERGENCY RESCUE COMMITTEE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the following account was written by my wife Annette with the able assistance and research of Mandi Cohn.

It is a belated attempt to pay a debt to an American hero whose important deeds in the early years of World War II have been overlooked by a majority of Americans. He is the only American recipient of the Righteous Among the Nations Award bestowed by Israel to non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust. Truly, I'm grateful to my wife for once more helping us to remember those who deserve to be honored and emulated.

I am placing this statement in the RECORD on March 19 because this marks the 52d anniversary of the Nazi occupation of Hungary. It is important, Mr. Speaker, that we remember not only the tragedies but those few who, by putting their lives on the line, proved that it could have been deterred.

VARIAN FRY: A RIGHTEOUS AMERICAN

In the summer of 1940 when the newspaper headlines in New York announced the fall of France to the Nazis, Varian Fry was way ahead of most Americans in realizing the full implication of these Nazi victories. In 1935 he had visited Germany on assignment for *The Living Age* magazine. He sensed the atmosphere of hatred and oppression Hitler brought to his country. While in Berlin he had seen the first great pogroms against the Jews. He saw young Nazis smash up Jewish-owned shops and watched in horror as they dragged people out in the streets and beat and kicked them almost to death. He watched as they dragged men and women, cut and bleeding down the street, hitting them with clubs, shouting and cursing vile names at them.

When France fell to Hitler invading armies in 1940, thousands of refugees who had fled to Paris as their only escape from Nazi horrors had to flee to the as yet unoccupied southern part of France with Marseilles as their destination. Only after it was too late did they realize that they were caught in yet another trap. In order to appease Hitler, the new puppet government, under Marshall Petain, enacted one stringent decree after another against the Jews and political refugees. They closed the borders and agreed to turn over all refugee exit-visa applications to the Gestapo. As a result the very act of asking to leave was sufficient to guarantee instant arrest.

Meanwhile in New York, Varian Fry, along with a few other prominent individuals, formed the Emergency Rescue Committee to try to help the beleaguered refugees in France. They managed to enlist the support of Eleanor Roosevelt and convince her of the imminent danger facing thousands of distinguished intellectuals, writers, scientists, academics, journalists, historians, musicians, opposition political leaders, and others. Eleanor Roosevelt was able to persuade the President to authorize 200 visas for the most prominent individuals in the group. This was the beginning of the extraordinary rescue mission for which Varian Fry promptly volunteered.

With the help of the German writer Thomas Mann, Jacques Maritain and many others, a list of 200 names was formed, and Varian Fry was appointed by the Emergency Rescue Committee to go to France to head the mission. It was a difficult and complicated undertaking because he received very little support from official sources. He had to coax a passport out of the State Department, which at that time took a dim view of Americans travelling to Europe. Fry then persuaded the International YMCA to give him a letter identifying him as a relief worker with refugees. This gave him some kind of official status vis-a-vis the French puppet Government of Vichy.

With \$3,000 dollars taped to his leg, the list of 200 names which included such world famous persons as political scientist Hannah Arendt and painter Marc Chagall, but without any addresses or phone numbers to facilitate contact, he set out for the overcrowded and turbulent city of Marseilles. After a long and arduous trip he arrived on August 15, 1940, in Marseilles. When he finally settled in his dingy little hotel room he had to admit to himself that he had no idea how to begin searching for the individuals whose lives were now in his hands. He realized he needed help urgently to accomplish his mission.

His first fortunate breakthrough came when he met with a brilliant young German economist, Dr. Albert Hirschman, who at the time was himself a refugee who had recently managed to escape from Germany. Hirschman became Fry's most trusted friend and assistant. They developed a warm friendship which greatly eased the stresses and strains they faced daily in their dangerous mission. Fry nicknamed Hirschman "Beamish" because no matter how desperate their situation was he kept smiling and beaming optimism. Eventually, Miriam Davenport, a young, energetic and resourceful art history student from Boston, joined them. She, like many others, left Paris when the Germans invaded the city. The three of them became friends and "co-conspirators" in one of the most daring and successful rescue operations of World War II.

They opened their temporary "office" in an abandoned handbag factory in Marseilles. There from early in the morning until late at night Fry and his two young associates interviewed refugees. During each interview they wrote the necessary information about each refugee and placed it on an index card. After the last of the refugees departed each day, Fry, Beamish and their secretary, Lena Fishman, would adjourn to the bathroom and turn on all the water taps to foil any attempts at eavesdropping. There they would talk over any problems that surfaced during the day. Before leaving each day, Fry would spread the index cards containing names and notations on them in careful disarray on one of the desks so that he could tell if they had been tampered with and placed any incriminating documents behind the mirror inside the closet door.

The biggest problem was to find an escape route, to find a way out of France illegally (across the border unnoticed without an exit visa) and enter Spain legally, where it was imperative to get the entry stamp in one's passport. Dr. Hirschman, who had fought briefly with a Republican unit in Barcelona during the Spanish Civil War, knew that in the mountains above Cerbere, a fishing village near the border of Spain, the French and Spanish frontier posts were placed so that neither was visible to the other. It was possible to climb the mountain on the French side without being seen by the guards while also managing not to overshoot the Spanish border station. Once across the border, with a stamped passport, the refugees were able to continue their journey legally. Albert Hirschman drew Varian Fry a sketch of his plan. This map, drawn in pencil on a little scrap of paper, was to become the crucial lifesaving document for thousands of refugees who eventually, with the help of Fry and his associates, fled to the United States, where they would make their most important contributions to the cultural history of western civilization.

Once Fry and his associates worked out this complex routing, they had to acquire a large number of passports and blank identity cards, and find a skilled forger who could make them usable. To forge the documents, Fry engaged the services of a cheery, dimin-

utive Austrian cartoonist named Bill Freier. Freier fled to France when the Germans entered Vienna in March, 1938. He spent his days drawing portraits of people and his nights in his hotel room altering passports. Unfortunately, Bill Freier paid a heavy price for his valiant efforts. He was arrested by the Gestapo and deported to the death camps in Germany. Amazingly, with courage, endurance and luck, Mr. Freier survived the camp until its liberation. Then he proceeded to walk across France until he found his wife and the four-year old son he had never seen.

With all these pieces in place, Fry's underground "railway" was in business, and miraculously none of the refugees were ever caught. Fry succeeded in saving an incredible number of Europe's intellectual elite in spite of growing police surveillance and harassment. He succeeded in spite of the reluctance of some, the arrogant attitudes of others and the constant lack of cooperation, even discouragement, he received from American consular officials in Marseilles.

Varian Fry's work came to an end on Friday, August 29, 1941, when he was taken into custody by agents of the French Secret Police and was deported to Spain. Unfortunately, once in the safety of the United States, the celebrated refugees Varian Fry rescued could find no time for him. Instead of recognition for his vitally significant and dangerous mission during the war, he was rejected, snubbed and forgotten. The State Department failed to apologize for seizing his passport and leaving him without identification behind enemy lines in France, enabling the Fascist French Secret Police to seize him. "We can't support an American citizen who is helping people evade French law," a U.S. diplomat told Fry when he asked for help.

In the United States Varian Fry wrote and lectured about the plight of Jews and other war refugees, and he accurately predicted the massacre of the Jews throughout Europe. His story is written in his book, "Surrender on Demand," and the later version, "Assignment: Rescue." Finally, Varian Fry received recognition for his efforts when he was awarded the Croix du Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor on April 12, 1967. In the summer of the same year Varian Fry died in his Connecticut home alone, leaving behind the unrecognized legacy of a heroic mission. He is survived by his wife, Annette, and three children.

Mr. Speaker, in 1993 the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, opened an exhibit detailing his accomplishments. On February 2, 1996, he was honored in Jerusalem at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum. Varian Fry is the first and only American recipient of the Righteous Among the Nations Award, which is an honor bestowed by Israel to non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust. "Fry was an American Oskar Schindler, an American Raoul Wallenberg," said an attending Israeli.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher was the keynote speaker at the ceremony held belatedly to acknowledge Fry's heroism and humanity. On that occasion he said:

We have come to pay tribute to Varian Fry—a remarkable man and a remarkable American. Regretfully, during his lifetime, his heroic actions never received the support they deserved from my government, particularly the State Department. Even today, Varian Fry's tale of courage and compassion is too little known by his own countrymen. It is therefore with pride, but also with humility, that I come here today, as America's Secretary of State, to honor this extraordinary man.

His assignment was supposed to last three weeks. He remained in France 13 months. His initial orders were to help 200 individuals * * * he ended up rescuing close to 4,000. Operating under constant threat, without regard for his personal safety, Varian Fry worked tirelessly, using every means available, to secure safe passage for those who came to him, desperate for help. He remained in France long after the dangers to

his life became apparent. His explanation was simple: "I stayed", he wrote, "because the refugees needed me." And because he knew that he was truly their last hope.

The measure of our faith is only restored by the knowledge that, in the face of such evil, there were also men and women like Varian Fry. Otherwise ordinary individuals who were capable of summoning up extraor-

dinary moral courage to confront and defy overwhelming brutality.

Mr. Speaker, what Varian Fry accomplished in terms of saving lives, renewing our faith in humanity and enhancing our trust in people's willingness to act on behalf of the persecuted is unique in the history of World War II. His history of World War II. His work deserves to be honored formally by the United States.