

Indiana—in condemning the KKK and everything for which it stands.

The Ku Klux Klan is reviled around the world for its association with terror and violence. Through violence and intimidation, the KKK has historically punished opposing persons or groups, traditionally persons of color and religious minorities. Since its inception, the KKK has engaged in despicable acts of violence and hate, characterized by lynchings in the rural South, cross burnings, and other forms of hate crime. There is no place in our diverse society for this divisiveness. We must do everything within our power to stop the KKK and other perpetrators of hate crime.

In repudiation of the KKK, a wide variety of people and organizations in Indiana's First Congressional District will convene a prodiversity counter-rally to show America that the KKK's attempt to spread hatred in our community will not prevail. This Saturday, while the KKK exercises its right to assemble, an immense group of civic, business, religious, and student leaders will gather at Woodland Park in Portage, IN, to emphasize their message of unity and brotherhood.

The prodiversity rally is the brainchild of Eric Mason and Michael Krueger, two Portage High School seniors. As a result of their commitment to embrace and commemorate ethnic, racial, and religious diversity, the prodiversity rally, has grown into an enormous celebration. Participants at the prodiversity rally will include: Portage Mayor Sammie Maletta; a keynote speech by Jack Parton, director of the United Steelworkers of America [USWA] district 7; and the Reverend David Kehert, Dean of the chapel at Valparaiso University.

Several other organizations have passed resolutions or offered support for the prodiversity rally and its laudable ideals. Jack Parton, director of the USWA, district 7, has urged all steelworkers to attend the rally, while USWA Local 1014, United Steel Group's Gary Works, and an association of retired steelworkers, have also expressed their support for the counterrally. Alice Bush, spokesperson for the Healthcare Workers of America, district 1199, stated that her organization and Whispering Pines Health Care Center in Valparaiso, IN, are donating medical supplies for a first-aid tent at Woodland Park. This fine labor group serves all of Northwest Indiana. In addition, the Calumet project, a Hammond—based coalition of religious, labor, and community groups covering all of Northwest Indiana, has offered its support at the prodiversity rally.

Meanwhile, 29 pastors representing all faiths and almost all Portage churches, have united under the Pastors United for Racial Equality [P.U.R.E.] banner. P.U.R.E. has approved a resolution stating that, even though the KKK often uses Christian symbolism, it unequivocally and wholeheartedly condemns the ideals of the KKK and those of any such proclaimers of hate in our society. In addition, there will be a candlelight vigil to counter the KKK rally, sponsored by the Valparaiso Ministerial Association. The ministerial association is encouraging church members and others to make pledges to charitable causes which benefit minority groups or combat racism and bigotry.

Businesses are rallying together to oppose the KKK rally. In an effort to keep residents away from the KKK rally and promote security, Portage city officials have asked that Portage businesses near the site band together and

close on Saturday afternoon. In support of this plea, many businesses have agreed to close early.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the founders of the prodiversity rally, Eric Mason and Michael Krueger, for having the wisdom to bring the community of Northwest Indiana together to promote peace and harmony. May the actions of these distinguished young men, the participants in the prodiversity rally, as well as all of the organizations and community leaders who have pulled together to condemn the white supremacists' message—and, instead, promote diversity—be emulated by other towns and cities. The prodiversity rally is a powerful example of how to overcome hatred and pull together to promote unity. I join these dignified members of Indiana's First Congressional District in their commitment to ethnic, racial, and religious diversity. These ideals are truly what continues to make America the greatest country in the world.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM E. COLBY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and times, the trials and tribulations, and the heroism that is so closely associated with the late William E. Colby. I also would like to express my heartfelt condolences to his surviving family.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, Bill Colby was a dedicated public servant who spent 30 years in the U.S. intelligence service, including a 2-year stint as CIA Director during one of the more turbulent periods in its history. Mr. Colby began his most remarkable career as an officer with the U.S. Office of Strategic Services—the predecessor of the CIA. During World War II, Mr. Colby parachuted behind enemy lines into France and Norway where he helped organize resistance forces and ran sabotage operations against Nazi strongholds. His heroism earned him the Silver Star Medal.

As a seasoned intelligence officer, Mr. Colby served in South Vietnam from 1959 to 1962 and again in 1968 where he was responsible for managing the pacification program and where he played a key role in America's recruitment of Laotian Hmong fighters. Mr. Colby took a personal interest in the Hmong's valiant battle against the North Vietnamese who, in violation of the 1962 Geneva agreements calling for Laos's neutrality, kept their troops in Laos. Following the war, many Hmong fighters were resettled in the United States and Mr. Colby, as an act of loyalty, kept in touch with them during their period of assimilation.

Under Mr. Colby's astute leadership as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, from 1973 to 1975, he was almost singlehandedly responsible for raising and addressing the numerous operational abuses that had become manifest within the Agency. As a professional intelligence officer Mr. Colby was, both emotionally and intellectually, able and willing to confront the not so pleasant ambiguities that are often characteristic of the natural world of espionage. In the end, he succeeded in protecting the mission of intelligence (so abso-

lutely vital to our national security) while at the same time ensuring that the Agency was held accountable to the highest standards of professionalism and as an integral part of our democratic heritage.

I know my colleagues will join me in honoring the contributions and achievements of an American hero, William E. Colby.

TRIBUTE TO JOEL P. JERGER

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an exceptional young man from my district who has recently accepted his appointment as a member of the class of 2000 at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

The son of Denise Jerger, Joel P. Jerger will graduate from Montpelier High School later this month. While in high school, Joel distinguished himself as a leader among his peers. He has earned a 3.93 grade point average while earning varsity letters in football and baseball. In addition, he was the freshman class president, participated in Buckeye Boys State, and is a member of the National Honor Society. He is an outstanding citizen and patriot.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most important responsibilities of Members of Congress is to identify outstanding young men and women and to nominate them for admission to the U.S. service academies. While at the academy, they will be the beneficiaries of one of the finest educations available, so that in the future, they might be entrusted with the very security of our Nation.

I am confident that Joel Jerger has both the ability and the desire to meet this challenge. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him for his accomplishments to date and to wish him the best of luck as he begins his career in service to our country.

MICHAEL BUSH, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence he has compiled in academics, leadership, and community service, that I am proud to salute Michael Bush, winner of the 1996 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Michael is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, MI.

Michael Bush is an exceptional student at Columbia Central High School and possesses an impressive high school record. A member