

What message would he give to a starting church? "Focus on meeting people's needs."

What message would he give a starting preacher? "Spend as much time preparing yourself as you do preparing a sermon."

INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 191

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce this resolution (H. Con. Res. 191) to provide that long delayed recognition to persons considered to be members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army Veterans and members of the Special Philippine Scouts—by reason of service with the Allied Armed Forces during World War II.

We must correct the grave injustice that has befallen this brave group of veterans, since their valiant service, on behalf of the United States, during the Second World War.

On July 26, 1941, President Roosevelt issued a military order, pursuant to the Philippines Independence Act of 1934, calling members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army into the service of the United States Forces of the Far East, under the command of Lt. Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

For almost 4 years, over 100,000 Filipinos, of the Philippine Commonwealth Army fought alongside the Allies to reclaim the Philippine Islands from Japan. Regrettably, in return, Congress enacted the Rescission Act of 1946. This measure denied the members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army the honor of being recognized as veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

A second group, the Special Philippine Scouts called "New Scouts" who enlisted in the United States Armed Forces after October 6, 1945, primarily to perform occupation duty in the Pacific, have also never received official recognition.

I believe it is time to correct this injustice and to provide the official recognition long overdue for members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and the Special Philippine Scouts that they valiantly earned for their service to the United States and the Allied cause during World War II.

These members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and the Special Philippine Scouts served just as courageously and made the same sacrifices as their American counterparts during the Pacific war. Their contribution helped disrupt the initial Japanese offensive timetable in 1942, at a point when the Japanese were expanding almost unchecked throughout the western Pacific.

This delay in the Japanese plans bought valuable time for scattered allied forces to regroup, reorganize, and prepare for checking the Japanese in the Coral Sea and at Midway.

During the next 2 years, Filipino "Scout" units, operating from rural bases, tied down precious Japanese resources and manpower through guerilla warfare tactics.

In 1944, Filipino Forces provided valuable assistance in the liberation of the Philippine Islands which in turn became an important base for taking the war to the Japanese homeland. Without the assistance of Filipino units and guerrilla forces, the liberation of the Philippine

Islands would have taken much longer and been far costlier than it actually was.

I urge my colleagues to carefully review this resolution that corrects this grave injustice and provides recognition to members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and the members of the Special Philippine Scouts.

The full text of the bill (H. Con. Res. 191) is included at this point in the RECORD.

H. CON. RES. 191

Whereas the Commonwealth of the Philippines was strategically located and thus vital to the defense of the United States during World War II;

Whereas the military forces of the Commonwealth of the Philippines were called into the United States Armed Forces during World War II by Executive order and were put under the command of General Douglas MacArthur;

Whereas the participation of the military forces of the Commonwealth of the Philippines in the battles of Bataan and Corregidor and in other smaller skirmishes delayed and disrupted the initial Japanese effort to conquer the Western Pacific;

Whereas that delay and disruption allowed the United States the vital time to prepare the forces which were needed to drive the Japanese from the Western Pacific and to defeat Japan;

Whereas after the recovery of the Philippine Islands from Japan, the United States was able to use the strategically located Commonwealth of the Philippines as a base from which to launch the final efforts to defeat Japan;

Whereas every American deserves to know the important contribution that the military forces of the Commonwealth of the Philippines made to the outcome of World War II; and

Whereas the Filipino World War II veterans deserve recognition and honor for their important contribution to the outcome of World War II: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That the Congress recognizes and honors the Filipino World War II veterans for their defense of democratic ideals and their important contribution to the outcome of World War II.

IN HONOR OF MANUEL AND MARIA
MARIN: AN AMERICAN SUCCESS
STORY

HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Manuel and Maria Marin, a classic American success story. Mr. and Mrs. Marin will be honored at a reception this Saturday at the Sheraton Meadowlands in East Rutherford, NJ.

America is a land of immigrants, and this family exemplifies the immigrant success story. Manuel and Maria arrived in the United States with only the clothes on their backs and a few personal possessions in May 1980. They were searching for a better way of life and an escape from the Communist dictatorship of Cuba. Despite their bad fortune, the Marins dedicated themselves to creating a new life in their adopted homeland. Through their sweat and determination, they were able to scrape up enough funds to open up a grocery store in West New York, NJ, in 1986.

In 10 short years, the Marins' one grocery store has blossomed into a chain of supermarkets throughout New Jersey and Florida. Their success has made them role models for the Hispanic community and the community at large.

Manuel's and Maria's fine character is not only evident in their business success, but also in their devotion to their family and community. In addition to raising two children, Yanina and Yaddiel, the Marins have worked to reunite their family by bringing members over from Cuba. Manuel is very active in the Latin American Kiwanis Club and participates in their many charitable activities. He also provides financial support to other businessmen through Banco Uno, which he founded.

I am very grateful for the Marin family's contributions to the Hispanic community, New Jersey, and our Nation. Their success is proof that, indeed, we are a land of great opportunity for all those willing to seize it. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great family.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN P. CLARK

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Stephen P. Clark, a man who dedicated his life to serving the public for more than four decades. He served as mayor of the city of Miami from 1967 to 1970 and again from 1993 to 1996. In between he served as mayor of metropolitan Dade County.

In 1970, he resigned as mayor of Miami to win the office of mayor of Dade County. With the exception of 2 years, he held that post until 1993. Once in office he helped transform Dade County from a sleepy tourist oriented county into the growing metropolis it is today. Under his guidance Dade County has become an initial center for banking, business, and the arts in the United States.

As mayor of Dade County, Mr. Clark spurred county improvement projects such as a modern transit system, a cultural center, and a main library. He was instrumental in establishing community wide, public-private efforts, to create jobs and economic assistance. He initiated the Housing Finance Authority, which provides low-cost mortgages for new homeowners. Furthermore, he constantly worked to improve living conditions, create job-training programs for the youth, and facilitate effective community relations amongst Miami's depressed areas.

In 1993, 23 years after resigning from office, Stephen Clark was again elected to serve Miami as their mayor. He initiated measures to save the city millions of dollars while improving and expanding public services such as the fire and police. He worked to improve communication and enhance ties with the community. Under his direction, the city joined forces with Fannie Mae to create an affordable housing plan which provides nearly 70,000 Miami-Dade families with housing opportunities. In 1994, he hosted the Pan American Summit of Hemispheric Presidents, which was attended by 34 heads of state from democratic countries of the Western Hemisphere.

In a time when cities across this Nation have seen shrinking budgets while ever increasing challenges mounted, Stephen Clark