

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF DR. RUSSELL F.
BLOWERS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize one of the best men I have had the privilege to know. His life reflects his life's work: Preaching the message of Jesus. Dr. Russell F. Blowers has served his congregation at East 91st Street Christian Church in Indianapolis for 45 years. As Russ retires I am filled with mixed emotions. While I am happy that he will be able to have time for new ventures, he will be sorely missed in the weeks, months, and years to come.

Under his committed leadership, Dr. Blowers has seen church membership grow from 85 people on his first Sunday, to nearly 4,000, making it one of Indiana's largest congregations. East 91st Street Church has provided a myriad of ways for its members to serve, grow spiritually, and evangelize. Russ attributes this amazing growth to having stayed true to the Christian scriptures. By God's grace, Russ has remained faithful to the gospel by preaching the lordship of Jesus Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit, the essential plan of salvation through the Cross and resurrection, and the inerrant nature of the divinely inspired Word of God.

Russ Blowers has preached about issues that transcend politics and reflect unchangeable Biblical truths, such as opposition to abortion and that homosexuality is against God's will. Russ has counseled Senator RICHARD LUGAR, former Vice President Dan Quayle, Representative ANDY JACOBS, and myself, a member of the church since 1981. ANDY JACOBS has said, "I think Russ's legacy will be that he showed us all the potential of the human heart. He showed us what a considerable contribution one person can make by simply seeking to love and be loved in return." I wholeheartedly agree with my colleague. Russ Blowers has lived out the words he has preached. He is Christ-like.

Russ was born in Zanesville, OH, in 1924. He is a World War II veteran, having served with the 343d Fighter Squadron, 55th Fighter Group of the 8th Air Force in England and Germany. After his return from the 8th Air Force, Russ entered Ohio University as a journalism-advertising major and met his future wife, Marian. She introduced Russ to Christianity. "She didn't beat me over the head with the Bible," he says. "She just lived the life and answered my dumb questions about the Bible. I fell in love with her first and then with my Lord."

After graduation from Ohio University, Russ received a Master of Divinity from Christian Theological Seminary and Milligan College later conferred on him with the Doctor of Divinity. Dr. Russ Blowers became pastor of East 49th Street Christian Church in 1951. As the church grew, the congregation changed its

name when it moved to 6049 East 91st Street. Russ Blowers preached his final sermon on September 8, 1996. He sums up his ministry by reflecting, "Above all, as I close this phase of my ministry, I give God the glory for whatever has been accomplished. He has been faithful to me beyond my deserving, and my most precious honor is being one of His children, one of His servants."

Russ has also been involved in ministry beyond his local congregation. He has preached in 11 nations and has hosted nine tour groups to Europe and the Middle East. He hosted "The Chapel Door" live on WISH-TV daily for 12 years. Russ has also been a contributing columnist for "The Lookout Magazine" as well as the church's newsletter "The 91st Edition."

Russ and Marian have two sons: Philip, Marion County deputy prosecuting attorney; and Paul, associate professor of church history at Emmanuel School of Religion. Their accomplished sons will confirm that this Pastor who loved the congregation of East 91st Street is the same genuine article at home with his family as he is in the pulpit. The Blowers also have four grandchildren: Shannon, Alison, Leslie, and Colin.

Russ has not only been a great pastor, he has also been my good friend and confidant through the years. May the Lord continue to bless Russ and Marian very generously in the years to come, in the way that they have been a blessing to others.

ST. BONIFACE CHURCH
CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues, the 100th anniversary of St. Boniface Church in Wilkes-Barre, PA. I am pleased to have been asked to participate in the observance of this milestone.

On August 16, 1896 a group of German immigrants from the Pfalz region of Bavaria met to form a new congregation. An executive committee of 12 was formed to obtain permission from the bishop to build a new church. When permission was granted a lot was purchased on Blackman Street in Wilkes-Barre. Five men mortgaged their homes to provide the initial money to build the church. On October 4, 1896 the cornerstone of the church was laid by Bishop O'Hara. The original construction cost of the church was \$4,345.

On the suggestion of Bishop O'Hara and reflecting the German heritage of the majority of the parishioners, the church was named after St. Boniface, the apostle of the Germans as the church's patron saint.

The first mass was held in March 1897 in the newly built church which still didn't have pews. The dedication of the church followed shortly after that. The first pastor of the church

was the Reverend Charles J. Goeckel who lived with neighbors until a rectory could be built at the church.

The church began a series of fundraising activities and parish socials in order to raise money for construction of facilities and to provide community services for the parishioners. The traditional St. Boniface "Kaffee Klatsch" is still held today on Shrove Tuesday night as a way for members of the parish to get together.

Under the leadership of the Reverend Charles Von Weldon, the parish and community offerings of St. Boniface grew and the adjoining convent was enlarged.

Mr. Speaker, every succeeding pastor of St. Boniface helped to expand and enlarge the property and make the parish prosper. The church today is an important presence in the religious life of the Wyoming Valley. Serving German immigrants and others for 100 years, St. Boniface has continued the traditions and preserved the heritage of its founders.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate St. Boniface on this milestone in its history and send best wishes for continued prosperity.

THE PASSING OF EVELYN DAVIS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise with deep regret to inform our colleagues of the passing of an outstanding journalist and publisher who was widely read and respected in my 20th district of New York.

Evelyn Burtz Davis, a resident of Old Tappan, NJ, was the publisher of the Rockland County Times, located in Haverstraw, NY. Recently, she became publisher also of the Rockland Review, also published in Rockland County, NY.

In her role as publisher of the Times since 1984, she became known for the caustic comments and unique insight of her editorials. Although she quite often advocated stands on issues with which on occasion I was in total disagreement, no one could ever question the extensive research which Evelyn undertook on each and every editorial she composed. While many of us may have often questioned her conclusions, no one ever questioned the factual validity of the data which led her to make these conclusions. No one ever questioned the intellectual integrity for which Evelyn Davis became a living legend in our community.

Perhaps most significantly of all, no matter how deeply Evelyn may have disagreed with a public official on an issue, she always welcomed divergent points of view, and was never afraid to change her mind or to have errors pointed out to her. Evelyn always, with gracious enthusiasm, afforded space in her own newspaper for those who wished to express opinions contrary to her own or who wished to rebut her editorials.

Evelyn was the widow of Sylvan Davis, who preceded her as publisher of the Rockland

• 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.

County Times. During Sylvan's tenure as publisher, from 1974 until his untimely death in 1984, the Rockland County Times enjoyed an outstanding reputation as a fair, accurate mirror of the community news. During the tenure of Sylvan Davis as publisher of the Rockland County Times, this newspaper, which was over 100 years old, enjoyed a resurgence as a thought provoking and thorough medium for the issues and news of the day.

Throughout his time as publisher, Sylvan's wife Evelyn was always at his side with sage advice and assistance. The publication of the Times became a joint effort. Accordingly, when Sylvan quite suddenly and unexpectedly passed away in 1984, it was no surprise to any of us that Evelyn agreed to take up his fallen torch.

Evelyn Burtz was born July 14, 1933, in New York City, the daughter of the late Alexander and Gussie Goldstein Burtz. Evelyn attended Pennsylvania State University and earned a degree in journalism from the New York University School of Commerce, now known as the Stern School of Business. Evelyn went to work for Macy's Department Store, and after 15 years of dedicated service, worked her way up to the position of home furnishings coordinator.

Evelyn married Sylvan Davis on November 7, 1965. Their marriage brought about one of the outstanding mergings of intellect. It was during this period that the Davis' became my friends, and I will cherish the memories of that friendship forever.

In addition to her responsibilities as publisher, Evelyn Davis served on the School Board in Old Tappan, NJ, from 1981 to 1987. She was also an outstanding mother to two children: Paul Allen Davis, who now resides in Minneapolis, MN, and Randy Allison Davis, who still resides in Old Tappan.

Since the earliest days of our republic, the press has been a major component of our democratic form of government. Ben Franklin has been the model of the outstanding journalist turned patriot.

Evelyn Davis, like her husband who predeceased her, was just such a patriot. She believed the press existed to educate, to inform, and to stimulate thought.

Mr. Speaker, I shall profoundly miss the insight and thoughtfulness of Evelyn Davis, and I invite all of our colleagues to join with me in extending our condolences to her son, her daughter, her four nieces, and the many employees and community leaders who loved this truly remarkable woman.

“SUSPICIOUS CRIME REPORT”

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends to his colleagues the following editorial regarding violent crime rates and the Clinton administration which appeared in the Omaha World Herald on September 20, 1996.

[From the Omaha World Herald, Sept. 20, 1996]

SUSPICIOUS CRIME REPORT

The Clinton administration claims that it has significantly reduced violent crime. So why don't Americans feel safer?

For one thing, the administration's claim is based in part on a survey in which the methodology had been changed. For another, even if the crime rate had a one-year decline, a similar survey showed no significant decline in the 1992-94 period. Moreover, the statistics still don't reflect the evidence of the creeping chaos that is encountered by many citizens on their streets and in their neighborhoods.

Researchers at the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics said this week preliminary results of a survey show that an estimated 9.9 million violent crimes were committed in the United States in 1995, a 9 percent drop from the previous year, but a decline of only 3.7 percent from 1992. Attorney General Janet Reno said the figures demonstrated that the Clinton administration had found "solutions that work."

The Justice Department released the survey report at an odd time. Last year, no preliminary estimates at all were released. This year, though spring is the normal release time, the estimates were not made public until this week. It's just a coincidence, we suppose, that the election is only seven weeks away.

President Clinton hailed the report as proof that "we're moving in the right direction," implying that the administration had caused a drop in crime.

However, the numbers don't reflect actual crimes. They are from an estimate based on a survey. Unreported crimes—a wildly speculative notion—are included. Moreover, the survey did not track homicides.

The sharpest decline in violent crimes was in rape. The Justice Department's National Crime Victimization Study included date rape, and in the category of domestic violence and date rape it used "enhanced questions" to get a better estimate. The result was that in spite of reports of increased sexual assaults by rape crisis centers, the Justice Department estimated that rapes declined from 432,700 in 1994 to 354,670 last year. Crime experts were stunned.

If rape figures—either in 1994 or in 1995—are treated with the skepticism that they deserve, and if homicides weren't even included, what is left is at best a slight one-year decline in aggravated assault, simple assault and robbery—as reported by victims, not as reported to the FBI.

Another way to calculate the crime rate is to consolidate the figures from local law enforcement reports. That is the method used in compiling the FBI's annual Uniform Crime Report, made public last May. The dean of the criminal justice college at Northeastern University, noting that the FBI report indicated a 4 percent decline, said the country was experiencing "the calm before the crime storm." Other experts said that as the children of the baby boomers move into the high-crime 15-to-24 age bracket, more violent crime is likely. * * *

Americans are entitled to be annoyed at political rhetoric and rosy statistics purporting to show that violent crime is decreasing sharply. If they now have to barricade themselves inside a car and have a cellular phone in order to drive the streets of Omaha safely at 8 in the morning, government at all levels is failing. And the Clinton administration's claims to have made a major difference are no better than a sick joke.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BOAT PROTECTION ACT OF 1996

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to stop an increasingly common problem facing America's marine manufacturers. This problem, originally brought to my attention by a boat manufacturer in my congressional district, entails the theft of proprietary designs with respect to the production of boat hulls. Such piracy threatens not only the integrity of the U.S. marine manufacturing industry, but the safety of America boaters as well.

Boat manufacturers invest significant resources in the design and development of safe, structurally sound, and often high performance boat hull designs. Including research and developmental costs, a boat manufacturer often invests as much as \$50,000 to develop a design from which a single line of vessels can be manufactured. When a boat hull is designed, and the engineering and tooling process is completed, engineers then develop a boat plug, from which they construct a boat mold. The manufacturer is then able to produce a particular line of boats from this mold. In contrast, those intent on stealing the original boat design, rather than developing their own, can simply use a finished boat hull in place of the manufacturer's plug to develop or splash a mold. This copied mold can then be used to manufacture a line of vessels with a hull identical to that appropriated from the competitor at a cost well below that of the company that originally designed the hull.

Hull splashing is a significant problem for consumers, as well as manufacturers and boat design firms. Consumers of copied boats are defrauded in the sense that they are not benefiting from the aspects of the hull design, other than shape, that are structurally relevant to safety. It is also more unlikely that consumers are aware that a boat has been copied from an existing design. Moreover, if manufacturers are unable to recoup at least some of their research and development costs, they may no longer be willing to invest in new, innovative boat designs—designs that could lead to safer watercraft for consumers.

The Boat Protection Act of 1996 would work in concert with current Federal law to protect American marine manufacturers from harmful and unfair competition from unscrupulous foreign and domestic rivals.

I urge my colleagues to support the Boat Protection Act of 1996 and stand with me in my effort to protect the American public and the marine manufacturing community from the assault on American ingenuity caused by hull splashing.

TRIBUTE TO VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS ALBION PLACE MEMORIAL POST NO. 7165

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. MARTINI. I rise today in recognition of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Albion Place

Memorial Post No. 7165. This year marks their 50th anniversary of service to the citizens of Clifton, NJ. They will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on September 21, 1996, with a dinner at the Three Saints Cultural Center in Garfield, NJ.

Mr. Speaker, the history of VFW Post 7165 is a lesson in perseverance and determination. Not only were the original members of the post tested in war, but also in patience.

Without a building or hall to call home, VFW Post 7165 first met in the Clifton Volunteer Fire House. Soon thereafter, they were granted permission to meet in the Acquanonck Gardens Community Center. As luck would have it, Mr. Speaker, the community center was destroyed by a devastating fire before the post was even able to hold its first meeting.

However, the original members of Post 7165 were resolute in their decision not to let this setback ruin their vision of a refuge to honor patriotism. They rebuilt the community center from the ashes of the fire and established the first true home of VFW Post 7165 in the early 1950's. Today, Mr. Speaker, with over 580 members, the post has the largest following in Passaic County,

The large membership of VFW Post 7165 not only selflessly served their country, but continues to donate its time and efforts to help all members of the Clifton community. VFW Post 7165 is involved in a number of charitable and community-oriented activities in Clifton. For example, the post is highly active in the education of young adults. It supports Project Graduation which provides assistance to the Clifton High School graduating class and awards college scholarships to the winners of essay contests. In addition, the post promotes and administers safety program for the youngsters of the city.

VFW Post 7165 also supports and recognizes the police and firefighters for their unyielding allegiance to the community, and champions American patriotism through their appearances at various community functions, marches and parades.

Mr. Speaker, I join Veterans of Foreign Wars Albion Place Memorial Post No. 7165 in their celebration of 50 years of service. I encourage others to emulate their actions and salute their commitment to excellence.

DAN CANTU—IN APPRECIATION OF
A JOB WELL DONE

HON. JIM LIGHTFOOT

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. LIGHTFOOT. Mr. Speaker, this week the House of Representatives will be losing one of its finest staff members when Dan Cantu leaves us to begin, with his wife Karin, law school at the University of Chicago.

For the past 4 years Dan has served on the professional staff of the House Appropriations Committee, and, specifically, as a staff member on my Treasury Appropriations Subcommittee. Dan Cantu embodies the professionalism and excellence found throughout the entire staff of the House Appropriations Committee. Dan has worked on some of the most difficult, challenging, and technical issues under our subcommittee's jurisdiction. In every instance, he has risen to the challenges pre-

sented him with grace and good humor and helped the Congress reach agreement on what are often extremely difficult fiscal and policy issues.

The House is not only losing an excellent staff member, I am losing someone I have come to rely upon and who has become my friend. All of us on the Treasury Appropriations Subcommittee wish Dan and Karin all the best as they begin their studies.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICE
CENTER 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues a very important anniversary which will be commemorated in my district in October. The Domestic Violence Service Center [DVSC] will observe the 20th anniversary of its founding. I am pleased to have the opportunity to commend the center for its tireless dedication to helping women and children in crisis.

Originally called Womencenter when it was first conceived in October 1976, the DVSC began as an assessment agency to focus on the needs of area women. The pleas for help from battered women in the first 6 months was overwhelming. Because of this the Womencenter refocused its purpose to address the issue of domestic violence and how it affects women and children in the Wyoming Valley. A task force was formed to study the issue. The result of that meeting was the founding of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence [PCADV]. The first coalition of its kind in the United States, the PCADV is still a leader in victims' rights issues in the State and the Nation.

In 1977, the Womencenter received a grant to develop a full-time domestic violence program. Services expanded and a liaison with Legal Services of Northeastern Pennsylvania was established.

A speakers' bureau was begun to promote community awareness. In 1978, the task force established the first shelter for battered women in northeastern Pennsylvania. Within 1 week the unadvertised shelter was completely filled to capacity. That June the Womencenter incorporated as the Domestic Violence Service Center. A board was formed and the first officers were elected.

Mr. Speaker, the Domestic Violence Service Center has served the area as a shelter, an advocacy agency, an outreach center, and a counseling center. The DVSC has been on the forefront of public education of domestic violence and involved with other social service agencies and the District Attorney's office in creating a county wide protocol for the handling of domestic violence cases. The center has coordinated with local police forces to create a common protocol in handling the actual distress calls. This program serves as an example to the entire State of Pennsylvania.

Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, the Domestic Violence Service Center has provided shelter for thousands of battered women who flee their homes often in the middle of the night afraid for their lives and the lives of their children.

Mr. Speaker, the impact of domestic violence affects the entire community. Each year the center conducts a solemn and poignant candlelight vigil at the Luzerne County Courthouse to commemorate Domestic Violence Month. I have had the honor of participating in this event. I am proud to commend the hard-working staff, board of directors, and volunteers on their dedicated effort to help those who would otherwise be trapped indefinitely in a crisis situation. Through their work and dedication they offer a place for women and children to turn to break the cycle of violence. Although this anniversary is not a celebration, it is a call to each of us to help stop this devastation of the American family. Mr. Speaker, I hope this anniversary will expand public awareness of the important work that the DVSC does.

A TRIBUTE TO PERSONNELMAN
FIRST CLASS CARL JOHN PALMER,
JR.

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a constituent of mine who has enjoyed an excellent record with the U.S. Naval Reserve is retiring after 20 years of loyal and faithful active service.

Personnelman First Class Carl John Palmer, Jr., began his military career in the U.S. Navy in 1976 at the Recruit Training Center in San Diego, CA. After completion of recruit training in March 1977, he transferred to Attack Squadron Eighty-Two, Naval Air Station, Cecil Field, FL. In June 1978, he was transferred to the Naval Technical Training Center in Meridian, MS, for Personnelman Class "A" School.

Subsequent to graduation from that school, PN1 Palmer enjoyed a distinguished career with the U.S. Navy Training and Administration of Reserve [TAR] program and later transferred to Staff duty at the Naval Reserve Force Management School in New Orleans, LA, and served in a number of other locations, including Orlando, FL, and Boston, MA. In August 1994, he was transferred to the Naval Reserve Center, currently located at the Naval Air Station in South Weymouth, MA, where he remains posted to this day.

Personnelman First Class Carl John Palmer, Jr., has throughout an exemplary career earned two naval Achievement Medals, the Navy Unit Commendation, two Meritorious Unit Commendations, the Navy Expeditionary Medal, four Good Conduct Medals, the Nation Defense Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Navy Recruiting Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Navy Recruiting Service Ribbon, the Sea Service Ribbon with Bronze Star, the Pistol Marksman Ribbon, six Naval Reserve Recruiting Gold Wreath of Excellence in Recruiting Awards and the Command Career Counseling Badge.

PN1 Palmer is a resident of Pond Eddy, NY. This community, located on the wild and scenic Delaware River, is one of the most breathtaking parts of the beautiful State of New York, and we hope that PN1 Palmer and his family will be staying in our community for a long, long time.

PN1 Palmer will be joined in retirement by his lovely wife, Virginia, also of Pond Eddy. It

is often said that the spouse of a military person sacrifices as much as the person in the military. Any sacrifices endured by Virginia and their daughters, Sabrina and Kristinia, were done with uncomplaining charm and grace. PN1 Palmer's mother, Helen, is also still with us to assist Carl in enjoying his well earned retirement.

On October 3, PN1 Palmer's colleagues will be hosting a retirement ceremony to commemorate this outstanding American's 20 year contribution to the defenses of our Nation and to point with pride to a career which is an inspiration to all of us.

“UNIVERSITY SHOULD PICK BEST LOAN PROGRAM FOR ITS STUDENTS”

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends to his colleagues the following editorial regarding competition between the direct student loan program and the Federal guaranteed student loan program which appeared in the Lincoln Journal Star on September 20, 1996. The popularity of the direct student loan program is forcing private sector lenders to offer better deals—such as a prompt-payment incentive—to students. This competition is good for lending institutions and, most importantly, for students.

[From the Lincoln Journal Star, Sept. 20, 1996]

UNIVERSITY SHOULD PICK BEST LOAN PROGRAM FOR ITS STUDENTS

* * * Changes made in federal law in 1993 allowed schools to choose a lending program in which students borrow all their money directly from the federal government. Especially at the larger universities across the United States, that is seen as the easiest way and ultimately the cheapest way to proceed.

Unfortunately, the absence of a prompt-payment feature in the federal lending package means that it is not necessarily the cheapest option for students on this campus this school year. Parents and students have reason to be concerned.

But they should not rush to the conclusion that this is another example of the government doing what the private sector should be doing and doing it worse.

Besides demonstrating a new form of public commitment to higher education, and a cheaper form than grants, a federal presence in financial aid is a form of competition for an industry that needed some competition. When there is lively marketing competition, the advantage passes back and forth between the competitors and customers can count on coming out ahead.

Before Congress authorized a direct lending program, there was no prompt payment program in the private sector. Loan origination fees were typically higher. Banks were collecting another type of middleman fee—federal payment of interest charges while students were in school—without much pressure to sweeten the deal for young borrowers.

Now, in the words of another financial aid expert on another Nebraska campus, there is “that very nice tension” between the people

in charge of the government's public lending program and the people in charge in the private sector. The one has to try to match what the other one does. * * *

Any school's approach to financing a college education cannot be judged a success just because it is the cheapest for taxpayers or because it generates the least paperwork. Whether through a government program or through partnership with private enterprise, success is only achieved when it is the cheapest choice for students.

EUROPEAN RIGHTS COURT RULES AGAINST TURKEY IN VILLAGE BURNING

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on September 16, the European Court of Human Rights for the first time rules that the Government of Turkey must compensate Kurdish villagers whose houses had been destroyed by security forces. The Court found that the burning of homes violated European Human Rights Conventions. The Court also found that the Turkish Government had interfered with the applicants' right to appeal to the European Commission on Human Rights.

Mr. Speaker, presently, more than 150 cases involving more than 400 individuals have been submitted to the European Commission. These cases relate to the destruction of Kurdish villages, extra-judicial executions, disappearances, rape, and torture. Already, 56 such cases have been deemed admissible by the European Commission, and a handful have proceeded to the European Court.

Mr. Speaker, the sheer volume of cases brought against Turkey and declared admissible, as well as the circumstances surrounding each, leave little doubt that the Government of Turkey is not only conducting a violent campaign against its own citizens, but also trying to cover up its abuses with intimidation and propaganda. Earlier this year, Human Rights Watch/Helsinki released a report which documented efforts by Turkish authorities to prevent individuals from pursuing cases at the European Commission and Court. The report referenced numerous incidents in which applicants, as well as their family members and lawyers, had faced harassment, torture and murder in attempts to prevent them from pursuing their cases.

Mr. Speaker, Turkish officials often recognize the European Court's jurisdiction and the right of Turkish citizens to appeal to the Court as proof of a commitment to human rights. Yet following this first ruling against Turkey, officials have called the ruling wrong and criticized the Court as being politically biased. Following a familiar pattern in which public proclamations bear little resemblance to actuality, other international human rights commitments are similarly dismissed when implementation would bring attention to serious abuses. Last July, at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe [OSCE] Parliamentary Assembly meeting in Stockholm, members of the Turkish delegation agreed to invite an assembly delegation to Turkey. One week later, Turkey's Ambassador to the OSCE in Vienna stated that his government would not cooper-

ate in issuing such an invitation. Not only has Turkey reneged on the OSCE invitation, efforts by the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] to discuss questions of access to conflict areas have also been rebuffed.

Mr. Speaker, the ruling by the European Court will surely be the first of many. The longer Turkish rulers refuse to acknowledge the true reality of the Kurdish situation the more all citizens will pay in precious blood and resources. Turkish economic and political development has been stunted by the crisis in southeast Turkey and its human dimension; 21,000 lives have been lost, 3,000 villages have been destroyed and approximately 3 million people forced from their homes in Kurdish regions by Turkish troops. And, despite what officials and their mouthpieces in the media claim, restrictions on free speech and the media persist. The U.S. Government should use every opportunity to press for real reform. If we want to fully develop a deep and lasting relationship with NATO ally Turkey, our policymakers must not continue to downplay human rights problems to advance economic and strategic interests.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR FRANK COSTELLO

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, for some of us, public service is a part of our being. Those who have chosen this path give up a part of their life for the betterment of their community.

Nobody exemplifies this more than Beverly Mayor Frank Costello. For six decades, Mayor Costello has selflessly given his time and hard work to his country and community.

Beginning with World War II and continuing through the Korean war, this Bronze Star recipient served his country in the U.S. Army, retiring in 1968 with the rank of captain.

After his heroic military service, Frank Costello turned his talent to local needs. He was elected to the Beverly City Council in 1968, a position which he still holds today. In 1972, he was successful in running for mayor and has been loyally returned to office at each election.

While this may have been enough for most, Frank Costello continued to give to his community. He has served as chairman of the Beverly Sewerage Authority since 1985, the City Planning Board for over 20 years, and the chairman of the Burlington County League of Municipalities for the last 12 years. Additionally, he has been the chairman of the Beverly City Democratic Party since 1986, and was president of the New Jersey Mayors Association from 1990 to 1996.

While we do not belong to the same political party, I know that the residents of Beverly—Republican, Democrat, and Independent—could count on Frank Costello to do what was in the best interest of the community.

On behalf of the residents of the city of Beverly, the Third Congressional District, and the people of the United States, I would like to thank Mayor Frank Costello for his dedication, loyalty, and tireless efforts in serving his community and country.

TRIBUTE TO JANINA IGIELSKA
AND THE CENTRAL OF POLISH
ORGANIZATIONS OF PASSAIC,
CLIFTON, AND VICINITY

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Janina Igielska and the Central of Polish Organizations of Passaic, Clifton, and Vicinity. On Sunday, October 6, 1996, the Central of Polish Organizations will hold the 60th Annual General Casimir Pulaski Memorial Parade on Fifth Avenue in New York City. Janina Igielska is the newly selected grand marshal of the parade.

Mr. Speaker, the Central of Polish Organizations of Passaic, Clifton and Vicinity is the center for activity in the Polish-American community throughout the area. Janina Igielska was selected as this year's grand marshal for her outstanding contributions to the Polish community.

Mrs. Igielska was born in Pultusk, Poland, where she received her early education. Subsequently, she continued her education at the Szczecin University in the field of economics.

Mrs. Igielska immigrated to the United States in 1970 to pursue a career in education; where, since 1979, she has served as the principal of the Polish Supplementary School of Ada Mickiewicz.

However, Mr. Speaker, Janina Igielska's ties to the Polish community do not end with her teaching in a Polish supplementary school. She is extremely active in the Polish community outside of her occupation. She has been a member of the Polish American Youth Association of Passaic and Vicinity since 1971. In 1972, she also was a delegate to the Polish Supplementary School Council of America [PSSCA], where she has served as their executive vice president since 1974. Currently, she serves as editor of the Polish Teachers Quarterly magazine.

Through her dedication to education, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Igielska has become a decisive leader in the Polish community. For instance, with the assistance of curator the Reverend Monsignor Jan Podgorny, Mrs. Igielska was the principal organizer of the Artistic Circle in Poland. In 1985, she was also the coorganizer of the First Polish Teachers Convention at the Alliance College in Cambridge Springs, PA.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Igielska is the recipient of many awards; including a medal in 1983 for her social and educational work by the Catholic University of Lublin, Poland; in 1988, a gold medal by the Polish School Association in London, England; a medal from the National Commission of Education-Polish Government Warsaw, Poland; and in 1994, a sash by the Central of Polish Organizations in Passaic for excellence in teaching.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Central of Polish Organizations of Passaic, Clifton and Vicinity for their 60th annual parade and Mrs. Janina Igielska for her tremendous achievements in the Polish community.

TRIBUTE TO THE CREW OF THE
"U.S.S. PITTSBURGH"

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise today to share with you the story of the U.S.S. *Pittsburgh* as I introduce a House resolution to commemorate the heroic acts of its crew.

In March 1945, the United States—well engaged in World War II—was preparing for an air attack on Okinawa. On the morning of March 19, Task Force 58 launched an offensive attack against Japanese ships in the Inland Sea and at Kure and Kobe.

Later that morning the U.S.S. *Franklin* became the target of an enemy plane that dropped two bombs—striking the *Franklin* and setting it ablaze. The carrier suffered extensive damage as the hanger and flight decks were struck spreading fire to the parked and armed planes on board.

With the entire ship engulfed in flames crew members were forced overboard. Subsequently, the U.S.S. *Santa Fe* and the U.S.S. *Pittsburgh* were dispatched to render aid and assistance to the impaired cruiser and its crew.

In addition to rescuing members abandoned in the water, the U.S.S. *Santa Fe* helped to fend off subsequent air attacks as the U.S.S. *Pittsburgh* approached the flaming cruiser to attach a towline. With the towline in place, and the *Franklin* dead in the water, the *Pittsburgh* engaged in towing the *Franklin* working against an easterly, blowing wind. As the cruiser picked up speed to 6 knots, enemy attacks were still looming.

Nearly 24 hours later, the *Franklin* was able to regain steering control and gradually build up speed to clear the *Pittsburgh* to operate, albeit slowly, on its own accord.

Mr. Speaker, this thumbnail sketch offers a mere glimpse of the tragedy and suffering that occurred as a result of the attack on the morning of March 19, 1945. The outstanding performance and the remarkable and concerted efforts of the three crews saved and the capital ship of the task force—which later earned the distinction of being the only capital ship in naval history that was towed to safety after being disabled in battle.

While the *Franklin* tragically suffered 724 casualties and 265 injuries, the heroic acts of crew members prevented another 300 deaths aboard the *Franklin*. As history unfolded, the U.S.S. *Franklin* has become one of the most decorated crews in U.S. naval history. And deservedly, the U.S.S. *Santa Fe* received a Navy unit commendation for its part in assisting the failing cruiser.

So today, Mr. Speaker, I will introduce a resolution in the House of Representatives to recognize and commemorate the outstanding feat of seamanship performed by the crew of the U.S.S. *Pittsburgh* who—to date—has never been collectively honored for their role in the rescue effort.

Having served in the U.S. Navy, I can attest to the fact that one does not make the commitment to defend this great Nation for the prospects of fame or glory. The consequences of engaging in battle, as the crew members of Task Force 58 learned, are dire and real.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it's only fitting that we take this opportunity, some 51 years later, to

solemnly recall the tragic events off the coast of Japan and to recognize the crew of the U.S.S. *Pittsburgh* for their contribution in assisting the U.S.S. *Franklin*, and to U.S. naval history.

RETIREMENT OF BARBARA REPKO

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated woman from my District in Pennsylvania, Mrs. Barbara Repko. I am pleased to have been asked to participate in a surprise recognition ceremony in honor of her retirement.

Mrs. Repko is retiring after serving for 20 years as the dedicated manager of the Berwick Senior Citizens Center. Although most famously known for its winning high school football team, Mrs. Repko brings another type of recognition to this beautiful borough on the Susquehanna River.

Mr. Speaker, Barbara Repko personifies Pennsylvania values in her caring dedication to her profession. Her diligence on behalf of area seniors is legendary. For 20 years Barbara Repko has run fund-raising drives to benefit the center, and has gone door to door to area businesses in search of their support. This beautiful modern center owes its existence to this outstanding woman and her husband Bill.

Her dedication to the center extends beyond to a financial commitment to area seniors. Seven years ago Bill and Barbara Repko were so dedicated to providing quality care and services to Berwick area seniors that they provided a loan to the Board of Directors of the center so that the center could purchase its own building. This combined with donations of time, additional money and ideas allows this beautiful center to today provide support services to hundreds of local senior citizens.

During Barbara's leadership the facility gained a new kitchen, new roof, air-conditioning and an exercise room with brand new equipment for the well-being of the seniors. The center is one of the finest in the State of Pennsylvania due to Barbara's dedication, forward thinking and financial commitment.

Mr. Speaker, it is not often that I have the honor to pay tribute to such a selfless, caring individual. This woman deserves our recognition and sincere appreciation and I am extremely proud to bring her good deeds to the attention of my colleagues. I know that Mrs. Repko's greatest reward is the love, respect and gratitude of those whose lives she has touched over the last twenty years. I send my very best wishes to her for a long, happy and productive retirement.

RECOGNIZING GE VALLECITOS
NUCLEAR CENTER

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, in an era in which energy resources are increasingly

critical to our society, it is good to know that dedicated scientists and researchers are working to make sure that safe, affordable, and environmentally friendly energy will be available for years to come. Many of these men and women live and work in the East Bay region of the San Francisco area, serving at one our national laboratories or General Electric's Vallecitos Nuclear Center.

Forty years ago, the men and women of General Electric [GE] opened a new plant in Pleasanton, CA, a beautiful community in the heart of my congressional district. GE opened the facility to pioneer the commercial development of atomic energy. Through its Vallecitos boiling water reactor, GE has brought safe and efficient electric power to eleven nations. Later this year, GE will witness another proud moment when the Tokyo Power Co. advanced boiling water reactor—supplied by GE and its associates—becomes available for commercial use.

The Vallecitos Nuclear Center [VNC] in Pleasanton is the hub of GE's nuclear energy research. As the site of the Nation's first privately financed nuclear generating facility, GE VNC has compiled an outstanding record of safety and service. Already a national historic site for its many contributions to the development of commercial nuclear power, the laboratories and test facilities of the VNC are helping GE stay on the leading edge of groundbreaking research.

None of these achievements would be possible without the effort, expertise, and commitment of the men and women who comprise the GE family. Today it is my pleasure to urge my colleagues to join me in thanking the GE VNC organization, its management, staff, researchers, and all its workers, for their contributions to America's energy future. Innovation, leadership, and possibility are alive and well at GE VNC, and I applaud everyone at the VNC for their outstanding work for our country and our world.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. CARL
L. KILGUS

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize two outstanding South Carolinians, Carl and Betty Kilgus, of Bamberg. The Kilguses recently retired from the printing business that they founded on December 1, 1956.

During the 40 years that the Kilgus Printing Co. has been in business, Carl and Betty have worked together to build their company into a firm that employs over 45 employees, offering a variety of services. The Kilgus Printing Co. publishes three weekly newspapers: North Trade Journal, the Advertiser-Herald, and the Santee Stripper, which have a wide circulation in our State. Also, the company has the distinction of, at one time, being the largest bulk mailer in the Columbia Sectional Center of the U.S. Postal Service, based on the volume of circulars for grocery store chains that it printed and mailed for stores throughout South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia.

The Kilguses have devoted much of their lives to improving their community. Carl is the chairman of the Bamberg County Economic Development Commission, as well as a member of the Bamberg Board of Public Works Commission, the Thoroughbred Country Tourism District, and the Bamberg City Development Association. Betty has devoted many years of service to the Bamberg County Board of Registration and Elections, and is currently its chairman. They are also active members of the First Baptist Church of Bamberg.

Mr. Speaker, Carl and Betty Kilgus are dedicated leaders, whose lives have been marked by hard work and achievement. For many years, it was my honor to represent them in the House of Representatives. Although they have retired from their positions at the company that they worked so diligently to establish, they will certainly continue to devote themselves to the needs of the citizens of Bamberg County, and surrounding areas. I would like to take this opportunity to commend

Carl and Betty Kilgus on the numerous contributions that they have made to the Palmetto State, and to wish them much happiness in their retirement.

TRIBUTE TO LYNN ROGERS AND
SALLY STEVENSON FOR THEIR
SERVICE TO DELAWARE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the fine work and contributions of two outstanding, dedicated, and caring Delawareans—Lynn Rogers, president of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association and Sally Stevenson, president of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association Ladies Auxiliary.

Delaware fire companies are comprised of outstanding, dedicated, and caring men and women who give of their time and talents to help prevent or battle fires and perform emergency medical services for our citizens. Because of the leadership and teamwork of Lynn and Sally, Delaware fire and emergency medical services have remained a vital and integral part of our community.

I salute Lynn and Sally for their exemplary record of public and community service. They are truly an inspiration for all of us. Their commitment and dedication to the cause of volunteer firefighters will find a permanent place in the Delaware volunteer fire service history.

Mr. Speaker, just recently the Delaware Volunteer Fireman's Association and Ladies Auxiliary celebrated its 76th anniversary of leadership and service to the towns and communities of Delaware. It is important that this fine, dedicated organization continue to be able to recruit and retain young men and women who are committed to this outstanding form of public service. The support for the Delaware Volunteer Fireman's Association and Ladies Auxiliary is strong and the tradition of service is solid, I hope that they realize how deeply their efforts are appreciated.