

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REPORT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS VISIT TO CUBA

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit to the record the following policy recommendations from the report by the delegation of the United States Association of Former Members of Congress Visit to Cuba. I commend the members of the delegation—Hon. Louis J. Frey, Jr., Hon. James W. Symington, Hon. Michael Barnes, Hon. Jon Christensen, Hon. Dennis DeConcini, Hon. Toby Roth, Mr. Walter Raymond, Jr., and Ambassador Timothy Towell—for their decision to take the trip and study this pressing issue in U.S. foreign policy.

As my colleagues will see, the delegation's policy recommendations amount to a serious reexamination of United States policy toward Cuba. This call for a reexamination of policy is not based on some nostalgic view of the dictator—Castro—who continues his grip on power in Cuba. In fact, by calling for the release of political prisoners and for free and fair elections, the members of the delegation demonstrate that they clearly understand the dictatorial nature of the Castro regime. These recommendations are made because they advance the United States national interest in a peaceful transition in Cuba away from dictatorship to democracy.

Unsurprisingly, the Cuban economy is in very bad condition, Cubans suffer shortages of basic necessities and electricity, and the Castro police state remains intact. Surprisingly, the majority of the dissidents the delegation met with in Cuba stated their opposition to the Helms-Burton law. According to the delegation's report, many dissidents favor an increased flow of people, information, and ideas into Cuba. It is this increased flow of people and information to Cuba, not the continued isolation of that nation's people, that poses the greatest threat to the Castro regime.

REPORT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE U.S. ASSOCIATION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS VISIT TO CUBA, DECEMBER 9-14, 1996

Possible actions envisioned by the delegation to be taken in 1997 include:

(1) A comprehensive bilateral program to reduce drug trafficking. The effort which led to the recent 6-ton cocaine bust should be expanded. Consideration might be given to developing joint counter-narcotics interdiction strategies, including undertaking joint naval patrols in the Bahamas and in Cuban and U.S. waters.

(2) Visit by the International Human Rights Law Group to monitor the judicial process. This idea was raised with Minister of Justice Sotolongo who said he received many visits, but he was not closed to the idea. He said Cuban sovereignty and principles would have to be observed. The delegation urged the Minister to review all convic-

tions, as a satisfactory resolution of cases concerning prisoners of conscience would evoke a positive U.S. response.

(3) Consultation with U.S. nuclear experts before completion and operation of Cuba's first nuclear plant. The delegation urged closer international supervision and were advised that IAEA had paid a visit. The plant is being built with Russian equipment and technology and, with the precedent of the Chernobyl plant disaster in Ukraine, is a cause of international concern. The Cuban officials took pains to remind the delegation that they are as interested as the United States in constructing a safe facility. An offer of a visit by a technical group from the southern United States (possibly Florida) whose citizens would be the most directly affected by any nuclear waste, emissions or malfunction should be considered.

(4) Support for human rights in Cuba. The delegation urges the U.S. Government, in conjunction with the EU, to press for the initiation of a process permitting free and open elections, maintained by a responsible international body. Further, the Cubans should be urged to invite the International Committee of the Red Cross to examine the conditions of Cuban prisons. Such a demarche to the Cubans would probably most effectively be pressed through the appropriate third party from the EU or Central Europe. The concurrent release of a number of political prisoners, estimated by the dissidents at 300-500, would be a dramatic gesture with little downside. In the judgment of the delegation, the political prisoners are considered as political chips and insurance rather than a security threat.

(5) An offer to open property settlement discussions. The Cubans acknowledge that this is still an outstanding issue in the bilateral relationship, but politics aside, they have neither the funds nor the will to make a new offer, unless it is part of a larger negotiation concerning bilateral relations. Nevertheless, an effort should be made to establish a process with a payment schedule even if actual funding is deferred to a future date.

(6) The elimination of barriers to two-way communication. This could range from the current—and significant—establishment of the CNN Bureau to the sale of Western books, magazines and papers and the removal of impediments to Internet connections. In this regard, the delegation was advised by the democratic opposition that TV Marti is never heard in Cuba except by party officials who have satellite dishes. Ordinary Cubans cannot own a satellite dish. Congress should explore how effective TV Marti actually is and if it proves to be as ineffective as the delegation was advised, funding should be stopped for TV Marti. These funds, however, should continue to be allocated for information programming to Cuba. The delegation believes the estimated \$12 million currently allocated for TV Marti could be effectively spent on more informational and academic exchanges and improvements to other communications channels including the provision of a broad Internet capability. In addition, serious program attention should be given to developing and broadcasting, via a variety of communication channels, basic educational materials concerning the development of a political and economic democracy. Paralleling U.S. programming to Central/East Europe and the NIS, the time is

right to provide materials to support a peaceful transition in Cuban.

(7) Lifting of restrictions on air travel from the United States to Cuba. This could be done on a step-by-step basis, such as for holidays, to monitor the new arrangements. However, it should be noted that Americans do get to the island now through a very complicated routing. The FMC delegation, for example, traveled via Costa Rica and Mexico. Others go via Nassau and, in comparatively large numbers, travel onward to Cuba by charter. In other words, travel restrictions are finessed and the difficulties imposed are counterproductive. These restrictions do not appear to have any redeeming value. Lifting them would facilitate and energize a range of contacts between Cubans in Cuba, their relatives in the United States and with the wider American community. Such contacts would provide a source of physical and moral support to the Cuban citizens and could temper the conduct and course of the regime itself.

(8) The removal of barriers to humanitarian assistance. Discussions with Caritas, the international arm of the U.S.-based Catholic Relief Services, were very positive and members of the delegation will be in further communication with it. Other channels may also be explored. The Cuban-American community in the United States has been very helpful in assisting their families, but the current restrictions have reduced this assistance. The delegation sees no reason to create obstacles to such assistance.

(9) The removal of remaining impediments to exchange programs. Significant increases in exchanges should be authorized and, as needed, financed. On the basis of our discussions with faculty and students, stringent visa restrictions—which they said appeared to be getting tighter—have directly hampered two-way student and professor exchanges involving the University of Havana. On the basis of the knowledge of the important role such exchanges have played in the past and continue to play in Central/East Europe and the NIS, the free flow of information can directly benefit the democratization process.

(10) A U.S. Government call for the formal adoption of the "Sullivan-Arcos Principles" by the foreign investment community (EU, U.S. and others) as an integral component of their business arrangements in Cuba. International and domestic trade unions should be urged to enlist their support and intercession with Western governments and the business community.

(11) Enhanced foundation support for academic and scholastic programs. The MacArthur and Kellogg Foundations currently support the Center for American Studies at the University of Havana. Others with equivalent interests should be encouraged to determine if such programs (see Paragraph 5 above) meet their criteria for support.

(12) Development of a Speakers Program. Encourage the extension of speaking invitations from non-governmental Cuban groups to U.S. leaders. The delegation asked if Billy Graham were to visit Cuba could he speak to the Cuban people. The answer was that if invited by a Cuban institution, Billy Graham and other religious leaders could visit and speak in Cuba. By this measure, the openings for speaking engagements for scientific, cultural, farm and business leaders would be considerable.

• 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.

(13) Consideration by Members of Congress of fact-finding trips to Cuba. Hill staffers from the House and Senate foreign affairs committees have been invited to visit Cuba and should be encouraged to do so.

The FMC delegation believes that the contacts developed and candid discussions which took place in mid-December in Havana were an important start. The bipartisan quality of the group, its liberal to conservative construction, and its ability to be one step removed from the direct domestic political pressure that a formal Congressional delegation would have suggest that this opening should be pursued. The delegation was asked by the Cubans to plan a sequel trip at an appropriate time in the future and the FMC will consider such a possibility if and when it appears such a mission could serve a constructive purpose.

Representative Louis Frey, Jr., Republican-Florida (1969-1979), Chairman of Delegation; Representative Toby Roth, Republican-Wisconsin (1981-1997); Representative Jon Christensen, Republican-Nebraska (1995-); Representative James Symington, Democrat-Missouri (1969-1979), Vice Chairman of Delegation; Senator Dennis DeConcini, Democrat-Arizona (1977-1995); Representative Michael D. Barnes, Democrat-Maryland (1979-1985).

FOREIGN SUBSIDIARY TAX EQUITY ACT

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced the Foreign Subsidiary Tax Equity Act, a bill to discourage domestic corporations from establishing foreign manufacturing subsidiaries in order to avoid Federal taxes. I urge all Members to cosponsor this important legislation.

The bill is long overdue. American manufacturers have abused the good faith of the American workers by developing manufacturing processes in this country then moving production facilities overseas while handing out pink slips to workers here in America. Despite the fact that the American worker is the most productive and talented laborer in the world, many U.S. manufacturers, lured by cheap labor costs and tax holidays, have closed down plants and moved operations to countries like Mexico, Taiwan, and South Korea. Using the complex Tax Code to their advantage, some U.S. corporations pay next to nothing in Federal taxes. How can we as a Congress justify these policies?

Under my bill, foreign subsidiaries of U.S. companies located in countries that provide tax holidays and other tax breaks and ship a significant portion of their products into the United States, would be taxed as if that subsidiary were located in the United States. My bill is designed to discourage tax-motivated foreign investment while protecting the jobs of your constituents.

I have always argued that many of America's social problems—crime, welfare abuse, health care costs, unemployment, and a breakdown in family values—lie in our trade and taxation policies. If we forced rogue multinationals to pay their fair share to the U.S. Treasury, we would be able to better tackle these problems.

I urge all Members to cosponsor this bill.

A LABOR OF LOVE

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, please permit me to share with my colleagues the text of a very touching letter U.S. Air Force Maj. William F. Smith wrote to a truly extraordinary man, Mr. Zachary Fisher.

Mr. Fisher is well-known to the men and women of our Nation's Armed Forces. With his wife, he established the Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher Armed Services Foundation to provide scholarships for service men and women and their families. To date, more than 700 scholarships have been awarded. The Fishers also provide direct financial assistance to families of military personnel killed in the line of duty.

In 1990, Zachary and Elizabeth undertook an important and unique project called Fisher House, to provide shelter near hospitals at major American military bases. The houses provide a home away from home for the families of military personnel recovering from illness at the adjacent hospitals. To date, 25 Fisher Houses have been constructed, with plans for several more.

Mr. Fisher is also the founder of the Intrepid Sea Air Space Museum, the world's largest maritime museum, located on New York's Hudson River.

The Fishers latest philanthropic effort is directed toward finding a cure for Alzheimer's disease, which affects more than 4 million Americans. The Fishers have established the Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research, which is the largest and best equipped laboratory devoted wholly to Alzheimer's research. Working in union with David Rockefeller and Rockefeller University, the Fishers have an ambitious goal, to create a model center for patient care and research.

Major Smith, who is stationed at Andrews Air Force Base, MD, penned this letter to Zachary following the dedication of a Fisher House on base. I commend it to my colleagues:

DEAR MR. FISHER: I am writing to thank you for the special gift you gave us here at Andrews Air Force Base on September 26, 1994. No, I'm not talking about the Fisher House although I do appreciate you building it and am thankful for all the good it will do for our community. I'm talking about the gift of love, and more specifically the gift you gave us of how to love. As I stood in the back and listened to the speeches honoring you I became mesmerized with the way you doted over your wife. Prior to your arrival I wondered what you would look like and how you would act. I guess I wondered about your character since a lot of men with wealth and power have fairly predictable characters. So as I stood in the midst of affluence and opulence I began to assess your character and I was impressed and inspired. The way you smiled at her and held her hand and took the time to explain things to her touched me very deeply. It occurred to me that I may be standing in a holy place, a place where true, unconditional love is alive in a special man. At the end of the ceremony the officer standing next to me said "that was pretty impressive wasn't it?" I said "I don't know what impressed you, but I think we just witnessed

the finest example of how we should love our wives." He looked at me a moment contemplating my comment and said, "Yes, I think you're right."

When I got home I told my wife about what I saw. When I began to describe how you started your speech saying, "Honey I think I should give you a kiss to remind us of how much we love each other," I began to cry. Then I kissed my wife and told her I found someone who loves his wife as much as I love mine. And that night as she lay asleep in bed I put my arms around her and held her and told her I love her and I kept holding her and she didn't know it. I think that is a sacred act, to love someone when they may not know it.

You are the luckiest man in the world, you have love in your heart. And so, even though I don't have the wealth you have, I am just as lucky as you, and I thank you for reminding me how lucky I am. Thank you.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM D. SMITH,
Major, USAF.

WILMINGTON CELEBRATES ITS 175TH BIRTHDAY

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, on March 22, the Essex County Town of Wilmington will celebrate its 175th Birthday.

As far as I'm concerned, Mr. Speaker, the nicest thing to happen to me in the 1990's is the addition of most of Essex County to the district I have the pleasure of representing. The town of Wilmington is typical of the region, one of hardy winters and friendly people. It is in such towns that the values and virtues that made America great have been developed to their fullest.

These values and virtues include self-reliance and a spirit of volunteerism, which is nothing more than an instinctive response to a neighbor in need.

America is not really defined by her soaring skyscrapers and sprawling shopping malls. She is defined by her small towns, where everyone knows each other like a large, extended family. It is actually possible to walk the streets at night in such towns.

Everything is on a smaller scale in such towns, everything that is, except the generosity and love of one's fellow man. Church steeples invariably pierce the horizons of such towns, reflecting the deep and abiding religious faith without which these values and virtues could not survive.

I invite Members to visit the area some day, perhaps on your way to enjoy the local seasonal sports. You will enjoy as well as open friendliness and picturesque scenery, and finally discover why I make it a point to go home every weekend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all Members to join me in wishing the town of Wilmington a happy 175th birthday, and in congratulating Supervisor Roy C. Holzer, other town officials, and the entire populace for bringing the town into the 21st century without changing what is great about small-town American life.

LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE VETERANS BENEFITS TO MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE COMMONWEALTH ARMY AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL PHILIPPINE SCOUTS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce legislation to amend title 38, of the U.S. Code, to provide that persons considered to be members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army veterans and members of the Special Philippine Scouts—by reason of service with the Armed Forces during World War II—should be eligible for full veterans benefits from the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

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 World War II.

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 one hundred thousand 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 limited veterans eligibility for service-connected disabilities and death compensation and also 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 U.S. Armed Forces after October 6, 1945, primarily to perform occupational duty in the Pacific, were similarly excluded from benefits.

I believe it is long overdue to correct this injustice and to provide the members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and the Special Philippine Scout with the benefits and the services that they valiantly earned during their service in World War II.

Accordingly, I have introduced legislation, H.R. 836 that will provide veterans of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and the Special Philippine Scouts with the benefits, the compensation, and most importantly with the recognition they courageously earned.

I urge my colleagues to carefully review this legislation that corrects this grave injustice and provides veterans benefits to members of the Philippines Commonwealth Army and the members of the Special Philippine Scouts.

Mr. Speaker, I request that the full text of H.R. 836 be included at this point in the RECORD.

H.R. 836

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 1995".

SEC. 2. CERTAIN SERVICE IN THE ORGANIZED MILITARY FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PHILIPPINE SCOUTS DEEMED TO BE ACTIVE SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 107 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—
(A) by striking out "not" after "Army of the United States, shall"; and

(B) by striking out "except benefits under—" and all that follows and inserting in lieu thereof a period; and

(2) in subsection (b)—
(A) by striking out "not" after "Armed Forces Voluntary Recruitment Act of 1945 shall"; and

(B) by striking out "except—" and all that follows and inserting in lieu thereof a period.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) The heading of such section is amended to read as follows:

"§ 107. Certain service deemed to be active service: service in organized military forces of the Philippines and in the Philippine Scouts".

(2) The item relating to such section in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 1 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"107. Certain service deemed to be active service: service in organized military forces of the Philippines and in the Philippine Scouts."

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this Act shall take effect on

(b) APPLICABILITY.—No benefits shall accrue to any person for any period before the effective date of this Act by reason of the amendments made by this Act.

HONORING SIOUX TAYLOR

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I speak to honor a woman who has done so much for the people of her community, her city and her State. Sioux Taylor has been active in her community, serving since 1992 as commissioner of the Mount Vernon Recreation Dept. and for 14 years before that as executive director of the Mount Vernon Youth Bureau.

But her contributions exceed that service. Since receiving her masters of science from New York University she has served in many capacities; as a member of the steering committee, New York State Coalition for the Aging, chairperson of the Mount Vernon Chapter of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Institute for Social Change, president of the lay organization, Allen Temple AME Church, as a district leader of the Mount Vernon Democratic Party since 1978, and as a member of the executive committee of the Mount Vernon Council Community Services. She was named 1988 social worker of the year for Westchester County and a year later, social worker of the year: New York State. She was awarded the second annual Governor's Award for African-Americans of Distinction. She has served as the convener and first president of Southern Westchester NOW and is a founding member of the National Women's Political Caucus and the Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus.

On her retirement, Sioux Taylor leaves her community far richer for her work. She has

been a great help to me, serving as a guide and advisor so I could better represent Mount Vernon in Congress. I join with everyone there in thanking her for all she gave.

ON EDUCATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise the issue of our commitment to our young people. What can we in Congress really do to help them into the 21st Century? What can we do to make sure they have a future? What will we do to make sure they are ready to compete in a global economy?

Mr. Speaker, you know what we have to do. Everyone in this chamber knows what needs to be done. Education, Education, Education. Fix our schools infrastructure, make our schools safer and give our schools standards that make sense.

With all this talk of bipartisanship politics—and I have to admit the members on the other side of the aisle have come a long way from the last Congress when they proposed the largest education cuts in history and wanted to abolish the Department of Education—maybe we can do something this term for our young people. Maybe we can agree that Pell grants need be raised. Maybe we can agree that we can give hope to our young people that they have a chance to go to college if they want to go—that their parents will get a break from the huge financial burden of sending their children to college.

Mr. Speaker, we know what we have to do this term, we know what the American people want us to do for our schools and their children. Let's get about the people's business and get it done, let's get going for the sake of our children and for the sake of the future of this country.

MODERNIZING THE WHITE COLLAR EXEMPTION OF THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, on February 6, 1997, I introduced a bill, H.R. 647, to clarify and modernize the white collar exemption of the Fair Labor Standards Act. I hope this bill will receive close attention during this session of Congress.

The Fair Labor Standards Act is intended to protect workers with provisions like the minimum wage and the 40-hour workweek. As a result, any attempt to tinker with the FLSA is immediately perceived as an attack on these basic protections or at least is so portrayed by political opponents. It is apparent, however, that after a half century of hands-off politics, we are left with a law that is out of step with the times and needs improvement.

Two recent developments have brought the issue to a head. First, disgruntled employees have begun to use the FLSA's salary basis

test as a tool for seeking revenge and not for logically distinguishing exempt from non-exempt employees. They do this by claiming that anyone subject to a pay reduction for taking partial day leave is not paid on a salary basis and is therefore entitled to overtime pay, including retroactively. The problem would not be so bad if it were limited to a few individual overtime awards; but it is not. Instead, seizing upon a two-word phrase in the regulations, employees and their attorneys have argued that everyone theoretically subject to a technically flawed payroll policy is entitled to the same windfall—regardless of whether the flaw affected any particular employee's pay. Employers, of course, rarely issue separate payroll policies for different groups of exempt employees; thus, every employee, up to the top levels of the corporate boardroom, becomes an equally viable candidate for a large windfall. The potential overtime liability is as enormous as it is irrational.

Furthermore, the FLSA's duties test is being applied on an increasingly arbitrary basis. Concepts like "discretion and independent judgment" have always been difficult to define. These ideas seemed manageable in the era of assembly lines and hierarchical management structures, but this has radically changed. Instead, technology has diversified job duties, service-based employment has proliferated, and even old-line manufacturing operations have moved to team management concepts. In this environment, employers can no longer rely on cookie-cutter paradigms in making duties judgments. Employers often have to guess—and too many are guessing wrong. Even the courts struggle to achieve consistency, reaching irreconcilable results in cases involving the growing ranks of quasi-professionals such as accountants, engineers, insurance adjusters, and journalists.

The legislation I have introduced addresses these problems in three separate ways. First, it restores original understandings of the salary basis test by requiring the Department of Labor and the courts to focus on actual pay reductions rather than speculation as to potential deductions under some nebulous policy. The FLSA still will protect exempt employees from inappropriate practices, since regulatory provisions denying exempt status for employees experiencing actual salary deductions for taking partial day leave would remain unchanged. My legislation, however, will prevent employees from using a policy's theoretical application to extort huge overtime windfalls for company-wide classes of highly paid employees who never could have imagined themselves as nonexempt laborers.

Second, my proposal will address perhaps the most confusing and indefensible requirement among the FLSA's duties tests: the attempted distinction between "production" and "management" workers. Under current regulations, for example, an administrative assistant might meet exemption standards simply by opening a management executive's mail and deciding who should handle it, because such a job is "directly related to management policies or general business operations of the employer or the employer's customers." On the other hand, employees with far more sophisticated, challenging, and lucrative jobs may be nonexempt simply because they work on production tasks. The regulations reasonably expect an administrative employee to exercise a certain level of discretion and independent

judgment, and my legislation would not alter that requirement. There is no reason to think, however, that a production or management label on the object of an employee's discretion or judgment has anything to do with that employee's professionalism, or the need for FLSA protections. Therefore, my bill eliminates the requirement that the employee's exercise of discretion and judgment be "directly related to management policies or general business operations of the employer or the employer's customers."

Finally, my legislation would create an income threshold that automatically exempts from FLSA scrutiny the highest paid strata of the workforce. This would directly reverse the trend toward questionable and irrational overtime awards for highly compensated employees. There is no reason that the FLSA, which was passed to protect laborers who "toil in factory and on farm," and who are "helpless victims of their own bargaining weakness," should ever be interpreted to protect workers making high five-figure or six-figure incomes. Yet, without considering the policy implications, courts are reaching such conclusions on an alarmingly frequent basis.

A worker drawing a large salary must perform some valuable services for an employer. Why, then, should that employer have to satisfy a complex set of artificial and archaic duties tests to prove that the employee is valuable? A worker drawing a large salary also must possess considerable bargaining leverage. Why then, should employers be forced, regardless of the employee's needs or preferences, to calculate paychecks only in the inflexible manner dictated by Government salary basis regulations?

The FLSA, in nearly six decades, has strayed from its laudable goal of protecting the poorest and weakest laborers from workplace abuses. The Department of Labor and the courts need to refocus their efforts. By directly exempting highly paid employees and by making long overdue adjustments to the salary and duties tests, my proposal goes a long way toward providing this new direction.

THE 1998 BUDGET

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington report for Wednesday, February 19, 1997, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE PRESIDENT'S 1998 BUDGET

The most important document in the government is the budget. It is a plan of how the government spends your money, how it pays for its activities, and how it borrows money to pay the bills. It affects the nation's economy, and it is affected by that economy. This month President Clinton sent his 1998 budget to Congress.

The President submitted a \$1.687 trillion budget. With revenues projected at \$1.567 trillion, that leaves a \$120 billion deficit, down slightly from \$126 billion in 1997. The President lays out a plan to eliminate the deficit by 2002, while protecting Medicare and Social Security without raising costs to beneficiaries. Unlike previous years, congressional leaders in both parties say the President's plan is not "dead on arrival,"

and they will use his proposal as a starting point for budget negotiations.

The biggest spending in the President's budget goes for Social Security (\$381 billion), Medicare and Medicaid (\$310 billion), defense (\$260 billion), and interest on the national debt (\$250 billion). Non-defense discretionary programs, including education, training, research, housing, infrastructure, and law enforcement, receive a total of \$287 billion. The downsizing of the federal workforce continues, with a 14% reduction on track for 1999. More than 250,000 positions have already been eliminated.

Over the next five years, the President would cut back discretionary spending by \$137 billion and Medicare and Medicaid by \$122 billion. The plan would raise \$88 billion by closing tax loopholes, imposing new user fees, and auctioning new television broadcast spectrum rights. The President would restore \$18 billion for nutrition programs cut in last year's welfare reform law, and cut taxes for middle-income individuals and certain small business by \$98 billion.

The President projects a continuation of a good economic growth and no acceleration of inflation. He believes interest rates will fall markedly as a result of balancing the budget. The President's budget further reduces the deficit and provides middle class tax relief, but it does not do enough to boost investment in the future.

New Priorities: Within his plan, the President has proposed a significant realignment in government priorities. First, the President would increase our emphasis on education by expanding everything from the Head Start program for pre-schoolers to tax credits for college tuition and adult job training. Second, the President would extend health care coverage to children and unemployed families who currently lack health care coverage.

It is appropriate to reassess our priorities, even as we cut back on the scope of government programs. The President's emphasis on education reflects growing public sentiment that we should pay more attention to the problems of our education system. Health care, especially for children, remains a critical issue for many families. I agree with these priorities, but have concerns about the specifics. Some of the President's education plans might create as many risks as rewards. For example, the tax credit for college students with a B average could push colleges to raise tuition, pressure professors to boost student grades, or require the IRS to monitor college transcripts. In broadening health care coverage, we must be careful not to create new runaway entitlements. In prioritizing budget cuts, we should also remember that the major cuts in spending in the last Congress were on assistance to the poor. The rest of us got a bye.

Other Investment: The President misses the mark by adding new investment only in education. Spending on roads, bridges, harbors, airports, and water systems, along with research in science and technology, is essential for new economic growth and for an increase in our living standards. I am concerned that the President would not increase this spending to keep up with inflation—or our global competitors. My view is that the nation's major economic problem is slow growth. We must accelerate economic growth by increasing investment in infrastructure and research.

Long-term changes: A key question is whether or not the budget will remain balanced beyond 2002. My concern is that unless the President and Congress make sweeping changes in the budget now, the deficit will bounce back after 2002. The President postpones the tough budget choices by shifting too many cuts to the last 2 years of his

plan, after he leaves office. He also uses a number of one-time savings (such as selling government assets) to achieve balance in 2002. These one-time fixes do not really address the fundamental problem of overspending.

We have not yet begun to make the necessary decisions to get our fiscal house in long-term order. The underlying budget problem facing our country is the aging population. In fifteen years, baby boomers will begin retiring, placing great strains on programs for older Americans—Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. Each of these programs is reasonably secure for the short-term, but long-term reforms must begin now. It will be less painful and less costly to act early. Choices must be made soon on proposed changes to cost-of-living adjustments, subsidies for wealthier recipients, the retirement age, payroll taxes, and the role of private markets in strengthening Social Security and Medicare.

Prospects: The outlook is good for a balanced budget agreement. The mood of key players in Congress and the White House is positive, economic growth is creating higher revenues than expected, and health care costs are constrained. The President and leaders of both parties have had productive meetings to discuss their common ground on the budget. The most contentious issue will likely be the size and shape of tax cuts. The President wants targeted cuts for education, children, and capital gains on the sale of a home. The congressional leadership plans much larger, broad-based reductions. In our efforts to enact politically popular tax cuts, we must not rely on rosy assumptions about future growth or the likelihood that future Congresses will cut popular programs.

Conclusion: At its heart, the President's budget is a political document, designed to gain political advantage in negotiations. I do not view this budget proposal as a powerful document that addresses long-term challenges. Rather, it is an opening bid in the long process to balance the budget. In a few places, it modestly pushes the country in the right direction. It deals with long-term structural problems only on the margins.

AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION TRIBUTE

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, for 50 years the Americans for Democratic Action have served this Nation as the liberal conscience covering all issues that affect and confront our lives. While there are numerous liberal single issue organizations that have carved out extraordinary roles in developing American political thought, none have the scope and history as does the Americans for Democratic Action [ADA].

When I came to Congress first in 1965, with the war in Vietnam just beginning to awaken the protests of our youth all across our college campuses, it was the ADA that helped me to put the focus of criticism on process and peace. From 1965 to 1975 until this war ended unceremoniously, the ADA assiduously guarded the civil liberties of our citizens from the emotional and fanatical tirades of those who could not see the painful sacrifices this country was making of its young for a yet undeclared war.

The ADA was formed to serve as an independent political organization. That its politics

is more Democratic than Republican is no accident. Its founders were illustrious persons like Eleanor Roosevelt who after her husband's death rose to the ranks of First Lady of the World; Walter Reuther, who created a labor movement involved in social and economic policies well outside ordinary labor politics, and scholars like John Kenneth Galbraith, whose views helped to steer this Nation to economic growth and greater prosperity for the struggling middle class. Vice President Hubert Humphrey was also a founder of ADA.

ADA for 50 years has attracted into its ranks the great voices of political activism and its policies have become the bellwether of liberalism for all of America.

ADA was there at the beginning of the civil rights movement. In 1948, it fought valiantly for a strong civil rights plank in the platform of the Democratic Party.

ADA was the place where the policy of full employment became a national goal later called the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Act, still guided by Leon Shull.

Empowering workers to see that politics was a way toward improvement of working conditions, wages, and job security gave ADA goals to achieve by working closely with the labor movement. Many of labor's leaders continue to serve as ADA's national vice presidents.

I was elected national president of ADA in 1978 and served in that capacity until 1981. During my tenure, ADA under the guidance of Winn Newman advanced pay comparability policies for women that brought the pay equity debate into an examination of the value of work that women do.

ADA is a movement constantly reaching out to new challenges and new areas of leadership.

Its current president, Jack Sheinkman, was the head of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union before he was elected ADA's national president. The executive director is Amy Isaacs who is in charge of its day to day operations. ADA is a national membership organization, but unlike others, it services 22 local chapters all across the country, with approximately 65,000 members.

Among our present and former Members of Congress who served ADA as national president: Hubert Humphrey, Don Edwards, Al Lowenstein, Don Fraser, George McGovern, Robert Drinan, BARNEY FRANK, TED WEISS, CHARLES RANGEL, PAUL WELLSTONE, and JOHN LEWIS. I was its first and only woman president.

Happy 50th birthday Americans for Democratic Action. And may you have many more.

A POINT OF LIGHT FOR ALL AMERICANS: CHARLES E. INNIS

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an individual who devoted his life to public service and community charity. Charles Inniss' life of 61 years has left an indelible impression on all with whom he came in contact. Although he has passed, his life will remain a testament that human compassion is one of the virtues that matters most in life. Charles Inniss was a model human being and a great

"point of light" whose contributions must not go unacknowledged.

He was a business administrator, a creative technician, and an artist all combined. He could walk with kings and never lose the common touch. Throughout his professional life at Brooklyn Union Gas. Mr. Inniss was viewed as dedicated, committed, and caring. He joined Brooklyn Union in 1979 as assistant manager in public relations and communications and retired in 1995 as vice president of the urban affairs division. Before joining Brooklyn Union, he served as assistant district service manager at Dun & Bradstreet, executive director of Studio Museum in Harlem, director of area development for the Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Corp., administrator of Brooklyn Model Cities, and director of public information and development at the Brooklyn Public Library.

It has been Mr. Inniss' humanitarian deeds that have earned him the greatest respect and admiration of those lives he has touched. He devoted his life to public service by serving on more than 25 charitable organizations. He served actively in the following organizations: the Brooklyn Arts Council, the board for the Brooklyn Children's Museum, the board for the Marcus Garvey Nursing Home, the American Association of Blacks in Energy, the Staten Island Zoological Society, the board for Catholic International, the Mayor's New York City Advisory Cultural Commission, and the Black Officers Association.

Throughout the years, Charles Inniss worked diligently in positions that he found to be beneficial to the community. He was co-founder of Career Opportunities for Brooklyn Youth, director and past chairman of the Studio Museum in Harlem, chairman of Neighborhood Artists, and past chair of the American Gas Foundation. In 1992, he was appointed by the Governor to the City University of New York board of trustees and served as chair of the university's construction fund.

Mr. Inniss has been recognized for his contributions to a broad spectrum of cultural, educational, and social services agencies, institutions and organizations. The Franciscan Sisters for the Poor named their new residence for homeless men the Charles E. Inniss St. Joseph Franciscan House in honor of his dedicated service to the organization. In addition, Mr. Inniss received an honorary doctorate of laws from St. Joseph's College, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's Forsythia Award, the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor Heritage Award, and the President's Medal for Kingsborough Community College.

Probably the most outstanding feature of Charles Inniss' character and style was his refusal to be shackled by formality and bureaucracy. He supported programs in need when his own eyes and ears told him they were positive and productive. A lack of paper work and the appropriate statistics never prevented funding activities deemed useful to the community. Mr. Inniss made Brooklyn Union one of the earliest sponsors of the Central Brooklyn Martin Luther King Commission which is now in its 12th year of service to the community.

Mr. Inniss was born in Harlem, NY and spent the formative years of his childhood in the east Bronx. He is a graduate of Evander Childs High School and served as captain of the 369th Artillery Battalion. He received a bachelor of science degree and master of public administration degree from New York University.

Charles Inniss is survived by his wife, Marge; a brother, Wilbur; two sisters, Norma and Frances; a sister-in-law, Madelaine; one niece, Wendy Woodland; one nephew, David; two grand-nephews, Christopher and Bryan; and a host of beloved and other family members.

Service to community is an unselfish and difficult calling. Consistently, Charles Inniss has made it appear to be effortless by playing a pivotal role in virtually every aspect of the lives of the people of New York. I sincerely appreciate the richness and dedication that marked Mr. Inniss' life. Charles E. Inniss is a great "point of light" for all of the people of America to revere.

GAO STUDY BILL

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, proponents of the flat tax, and there are many, argue that a flat tax would be more fair to Americans than a progressive income tax. Meanwhile, the proponents of the consumption tax tout the elimination of the Internal Revenue Service as a chief benefit. All Americans agree that a simplified tax code would eliminate loopholes and complex deductions only a tax attorney and CPA understand.

Since coming to Congress, I have supported the idea of a simplified tax system. I believe that more Americans would pay their taxes if they understood what they owed and they didn't feel they were missing out on some obscure break they overlooked. If you honestly felt that you were paying your fair share, you would have more confidence in the system. Imagine the savings to Americans in tax preparation, not to mention money spent on antacid.

I think the solution is a combination of both. A flat income tax for easy filing coupled with a lower sales tax to get at the money generated by our great economic engine. This plan would incentivize savings, reduce interest rates, drive new business, and generate more economic activity while still maintaining our present level of revenues.

Today I introduced a bill that calls for the Comptroller of the General Accounting Office to study the effects of my plan, including possible deductions for interest on a home mortgage, college tuition, and a per child deduction. My bill won't change the IRS code, only require a study of the effects of a change. I am so confident in this plan that I think after the GAO study is complete, the advantages will become apparent.

I think the dire circumstances America finds itself in is a result of our poor tax and trade policies. Our tax code rewards dependency and penalizes achievement. This new tax plan would be the first step toward ending the economic crisis we face today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to cosponsor my bill.

IN SUPPORT OF AMENDING
IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL] as a cosponsor of our bill to amend the law concerning communications between Government agencies and the Immigration and Naturalization Services. We appreciate New York City's mayor Giuliani bringing this important matter to our attention.

As a supporter of last year's welfare reform and illegal immigration, I am aware of the need to address some of their flaws.

The current provisions pose threats to the ability of our local government to protect the public health and safety of their residents.

Let us not discourage undocumented aliens from receiving basic health care services due to their fear of disclosing their status to INS. Otherwise, we would reduce the chances of controlling the spread of communicable diseases.

Effective law enforcement requires the trust and cooperation of all residents, even those who are currently out of status, who may have witnessed or been victims of crime. Our police need the cooperation of all to arrest criminals before they can strike again.

Bear in mind that not all restrictions on communications would be permitted. It mandates that INS and localities exchange information on criminal aliens, regardless of their status.

Accordingly, I urge our colleagues to support this important legislation.

H.R. —

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RESTRICTIONS ON COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE.

(a) PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996.—Section 434 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1644) is repealed.

(b) ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION REFORM AND IMMIGRANT RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1996.—Section 642 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-208) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (a) and (b) inserting the following new subsection:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a Federal, State, or local government entity or official may not prohibit any government entity or official from sending to, or receiving from, the Immigration and Naturalization Service any information regarding the immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual who has been convicted of a crime under Federal, State, or local law.”; and

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b).

HONORING MARILYN PERLMAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Marilyn Perlman, who for more than 50

years has contributed to Mount Vernon as a public servant, a public advocate, and a full-time worker for the elderly.

She moved to Mount Vernon, with her new husband, Daniel, more than 50 years ago. She started in local politics by working in the campaign of a friend running for mayor. She became a district leader and subsequently served her city and her community with distinction in many capacities.

She was a great help to me when I first came to Mount Vernon, serving as my guide and introducing me to the many senior programs and people of the Rose Y. She chairs the focal committee for the office of the aging and has served on all the committees relating to older adults. Her activism on behalf of Westchester's senior citizens dates back many years. In 1970, she was hired by the Y to supervise the older adult program, the senior canteen. As part of the aging services network, she was involved in the successful effort to bring the adult day care and kosher nutrition programs to the Y.

Marilyn Perlman has devoted herself totally to her community and her "people", the elderly of Westchester County, accomplishing so much it leaves us unable to comprehend how we will continue without her. I join the people of Mount Vernon and all of Westchester County in thanking her and in wishing for her the best that life has to offer in her retirement, with the hope that the generosity of spirit she gave to all who had the good fortune to meet her and work with her is returned.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LASALLE D.
LEFFALL

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of an outstanding American, Dr. LaSalle D. Leffall. Dr. Leffall, a distinguished fellow alumnus of Florida A&M University, is the Charles R. Drew professor of surgery at Howard University College of Medicine, and like the namesake of his chair, his accomplishments are too numerous to list. His profound and unselfish dedication to the African-American community, especially in education and medicine, is unsurpassed, and deserves the highest recognition.

Perhaps what distinguishes Dr. Leffall most, Mr. Speaker, is that he epitomizes the concept that education is a ladder. This week Dr. Leffall helped to make that ladder a little easier to climb when he presented a check for \$350,000 to Florida A&M University, its largest donation from an individual. When matched with funds from the State of Florida, Dr. Leffall's gift will total more than \$500,000. As FAMU's distinguished president, Dr. Frederick Humphries, said, "This is a monumental contribution from one whose extraordinary achievements have brought honor and distinction to his alma mater and his community."

A son of the South, Dr. Leffall was born in Tallahassee, FL, and he was born to be great. He graduated summa cum laude from Florida A&M University at the age of 18, and 4 years later, he received his medical degree from Howard University College of Medicine, ranking first in his class. A scholar and a gentleman, Dr. Leffall is a veteran of the U.S.

Army, having achieved the rank of captain, M.C., and having served as chief of general surgery at the U.S. Army Hospital in Munich, Germany, from 1960–61, an extraordinary accomplishment for a person of color at that time.

A diplomat of the American Board of Surgery and fellow of the American College of Surgeons, Dr. Leffall has served as visiting professor and guest lecturer at more than 200 medical institutions in the United States and around the world. He has authored or co-authored more than 120 articles and chapters. His professional life has been devoted in great part to the study of cancer, especially as it relates to African-Americans. In 1979, it was his privilege to serve as national president of the American Cancer Society, through which he launched a landmark program to study the increasing incidence of mortality of cancer in the African-American community.

Dr. Leffall's awards and honors include the Presidential Award, Metropolitan Washington Chapter, American College of Surgeons; the Humanitarian Award, Washington, DC, NAACP; Outstanding Service Award, National Medical Association; National Achievement Award, Democratic National Committee Black Caucus; and the Trumpet Award, CNN Turner Broadcasting System. He has been listed as one of the best doctors in Washington, DC, and Washingtonian of the Year by Washingtonian magazine.

Named in honor of his parents, Dr. Leffall's gift will provide critical scholarships for students and professorships in science at Florida A&M University. Equally important, Dr. Leffall's contribution will help open the doors of knowledge for countless young African-Americans, in whose hands the destiny of our society rests.

As a Member of the U.S. Congress, and having served in public office for 20 years, I have learned what my predecessors clearly understood. You cannot legislate good will: that comes through education. Because of outstanding individuals like Dr. LaSalle Leffall, the process of cultivating good will is a little further advanced. It is my privilege to honor him before my colleagues in the U.S. Congress, and the American public.

TRIBUTE TO ROY D. NEDROW

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who has committed a lifetime to law and order in the United States. On March 1, 1997, Mr. Roy D. Nedrow will retire as the Director of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, ending 33 years of law enforcement service to the community at the local and Federal level.

Mr. Nedrow began his law enforcement career in 1964 with the Berkeley, CA Police Department where he served for 6 years, first as a patrolman and later as a training sergeant and detective. In 1970, Mr. Nedrow was appointed a special agent with the U.S. Secret Service, distinguishing himself during assignments in the field and at the Service's headquarters. As a result of his outstanding performance and talents, Mr. Nedrow earned a

number of promotions culminating in his appointment to the senior executive service and assignment as the Secret Service's Deputy Assistant Director for the Office of Investigations. As director, he oversaw all investigations and protective support activities conducted by the Service's 1,200 special agents at its more than 100 field locations.

In 1992, Mr. Nedrow retired from the Secret Service to accept appointment as the first civilian Director of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service [NCIS]. His appointment came at a critical time in the Agency's history. His strong leadership and unquestionable integrity restored stability to an agency which needed greater independence and a change of direction. Assembling a team of highly qualified professionals, Director Nedrow overhauled the Service, reorganizing its bureaucracy and providing greater accountability and responsiveness to its customers. He provided the men and women of NCIS with a new vision, the necessary resources and support, and the inspiration to achieve positive change.

Under Director Nedrow's leadership, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service gained national recognition for its innovation in homicide investigation. The Service's approach to the investigation of previously unresolved or cold case homicides was lauded for its innovation and excellence in October 1996 by the International Chiefs of Police [IACP] during its prestigious Webber Seavey Award for Quality in Law Enforcement Ceremony. The NCIS cold case methodology has since been adopted by numerous law enforcement agencies throughout the United States.

Director Nedrow also recognized the problems and anxieties endured by families of deceased servicemembers whose deaths occurred under other than natural circumstances. He created and championed an NCIS Family Liaison Program to assure responsiveness to the needs of, and issues raised by, surviving family members during the death investigation process.

Director Nedrow's legacy of achievements include his establishment of a proven, money-saving alternative dispute resolution personnel program, and a cutting edge and visionary computer crimes investigation group.

Perhaps most impressive of all, Director Nedrow and the dedicated men and women of NCIS have done what very few Federal agencies can claim to have done—they have recovered more taxpayer dollars to the U.S. Treasury than it costs to run the entire agency! From 1993, Director Nedrow's first year at the helm of NCIS, to the end of fiscal year 1996, NCIS procurement fraud special agents investigated 2,355 cases of fraud against the Government, obtained 658 felony indictments, achieved 493 convictions, and recovered over \$975.8 million in fraudulent payments, fines, and restitution.

This is a remarkable achievement! This small, elite agency of only 885 special agents, only 114 of whom are procurement fraud specialists assigned to Navy and Marine Corps bases around the world, have proven that while crime doesn't pay, crime fighting does!

Although we are losing the leadership and talents of Director Nedrow to a well-earned retirement on March 1, he leaves behind a team of tenacious investigators working hard to keep our Armed Forces safe and ready. The NCIS team he leaves behind is a lasting tribute—I can think of no finer tribute—to a great

leader and a great American. In 1945, renowned journalist Walter Lippman wrote, "The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him in other men the conviction and the will to carry on." Roy Nedrow has more than met the test. The Naval Criminal Investigative Service is indeed a better agency today than it was when he took over the reins.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend Roy Nedrow for his outstanding leadership and lifelong service to our country. I offer him my personal thanks and the thanks of an appreciative nation as he begins a new chapter in his life.

NATIONAL FILM REGISTRY TOUR

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Library of Congress, the Bishop Museum Film Archives, and other institutions, organizations, and individuals who are working to preserve the rich film heritage of this great Nation. The Library of Congress is host to the National Film Preservation Board which advises the Librarian of Congress on selections to the National Film Registry and on national film preservation policy. Through the generosity of the James Madison Council and support from leading directors committed to film preservation, the Library of Congress is sponsoring its second season of the National Film Registry tour. The tour showcases 26 feature films and 10 short subjects from the National Film Registry in their original 35 millimeter or 16 millimeter formats. The American public can enjoy a unique opportunity to sample films from the Library's collections. During its first season, the tour hosted public screenings of a broad variety of classic American films in eight cities across the country.

Each year, the board, members of the public, and the Librarian of Congress select up to 25 films for inclusion on the Registry. The films chosen are not necessarily the best American films ever made nor the most famous. Under the terms of the National Film Preservation Act, films selected for the Registry are those that continue to have enduring cultural, historical, or aesthetic significance.

Created in 1988, the National Film Preservation Board recognizes the vital contribution of film to the American heritage. The perilous state of America's film heritage was documented by the Library and the National Film Preservation Board in "Film Preservation 1993: A Study of the Current State of American Film Preservation." More than half of all American films made before 1951 are lost forever. Film is a fragile medium, and motion pictures, both old and new, face deterioration problems. Only by storing films in low-temperature and low-humidity environments can the decay process be slowed. The majority of American films do not receive this care and are in critical need of preservation.

The National Film Registry Tour pays tribute to American filmmaking and promotes public awareness of the need to protect and preserve America's film heritage. As Dr. Billington notes, "The moving picture is not so much the art form as the language of our time. Motion pictures provide an unparalleled record of American life and culture. If we can preserve

these films, researchers will have the sights and sounds that flesh out the written record of great events and everyday life." Of special significance when the tour stopped in Honolulu earlier this month was the screening of Hawaiian regional films including "This is America" (1947), which urges support of Hawaii statehood. One highlight of this event was the Library's donation of a new 16 millimeter print of a pre-1915 film shot in Hawaii (featuring substantial footage shot by the Thomas Edison Company in 1906) to the Bishop Museum Archives.

I urge my colleagues to join me in applauding the efforts of the Library of Congress, the Bishop Museum Film Archives, the International Museum of Photography at George Eastman House, the Museum of Modern Art Department of Film and Video, the UCLA Film and Television Archive, and all others involved in this important work.

THE SUCCESSFUL SPACE SHUTTLE
MISSION TO SERVICE THE
HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate NASA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the space shuttle crew on the successful completion of its 82d space shuttle flight. The space shuttle crew landed perfectly on Friday morning at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida from their rendezvous with the Hubble space telescope.

The crew performed five exhaustive extravehicular activities, or space walks, to service Hubble. Their objective was to upgrade the Hubble's scientific capabilities, repair and replace faulty or degraded equipment and provide a reboost of its orbit.

The space walking astronaut teams rejuvenated the Hubble space telescope, which increased its usefulness to the scientific community, the people of the United States and the world.

I must note that this was a perfect precursor of the skills and abilities that will be required to assemble the international space station. Critics of the space station who are skeptical of the ability of NASA to construct the complex assembly need only to have tuned in with the rest of the world to witness the precise, exact, detailed work done by our crew this past week on the Hubble telescope.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in extending congratulations to the Discovery crew of Commander Ken Bowersox, pilot Scot Horowitz, and missions specialists Joe Tanner, Steve Hawley, Greg Harbaugh, Mark Lee and Steve Smith.

These brave and talented astronauts, along with the entire NASA launch and mission support teams, exemplify the finest characteristics of American know-how, determination and can-do spirit.

LEARNING THE LESSONS OF THE
HOLOCAUST

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, recently, NBC aired the film "Schindler's List," which dramatizes an important piece of Holocaust history in a thoughtful and dignified manner. In so doing, both NBC and the film's producer and director, Steven Spielberg, have made an important contribution to preserving the memory and the historical lessons of the Holocaust.

Telling the story of the Holocaust is important for many reasons. First and foremost, by remembering, we honor the memory of those who suffered and perished during the Nazi persecution. Second, by remembering, we ensure that future generations will know and understand that when hate is allowed to go unchallenged, the results can be—and have been—catastrophic. Finally, by remembering, we counter the sinister effort by some who insist, against all the available evidence, that the Holocaust never happened.

Regrettably, one of our colleagues has failed to grasp the importance of teaching this important historical lesson. He has said, according to the Associated Press, that "decent-minded individuals everywhere" should be outraged by the film's depictions of, and again, I am quoting, "violence of multiple gunshot head wounds, vile language, fullfrontal nudity and irresponsible sexual activity." He urged public outrage as a tool to force the networks to stop "polluting the minds of our children."

Fortunately, most American families are more sensible and reasonable than these remarks give them credit for being. An estimated 65 million people watched the film in one night, more than the number of people who saw the film during its theatrical release. Parents surely made reasonable judgments in reviewing the network advisories and in determining whether this particular film was age-appropriate for their kids—as has Mr. Spielberg. That is as it should be. I would rather respect and trust the sound judgement of the American people, who voted in their own homes in favor of this dramatic retelling, than in the whims of some self-appointed censor.

The nudity and violence depicted in "Schindler's List" are certainly not titillating. It is completely inappropriate and insulting to the memories of those who endured and perished in the Holocaust to suggest otherwise.

As the representative of probably more Holocaust survivors and their families than any other Member of Congress, I urge our colleague to reflect on these issues and reconsider his remarks. I think in our upcoming debates over the question of artistic freedom, this experience will help temper some of the thoughtless and over-heated rhetoric that sometimes attends our consideration of these important matters.

HONORING JERRY A. KOWNIG

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a man who has involved himself in his

community for more than 40 years, working to reform the political process.

He started in politics in City College as a member of the Young Liberals. In 1956 he was office manager for the New York State Stevenson for President Committee and was a founder of the Village Independent Democrats, the organization which in 1961 ousted the legendary Carmine DeSapio as leader of Tammany Hall. He also worked with reform candidates in the Bronx as they sought to overthrow the Buckley organization.

It was in these campaigns that he developed his expertise in the petition process. He went to Washington where he worked on legislation such as the first Federal family planning legislation. He returned to the Bronx where he met the light of his life, Mary Geissman. In 1975, he joined the staff of the New York State Assembly Election Law Committee. He worked on major legislative changes in election law, such as the mail registration law and the first Presidential primary in New York in which the names of the Presidential candidates appeared on the ballot.

On a personal note, Jerry was a great help to me for all of my public career, helping me with petitions as far back as when I was district leader. Jerry Koenig has devoted himself to bettering the political process in New York State for all of his life. He has worked to make change work for the better, to open up the political process for the people. On his retirement, all of us in politics, indeed all citizens, owe him a debt we can never repay.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, February 13, my vote was not recorded on rollcall vote No. 23. Had my vote been recorded, I would have voted "aye."

INTERNATIONAL LABOR
STANDARDS

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting my Washington report for Wednesday, February 26, 1997 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR STANDARDS

American workers are among the best and most productive in the world. New jobs are being created in record numbers, and unemployment in the U.S. is down from 7.5% in 1992 to 5.4% today. In addition, more than two-thirds of the new jobs are in occupations paying above-average wages. At the same time, I often hear from Hoosiers who feel they are competing against exploited laborers from other countries, who earn a fraction of what U.S. workers do. They ask what can be done about goods coming into our country produced under unfair labor practices.

Extent of Problem: Many of the goods we produce here in the United States, such as various hightech products and machinery, do

not have to compete with cheaper versions from the developing world. In certain industries, like garments and sporting goods, however, low wages can pose a threat to American workers. In Haiti, for example, workers who stitch T-shirts for one major American company earn about 26 cents an hour.

Low wages are not the only problem. Indentured labor still exists in some parts of the world, where workers commit to work for someone for a set amount of time, often for less than the prevailing wage, in exchange for a guarantee of a job that pays subsistence wages. Millions of workers also toil under conditions where their health is endangered and their lives threatened. Unsanitary and unsafe conditions are a common sight in Third World "sweatshops".

Child labor can also be a problem. In some developing countries, children under 12 are made to work long hours for sub-standard wages under hazardous conditions, allowing them little for rest and no time for school. The Geneva-based International Labor Organization (ILO) says there are between 100 and 200 million workers under the age of 12 worldwide.

Yet the ILO suggests that while the majority of these children are mistreated and underpaid, they would likely be worse off if child labor was eliminated without a corresponding improvement in the overall economic condition of the countries in which they live. Some Third-World governments see no political advantage in improving working conditions or banning child labor, but trying to punish those governments often means punishing their guiltless citizens by throwing them out of work.

Goods on American Shelves: Hoosiers do not want to provide a market for goods produced by the sweat and toil of mistreated workers. Yet many of the products made by low-wage earners end up in American homes. Because of their low prices, consumers here may unknowingly buy brand-name toys, clothes, and running shoes made by abused workers. In doing so, we may be supporting "sweatshop" conditions we find abhorrent.

One suggestion which has gained considerable support is an effort to get responsible employers to create a labeling system for goods produced without child or exploited labor. This would go a long way in helping U.S. consumers make informed choices.

Buying goods from countries which treat workers fairly helps build their economies and makes them strong trading partners. On a human level, it raises workers' incomes in those countries, giving them a higher standard of living, and allowing them to start buying American-made goods.

While there is no consensus, "internationally recognized workers' rights" tend to include the following: the right to form and join labor unions; the right to bargain collectively; a prohibition against forced labor; a minimum age for child workers; a minimum wage; a maximum workday and workweek; occupational safety; and freedom from discrimination.

Thanks to the Fair Labor Standards Act and enforcement by the Department of Labor, American workers enjoy most of these rights. But things are not perfect here at home, as reports of TV personalities lending their names unknowingly to products made in "sweatshops" illustrate. While we are better-off than most countries, child labor and the exploitation of workers continue to be problems in America.

Possible Legislation: Last session, Congress considered various measures to help protect the standards that American workers enjoy, and to help improve the lot of workers worldwide. They included: a bill to beef up enforcement of federal labor laws

aimed at combatting sweatshops in the U.S.; a bill to ban trade in products made by children; a recommendation for a code of conduct for U.S. companies manufacturing abroad; and a measure linking foreign aid to advancements in workers' rights. However, none of these proposals became law. We still have a long way to go.

One strategy the Administration has been pursuing is to encourage countries to grant their workers greater labor protection in return for better trading opportunities with the U.S. Since the 1970s, our trade regulations have aimed to encourage dealings with countries which support strong workers' rights. I believe labor conditions should always be on the table when we negotiate trade deals.

This approach has its obvious advantages, and has had encouraging results. For example, prior to the signing of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Mexico was not enforcing many of its guaranteed workers' rights. The side agreements to NAFTA required the signatories to protect their own workers' rights, and the situation in Mexico has since improved.

Conclusion: I remain confident in American workers' ability to compete because of our high productivity and the quality of our products. At the same time, we need to keep the pressure on countries which treat their workers unfairly, and continue to encourage improvements in working conditions.

America cannot demand that companies in developing countries pay their workers what we pay ours, but we can demand that basic worker rights are recognized and that children are protected. Paying low wages gives the Third World a competitive advantage; treating workers badly is unfair to them and unfair to us.

Fair trading is crucial to the world economy and to America's leading role in it. As labor rights take hold worldwide, America's trading position will improve, because countries that cannot exploit their workers will be forced to sell their goods for higher fairer prices.

SALUTE TO THE EFFORTS OF HOSANNA INDUSTRIES, INC.

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the First Presbyterian Church of Bakerstown, PA, and its mission Hosanna Industries, Inc. This remarkable organization, led by executive director Donn Ed, has offered and delivered its construction services to over 340 structures in my district and across the United States.

Founded in 1990, Hosanna Industries, Inc. has donated labor, materials, and faith to victims of impoverishment and disaster. Dedicated to helping whenever the need arises, Hosanna epitomizes the community involvement needed to make the world a better place.

It is with great pride that I approach the House of Representatives today to commend Hosanna Industries on their most recent endeavor. Reaching out in a time of crisis to help heal the wounds of a heinous crime, Hosanna Industries will be traveling to the rural Arkansas town of Chelford to rebuild the St. Mark's Missionary Baptist Church. Their church destroyed by arson, St. Mark's members have

been without their place of worship since November 1995. With the help of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ, 15 missionaries from Hosanna Industries will travel to Tyronza, AR, on March 16 to begin a 9-day quest to rebuild St. Mark's Church in time for their Easter celebration.

As Members of Congress, we can legislate against the burning, desecrating, and destruction of religious property, but our strongest weapon against the purveyors of hatred is the strength of the people in groups like Hosanna Industries and their search to expose the goodness of man.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Hosanna Industries for their past and future efforts. In the words of project coordinator Mike Killian, "you bring light where there is dark and love where there is bitterness." Your spirit, faith, and peaceful offerings are a true commitment to the people of not only your worship community but also your congressional district and the United States of America. On behalf of all the Members of Congress, I thank you for all you have done to make right, the wrongs of society. Your contributions have not gone unnoticed.

TRIBUTE TO THE EASTERN FAIRFAX ALL-STARS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to applaud the Eastern Fairfax All-Stars for the terrific job they did marching in the inaugural parade. This is a group of very talented high school students attending Mount Vernon and West Potomac High Schools in the Eighth District of Virginia.

These two high school bands represent the very best of our youth. They overcame big odds, and working together, they performed at their very best. These students practiced during the weekends and winter vacation in sub-freezing temperatures. We, in the Eighth District, are very proud of them.

Of course, the performance of these students is also due to the efforts of their dedicated and caring band directors, Mr. Steve Rice of West Potomac and Jack Elgin of Mount Vernon. Both of these gentlemen also took their vacation time and weekends to help these students achieve the performance level they needed for the inaugural parade.

Finally, I would like to commend the students' families, the school's administrators, and the entire community for their part in helping these young people. Thank you for all you have done.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BERGEN-PASSAIC ARC

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Association for Retarded Citizens of Bergen-Passaic Counties Inc., on its 50th anniversary. The event will be marked with a

gala celebration April 13 in Woodcliff Lake, NJ.

I have always believed one of the noblest undertakings is to care for those less fortunate than ourselves. In northern New Jersey, we have an outstanding group that has been involved in such an effort for half a century.

This year, the Bergen-Passaic chapter of ARC celebrates 50 years of service to people who suffer from mental retardation. For half a century, ARC has brought help and hope to retarded children and adults and their families. It has given retarded children the early help they needed. It has given retarded adults the vocational and self-help skills they need to function as independent citizens in society.

Before 50 years ago, there was no national advocacy group to advance the rights and needs of the retarded. State institutions existed to provide care for the mentally retarded, but there were no community programs except the few conducted by religious and charitable groups. These were few in number and depended upon good will rather than legal rights.

In State institutions, the physical needs of the residents were generally provided at a reasonable level. But there was little in the way of meaningful daily programs that would improve the psychological well-being of the residents. In short, State institutions were designed primarily to offer custodial care.

Parents with retarded children at home were in a difficult situation. They had the burden of providing daily care of their children but were offered little or no support from the community. By law, these children could be excluded from the right to a free public education. Recreation programs, vocational training, and support counseling as we know them did not exist. There was little public awareness or public sympathy for the retarded. In most instances, they were invisible in the community, existing only behind the doors of their family homes.

On October 12, 1946, however, a letter to the editor appeared in the Bergen Record—the newspaper in Hackensack, NJ—suggesting formation of a group for the parents of retarded children. The writer, Laura Sparks Blossfeld, suggested that the group might be the first chapter of a national organization.

On June 10, 1947, 41 parents from across the region gathered at the Paterson YMCA and voted to form an organization.

From the beginning, the goal of the organization was to assist all parents of retarded children, regardless of the degree of retardation or where the child was located—at home or in an institution. In addition to helping the parents, the work of the group was, of course, intended to benefit the children.

In rapid succession, chapters were formed in Essex, Union, Monmouth, Hudson, Mercer, Camden, Gloucester, and Burlington Counties. Eventually, National Association for Retarded Children was formed in October 1950. Some 400 chapters were chartered across the United States within 6 years.

In the past 50 years, there have been vast improvements in the lives and fortunes of the mentally retarded. Where they once were scorned and rejected, they are now afforded human rights and fundamental freedoms. Where once they were hidden away in State schools or parents' homes, they have now been granted the right to live in the commu-

nity. Where once they were looked upon with fear and aversion by a society ignorant of the facts, they have gained acceptance.

But none of this happened overnight or without effort. The work of thousands of volunteers and professionals contributed to the advancement of the mentally retarded. These efforts, at considerable sacrifice of time, personal convenience, and financial security, have resulted in the expansion of services we see today. And the fact that new volunteers and new professionals join in the effort each year gives confidence that this progress will continue.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and the rest of my colleagues to join me in saluting the ARC for its outstanding service and loving care of the mentally retarded. These people of vision and humanitarian drive have not only given hope and life to generations of retarded children and their families but they have enriched and enlightened our State and our Nation as well. God bless the memory of Laura Sparks Blossfeld and all who followed her inspired advocacy.

THE LEGACY OF ADAM CLAYTON
POWELL, JR.

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 1997

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise again today to pay special tribute to the more than 30 million Americans for whom it has become a tradition to pause during the month of February to celebrate black history in the United States.

I want to thank my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus who each year set aside a time during February for a special order to which all of my colleagues are invited to reflect on the significance of black America's contribution to our history. My special commendation goes out to my colleagues, Representative LOUIS STOKES of Ohio and Representative MAXINE WATERS of California, the new chairperson of the Congressional Black Caucus, for convening this special order.

Thirty years ago this month, the House of Representatives was preparing to take one of its most infamous actions. On March 1, 1967, the House voted to exclude from the 90th Congress Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., my predecessor as the Congressman from Upper Manhattan and Harlem, and one of this body's greatest Members.

Two years later, that action was overturned by the Supreme Court as unconstitutional, and Representative Powell returned to his seat, stripped of 22 years seniority.

I recall this incident not only as a commemoration of an injustice committed against one of the greatest figures in black history. During this period in which President Clinton has designated education as a national security issue, it is again fitting to recall the career of Adam Clayton Powell. Much of Powell's greatness is attributable to his support of education as well as his urgings to our Government to pay greater attention to Africa and the developing world.

During Powell's first term as chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, which he assumed in 1961, the committee passed not only the minimum wage bill, but legislation creating training programs for practical nurses, student loans, and manpower and training development programs. All of these were enacted into law.

Years earlier, in the 1950's, Powell was a lonely crusader for increased U.S. involvement with Africa and the developing world, going against the grain of U.S. policy, which was obsessed with the rise of communism around the world.

Powell was a man of many dimensions, in ways, ahead of his time. A vocal warrior on the forefront of our struggles for racial and economic justice, and education at home, he at the same time preached a gospel of international involvement. Even before our Government recognized that our destiny in trade and commerce was moving away from Europe, he understood that we continued to ignore Asia and Africa at our own peril.

Today, as we prepare for the challenges of the 21st century while reappraising the gains of the civil rights movement, we find that we are riding the shoulders of those great leaders, such as Powell, who came before us. Through their efforts, we have overcome the legal segregation and discrimination that dehumanized us as a people. Through their efforts, a viable black middle-class of successful professionals, homeowners, and college graduates has emerged.

But many challenges remain, some in the very areas in which Adam Clayton Powell made a mark decades ago, working toward the eradication of poverty, joblessness, drug addiction, crime, and sickness.

If we are serious about addressing those challenges, and maintaining our competitive edge in the global economy, we must refocus our attention on the goal of providing the best education possible for all Americans of every race. In the environment of budget balancing and tax cuts in which we exist, that challenge cannot be met by Government alone.

The private sector, which has the most to gain from an educated work force, must join in partnerships with Government, the schools, and the communities to see to it that our young people are qualified to compete in the high-technology marketplace, that they are trained to take their place in the 21st century economy.

As a nation, we must admit that our future as a worldwide economic leader is no longer tied to Europe, but increasingly to the economics of the Pacific rim, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Africa.

And even as we recognize the importance of people of color around the world, we must also recognize the folly of failing to utilize the talents of America's black and brown people who have contributions to make in international business, in foreign affairs, and diplomacy.

More than anything, America must continue the work of our past leaders, including Adam Clayton Powell, all of whom recognized that education was the key to social, economic, and racial justice.

COMMENDING MR. JONATHON WARE ON HIS RECENT ELECTION TO THE POST OF SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE PETROLEUM MARKETERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise, today, to congratulate Mr. Jon ware, a constituent of mine, on his recent election to the post of senior vice president of the Petroleum Marketers Association of America [PMAA].

It is, indeed, an honor for me to be able to offer my compliments and best wishes to Mr. Ware.

This recent election only serves to highlight his exemplary career and service to his community.

His depth and breadth of experience in the oil and petroleum business will undoubtedly serve his organization well as he assumes the post of senior vice president.

Jon has been a petroleum marketer since 1959, and over the years he has served in a variety of jobs and capacities within the petroleum industry, including past president of the Illinois Petroleum Marketers Association [IPMA], director of the IPMA to the PMAA, and a regional vice president of the PMAA.

In addition to Jon's outstanding record in his profession, he has been actively involved in serving his community of Jacksonville, IL.

His civic services have included involvement in community youth sports leagues, service as past president of a local YMCA, chairman of the Jacksonville Airport Authority, and a member of the Advisory Council of the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Again, Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to be able to offer my sincerest congratulations to Jon Ware on his latest achievement. I wish him good luck as he assumes his new responsibilities.

AMERICAN HEART MONTH

HON. HENRY BONILLA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of American Heart Month. Heart attack, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases remain the No. 1 killer in the United States. On an average day in Texas in 1995, 150 Texans died due to cardiovascular diseases and stroke. Heart disease affected my family this year, and, it affected many other families too.

Every year since 1963, February has been designated American Heart Month. This month is the time to learn more about cardiovascular disease detection, prevention, and treatment. The American Heart Association has designated this year's educational message as "Get in on the Action!," urging Americans to make physical activity a part of their daily lives.

There are a few simple things we can all do to reduce the risk of heart disease. Exercising regularly is an important step. We all enjoy some form of exercise. So, whether it's horseback riding, jogging, walking, or bike riding, help keep your heart healthy and "just do it!" Other easy approaches to control heart disease include eating a diet low in fat and high in fiber, and controlling stress.

One of the myths surrounding heart attack and stroke is that it is a "male disease." Wrong. Heart attack and stroke do not discriminate. In fact, heart attack, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases remain the No. 1 killer of American females.

Research and education are key to battling and preventing heart disease. Today, the chances of saving a life and reducing disability from heart disease and stroke are better than ever because of research done in our lifetime. Important discoveries such as life-extending drugs, bypass surgery, and pacemakers, have improved the lives of many heart patients. But the fight against heart disease is far from over.

Hopefully, with more heart disease research and better education, fewer Americans will fall victim to the disease this year. As with any other health problem, please consult a physician immediately if you, or someone you know, shows any sign of a heart problem. For now, as we observe American Heart Awareness Month this February, get in on the action and increase your physical activity!

COMMENDING L. DOUGLAS WILDER FOR CONVENING THE WILDER SYMPOSIUM ON "RACE AND HEALTH CARE AS WE APPROACH THE 21ST CENTURY" AT VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

HON. NORMAN SISISKY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my good friend and former colleague in the Virginia General Assembly, former Virginia Governor L. Douglas Wilder, for convening a very important symposium entitled "Race and Health Care as We Approach the 21st Century" at Virginia Commonwealth University, my alma mater. This symposium, which was held on January 28 and 29, 1997, is 1 of a 3-part symposia on "Race and American Society." The symposium brought together experts from the fields of medicine, academia, and public policy to explore two of the most far reaching and significant issues Americans face today—health care and race.

One of the health issues explored at the Wilder Symposium—colorectal cancer screening—has a special importance for me. As a colon cancer survivor, I have been working to enact colorectal cancer screening legislation. Preventive screening is an important issue for all Americans, and particularly African Americans, who suffer disproportionately from this deadly disease.

Every year over 150,000 people are diagnosed with colorectal cancer and over 55,000 people die from the disease each year. Colorectal cancer is the second leading killer

of all forms of cancer, primarily striking individuals over the age of 50. Surprisingly, however, only a small percentage of this population has ever been screened for this disease.

Screening is the key to early detection of colorectal cancer. Perhaps more than any other cancer disease, early detection of colorectal cancer has an immediate and dramatic impact on survival rates and improvements in the quality of life of individuals diagnosed with the disease. Medical studies have shown that if colorectal cancer is caught in its earliest stage rather than in later stages, the 5-year survival rates of patients double from 40 percent to 80 percent or greater.

Last congress, I cosponsored the Colorectal Cancer Screening Act (H.R. 1046) which would provide Medicare coverage for colorectal cancer screening using all commonly available screening procedures. This legislation is the only legislation which covers barium enema procedures in addition to the three other commonly used screening procedures—the fecal occult blood test (FOBT), flexible sigmoidoscopy, and colonoscopy. By offering the full range of procedures, the Colorectal Cancer Screening Act (H.R. 1046) allows patients and doctors, rather than the Federal Government, to decide which screening procedure is most appropriate.

In addition to offering choice to patients and doctors, the screening approach adopted in the Colorectal Cancer Screening Act is very important for the African American population. In his Symposium on health care and race, Governor Wilder examined this crucial issue in discussing the public policy challenges facing the African-American community.

The attendees at the symposium discussed medical studies which found that colorectal cancer strikes African-Americans in ways different from the general population, and that African-Americans who get colorectal cancer have a 50-percent greater chance of dying from the disease than the general population. These studies conclude that certain screening procedures, such as FOBT and flexible sigmoidoscopy, are inadequate colorectal cancer screening procedures for African-Americans. These same studies suggest that the barium enema, which, unlike FOBT or flexible sigmoidoscopy, can view the entire colon, is clearly preferred for the African-American population, and perhaps for other populations as well. As the only CRC screening legislation that provides Medicare coverage for the barium enema, the Colorectal Cancer Screening Act (H.R. 1046) is the only legislation adequate for the African-American population. New legislation will soon be introduced in the 105th Congress incorporating the important provisions of that act.

In closing, I want to praise Governor Wilder for being a leader in bringing attention to the issue of colorectal cancer screening and how it can improve the health and save the lives of literally thousands of African-Americans. Indeed, it is a very important issue for all Americans, particularly as Congress considers Medicare reform this year. With this in mind, I believe it is imperative that Congress pass CRC screening legislation which provides Medicare coverage for all screening procedures, and I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in this worthwhile endeavor.

SEANTA JOHNSON IS LEADING
THE WAY

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a young man of outstanding character, courage, and compassion. Seanta Johnson, an African-American youth and a junior at Hayward High School in my district, is showing us what he's made of—and is encouraging other bay area youth to do the same.

Much to the delight of his mom, who describes him as a "self-starter," Seanta finds time to juggle school, sports, and community service. Seanta is an inquisitive student who is enthusiastic about school and who has maintained a high grade point average throughout his high school career. The second of three children, Seanta will be the first in his family to attend a 4-year college. He hopes to continue to study his favorite subjects, physiology and anatomy, and to prepare to enter the field of sports medicine. Seanta is also a member of the Hayward High School track and field team, and specializes in throwing the shot put. In addition to the demands of his busy schedule, Seanta has held a part-time job at Pizza Hut since age 15.

During his free time, Seanta can be found at the East Oakland Youth Development Center, assisting children with organized physical development activities like weight training and basketball. More importantly, he takes the time to talk with them about working hard in school, finishing their homework, helping out at home, and treating themselves and others with respect. Seanta's family and teachers say he sets an excellent example for the youth at the center. He demonstrates confidence and leadership when advising kids at the center, and they look to him as a leader, teacher, and friend.

Today, more than ever, our society is in danger of dividing itself along racial, economic, religious, political, and gender lines. The burning of black churches, the tensions over proposition 209, and the battle over welfare reform all threaten to divide us—but young men like Seanta remind us that we should be kinder to our neighbors and more sensitive to the needs of the children in our communities.

This outstanding youth is devoting his time, talent, and imagination to helping the youth in the bay area to follow their dreams and pursue their goals. I believe we should learn from his shining example.

RESTORATION OF LOBBYING
EXPENSE DEDUCTION

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on February 4, I introduced legislation, along with my colleague Mr. CARDIN, that would once again allow businesses to deduct the ex-

penses they incur while responding to legislative proposals that can affect their businesses, their communities, and their livelihood. The bill would simply allow businesses to deduct legitimate business expenses incurred in contacting or working with their State representatives.

In 1993, Congress approved the Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 which contained a provision that disallowed the deduction of certain business expenses against Federal corporate income taxes. The denial of deductibility of lobbying expenses was proposed as a means of curtailing the activities of special interests here in Washington. Those who advocated this provision made no claim that it was necessary to address any problem at the State level.

Instead of solving a problem, the enactment of this provision has created a major problem at the State level. Most businesses, and especially small business owners, can't afford the time to visit personally with their State legislators to discuss the impact of legislation on their businesses. To make sure their voice is heard in the legislative process, they count on trade associations, to which they pay dues. Of course, the dues are generally deductible as an ordinary and customary expense of doing business.

The problem under the 1993 change is that the portion of trade association dues attributable to lobbying activities by the trade association is no longer deductible. This creates a major record-keeping headache for the association and the small business owner.

The original proposal before the Congress 2 years ago would have applied to local governments as well as State and Federal Government. Fortunately, before it was adopted, it was amended to exclude local government from its coverage. That was a significant improvement. The bill Congressman CARDIN and I introduce today will further mitigate the adverse impact of the proposal by exempting State legislatures as well.

As a former State legislator, I know well the value of the input of businesses in the deliberations of State legislatures. With small staffs and limited resources, State legislatures make important use of information provided by local economic interests in considering policy proposals. Additionally, State Governors frequently appoint blue ribbon commissions and other advisory groups to recommend legislative solutions to problems. These advisory bodies depend on input from members of the business, professional, and agricultural communities who are knowledgeable about circumstances within the State. The record-keeping requirements and tax penalties associated with the lobbying tax discourages this important participation.

Mr. Speaker, we ought not to be making it harder for Americans to participate in the decision-making process in their State capitols. The denial of a deduction of a legitimate business expense incurred to lobby at the State level is an unwarranted intrusion of the Federal Government on the activity of State governments. At a time when we are attempting to return many responsibilities to the State level, it makes no sense for us to impose obstacles on the ability of State legislatures to gather the information they will need to do their jobs. I would ask our colleagues to join us in restoring this deduction at the State level.

CONGRATULATIONS TO U.S. GIRL
SCOUTS PRESIDENT

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my congratulations to Elinor Johnstone Ferdon, of Alpine, NJ, on her selection as national president of the Girl Scouts. Her leadership of this most esteemed and revered organization is the crowning achievement of a lifetime of selfless dedication by Ellie Ferdon to young girls and the communities of interests they serve.

Ferdon began her career in Scouting in 1947 in Frankfurt, Germany, where her father was stationed with the Army. On March 7 of that year, 10-year-old and 6 other young girls became the founding members of Frankfurt Girl Scout Troop No. 1.

The Manhattan native was a member of the Frankfurt troop for 3 years before her family returned to the United States and she was sent to a boarding school in Massachusetts.

Ferdon resumed her involvement in scouting in 1968 after moving to Alpine as an adult and becoming a troop leader when her daughter showed an interest in scouting. All 3 of her daughters eventually became Girl Scouts and a 3-year-old granddaughter is expected to do the same as soon as she is old enough.

Once back in uniform, Ferdon rapidly rose through the ranks. She served two terms as president of the Girl Scout Council of Bergen County and has been on the organizations national board of directors since 1978. She was elected national president in October 1996. As such, she is in charge of all 3.4 million Girl Scouts and adult volunteers in the country.

The Girl Scouts still teach self-esteem and self confidence, grooming girls to be leaders in their communities. But the organization has gone beyond camping and selling cookies to develop programs in science and the use of the Internet, for example. Members volunteer their time at homeless shelters, foster homes, and even juvenile detention.

Ferdon this year is overseeing a major fund-raising effort, seeking donations from the 50 million adult former Girl Scouts. Too many Girl Scout councils rely too heavily on annual cookie sales for their revenue, she says.

The Girl Scouts serve well their goal of inspiring young girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service that they may become contributing and resourceful citizens. Girl Scouting seeks to accomplish this by providing girls opportunities to develop their potential and have fun with their peers in a supportive setting.

The qualities of character, perseverance, and leadership instilled by the Girl Scouts helps thousands and thousands of girls prepared to meet the challenges of the future. There could be no finer, more dedicated leader than Ellie Ferdon to provide the inspiration for young girls of today and women leaders of tomorrow.

PHILADELPHIA OLDTIMERS SOCCER ASSOCIATION 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Philadelphia Oldtimers Soccer Association. I would like to speak in honor of this group because of their commitment to the community. They have focused their love of a sport into an organization that makes a positive contribution to the youth of Philadelphia.

Founded in 1947, the Philadelphia Oldtimers Soccer Association [POSA] was a synthesis of managers, benefactors, and players. The founders original intent to give something back to young people participating in the sport has been upheld through POSA programs for 50 years. POSA makes this contribution through many different means.

The National Soccer Hall of Fame included the Philadelphia Oldtimers Hall of Fame original inductees as founding members in 1953. There are now 16 members of POSA in the National Hall of Fame. At an annual banquet, POSA honors a male and female coach of the year, a referee of the year, a manager of the year, male and female player of the year, and a club of the year.

POSA annually selects an all-scholastic team. The Philadelphia Catholic, Philadelphia Public, Inter-Academic, and Suburban One Leagues individually submit candidates for the POSA team. The final 22 players and 4 alternates are selected through a tryout process from a pool of about 90 players. This final team goes on to play teams from Lehigh Valley, western suburban Philadelphia, Staten Island, Cape May, and other prominent local clubs.

Helping the players receive college scholarship funding is one of the oldtimers fundamental goals, and the all-scholastic team provides a medium through which college coaches can assess and recruit POSA players. Many members of the team have received scholarships, with some continuing on to play professional soccer.

POSA has recently added a new focus to its efforts—the development of a girls program. They are committed to offering the same opportunity to girls that the boys all-scholastic team has provided to its players in the past. POSA's move to provide female soccer players with the same springboard to college soccer is a step in a positive direction for female athletes in the Philadelphia area.

When the POSA teams put their best foot forward, they are also representing the best of Philadelphia. Not only are they building a reputation of great soccer and teamwork for themselves, they are contributing to the reputation and success of Philadelphia's student athletes. On their 50th anniversary I would like to congratulate the Philadelphia Oldtimers Soccer Association and its players on their achievements, and wish them future success in the sport of soccer and beyond.

ADDRESS BY FRANCIS SEJERSTED

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, last November, Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo and Dr. Jose Ramos-Horta were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts in bringing peace to East Timor. I had the opportunity to attend the ceremony in Oslo with my colleague, the gentleman from Ohio, TONY HALL, who nominated Bishop Belo for the prize in 1994 and 1995. I then had the opportunity to visit Bishop Belo in East Timor in January.

As part of our bipartisan effort to recognize the Nobel Prize winners today, I am submitting for the RECORD the speech made by the chairman of the Nobel Committee when he presented the award.

ADDRESS BY FRANCIS SEJERSTED, CHAIRMAN OF THE NORWEGIAN NOBEL COMMITTEE, ON THE OCCASION OF THE AWARD OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FOR 1996

Your Majesties, Presidents, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: On behalf of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, may I extend to everyone a warm welcome to this year's Nobel Peace Prize ceremony. It is one hundred years to the day since Alfred Nobel died. A year earlier, he had drawn up his will, in which he determined that his considerable wealth should provide for annual awards of five prizes, three for science, one for literature, and one for peace, to those whose work, as he wrote, "shall have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind". It was also laid down in the will that the Peace Prize should be awarded in Norway by a committee appointed by the Norwegian storting. Our thoughts today go also to Stockholm, where the other awards are being made, and where the centenary is being marked of the death of Alfred Nobel.

Nobel was, of course, an unusually successful businessman. But that was not where his heart lay. His happiest times were spent in the laboratory. Inventions, it has been said, became for him a way of life. He was also very widely read. He was in other words greatly interested, indeed a believer, in science and literature. What was remarkable was his moral approach to those activities, which he saw as opportunities for promoting a better world. This perspective emerges most clearly in his decision concerning a peace prize. It can be argued that the invention of dynamite, and concern at the more powerful weapons which it made possible, contributed to his increasing commitment to peace. But there were other impulses, too, impulses which appealed to his deeply rooted moral instincts, first and foremost his contact with the future Peace Prize Laureate Bertha von Suttner and with the contemporary peace movement.

Nobel left an important inheritance, consisting of a vision of a better world, and an award institution which was to contribute to the realization of that vision. We who have been entrusted with managing that inheritance do so in humility and with deep respect for the man Alfred Nobel, whose memory we honour today.

It is with great pleasure, and in the conviction that with this year's choice we have managed Nobel's inheritance in the best possible way, that we welcome our Peace Prize Laureates today. Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo and José Ramos-Horta have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 1996 for their long-lasting efforts to achieve a just and peaceful

solution to the twenty-year-old conflict in East Timor. To reach this peaceful winterland Norway, you have come about as far from your home country as it is possible to travel on this earth. Yet the distance between us is much shorter in miles than in opportunities for peace, justice and reconciliation. We are grateful and proud that, in the middle of your important and self-sacrificing work, you have found time for the journey here, thereby giving us this opportunity to honour you.

The conflict in East Timor has been called "the forgotten conflict". It has not, however, been completely forgotten, having figured on the international agenda, with varying degrees of prominence, throughout those twenty years. But it has so to speak never caught on. There have been so many other interests and regards to attend to, and East Timor is so small. Rarely has the cynicism of world politics been more clearly demonstrated. The numerous considerations of "Realpolitik" have enabled an exceptionally brutal form of neocolonialism to take place. Of a population of between six and seven hundred thousand, nearly two hundred thousand have died as the direct or indirect result of the Indonesian occupation. And the violations are still taking place today. Many are the countries which have given higher priority to their "Realpolitical" cooperation with Indonesia than to regard for East Timor. This is the apparently hopeless situation in which our two Laureates have so untiringly striven for a just and peaceful arrangement for their people.

The autumn of 1975 was fateful for East Timor. First the old colonial masters, the Portuguese, withdrew. Then an internal struggle broke out between the Timorese Democratic Union on the one hand and the Fretilin liberation movement on the other. And the autumn ended with the Indonesian invasion. In the twenty-one years that have passed since, this conquest of a country and a people has never been internationally recognised. Ramos-Horta was a Fretilin leader, one of the moderates whose ideal was social democracy. During the so-called civil war, he was out of the country, and on his return in September he tried to reconcile the parties. Since the invasion he has lived abroad, unceasingly and with great personal sacrifice collecting and communicating information on the repression, torture and killing in his home country, and acting as East Timor's principal international spokesman. At the same time he has successfully kept up his efforts to unite the various East Timorese groups in a single national front, while constantly seeking opportunities for a peaceful solution to the conflict with Indonesia, based on respect for the integrity of the East Timorese people. "We used to joke that he was more an informal member of the Democratic Union than a Fretilin leader," says Union leader João Carrascalão. The remark illustrates the part played by Ramos-Horta as a mediator and conciliator. No serious negotiations aimed at resolving the conflict are conceivable today without the participation of Ramos-Horta or one of his aides, as Bishop Belo has also emphasized.

As a relatively unknown priest, Bishop Belo was appointed Apostolic Administrator for the Roman Catholic church in East Timor in 1983, since when he has served on his home ground. Again and again, in the midst of everyday terror and suffering, he has intervened, trying to reconcile and mediate and lessen confrontation, and in doing so he has saved many lives. Intervening in a violent conflict entails a risk of being crushed between the antagonists. "Pray for me, please," he said in one such situation, "because now I have to defend myself on both sides". But Bishop Belo has become

much more than a mediator: this man of peace has also become a rallying point for his sorely tried people, a representative of their hope for a better future. The love his people feel for this mediator springs from certain fundamental principles he has adhered to. Show the people respect. Give them freedom to develop their humanity to the full. Then ask them whether they want to be Indonesians, Portuguese, or independent. Bishop Belo shares with his people the insight of the oppressed, an insight deeper than that of generals or oppressors. Why all this brutality? It does not even serve its purpose. You do not gain respect if you do not show respect.

This year has seen the commemoration, forty years on, of the Soviet Union's brutal crushing of the popular rising in Hungary in 1956. The West did not intervene. Since Hungary lay within the Soviet sphere of interest, it was necessary "Realpolitik" to accept the invasion. We would do well to recall that at that time, a marking of the event forty years later in a free Hungary lay beyond the bounds of what most people thought possible. It has been said that Indonesia's annexation of East Timor is a historic fact. But history has never established anything as a fact forever. History always moves on. If we have learned anything in the past decade, it must be that the most repressive regimes are the most fragile. There are forces in history more powerful than the strongest military force. Violence and terror do not lead to peace. Not until one builds up the courage to break out of the vicious circle of violence do opportunities arise for an enduring peace.

The right to live, the right to full development as human beings, the right to respect, are at the heart of the concept of human rights. Since the award of the Nobel Peace Prize for 1960 to Albert Luthuli, work for human rights has been one of the principal criteria for the award. We have constantly received confirmation that this was the right path to take, although the choice of this criterion has also been criticized because it allegedly has nothing to do with peace. But it is precisely in forging a close link between the human rights criterion and peace that we believe we are realizing that criterion's most universal and most fundamental aspects. Peace, stability and harmony must be based on mutual respect. That, so simple and so universal, is the message. Once it has been heard, the next step is to institutionalise the respect, in various ways according to cultural traditions. Violence, on the other hand, systematic violence on the part of those in power, can never be justified within the framework of a universal concept of human rights. That is a fact to which the victims of violence could testify. Never forget to listen to the voice of the victims, the voice of the nearly two hundred thousand whose lives were lost in massacres or from the hunger and want which resulted from the Indonesian invasion of East Timor.

This year's two Peace Prize Laureates, Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo and José Ramos-Horta, have labored tirelessly, and with great personal sacrifice, for their oppressed people. Under extremely difficult conditions, they have preserved their humanity and faith in the future. It is in admiration of their work and in the hope for a better future for East Timor that the Norwegian Nobel Committee today honors them with the Nobel Peace Prize for 1996.

LECTURE BY JOSÉ RAMOS-HORTA

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Mr. José Ramos-Horta's visit to Washington, DC, the week of February 24, 1997, I ask permission to include in the RECORD the Nobel Lecture of José Ramos-Horta before the Norwegian Nobel Committee on December 10, 1996.

THE NOBEL LECTURE GIVEN BY THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATE 1996 JOSÉ RAMOS-HORTA

My deepest appreciation goes to the Nobel Committee for having chosen us for the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize. Your generosity in thinking of the wretched of the earth, and your courage in standing up to the might of States, the cynicism and indifference of too many, betrayal by some, tells also a lot about the soul and history of courage of this great country of yours that fought bravely during World War II.

In recent years Norway has played a central role in fostering dialogue and peace among historical enemies. In the Middle East and Central America, your discreet nature, determination and creativity have proven that some of the world's seemingly intractable conflicts can be resolved when there is an honest mediator and when the parties in the conflict are willing to end the war.

Small countries like Norway, Costa Rica and Portugal, and others, can succeed in mediating conflicts when mighty powers failed. Diplomacy and mediation are not prerogatives of the major powers. The small and medium-size countries without ambitions to a neo-imperial role and whose strength is there moral integrity are best placed to open dialogue among the parties in a conflict.

THE EAST TIMORESE CHURCH

The real winner of the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize is our spiritual leader, Dom Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo. He is the embodiment of the East Timorese people's resilience, moral rectitude, dignity and identity, and its long quest for peace and freedom. In Dom Carlos the people of East Timor have found spiritual comfort and some sense of security from the daily threats to their very existence.

The people of East Timor owe almost everything to their Church. Hence, the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize is a tribute to the whole church, the courageous priests, nuns and lay workers and the people of East Timor.

My share of the Nobel Peace Prize will go entirely to a foundation to be called Peace and Democracy Dom Martinho da Costa Lopes. I know this is too small a tribute to this great man who gave his life to his church and people.

THE SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT

I would like also to express my gratitude to three organizations that in the past honoured my people with less well-known awards but with equal importance for our people. To Professor Thorof Rafto Human Rights Foundation from Bergen, Gleitsman Foundation, from California, and the Un-Represented Nations and Peoples Organisation (UNPO) based in The Hague, goes my profound gratitude.

With the men, women and children in many parts of the world who have given us so many years of their lives I wish to share this moment of joy. Without the generous solidarity movement we would be even poor-

er and alone. Some of our good friends have passed away from this Earth. Denis Freney, Michelle Turner, Michel Robert, Carlos Vilares, the little and beautiful Sarah Taylor whom God took away at age 15. We will remember them for ever.

ANGOLA, CAPE VERDE, GUINEA-BISSAU, MOZAMBIQUE, SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE

My special greetings of friendship and eternal gratitude to my good friend, President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, for having taken the trouble to fly to Oslo to be with us.

You have been with us in our most lonely years when the rest of the world pretended we did not exist or offered us advice on how best to surrender. From this noble rostrum I bow to your late predecessor, Samora Moisés Machel, one of the greatest men Africa has known.

My special greetings and deepest gratitude to Presidents José Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, Mascarenhas Monteiro of Cape Verde, Nino Vieira of Guinea-Bissau, and Miguel Trovoada of São Tomé and Príncipe for their friendship and generosity.

Your peoples and countries have been with us through our lonely years and I believe that you will be with us still in the years to come.

To the people of Angola who have suffered beyond imagination and are still in a painful process of national reconciliation, I extend our solidarity and friendship.

Angola paid a heavy price for the liberation of Namibia and South Africa. Yet there has not been enough recognition of the enormous contribution that the two lusophone countries. Angola and Mozambique, gave to the liberation of Southern Africa.

PORTUGAL

I wish to state from this august rostrum the eternal gratitude of the people of East Timor and my own to the people of Portugal, the President, our good friend Dr. Jorge Sampaio and his predecessor, Dr. Mário Soares, a man of principles and compassion.

Through Your Excellency, Mr. President, I humbly ask you to convey to your wonderful and generous people, members of Parliament and government, past and present, our most heartfelt appreciation for your gallant efforts in support of our struggle.

For many years you fought a lonely battle in the European Union against the indifference and even hostility of some of your partners. You have shown not only to us the East Timorese but to other smaller nations in the world that principles and morality have not been taken over completely by mercantile interests.

BRAZIL

I recently visited Brazil and was warmly welcomed by everyone. I humbly ask President José Sarney to convey to President Fernando Henrique Cardoso and through him to all the people of Brazil our admiration and affection for your great country and people. My warmest greetings to Betinho, Dom Paulo Evaristo and Dom Hélder Câmara, the conscience of the poor of Brazil and the world.

Your Majesties: This speech belongs to someone else who should be here today. He is an outstanding man of courage, tolerance and statesmanship. Yet, this man is in prison for no crime other than his ideas and vision of peace, freedom and dignity of his people.

Xanana Gusmão, leader of the people of East Timor, remains incommunicado in a prison thousands of miles away from his country. His trial in 1993 was universally condemned as a charade and was no more valid than the Dutch imprisonment and trial of the late President Sukarno, founding father of the Indonesian Republic.

I bow to Xanana and through him to my good friend Nino Konis Santana, David Alex, Tahur Matan Ruak, Fernando Araújo and all East Timorese prisoners of conscience in jails in East Timor and Indonesia, to the thousands of victims of torture, widows and orphans. I bow to the memory of Sabalae and the thousands of our dead.

Through Xanana, I bow to my people with profound respect, loyalty and humility because they are the martyrs, the real heroes and peace-makers.

THE NEW ORDER REGIME AND THE INDONESIAN PEOPLE

The East Timorese are not the exclusive victims of the Indonesian New Order regime installed in 1965. For more than 30 years, the Indonesian people have known massacres, imprisonment, torture, ban on writers, journalists, academics and labour leaders. Moslems, Catholics, Buddhists and Hindus have all known their share of repression. The only non-discriminatory policy of the New Order regime is when it comes to repression.

I pay tribute to the many tens of thousands of Indonesians who died in their own struggle for freedom and democracy, who languished in the jails of the New Order, or were forced into exile in China, Albania, USSR and Western Europe. I met many of them over the years and shared long hours of conversation about our two people's suffering and dreams.

THE LESSONS OF THE JEWISH HOLOCAUST

In 1939, a few months before the out-break of World War II, Harry Truman read a passionate message from President Roosevelt to the "National Meeting for Moral Rearmament" held in Washington.

The same time as the conference delegates were listening and applauding President Roosevelt's moral speech, 900 Jewish refugees on a boat from Germany anchored off Florida were waiting for a decision from Washington as to whether they should find sanctuary in the US or be sent back.

Finally, word came that their application for refugee status had been denied. The desperate refugees did not convince the morally courageous delegates to the "National Meeting for Moral Rearmament" that they had a valid fear of persecution. The 900 men, women and children were sent back to Germany. Many ended up in Hitler's death camps.

More than half a century after the Jewish holocaust and centuries after the genocide of the indigenous peoples of Australia and the Americas, the same attitude that has allowed these crimes to take place persist today.

Opinion-makers and leaders, academics, writers and journalists who pretend to be objective and neutral in the face of racism and discrimination, the rape of a small nation by a larger power, the persecution of a weaker people by a ruthless army must share the guilt. No amount of intellectual arguments will suffice to erase their responsibility.

Synagogues are still being desecrated. Gypsies are still discriminated. Indigenous peoples continue to see their ancestral land taken over by developers, their culture and beliefs, and their very existence reduced to a tourist commodity.

Like the Jews and Armenians in the past, like the Kurdish, Gypsies, Tibetans, Aborigines of Australia, Maoris of Aotearoa (New Zealand), Kanakis of New Caledonia, the people of Western Sahara, and the Indigenous peoples of the Americas, the East Timorese are a mere footnote of history, an expendable people.

COLD WAR FOOTNOTE

The conflict in East Timor can be traced back to the political context of the Cold War.

You might recall a picture that made headlines in the spring of 1975. I refer to the picture of an American helicopter landing on the rooftop of the US Embassy in Saigon to rescue remaining diplomats, CIA operatives and few privileged South Vietnamese stooges as Saigon fell to the Vietcong. Cambodia and Laos followed. This picture illustrated better than a thousand words the ignominious American retreat from Indochina.

In another continent, in the horn of Africa, the longest reigning US ally, emperor Hailé Selassie of Ethiopia, had been overthrown a year earlier by radical army officers. Further South, the Portuguese empire had collapsed. These events seemed to confirm Lyndon B. Johnson's domino theory which was the rationale for US intervention in Indochina.

It was in this geopolitical context that President Gerald Ford and his Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, visited Jakarta in early December 1975 as part of an Asian tour to reassure leaders of the region that the US would continue to honour its security commitments in Asia.

The invasion of East Timor which took place within hours of Ford's departure from Jakarta was a mere footnote in the Cold War events of 1975. Thousands of East Timorese who died in the days, weeks, months and years that followed were mere footnotes to the post-Vietnam and Cold Wars.

INVIOABILITY OF COLONIAL BOUNDARIES

One and a half year before these events, in June 1974, I visited Jakarta in my capacity as secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Timorese Social Democratic Association, that had just been created less than a month earlier. I had the privilege of meeting with the then Foreign Minister of Indonesia, Mr. Adam Malik. After our third round of talks, Mr. Malik addressed me a letter which read in part:

The independence of every country is the right of every nation, with no exception for the people of (East) Timor;

* * * Whoever will govern in Timor in the future after independence can be assured that the government of Indonesia will always strive to maintain good relations, friendship and co-operation for the benefit of both countries.

The following year, in April 1975, I again visited Indonesia and met with President Suharto's senior adviser, Gen. Ali Murtopo, to whom I reiterated our collective desire to develop friendly relations with Indonesia. Gen. Murtopo reassured me that Indonesia harboured no territorial ambitions over East Timor. However, we soon learned that the word of an Indonesian general or diplomat can be broken as easily as it is spoken.

Some simple but fundamental issues need to be addressed. Does Indonesia have a valid historical claim to East Timor?

The current boundary of the Republic of Indonesia is a product of the Dutch East Indies administration. West New Guinea was absorbed by the Republic not because of a reasonable historical, cultural, ethnic kinship or geographic continuity. The only link that justified the annexation was West New Guinea's brief colonisation by the Dutch.

The arbitrary carving up of Africa at the Berlin Conference can be blamed for some of Africa's problems today but respect for the colonial boundaries, as unfair as most might be, has provided some peace and stability and kept most of Africa, Latin America and Asia from disintegrating.

Saddam Hussein of Iraq attempted to redraw the map and rectify what he perceived to be an unfair colonial legacy by invading Kuwait. Iran has longstanding claims over Bahrain. In Latin America there are some interstate territorial disputes as a result of perceived unfair border delimitation.

THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION

From the Chittagon Hill Tracts in Bangladesh to Bougainville, Kurdistan, Sri Lanka, India, Tibet, Chechnya, Ogoni, West Papua, millions of peoples seek to assert their most fundamental rights and if we attempt to find a common denominator for the problems I have just listed there is one: the right of peoples to self-determination.

In most cases the demands are not for secession. They are about their survival as a people with a language and a culture, with their land and environment protected from rapacious multinationals. Only when these basic demands are not met there has been recourse to other forms of struggle with an escalation in their demands.

While self-determination in the decolonisation process of the non-self-governing territories almost always led to independence, this is not the case in most of the conflicts of today. The cases of Western Sahara and East Timor are the two most salient failures of decolonisation. In the case of Western Sahara, the United Nations has allowed itself to be a pawn in the machinations of a minor regional power.

However, the preservation of the territorial integrity of a country can be achieved only if those in power are sensitive to the basic demands and aspirations of the many indigenous peoples and nationalities that make up the country.

Brute force might silence and keep dormant the dreams and aspirations of a people but the anger simmering for decades will inevitably resurface and break up the country.

THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR TO SELF-DETERMINATION

The right of the people of East Timor to self-determination is widely recognised. Apart from the former Spanish territory of Western Sahara, East Timor is the largest non-self-governing territory in the UN GA decolonization list which dates back to 1960.

The UN General Assembly and Security Council have adopted a total of 10 resolutions on the question of East Timor all reaffirming this right.

In its ruling of 30 June 1995 on the Case Concerning East Timor, Portugal Versus Australia, the International Court of Justice stated that the right of self-determination has an erga omnes character and that the people of East Timor are entitled to it.

DIALOGUE WITHOUT PRE-CONDITIONS AND THE CNRM PEACE PLAN

The Israeli-Palestinian peace talks and South Africa's transition to democracy give us renewed hope in that they demonstrate that seemingly intractable problems can be resolved if there is political will and vision by all involved.

In this room today there are East Timorese leaders of every persuasion, some have come all the way from East Timor, Portugal and Australia, and I can speak for all when I say that we are ready to enter into a process of dialogue with the Indonesian authorities, under the auspices of the United Nations, without pre-conditions, to explore all possible ideas towards a comprehensive settlement of the conflict.

In 1992, after thorough consultation with our people in the country, Xanana Gusmão gave his seal of authority to what is now known as the CNRM Peace Plan which was formally presented to a meeting of the European Parliament in Brussels on 22 April 1992.

The CNRM proposal remains valid as a modest contribution towards finding a solution to the conflict.

Phase one—humanitarian phase

This phase which should take up to two years to be fully implemented, would involve

all three parties working with the UN to implement a wide range of "confidence building measures", (CBMs) but would not deal with the core of the problem which is the issue of self-determination.

These CBMs must include release of all prisoners, end of torture and summary executions and a drastic reduction in Indonesia troop presence in the territory.

These are some of the ideas which I believe could be implemented immediately without loss of face for Indonesia. Its international standing would improve significantly and its presence in the territory would be less resented, thus relieving a very tense situation.

In view of the time constraints, the full text of this plan is attached to this speech.

Phase two—autonomy, 5 years

Phase two, lasting between five to ten years, would be a period of genuine political autonomy based on ample powers vested in a local, democratically elected Territorial People's Assembly.

At the end of the second phase, the autonomous status of the territory could be extended by mutual accord.

The East Timorese people, having enjoyed a period of peace and freedom without the presence of the most hated symbol of the occupation, the army, might accept to continue this form of association.

Conversely, the changing generation, attitudes and perception in Indonesia might result in Indonesia accepting as natural that East Timor becomes independent.

Phase three—self-determination

If all parties agree that Phase Three should enter into effect immediately, then the UN begins to prepare a referendum on self-determination to determine the final status of the territory.

If God willing, East Timor becomes independent, ladies and gentlemen, allow me to share with you, our vision for our country's future and role in the region.

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

East Timor is at the cross-roads of three major cultures: Melanesian which binds us to our brothers and sisters of the South Pacific region; Malay-Polynesian binding us to Southeast Asia; and the Latin Catholic influence, a legacy of almost 500 years of Portuguese colonisation. This rich historical and cultural existence places us in a unique position to build bridges of dialogue and co-operation between the peoples of the region.

PORTUGAL

East Timor will maintain close ties with Portugal, a country which colonised us for almost half a millennium has shown an abiding commitment to our right to self-determination. Portugal and East Timor will be most valuable partners for ASEAN in its relations with the EU, Africa and Latin America.

AUSTRALIA AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC

The majority of the East Timorese residents outside the country are in Australia. In spite of our sadness over Australia's role on East Timor I wish to state here our deepest appreciation to Australia for the shelter, hospitality and generosity shown to our thousands of refugees on Australian soil.

We appreciate the many representations the previous and current governments of Australia have made to impress upon the government of Indonesia regarding the human rights situation in East Timor. No other Western country has been more persistent in this regard.

We fought together during World War II and many East Timorese gave their lives for our common cause. Now and in the future we look up to Australia for help. An independent East Timor will seek close relations with

Australia and membership in the South-Pacific Forum.

ASEAN AND APEC

We are conscious of our geography which compels us to co-exist with our neighbours in that part of the world. We will seek membership in ASEAN and APEC within days of our independence.

A ZONE OF PEACE

We will not have a standing army. For our external security, we will rely on a Treaty of Neutrality to be guaranteed by the permanent members of the Security Council. We will endeavour with the UN and our neighbours to declare our region and the seas surrounding East Timor a Zone of Peace and Development.

RULE OF LAW

We will endeavour to build a strong democratic state based on the rule of law which must emanate from the will of the people expressed through free and democratic elections.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS

All international human rights treaties will be submitted to the Parliament for ratification.

We believe that human rights transcend boundaries and must prevail over state sovereignty.

We will introduce into the school curriculum at an early stage starting in the kindergarten the subject of human rights.

We will actively work with like-minded countries, NGOs and the media to strengthen the UN human rights machinery.

AMNESTY AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION

East Timorese now serving in the Indonesian administration in East Timor, the security forces and police, should not fear an independent East Timor. They will be invited to stay on. Their full and active involvement in running the country will be necessary to ensure a smooth transition.

Our society will not be based on revenge. Because of its credibility and standing, the Catholic Church will be expected to play a major role in the healing process of our society.

In August 1975 too many East Timorese died in a brief but violent civil strife. Many more died even after the invasion because some in the leadership of the movement I belonged took upon themselves the role of judges and executioners.

NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

East Timor is a relatively small country. But with an area of 18,899 km² and a total population of 700,000 (1974 figures), it is at least equal to, if not larger, in size and population, than some 40 independent states. It is potentially self-sufficient in most agricultural goods, meat and fish. It has large reserves of oil, natural gas, marble and manganese.

The invasion up-rooted thousands of people. Properties were abandoned, destroyed or sold at unfair prices. This situation will be redressed. A voluntary resettlement plan will be effected to allow the many tens of thousands of displaced East Timorese to return to their ancestral lands. We believe in free education and health care for our people. The money saved from not having a standing army will be well used in these areas. With the cooperation of WHO we will seek to eradicate malaria, tuberculosis and other preventable diseases within a decade.

INDONESIAN MIGRANTS

It is estimated that over 100,000 Indonesians are now living in East Timor. Most are poor Indonesians who came to our country looking for a better life.

Indonesian migrants in East Timor will be welcome to stay.

THE SUHARTO REGIME, ITS ACHIEVEMENTS AND WHAT IT SHOULD DO

No one can honestly suggest that the 30-year regime of Gen. Suharto has not done good for Indonesia. The record of the past 20 years has been impressive. The Suharto regime lifted the Indonesian economy from extreme poverty to the status of an economic tiger. Living standards, literacy, health care and food production increased to impressive levels.

President Suharto can show leadership by releasing all prisoners, meeting Indonesia's greatest living author, Pramoedya Ananta Toer, Megawati Sukarnoputri, leader of the PDI, daughter of Indonesia's founding father, the late Bung Karno, Muchtar Pakpahan, Indonesia's Lech Walesa, Sri Bintang, George Aditjondro, Indonesia's most decorated environmentalist.

Suharto should talk and listen to the wise and most respected Moslem scholar Abdurrahman Wahid who is here today with us in Oslo.

The leaders and militants of the PRD are among the best children of Indonesia. Instead of hunting them he should invite them to his palace for dialogue about the future.

FOSTERING A DEMOCRATIC AND PEACEFUL TRANSITION IN INDONESIA

No country, no matter how rich and endowed with natural resources, is an island into itself. In an increasingly smaller world and competitive age, where modern electronic communications break the barriers of silence erected by dictators, Indonesia cannot continue to flout the right of the people of East Timor to self-determination and the rule of law in Indonesia.

The next two to three years will witness a transition in Indonesia. Australia, New Zealand, the US, Canada and the EU can encourage a peaceful, evolutionary transition with a discreet yet firm policy of pushing for democratic reforms and rule of law in Indonesia and for a genuine act of self-determination in East Timor.

THE ROLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

We are as determined as we are optimistic about our future. To Indonesia and our other neighbours in the ASEAN we are offering a hand of friendship and appealing to them to help us bring peace and freedom to East Timor.

The EU, working with the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and Indonesia's partners in ASEAN, can accelerate the on-going dialogue under the auspices of the UN secretary-general, give it some impetus and real substance.

The US Administration is the only major power that has adopted some concrete measures to encourage changes in Indonesia and East Timor. I express here our sincere appreciation to President Clinton for his actions on East Timor and I appeal to him to lend his youthful energy and compassion towards a permanent resolution of the conflict which he once described as "unconscionable".

THE WEST AND ARMS SALES

We are not asking that Indonesia be punished with comprehensive economic sanctions. We believe that economic engagement with a country can at times foster positive changes through the development of a democratically conscious class.

However, we find it repulsive that the Western countries that more loudly make rhetorical speeches about human rights are the ones that manufacture most weapons that have killed more than 20 million people in the developing world since World War II. Land mines, torture equipment, cluster bombs, chemical weapons are weapons designed to inflict pain and death on human

beings. Most victims are civilians, women and children. How can arms manufacturers, weapons designers, plant managers, politicians, who have families of their own whom they love, are so insensitive when it comes to the suffering of other human beings?

HUMAN RIGHTS AND "ASIAN VALUES"

The peoples of Burma, Thailand, the Philippines, South Korea, and the democracy movements in China and Indonesia are telling the rest of the world that democracy and human rights are not an invention of the West.

The thousands of Asians who died in the streets of Manila, Bangkok, Jakarta, Rangoon, Beijing, did not die for a so-called "Asian value" that denies the people of Asia the basic and fundamental freedoms enjoyed in Europe, Latin America and in an increasing number of countries in Africa.

SOUTH KOREA

The brave people of Korea who endured decades of dictatorship and occupation won the struggle for democracy not with guns but with their tenacity in fighting the troops in the streets of Seoul and Kwangju.

The South Korean people can also show greater courage by being magnanimous and forgive those who have done wrong. Sometimes in history individuals in power are driven to commit wanton crimes but those who survive and are in power today should resist the temptation to exact revenge in the name of justice.

The death sentence must be abolished and the brave people of Korea should set the example by commuting the death sentence on former President Chun Do Hwan. From here I appeal to my Korean friends not to exact revenge against those who have been defeated. In victory be magnanimous.

BURMA

I extend our most heartfelt solidarity to the people of Burma and their elected leader, Nobel Peace Laureate Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, in their struggle for democracy, rule of law and human rights.

At a time when some ASEAN rulers are conniving with the SLORC regime to deny the people of Burma their democratic victory, we must all stand up and redouble our efforts to restore democracy to Burma.

The US and the EU must be commended for their leadership in support of the restoration of democracy in Burma but they must escalate the pressure with additional diplomatic and economic sanctions against the SLORC.

I also fully endorse the recommendations on Burma adopted by the Forum of Democratic Leaders in the Asia Pacific led by Kim Dae Jung and Cory Aquino in their recent meeting in Manila.

CHINA, TAIWAN, TIBET

When the UN SC debated the issue of East Timor in 1975 and 1976 China was our closest ally and I worked closely with very able Chinese diplomats. In spite of the indifference of the other four permanent members, China, along with other non-permanent members, succeeded in pushing the SC to adopt two resolutions on East Timor.

It is with this feeling of gratitude and admiration for China that I appeal to the Chinese leaders to listen to their own people's opinions and desires for a more open society, based on the rule of law, democracy, freedom of speech. These are after all rights that are granted to each Chinese citizen by their own Constitution.

Wei Jing Zhen is one of China's best children. He is being wasted away when his talents could best be used in the service of his fellow Chinese people and country.

The people of Taiwan have shown great maturity, responsibility and commitment to

peace and democracy. While there is no dispute that Taiwan is part of China, as long as there is no progress on the issue of peaceful reunification of the two countries, I believe that the cause of dialogue and peace can best be served if Taiwan is granted observer status in the UN as was the case in the past with South and North Korea, South and North Vietnam. After all, China has not objected to Taiwan and Hong King joining the APEC.

China should listen to the voice of peace and moderation of the Tibetan people. For many years the Tibetan spiritual leader, His Holiness the Dalai Lama has offered a moderate peace proposal to the Chinese authorities to settle the Tibetan conflict.

CYPRUS

Cyprus, a shining example of democracy and tolerance, remains divided and occupied by a NATO ally whose history of aggression and violence is well-known.

Recently I received a letter signed by the students of Classes C11 and C22 of Kykko B Lyceum in Nicosia who wrote:

Your homeland is an occupied country at the far end of the ocean. Our homeland lies partly occupied at the far end of the Mediterranean. We live in a divided city and we cannot cross the dividing line * * *

To the students of Kykko B Lyceum I can only say that like the ancient Armenia you too will recover your lost land.

THE PROPHETS OF DOOM

The world has changed dramatically over the last few years and the theorists of irreversibility and status quo have been discredited by the collapse of the USSR.

Who would have thought it possible that the great Armenian people, persecuted for hundreds of years would regain a country called Armenia?

The entire world conspired against the Eritrean people. Americans, Russians and Cubans all connived against that small nation.

Two great nations, Israelis and Palestinians, who swore eternal hatred have shown courage and wisdom and began a painful process of dialogue.

In South Africa, former enemies are trying to rebuild their common home.

Last but not least, for the prophets of doom, for those in government who counsel us "realism", allow me to remind them of a news item in the ever reliable BBC a few years ago.

It was sometime in early 1991 and I was driving from the small Swiss town of Nylon, to the Palais des Nations in Geneva, to yet another round of futility in a place where some diplomats pretend to be too busy to listen to real problems of real peoples.

The BBC was telling us the story of a Soviet cosmonaut who had gone into space a few months earlier on one of those record-breaking missions in space. When he was blasted off from somewhere in the Soviet Union he carried a passport and a nationality granted to him by the most feared military empire in the world.

Once he completed his tour of duty for the pride of the socialist motherland he prepared the spacecraft for its return voyage to earth. But he no longer had a country to return to. The mighty empire had ceased to exist. He was forced to circle the earth a few days longer until people of good will on earth decided to which country he should go to.

With this note, I will end with renewed hope that no matter the level of brute force used against us, our dreams will never die.

God bless you all. Thank you.

THE NOBEL LECTURE GIVEN BY THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATE 1996, CARLOS FILIPE XIMENES BELO

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD the Nobel lecture given by Bishop Belo upon his acceptance of the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize. I had the honor of nominating him for this prestigious award and hope this award will lead to a lasting peace in East Timor.

THE NOBEL LECTURE GIVEN BY THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATE 1996, CARLOS FILIPE XIMENES BELO—Oslo, December 10, 1996.

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

Your Majesty.

Dear Members of the Norwegian Noble Committee.

Honorable Prime Minister.

Excellencies, Ministers.

Members of Parliament.

Members of the Diplomatic Corps.

Regarded friends.

Distinguished guests.

Friends, ladies, and gentlemen.

"Nations will proclaim his wisdom, the assembly will celebrate his praises. If he lives long, his name will be more glorious than a thousand others, and if he dies, that will satisfy him rest as well."—Wisdom 39, 10-11.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I start with this biblical passage from the Book of Wisdom because it expresses with deep significance the memory of the man we remember this day whose esteemed Peace Prize bears his name. Today, the tenth of December, we celebrate the centennial anniversary of the death of a wise benefactor of humanity, a Peace worker, Alfred Nobel.

Men of competence will never be extinguished from the memory of humanity because his wisdom, his dedication for the improvement of humanity, his tenacity for the progress of science in favor of mankind, makes people everywhere, all believers, all ideologies, feel in one way or another under the obligation of his talents and his boldness.

These men of competence are constantly disturbing the consciences of those who do not attend to the improvement of humanity. For it is a matter of fact that everyone should contribute by any kind or form so that mankind become more and more humane.

What reasons, brought the Catholic Bishop of East Timor to be here in the presence of this assembly? I come from a social context that is already known to your Excellencies, where, due to circumstances, the aspirations and desires of the people are limited.

Taking the words from Terentius: "Homo sum; humani nihil a me alienum puto."—Terentius 1, 25.

As man, as human being, I can not stay indifferent in front of what concerns man.

As a member of a people, I have to share the destiny of the people, taking upon myself completely this mandate, knowing the risks that such attitude will involve. Striving for the defense of the rights of all peoples is not only the privilege of these guiding the destiny of the people or those enjoying lofty positions in society, but it is the duty of everyone whatever rank or status.

As a member of the Church, I take it upon myself the mission of enlightening and denouncing all human situations which are in disagreement with the Christian concept and

contrary to the teaching of the Church concerning all mankind.

The Catholic Bishop is a pastor of a part of God's people. His specific mission is spiritual. Such mission is incumbent upon him basically as a dispenser of spiritual resources for the salvation of persons and consolidating them in faith in Jesus Christ.

But mankind is not limited to a spiritual dimension, one should be saved as a whole, human and spiritual. In this aspect, any Catholic Bishop shall never be indifferent when a people's possibilities for human realization, in all dimensions, are not respected.

So the Nobel Peace Prize, attributed to a Catholic Bishop, is not a homage for one person but also basically the gratitude for the encouragement that the Catholic Church has developed over the centuries in defense and promotion of the rights of human beings.

The teachings of the Second Vatican Council in *Gaudium et Spes*, states: "The Church thinks that she will respond to the deep desires of peoples, showing its final hope, preaching freedom, dignity of conscience and rights, that is just, in God's plan of salvation."

The duty given to the Church is not socio-political in nature but religious. And thus it is characteristic to the Church, a wellspring of enlightenment and energy, to empower and contribute to the strengthening of the human society.

It is known to your Excellencies, the effort of the Church concerning the suffering of the people of East Timor over the last twenty one years. As Bishop of this people, I regard the Nobel Peace Prize not as something to merely esteem one person but as the rightful homage for the work done by the Catholic Church in East Timor, defending the inalienable rights of her people.

"Yet you have made him little less than a god, you have crowned him with glory and beauty."—Psalm 8, 6.

For the composer of this psalm, human dignity is taking root in his divine vocation, created by God.

This is my belief and knowledge about mankind which guides me and impels me as my conscience considers how I should act.

However, addressing this distinguished Assembly with beliefs and concepts about mankind may be quite humanistic. But I do believe for sure that among us we have something in common, that is we affirm that the human being is the subject of all concept and human activities. We declare that one's value and dignity does not depend on the individual's belief, religion, politics, philosophy, race or color of skin.

Man is a being for freedom. It means that one's realization is complete when capable to decide about one's options and taking responsibility for his or her actions without any kind of intimidation.

Man is a being realized in a community. It means that the social and ethnic group one belongs to is the background for his or her fulfillment.

Man is a being realized when there is a reciprocity of respect. It means that wherever human beings are not respected in their elementary rights by those in charge or by those responsible in society, as a consequence, we have oppression, slavery, arrogance, arbitrariness, death of individuals and death of a people.

Ladies and Gentlemen, these principles are valid for everybody and they are valid for the church who also affirms that human dignity is rooted and fulfilled in God Himself.

Persons have been placed in society by God the Creator, but over and above this, each person is called to be united with Him as children of God and participating in God's happiness.

Moreover, the Church teaches that if this divine foundation and the hope for eternal

life are missing, human dignity is strongly damaged (GS.21).

The Catholic Church proclaims Jesus Christ as the great deliverer for all mankind. Indeed, Jesus frees each one from every moral and social slavery, giving back his or her true dignity as a human being.

In making Christ known, the Church reveals to all their true situation and calling, since Christ is the head and model of that renewed humanity imbued with that fraternal love, sincerity and spirit of peace, to which everyone aspires (AG. 8).

Your Majesty, Members of the Nobel Committee, my friends from around the world. I am profoundly honored to be before you today to receive the Nobel Prize for Peace. But whatever personal compliment I may receive, I believe that I have received this high tribute not because of who I am or what I have done. I firmly believe that I am here essentially as the voice of the voiceless people of East Timor who are with me today in spirit, if not in person. And what the people want is peace, an end to violence and the respect for their human rights. It is my fervent hope that the 1996 Nobel Prize for peace will advance these goals.

Above all, above all else, I am mindful and humble in my thoughts of Pope John Paul II, who did so much in the face of overwhelming odds in the epochal struggle to remove the yoke of Communism from Poland and other nations who have been told to be realistic and accept their fate. The Holy Father has provided an example and a depth of inspiration to me that can never be equaled. My gratitude to John Paul II can not be adequately expressed.

I also think of others, especially from Asia who have never stood here. I contemplate with unending amazement the work of Mahatma Gandhi and his creed of non-violence in the movement for change. I think of China, and I pray for the well-being of Mr. Wei Jing Sheng and his colleagues, and hope that they will soon be liberated from their jail cells, just as Indonesian leaders once were freed from the infamous Boven Digoel prison after long years of cruel captivity. Surely, these same Indonesian leaders had earned a place here in Oslo even before I was born in 1948, at the height of their battle for freedom and dignity. I think of the fearless Indonesian fighters and I realize that history has so much to teach us if we would only take time to contemplate its richness.

I stand humbled in the august presence of my predecessors in this place here in Oslo. I think of The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "standing in the mountaintop, looking out at the promised land." These words remind me of the view of the majestic mountains in my beloved East Timor—Mount Matabean (the Mountain of the Dead), near where I was born in the east; and Mount Ramelau in the west. As I look at these mountains in my frequent journeys throughout my native land, I feel ever more strongly that it is high time that the guns of war are silenced in East Timor, once and forever, it is high time that tranquility is returned to the lives of the people of my homeland, it is high time that there be authentic dialogue. All people of goodwill must use every peaceful means of human ingenuity and intelligence to find ways to create a genuine peace based on mutual respect and human dignity.

East Timor is hardly alone in its search for peace and dignity, and it is of great importance to acknowledge the work of others. Last year I was privileged to be the guest in Belfast Northern Ireland, of the 1976 co-Laurate, Mrs. Mairead Corrigan Maguire, whose increasing work for peace has touched many throughout the world. Mrs. Maguire graciously gave me an informative and moving

tour of the troubled areas in Belfast, the night after many vehicles had been burnt in protest over the early release of a soldier convicted of killing an 18 year old girl. I pray that the people of Northern Ireland may know genuine peace, justice and tranquility in the near future.

Last year, I met with His Holiness, The Dalai Lama, and was deeply moved by his wisdom and kindness. The people of Tibet are never far from my prayers, nor are the communities of the indigenous peoples of the world who are increasingly being overwhelmed by aggressive modernity that presumes to call itself civilization.

I pray for peace in the Middle East and Afghanistan, which can not be forgotten, and for the continuation of the peace process in Central America. And no human being can be indifferent to the drama in the Great Lakes area in Burundi and Rwanda, and also Zaire, where the human suffering cries out for a solution.

In South Africa, the search for peace deepens. For me the work of Archbishop Desmond Tutu is a shining example of the way truth can be combined with the quest for human rights, the way humor and humility can be mixed with righteousness, and I only pray that I may be worthy of his mantle. In Burma, I salute the strength and grace of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and pray that a better day may soon arrive for her and all her people. May the beauty of music from her piano soften the hearts of armies and nations. In Burma and throughout the world, in places known and not well known, let us apply the words in the fifth chapter of Amos of the Old Testament: "Let Justice roll down like waters."

And let us always think of many anonymous people throughout the world, struggling for the protection of human rights. Day by day, working to convince the international community of the justice of their cause, whether they be Moslems or Christians, Protestants or Catholics, Hindus or Buddhists whether they be followers of age-old traditional beliefs, believers or non-believers. I say: press on, take courage, remain true to your ideals, you will not be forgotten.

The world censures those who take up arms to defend their causes and call on them to use non-violent means in voicing their grievances. But when a people chooses the non-violent path, it is all too often the case that hardly anyone pays attention. It is tragic that people have to suffer and die and the television cameras have to deliver the pictures to people's homes everyday before the world at large admits there is a problem. Therein lies the enormous significance and the brave wisdom of the decision of the Nobel Committee to focus on East Timor this year; it represents the extraordinary recognition of East Timor's quest for peace and the recognition of its pleas for an end to suffering.

I speak of these things as one who has the responsibility to bear witness to what I have seen and heard, to react to what I know to be true, to keep the flame of hope alive, to do what is possible to warm the earth for still another day. I speak as a spiritual leader, not as a politician, which in fact, I am not. In recent weeks, some articles have described me as "a former shepherd," not realizing that my vocation only evolved from a boyhood job of tending water buffaloes to the grave responsibility of trying to apply my fallible self to the difficult task of providing moral leadership in a situation where almost no one is ever completely happy with my actions.

Others have written that if there had not been a war in East Timor, I would be spending all my time tending to the needs of troubled youth, which is the special calling of my

religious order, The Salesians of St. John Bosco. But this is only a matter of degree: even now, I spend an overwhelming amount of energy in listening to and counseling the youth of East Timor, who urgently need such help because of their history. This is my special obligation, and one which I welcome.

Thus I must press on, aware of all the task that are far from complete. St. John Bosco once said that we will have the chance to rest in the hereafter, not in this world. And my life in the past thirteen years since I took up the post in East Timor illustrates the accuracy of Don Bosco's judgment in this regard among others. But my own hard work forms only a small part of what is necessary; the participation of others is vital. I extend the hand of friendship and goodwill to all those who provide genuine assistance or moral support in the vital struggle for peace in East Timor, throughout Asia, Africa, in the western hemisphere, throughout Europe, in Bosnia and elsewhere in the Balkans. Everywhere.

I must also praise the United Nations for its painstaking efforts on the question of East Timor, which have been of central importance in keeping the issue alive over many long years. In the face of great obstacles, in spite of all the difficulties, the United Nations have continued to persevere in the interest of generating dialogue that might one day create a lasting structure of peace in East Timor, and in many other places throughout the world.

There is no institution that can take the place of the United Nations, especially in the light of the history and credibility of the world organization. We can not overlook the fact that the United Nations played an important role from its earliest days in the 1940's in assisting the struggle of Indonesia's nationalist movement. The young Indonesian Republic fought alone, with supreme courage, against the brute force of colonialism and its allies, ultimately receiving the indispensable moral backing that the new world association alone was able to provide. In the face of the moral weight of the United Nations, the Dutch and their allies could not carry on military operations with impunity, as other colonial powers did before the UN was formed in 1945. This must never be forgotten. Thus, the world must do whatever possible to strengthen the United Nations in the months and years ahead, in the deepest interests of all the peoples of the world.

Let it be stated clearly that to make peace a reality, we must be flexible as well as wise. We must truly recognize our own faults and move to change ourselves in the interest of making peace. I am no exception to this rule! Let us banish anger and hostility, vengeance and other dark emotions, and transform ourselves into humble instruments of peace.

People in East Timor are not uncompromising. They are not unwilling to forgive and overcome their bitterness. On the contrary, they yearn for peace, peace within their community and peace in their region. They wish to build bridges with their Indonesian brothers and sisters to find ways of creating harmony and tolerance.

Mutual respect is the basis of compromise. Let us start by making a sincere effort to change the very serious human rights situation in East Timor. The Church has played its part. We have formed a Justice and Peace Commission that is always ready to cooperate with the authorities to address problems.

Independent human rights officials have repeatedly visited East Timor and have recommended what needs to be done. As a first step, the release of East Timor political prisoners has to be given urgent attention, in accordance with the section on Humanitarianism in Panca Sila, The Five Principles of Indonesia's State Ideology. Such a step

would help create an important opening on the road to peace.

Ladies and Gentlemen, taking the liberty to remind, in this assembly, my predecessor's appeal, Israel's former Prime Minister, the late Mr. Itzaak Rabin, speaking in New York, when the first historical meeting with President Arafat took place, he said: "Stop bloodshed."

Making mine this same appeal, I say: "Stop bloodshed." And I add: Stop oppression. Stop violence. Stop conflict. Let us sit down around a table and understand each other, because we can not tolerate extending for a long time the suffering of the people of East Timor. I think this is the fundamental intention of the Nobel Committee in awarding to us the prize, expressed on behalf of its president, Mr. Francis Sejersted.

Ladies and gentlemen, East Timor was given the possibility to be heard through the voice of her two sons resounding throughout the world through this solemn assembly; but I would like that this attention shown by the world to East Timor be given the same intensity concerning the many other problems distressing other people.

There are similar situations, throughout the world, where people live under horrible conditions as Timor, but they have no possibility to be heard.

Daily, we get in our home, news and images of suffering, pain, destruction caused by war. "War, this monster," as Father Antonio Vieira states, "what it is doing, even God is not secure in the altar."

I appeal to all men of goodwill and particularly those holding power to find out solutions for these numberless conflicts. Solutions based on justice and solidarity, in order that the fundamental rights would be respected.

I appeal, as well, to all professionals of the information media, charged with this great mission, that they regulate communication between all latitudes of the globe, doing it with a sense of truth and immunity for building up a society more humane and more just, without tendentious manipulations.

I would like, before I finish, to address one word to the youth around the world, particularly to the youth of my dear Timor: "Society is a succession of interwoven rings in which each generation has the duty to the next generation in order to live in the world peacefully fraternally. Under your shoulders, dear young people of the entire world, weigh the responsibility to transform tomorrow's world into a society where peace, harmony and fraternity reign."

Dear youth, I quote from memory the great Indian poet Rabindranat Tagore: "Youth, as a Lotus flower, flourish just once in life." Do not let it wither through the way.

Finally, an event is never a lonely action. The awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to these two sons of Timor, Dr. Jose Ramos and myself has come about because many people groups and institutions have worked hard so that this event be a reality.

In this moment I would like, in the first place, to thank Her Majesty the Royalty of Norway, for being susceptible with the suffering of the people of East Timor, and for the generous presence in this solemn assembly.

My thanks goes to the Nobel Peace Prize Committee for their kind attention and courageous dedication on behalf of the plight of the East Timorese.

To the government and members of the Norwegian Parliament I thank you for the decision to honor us with the Nobel Peace Prize

I emphasize a little to thank Portugal and other friendly nations, as well as distinguished personalities who have proposed our

names as candidates for the Nobel Peace Prize.

To the Timorese, here and abroad. I convey my indescribable gratitude and my communion and silent solidarity with you.

To His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, who has been persistent and attentive in following the situation and the suffering of the people and the Church in East Timor, I submit my filial devotion and the promise of unending fidelity and in union with Christ.

To the Pontifical Commission of Justice and Peace, particularly in the person of its President, His Eminence Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, who had the opportunity to be in direct contact with the Church of Timor, I submit my deep gratitude.

I can not forget the contribution of friends from other religions who, with discretion and fearless activity have made it possible that the Nobel Peace Prize for 1996 be attributed to the Catholic Church in East Timor.

It would be unjust to forget, although I am aware that it is difficult to count the various Non Government Organizations, Humanitarian Groups, Church related Groups and individuals who have worked hard, in silence and without much publicity, so that the Timorese can receive assistance and that the Timorese issue would not be buried under the dust of oblivion. With them, I share my happiness.

And finally, my sincere thanks to all the members of the social communication industry from all over the world. They had lent their voice in making known to the world the anguish and the suffering of the Timorese. I would like to pay my tribute to those giving information about Timor, risking their life and some of them falling down in East Timor soil.

"The Creator and Father of everything and all peoples will reward all of us and will give us strength, wisdom and courage to struggle for our fellow human beings because each one is the image and the likeness of God."—Gen. 1, 26.

INTRODUCTION OF SHORT AGAINST THE BOX LEGISLATION

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to curb the use of innovative tax avoidance techniques that have enabled some investors to indefinitely defer, and in some circumstances completely avoid, capital gains taxes. Under current law, capital gains are subject to tax only when there is a sale or exchange of the property. In this respect, our tax laws have fallen far behind the financial markets. The financial markets have succeeded in creating transactions and instruments that are equivalent to sales in an economic sense but avoid the tax that would be required in the case of a sale. I must agree with Robert Willens, a managing director at Lehman Brothers, who was quoted recently in the New York Times as stating, "old fashioned notions of sale are totally inappropriate for the world we live in today." My bill redefines the concept of when there is a sale for tax purposes in order to take into account the economic substance of these new transactions.

There is a growing perception that the capital gains tax has become voluntary for large investors. There is evidence that capital gain recognitions by large investors have stagnated

in recent years even as the stock market has soared. Typically, average middle-income families have invested through mutual funds whereas relatively wealthier investors also hold direct investment in the stock market and in real estate. Taxable capital gains reported by investors who hold only mutual funds have soared in recent years whereas taxable capital gains reported by investors with direct stock and real estate investments have remained below the level reported in 1988. The availability of these avoidance techniques may have played a role in this decline.

Many of the transactions affected by my bill are not available to the ordinary investor because of their cost. Bankers Trust, a company specializing in equity swap transactions, will do an equity swap only when the investor has a block of stock valued in excess of \$2 million. Also, it should be emphasized that these transactions would not be done except for the tax avoidance potential. In an economic sense they are equivalent to an outright sale, but their costs are substantially greater than those involved in a simple sale.

We rely on voluntary compliance to collect our income taxes. In fact, our current high level of voluntary compliance is the envy of the rest of the world. That high level of voluntary compliance is threatened by the existence of tax avoidance techniques that are only available to the wealthy in our society. The current law capital gains tax applies to all Americans. If the capital gains tax should be reduced it should be done legislatively for all taxpayers, not by Wall Street for the select few.

The bill I am introducing today includes two provisions. The first provision would provide for recognition of gains in the case of transactions, like equity swaps and "short against the box" transactions, that are equivalent to sales. This provision is based on a proposal recommended by the President in his recent budget submission. I have modified the President's proposal to address concerns that it would adversely impact legitimate hedging transactions. My bill contains simplified accounting rules for securities traders and would trigger recognition of gain only when there is deferral of tax over year-end. However, I have retained the effective date recommended by the President since my bill is basically a modified version of his proposal.

The other provision of my bill addresses another abuse, the so-called swap fund, that Congress thought it eliminated almost 30 years ago. In a swap fund transaction, an investor wishing to diversify his investment exchanges his holding of a specific stock for an interest in a diversified investment pool. The current version of this device involves having the fund hold at least 20 percent of its assets in investments that are not readily marketable. My bill eliminates that simple avoidance technique.

I urge the support of my colleagues.

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION: SHORT AGAINST THE BOX LEGISLATION

CONSTRUCTIVE SALES TREATMENT

The Kennelly bill would require a taxpayer to recognize gain upon entering into a constructive sale of any appreciated position in either stock, a debt instrument, or a partnership interest. The taxpayer would recognize gain as if the position were sold and immediately repurchased.

The bill would define a constructive sale as any of the following transactions (and any

other transaction having substantially the same effect as a transaction described below):

(1) a short sale of the same or substantially identical property;

(2) entering into an offsetting notional principal contract with respect to the same or substantially identical property. For this purpose, an offsetting notional principal contract is a contract to pay the investment yield on the property for a specified period in exchange for the right to be reimbursed for decline in the value of the property and other consideration;

(3) entering into a futures or forward contract to deliver the same or substantially identical property;

(4) an acquisition of the underlying property where the taxpayer holds an appreciated short position described in subparagraphs (1), (2), or (3).

The bill would not trigger gain in circumstances where the underlying property is sold in a taxable transaction during the year or where the constructive sale is closed during the taxable year (and if closed in the last month of the year, is not reestablished in 30 days).

If the taxpayer makes a constructive sale of less than all of his property, the determination of which property is involved in the constructive sale would be made under the principles applicable to outright sales. Under current law, this would permit specific identification.

The bill would not apply to any contract for the sale of any stock, debt instrument or partnership interest that is not a marketable security (as defined under the rules that apply to installment sales) if the sale is reasonably expected to occur within one year of the date the contract is entered into. Nor would the proposal generally treat a sales contract subject to normal terms and conditions as a constructive sale. In addition, the proposal would not treat a transaction as a constructive sale if the taxpayer is required to mark the market the appreciated financial position under Section 475 (mark to market for securities dealers) or Section 1256 (mark to market for futures contracts, options and currency contracts). The bill would permit securities traders to elect mark to market treatment under Section 475.

Like the proposal included in the President's budget, the bill would be effective for constructive sales entered into after the date of enactment. In addition, the bill would apply to constructive sales entered into after January 12, 1996, and before the date of enactment if the transaction resulting in the constructive sale remains open after 30 days after the date of enactment. The bill would apply to those pre-enactment transactions as if the constructive sales occurred on the date that is 30 days after the date of enactment.

A special rule would apply to constructive sale entered into on or before the date of enactment by decedents dying after the date of enactment. If the constructive sale remains open on the date before the date of death and gain has not been recognized under the bill, the appreciated financial position would be treated as property constituting rights to receive income in respect to a decedent under Section 691.

SWAP FUND PROVISIONS

Under current law, gain is recognized on the contribution of property to a corporation or partnership that is an investment company. The Code defines an investment company as any corporation or partnership where more than 80% of its assets by value consist of stocks or securities that are readily marketable. The bill provides that all stocks and securities, including those not readily marketable, are taken into account under the 80% test.

SEMINAR ON GOALS 2000

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, on February 12, 1997, a day long seminar on education with particular emphasis on the pernicious effects of Goals 2000, school to work and careers legislation was held in the Rayburn Building. The participants were greeted by Phyllis Schlafly, who was responsible for the event—along with many other organizations and individuals—and heard from experts and several State legislators and Congressmen from many States, including California, Oregon, Alabama, Pennsylvania, Florida, South Carolina, Illinois, Arizona, Michigan, Texas, Kentucky, and Arkansas.

Mr. Robert Holland of Richmond, VA, an editor for the Richmond Times Dispatch not only delivered one of the best presentations but contributed the following editorial which appeared in the Washington Times, Sunday, February 23, 1997, which I am pleased to share with my colleagues.

[From the Washington Times, Feb. 23, 1997]

BENEATH THE SEAMLESS MODEL'S HOOD

(By Robert Holland)

The hearing room of the House Judiciary Committee looked like a busy "show and tell" classroom for scholars bearing large stacks of homework Feb. 1-2. Chairman Henry Hyde had convened an unusual grassroots conference on the spreading, entangling "Seamless web" of collectivized education, health and social services, and workforce preparation.

Citizen-activists joined members of Congress and legislators from five states in talking about what their research had yielded, and they brought much of it with them as Exhibits R through Z: thousands of pages of fine print illuminating the complex scheme to make schools the central instrument for transforming American society into one that takes its lead entirely from government technocrats certifying "skills" and dispensing "care."

Such documentation is essential because merely to criticize the seamless web is to risk being branded a conspiracy theorist. The extensive paper trail belies the existence of any conspiracy. It shows, instead, that a slumbering mainstream media—or mediacrats who cheerlead for collectivization—are the problem. The proof exists for anyone willing to risk the eyestrain to read the fine print.

Nor do the leading citizen-activists spurn facts in favor of imagined plots. Consider one of the featured presenters at the Hyde conference: Virginia Miller, a former women's basketball star at Penn State, and Rhodes Scholar candidate who spent 10 years as a systems consultant to U.S. Steel, Mellon Bank, Blue Cross, and Westinghouse.

Now the acting director of the Pittsburgh-based Public Education Network, Ms. Miller provided voluminous supporting documents to show how the Human Resources Development Plan devised by Hillary Clinton's sidekick, Marc Tucker, is coming to fruition through the multifarious works of the National Center on Education and the Economy.

For instance, one sentence penned by Mr. Tucker in a Labor Department-commissioned paper on organizing the work of the National Skill Standards Board (to which Mr. Clinton—surprise, surprise—has appointed Mr. Tucker) fairly jumps off the

page. In discussing a three-tiered system for developing "comprehensive qualifications—or standards" for jobs and clusters of jobs, Mr. Tucker reached Title I:

"This would be," he wrote, "a set of standards for what everyone in the society ought to know and be able to do to be successful at work, as a citizen, and as a family member."

Now, ponder the breathtaking absolutism behind such a vision: Not only should Big Government issue, in effect, work permits, and not only should it monitor each person's civic participation; it should go so far as to pass judgment on how every American functions as a mother, father, brother, sister or other member of a family—however the technocrats chose to define "family."

That sounds far-fetched—until one looks at Senate Bill 321 recently introduced in Oregon—one of the model states for the womb-to-tomb seamless web. That legislation would require every taxpayer with a dependent between the ages of 1 and 2 to attend state-directed "parent education courses" in order to claim a personal exemption on state taxes. The state also would set up a new system to certify parent-education providers. It is true that the agency Mr. Tucker envisioned as the promulgator of Tier I standards—the National Education Standards and Improvement Council—fell prey to Congress' partial dismantling of Goals 2000 last spring. However, there are many more new bureaucracies—the Skill Standards panel, for one—that can continue spinning the web.

Other presentations showed how schools are becoming instruments of nationalized health care through creative Medicaid re-interpretation; how databases are being set up to check each American's advances through the seamless web; how the School-to-Work system will function to steer students in directions that satisfy economic planners' objectives, not necessarily their own.

It is important to document how all this is meshing, as the conferees attempted to do. For example, Ohio's STW plan flatly declares as a goal the training of student for jobs in accordance with "the state's work force development and economic development strategies."

But as chilling as such words are, most people probably will not become gravely concerned until they see the seamless web infringing on their own family's liberties. That may be happening in Nevada, where Gov. Bob Miller, current chairman of the National Governors Association, brags about a "Smart Card" that students will have to present when applying for a job in order to show they have the work-force competencies Big Brother says they should have.

Out in Las Vegas, Rene Tucker tells me that her daughter, Darcy, recently was pulled out of a geography class—without parental consent—to be administered a computerized assessment of career possibilities. Darcy wants to become a veterinarian. But the computer said she ought to become a bartender or a waitress, and it spat out a list of courses she ought to take in high school toward that end.

Mrs. Tucker was furious first that the career counselors had robbed her daughter's valuable class time. She added: "We're Christians, and the school stepped on my ties as a parent. It is my job to direct my child's career path, and it would not be in her best interest to be a bartender."

Ah, but it might be in Nevada's best interest, you see, given the huge hospitality needs

driven by the gambling and entertainment industry.

Another Nevada mom, Kristine Jensen, and her daughter Ashley had a similar experience. Ashley has a 4.0-plus GPA and currently aspires to work at NASA. Indeed, a NASA official told her, "Set your goals high and set your heart and mind to it and you will be there."

However, said Mrs. Jensen, the STW career inventory said Ashley ought to set her goals quite a bit lower as she enters the ninth grade. "Garbage woman" was a career pathway the computer said this honors student should follow.

The School to Work Opportunities Act of 1994 states that career counseling is to begin "at the earliest possible age, but not later than the seventh grade." That's a federal requirement, mind you, for schools spending STW money. As such fine print becomes a killer of dreams, the uprising against this seamless web figures to grow.

PAPERWORK ELIMINATION ACT

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Paperwork Elimination Act. The purpose of this legislation is to advance the use of alternative information technologies and, in so doing, decrease paperwork demands by the Federal Government. The intended beneficiaries of this legislation are small businesses, educational and nonprofit institutions, Federal contractors, State and local governments, and others who face a disproportionate burden in complying with Federal regulations. Alternative technologies suggested include electronic maintenance, submission, or disclosure of information. In achieving this purpose, the Paperwork Elimination Act hopes to assist Federal agencies complying with the purposes and goals of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

The Paperwork Elimination Act does not intend to replace any part of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, which has made great strides toward reducing regulatory burdens. The Paperwork Elimination Act is merely a supplement to the Paperwork Reduction Act, introduced with the intent of belatedly bringing the Federal Government into the computer revolution. It clarifies provisions within the law requiring agencies to utilize information technology by specifying that those with access to computers and modems should be able to use them when dealing with the Federal Government.

I would like to take a moment to thank our former colleague, Peter Torkildsen of Massachusetts. Mr. Torkildsen introduced this legislation in the 104th Congress and worked tirelessly to see its passage. In April 1996, the legislation passed the House unanimously. The measure was then discharged from the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee and sent to the desk for action. It is unfortunate that the Senate ran out of time before acting

on this measure. I believe this is an important piece of legislation for small business. I am hopeful that my colleagues will concur and that this bill will receive favorable congressional action at an early date. Thank you.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AWARD WINNING ACHIEVEMENTS OF WORKING CAPITAL FLORIDA

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, access to credit, technical help, and training are the keys to unleashing the economic potential of all Americans, particularly for the poor in our cities and distressed rural areas. In recognition of its outstanding community-based leadership with microenterprise projects, Working Capital was recently awarded the Presidential Award for Innovation in Microcredit in a ceremony at the Oval Office on January 31, 1997.

In Dade County, Working Capital Florida is leading the way to economic empowerment by providing business loans, peer support, training, networking and technical assistance to persons with low to moderate income. Working Capital Florida is one of seven hubs of the Working Capital Corp. which was founded in 1990 in Athol, MA, by Jeffrey Ashe to foster self-reliance and enhance the quality of life for persons with limited access to resources. This is accomplished through a network of community-based organizations.

Working Capital Florida serves Dade's African-American, Hispanic, and Haitian communities in neighborhoods including Allapattah, Carol City, Coconut Grove, Florida City, Goulds, Homestead, Kendall, Little Haiti, Little Havana, Naranja, North Miami, Opa-Locka, Overtown, Perrine, Princeton, Richmond Heights, and South Miami Heights.

Within the next 5 years, Working Capital Florida has the potential to create 5,000 new businesses among low-income residents. Since its inception, 311 loans ranging in size from \$500 to \$5,000 and totaling \$210,500 have been disbursed to start-up businesses throughout Dade County. Working Capital Florida helps low- and moderate-income citizens of Dade County to enter the economic mainstream. As they prosper, we reduce the social costs of poverty in Florida and the Nation while increasing national productivity. Not only are these efforts beneficial to the poor, but they clearly improve our community and benefit all Americans.

The individuals who are assisted by Working Capital Florida through micro-loans, peer-support, networking, and training can stand proudly to proclaim "I have a dream * * * and I'm beginning to live it!" I know my colleagues join me and the entire Dade County community in applauding their success. Congratulations Working Capital Florida on a job well done.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 27, 1997, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 28

9:00 a.m.
Labor and Human Resources
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.
SD-430

MARCH 4

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Corporation for National and Community Service, the American Battle Monuments Commission, the Court of Veterans Appeals, the Selective Service System, and Army Cemeterial Expenses.
SD-138

Environment and Public Works
Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposals relating to liability and resource issues associated with the cleanup and redevelopment of abandoned or underutilized industrial and commercial properties.
SD-406

10:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine the school lunch and school breakfast programs.
SD-G50

Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Food Safety and Inspection Service, Marketing and Regulatory programs, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Agricultural Marketing Service, and the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, all of the Department of Agriculture.
SD-124

Armed Services
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program.
SR-222

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation to reform product liability.
SR-253

10:30 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine estimates of the President's fiscal year 1998 budget request for Medicare, Medicaid, and welfare.
SD-215

MARCH 5

9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine the Department of Agriculture's business plan and reorganization management proposals.
SR-332

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 8, to authorize funds for and reform the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Liability, and Compensation Act of 1980 (Superfund).
SD-406

Rules and Administration
To hold oversight hearings on the operation of the offices of the Secretary of the Senate, the Sergeant at Arms, the Architect of the Capitol, and the National Gallery of Art.
SR-301

10:00 a.m.
Armed Services
Airland Forces Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on tactical aviation modernization issues.
SR-222

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Aviation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine aviation safety, focusing on the work of the Gore Commission.
SR-253

Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine issues relating to the General Accounting Office high-risk series.
SD-342

2:00 p.m.
Armed Services
Personnel Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on recruiting and retention policies within the Department of Defense and the military services.
SR-232A

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To resume hearings on the proposed Public Land Management Responsibility and Accountability Restoration Act.
SD-366

Select on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on intelligence matters.
SH-219

MARCH 6

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine issues with regard to competitive change in the electric power industry.
SH-216

Environment and Public Works
Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act and innovative transportation financing, technology, construction and design practices.
SD-406

Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Jewish War Veterans, the Retired Officers Association, the Association of the U.S. Army, the Non-Commissioned Officers Association, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, and the Blinded Veterans Association.
345 Cannon Building

10:00 a.m.
Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings to examine health care quality and consumer protection.
SD-106

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of State.
S-146A, Capitol

Select on Intelligence
Closed business meeting, on intelligence matters.
SH-219

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Consumer Affairs, Foreign Commerce, and Tourism Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine product liability reform, focusing on the implementation of the General Aviation Revitalization Act.
SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To continue hearings on the proposed Public Land Management Responsibility and Accountability Restoration Act.
SD-366

MARCH 11

9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for agricultural research.
SR-332

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the Consumer Information Center, and the Office of Consumer Affairs.
SD-138

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for Food

MAY 6

CANCELLATIONS

mates on the fiscal year 1998 request for Indian programs.

SR-485

9:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY 27

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Sub-
committee

9:30 a.m.

Select on Intelligence

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting, to consider pending committee business relating to the Committee's budget views and esti-

To hold closed hearings on intelligence matters.

SH-219

SD-138