

to embrace life's hardships and successes with remarkable strength and courage. Let me today join with his family and friends in remembering Richard Rioux and thanking him for the encouragement and love he gave our community. May the Lord bless him and keep him well. We will miss him and cherish his memory.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF  
THE MONTGOMERY ACADEMY  
FORENSICS TEAM

**HON. TERRY EVERETT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 1997*

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to bring to the attention of this House the accomplishments of a fine group of students from my congressional district. On March 22, 1997, the Montgomery Academy Forensics Team garnered the State forensics championship at the Alabama Forensic Educators Association State Tournament.

This represents the third such title in a row for Montgomery Academy and is quite an achievement when you consider that the Montgomery Academy Forensics Team has only been in existence since 1991. The school's enthusiasm for and dedication to forensic excellence can be measured in the growth of its forensic team's membership, from 15 to 140 in just 6 years.

I wish to congratulate all the members of the Montgomery Academy Forensics Team for their achievements and adherence to the highest standards. They can be proud of their work and we can be proud to know that forensic medicine will be enhanced through the contributions of outstanding Alabama young people such as these.

TRIBUTE TO REV. HOWARD L.  
RICE

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 1997*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable scholar, spiritual leader and individual, Rev. Howard Rice. Reverend Rice is being honored for his outstanding career in the Presbyterian Church. I wish I could join his family, friends, and colleagues in celebrating his accomplishments and now his retirement.

Reverend Rice graduated from Carroll College in Waukesha, WI. After leaving Wisconsin, where he was born and raised, he attended the McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. While there, he realized a passion for inner-city ministry. Following graduation from McCormick, Howard served as a pastor in Minneapolis. He was then asked to return to Chicago where he successfully merged three small and struggling congregations into one interracial and bilingual church. In 1968, he was called to the San Francisco Theological Seminary to serve as professor of ministry. In this position, he was successful in coordinating student internships and vocational counseling program. During his career, he was also

a strong advocate of women in the ministry, demonstrated by the number of women graduates contributing to church and social work across the Nation.

Howard Rice's career as a minister is both distinguished and admirable. In 1986 he was the recipient of the McCormick Theological Seminary Distinguished Alumnus Award. He also received honorary doctor of divinity degrees from Carroll College and Whitworth College in Spokane, WA.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and pride that I pay tribute to Rev. Howard Rice. Throughout the course of his outstanding career, he has had a positive influence on many lives. I extend my congratulations and best wishes on his retirement. And I wish his wife Nancy, and their family, the best.

HONORING RAOUL WALLENBERG

**HON. JON D. FOX**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 1997*

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding individual who is credited with saving thousands of lives in the face of Nazi tyranny and under the threat of certain death. Raoul Wallenberg belongs—or belonged—to one of the most famous families in Sweden, the large Wallenberg family. It is a family that has contributed Sweden with bankers, diplomats, and politicians during several generations.

Raoul's father, Raoul Oscar Wallenberg, was an officer in the navy, and cousin to Jacob and Marcus Wallenberg, two of Sweden's most famous bank and industrial men during half a century. Raoul was born August 4, 1912, 3 months after his father's death. His mother, Maj Wising Wallenberg, remarried Fredrik von Dardel in 1918.

Raoul's grandfather, Gustav Wallenberg, took care of Raoul's education. The plan was for him to continue the family tradition and become a banker, but he was more interested in architecture and trade.

In the year 1930 Raoul Wallenberg graduated with top grades in Russian and drawing. After his army service he traveled to the U.S.A. in 1931 to study architecture at the university in Ann Arbor, MI. In 1935 he received his bachelor degree in science and returned back to Sweden. But the market for architects was small in Sweden. Instead his grandfather sent him to Cape Town in South Africa where he practiced at a Swedish firm selling building materials. After 6 months his grandfather arranged a new job for him at a Dutch bank office in Haifa, Palestine—now Israel.

It was in Palestine he first met Jews that had escaped Hitler's Germany. Their stories of the Nazi persecutions affected him deeply. Maybe not only because he had a very humane attitude to life, but also because he owned a drop of Jewish blood—Raoul's grandmother's grandfather was a Jew by the name of Benedicks whom arrived to Sweden by the end of the 18th century—after his return from Haifa in 1936 Raoul Wallenberg resumed his old interest for business.

Through Jacob Wallenberg's good contacts in the business world Raoul was eventually brought together with Koloman Lauer, a Hungarian Jew. He was a director of a Swedish

based import and export company specializing in food and delicacies.

Thanks to Raoul Wallenberg's excellent language skills, and thanks to his freedom of movement in Europe, he was a perfect business partner for Lauer. Within 8 months Raoul Wallenberg was a joint owner and international director of the Mid-European Trading Company.

Through his trips in Nazi occupied France and in Germany itself, Raoul quickly learned how the German bureaucracy functioned. He had also made several trips to Hungary and Budapest, where he visited Lauer's family. Hungary was still a relatively safe place in a hostile surrounding.

RAOUL WALLENBERG—BACKGROUND TO HIS MISSION

During the spring of 1944 the world had awoken and realized what Hitler's final solution to the Jewish problem meant. In May 1944 the first authentic eyewitness report reached the Western World of what happened in the extermination camp at Auschwitz. It came from two Jews who managed to escape the German gas chambers.

Hitler's plans for total extermination of the Jews of Europe became known. In Hungary, which had joined Germany in the war against the Soviet Union in 1941, there still lived an estimated 700,000 Jews at the beginning of 1944.

When the Germans lost the battle of Stalingrad 1943, Hungary wanted to follow Italy's example and demand a separate peace. Hitler then called the Hungarian head of state Miklós Horthy and demanded continued solidarity with Germany. When Horthy refused to meet the demands, Hitler invaded Hungary on March 19th 1944. Soon after that the deportations of Jews started. The destination was Auschwitz-Birkenau in southern Poland, and a certain death.

The Germans started deporting the Jews from the countryside, but the Jewish citizens of Budapest knew that their hour of fate was also soon to come. In their desperation they sought help from the embassies of the neutral countries, where provisional passes were issued for Jews with special connections to these countries.

The Swedish legation in Budapest succeeded in negotiating with the Germans that the bearers of these protective passes would be treated as Swedish citizens and exempt from wearing the yellow star of David on their chest. It was Per Anger, a young diplomat at the legation in Budapest, who initiated the first of these Swedish protective passes.—In 1982 Per Anger was also awarded the honor of "righteous among the nations" by Yad Vashem in Jerusalem for his heroic actions to save Jews during the war.

In a short period of time the Swedish legation issued 700 passes, a drop in the ocean compared to the enormous amount of Jews being threatened. The legation requested immediate staff reinforcements from the foreign department in Stockholm.

In Sweden at the same time the World Jewish Congress had a meeting in Stockholm. The most important issue was organizing a rescue operation for the Hungarian Jews.

In 1944 the U.S.A. established The War Refugee Board [WRB], an organization with the purpose of saving Jews from Nazi persecution. The WRB soon realized that serious attempts were being made from the Swedish side to rescue the Jewish population in Hungary. The WRB's representative in Stockholm