EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRESSMAN KILDEE HONORS DR. MONIFA A. JUMANNE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who has dedicated her life to educating our Nation's youth. On July 9, 1997, Dr. Monifa A. Jumanne was honored for her 10 years of dedicated service to the faculty, staff, and most importantly the students of Oakland University in Rochester, MI, as she prepares to leave her role as director of the Department of Special Programs.

A native of Detroit, MI, Dr. Jumanne received her bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University in 1965. She was the first in her family to achieve this goal. She returned to Detroit and received her master's degree in 1971 and her doctorate in 1994, both from Wayne State University in Detroit. Since 1965, Dr. Jumanne has made a positive impact on the lives of thousands of young people around the world in her roles of teacher, instructor, consultant, and administrator. She has worked in Michigan, Ohio, California, Kansas, and even Monrovia, Liberia. From 1973 to 1981, she traveled and taught throughout West Africa.

In 1987, Dr. Jumanne became director of Oakland University's Department of Student Support Services, later renamed the Department of Special Programs. As director, Dr. Jumanne administered the Academic Opportunity Program, a TRIO program funded by the U.S. Department of Education, which provides an opportunity for a quality college education to students who have been labeled ''at-risk.'' For Dr. Jumanne this program holds a very special place in her heart for it provided her with the opportunity to provide counsel and encouragement to many students that came from similar backgrounds as she. Under Dr. Jumanne's leadership, 979 students have entered the program with at least 500 receiving undergraduate degrees. Her knowledge of and great success with the TRIO program led to her being appointed a trainer of new TRIO directors.

Dr. Monifa Jumanne has served in a number of important positions but the two most important are mentor and friend. Without Dr. Jumanne's resolve, strength, and love, many young adults may have never stepped foot on a college campus or received their degree at a commencement ceremony their heads held high and their hearts filled with a sense of accomplishment and pride. For her work to improve the quality of life for all people through education, we owe her a debt of gratitude.

Dr. Jumanne will certainly be missed at Oakland University but I know that her contributions to the community will never be forgotten. Mr. Speaker, as Dr. Jumanne begins her new position as assistant dean for Student and Community Life at the Interdenominational and Theological Center in Atlanta, GA, please join me in wishing her all the best.

THE BWCA WILDERNESS LEGACY ACT

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the BWCA Wilderness Legacy Act. This legislation provides further protections for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in northeastern Minnesota. This Forest Service wilderness area is the most popular, most widely used wilderness area in our entire National Wilderness System.

The National Government has always recognized the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness [BWCAW] as a special area and a unique national treasure. From the designation of the Superior National Forest by President Teddy Roosevelt, to the inclusion of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in the original Wilderness Act by Senator Hubert Humphrey, the BWCAW has been singled out as an area worthy of special attention and preservation.

That special attention has been worthwhile for our Nation, for Minnesota, for northeastern Minnesotans, and for all those families who have used and enjoyed the BWCA Wilderness. The BWCAW is the most widely used of all our units within the National Wilderness System. While the BWCAW makes up only 1 percent of the total Wilderness System acreage, this alone accounts for over 10 percent of the use.

This level of use provided a real economic boost to northeastern Minnesota. According to U.S. Forest Service testimony before a Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee, the BWCAW and its users contribute nearly $30 million to the local economy each year.

Unfortunately, the popularity of the BWCAW has also necessitated reasoned and increased restrictions and protections for the resource, due to the fact that the BWCAW is such a highly fragile resource that cannot withstand the trauma of such overuse or abusive use. If the BWCAW is to be available for the enjoyment of our children and grandchildren, effective and responsible limits on the use of the resource and the intrusion of man must be firmly set in place.

The popularity and the competing uses of the BWCAW have engendered passionate views on this resource and its protection. Today's controversy and the inability to reach a complete consensus should not be surprising nor is it a new phenomena. The BWCAW has been the focus of some controversy throughout its history. Every effort at preserving the BWCAW for the enjoyment of future generations has been met by strong opposition. The designation in the 1920's of parts of the Superior National Forest as primitive and off limits to roads; President Truman's ban of flights over the BWCAW below 4,000 feet; and the designation of the area in the 1960's invoked disputes similar to those we see today. Even the decision in the 1977 Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Act to ban logging in the wilderness was hotly contested. Today these steps are accepted and viewed by most Minnesota as essential to preserving the wilderness.

Some have tried to portray today's debate over restoring trucks to two portages in the BWCAW as issues of access and broken promises. That is not the case. This is not a debate about access to motorized lakes because motorboats use and access are being accomplished and fully utilized in accord with the 1978 BWCAW Wilderness Act.

According to the Forest Service, the day use motor permits for Basswood in 1994 and 1995 were completely used—1,017 day use permits for the Newton-Pipestone entry point and 1,358 for Prairie Portage. For Trout Lake, 95 percent of the permits were used in 1994—539 out of 565 permits—with 81 percent used in 1995—456 out of 565 permits. It is important to note that each permit covers up to four boats. If one assumes an average of 2 boats per permit, nearly 5,000 motorboats entered Basswood Lake via the Newton-Pipestone and Prairie Portages each year under day use permits issued, while approximately 1,000 motorboats entered Trout Lake. As the Forest Service data demonstrates, even after the trucks were removed from the portages, access to Trout and Basswood was and is available. For individuals who do not want to or cannot portage their own boat, commercial portage services are available for Prairie Portage.

Six-thousand motorboats can't be wrong—a feasible, nonmotorized means of transporting boats across the portages exist and mechanized portages should not and need not be reintroduced into the BWCA.

This legislation, which I am introducing today, establishes for congressional consideration, an alternative policy path and future for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. It is a policy course that emphasizes protection of the wilderness and nonmotorized use over increased motor use. It is a policy course that, based on last year's debate, enjoys the support of a broad majority of Minnesotans.

The impact of the BWCA Wilderness Legacy Act is straightforward. This legislation proposes wilderness addition and protections for 7,400 new acres in the BWCAW. The bill closes to motorboat use Lac La Croix and Loon Lake on the western boundary of the BWCA. It also closes, effective January 1, 1999, all of Sea Gull Lake within the wilderness to motorboat use. Under the current law only a portion of Sea Gull Lake is to be closed to motorboat use on that date, the remaining section of the lake currently is scheduled to remain open for motorboat use. Finally, the legislation prohibits the use of towboats within the entire BWCA wilderness.

I understand the strong feelings that all Minnesotans have regarding the BWCAW. Minnesotans and the Nation view the BWCAW as a national treasure. All of Minnesota has a stake in and a responsibility toward the future of the BWCAW. In Minnesota, such stewardship responsibilities are a serious matter.

These Minnesotans, an overwhelming majority of the State, support policies that protect the BWCAW and ensure the this phenomenal resource is available for more than the instant gratification and pleasure of solely today's generation. These Minnesotans, in all statewide polls and in their letters and comments to me and other members of the State congressional delegation, have strongly voiced their views that this fragile resource should be preserved as an valuable wilderness legacy for today and tomorrow.

The BWCAW Wilderness Legacy Act sets in place the policy path to accomplish that goal and honor this Minnesota and national sentiment.

BWCA WILDERNESS LEGACY ACT

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Section 1. Bill Title. The BWCA Wilderness Legacy Act.

Section 2. Congressional findings.

The BWCA offers a unique lakeland experience for present and future generations. The BWCA is an international, national and Minnesota treasure worthy of preservation as a wilderness area. Congress has supported the protection of the BWCA as a wilderness area. The BWCA is the most widely used wilderness unit in the entire wilderness system. A majority of Minnesotans support greater wilderness protection for the BWCAW. Further protection of the BWCA is necessary.

Section 3. Wilderness Additions.

Expands the BWCA Wilderness by 7,370 acres. The total wilderness area is increased from 1,087,000 to 1,094,370 acres. (Specific wilderness additions are listed below.)

Section 4. Motorized Use.

Closes all portions of Sea Gull Lake within the wilderness area to motorized use on January 1, 1999. Closes Lac La Croix and Leon Lake to motorized use on the date of enactment. Prohibits the use of towboats within the entire BWCA wilderness on January 1, 1998.

Section 5. Extends current prohibition on aircraft over the BWCA to wilderness additions.

WILDERNESS ADDITIONS—7370 ACRES

(1) Crocodile Lake Addition. (40 acres)—Far western tip currently outside border, though the vast majority of Crocodile Lake lies within the BWCAW. Crocodile lies just south of popular East Bearskin Lake.

(2) Dislocation Lake Addition. (340 acres)—Off the Gunflint Trail southwest of Lima Mountain, immediately north of the Ram Lake BWCA entry point #44. State and federal land only. Includes Dislocation and Sled Lakes just outside wilderness border.

(3) Ball Club Lake Addition. (800 acres)—Near Eagle Mountain, includes BWCA entry point 42. Includes (3) Ball Club Lake, Ball Club Creek, and Cleaver Lake leading into BWCA Wilderness.

(4) Lizz Lake Addition. (100 acres)—includes all of Lizz Lake which is currently half out of the wilderness. All federal land. On the popular and heavily used canoe route from Poplar Lake into wilderness; entry point 47.

(5) Meditation Lake Addition. (40 acres)—Located just southeast of Seagull. Eastern shore of lake outside BWCAW, western shore within; all federal shoreline. Connected by 20 rod portage to Seagull Lake.

(6) West Round Lake. (240 acres)—All federal land. Includes all of West Round Lake and Edith Lake on the popular canoe route from public landing on Round. Entry point 53.

(7) Bedew Lake Addition. (40 acres)—Just north of Rush Lake and south of Gunflint Trail. Lake currently half out of the wilderness.

(8) Nighthawk Lake Addition. (30 acres)—Nighthawk Lake lies SE of Swamp Lake near the Gunflint Trail. Nighthawk Lake is currently half in, half out of the wilderness.

(9) Camp Lake Addition. (50 acres)—This lake lies west of Newton Lake. The wilderness boundary currently cuts through the lake; most of the lake currently lies inside the wilderness. The addition includes nearly all federal land, with perhaps just a sliver of county land.

(10) Geraldine Lake Addition. (60 acres)—This lake lies half in and half out of the BWCAW, just west of the North arm of Burntside Lake. All federal land, in Sec. 4.

(11) Homer-Brule Addition. (2,880 acres)—North end of the RARE-II proposed addition. This addition includes all federal land except for a county 40 on Homer, a county 40 on Axe Lake, a state 40 on Juno (some already in BWCA), and the previously private lands (now all federal) on Sky Blue Waters Lodge site on Brule. Public landing on far east end of Homer Lake. Nesting site of rare Boreal Owl. Homer Lake currently half in, half out of BWCA Wilderness. Popular Canoe route, entry point 40.

(12) Ham Lake Addition. (600 acres)—Entirely federally owned land. Currently serves as BWCA entry point 51. Includes all of Ham Lake within wilderness, including four wilderness campsites on Ham.

(13) Star Lake Addition. (660 acres)—Opposite Homer Lake across road. All state and federal land; state owns southern bay.

(14) Stuart Portage Addition. (550 acres)—Protects entire Stuart River portage; appropriately three-quarters of a mile from the wilderness boundary to the trailhead.

(15) Mine-Dogleg-Chub Lakes Addition. (940 acres)—Includes all of these three lakes. Private land around Mine Lake (Ogelbay Norton) has since been purchased by the Forest Service through FY 92 LAWCON funds. Site of former Paulsen Mine, circa 1893. Protests east end of Kekekabic Trail.

TRIBUTE TO LT. COL. THOMAS F. JULICH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to publicly thank, and pay tribute to, a man who embodies the notion of public service. Lt. Col. Thomas F. Julich will leave his command as district engineer of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District, in a ceremony tomorrow on the campus of the Citadel.

A 1976 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, Lieutenant Colonel Julich earned a master of science degree in civil engineering from the University of Washington and is a registered professional engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Military honors conferred upon Lieutenant Colonel Julich include the Meritorious Service Medal with one oakleaf cluster, Army Commendation Medal with two oakleaf clusters, and the Army Achievement Medal with one oakleaf cluster. In addition to his domestic assignments, Lieutenant Colonel Julich has served tours in Asia and Europe.

As a Member of Congress, I view my role as a voice for the many constituents I represent who have no other presence in Washington. In this role, I interact with officials at all levels of the executive branch, and I know that each of them are dedicated employees who truly wish to serve the public interest.

A very few of these public servants are remarkable in that their level of dedication and professionalism exemplify the very best in what I consider a noble calling. Lieutenant Colonel Julich certainly falls within this category. Time and time again, I have called upon him to provide information so that I may advocate for my congressional district and its residents. Each and every time, my request was met with the same pleasant, professional, and very capable response.

I am very pleased to say that I also got to know Lieutenant Colonel Julich as a person, not just a public servant. I admire his dedication and I respect his integrity. Lieutenant Colonel Julich will be moving to the office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management at the Pentagon. All I can say is that the Pentagon's gain will be Charleston's loss.

LEGISLATION THAT MAKES SENSE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends to his colleagues this editorial which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on July 4, 1997. This editorial brings attention to the positive effect of a law passed by the Nebraska Legislature in 1981 referred to as the ''Good Samaritan'' law which protects anyone donating food from civil lawsuits. Without passage of this law in my home State of Nebraska, thousands of pounds of food that now feeds needy individuals would instead be thrown out each and every day. This Member would also like to commend the many businesses in my home State that contribute their unsold and left-over food and also to commend the charitable organizations that ensure that the food is distributed to needy people.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, July 4, 1997]

LESS FOOD GOES TO WASTE IN OMAHA

More than one-fourth of the food produced in the United States goes to waste, according to an Agriculture Department study. But in Omaha, the picture is different.

Nationally, more than 96 billion pounds of food of all kinds was lost in 1995, the government study indicated. It spoiled in the home refrigerator. It became outdated or damaged in grocery stores. It was left over, unserved, at restaurants and wedding receptions, in company lunchrooms and fast-food places, taco stands and bagel shops across the country.

In Omaha, a gratifying amount of food isn't wasted. Thanks to the generosity of businesses and the determination of the community's charitable organizations, a lot of good, healthful food that might have been tossed out is feeding hundreds of homeless and needy people.

Paul Koch, executive director of Siena-Francis House, said his organization serves 205,000 meals a year on a food budget of less than $2,000. Most food is donated. Fast-food restaurants, donut shops, food stores, restaurants and large corporations all helped, he said.

The Open Door Mission also benefits from local generosity. Pastor Bob Timberlake said the mission serves 900 meals a day, more than 328,000 a year, and 95 percent of the food is donated. He said mission trucks go to Mutual of Omaha, where they pick up all the

food not served in the company cafeteria. That provides 30 percent of the food the mission needs, he said.

Sixteen Kentucky Fried Chicken outlets give the chicken that was partially fried but not sold. ConAgra and Campbell's pass on extra or unneeded edibles. When Roberts Dairy trucks return from deliveries, their unsold dairy products are loaded directly into mission vans.

Food donations in Omaha are made easier by a far-sighted ''Good Samaritan'' law passed by the Nebraska Legislature in 1981 protecting anyone donating food from civil lawsuits.

The fact that the idea is working so well in Omaha is a credit to the city, a credit to charities that handle the food and a credit to good-hearted people.

EXPECTING NOTHING IN RETURN

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, very rarely do you meet a person who is willing to sacrifice so much of himself for one cause. I am rising today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Robert Elkowitz of Bay City, MI, who has selflessly given 30 years of service to his community, State, and Nation. Bob is retiring as commander of American Legion Post 18 after many years of dedicated service.

Bob began his journey by joining the Army as a medic during the Vietnam war. His medical unit not only cared for his fellow American soldiers, but also provided general health care and inoculations to Vietnamese children. He returned from Vietnam older and wiser with a firm commitment to his country. He credits his tour in Vietnam with creating the wholehearted and giving man he is today.

Mr. Elkowitz's dedication to others did not end once his feet touched American soil. After his discharge from the Army he joined the U.S. Naval Reserve as a medical corpsman for nearly 3 years. He then served in the Michigan Army National Guard, and became the unofficial director of social affairs. Bob organized parties and picnics for the entire unit to create a family within a family. Bob helped his fellow soldiers see that the entire unit could only function when they could rely on each other. By creating this family atmosphere, the unit did not just function, it thrived.

Bob is extremely proud of his service in the military and the National Guard. In fact, Mr. Elkowitz would not retire until his entire battalion was retired. He did not want his life's mission to end after his completion of service from the National Guard in August 1993. Bob joined American Legion Post 18 in June 1994, and was selected to serve as the commander. During his time in the American Legion, Bob dedicated himself to helping the Veterans in Need Program and organizing numerous functions to create the same family atmosphere he had in his battalion.

Vision is nothing without being a man of action, and Bob has that type of dedication to pursue his desires. Bob wanted to have the American Legion known throughout the community, and he fulfilled that desire. From the Bay River Band Concerts to the Bay City Independence Day Celebration Weekend you will see members of the American Legion. Bob and his successor are continuing to fulfill the dream to make the American Legion a vital local institution and community asset.

Bob is now at a crossroads in his life. After serving 3 consecutive years as the American Legion post commander, a post record, he now has more time to enjoy his family. He looks forward to ending his mission at a place which truly holds his heart, Bay City, and with people who mean everything to him, especially his grandchildren. I am sure that he will pass the same honor, integrity, courage, and zest for life he possesses on to future generations of the Elkowitz clan.

Mr. Speaker, if we want citizens who are absolutely driven by the concept of community and family, then we must continue to praise individuals like Robert Allen Elkowitz. I ask you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing Bob Elkowitz the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to warmly congratulate the town of Northbridge, MA, as it celebrates its 225th anniversary.

Northbridge, a present day community of approximately 13,000 residents in the heart of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, was incorporated as a town on July 14, 1772. Comprised of the five villages of Whitinsville, Rockdale, Riverdale, Linwood, and Northbridge Centre, this great municipality has a rich history characterized by its pioneering leadership in the development of the traditional New England manufacturing industry. At the inception of the Industrial Revolution, capitalizing on its fertile geographic competitive advantage to develop burgeoning industries, cotton, brick, and textile mills emerged in Northbridge steadily replacing older saw and grist mills, and still remain today as vital economic assets. In particular, the Whitin Machine Works, built in 1847, long served as the industrial center of the Northbridge economy, employing hundreds of members of the community through the 1950's.

In addition, Northbridge is widely noted for its striking aesthetic beauty and ebullient civic pride. Its citizens have had a strong, storied commitment of service to both community and country. Residents of Northbridge have served in all military wars and conflicts dating back to the American Revolution. In particular, Rosaire ''Ross'' Rajotte' dual service is illustrative of the unwavering Northbridge commitment to the larger community of which it is a part. Remarkably, Ross Rajotte earned four Purple Hearts during World War II. He then returned home after the war to become a leader in municipal affairs, serving three times on the Board of Selectman, and as its chairman once, as well as helping establish both Northbridge's Conservation Commission and the Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and admiration that I commend Northbridge for its outstanding, prosperous, and distinctive civic character. I wish future generations of community members the very best in maintaining Northbridge's glowing testament of progress and citizenship.

WELCOME TO THE FORUM ACOREANO

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year I had a very useful and enjoyable meeting with an organization newly formed in Southeastern Massachusetts. The meeting took place in Fall River, and the group is the Forum Acoreano U.S.A. The Forum is composed of people who are concerned about issues that are of particular relevance to Azorean Americans, of which I am proud to say there are more in Southeastern Massachusetts than in any other part of the country. The officers of the organization—President Alfredo Alves, Vice President Maria Pinheiro, Secretary Manuel Estrella and Treasurer Arthur Tavares—and their colleagues are thoughtful well informed people who understand both the greatness of America, and the valuable contributions immigration makes to that. I look forward to working with this important organization in achieving the combination of economic growth and social justice which has been the hallmark of Americans at our best, and I ask that the very thoughtful letter that the Forum has addressed to myself and all of my colleagues be printed here. It is particularly relevant that this be printed at this time while conferees are deciding exactly what should be done to correct the serious errors Congress made last year in adopting legislation which so unfairly affected our immigrant population, and their families and friends.

FORUM ACOREANO U.S.A.,
Fall River, MA, June 24, 1997.

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS: We are a newly created organization formed to promote and give political voice to the concerns and interests of persons in the United States of Acorean origin. All of our members are immigrants of many years duration in the United States and we are saddened and deeply disturbed by legislation passed by Congress this past year which drastically alters the Immigration and Naturalization Act and which curtails disability and other benefits available to legal permanent residents of the United States.

Never before have we witnessed a Congress of the United States take such drastic measures as those passed into law in 1996. Never before have we witnessed the passage of legislation so purposefully aimed to undermine the most vulnerable and defenseless in our country: the aged, the afflicted, the infirmed, the physically disabled, the mentally incompetent, the dependent child, the disabled child, as well as the immigrant among us who has no power to vote.

We urge you to:

Return full disability and other benefits to disabled legal permanent residents;

Ensure that student exchange visitor programs can continue to run without mandated agency reimbursement;

Ensure special consideration regarding the English language requirement with respect with persons over the age of 65 who are applying for citizenship;

Preserve humanitarian relief from deportation for long-term permanent residents and others who have extensive family and community ties in the United States;

Hold public meetings to better know the needs and concerns of your constituents, prior to passage of legislation.

Please consider and remember during your legislative deliberations that when a long-term permanent resident is deported, we have personally witnessed the following:

United States citizen children who are minors have been compelled to accompany a deported parent in order to maintain the family unit;

A United States citizen child never has the same opportunities for education and economic well being in his or her parent's home land as he or she would have in the U.S.

Families have been irreparably broken up;

Youngsters have lost parents and great emotional harm has resulted;

Aged parents have lost the solace and company of a son or daughter who is deported and have no hope of seeing that child again;

Families have lost their major breadwinner and have been forced to turn to public benefits for relief;

We can not imagine why Congress would single out these vulnerable groups among us and tamper with their well being and their family unity. We wonder if the members of Congress spoke with their constituents before passage of such far reaching legislation We wonder if you remembered that we are a nation of immigrants and that it is our diversity which has made us strong?

If you doubt the contribution of immigrants to this country, we invite you to visit our communities in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. There you will see how we have transformed run-down urban neighborhoods in Fall River, New Bedford, Cambridge, Somerville, Peabody, and Taunton, as well as Providence, East Providence, Bristol, Tiverton, West Warwick into clean, safe, updated, family neighborhoods.

Even though some of us speak with an accent, and have names that may be hard to spell or pronounce, we are nonetheless, voters and tax payers, and we own businesses and property, we are also educators, public officials and public servants, as well as doctors and lawyers and, if you visit the factories in our communities you will see that we are the backbone of the work force. We are also the mothers, fathers, children, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts and cousins of legal permanent residents who have been hurt by the recent legislation and as such, the laws have hurt us as well.

We urge you ladies and gentleman of Congress to remember the plight of the immigrant during the deliberations of the 105th Congress and to ameliorate the present legislation.

Respectfully submitted, Forum Acoreano—U.S.A. Board of Directors.

ALFREDO ALVES,
President.
MANUEL ESTRELLA,
Secretary.
MARIA PINHEIRO,
Vice President.
ARTHUR TAVARES,
Treasurer.

HONORING AMBASSADOR LILJEGREN OF SWEDEN

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I come before this body today to both bid good bye and to give special recognition to the accomplishments of Sweden's Ambassador to the United States, the Honorable Henrik Liljegren. He has proven himself to be a skillful and resourceful diplomat.

My colleagues will remember that Ambassador Liljegren arrived in the United States over 4½ years ago. Among his many accomplishments was his active involvement in 1993 of removing Soviet troops from the Baltic States of Europe. Many of you will also recall his work with the Clinton administration to help these Baltic States integrate into the West. He was successful in both of these endeavors. These efforts helped the United States and Sweden seize a narrow window of opportunity to enhance the national interests of both nations. Through his efforts in the Baltic States, working in coordination with the United States, Ambassador Liljegren helped President Clinton achieve one of his first foreign policy successes.

While Washington's official diplomatic community will truly miss Ambassador Liljegren, Washington society will also miss his charming wife, Nil. She is one of those rare flowers who is truly beautiful and intelligent.

As they both depart for the Ambassador's next assignment in Turkey, I would like to extend to him the very best wishes of the United States House of Representatives.

SOCIAL SECURITY FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, along with the vast majority of Americans, I strongly support the Social Security program and believe that we have a responsibility to make it financially secure for generations to come.

When I am in my congressional district, I see this highly successful program at work. More than 63,000 residents of my district receive a Social Security benefit every month. Social Security provides a guaranteed benefit to 99 percent of retirees in the United States. Social Security provides a secure base for senior citizens and allows their children to concentrate more financial resources on their own families.

However, we all realize that Social Security has a financing problem that we must address. The sooner we resolve it, the less drastic the solutions and the greater the lead time for people to adjust for their own retirement. I do want to point out, however, that we have time to discuss and decide on wise and prudent adjustments. In 1983, the Social Security trust fund would have been insolvent in 2 months if Congress had not acted. Today, we have 30 years to avoid a similar situation.

Radically altering the system is not warranted—the projected shortfall in the trust fund can be fixed with relatively minor changes to the system. Privatization and gambling with retirement income is not the answer. The Social Security Administration has been aware of the problem posed by the retirement of the baby boom generation for decades. Social Security has faced challenges in the past and can face this challenge of the future without dismantling the entire system.

As we search for solutions to Social Security's long-term problems, we should think about the features of the program that work. Foremost among them is the availability of benefits to all workers who earned them, regardless of income. Therefore, I agree with the Social Security Advisory Council that we should reject means testing. Tying benefits to need sends the wrong message to workers and beneficiaries—a signal that if they save for retirement, their Social Security, to which they are currently contributing, could be reduced or lost.

In addition, the program's progressive benefit formula already differentiates between those who are more highly compensated and those who are not. Lower wage workers currently receive a greater return on their payroll taxes than average and high earners. This practice works, but additional tilting away from those who earn more could punish productivity and create the impression that Social Security is somehow a welfare program. Nothing could be further from the truth.

On the other hand, privatization would tilt the Social Security program far away from lower wage workers, by introducing a huge element of uncertainty into the economy and into a retirees' monthly income. Therefore, we must reject this change. Social Security currently is the secure portion of a retirement portfolio. An individual's savings and investments now are the risk-taking segment. Privatizing makes Social Security and an individual's retirement income subject to the whims of the stock market and the skills, or lack thereof, of a person's financial advisor. In short, gambling with our seniors' future livelihoods is unacceptable.

With privatization, we would be placing all of our retirement eggs in one unstable basket—risking scrambling all of our retirement plans.

Proponents of privatization suggest that it will promote national savings, but shifting payroll taxes from the Social Security trust funds into individual accounts does not increase the national savings by one penny.

Misinformation regarding Social Security has been spread by powerful groups determined to turn the entire fate of America's retirees over to Wall Street. In contrast, making reasonable modifications to restore Social Security's long-term imbalance is a more sound and prudent course.

Let me repeat—we have time to fix the problems. Social Security has stood the test of time and has proven to be a fair and successful program. We do not need to rush into unknown waters with privatization and other radical proposals. Our seniors and future seniors deserve to have this body take a moderate and deliberative approach to altering a program that has served so many so well.

NATIONAL GUARD HONORED

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the brave men and women of the National Guard were honored at the world premier of Charles Gabriele's ''National Guardian's March'' presented in Venice, FL, on May 19, 1997 at a concert of the Venice Concert Band directed

by Bill Millner. The National Guard in recent years served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and in Florida in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew and Hurricane Opal.

During the concert, U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Steven Solomon, Commander of 83d Troop Command, presented the Venice Concert Band and Professor Gabriele each with a framed certificate of appreciation ''for exceptional service to the Army National Guard.'' Gabriele is noted worldwide for his classical compositions and patriotic marches, such as ''Korea Veterans March,'' which was performed by the U.S. Army Band for the dedication of the Korea War Memorial in Washington, DC. Also during the program Sarasota County Commission Chairman Robert Anderson presented the Venice Concert Band and Dr. Gabriele with commendations; and city of Venice Vice Mayor David Farley, Councilmen Earl Midlam, Burt Brown and Virginia Warren presented them with commendations and a flag of the city of Venice.

Members of the band who performed in the historic premier of the ''National Guardian's March'' were: Renee Arata, Marilyn Bay, Jan Bonds, Henry Busche, Russell Byron, Fred Capitelli, Harokl Chase, Rogers Cumming, Carmelo Cuscina, Vicki Elmore, Mary Ann Farrell, Jay Fish, Judson, Vincent Gigliotti, Harry Gilmore, Les Gowan, Ed Gremp, Charles Heidorn, Willie Jacus, Bob Kaltenbaugh, David Leath, Carl Linden, Mary Lipton, Julie Mahler, Robert McMullen, Les McRea, Alex Meldrum, Bill Meyer, Rex Morse, Shirley Morse, Mary Mullen, George Olisar, Stanley Ovaitt, Fred Ploch, Marilyn Sexton, Jane Sibole, Larry Shields, Ken Sotherlund, Bob Spangle, Missy Thornley, Connie Timm, Michael Torino, Basil Wanshula, Agnes Warfield, Roger Wolfe and Don Yasso.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this well-deserved tribute to the National Guard.

A MAN TO BE ADMIRED

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who truly embodies the community spirit so valued by all Americans. A good friend to many of us, Robbie Callaway has enriched and enhanced the lives of countless children in his own community and across the Nation. His outstanding accomplishments, especially those with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and inspiring commitment to future generations should be recognized and appreciated.

After graduating from the University of Maryland in 1973, Robbie began his lifelong ambition to help disadvantaged children succeed in our challenging and ever-changing world. He first was a counselor at the Caithness Shelter Home, and later was appointed deputy director of the Boys and Girls Homes of Montgomery County, MD.

In 1991, Robbie became senior vice president for government relations for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Since Robbie's appointment on a national level, he has more than doubled the number of youths whom the Boys and Girls Clubs network serves. He also played a key role in obtaining funds from various Federal agencies, so much that the funds received by the national organization made a dramatic increase from $50,000 in 1991 to an astounding and well-deserved $36 million during 1996.

Not only has Robbie performed his job at the Boys and Girls Clubs of America with dedication and competence, he displayed instrumental precision in acquiring funds from various Federal agencies for other programs to aid children. His work and leadership for the construction and growth of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and his current service as vice chairman of their board of directors is just one shining example of his efforts. His expertise continues to be vital to the success of this program.

Robbie has influenced a number of Federal laws which affect America's youth including the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, the Child Protection Act, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act, the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, the National and Community Service Act, and the Tax Reform Act.

Robbie has received numerous prestigious awards throughout his career. In 1987, he received the honorable award of Outstanding Service to President Reagan's Child Safety Partnership from the U.S. Department of Justice. In 1990, Robbie was honored with the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award. And in 1992, he went on to acquire the distinguished Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, Robbie's accomplishments appear to be endless and in some ways they are. The youth of today will reap the rewards of his efforts as will future generations. If there is one thing we can recognize about Robbie Callaway is that he has made a difference in our society. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Robbie Callaway, an outstanding individual, from whom we can all learn, and one who has helped to improve and enrich all of our lives.

TRIBUTE TO CAMELOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. ADAM SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate Camelot Elementary School in Auburn, WA, for their recent selection as a Blue Ribbon School. It is an honor to have this school in the Ninth Congressional District. Only 263 schools nationwide are awarded this honor. The Blue Ribbon School status is awarded to schools which have strong leadership; a clear vision, and sense of mission that is shared by all connected with the school; high-quality teaching; challenging, up-to-date curriculum; policies and practices that ensure a safe environment conducive to learning; a solid commitment to parental involvement; and evidence that the school helps all students achieve high standards.

I commend the staff, students, and parents of Camelot Elementary School for their hard work in building an effective community for learning. The focus on literacy and assuring students obtain the essential skills needed for life is absolutely necessary and I am glad we have Camelot Elementary School as an example for how we need to work toward in educating our children.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES B. POST

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor to a courageous young man from my district who persevered to overcome extraordinary circumstances in order to obtain his dream. Dr. James B. Post, a quadriplegic since age 14, recently received his medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

At age 14, a diving accident at a Boy Scout camp left Jim Post paralyzed from the neck down. He cannot move his legs and has only partial use of his arms, yet Jim went on to become an Eagle Scout and later attended King's College in Wilkes-Barre, PA. At King's, Jim studied premed and finished in the top 10 percent of his class.

I have known this young man and his family for many years, and I can attest to the strength of character he demonstrated during his extraordinary struggle not just to survive, but to excel. With the constant love and support of his family, Jim Post rose to meet challenges most teenagers without disabilities never face.

Mr. Speaker, while these accomplishments alone deserve praise, Jim continued to pursue his dream and applied to 10 medical schools. Each of the 10 schools refused him admission because of his disability. However, he did not give up, fighting on television and in the press, his story gained State and national attention and soon found many supporters. His battle for admission led to a State Senate investigation and a 1993 law barring Pennsylvania colleges from discriminating on the basis of disability.

After speaking with faculty at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Jim applied and was accepted on the condition he hire a physician's assistant to help examine patients. Along with this help and with his wife Saretha and son James by his side, Jim began the rigors of medical school undaunted.

Mr. Speaker, Jim Post, not only graduated from medical school, he was admitted to an honor society Alpha Omega Alpha which only admits students in the top 15 percent of the class who possess proper attitude and professionalism toward patients.

Currently, Jim is preparing to begin his internship at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York. He plans to specialize in either nephrology or endocrinology.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. James B. Post is a living testament to the triumph of the human spirit. It is with great pride and admiration that I bring the remarkable accomplishments of this courageous young man to the attention of my colleagues and add my best wishes for his continued success.

COMMENDING ROGER TILLES' LEADERSHIP ON THE NEA

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend Mr. Roger Tilles on his insightful and provocative op-ed piece on the National Endowment for the Arts, which was recently published in the New York Times. Mr. Tilles, who is the former President of Temple Beth-el of Great Neck, has worked from the private sector to further the cultural enrichment of the Long Island community. With generous support from the Tilles family, Long Island University created the Tilles Center which has been vital in educating students about the arts, and bringing world class cultural exhibits and performances to Long Island. His following op-ed piece recognizes the unique partnership that exists between the private sector and the NEA. When voting on the NEA, we should look to Mr. Tilles' example, and recognize that public funding for the arts, and private sector philanthropy go hand in hand.

[From the New York Times, June 29, 1997]

TIME TO FIGHT TO SAVE THE N.E.A.

(By Roger Tilles)

As efforts are mounted to scrap the National Endowment for the Arts, there is no small irony that among the reasons why Long Island is now among the top 20 places to live in the nation is its quality of life, best reflected in the broad scope of cultural and performing arts programs that are now at serious risk.

In the global battle for economic investment, local corporations seeking to entice new industries, jobs and capital to our region offset our high taxes and congested highways by using the arts as an attractive inducement. And with the bicounty region now deeply dependent on tourism, some 25 million people who visit Long Island annually now seek out our 12 dance companies, 40 arts organizations, 46 museums, 80 music companies, 30 theater companies and countless art galleries.

Far more than the loss of artistic outlets, shutting down the N.E.A. would have a direct, profound and negative impact on Long Island's economy. Without the small stipend many of these artistic programs receive from the National Endowment for the Arts, the vast majority of these cultural attractions would whither and disappear.

The battle over the N.E.A. has its roots in the fierce partisan battles that have erupted in Congress over the last several years. Whether it is dollars earmarked for Ernie the Muppet or Ernie the Artist, N.E.A. support is now considered a political litmus by the Congressional leadership. It is as if a performance of Mozart, an exhibit of de Kooning or a performance of ''Swan Lake'' are now battlegrounds for the hearts and minds of the electorate. This is treacherous ground because, for those with a sense of history, there is a faint echo from a not so distant past when a fascist government used the arts to sanitize their murderous regime.

To prevent plans from moving ahead to dismantle the National Endowment of the Arts, Long Island, with its population of nearly three million people, is going to have to become far more millitant on behalf of the arts. It should not be unfamiliar territory. As we shifted public policy on issues relating to breast cancer and the environment, we need to take those lessons and apply them to this equally crucial task.

Our first step should be the mobilization of those individuals who have served in the past as potent financial and ideological supporters of either major political parties. It will be a powerful message indeed if both Republican and Democratic standard-bearers discover that their core constituencies are united behind a common theme—protection of the arts. We need to condition our support based on where public officials stand as it relates to the arts and their support for the National Endowment.

In addition, because of Long Island's financial depth, many of us are targeted by political action committees and campaigns far outside Long Island. We need to include the arts as part of our personal platform for contributions.

Elected officials from Maine to California need to know that their support of N.E.A. programs is a critical factor in our determination of whether they are worthy of our dollars. We also need to network with those cultural and performing arts organizations working in Congressional districts where opponents of the arts endowment are located so that our message is carried far beyond the Long Island Expressway. That can be accomplished by becoming more involved with the artistic organizations that currently exist in the bicounty region.

As the Long Island Congressional delegation once led the charge to fund locally built weapons systems that defeated our Cold War opponents, let them now use their debating skills to protect the performances, programs and exhibits that now nurture the human spirit and enhance our region's economic and social quality of life.

We need only demonstrate our personal leadership to insure that our elected officials pretend that Chopin is a weapons system and vote accordingly.

H.R. 849—CORRECTIONS DAY CALENDAR SUCCESS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend this House for instituting a way Congress can quickly correct illogical and sometimes absurd quirks in our laws. Just this week, the Corrections Day Calendar was used to pass a bill I introduced, H.R. 849, that will save the taxpayers millions.

This past February, I was shocked to hear that because of a small loophole in the law, an illegal immigrant living in my own hometown was paid $12,000 in taxpayer dollars to move her home. I then discovered that potentially millions were being handed out in this same way across the country. Mr. Speaker, the folks back home were outraged. My office received literally hundreds of letters and phone calls. They demanded that this practice be stopped.

Because of the Corrections Day Calendar, my bill to close that loophole was able to bypass the long process of hearings that accompany legislation, and go virtually straight to the floor for a vote. After only a short discussion, H.R. 849 passed without any opposition, 399 to 0.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents are not satisfied with tough talk and no action. The folks in my district, much like folks all across the country, want to see results from Washington. Using the Corrections Day Calendar to pass H.R. 849 shows America that this Congress is serious about cleaning up our laws and saving the taxpayer's money.

THE FAMILY FARM CREDIT OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 1997

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Family Farm Credit Opportunity Act of 1997, a bill that will correct an inequity in the Farm Service Agency's [FSA] Guaranteed Loan Program. Currently, this program has upper limits on the amounts that can be guaranteed by the FSA. Specifically, the two types of loans administered under this program—farm ownership loans and operating loans—have caps of $300,000 and $400,000, respectively. The farm ownership loan cap was adjusted to its current level in 1978, while the operating loan cap was last raised in 1984. At these times, farm ownership and operating costs could be adequately financed within both of these cap limits.

However, given today's larger and more capital-intensive farming operations, the limits must be raised in order to meet the needs of those seeking financing through the Guaranteed Loan Program. For example, in my home State of Mississippi, poultry is a growing industry. In the early 1980's a typical poultry house cost approximately $65,000. Today the same poultry house can cost up to $125,000. Also, more volume is necessary to compete on the world market. In fact, most banks will not finance a beginning poultry farm with less than four poultry houses. It is easy to see that a minimum of four poultry houses at a cost of $125,000 per house exceeds the farm ownership cap level of $300,000 in the Guaranteed Loan Program. This is just one example of how the upper limits on loans can take qualified applicants out of the market. This problem exists throughout the entire agricultural sector, not just the poultry industry.

To address this problem, I am introducing the Family Farm Credit Opportunity Act of 1997 which would raise the cap limits on both the farm ownership loan and the operating loan to $600,000. The poultry example displays how much agriculture has changed since the caps were last amended in 1978 and 1984. In fact, while the increase in the cap limits may seem substantial at first, neither increase reflects the increase in inflation. Shouldn't we at least keep up with inflation for a program that has served as a consistent vehicle of opportunity for the small family farmer? In today's budget-minded era, I believe we must find solutions that will not only correct problems that have been developing over the years, but also do them at a relatively low cost to the taxpayer with a long-term solution in mind. That is why my bill increases the cap limits to specific amounts, $600,000 for the coming year, but also includes a provision to index both caps for inflation beginning in year 2. This last provision will allow the caps to automatically adjust for inflation, which will provide a long-term fix to the problem and assure that the family farm does not outgrow the upper limits of the farm ownership loan or the

operating loan over time. I would like to point out that my bill will not guarantee acceptance of applications submitted to the FSA. Farmers would still have to go through an application process, but if the individual is eligible and accepted he or she would have the opportunity to receive adequate financing through a farm ownership or operating loan. In order to preserve the family farm and continue America's tradition of promoting the family farmer, we must provide a mechanism which enables them to receive the funds necessary for ownership and operation of a farming business.

Congress appropriates money for the FSA Guaranteed Loan Program each year. Shouldn't we put this money to its best and most efficient use? Should we also be willing to step back and take a good look at what a family farmer in 1997 really is? Of course we should use these funds as efficiently as possible and in a way that positively affects our overall economy. As for the family farmer, they still exist and are successful, but they aren't the same as they were 19 years ago in 1978 or even in 1984. Why?

Well, let's take a look at some of the changes that have occurred over this period. First of all, markets have become global. Not only do our farmers have to compete with each other, but also farmers around the world in China, Japan, Russia, Canada, Mexico just to name a few. Technology and research have both been overwhelmingly successful in allowing us to increase our production with less land, enabling us to idle environmentally sensitive land that is less productive and therefore ensure that we never revert back to the ''Dust Bowl'' days of the 1930's. Capital intensive is a word that was not as common in the late 1970's and early 1980's as it is today. In fact, we cannot talk about agriculture today without mentioning how the industry has drastically shifted from a labor-intensive industry to an industry dominated by capital. Twenty years ago, who could have imagined that we would be using satellites to level our land or to tell us exactly where chemical application was needed? Who could have imagined that biotechnology would yield such complex seed developments? Who could have imagined that we would have the technology to so closely monitor the growth of our animals that we would have the ability to specifically and scientifically regulate diets in order to achieve faster growth with less fat? My point, Mr. Speaker is that agriculture has changed and so has the family farmer.

The Guaranteed Loan Program was designed to help the family farmer. In order to continue this goal, we must address the needs of today by providing the capital necessary to compete and be successful. The family farmer is a larger operator relative to 1978 standards. We need cap limits that reflect this change. If we truly want to help the family farmer, let's fix a program that has historically been successful in helping this critical sector of our country. Let us not stop the progress of our farmers. We should not deny any eligible person in our Nation the opportunity to own and operate a family farm in order to pursue their idea of the American dream. This legislation will help our farmers expand their opportunities, increase our markets, improve our competitiveness, and make possible those dreams.

H.R.—

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

SECTION 1. INCREASE IN MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GUARANTEED FARM OWNERSHIP LOANS; INDEXATION TO INFLATION

Section 305 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1925) is amended—

(1) by striking ''$300,000'' and inserting ''$600,000 (increased, beginning with fiscal year 1998, by inflation percentage applicable to the fiscal year in which the loan is to be made or insured)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following: ''For purposes of this section, the inflation percentage applicable to a fiscal year is the percentage (if any) by which (A) the average of the Consumer Price Index (as defined in section 1(f)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) for the 12-month period ending on August 31 of the immediately preceding fiscal year, exceeds (B) the average of the Consumer Price Index (as so defined) for the 12-month period ending on August 31, 1996.''.

SEC. 2. INCREASE IN MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GUARANTEED FARM OPERATING LOANS; INDEXATION TO INFLATION.

Section 313 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1943) is amended—

(1) by striking ''$400,000'' and inserting ''$600,000 (increased, beginning with fiscal year 1998, by the inflation percentage applicable to the fiscal year in which the loan is to be made or insured''); and

(2) by adding at the end the following: ''For purposes of this section, the inflation percentage applicable to a fiscal year is the percentage (if any) by which (A) the average of the Consumer Price Index (as defined in section 1(f)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) for the 12-month period ending on August 31 of the immediately preceding fiscal year, exceeds (B) the average of the Consumer Price Index (as so defined) for the 12-month period ending on August 31, 1996.''.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL CHOW

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual, Mr. Paul Chow. Mr. Chow is being honored by the Angel Island Association for his 25-year crusade leading the preservation and restoration of the Detention Barracks at Angel Island State Park.

In addition to helping prevent the demolition of the barracks, Mr. Chow founded the Asian-American Immigration Station Historical Advisory Committee to restore the barracks and protect the Asian history and poetry carved in the walls. He was also instrumental in the creation of a museum at the former Immigration Station on Angel Island.

In recognition of his accomplishments in the areas of historical, cultural and natural preservation, Mr. Chow was the recipient of the Phoenix Award, presented by the Society of American Travel Writers. He continues to volunteer his time to guide hundreds of people through the Immigration Station, relaying personal stories about the struggles of his own family during their time at the station as they became citizens.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to Paul Chow. His dedication and success to preserve a piece of history is admirable. I wish Paul and his family the best.

ROSAIRE ''ROSS'' RAJOTTE

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend Rosaire ''Ross'' Rajotte on a distinguished and storied dual commitment of service to both his country and the community of Northbridge, MA. Remarkably, Ross Rajotte earned four Purple Hearts during World War II. He then returned home after the war to become a leader in municipal affairs, serving three times on the board of selectman, and as its chairman once, as well as helping establish both Northbridge's conservation commission and the planning and zoning board of appeals. An activist by nature, Ross Rajotte must also be recognized for his impeccable commitment of service to his community, which has witnessed Ross attend an incredible 50 consecutive annual town meetings. Ross' genuine concern for others is truly a product of his community's similar desire to promote the public good.

Mr. Speaker, I insert into the RECORD two newspaper articles about Ross Rajotte, one from the Worcester Telegram and Gazette and one from the Northbridge Times, detailing Ross Rajotte's outstanding and distinguished service.

[From the Northbridge (MA) Times, May 15, 1997]

FIFTY IN A ROW—ROSS RAJOTTE STARTED ATTENDING TOWN MEETING IN 1947—AND HASN'T MISSED AN ANNUAL SINCE

(By Rod Lee)

Standing on the Whitinsville Town Common for middle schoolers' Civil War Monument Rededication Ceremony last Thursday morning, Rosaire J. ''Ross'' Rajotte was still sky-high from having attended his fiftieth consecutive Annual Town Meeting less than forty-eight hours earlier—an unprecedented mark at least within the Blackstone Valley and possibly throughout the Commonwealth and the nation.

Rajotte had reason to rejoice: not only did two of the three articles he submitted by petition for the warrant win voter approval on the floor of the Northbridge High School auditorium last Tuesday evening, he was also singled out for praise by Town Moderator Harold D. Gould Jr. and received legislative proclamations and standing ovations from fellow residents in recognition of his remarkable achievement. He is to Northbridge Town Meeting in terms of longevity what the fabled and now-retired runner Johnny Kelley is to the Boston Marathon.

Most persons in their mid-seventies like Rajotte, or approaching that age, and a few who have even passed it, admit they cannot fathom such stalwartness.

Even Whitinsville Attorney Joseph Jundanian, who will turn eighty-two in September, shakes his head in wonder when he contemplates Rajotte's record.

''I'm not that faithful,'' Jundanian said. ''I started attending in the 1950's, but I haven't gone to every meeting. Ross, he's a living legend.

''I'm perhaps the oldest active public official in the state of Massachusetts because I was nominated for the Northbridge Housing Authority in 1956 and am still a member. I've had cause to be at Town Meeting on most occasions. But Ross is a very active person, and deserves a great deal of credit.''

Another Town Meeting ''old-timer,'' Jerry Bagdasarian, says that compared to Rajotte,

''I'm a newcomer. I've been attending probably twenty years, no more than twenty-five. I was always more inolved in the national scene until my brother Peter told me what happens locally is more important. I give Ross a lot of credit.''

Brunham P. Miller says he has been attending Town Meeting ''since moving back to the area in 1957''—and so has racked up nearly forty appearances of his own. But Miller has missed several of those, one because he was ill and at least one other because he was away. He has known Rajotte a long time and admires his commitment.

''I served with Ross on the first Charter Commission,'' Miller said. ''He was active then and still is. He's so dedicated and concerned about town government. What he believes in he believes in strongly, and he works hard to bring it about.''

Robert McConnell, who serves as assistant town moderator and who's been a teller at Town Meeting for a number of years, said he began attending ''sometime in the 60's'' and says he considers it amazing ''how loyal Ross has been all that time. When I was first on the Finance Committee,'' McConnell said, ''I honestly didn't realize the man's good intentions. I thought he was a pest. I came to realize he has the best interests of the town at heart and whether you agree with him or not on an issue, he always treats you the same.''

New Northbridge Town Manager William Williams, who attended his first Northbridge Town Meeting, said he has never met anyone quite like Rajotte.

''I have encountered people like him, but this is the first time I've met someone who brings such objectivity to their attendance, and not just a negativity. I've seen people who are veterans of Town Meetings, but usually they're 'Rogue's Gallery'-type characters.''

''Two of my articles passed!'' Rajotte beamed last Thursday, seemingly as pleased by this hoopla over his fiftieth. Article 26, which asked voters for the appropriation of $600.00 to print a large-book real estate and personal property valuation list, was approved. So too was the last article on the warrant, Article 30, which called for selectmen to ask members of Congress and the State Legislature to file bills not to allow public funds to be used to perform abortions. Article 28, seeking establishment of a five-member Consumer Advisory Board appointed by selectmen, was rejected.

One highlight of Spring Annual Town Meeting was approval by voters of a $11.3 million School Dept. budget that represents a 13.5 spending increase over FY '97—and $40,000 to fund consultant services towards determining a site for a new high school.

[From the Worcester (MA) Telegram and Gazette, May 6, 1997]

RAJOTTE HITS ''TREMENDOUS'' MILESTONE

(By Jim Bodor)

NORTHBRIDGE.—No one will ever call Rosaire J. ''Ross'' Rajotte a quitter.

During World War II, he was injured four times—earning four Purple Hearts—before he finally left the battlefield.

He caught a piece of shrapnel in his chest in Germany, a piece of mine in the head in France, and a bullet in the back of the neck in France.

But it wasn't until shrapnel ripped off part of his right foot in Germany that he was forced to end his tour of duty.

Back home in Northbridge, Rajotte's persistence has manifested itself on the town meeting floor.

Year after year, decade after decade, he has argued the pros and cons of every budget, zone change and land purchase to come before the town.

Tonight, Rajotte will attend his 50th consecutive annual town meeting, extending a local record that many believe will never be surpassed.

''There probably has never been a public official as devoted as Ross Rajotte,'' said Spaulding Aldrich, himself a town meeting veteran of about two decades. ''Whether you agree or disagree with him, you have to respect him because he does it because he loves his town.''

Rajotte's string of annual town meetings began in 1948, and was inspired by his service in the U.S. Army.

''When I was in the Army they used to talk to us about responsibility, and participating in your government,'' he said. ''So I went when I got home and I liked it and I kept going.''

Rajotte has been a member of the Board of Selectmen three times, serving as chairman once. He is credited with starting the town's first Conservation Commission and its first planning and zoning boards of appeals.

He has belonged to several veteran's committees, and has sponsored more than 100 articles at town meeting.

He also has filed countless bills with the state Legislature, on everything from prohibiting public funding of abortions, to mandating that dogs wear diapers in public.

''I never thought I would live this long to do all this,'' Rajotte said in his lilting French-Canadian accent, which is instantly recognizable to town meeting devotees. ''I'll go as long as I can.''

Numerous health problems have threatened Rajotte's streak in recent years. A pesky bout with pneumonia, for instance, put him in the hospital as recently as last week.

But his enthusiasm for town government is limitless. He once recruited two softball teams from a nearby ball field to reach a quorum at a town meeting. And he is the sponsor of three articles at this year's town meeting.

One calls for the town to reprint the list of property values in town; another calls for the creation of a consumer advisory commission to protect the elderly from scams; the third calls for the town to notify Congress that it opposes public funding of abortions.

Town Moderator Harold J. Gould, a veteran of 23 town meetings, said Rajotte's streak is particularly amazing at a time when interest in local government seems to be waning.

''Obviously it's a tribute to the individual and his interest in the town and town government,'' said Town Moderator Harold J. Gould. ''To be able to hold a string together like that for 50 years is a tremendous thing.''

ADDRESS BY AL HENRY

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to submit into the RECORD an address delivered to students of Newnan High School in Newnan, Georgia by Al Henry, who is a teacher at the school. This address was delivered May 19, 1997, by Mr. Henry on the occasion of the Academic Teams Reception for Newnan High School.

Having served in the United States Navy for 22 years, upon graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1956, and having served in the education field for 16 years, Mr. Henry has come to understand the qualities that young men and women need to develop in order to become the leaders of tomorrow and to impact the lives of others. Among other points, he encourages individuals to make personal decisions of integrity by doing what is right in a world that often teaches our youngsters early on to do what is expedient. He teaches our youngsters that all professions have high ethical standards, and it is the duty of each individual to learn to follow them faithfully. Finally, his address urges individuals not to speak ill of others or to undermine the community with rumors and unverified stories. Rather, he urges them to respect one another by living and working with selfless humility.

ADDRESS BY AL HENRY TO ACADEMIC TEAMS RECEPTION NEWNAN HIGH SCHOOL—MAY 19, 1997

GUIDELINES FOR LIFE

Every student here tonight is a future leader of his generation—a person who can make a difference in the lives of others. Tonight I want to give you 10 pointers to guide you throughout your life. What qualifies me to give you pointers? I'm certainly not as smart as many of you, but I have lived longer, and have experienced much in my life, made mistakes and learned from those mistakes. So, perhaps, I am a little wiser.

1. Be a person of integrity

Always do what is right rather than worrying about your rights. Integrity heeds the quiet voice within, rather than the clamor without.

2. Lead by example

Set higher requirements for yourself than for those who work for you. The most precious and intangible quality of leadership is trust—the confidence that the one who leads will act in the best interest of those who follow—the assurance that they will serve the group without sacrificing the rights of the individual. The leader must also trust those in his charge to do their job.

3. Uphold high standards

Be responsible, accept your responsibility and know that you are accountable to others as well as to yourself for doing your job to the best of your abilities in accordance with the high standards of your profession—all professions have high ethical standards. Learn what those ethical standards are and follow them faithfully.

4. Strive for excellence without arrogance

While striving to uphold high standards, and thus seeking excellence, remember that excellence with a dose of humility conveys our respect for those around us; others will always recognize true excellence in action. Study art and the humanities. The maths and sciences alone are insufficient to a complete education. It is easy to be an arrogant scientist without the humanities. The humanities and the arts give us wisdom, not data. They inherently enlighten us without overloading us with information. The cognitive study of math and science must be combined with the effective study of arts and the humanities for the sake of humanity and humanness. Remember that the aim of education is the knowledge not of facts but of values.

5. Do your best

This is a minimum requirement in all endeavors. If it is worth doing, do it right and do it well.

6. Treat everyone with dignity and respect

The greatest asset of any organization is its people. Treat each other well, look after each other, take care of each other, and together you can achieve great things. Remember that respect begets respect and that

teamwork and living in community with others is the healthiest form of competition because it requires cooperation. Our prisoners of war in Vietnam learned to put unity over self; they cared about each other and took care of each other and not one of them died because of loneliness in isolation as had been the case in the Korean War.

7. Tolerate honest mistakes from people who are doing their best

Not one of us will achieve true perfection, if we live to be a hundred; we all make mistakes. It is important to accept honest mistakes from those who are applying their talents and energies to the best of their ability. Have compassion and help people to overcome honest mistakes.

8. Seek the truth

Rumors and unverified stories undermine the bonds of community. Always seek the truth from those who are in a position to know. Also, seek the truth by resolving to be a life-long learner. We can never know all there is to know; however, we can learn something new every day.

9. Speak well of others

Gossip undermines our trust in each other. Gossip or speaking ill of others also demonstrates a genuine lack of respect for others in our community.

10. Keep a sense of humor

And be able to laugh at yourself. Being able to laugh at yourself increases the likelihood that, when you do achieve excellence, it will be without arrogance. The late Senator Sam Ervin said, ''Humor endows us with the capacity to clarify the obscure, to simplify the complex, to deflate the pompous, to chastise the arrogant, to point to a moral, and to adorn a tale—it also makes our heavy burdens light.''

These guidelines for life are not mine alone. They belong to all the midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy. But, they are free for your adoption. Be a person of integrity; trust others of high standards; strive for excellence without arrogance; have compassion; treat everyone with dignity and respect; seek the truth; speak well of others; do your best; and always keep a sense of humor.

Your parents, peers, teachers, and your friends expect these high standards of you. I know that you will give them no less.

THE BLAINE H. EATON POST OFFICE IN TAYLORSVILLE, MS

HON. CHARLES W. ''CHIP'' PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 1997

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce legislation designating the U.S. Post Office facility located in Taylorsville, MS, as the ''Blaine H. Eaton Post Office Building.''

A native of Smith County, MS, Mr. Eaton attended Jones Junior College from 1932 to 1934 and was named ''Alumni of the Year in 1984.'' He also attended the University of Mississippi and George Washington Law School.

He began his professional career as a farmer and cotton buyer from Anderson-Clayton Co. and in 1942, he became the first executive secretary to former U.S. Senator James O. Eastland, Democrat, of Mississippi. Mr. Eaton served our Nation in the U.S. Navy from 1944 to 1946. Upon returning home from the war, he was elected to serve in the Mississippi House of Representatives, and he effectively served the people of Smith County for 12 years. His leadership as chairman of the highway and highway finance committee resulted in the successful passage of the farm-to-market legislation that is still benefiting Mississippi today as the State aid road program. After leaving public office in 1958, Mr. Eaton became the manager of the Southern Pine Electric Power Association. His outstanding service and accomplishments were recognized by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association with the Clyde T. Ellis Award for distinguished service and outstanding leadership.

Although retiring from his professional career in 1982, Mr. Eaton remained active in community service and enriched the lives of many by volunteering his time and leadership abilities to such organizations as the Lion Club International, the Hiram Masonic Lodge, the Southeast Mississippi Livestock Association, and the Economic Development Foundation. He was also a loyal member of the First Baptist Church of Taylorsville where he taught Sunday school classes for 25 years.

With the death of Blaine Eaton in 1995, our State lost one of its finest citizens. Designating the Taylorsville Post Office as the ''Blaine H. Eaton Post Office Building'' will commemorate the public service of this extraordinary Mississippian who dedicated his life to the betterment of the community and State he loved so much.

H.R. —

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF BLAINE H. EATON POST OFFICE BUILDING.

The United States Post Office building located at 750 Highway 28 East in Taylorsville, Mississippi, shall be known and designated as the ''Blaine H. Eaton Post Office Building''.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States Post Office building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Blaine H. Eaton Post Office Building''.

CATEGORIC DENIALS

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following article, ''Categoric Denials,'' which appeared in the June 14, 1997 edition of Atlanta's Topside Loaf. This article describes the efforts of Project RACE, a national organization which advocates adding a multiracial category to legal forms at the State and Federal levels, including the 2000 U.S. census. Project RACE [Reclassify All Children Equally] has a web page which can be accessed at www.projectrace.mindspring.com.

Project RACE was founded by a constituent of mine from Roswell, GA, named Susan Graham. Susan is white and her husband is African-American. Their son Ryan has grown weary and frustrated from having to constantly choose between labeling himself as either ''white'' or ''black'' on legal and educational forms. ''I feel very sad, because I can't choose. I am Both,'' Ryan recently testified before Congress.

Representative THOMAS PETRI has introduced a bill, H.R. 830, which would establish the legal right for individuals such as Ryan to accurately describe himself as ''multiracial'' on such forms. Ryan was officially labeled ''black'' on school forms and ''white'' on the 1990 U.S. census.

It is time to stop forcing Americans like Ryan to choose between different heritages. In addition to increasing accuracy, recognizing the multiethnic race would also likely lead to health benefits for these individuals, who are routinely excluded as samples in pharmaceutical tests.

I was very disappointed by the recent recommendation by a Federal task force to not add such a designation to the 2000 census form. In a technicolor world, the Clinton administration can only see in black and white. Like Tiger Woods, millions of Americans of mixed ancestry have moved beyond the Census Bureau's divisive and inaccurate racial labels. In the absence of Presidential leadership, it may be necessary to advance Congressman PETRI'S legislation to overturn this misguided decision and take a major step toward a country in which the only box to check reads, ''American.''

[From the Topside Loaf, June 14, 1997]

CATEGORIC DENIALS

(By Anthony Heffernan)

At the tender age of 12, Ryan Graham of Roswell knows exactly who he is and who he is not. He isn't black, he will tell tell you, nor is he white. He's both, he says. His dad is black and his mom is white. The problem is that Ryan, like many of the other 2 million or more multiracial children in America, is often pigeonholed as one race or the other—and sometimes forced to choose between the two.

It's a very old battle that has received new attention since 21-year-old Tiger Woods ascended into the hallowed halls of sports superstardom after winning the Masters Tournament in April. Woods was widely heralded as the first African-American to win the tournament. But the young golfer has refused to be labeled as black. Woods points out that he is in fact one-eighth American Indian, one-eighth Caucasian, one-quarter African-American, one-quarter Thai and one-quarter Chinese.

As a child struggling to define his race, Woods coined the term ''Cabinasian;'' Ryan simply prefers to be called ''multiracial.'' Now, for the second time in his young life Ryan is asking the federal government to grant him that right.

Ryan and his mother, Susan Graham, President of the Roswell-based Project RACE (Reclassify All Children Equally), testified last month before a U.S. Senate subcommittee in Washington, D.C. The Grahams and others argue for a new multiracial category on all federal forms, including the 2000 U.S. Census. The 1990 Census afforded only five race classifications: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, black, white, or ''other.'' (Hispanics were tallied under a separate ''ethnic'' category.)

Ryan told Congress that, when forms require him to choose between black or white, ''I feel very sad, because I can't choose. I am both . . . Some forms include the term 'other,' but that makes me feel like a freak or a space alien. I want a classification that describes exactly what I am.''

Ryan and his mother first traveled to Washington to make the request four years ago, only to see the issue buried in bureaucratic hearings. But the Office of Management and Budget is finally expected to issue

a ruling on the issue this summer, bringing some kind of resolution to the battle Graham has fought for the past seven years.

It began when Ryan entered kindergarten. Graham vividly recalls the day she received a form from Ryan's north Fulton school, asking her to designate his race. When she noticed there was no multiracial category, she called the school to voice her concerns. Assured that she didn't have to complete the form, she sent it back blank. Later, she discovered Ryan's teacher had been told to fill out the form herself. The teacher had labeled him black.

At the same time, Graham was struggling to fill out her 1990 Census form. Again, she saw no ''multiracial'' category for her son and 2-year-old daughter. She called the U.S. Census Bureau and was advised that the children should take the race of their mother ''because in cases like these,'' she was told, ''we always know the race of the mother and not the father.''

Graham bristles at the memory. ''[They meant] that they always know who the mother is, and not the father. That was very insulting coming from our United States government.''

The ruling also meant more confusion for her son, who was now labeled white on the census and black at school. ''I realized that there was something very, very wrong with this picture,'' explains Graham, a writer whose articles about multiracial issues have appeared in the New York Daily News, the Chicago Tribune, and two anthologies about multiracial America.

From Graham's frustration was born Project RACE, a national organization which has successfully lobbied to have a multiracial category added to legal forms in seven states, including Georgia. If the category is added to federal forms, she recommends the following format: Under the ''Race'' category, people would be instructed to choose from five categories, including American Indian (or Alaska Native), Asian (or Pacific Islander), Black (or African American), Hispanic or White. Those who consider themselves multiracial would ''check as many as apply.'' The form could be adapted to list Hispanics separately under ''ethnicity,'' as on the last census.

Even if the Office of Management and Budget votes down the multiracial category; Graham says, supporters have drawn up a bill, H.R. 830, that would accomplish the same thing. But legislation, she notes, takes a long time. ''We would rather the Clinton administration do the right thing and add the category,'' she explains.

But the multiracial movement has drawn the ire of some blacks and Hispanics, who argue that creating a multiracial category might decrease minority numbers, thus exposing them to greater discrimination and reducing their claim to government programs.

''If the issue was solely identity, then you would have a line, and everyone would write in whoever they are,'' says Eric Rodriguez, policy analyst for the National Council of La Raza, a Latino group based in Washington, D.C. ''But the usefulness of collecting data in that manner is dubious. The broader [the categories] get, the more inaccurate your data gets. And these are the very tools that we use to fight discrimination and to work through anti-poverty programs.''

Dr. Joseph Lowery, outgoing president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), also criticizes the multiracial category in a written statement. He terms the category ''too vague,'' noting ''it could refer to a Norwegian/Aleutian.''

Lowery likes the proposed multiracial category to the ''coloured'' category adopted by South Africans to describe their citizens of mixed races. Those labeled ''coloured'' were given broader rights than those deemed to be black—''which shoved blacks down another notch on the equity pole,'' Lowery says.

Graham scoffs at Lowery's apartheid comparison. Multiracial Americans, she says, would receive no special rights. People of multiple races have just as great a need to track discrimination in the work place and in schools as other minorities, Graham says.

But one of the most convincing arguments for tracking the multiracial population is the need to garner additional medical information on multiracial Americans.

Ramona Douglass, president of the Association of Multi-Ethnic Americans (AMEA), knows all too well what medical dangers the multiracial community faces. Douglass, part Italian American, part American Indian an part African American, was once almost given the wrong anesthesia before major surgery because doctors had incorrectly assumed that she suffered from sickle-cell anemia, a disease common among African Americans. As a result, Douglas was forced to call off the surgery.

Other medical issues revolve around a shortage of suitable bonemarrow donors for people of multiracial descent. And, according to Douglass, drug dosages can be affected by racial or ethnic combinations. Still, pharmaceutical companies typically do not include multiracial Americans in their tests.

''It's not just a feel-good issue,'' Douglass says of the drive to add a multiracial category. ''There are, in fact, public health and medical concerns involved.''

Julie Bolen, a Cobb County resident and co-chair of the Interracial Family Alliance in Atlanta, believes adding a multiracial category is also an important step in acknowledging the legitimacy of this fast-growing segment of the population. ''It's not like it's some oddity that happens so infrequently that nobody knows what to call it,'' explains Bolen, who has two multiracial children, ages 16 and 20.

Bolen, from Oklahoma, recalls teachers trying to force her children to choose black or white ''because of subsidized lunch programs and things like that. My son would refuse to, and he even walked out of class over it,'' she recalls. ''Hopefully, that doesn't happen anymore. To even make such a big deal about it is, I think, real hurtful to kids.''

Graham and Project RACE have made as sure as they can that it doesn't happen anymore—at least not in those seven states that now recognize the multiracial category. Not in Fulton county, either, where 835 children were able to call themselves multiracial on school forms last year. And not to Graham's own children—not anymore. And victories such as those, Graham says, are what makes it all worthwhile.

TAIWAN YIELDS MODEL FOR A FREE HONG KONG

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, in light of the recent return of Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China I recommend to you the following article by Lee Teng-hui, which appeared in USA Today on Monday, June 30, 1997. I agree with him, the people of Hong Kong should look to Taiwan as a model to maintain democracy and encourage the Chinese mainland to do everything possible to head in that direction. This unique opportunity to expand democracy must be seized in order to ensure that the freedom, dignity, and humanity of all people is respected.

[From USA Today, June 30, 1997]

TAIWAN YIELDS MODEL FOR A FREE HONG KONG

(By Lee Teng-hui)

Today, the era of colonial rule will come to an end in Hong Kong. This is a proud event for all Chinese wherever they are, and offers a new opportunity for creating a democratic Chinese nation. We earnestly hope that the Beijing authorities will be able to maintain the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong, and will ensure that the people of Hong Kong continue to enjoy freedom, democracy and basic human rights. This is the only way to act in accord with the joint values and trends of mankind today, regional peace and development, and the common dignity and interests of all Chinese people.

Taiwan's experience offers reason for optimism.

A little more than one year ago, the Republic of China successfully held a direct presidential election on Taiwan, completing a crucial objective of our political reform. At the time, the concept of constitutional government stressed by Americans over two-hundred years ago kept coming to my mind: ''. . . all Men are created equal, . . . they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, . . . among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness . . . to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Government.''

Indeed, with the joint effort of the entire populace and their government, the Republic of China has upheld the principle of popular sovereignty on Taiwan, and has succeeded in lifting martial law, liberalizing the formation of political parties, realizing the practice of free speech, re-electing all national parliamentarians who had been in office for a long time, and carrying out a direct presidential election. Through these endeavors, the Republic of China has undergone profound change, and has become a full-fledged democracy.

However, we cannot overlook the fact that still over 20 percent of the world's population, most of whom live on the Chinese mainland, have no way to enjoy these rights. The Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Strait share the same cultural and racial heritage. Thus, there is no reason why we cannot jointly build a system of democracy and freedom, and fully exercise our God-given rights.

In 1979, before martial law was lifted in Taiwan, a number of protesters demonstrating against government censorship of their magazine were arrested and jailed in what became known as the Kaohsiung Incident. At the same time, the Chinese communist authorities arrested the human rights activist Wei Jingsheng. Today, many of those involved in the Kaohsiung Incident have redeemed themselves through the ballot box and have become important elected political leaders on Taiwan. However, Mr. Wei remains in jail. The marked differences in systems and values between the two sides are the fundamental reason why each of the two parts of the China we all want to see reunified one day still remain separate political entities.

Democracy has become a world trend, and is without doubt the greatest achievement of mankind this century. One reason civilization continues to progress is that we have the courage to realize our dreams, and we have the heart to care about each other and

provide mutual support. We must continue to uphold this spirit and sentiment, so that democracy ultimately becomes the common way of life of all humanity. May people living in every corner of the global village enjoy democracy!

Thus, we cherish the young buds of democracy on the Chinese mainland. Certain forms of election in rural townships and villages have spread on the mainland in recent years. We are happy to see it succeed and call on the Chinese mainland authorities to show the courage and determination to boldly take the grand route to democracy. Join with us and bring democracy to all of Chinese society, seeking everlasting well-being and peace for the Chinese people!

Unquestionably, if Taiwan can achieve democracy, then Hong Kong should be able to maintain democracy, and there is no reason why the Chinese mainland cannot do everything possible to head in that direction. This is the true way to solve the China problem.

In the 21st century, mankind will certainly prove that ''All roads lead to Democracy!''

TRIBUTE TO LT. GOV. HENRY E. HOWELL

HON. OWEN B. PICKETT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, he was dubbed a radical, a political gadfly, even a liberal Democrat, but to others who knew him, former Virginia Lt. Gov. Henry E. Howell, who died July 7, 1997, was a political visionary and a champion for justice. Even his closest friends would say he was a man who marched to a different drummer. He backed up his convictions with hard work and a pesky ability to reverse inequitable political policies of long standing.

He thumbed his political nose at the established Democratic party at a time when it was not popular, even though it meant he would never achieve the political plum he so dearly coveted—the governorship of Virginia. Sticking to his convictions in the face of political adversity cost him the governorship. Henry Howell loved Virginia, its institutions, and its people. Many credit him with changing the face of the Commonwealth's politics during his six major campaigns for State office between 1969 and 1977. Former Gov. Colgate W. Darden, Jr. has been quoted as saying, ''He stirred Virginia politics only like dynamite could have done in a pond,'' adding, ''He gave greater impetus to mass voting in Virginia and stirred people more than anybody in my lifetime.''

That was Henry Howell. He intended his work, not to destroy, but to improve the State and its government by making them accessible to all the people. He never allowed political differences, however, to taint his social or personal relationship with adversaries. His quick, warm, and winning smile served him both as a politician and a person.

Henry Howell leaves his indelible and pervasive mark on the political history of Virginia. Those who knew and loved him best will miss his mischievous smile, warm counsel, commonsense perspective, and keen political insight.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2016) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Chairman, I rise to compliment the Appropriations Military Construction Subcommittee for not funding additional rounds of the Base Realignment and Closure [BRAC] process. Several of my colleagues from Texas and I have been advocating zero-funding for BRAC and I am pleased the committee agrees with me.

The fact is, the last 4 rounds of the BRAC process have resulted in the closing of 97 defense installations in the United States. And yet today, we are still unable to fully assess the impact of the closures. We have not seen a report or complete assessment of how the closures affect military preparedness. We do not know the amount of actual savings, if any, generated from the closures. And yet we do know that we have spent a lot of money to close these bases. According to the Department of Defense, by the year 2000, we will have spent approximately $23 billion in clean-up and other costs associated with closing these bases.

Members, not funding additional rounds of BRAC makes sense. By not funding additional rounds of BRAC, we are saying ''let's look before we leap.'' Congress does not need to continue to spend the taxpayer's money on BRAC until we know if we have actually saved money by closing these bases; how much of the taxpayer's money has been spent closing these bases; and how the closure of bases has affected our country's military preparedness. This bill will allow us to make those assessments in a responsible and effective manner.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I reluctantly rise in support of the rule to the Interior appropriations bill.

Though I am disappointed that the rule fails to protect an amendment for full NEA funding I must support the rule due to the Interior appropriations bill's inclusion of $8.5 million for Sterling Forest. I support continued funding for the NEA.

Funding for the arts has not only produced $3.4 billion in revenue, but supports local economies by way of increased sales in local establishments.

The arts are an integral part of education. Children with an arts background have shown increased ability in math, and a heightened capability for analytical and creative thinking. Funding for the National Endowment for the Arts has also created many literacy programs and children's educational activities.

In my own 20th District of New York, I understand the necessity of continued funding for the arts. The local theater and arts groups, orchestras, and dance troupes, will suffer greatly. These groups represent thousands of jobs that are supported by the arts.

Moreover, I strongly support the agreement between New York and the Sterling Forest Corp. designed to purchase Sterling Forest. This has been a long and hard battle for many years as Chairman Rugula and my New Jersey colleagues know.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House and Senate in fully funding the NEA during the House-Senate conference.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DR. CHARLES L. DRAKE

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, as a 1974 graduate of Dartmouth College, it is with great sadness that I bring to the attention of the House the passing of Dr. Charles (Chuck) Drake on Tuesday, July 8, 1997. Let me convey my personal sympathies to his friends and family. Furthermore, I would like to submit to the RECORD the text of an obituary that appeared in the New York Times so that the American people can reflect upon the accomplishments of a great American and a true scholar.

[From the New York Times, July 11, 1997]

CHARLES L. DRAKE, 72, DINOSAUR-THEORY COMBATANT

(By Lawrence Van Gelder)

Dr. Charles L. Drake, emeritus professor of earth science at Dartmouth College and a leading advocate of the theory that it was volcanic eruptions that killed off the dinosaurs, died Tuesday at his home in Norwich, Vt. He was 72.

The cause was a heart attack, said his wife, Martha.

In a protracted, often rancorous debate, Drake stood opposed to the school of thought that attributed the disappearance of the dinosaurs to the impact of a large meteorite 65 million years ago. In this theory, the meteorite kicked up a worldwide pall of dust that blotted out the sun and killed off many plants and animals.

With Charles B. Officer, another Dartmouth geologist, Drake theorized that instead it was huge volcanic eruptions, spewing lava over 200,000 square miles of what is now India and disrupting the atmosphere with chlorine, sulfur dioxide and carbon dioxide, and that led to the end of the dinosaurs' 160-million-year reign on earth.

But Drake's prominence in his profession rested on far more than his role in the debate over the dinosaurs. His leadership among geologists, marked by an ability to bring together colleagues from various nations and disciplines, brought him to high positions in scientific organizations.

He served from 1990 to 1992 as a member of President George Bush's Council of Advisers

on Science and Technology and was also a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; president of the 18th International Geological Congress, held in Washington in 1993; a president of the Geological Society of America and of the American Geophysical Union, and a member of committees of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council and the National Advisory Committee on Oceans and Atmosphere.

At both Columbia University and Dartmouth, Drake became chairman of his department. While at Columbia, where he spent 16 years before joining the Dartmouth faculty in 1969, he conducted pioneering research on the geologic evolution of the continental margin of the Eastern United States.

Since 1970, he had conducted research at the reservoir at Lake Powell in Utah on the ecological effects of man's efforts to impound the otherwise wild Colorado River and manage water resources in an arid area.

The dinosaur dispute between the volcano theorists and the meteorite-impact theorists raged through the late 1970s and the 1980s, with the meteorite side led by Nobel laureate physicist Luis W. Alvarez; his son, Walter, a geologist, and their colleagues at the University of California at Berkeley.

Then, in 1994, a new theory combining the conflicting ideas was proposed: antipodal volcanism. In this theory, a speeding rock from outer space, exploding on impact with the force of millions of hydrogen bombs, would have blasted enormous shock waves through the earth. These shock waves would have coalesced at the antipode, the side of the planet opposite the impact crater, to fracture the ground, heat it and bring on volcanic outpourings.

In the new theory, then, both the meteorite and its volcanic repercussions in the opposite hemisphere would have contributed to the decline of the dinosaurs. But Drake never embraced that notion, his colleague Officer said Wednesday.

Charles Lum Drake was born on July 13, 1924, in Ridgewood, N.J. He received a bachelor's degree in geologic engineering from Princeton in 1948 and a doctorate in geology from Columbia in 1958. He began his teaching career in 1953 as a lecturer at Columbia, where he became a professor and, in 1967, chairman of the department of geology.

In 1969, he went to Dartmouth as a professor of geology. There he served at various times as chairman of the department, dean of graduate studies and associate dean of the faculty for sciences. He retied in 1994.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, the former Martha Churchill; three daughters, Mary Layton, also of Norwich; Pace Mehling of Corinth, Vt., and Susannah Culhane of Manhattan; a brother, Thayer, of Avon, Conn., and four grandchildren.

AMERICA'S VETERANS URGE RESTRAINT

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, the Veterans' Affairs Committee held a hearing this week on S. 923 and H.R. 2040, measures which would deny certain veterans' benefits to veterans convicted of certain capital crimes. Seven of the major veterans' service organizations testified as one voice, and I urge my colleagues to review their excellent statement which thoughtfully examines a very difficult and complex issue. Their testimony follows:

STATEMENT OF RICK SURRATT, DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS, JULY 9, 1997

I am pleased to present the collective views of the American Legion, AMVETS, the Blinded Veterans Association (BVA), the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), the Jewish War Veterans of the USA, the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW), and the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) on two bills to amend the law pertaining to benefits eligibility in the case of veterans committing capital crimes. The national veterans organizations comprising this group, which for the sake of convenience I will refer to as the ''veterans group,'' have come together to speak as one, united voice because of the views and concerns they hold in common on the subject matter of these bills.

The veterans group appreciates your invitation to explain its position on whether and to what extent the commission of capital offenses by veterans should affect their, or their dependents,' benefit eligibility status. Without question, this raises a serious public policy question for our Nation's citizens. It is also certainly appropriate that the millions of veterans the group represents have a voice on this issue because, after all, these veterans are some of America's most patriotic and civic-mined citizens, and these matters, of course, also involve highly valued and honored rights veterans earned by virtue of their reviewed service to the Nation. On the other hand, because veterans are among our most responsible citizens, they must not and will not view their interests as veterans as separate from or in conflict with the greater interests of the Nation as a whole. However, as appropriate with many such difficult issues, they counsel a balancing between the immediate human desire for and the attractiveness of societal retribution for crimes and the countervailing rational concerns about the maintenance of stable measured, and equitable principles of law—and thus the best interests of our society as a whole—over the long-term. It is that sense of prudence and equity that guides the veterans group in their position of these bills.

The veterans group has no quarrel with a view that veterans are without privilege to disobey society's rules, and that, absent special circumstances, the consequences for crimes should be the same for veterans and nonveterans. fairness dictates that veterans be treated the same as other citizens on matters unrelated to their status as veterans per se, however. Thus, the veteran should not suffer greater or harsher penalties merely because he or she is a veteran than a similarly situated nonveteran. To impose greater punishment on the veteran goes beyond punishment on account of a crime to punishment on account of being a veteran. That is not to argue that we should continue to hold veterans who commit crimes in the same high esteem that we do veterans who conduct themselves properly. Thus, we do not have to bestow the same honors upon veterans who bring dishonor to themselves as we would upon veterans who continue to conduct themselves in an upright manner during their civilian lives following completion of military service.

Of concern to the veterans group here, however, is the treatment to be accorded veteran status once earned through satisfactory fulfillment of service to the Nation. Veteran status is a legal status which, as a practical matter, is realized through the special rights created for veterans to enjoy as a restitution for the sacrifices of military service. Almost without exception, this status, once accrued, is considered indefeasible. It is conferred by the completion and honorable character of the recipient's military service and is not conditioned upon subsequent conduct in civilian life. Logically, that is as it should be. Just as a former servicemember without honorable service should not be awarded veterans' rights on the basis of post-service accomplishments, no matter how commendable, conversely, veteran status should not be exposed to rescission as a result of civilian conduct following, or for other reasons unrelated to, the performance of military service. Veterans should be secure in the knowledge that their veteran status is vested and will not be held hostage to irrelevant, post-service factors. If veterans' rights are intended to remunerate for disabilities incurred, opportunities lost, extraordinary rigors suffered, or contributions made in connection with and during the time of military service, such rights should, like wages earned, not be withheld or recalled because of subsequent performance or unconnected actions or events, even when such actions or events are of a character that evoke very negative public sentiments. The special value of service to one's country and the integrity of veteran status would be defeated by departure from that tradition. Fidelity to this principle admits exceptions for only the most highly exceptional circumstances.

Currently, the law provides for forfeiture of veterans' rights only under circumstances of crimes against the government which jeopardize or seriously threaten our national security. Section 6104 of title 38, United States Code, provides that veterans shown to be guilty of mutiny, treason, or sabotage forfeit all future VA benefits, and section 6105 of title 38 similarly provides that veterans convicted of a variety of subversive activities forfeit VA benefits, including eligibility for burial in a national cemetery. These circumstances justify nullification of veterans' entitlements because individuals should not receive support from a government they actively seek to destroy.

This Committee now has before it S. 923 which the Senate passed recently. This bill would essentially void the veteran status of any veteran convicted of a Federal capital offense. Forfeiture would result from the commission of any Federal offense punishable by death (regardless of whether the death penalty was deemed warranted or actually imposed). Obviously, that would go well beyond the nature of the offenses which are now deemed to justify voidance of veteran status. While the veterans of this Nation understand and, indeed, share in the public indignation at such detestable acts, they believe that persons committing such crimes should be punished as criminals, not veterans. As noted previously, when the laws impose the criminal penalty and also void veteran status, they punish veterans both for the crime and because they are veterans. Unquestionably, persons committing capital offenses, as well as many lesser but also repulsive or unsavory crimes such as child molestation or even drunken driving, are justifiably not viewed very sympathetically by the public, but emotions should not obscure or overcome the more judicious considerations appropriate in these matters. An integral part of our national values and the qualities that set us apart from other nations is our refusal to compromise justice and fairness even for the most reprehensible within our society.

Therefore, in addition to opposing S. 923 because it operates to impose greater punishment on veterans merely because they are veterans, the veterans group also opposes it

as a matter of principle inasmuch as it diminishes the intrinsic value of veteran status. This would be but one step in undermining the fortification of veteran status against the capricious overreactions of those who would revoke it in the name of any popular cause or crusade or would find it a convenient target against which they could direct their frustration. If enacted into law, this will make veterans more vulnerable to oblique attacks or indirect punishment for unrelated matters. Again, once veteran status is earned, it should be a protected and an irrevocable right, not to be taken away because of subsequent unrelated events, except for serious crimes against the nation. Preservation of the high esteem of veteran status promotes patriotic ideals and national unity, and is in the best interest of the Nation as a whole.

H.R. 2040, introduced by Committee Chairman Stump on behalf of himself, Mr. Evans, Mr. Skelton, Mr. Bachus, Mr. Everett, Mr. Filner, Mr. Quinn, Mr. Clyburn, and Mr. Stearns, would preclude burial in a federally funded cemetery for persons guilty of first-degree murder of certain Federal officials and law enforcement personnel in conjunction with the commission of certain other Federal crimes. This bill does not have the objectionable effects of S. 923.

H.R. 2040 would impose this bar by amending section 2402 of title 38, United States Code, to exclude from eligibility for burial in federally funded cemeteries those who have been convicted of, or are shown to have committed, the crimes specified. In addition to first-degree murder of Federal officers or employees as provided in section 1114 of title 18, United States Code, the persons excluded must have committed one of the following crimes: damage or destruction or attempted damage or destruction by fire or an explosive of Federal property, as provided under section 844(f) of title 18, United States Code; use of a weapon of mass destruction, as prohibited under section 2332a of title 18, United States Code; acts of terrorism, as prohibited under section 2332b of title 18, United States Code; use of chemical weapons, as prohibited under section 2332c of title 18, United States Code; providing material support to terrorists within the United States, as prohibited under section 2339A of title 18, United States Code; or providing material support or resources to foreign terrorists, as prohibited under section 2339B of title 18, United States Code. Such persons would be ineligible for burial in Arlington National Cemetery, any cemetery of the National Cemetery System, or any state cemetery for which a grant has been approved or provided under section 2408 of title 18, United States Code. This prohibition would apply to applications for burial or interment made on or after the date of enactment of the legislation.

While we do not wish to understate the gravity of capital offenses, the disqualifying crimes are of a character and magnitude to be distinguishable from the other numerous capital offenses generally. Moreover, the question of who should be permitted to be buried in our national cemeteries is different from the question of who should have rights as veterans generally. There are valid reasons to prevent persons committing these crimes from being buried in the places of honor set aside for our Nation's most gallant and beloved sons and daughters. First, such persons are themselves unworthy of the honor of burial in these hallowed shrines. Second, to permit persons of such depravity to be buried in the midst of those who fully deserve the honor and tribute, belittles that honor, mocks that tribute, and defeats the special purpose of these places of dignity and sanctity. The national and other federally funded veterans cemeteries serve as a lasting testimonial to this Nation's gratitude for the sacrifices of its veterans. Being an enduring symbol of the special honor our Nation reserves for its veterans to memorialize their bravery, patriotic deeds, and glory, the renown of these sanctuaries resides in the character of those buried there. It is therefore unfair to our other noble veterans to permit persons who have acted so dishonorably through the commission of such heinous crimes to be buried alongside of them.

H.R. 2040 appropriately responds to concerns that our veterans' cemeteries not be degraded by interment of persons who wear a badge of infamy. The class of persons barred by H.R. 2040 is very carefully tailored to exclude from eligibility those who commit the type of crimes warranting such action, and this bill does not include more reactive provisions and sweeping forfeiture that has inappropriate implications and disturbs the integrity of veterans status itself.

The veterans group does have some questions of a purely technical nature about H.R. 2040, however. To bar those who have not been convicted by a court due to unavailability for trial but who are nonetheless shown to have committed disqualifying crimes, H.R. 2040 provides for an administrative determination of ineligibility. Subparagraph (B) of the new subsection (b) excludes burial eligibility for ''a person shown to the appropriate Secretary by clear and convincing evidence, after an opportunity for a hearing in such manner as such Secretary may prescribe, to have committed a crime described in both clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) but has not been convicted of such crimes by reason of such person not being available for trial due to death, flight to avoid prosecution, or determination of insanity.''

Although it presents no serious concern, the practical effect of subparagraph (B) in the case of unavailability for trial due to death or flight to avoid prosecution is questionable. If the person has not been tried due to death, he or she would either already be interred or inurned in a nongovernment cemetery or mausoleum, would already be interred or inurned in a federally funded cemetery covered by this bill, or might be in a mortuary. In the first instance, the question of interment in a veterans' cemetery would seem an unlikely one. In the second instance, if the person's crimes were not learned until after burial in a veterans' cemetery, for example, would disqualification under this section require disinterment, and if so, who would bear the costs of such disinterment? In the third instance, where the person was killed at the time of the crime and the body is awaiting burial, for example, the requirement of an administrative hearing might effectively bar burial regardless of the proper disposition of the issue if the bureaucracy moves at its usual speed. It is also unclear how the issue of eligibility would arise if the person is a live fugitive, unless this provision is to be interpreted as requiring a preemptive administrative determination, which would seem unnecessary given the possible eventualities that there may never be a request for burial of such person in a federally funded cemetery; that the person will be apprehended and tried, making this subparagraph inapplicable; or that the issue will arise upon the person's death, which of course then returns us to the questions about implementation in the case of a deceased person. (Recognizing that, in their proceedings, administrative tribunals do not apply the standard of proof beyond a reasonable doubt. The American Legion is nonetheless also concerned that the presumption of innocence is rebutted by less conclusive proof in the administrative proceedings under subparagraph (B) than in criminal trials.)

As written, subparagraph (B) applies to those who have not been ''convicted'' because of ''not being available for trial.'' Thus, it would not, and should not, apply to persons tried and found not guilty by reason of insanity. For simple clarity and to ensure this causes no hesitation or possibility of misinterpretation by administrative personnel, the veterans group suggests that ''determination of incompetence to stand trial'' or language of similar import might be more appropriate.

It appears that there would be a right of appeal on any adverse determination with respect to burial in a national cemetery under section 2402. Under section 7104 of title 38, United States Code, the Board of Veterans' Appeals has jurisdiction to review any decision of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the provision of benefits in accordance with the Secretary's authority under section 511 of title 38. H.R. 2040 appears to leave unanswered the collateral question of the right of and process for administrative or judicial appeal from adverse determinations of the Secretary of the Army regarding Arlington National Cemetery, however. The Committee may wish to amend H.R. 2040 to resolve this question.

Other than these minor technical matters, H.R. 2040 appears to be carefully crafted to accomplish its goal of maintaining the stature of our veterans' cemeteries. The veterans group is especially appreciative of the sponsors' careful, wise, and thoughtful approach to this sensitive issue and urges this Committee to take the same approach and favor this bill over S. 923. The veterans group is also especially grateful for the Chairman's leadership on this matter and the advice he has given sponsors of other related bills.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the rule and to advocate on behalf of full funding for the National Endowment for the Arts [NEA]. In creating the NEA in 1965, this institution wisely noted:

> An advanced civilization must not limit its efforts to science and technology alone but give full value and support to other great branches of scholarly and cultural activity in order to achieve a better understanding of the past, a better analysis of the present, and a better view of the future.

Mr. Speaker, the arts are the heart of our Nation and the NEA is the heart of the arts. Today, there are those who would rip out the heart of the artistic community.

Current funding for the National Endowment for the Arts is certainly a modest effort. It accounts for less than one one-hundredth of 1 percent of our Federal budget. We should already be embarrassed at the amount of public support for the arts. Each year Americans pay just 38 cents of their taxes to support the arts. In Canada and France, per capita support for the arts is $32.

But the impact of this small program is immeasurable. Today, more Americans have access to the arts than ever before. The NEA funds projects in small cities and rural areas where corporate and foundation dollars never

reach. It is the NEA funds that attract other moneys in these otherwise neglected areas of our country.

Since its inception in 1965, the number of symphony orchestras has quadrupled, the number of theaters has increased eight times, and the number of dance companies has gone from 37 to over 250. Each year, the Arts Endowment opens the door to the arts for millions of schoolchildren, including many at-risk youth.

The arts make an extraordinary contribution to the lives of our citizens. Not only do they improve the quality of life, but they are also a significant industry and powerful force in the economic development of our cities, towns, and communities. They contribute far more to the economy than they receive in public funding. The not-for-profit arts create $37 billion in economic activity, $634 million in my home State of Maryland alone. This economic activity supports 1.3 million jobs nationwide. As a result, $3.4 billion—20 times the budget of the NEA—is returned to the Federal treasury through income taxes.

The few isolated cases of controversial art work are not an accurate representation of the thousands of grants the NEA gives out each year. Distorting the truth is a tactic that opponents of the Endowment must engage in because their view is contrary to public opinion. A recent Lou Harris poll indicates that 61 percent of Americans ''would be willing to pay $5 more per year in taxes to support Federal Government efforts in the arts.''

But the voice of the American people often falls on deaf ears here on Capitol Hill. A diversity of opinions, a marketplace of ideas—those are the ideals upon which this country was founded. Must we burn the entire orchard if there are a few apples that are not to our liking?

Join me to help lend a voice to the painters and the sculptors, the singers and the musicians and the actors—the artists of this country. Join me in saving the National Endowment for the Arts. Join me in saving the spirit of this Nation. Esteemed colleagues, I urge you to join me in opposing this rule.

THE BALTIC STATES ARE NOT FORMER SOVIET REPUBLICS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, NATO member countries met in Madrid earlier this week and announced support for a limited round of enlargement to include Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic. I was proud to participate in these historic events.

While I believe NATO's announcement should have rightfully included Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, and Slovenia, I hope and trust NATO will take steps to enhance the security of countries not named and on a concrete mechanism for a second round of enlargement. Indeed, the U.S. delegation to the summit, led by President Clinton, was successful in inserting language into the final communiqué that clearly leaves the door open to further new members.

The Russian Government will no doubt marshal its forces to prevent any further enlargement. Over the last year, the Russian Government has repeatedly and vociferously indicated its opposition to NATO enlargement in principle. While it has toned down its general opposition to any first round of enlargement to Central Europe following the signing of the Founding Act, it has attempted to draw the line at any countries it considers former Soviet Republics. To those making the decisions in the Russian Government, former Soviet Republics include Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

Yet, to take Russia's understanding of which countries are former Soviet Republics would be both wrong and historically inaccurate. Under international law and underscored by 50 years of United States nonrecognition policy toward the Baltic States, these countries were never Soviet Republics. Instead, these nations were forcibly occupied against their will for 50 years under the nefarious terms of the Nazi-Soviet Pact of 1939 and its secret protocols.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to place in the RECORD the text of the Nazi-Soviet Pact, which proves definitively that the Baltics became part of the Soviet Empire not voluntarily, but due to the evil machinations of the two worst dictatorships of this century.

NONAGGRESSION PACT BETWEEN GERMANY AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

The Government of the German Reich and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, led by the desire to consolidate peace between Germany and the USSR, and on the basis of the fundamental provisions of the Treaty of Neutrality signed in April 1926 between Germany and the USSR, have arrived at the following agreement.

ARTICLE I

Both parties to the treaty are obligated to refrain from any aggressive act and any attack on each other, either individually or jointly with other powers.

ARTICLE II

In the case that one of the parties to the treaty should become the object of belligerance on the part of a third power, the other party shall not support the third power in any way.

ARTICLE III

The Governments of both contracting parties shall in the future remain constantly in contact with each other in order to keep each other informed about their common interests.

ARTICLE IV

Neither of the two contracting parties shall participate in any power alignment aimed directly or indirectly at the other party.

ARTICLE V

In the case that disputes or conflicts should arise between the two contracting parties over questions of this or that kind, both paties shall settle these disputes or conflicts exclusively through a friendly exchange of opinion or, if need be, through the intermediary of an arbitration commission.

ARTICLE VI

The present treaty shall be valid for 10 years, subject to the proviso that unless one of the contracting parties terminates it one year before this period is up, the treaty will automatically continue in force for an additional five years.

ARTICLE VII

The present treaty shall be ratified within the shortest possible time. The documents of ratification shall be exchanged in Berlin. The treaty shall take effect immediately upon ratification.

Prepared in two versions, Russian and German.

Moscow, August 23, 1939.

VON RIBBENTROP.
(For the Government of the German Reich).
V. MOLOTOV,
(For the Government of the USSR).

SECRET SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL

On the occasion of the ratification of the non-aggression pact between the German Reich and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the delegates of both parties, undersigned below, held a highly confidential discussion concering delimitation of the spheres of interest of both parties in Eastern Europe. This discussion led to the following results:

1. In the case of territorial-political reorganization in the territories belonging to the Baltic States (Finland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania), the northern boundary of Lithuania also forms the boundary of the spheres of interest of Germany and the USSR. The interests of Lithuania in the territory of Vilna are recognized in this connection.

2. In the event of a territorial-political reorganization of the areas belonging to the Polish nation, the spheres of interest of Germany and the USSR are approximately demarcated by the lines of the Narew, Vistula, and San Rivers.

The question as to whether bilateral interests make the maintenance of an independent Polish state seem desirable, and how this state would be demarcated, can only be determined definitively in the course of further political developments.

In each case both Governments will solve the question by amicable agreement.

3. As regards southeastern Europe, Soviet interest in Bessarabia is emphasized. The German side declares its complete lack of interest in these areas.6

4. This protocol will be treated as top secret by both sides.

VON RIBBENTROP,
(For the Government of the German Reich).
V. MOLOTOV,
(On the authority of the Government of the USSR).

(Blurred stamp in upper right-hand corner says: ''Return to office of the Reich Foreign Minister'')

SECRET SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL

The undersigned delegates establish agreement between the Government of the German Reich and the Government of the USSR concerning the following matters:

The secret supplementary protocol signed on August 23, 1939 is amended at No. 1 in that the territory of Lithuania comes under the USSR sphere of interest, because on the other side the administrative district ''Woywodschaft'' of Lublin and parts of the administrative district of Warsaw come under the German sphere of influence (cf. map accompanying the boundary and friendship treaties ratified today). As soon as the Government of the USSR takes special measures to safeguard its interests on Lithuanian territory, the present German/Lithuanian border will be rectified in the interests of simple and natural delimitation, so that the territory of Lithuania lying southwest of the line drawn on the accompanying map will fall to Germany.

It is further established that the economic arrangements in force at the present time between Germany and Lithuania will be in

no way damaged by the aforementioned measures being taken by the Soviet Union.

Moscow, September 28, 1939.

VON RIBBENTROP,
(For the Government of the German Reich).
V. MOLOTOV,
(On the authority of the Government of the USSR).

SECRET PROTOCOL

Graf von Schulenburg, the German Ambassador, acting for the Government of the German Reich, and the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR, W.M. Molotov, acting for the Government of the USSR, have agreed upon the following points:

1. The Government of the German Reich renounces its claims to the portion of the territory of Lithuania mentioned in the September 28, 1939 Secret Protocol and shown on the included map.

2. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is prepared to compensate the Government of the German Reich for the territory mentioned in Point 1 of this protocol by payment of the sum of 7,500,000 gold dollars=31 million 500 thousand reichsmarks to Germany.

Payment of the sum of 31.5 million reichsmarks will be accomplished by the USSR in the following way: one eighth, i.e., 3,937,500 reichsmarks, in shipments of nonferrous metal within three months of ratification of this treaty, and the remaining seven eighths, 27,562,500 reichsmarks, in gold by a deduction from the German payments in gold which the German side was to bring up by February 11, 1941. On the basis of the correspondence concerning the February 11, 1940 economic agreement between the German Reich and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the second section of the agreement between the Chairman of the German Economic Delegation, Herr Schnurre and the People's Commissar for USSR Foreign Trade, Herr A.I. Mikoyan.

3. This protocol has been prepared in both German and Russian (two originals) and goes into effect upon being ratified.

Moscow, January 10, 1941.

ILLEGIBLE, PRESUMABLY
''VON SCHULENBURG,''
(For the Government of the German Reich).
V. MOLOTOV,
(Acting for the Government of the USSR).

Mr. Speaker, from their occupation by Soviet tanks in 1940 until the United States recognized the governments of the Baltic States in 1991, the United States never recognized Soviet de jure control over these countries and maintained diplomatic relations with the Baltic governments through their representatives in Washington.

While this may seem an obvious history lesson, it is important that the United States Government make this distinction to its Russian counterparts and that we and our European allies not allow ourselves to compromise future enlargement based on a faulty understanding of history.

It is also important to note that Russian President Boris Yeltsin himself played a pivotal and commendable role in bringing about Russian recognition of Baltic independence by annulling the consequences of the brutal 1940 occupation of Lithuania in a treaty signed between Lithuania and Russia in 1991. By annulling the annexation, Russia itself has recognized that the Baltic States were never Soviet Republics but instead Soviet-occupied republics. Mr. Speaker, I also ask unanimous consent that excerpts from this treaty be placed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

By treating the Baltic States as former Soviet Republics while refusing to recognize the historical wrong of a 50-year occupation, the Russian Government hopes to stop NATO enlargement after the first round. They hope to secure general agreement that the former Soviet Republics are distinctly in Russia's zone of interest.

Mr. Speaker, NATO should never agree to any Russian proposals that would exclude any country from exercising its sovereign right to request NATO membership.

TREATY BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA AND THE RUSSIAN SOVIET FEDERATED SOCIALIST REPUBLIC ON THE BASIS FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES

(Excerpts)

The Republic of Lithuania and the Russian Soviet Federated Republic, hereinafter called ''the High Contracting Parties,''

Assigning to the past events and actions that hindered each High Contracting Party from fully and freely realizing its state sovereignty,

Being convinced that once the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics annuls the consequences of the 1940 annexation violating Lithuania's sovereignty, created will be additional conditions for mutual trust between the High Contracting Parties and their peoples, . . .

have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The High Contracting Parties recognize each other as full-fledged subjects of international law and as sovereign states. . . .

The High Contracting Parties pledge to refrain from the use of force and the threat of the use of force in their mutual relations, to refrain from interference in internal affairs, to respect sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of borders in accordance with the principles of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. . . .

ARTICLE 2

The High Contracting Parties recognize each other's right to independently realize their sovereignty in the area of defense and security in ways they find acceptable, contributing to the process of disarmament and reduction of tension in Europe, as well as through systems of collective security. . . .

TRIBUTE TO CLARENCE R. WHEELER

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a civic leader and respected member of the southwest Missouri business community, Clarence R. Wheeler, of Springfield, MO.

Clarence was a devoted husband to Edna and his family was his priority. His presence will be missed by family, friends, the business community, and the entire region.

Mr. Wheeler was another example that the American dream continues to live. Starting in 1948, Mr. Wheeler took a vision, molded it with endless hours of hard work, and created the region's most successful chain of 38 supermarkets. The patrons to his Consumers Markets liked his innovative and forthright style that brought them top quality products at competitive prices. He was a strong moral leader of the region and for four decades his store reflected his belief in what was good for families.

His employees knew he had an open door policy and paid a fair wage; Clarence was a man of honesty and integrity who was a good listener to employees and customers alike.

Mr. Wheeler also gave back to the community with the spirit of a giver. He was a generous giver to charities like the Kitchen, the Missouri Baptist Home, Blood Center of the Ozarks, Southwest Baptist University, and the Good Samaritan Boy's Ranch. He was active in civic clubs, the local Chamber of Commerce, and his church.

His tough but fair approach won him praise from business associates who said ''he had as much concern about the employees as he did the company and the company profits. We need more businessmen like him. The world would be a better place.'' Clarence Wheeler's peers in the business community, others who hoped to build their small business as he did, charities in the Ozarks and around the world, his family and friends benefited from his life and example.

IN HONOR OF MR. DON ROGERS

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay personal tribute to a man who was a mentor to me in my formative years as a pharmacist and small businessman; and a true friend in the years thereafter.

Mr. Don Rogers was the owner and operator of Don's West Markham Pharmacy in Little Rock, AR, the place where I worked as a pharmacist from 1965 to 1967. Don Rogers was one of the finest businessmen that I have ever known, and I can't imagine having had a better teacher on how to do business with honor, integrity, and Christian values.

He treated his customers and employees as individuals and friends with different needs to be respected. He listened to their concerns as if their problems were the only ones in the world that mattered at that moment, and when they left his store they felt better not only due to the prescriptions that he administered with loving care, but also because of the fine treatment that they received.

I was blessed to have him as an employer and friend at that age. He taught me the value of putting the customer first; of caring about their needs before and after they came to the store; and of the caring for the health of the community before short-term profit decisions. These are lessons that all of us in public service would do well to remember as we go about our responsibilities in this hallowed chamber. Indeed, the things that he taught me have stayed with me in all the days since I had the privilege of working with him.

Don Rogers passed away January 28, 1994, but his spirit still lives on in those who knew and loved him, and in those who did business in that pharmacy in Little Rock.

THE MARCHING SEASON IN NORTHERN IRELAND

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out against the unfairness of Britain's decision to allow the Orange Order to march through Northern Ireland's Garvaghy Road area this past weekend. Thousands of residents were barricaded in their homes by 1,500 riot police and troops, which were reinforced by more than 100 armored cars. This choice was tragic, and today's headlines bear solemn witness to this fact.

This is the third year that British authorities have allowed the Orange Order to march through this predominantly Catholic neighborhood. In justifying this fatal decision, Northern Ireland Secretary Mo Mowlam said, ''Had the Orange Order not been permitted to march through the Garvaghy Road Community, the Protestants would have committed widespread mayhem.'' The mere fact that Secretary Mowlam, admitted that by allowing the Protestants to march through the Garvaghy Road area was her least worst option, to me is quite disturbing. In fact, her decision led to severe rioting, and has made the Irish Peace process that much more difficult to achieve. Clearly, this march should not have been allowed to take place in the first place. All marches in the future should be cancelled, until Ireland can reach a peace agreement.

I call upon the British and Irish Governments to work together, and encourage all parties to resume their efforts toward a just and lasting peace. Violence, under any circumstance, is not the answer.

TRIBUTE TO ILC DOVER FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE PATHFINDER MISSION

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to call your attention to a great contribution to science, technology, and progress made by the people of ILC Dover in Dover, DE. I offer my appreciation to the hard work and dedication of this company which developed the airbag system that allowed Pathfinder to land on Mars and reduced the cost of the Mars mission.

ILC's success in aerospace technology dates back to their development of the Extra Vehicular Activity spacesuits used for space walks during the Apollo missions. ILC Dover's reputation as a cost-effective engineering firm with its core technology of developing high-tech inflatable systems, made them a logical contractor to team with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. ILC designed, tested, and produced the material development used in this highly visible project.

ILC Dover has proved themselves a leader and model in the aerospace industry by providing technology in accordance with NASA's new focus: better, faster, cheaper. I am confident that ILC Dover will continue to provide innovative and cost-effective aerospace technology necessary to continue important missions such as Pathfinder in exploring our world. I applaud the people of ILC Dover and wish them continued success in their endeavors.

THE MUNICIPAL BIOLOGICAL MONITORING USE ACT

HON. JOEL HEFLEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague, Mr. PASTOR, in introducing H.R. 2138, the Municipal Biological Monitoring Use Act. The purpose of this legislation is to establish for the Environmental Protection Agency new criteria for biomonitoring or whole effluent toxicity tests at local government sewage treatment plants, also known as publicly owned treatment works, or POTW's.

Similar legislation applicable to POTW's was introduced in previous Congresses. In recent months, the EPA has also sought to apply WET test limitations to municipal separate storm sewer systems, combined sewer overflows and other wet weather discharges and control facilities. Therefore, this updated version of our bill is also applicable to these storm water-related discharges owned by local governments.

Enforcement of biomonitoring test failures is a concern of POTW's nationwide and particularly in the arid West because of the unique water quality characteristics of low flow and ephemeral streams located in that region.

The bill we introduce today would retain the use of biomonitoring tests as a management or screening tool for toxicity, while shifting fine and penalty liability for test failures to liability for failure to implement permit-required procedures for identifying and reducing the source of WET when detected.

BACKGROUND

The EPA regulates wastewater discharges from POTW's through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, or NPDES, permit program. NPDES permits include narrative or numeric limitations on the discharge of specifically named chemicals. Treatment facilities for these named chemicals can be designed and built in order to assure compliance with such limitations before a violation occurs. Compliance is determined by conducting specific tests for these named chemicals.

NPDES permits may also include limits on the unspecified toxicity of the entire sewage plant effluent which is known as whole effluent toxicity. Compliance with these limitations is determined by the results of biomonitoring or whole effluent toxicity, or WET tests. The authority for biomonitoring tests was added to the Clean Water Act by the 1987 amendments. Since then, EPA has issued biomonitoring test methods, permit requirements, and enforcement policies for the use of WET tests as a monitoring requirement or as a permit effluent limitation at POTW's.

Biomonitoring or WET tests are conducted on treated plant effluent in laboratories using small aquatic species similar to shrimp or minnows. The death of these species or their failure to grow as expected in the laboratory is considered by EPA to be a test failure.

Where such tests are included in permits as effluent limits, these test failures are subject to administrative and civil penalties under the Clean Water Act of up to $25,000 per day of violation. Test failures also expose local governments to enforcement by third parties under the citizen suit provision of the act.

WET test failures can also trigger toxicity identification and reduction evaluations that include additional testing, thus exposing local governments to additional penalties if these additional tests also fail.

WET TEST ACCURACY CANNOT BE DETERMINED

The EPA recognizes that the accuracy of biomonitoring tests cannot be determined. An October 16, 1995, Federal Register preamble document issued by the agency in promulgating guidelines establishing test procedures for the analysis of pollutants determined that: ''Accuracy of toxicity test results cannot be ascertained, only the precision of toxicity can be estimated.'' (EPA, Guidelines for Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants, 40 CFR part 136, 60 FR 53535, October 16, 1995.)

While the agency cannot determine the accuracy of such tests, the EPA still requires local governments to certify that WET test results are ''true, accurate and complete'' in discharge monitoring reports required by NPDES permits. This is a true catch-22 requirement.

Laboratory biomonitoring tests are known to be highly variable in performance and results. Aquatic species used as test controls often died during test performance. False positive tests occur frequently. Yet test failures are the basis for assessing administrative and civil penalties to enforce permit limitations for WET.

The EPA also recognized that WET is episodic and usually results from unknown sources until they are detected and located through WET tests. These unknown sources can include synergistic effects of chemicals, household products such as cleaning fluids or pesticides and illegal discharges to sewer systems. Even a well-managed municipal pretreatment program for municipal users cannot assure against WET test failures.

POTW's are designed to control specific chemical pollutants. Treatment facilities are not designed, however, to control WET before detection by biomonitoring test failures because POTW's cannot be assured of knowing the specific nature of sewage influent discharged to the treatment plant. To guarantee against these test failures before they occur, local governments would have to build sewage treatment facilities using reverse osmosis, micorfiltration, carbon filtration, ion exchange or ozone at great expense to citizen rate payers.

The Clean Water Act and EPA regulations (40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(iv)) require that toxicity be determined based on actual stream conditions. An EPA administrative law judge decision issued in October 1996 confirmed this interpretation in ruling:

> Although some form of WET monitoring may be legally permissible, there must be a reasonable basis to believe the permittee discharge could be or become acutely toxic. In addition, the proposed tests must be reasonably related to determining whether the discharge could lead to real world toxic effects. The CWA objective to prohibit the discharge of ''toxic pollutants in toxic amounts'' concerns toxicity in the receiving waters of the United States, not the laboratory tanks.

IN THE MATTER OF METROPOLITAN-DADE COUNTY, MIAMI-DADE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

In practice however, NPDES permits often restrict species for WET tests to a limited, nationally recognized number which may not be representative of the stream-specific conditions to which local facilities discharge. This situation can result in false test results. The failure to allow the use of indigenous test species is a particular concern to POTW's discharging to ephemeral streams located in Western States where nationally uniform species could not survive in any case.

POTW's cannot be assured of knowing what substances are discharged to their plants, as can industrial dischargers. They are community systems with thousands or even millions of connections, absolute control over which is not feasible. Requiring POTW's to know the cause of WET failures so that the appropriate controls can be installed before test failures is fundamentally unfair because the local governments owning these plants do not have notice of what they must do to conform their behavior to the requirements of law.

There is less basis for making WET test failures subject to fines and penalties for storm water-related discharges because local governments are able to exercise even less control over such systems.

The EPA may say that WET test failures often are not enforced under the agency's exercise of administrative discretion. However, the opportunity for such enforcement remains particularly where an enforcement action is based on one or more permit violations. More importantly, the credibility of any legal requirement that is not built on the principal of fair notice is damaged whether enforcement occurs once or many times. Additionally, third party suits are not subject to the exercise of EPA review and discretion.

There is less basis for making WET test failures subject to fines and penalties for storm water-related discharges because local governments are able to exercise even less control over such systems.

The EPA may say that WET test failures often are not enforced under the agency's exercise of administrative discretion. However, the opportunity for such enforcement remains, especially as more permittees are faced for the first time with enforceable WET permit limits and where an enforcement action is based on one or more alleged permit violations. More importantly, any legal requirement that is not based on fair notice lacks credibility and undermines due process principles whether enforcement occurs once or many times. Additionally, third-party suits are not subject to the exercise of EPA review and discretion.

Procedures for locating and reducing the source toxicity can require accelerated testing which would expose local governments to additional penalty liability. Thus, the agency's insistence on making WET tests subject to penalties has become counterproductive to preventing toxicity.

Nothing in the Clean Water Act requires the EPA to make WET testing an enforceable permit limitation. As originally conceived, these tests should be used as a screening or management tool for detecting WET, rather than for enforcement purposes. Since the 1987 amendments, however, the EPA has persisted in making WET test failures violations of permit limitations even though these tests are technically unsound and fundamentally unfair for enforcement purposes.

It is for these reasons a legislative solution is necessary.

ALTERNATIVE LEGISLATIVE SOLUTION NEEDED

One legislative alternative would make WET testing a monitoring only permit requirement. Another alternative would shift the enforceability of WET permit requirements from WET test failures to local government failure to implement a tiered compliance process and schedule for locating and reducing the source of toxicity.

Our bill, H.R. 2138, adopts the second alternative and retains use of WET as an enforceable part of the Clean Water Act by:

Amending sections 303 and 402 of the Clean Water Act to prohibit the finding of a violation of the act in the case of a biomonitoring or WET test conducted at publicly owned treatment works, municipal separate storm sewer systems and municipal combined sewer overflows, including control facilities, and other wet weather control facilities;

Requiring that criteria for WET must employ an aquatic species that is indigenous to the type of waters, a species that is representative of such species or such other appropriate specie as will indicate the toxicity of the effluent in the specific receiving waters. Such criteria must take into account the natural biological variability of the species and must ensure that the accompanying test method accurately represents actual instream conditions, including conditions associated with dry and wet weather;

Authorizing NPDES permit terms, conditions or limitations to include enforceable procedures requiring further analysis, toxicity identification evaluation [TIE] or toxicity reduction evaluation [TRE] for WET where an NPDES permit authority determines that the discharge from the applicable facility causes, has the reasonable potential to cause or contributes to an instream excursion above a narrative or numeric criterion for WET. The bill would also direct that the NPDES permit must allow the permittee to discontinue such procedures, subject the future reinitiation of such procedures upon a showing by the permitting authority of changed conditions, if the source of such toxicity cannot, after thorough investigation, be identified; and requiring the use of such NPDES permit terms, conditions or limitations only upon determination that such terms, conditions or limitations are technically feasible, accurately represent toxicity associated with wet weather conditions and can materially assist in an identification evaluation or reduction evaluation of such toxicity.

WET testing should be used as a management tool to locate and reduce WET. The assessment of penalties for test failures or the potential for assessment has become a recognized disincentive for the use of WET tests including accelerated testing to local and reduce toxicity.

Our bill, H.R. 2138, would assure the use of these tests as tools to prevent pollution by respecting their technical limitations, eliminating penalties for test failures, preserving the enforceability of procedures to locate and reduce whole effluent toxicity when detected and thereby eliminate the disincentive for their use.

We urge your support and cosponsorship of this legislation.

H.R. 2138

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 ''Municipal Biological Monitoring Use Act''.

SEC. 2. BIOLOGICAL MONITORING AT PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS, MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS, AND MUNICIPAL COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOWS, INCLUDING CONTROL FACILITIES, AND OTHER WET WEATHER CONTROL FACILITIES.

(a) BIOLOGICAL MONITORING CRITERIA.—Section 303(c)(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1313(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking the period at the end and inserting the following: ''*: Provided,* That for publicly owned treatment works, municipal separate storm sewer systems, and municipal combined sewer overflows, including control facilities, and other wet weather control facilities, nothing in this Act shall be construed to authorize the use of water quality standards or permit effluent limitations which result in the finding of a violation upon failure of whole effluent toxicity tests or biological monitoring tests.''; and

(B) by inserting after the third sentence the following: ''Criteria for biological monitoring or whole effluent toxicity shall employ an aquatic species that is indigenous to the type of waters, a species that is representative of such species, or such other appropriate species as will indicate the toxicity of the effluent in the specific receiving waters. Such criteria shall take into account the natural biological variability of the species, and shall ensure that the accompanying test method accurately represents actual instream conditions, including conditions associated with dry and wet weather.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) Where the permitting authority determines that the discharge from a publicly owned treatment works, a municipal separate storm sewer system, or municipal combined sewer overflows, including control facilities, or other wet weather control facilities causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an in-stream excursion above a narrative or numeric criterion for whole effluent toxicity, the permit may contain terms, conditions, or limitations requiring further analysis, identification evaluation, or reduction evaluation of such effluent toxicity. Such terms, conditions, or limitations meeting the requirements of this section may be utilized in conjunction with a municipal separate storm sewer system, or municipal combined sewer overflows, including control facilities, or other wet weather control facilities only upon a demonstration that such terms, conditions, or limitations are technically feasible, accurately represent toxicity associated with wet weather conditions, and can materially assist in an identification evaluation or reduction evaluation of such toxicity.''.

(b) INFORMATION ON WATER QUALITY CRITERIA.—Section 304(a)(8) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1314(a)(8)) is amended by inserting '', consistent with subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 303(c)(2),'' after ''publish''.

(c) USE OF BIOLOGICAL MONITORING OR WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING AT PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS, MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS, OR MUNICIPAL COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOWS, INCLUDING CONTROL FACILITIES, OR OTHER WET WEATHER CONTROL FACILITIES.—Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(q) USE OF BIOLOGICAL MONITORING OR WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING AT PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS, MUNICIPAL

SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS, OR MUNICIPAL COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOWS, INCLUDING CONTROL FACILITIES, OR OTHER WET WEATHER CONTROL FACILITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Where the Administrator determines that it is necessary in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 303(c)(2) to include biological monitoring, whole effluent toxicity testing, or assessment methods as a term, condition, or limitation in a permit issued to a publicly owned treatment works, a municipal separate storm sewer system, or a municipal combined sewer overflow, including a control facility, or other wet weather control facility pursuant to this section, such permit term, condition, or limitation shall be accordance with such subparagraphs.

''(2) RESPONDING TO TEST FAILURES.—If a permit issued under this section contains terms, conditions, or limitations requiring biological monitoring or whole effluent toxicity testing designed to meet criteria for biological monitoring or whole effluent toxicity, the permit may establish procedures for further analysis, identification evaluation, or reduction evaluation of such toxicity. The permit shall allow the permitee to discontinue such procedures, subject to future reinitiation of such procedures upon a showing by the permitting authority of changed conditions, if the source of such toxicity cannot, after thorough investigation, be identified.

''(3) TEST FAILURE NOT A VIOLATION.—The failure of a biological monitoring test or a whole effluent toxicity test at a publicly owned treatment works, a municipal separate storm sewer system, or a municipal combined sewer overflow, including a control facility, or other wet weather control facility shall not result in a finding of a violation under this Act.''.

MUHAMMAD ALI—''STILL THE GREATEST''

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I recently read an inspiring article which appeared in the Washington Post's national weekly edition. The article is entitled, ''Still the Greatest.'' In the article, David Maraniss, a staff writer for the Post, reminds us of the struggle, perseverance, and success of one of the world's greatest boxers—Muhammad Ali.

Muhammad Ali, the once Olympic boxing medal winner and past world's heavyweight champion, is considered by some to be the ''Greatest of All Time.'' But, he has always been more than just an exceptional athlete. He was, and still is an exceptional man. Muhammad Ali, as Maraniss points out, ''is universally recognized as a man who stood for what he believed in and paid the price and prevailed.'' As champion, Ali converted to the Islamic religious belief, took a stand against the Vietnam war, and donated time and money to charitable organizations. After his boxing career ended, he continued to spread goodwill and associate himself with worthy causes.

Today, Ali maintains his commitment to the funding of research for Parkinson's disease, a disease he himself was diagnosed with in the early 1980's. He travels frequently, doing good deeds, visiting schools, and campaigning against child abuse, as well as ''promoting universal understanding and tolerance.''

Mr. Speaker, this article shows the strength of the human spirit when coupled with the will to survive and drive to succeed. Muhammad Ali is an inspiration to all of us, young and old, rich or poor, athlete or spectator. He not only stands for what he believes in, but he also backs it up. Whether the fight was in the ring, with American policy, or with a debilitating disease, Muhammad Ali never backed down. It pleases me that Mr. Maraniss decided to pay tribute to the ''Greatest of All Time.'' I take pride in sharing ''Still the Greatest'' with my colleagues and others across the Nation.

[From the Washington Post, June 16, 1997]

STILL THE GREATEST—MUHAMMAD ALI'S LATEST COMEBACK HAS MADE HIM A BELOVED FIGURE ALL OVER THE WORLD

(By David Maraniss)

BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICH.—No words at first. The greeting comes from his eyes, then a handshake, light as a butterfly, followed by a gesture that says, ''Follow me,'' He has just popped out the back door of his farmhouse wearing green pants and a light brown wool pullover with sunglasses tucked coolly into the mock turtleneck collar. He is carrying an old black briefcase. His hair is longer than usual and a bit uncombed. He starts walking toward his office, a converted barn on the lower end of the circular driveway.

He moves slowly, hunching slightly forward as he goes, never a stumble but sometimes seeming on the verge of one, as though his world slopes downhill. He opens the door and stand aside, following, not leading, on the way upstairs to his second-floor office. Halfway up, it becomes clear why. He sticks out a hand and catches his visitor's foot from behind. The old trip-up-the-stairs trick. Muhammad Ali loves tricks.

At the top of the stairs is the headquarters of GOAT. Another trick. It is the playfully ironic acronym for Greatest of All Time, Incorporated. Ali wants the world to know that he is just another goat, one living thing in this vast and miraculous universe. But also the greatest there ever was. He is 55, his mouth and body slowed by Parkinson's disease, yet still arguably the best known and most beloved figure in the world. Who else? The Pope? Nelson Mandela? Michael Jordan? Ali might win in a split decision.

Even the most dramatic lives move in cycles of loss and recovery. Last summer in Atlanta, when Ali stood alone in the spotlight, the world watching, his hands trembling, and lit the Olympic flame, he began another cycle, perhaps his ultimate comeback, as emotional as any he had staged in the ring against Joe Frazier or George Foreman. For 16 years he had been retired from boxing. During that time he had gone through periods of boredom and uncertainty. Not that he was passe, but the world tends to forget its old kings when new ones come around.

He kept going as best he could, his health deteriorating, spreading goodwill with his smiling eyes, trying to keep his name alive.

Then, finally, his moment arrived again, first at the Olympics, then at the Academy Awards, where he bore silent witness to ''When We Were Kings,'' the Oscar-winning documentary about his dramatic heavyweight championship fight in October 1974 against Foreman in what was then Zaire.

The shimmering house of movie stars seemed diminished, their egos preposterous, when Ali rose and stood before them. Yet some saw in that appearance a hint of the maudlin; poor Ali, enfeebled and paunchy, dragged out as another melodramatic Hollywood gimmick. Was he real or was he memory? What was left of him if he could no longer float and sting?

Quite a bit, it turns out, no sorrow and pity from the champ. He says he cherished his performances at the Olympics and Academy Awards more than anyone could know. Publicity is his lifeblood, more important to him than any medicine he is supposed to take. ''Press keeps me alive, man,'' he says, with an honesty that softens the edge of his ego. ''Press keeps me alive. Press and TV. The Olympics. Academy Awards. 'When We Were Kings.' Keeps me alive.''

When the producers sent him a videotape of ''When We Were Kings,'' he stuck it into his VCR at home and watched it day after day. At a recent autograph extravaganza in Las Vegas, he conducted his own poll by comparing his line to those for Jim Brown, Paul Hornung, Bobby Hull and Ernie Banks. Twice as long as any of them. Staying alive. And the biggest life-saver of all: that night in Atlanta last July, 36 years after he had first danced onto the world scene as the brash young Olympic champion Cassius Marcellus Clay.

Long after the torch scene was over, Ali would not let go. He went back to his suite with his wife, Lonnie, and a few close friends. They were tired, emotionally drained from the surprise, anxiety and thrill of the occasion, but Ali would not go to sleep. He was still holding the long white and gold torch, which he had kept as a prized memento. He cradled it in his arms, turning it over and over, just looking at it, not saying much, sitting in a big chair, smiling, hour after hour.

''I think the man was just awed. Just completely awed by the whole experience,'' Lonnie Ali recalls. ''He was so excited. It took forever for him to go to bed, he was on such a high. He found it very hard to come back down to earth. There was just such a fabulous response. No one expected that. None of us did.''

By the time he and Lonnie returned to their farmhouse here in southern Michigan, the mail was already backing up, flooding in at tenfold the previous pace. Letters from everywhere. The return of a trembling Ali had unloosed powerful feelings in people. They said they cried at his beauty and perseverance. They said he reminded them of what it means to stand up for something you believe in. Disabled people. Old '60's activists. Republicans. Black. White. Christian. Jewish. Muslim. A little boy from Germany, a boxing fan from England, a radiologist from Sudan, a secretary from Saudi Arabia—the multitudes thanked him for giving them hope.

When Ali reaches his office, he takes his customary chair against the side wall. There is work to be done, the room is overcrowded with mementos to be signed for charity, and his assistant, Kim Forburger, is waiting for him with a big blue felt pen. But Ali has something else in mind right now.

''Mmmmmmm. Watch this, man,'' he says. His voice sounds like the soft, slurred grumble-whisper of someone trying to clear his throat on the way out of a deep sleep. Conversing with him for the first time, one unavoidably has to say, ''I'm sorry, what?'' now and then, or simply pretend to understand him, but soon enough one adjusts, and it becomes obvious that Parkinson's has not slowed his brain, only his motor skills.

Ali walks toward the doorway and looks back with a smile.

''Oh, have you seen Muhammad levitate yet?'' Forburger asks. She suddenly becomes the female assistant in a Vegas act. With a sweep of her hand, she says, ''Come over here. Stand right behind him. Now watch his feet. Watch his feet.''

Ali goes still and silent, meditating. His hands stop shaking. He seems to radiate something. A mystical aura? Ever so slowly, his feet rise from the floor, one inch, three inches, six inches. His hands are not touching anything. ''Ehhhh. Pretty heavy,

mmmm,'' he says. His visitor, familiar with the lore of Ali's levitations yet easily duped, watches slack-jawed as the champ floats in the air for several seconds.

Come over here, Ali motions. To the side. ''Look,'' he said. He is not really levitating, of course. He has managed to balance himself perfectly, Parkinson's notwithstanding, all 250 pounds of him, on the tiptoes of his right foot, creating an optical illusion from behind that both of his feet have lifted off the ground.

The tricks have only just begun. He hauls out a huge gray plastic toolbox, opens it and peers inside. His hands now move with the delicacy of a surgeon selecting the correct instrument from his bag. For the next quarter-hour, he performs the simple, delightful tricks of an apprentice magician. Balls and coins appear and disappear, ropes change lengths, sticks turn colors. ''Maaann! Maaann! Heavy!'' he says.

Then he turns to slapstick. Close your eyes and open your hand. The champ places something soft and fuzzy in it. ''Mmmm. Okay. Open.''

A fuzzy toy mouse.

Ali beams at the startled reaction.

His voice becomes louder, higher, more animated. ''Ehhh.'' he shrieks. ''Kids go 'Ahhh! Ahhh!' ''

Try it again. This time it's a cockroach.

And again. This time fake dog doo.

Ali closes his gray toolbox and puts it away, satisfied.

What is going on here? In part it is just Ali amusing himself with magic tricks that he has been doing over and over for many years for anyone who comes to see him. But he is also, as always, making a more profound point. He has transferred his old boxing skills and his poetry and his homespun philosophy to another realm, from words to magic. The world sees him now, lurching a bit, slurring some, getting old, trembling, and recalls that unspeakably great and gorgeous and garrulous young man that he once was. He understands that contrast. But, he is saying, nothing is as it appears. Life is always a matter of perception and deception.

Poets and philosophers contemplate this, and boxers know it intuitively (Ali ghost boxing before the Foreman fight ''Come get me, sucker. I'm dancin'! I'm dancin'! No, I'm not here, I'm there! You're out, sucker!'') back when he was Cassius Clay, he pretended that he was demented before fighting Sonny Liston because he had heard that the only cons who scared big bad Sonny in prison were the madmen. By acting crazy, he not only injected a dose of fear into Liston, he took some out of himself. Life is a trick.

The Islamic religion, to which Ali has adhered for more than 30 years, disapproves of magic tricks, but he has found his way around that problem, as always.

''When I . . . do a . . . trick,'' he says now. He seems more easily understandable. Is he speaking more clearly or has the ear adjusted to him?

''I . . . always . . . show . . . people . . . how . . . to . . . do . . . it.''

He smiles.

''Show . . . people . . . how . . . easy . . . it . . . is . . . to . . . be . . . tricked.''

Perception and deception. He has returned to his chair in the office, with his black briefcase on his lap. Slowly and carefully he opens it up . . . click . . . click . . . and looks inside as though he is examining its contents for the first time.

Tucked in the upper compartment is his passport. Parkinson's has not slowed his travels. He's at home no more than 90 days a year. Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Louisville, Las Vegas in a week, doing good deeds. he visits schools, campaigns against child abuse, for more Parkinson's funding, for peace and tolerance. Everyone want to see the champ. Germany is clamoring for him. Its national television network just ran an hour-long documentary on him.

Next to the passport is a laminated trading card. He lifts it out and studies it. There's Ali next to Surgar Ray Robinson and Joe Louis.

''Two of the greatest fighters in the world,'' he says. He pauses. ''Mmmmm. Both dead.''

Ali think a lot about death. Aging and death and life after death. His philosophy is at once selfish and selfless. Publicity keeps him alive. He wants to stay alive so that he can make people happy and do good deeds. And ''good deeds are the rent we pay for our house in heaven.''

He is teaching our preaching now. A new poetry, slower, no rhymes, stream of consciousness, deeper meaning.

''Twice a month they call us to sign autographs
Make two hundred thousand a day.
Signing. Hundred dollars a picture
Long lines. Bring millions of dollars.
I'm not fighting no more
I'll sign for nothin'. Give it to charity.
Get the money, give it to the homeless
Give it to soup lines
If I see someone who needs some
Here's a hundred. Here's fifty
Soup vendor. Wino. Old woman with varicose veins.
Good deeds. Judgment.
I'm well pleased with you my son. Come into heaven.
That's eternal life. Maann! Maann!
Look at all the buildings in downtown New York.
People built them. They're dead.
Buildings still standing.
You don't own nothin'. Just a trustee.
Think about it. You die.
This life's a test. A test.
Trying to pass the test. I'm tryin'.
Warm bodies. Shake hands. Gone.
All dead now. President Kennedy.
Whatever color you are
No matter how much money you have
Politics. Sports. You're gonna die.
Sleep is the brother of death.''

Ali closes his eyes. He starts snoring. Reopens his eyes.

''Turn over now. It's morning.''

Back to the black briefcase.

Stacked in rows along the bottom are a collection of little leather books, five of them, in red and pink and green. It turns out they are Bibles. Why he needs five in a briefcase is not clear. What he does with them is part of the mystery of Muhammad Ali.

During the past several months, he and Lonnie and Thomas Hauser, author of his authorized biography, have made appearances around the country promoting the cause of universal understanding and tolerance. Ali and Hauser, Muslim and Jew, put together a little book titled ''Healing'' which they distribute at every stop. It contains quotations on tolerance from Cicero, Voltaire, Thoreau and Ali. The book was inspired by Ali's habit of combing through the Koran and other books and writing down phrases that he found moving. Hauser chose the title one day when he studied a series of words and notice A-L-I in the middle of H-E-A-L-I-N-G.

This crusade seems natural for ali now. In the '60s, when he shed the name Cassius Clay, which he dismissed as his slave name, and refused to be inducted into the military to fight in Vietnam, temorarily giving up his freedom and wealth and title in the process, he stood as what Hauser called ''a symbol of divided America.'' Now his popularity transcends politics, race, country and religion. He is universally accepted as a man who stood up for what he believed in and paid the price and prevailed. He has endured enough intolerance to give the message deeper meaning. His shining eyes are the prize of peace.

Ali takes the little leather Bibles out of his briefcase and places them on the table beside him. He peers inside again and comes out with a stack of paper. Each page has a typed message. He hands over the first page. Could these be the quotations of tolerance and understanding he writes down each day?

Read it, Ali indicates, wordlessly, nodding his head.

''If God is all perfect his revelation must be perfect and accurate. Free from contradiction. . . . Since holy scripture is from God, it should be impossible to find mistakes and conflicting verses. If it doesn't, you can't trust it 100 percent. There are many conflicting verses in the Bible.''

Ali smiles, gestures to take that piece of paper back, and hands over one page after another of contradictions he has found in the Bible. Some contradictions in numbers, some about what Jesus was purported to have said. ''All in the Bible,'' Ali says, as he finally puts the stack of paper back in his briefcase. ''Heavy.'' He points to a filing cabinet behind the desk, which is overflowing with similar papers. It turns out that this is one of his favorite intellectual pastimes, searching his little leather Bibles for thousands of contradictions of fact or interpretation that have been cited by Islamic scholars. There seems to be no malice in his hobby, though it is hardly what one might expect from a missionary of universal healing.

What is going on here? The question is later put to Lonnie Ali. She is his fourth wife, wholly devoted to his well-being, a smart, funny and gracious woman, a graduate of Vanderbilt University, who started cooking for him when he was getting sick, married him 12 years ago, and is serving more and more as his public voice. She knows that he is not perfect, but she also appreciates his larger meaning to the world. Muhammad, she says, is greater than his individual parts. He means so many things to so many people, and she is determined to preserve that, sometimes in spite of him. She has known him since she was 6 years old and growing up in Louisville in the house across the street from his mother, Odessa Clay.

Why is Ali doing this? She shrugs at the question. That, she says, ''is part of the dichotomy that is Muhammad.

''Even when Muhammad was in the Nation of Islam where they considered whites devils he was putting little white kids on his lap and kissing them and loving them. Muhammad could really care less if a person is of another religion. But Muhammad found out that there are contradictions in the Bible and he's hooked on that. If he can get you to say, 'Oh, look, I never knew that,' then it's like he has accomplished a victory. Muhammad is a warrior. And he finds these little things to battle over.''

There certainly seem to be more important battles now for Muhammad Ali. Perception and deception. How sick is he?

Ali began showing signs of trouble as far back as 1980, when he lost the heavyweight title in his 60th, and next to last fight, against Larry Holmes. He visited several medical experts over the next few years and finally Parkinsonism, a syndrome related to Parkinson's disease, was diagnosed. Parkinson's is a slowly progressive disease, suffered by an estimated 1.5 million Americans, that causes cells in the middle part of the brain to degenerate, reducing the production of the chemical dopamine and leading to tremors, slowness of movement, memory loss and other neurological symptoms. Its cause is unknown.

People who suffer from Parkinsonism have many of the same symptoms but in a milder and usually undegenerative form. Until recently, most of his doctors believed Ali had the syndrome, not the disease. Over the past 18 months that diagnosis has been changing and the belief now is that he might have the disease.

Some doctors who have examined Ali remain convinced that his ailment was brought on by the pounding he took in the ring, especially the brutal fights late in his career against Frazier, Foreman and Holmes. Mahlon DeLong, his Parkinson's physician at Emory University in Atlanta, and other experts argue, however, that Ali must have had a predisposition to the disease. They note that most ''punch drunk'' old fighters do not show signs of Parkinson's but more often suffer from something known as Martland syndrome, with intellectual deficits that Ali does not show.

His disorder, in any case, is not as debilitating as one might suspect from catching a brief glimpse of him. He is agile enough to dress himself each morning. He knots his ties perfectly. He lifts his legs to put on his socks. Laces his shoes. Slips on his Swiss Army watch. Feeds himself. Opens doors. Performs magic tricks. Reads his Bibles and Korans. Writes legibly. Talks on the telephone. Understands everything said to him and around him. Flips the remote on his television to watch CNN and Biography and the Discovery Channel.

''He doesn't need any help from me,'' Lonnie Ali says, meaning in the physical sense. ''The only thing I may assist Muhammad with, because he is nearsighted and doesn't wear glasses, is shaving. He misses some spots.'' His main problem, she says, is that he shows little interest in keeping up with medical treatments.

''I can offer him all the care in the world,'' she says. ''His doctors can give him all the care in the world. It is up to him. Muhammad tends to ignore it.''

Ali is on the move now, heading down the steps and out onto the grounds of his 88-acre farm. it is an unexpected paradise at the end of the road in the middle of Middle America, between South Bend, Ind., and Benton Harbor, Mich. Once belonged to Al Capone, a mobster's hideaway. ''Found . . . machine . . . guns,'' Ali says.

There is a gentle pond , a gazebo where he prays to Allah, a playground for the youngest of his nine children, 6-year-old Asaad, whom he and Lonnie adopted at birth; acres of sweet-blooming perennials, woods at he edge of the field, the St. Joe River rolling by, white picket fences and white and green barns.

On his way down the looping driveway, Ali cannot resist some playful sparring. His hands stop shaking as he bobs and weaves and dances backwards. His condition seems irrelevant, or at least that is the point he wants to make. Could knock you out in 10 seconds. His middle looks soft until it is felt: like steel.

At the turn in the driveway he reaches the far garage and his beige on brown Rolls-Royce Corniche sedan. He slowly eases himself into the driver's seat, then struggles out and onto his feet again, and starts fishing in his pants for the keys. He pulls out a set, examines them, picks a key, settles back into the car, tries to insert it into the ignition. Doesn't fit. He starts over again, pulling more sets of keys out of his deep pocket. Two sets. Three sets. Four sets. Which is it? None fit.

He gets out again and walks to the rear of the car and points to the license: Virginia plates with a '93 sticker. ''Haven't driven it in four years,'' he says. He leaves the garage and walks toward the fence, where a black Ford pickup is parked. The seat is too close to the steering wheel for him, and he has a difficult time squeezing in. It takes him a few minutes, but now he is there, behind the wheel, and he has a key that fits and the engine starts and he motions to climb in. As the truck reaches the front entrance, Ali stops, waiting for the electronic gate to open. His eyes close. He starts snoring. He can fall asleep any time of day, his doctors say, but he often only pretends to, and people around him can never be sure if he is dozing or duping.

Only a trick this time. The gate opens. The black pickup goes flying up the road, free and swaying. He always loved to speed. In the old days he might take the wheel of the press bus at training camp and scare the daylights out of the boxing scribes. He is doing it again. What is going on here? No reason to fear. Muhammad Ali is heading out to see the world. He is hungry, and he knows what he wants: some love and affirmation and a quarter-pounder with mustard and onions at the local McDonald's.

The love is there the moment he pulls in the parking lot. Everyone wants an autograph, and he joyfully obliges. They call him champ and hero and pat his back and shake his hand and kiss him and smile at him and show him pictures and stare at him. They talk about how much he means to them. They say they will miss him if he moves, as he and Lonnie plan to do before the year is out, down to Louisville, his home town, where he is setting up a Muhammad Ali center. He smiles back with his eyes.

No need to feel sorry for the champ, he wants you to know. ''My life is a party,'' he says softly, chewing his quarter-pounder.

''Every day. Imagine. Every day. Things are quiet here. Imagine how it must be when I go to New York. Harlem. Detroit. Philly. Walk into a gym. The streets. Look at me. Imagine what it's like.''

After lunch, Ali returns to the farm and resumes a tour of the grounds. He comes to a barn and slides open the door and looks inside. There, in the dim darkness, is an extraordinary thing. Look up in the rafters. Trophies lining the hayloft beam, one bigger than the next. Gathering dust. And attached to the wall: a huge black-and-white blowup of the young Ali, gloved hands aloft in triumph, after one of his title matches with Frazier. He stares at his own image, the greatest of all time.

People often wonder about the past; how beautiful it would be if they realized the present. Ali turns and steps out of the barn. He slides the wooden door to the right. Is it closed? He notices an opening on the left. He slides it to the left. Now there is an opening on the right. He decides to leave it that way, a ray of light filtering in, and walks down the path to his home.