

Dr. Bergen is recognized as a national authority on health care and a prominent leader in academic medicine in the State and in the nation.

It is fitting and proper that the members of Congress salute Dr. Bergen's exemplary career and service to New Jersey and the nation. His high standard of excellence in education, research and patient care have brought pride and honor to our State.

We wish him well in the years ahead and hope that he will continue to serve as a valuable resource to New Jersey and the nation.

TRIBUTE TO GAINESVILLE FIRE
DEPARTMENT

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 1998

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in December of 1997 I had the honor of speaking to the Gainesville Fire Department at their annual Christmas banquet. Since that time, I have visited informally with Steve R. Boone, the highly regarded Fire Chief of the Gainesville Fire Department, Capt. Wally Cox, Training Officer, and Lt. David Tharp, Fire Safety Education Officer. I am impressed by their dedication and commitment to public service.

One of the main goals of the Gainesville Fire Department is to provide educational programs on fire safety. The Department accomplishes this by presenting programs in the local school systems as well as community events, sponsoring industrial training sessions, and making presentations to civic clubs. Ninety percent of their funding for fire safety education is received through donations from the community—evidence of the support that the Department receives from local citizens.

The Gainesville Fire Department has chosen to take a proactive approach to fire prevention and safety, rather than just a reactive one. Their efforts undoubtedly will help save lives and property. In the past, the Gainesville Fire Department has been recognized for their efforts by local groups, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, insurance companies, and other entities. Senator PHIL GRAMM also has recognized their commitment to serving the citizens of Cooke County.

Mr. Speaker, too often we take for granted the efforts of those who place their own lives at risk for their fellow citizens. I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to an outstanding group of public servants—the Gainesville Fire Department—and to other firemen across our great nation whose dedication to the prevention of fires and injuries deserves our gratitude and respect.

TRIBUTE TO HAZEL WOLF

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 1998

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Hazel Wolf. On Saturday, March 21, 1998, hundreds of her friends will gather in Seattle celebrating her 100th birthday and giving thanks for her life-

time of dedication to the environment and human rights.

Born in Victoria, British Columbia on March 10, 1898, Hazel emigrated to the United States in 1923 as a single mother seeking work to support her young daughter, eventually becoming a legal secretary. Hazel officially became a citizen in 1976 after devoting more than 50 years to making our country a better place to live.

Through the years Hazel championed issues of importance for women, working people, human rights, and the environment. A true citizen of the world, her work has been recognized with awards by numerous international, state, and local organizations. On Saturday the Seattle Audubon Society will acknowledge the "rare bird" by announcing the creation of the Hazel Wolf Kids for the Environment Endowment. This fund will be dedicated to helping urban youth experience and appreciate nature, a lasting tribute to a woman who cherishes our nation's young people and loves the beauty of our natural world.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Hazel for demonstrating to us the value of a simple life adorned with the riches of a lifetime of service to humanity and nature. We wish her continuing vigor in pursuit of future endeavors.

CROATIAN POLICE ATTACK
PROTESTORS AT PEACEFUL
TRADE UNION RALLY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today I am sharing with my colleagues various newspaper articles related to a recent peaceful rally in which protestors were attacked by Croatian police. It was reported in the Federal Tribune that there were between 12,000 to 14,000 policemen from throughout Croatia brought in to control an estimated 10,000 to 30,000 protestors. The rally was organized by the largest trade union in Croatia and several opposition political parties. The reported focus of the rally were issues of high unemployment and poor living conditions for workers and retirees, while at the same time it has been reported that Croatia's President Franjo Tudjman has amassed a considerable fortune for himself and his family. I am also inserting into the RECORD an informative article released this week by Jack Anderson and Jan Moller entitled, "Croatian Seeks To End Human-Rights Abuses."

[From BBC News, Feb. 21, 1998]

CROATIAN POLICE DENY DEMO INJURIES

The Croatian Interior Ministry has denied reports that police used force against demonstrators during a mass protest in the capital Zagreb.

Tens of thousands of people took part in what is described as the largest rally the nation has seen, against growing poverty and unemployment.

The government banned the demonstration from main city square, Ban Jelacic square, deploying hundreds of police with riot gear to prevent the crowd from gaining access.

Protesters threw apples and eggs at officers and a shop window was shattered.

An Interior Ministry statement, carried by the official news agency HINA, contradicted

Croatian radio and TV reports that several people were being treated in hospital for injuries.

Five police staff were also reported injured.

The demonstration was organized by three trade unions and backed by 10 opposition parties.

Correspondents say about 10,000 protesters moved to Marshall Tito square, also known as Theatre Square, where they held an hour-long meeting.

The head of the Croatian Workers Trade Union, Boris Kunst, said he was saddened that the Croatian police had raised their hands against the protesters.

"These people that gathered here are those who defended Croatia," he said. "But they cannot live off their salaries, while the others are decorating their palaces and are stealing from us."

Protesters called on ministers to reduce their own salaries and scrap the newly-introduced 22% value added tax which has seen prices increase on basic goods including food.

Correspondents say Croats have been reluctant to demonstrate against the government, lead by President Franco Tudjman, since the country achieved independence through a devastating war in 1991.

But dissatisfaction among citizens is mounting as the majority of them face post-war poverty.

An unemployment rate, which independent analysts say tops 23%, is at the center of public grievances.

As the rate rises a new wealthy elite, consisting mainly of businessmen favored by the government or ruling party members, has emerged.

VECERNJI LIST—MARCH 18, 1998

ZAGREB. President of the United American Trade Union headquarters AFL-CIO John J. Sweeney sent a letter to the President of the Republic of Croatia Franjo Tudjman protesting confiscation of the trade union's property. Mr. Sweeney appealed to the government of Croatia that it was urgent that they change their position and rescind their orders under the "law of unions" in relation to the trade union's property, and withdraw their decision about nationalization of the trade union's property, declared the International Department of the Association of the Independent Trade Unions in Croatia, the largest association of trade unions in Croatia.

DIE TAGESZEITUNG—FEBRUARY 24, 1998

BERLIN, Federal Republic of Germany. At the peaceful rally in Zagreb, which was organized by the Association of Workers' Unions and several political opposition parties, on Friday, February 20th in the capital of Croatia, Zagreb, were tens of thousands of people who protested against social and economic policy and unemployment. The target of this protest was Croatian President Franjo Tudjman and the government of the ruling party, HDZ, who were proclaimed responsible for the poor living conditions of workers, retirees and unemployed persons. People shouted "Tudjman is Saddam" and "All of you are thieves". People were angry and resisting the selling of many factories to leading members of HDZ for symbolic money and that the current value of the private property of the President and his family is more than \$1 billion.

DIE PRESSE—FEBRUARY 28, 1998

VIENNA, Austria. A Press Correspondent from Zagreb reported that President of Croatia, Dr. Franjo Tudjman has property of several billion dollars in German marks and this was the reason for the large workers' demonstration in Zagreb's streets. It is very