

comments and concerns, to debate the issues in a frank manner, and to find solutions which will make our community more inclusive and more just.

IV. CONCLUSION

Our success in meeting these challenges will depend—in large measure—on our commitment to human rights. This evening has been a success if it causes each one of us to renew our commitment to human rights and to act in specific ways on that commitment.

The stakes are high. This country has been dedicated to the cause of human rights from its inception. If you and I do not lead in human rights, who will? Surely those of us who have been given so much—good parents, good education, good health, a marvelous country—and all of our many blessings—must take the lead for human rights into the 21st Century.

So when you leave here in a few minutes, what are you going to do? May I suggest you and I renew a simple pledge: We stand for justice. We combat injustice wherever we may find it—at home or abroad, in our own community or across the world. Leaders and legislation may be important, but what happens in your life, in your home, in your heart is more important than what happens in the White House.

We join hands in support of the Human Rights Commission in Columbus in a noble cause: contributing to the direction and success of a free society and a humane world.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOEL FORT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments and contributions of a truly remarkable man, Dr. Joel Fort.

Dr. Fort was an early visionary in the field of public health. He was one of the first professionals to understand that social problems such as substance abuse and violence were not going to be solved by the criminal justice system alone, but rather required a collaborative approach which included public health expertise. Dr. Fort's personal commitment to this field brought about the creation of the San Francisco Department of Health's Center for Special Problems and the Center for Solving Special Social and Health Problems. These Centers have reached thousands of individuals, and serve as a model for replication throughout the United States and abroad. Not satisfied to stop there, Dr. Fort influenced a generation of public health and social service professionals by taking his philosophy into the classroom—teaching at several universities on subjects of drug abuse, criminology, ethics and conflict resolution. Dr. Fort's many achievements have earned him numerous accolades, most notably the recent completion of Oral History of Joel Fort, M.D.: Public Health Pioneer, Criminologist, Reformer, Ethicist, and Humanitarian by the Regional Oral History Office of the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Throughout this rich and varied career, Dr. Fort always held his family as his top priority. Therefore, it is only appropriate that we join with his wife of 46 years, Maria Fort, and his three children and three grandchildren, in cele-

brating his life and his legacy. Dr. Joel Fort is an undeniably outstanding member of our community, and I speak for the entire U.S. House of Representatives in this tribute to him.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN CALLS ON PAKISTAN TO RECOGNIZE KHALISTAN

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, recently the Council of Khalistan, which leads the struggle to liberate the Sikh homeland, Punjab, Khalistan, from Indian rule, recently wrote an open letter to the people and government of Pakistan urging Pakistan to recognize Khalistan to stop India from achieving hegemony in South Asia.

The letter pointed out that two leaders of the ruling BJP recently called for Pakistan and Bangladesh to become part of India. It has been fifty years since India and Pakistan achieved their independence, agreeing to partition at that time. For leaders of the ruling party to call for that agreement to be undone reveals India's imperialist aims in the region. The atrocities committed against the Sikhs, the Christians of Nagaland, the Muslims of Kashmir, the Dalits ("black untouchables," the aboriginal people of the subcontinent), and so many others also show India's drive to establish Hindu Raj throughout South Asia.

An independent Khalistan can serve as a buffer to prevent war between India and Pakistan. Khalistan is committed to freedom, denuclearization in South Asia, and economic cooperation to assure prosperity for all. It is time for the United States to promote freedom, peace, stability, and prosperity in South Asia by supporting a free and fair vote on the political status of Khalistan and for Pakistan to recognize the legitimate aspirations of the people of Khalistan, Nagaland, and all the nations of South Asia.

I am putting the Council of Khalistan's open letter into the RECORD.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,
Washington, DC, April 8, 1998.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN: TO STOP INDIAN HEGEMONY, RECOGNIZE KHALISTAN

To the people and Government of Pakistan:

Your recent missile test is an unfortunate reminder of the tensions in South Asia. While it was a necessary response to India's drive to establish its hegemony over South Asia, it is still an unfortunate event. We all hope that South Asia will not once again erupt into a war.

India's drive for hegemony shows in the recent statement by two BJP leaders that Pakistan and Bangladesh should become part of India. It shows in India's military buildup. And it shows in India's ongoing repression of the minorities living within its artificial borders. It has already murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. It has murdered almost 60,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, Tamils, Dalits ("black untouchables," the aboriginal people of South Asia), and others.

You can help to end India's drive for hegemony by recognizing Khalistan. Your rec-

ognition will be a major boost of the movement to bring freedom to the oppressed Sikh Nation. It will also carry strategic advantages for you, as Khalistan can serve as a buffer between you and India. If there is a war, Sikhs will not fight for India. The Sikh Nation can also use the fact the over 60 percent of India's grain comes from Punjab, Khalistan to deter India from pursuing its dream of Hindu Raj throughout South Asia. I ask you to recognize Khalistan immediately. We seek to establish an Embassy in Islamabad and four consulates in Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar, and Quetter.

Khalistan is committed to the denuclearization of South Asia and to the establishment of a South Asian common market to bring greater economic prosperity to all the countries of South Asia. Khalistan will also sign a 100-year friendship and defense treaty with Pakistan. Only the liberation of Khalistan and the other oppressed nations of South Asia will bring true peace and stability to the subcontinent.

The Indian government has been talking to Naga leaders about the status of Nagaland. Yet India has failed to live up to its obligations under the 1948 U.N. resolution in which it agreed to a plebiscite in Kashmir and it has refused to hold a free and fair plebiscite in Punjab, Khalistan. India is not one country. It is a collection of many nations thrown together by the British for their administrative convenience. The collapse of India's brutal, corrupt empire is inevitable. By recognizing Khalistan, you can help bring that about sooner and help bring freedom, democracy, peace, and prosperity to South Asia. I call upon the people and government of Pakistan to take this step immediately.

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,

President,

Council of Khalistan.

HONORING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF JOSEPH GIGUERE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I have this opportunity to stand on the floor of this great Chamber and acknowledge the celebration and occasion of the 80th Birthday of my constituent, Joseph Giguere.

Mr. Giguere of Southbridge, Massachusetts was born in St. Aimée in the Province of Quebec, Canada on March 19, 1918. His early years on his family's homestead in the countryside surrounding Montreal instilled within him a sense of hard work and determination, and loyalty to friends and family. These admirable qualities were carried with him when he emigrated to the United States at the age of eleven and helped him to persevere and fully acclimate himself to the American society that he proudly became a citizen of. His eagerness to learn a new language, while still observing and respecting the strong French-Canadian heritage that had been ingrained in him, enabled him to attain an education and skills necessary for trade of a woodcraftsman. Though it was the Depression, his father was an entrepreneur and successfully started numerous enterprises, including broom factories, butcher shops, and woodworking establishments. The skills that Mr. Giguere learned allowed for him to always find work to sustain and contribute to his family.

Mr. Giguere married his sweetheart, Dorothy, with whom he celebrated a 50th wedding anniversary and each day of their life together. They shared a love and friendship that many would envy, as well as the blessing of six children and many grand-children and great-grandchildren. Mr. Giguere and his wife ensured that all of their children, Richard, Marguerite, Roland, Therese, Paul, and Michael, were raised appreciating the value of education, discipline, and tradition, all which they in turn have passed on to their own children. Mr. Giguere also extended his good fortune and the warmth of his home to members of his community and the parishioners at Notre Dame Church. In fact, stories abound of the crowds of neighbors and friends who would come to Mr. Giguere's home to watch Milton Berle, Jackie Gleason, and Art Carney since he owned the first television in the area. The laughter and happiness continues from those nostalgic days, and "Pepère", as he is affectionately referred to by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, is always there to extend a helping hand or a listening ear and his own perspective and encouragement. It is a great pleasure to acknowledge Mr. Giguere today on the occasion of his 80th birthday. May he have many more happy and healthy years ahead of him.

IN HONOR OF MR. DEE J. KELLY

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dee Kelly, from Fort Worth, Texas, who is receiving the Blackstone Award on April 30, 1998, for consistent ability, integrity, and courage as a lawyer.

Mr. Kelly grew up in Bonham, Texas, the son of a farmer and a mill worker. He knew as early as high school that he wanted to practice law. He became a friend of Speaker Sam Rayburn, who was his Congressman in Bonham, and spent some time working for the Speaker on Capitol Hill. He completed his bachelors degree at Texas Christian University in Forth Worth, Texas, and studied law at George Washington University at night while he was working for the Speaker. After a few years in Washington, Mr. Kelly returned to Fort Worth to practice law. He began his own firm in 1979, which now has about 80 attorneys in Fort Worth and Austin.

Mr. Kelly is not a stranger to awards and honors. He has won countless business and civic awards, including the Horatio Alger Award in 1995. He has been included in the book *Best Lawyers in America* for seven years in a row. The Blackstone Award is special to him because it is given by his colleagues. In addition to the long hours he maintains at his firm, Kelly, Hart & Hallman, Mr. Kelly serves on several corporate boards and has close ties to his alma mater, Texas Christian University, where the alumni center is named after him. Many civil attorneys never receive the widespread recognition that their colleagues in criminal law receive, but Mr. Kelly is one of the few who has.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in recognizing Mr. Dee J. Kelly, a truly outstanding attorney and active member of his community.

REVEREND CARTER CELEBRATES
25 YEARS WITH FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the contributions of Reverend Charles Carter, senior pastor of the First Baptist Church of Jonesboro. For the past 25 years, Reverend Carter and his wife, Margaret, have led the church through explosive growth, all the while inspiring those they touch with the important lessons of the Bible.

Raised in Toccoa, Georgia, Reverend Carter spent his time outside of school bagging groceries in his family's store and pumping gas at his parents' filling station. He went on to study at Mercer University, and then attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. After pastoring in Kentucky and North Carolina, Reverend Carter brought his passion for preaching the Bible to Clayton County. Under his leadership, First Baptist Church paralleled the country's population boom with incredible growth from a family of 1,600 members in 1973 to an extended family of 6,400 members this year.

With the growth, the church has had the opportunity to expand programming, particularly for the community's youth. They also fund missions to build churches in countries like Guatemala and Venezuela. In 25 years, First Baptist has operated under balanced budgets, even with a budget that has swelled to more than \$4 million.

A balanced budget is not the only lesson we should follow from the example of Reverend Carter. His belief in the importance of work is motivation for us all. "You do whatever it takes to get the job done. Forget your job description. Forget what can be done and can't be done. Do whatever it takes."

Margaret Carter's involvement in the church is also inspirational. She is a partner in the truest sense, as she and her husband have shared in the joys and responsibilities that come with 25 years of heartfelt devotion to the church.

Jonesboro is privileged to have Reverend and Mrs. Carter in it's community. Although Reverend Carter will soon retire, his legacy of guidance and inspiration will long survive his absence from the pulpit of First Baptist.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER G. WATSON

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Dr. Walter G. Watson of North Augusta, South Carolina. At the graduation ceremony, on May 6, 1998, Clemson University will present Dr. Watson with an honorary degree.

At 88 years of age, Dr. Watson remains a practicing physician. After graduating from the Citadel, he attended the Medical College of Georgia (MCG), and later taught there. Besides serving as chair of the OB/GYN department for most of his career, Dr. Watson has

received the Outstanding Faculty Award and the Outstanding Alumnus Award from MCG.

Dr. Watson also demonstrates exemplary commitment outside of his career. He has served the North Augusta athletic program for over fifty years, by performing physicals and caring for the injured. He also provided critical assistance to his church, by helping to rebuild Grace Methodist, one of South Carolina's largest Methodist churches.

As Dr. Watson has no plans for retirement, he continues to serve as an exemplary role model for future generations. He is a dedicated gentleman of high character, concerned with the needs of others and the community he serves. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to this outstanding individual, by recognizing the commendable actions in all aspects of his life.

TRIBUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
TEAM

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the outstanding achievements of the 1997-98 University of Illinois women's basketball team. With a "Dare to be Great" attitude, head coach Theresa Greutz challenges her players, coaching staff and those working with her to strive for excellence. Studying the 1997-98 record books, it seems to have paid off.

The University of Illinois Women's 1997-98 basketball team was destined to soar to new heights. Their No. 5 ranking in December marked the highest rankings ever by an Illinois team. Illinois earned a No. 3 seed, the highest in program history, and advanced to the "Sweet Sixteen" for the second consecutive year, an outstanding accomplishment. Senior Ashley Berggren became Illinois' all-time leading scorer with 22 points against Purdue. She finished her career with 2,089 points, placing fifth all-time in the Big Ten. Fellow teammate and senior Krista Reinking set the Illinois record for three-point field goals made in a game while playing Minnesota. She closed out her career with a total of 194 three-point field goals. Coach Greutz, who won her second consecutive Big Ten Coach of the Year award, led her team to a nine game winning streak spanning November 28 until January 16, the second longest in program history. The 1998 senior class tied the class of 1984 for the all-time winningest class with 67 wins over four years. For this honor I would like to recognize the Senior players; Guard Ashley Berggren from Barrington, IL; Guard Kelly Bond from Chicago, IL; Guard Krista Reinking from Decatur, IN; and Center Nicole Vasey from Lake Zurich, IL. May their past successes continue to follow them wherever they may go. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the entire women's team, Coach Greutz and all involved in bringing such excitement and pride to the University of Illinois.