

CONGRATULATING DR. STANLEY
NUSSBAUM

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. Stanley Nussbaum, who is being honored by the Herbert Tenzer Five Towns Democratic Club at its annual brunch on May 3, 1998. Stan is a dynamic political leader, representing the community in my district known as the Five Towns on the local, state, and national levels. The residents of my district have reaped the benefits of his commitment to the community, as he has always put forth the needs and concerns of the people of Long Island.

Stan's leadership is quite impressive. He has been a member of the Nassau Democratic County Committee for twenty-five years, and served as President of the Five Towns Democratic Club from 1978–1980 and then again from 1984–1990. He was Zone Leader of Lawrence-Cedarhurst and in 1994 was elected as a New York State Committeeman.

An early supporter of President Clinton prior to his election, Stan proceeded to run and was elected as a Clinton delegate for the 1992 Democratic National Convention. Currently, Stan serves the Island as Assembly District Leader in the 20th A.D.

In addition to his outstanding and extensive involvement within the Democratic Party, Stan is also very active in community affairs. Locally, he served as President of the Five Towns Jewish Council, and has been a trustee of the American Jewish Committee. Presently, he is a trustee of Temple Beth El of Cedarhurst, and sits on the boards of the American Committee of Israeli MIA's and the Conference of Jewish Organization of Nassau County. Stan is a life member of the American Dental Society.

Amazingly, Stan has managed to accomplish all of this and remain extremely devoted to his family including his wife, Toby; their three children, Felice, Hillary and Larry; and two grandchildren, Ananda and Sierra.

Dr. Nussbaum emulates the ideals of citizenship in our country—through his concern for others, his service to the community and active participation in our government. I wish to congratulate—and thank—my good friend Stan, for all that he has done for me, my district, and Long Island.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE
HONORABLE BELLA ABZUG

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, last night a number of my colleagues, led by Congressman JERRY NADLER and Congresswoman ELLEANOR HOLMES NORTON, paid tribute to the late Bella Abzug. I want to lend my voice to theirs in honoring this remarkable woman.

It is particularly fitting that we honor her this week, after we watched two new women members be sworn in. We now have 55 women serving in the House of Representa-

tives—the largest number in history. Bella would be proud.

Those gains were made possible by women like Bella Abzug, women who fought their way into what was still a “man’s world.” Bella spent her career working to promote women’s rights. After she left Congress she founded the National Women’s Political Caucus, a vital organization with the goal of promoting women’s participation in government. As we look around the chamber today we can see the tremendous progress we have made toward that goal.

With her trademark hats and her bold style, Bella hit the ground running in Congress and never once stopped. As the daughter of immigrants and the first Jewish woman to serve in the House, Bella never forgot who she was or where she came from. She spent her lifetime looking out for those who were traditionally excluded from the Washington power structure—immigrants, minorities, and especially women. She fought to end U.S. involvement in Vietnam. She fought for women’s rights, civil rights, worker protections. Bella served as a voice for those who had been shut out of the process for far too long.

Before she came to the House in 1971, this body had never seen the likes of Bella Abzug. We all know that we never will again. Bella was a true pioneer.

Every woman who walks these halls today, and every woman who will follow us in the future, owes a tremendous debt to Bella for all the barriers she broke. Bella, we thank you and we will never forget you.

TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, April 24 marks the 83d anniversary of the beginning of one of the most terrible chapters of human history—the Armenian genocide.

From 1915 to 1923, over 1½ million Armenians perished at the hands of Ottoman Turks. As Peter Balakian documents in his book “Black Dog of Fate”:

Every day you heard about Armenians disappearing. Shopkeepers disappearing from their shops in the middle of the day. Children not returning from school. Men not coming back from the melon fields. Women, especially young ones, disappearing as they returned from the bath.

But sadly, the Turkish government is practicing historical revisionism by denying that a genocide took place. Even more regrettably, Turkey continues its blockade of Armenia, attempting to starve it of humanitarian aid and commerce. The United States should persuade Turkey to be a catalyst for truth and peace in the region. Only with Turkey’s cooperation and America’s leadership will it be possible to move forward to bring peace and prosperity to the descendants of the victims and the survivors of the Armenian genocide.

This period of ethnic cleansing was only the first of the twentieth century. It was to be followed by the Holocaust of World War II and

the mass murders of the Bosnian conflict and central Africa. Perhaps if more people had known the truth behind Armenia’s tragedy, the world would have seen the warning signs, and prevented the subsequent genocides. Today in 1998, ethnic cleansing threatens to reignite in places like Kosovo. It is of utmost importance to acknowledge the Armenian genocide, for its example is relevant more than ever today.

I am a proud cosponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 55, which honors the victims of the Armenian genocide and urges the United States to be active in the struggle to bring recognition to this tragedy.

Today, Armenian grandparents are passing the story of Armenian suffering down to their families because they know the importance of keeping the truth alive. We in Congress should do our part too, to inform the public, to recognize historical fact, and to honor those who suffered.

THINK TANK PREDICTS NUCLEAR
WAR BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKI-
STAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, a very distressing article has just come to my attention, thanks to Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. It is a report from the April 17th issue of India Abroad that the Rand Corporation, a widely-respected think tank, predicted that within a few years, there will be a major war between India and Pakistan and that this war could involve nuclear weapons.

The prospect of a nuclear war in South Asia must be distressing to anyone. This event could pose a major threat to the entire world. We should all commit ourselves to making sure that even if a war does break out, it is fought without the use of nuclear weapons.

In its report, the Rand Corporation noted that “the insurgency in Indian Kashmir has become unmanageable” and that “the insurgency has begun to spread into Punjab.” The Indian Government is fond of telling us that there is no support for independence in Punjab, Khalistan. Yet Rand Corporation, which has no interest in promoting either side, tells us that the “insurgency” is spreading into Punjab, Kahlistan.

This disastrous scenario is one more reason the United States, as the world’s only remaining superpower, should support freedom for Khalistan, the Sikh homeland that declared its independence on October 7, 1987, and the other nations in South Asia that are seeking their freedom. An internationally recognized and independent Khalistan could serve as a buffer between both India and Pakistan. This would be in the best interests of India, Pakistan, the United States, and the whole world.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for this Congress to go on record in support of a free and fair plebiscite on the political status of Khalistan. It is time to demand that India keep its promise made in 1948 to hold a plebiscite in Kashmir. That is the democratic way to settle these issues. It is also the best way to prevent South Asia from becoming the tinderbox of a nuclear disaster for the entire world.