

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC, April 15, 1998.

Hon. LEE H. HAMILTON,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. HAMILTON: The Secretary has asked that I respond on her behalf to your letter of February 19 concerning our relations with Pakistan.

It is the Department's desire to improve our relationship and advance our long term interests with Pakistan. Like you, we believe the best way to do this is to resolve the F-16 issue while enhancing bilateral ties in other areas.

The Department is currently examining the merits of the full range of alternatives for resolving the F-16 issue. We fully appreciate that failure to settle this matter could harm bilateral relations and may precipitate a lawsuit. You may be certain that we will keep your views about debt relief and economic assistance very much in mind as we proceed.

We strongly agree with your assessment about the importance of IMET and democracy building for Pakistan and intend to seek legislative authorization to reinstitute these programs.

We also appreciate knowing of your judgment that the most serious threats facing Pakistan are internal. We agree that such matters as a stagnant economy and ineffective educational system are critical to Pakistan's long-term development and stability. Consequently, we have devoted increasing attention to helping Islamabad address these problems.

We greatly appreciate your interest in improving ties with Pakistan and look forward to working with you on all matters raised in your letter.

Sincerely,

BARBARA LARKIN,
Assistant Secretary,
Legislative Affairs.

CASIMIR S. JANISZEWSKI HONORED FOR HIS OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Casimir S. Janiszewski, who will be honored May 2nd by the Pulaski Council of Milwaukee as the Polish Heritage Award Recipient at the group's annual Polish Constitution Day festivities.

Each year, the Pulaski Council of Milwaukee, which was organized to promote the civic, social and cultural interests of Americans of Polish extraction, recognizes the accomplishments of an outstanding member of the Milwaukee-area Polish community. This year's honoree, "Casey" Janiszewski, is very deserving of this prestigious award.

Casey grew up in his family's business, Superior Die Set Corporation, which was founded by his grandfather Kasimir, who immigrated from Poland in 1910. Today, Casey is the firm's President and Chief Executive Officer. His father, Casimir, is Chairman, while Casey's brother, Frank, is Executive Vice President. The company will proudly celebrate 75 years of family ownership and operation with festivities this fall.

Casey Janiszewski is truly a family man. In addition to working side-by-side for years with his father and brother, he is a loving husband

to Diane and father to Nick and Steven. He's active in his community, serving on the Board of Directors of several corporations, and the St. Josaphat Foundation. He is the Co-Chair of the Polish Fest Community Center committee, and is active in his parish, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and the Polonia Sports Club.

I applaud the Pulaski council's choice in naming Casey Janiszewski the Polish Heritage Award Recipient this year. Sto Lot!

TRIBUTE TO BILLY SUTTON

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, to paraphrase the lyrics of the great old Irish folk song, "Oh Billy, we hardly knew ye." But we loved you all the more.

For us, it all began six years before I was born. The Second World War had just ended, and a young Navy veteran named John F. Kennedy had decided to run for Congress for the old Eleventh Congressional District.

It so happened that one day in January 1946, a young Army veteran named Sergeant William Sutton was being discharged from Fort Devens. Billy loved to tell about what happened next. He'd been overseas for two years. He was finally on his way home to see his mother, and he had taken a train from Devens to North Station here. He had started up School Street, when Joe Kane spotted Billy.

Joe Kane was family, literally. Joe Kane and granddad Joe Kennedy were first cousins, and they always called each other Cousin Joe. Cousin Joe Kane knew a great deal about Boston politics, and he was the first person Granddad turned to for advice for Uncle Jack. Billy had previously worked on two campaigns in the Eleventh District and knew everyone—but everyone!—in the District. So Cousin Joe Kane knew that Billy would be a prize catch for Uncle Jack.

Cousin Joe wouldn't take no for an answer. When he caught up with Billy on School Street, he told Billy, "There's someone you have to meet. Come on over to the old Bellevue Hotel with me."

Billy said he'd been in the Army overseas for two years, and he was going home to see his mother. Cousin Joe told him, "You can see your mother later—this won't take a minute."

It took a little more than a minute, but it was love at first sight at the Bellevue. Uncle Jack loved Billy, and by the time Billy left for home, he'd signed on with Uncle Jack full time. He started the very next morning to build the organization that took Uncle Jack to victory in 1946.

A few days after that, Billy introduced Uncle Jack to another great friend of our family, a man that Billy used to sell newspapers with at the Charlestown Navy Yard, another young veteran named Dave Powers.

Two days after that, Uncle Jack made his famous visit to the meeting of the Gold Star Mothers at the American Legion Hall in Charlestown, and Billy and Dave and Uncle Jack were on their way together.

The Democratic primary that year was in June, and the day before was Bunker Hill Day, with its huge parade and celebration in

Charlestown. Billy felt they clinched the victory for Uncle Jack with their parade. Billy and Frank Dobie marched at the front with a huge banner 20 feet wide and five feet high saying "John F. Kennedy for Congress."

People used to say that Billy had organized a thousand of Uncle Jack's supporters to march in the parade. As Billy knew, it was only a little over one hundred—but they marched only three abreast, stretching themselves out as far as the eye could see, going past all the Kennedy banners they'd put on every second house along the route.

That day and many other days of Billy's ability, hard work, and incredible loyalty produced the victory that put Uncle Jack on the path to the New Frontier. He couldn't have found the way without you, Billy. We owe you big for that, and we always will.

On January 3, 1947, Uncle Jack arrived in Washington to take his seat in the House of Representatives. He had driven down overnight from Boston in a snowstorm in Aunt Eunice's Chrysler. Billy met him at the Statler Hotel. Uncle Jack was desperate for breakfast, but Billy said he was late for a Democratic Party Caucus, and Party Leader John McCormack had been calling every ten minutes to find out why he wasn't there.

But Uncle Jack said, "Mr. McCormack has been getting along without me here in Washington for 28 years. He can get along without me for another 15 minutes. Let's go into the drugstore and get some eggs."

Billy spent those first early years with Uncle Jack in Washington. In those days, he lived on the third floor of the house Uncle Jack rented on 31st Street in Georgetown. Billy had his own shower and bath, and he bragged about how often he sneaked into Uncle Jack's closet for a shirt or tie.

One day, Uncle Jack put on a pink shirt, and Billy told him in no uncertain terms, "With your complexion, a pink shirt isn't right. It's too much technicolor." So Uncle Jack took it off and handed it to Billy.

The next day, Billy walked into the room wearing the pink shirt himself. Uncle Jack looked up and said, "Well, I'm glad to see my clothes go with your complexion."

Billy was also one of the first to say to Uncle Jack that a Senate seat was winnable. And in early 1951, as the Senate race was shaping up, Billy came home to Boston to organize and help out here. And he never left again.

In Washington, he had missed his family, missed his city, and missed his state. I know how you felt, Billy.

But in all the years that followed, Billy never left us. He helped us in all of our campaigns—my campaigns, Teddy's campaigns, Dad's campaign for President—he was always there, with his trademark skill and loyalty and smile—and the legion of friends we called Billy Sutton's army.

As Billy used to say, "Compared to the Boston Irish politicians I grew up with, Jack Kennedy was like a breath of spring." Grampa Fitzgerald didn't like to hear that, but the voters understood it.

And do you know something—if it hadn't been for Billy in those early days, if Sergeant Billy Sutton had taken a different train from Fort Devens that afternoon, the Kennedys might still be in banking, and I wouldn't be here thanking Billy for making all the difference for our family.

The last time President Kennedy saw Billy was at the Boston Armory in October 1963. It was "The New England Salute to the President" Dinner, and President Kennedy came over to spend time with Billy and Marsha and talk about old times.

One of the things Billy and Marsha treasured most was the telegram that President Kennedy sent to their daughter Barbara on her third birthday—May 29, 1963. They had the same birthday, and President Kennedy told her "Congratulations on our birthdays." And ever after, Barbara could show the telegram and say, "My father knew President John F. Kennedy, right from the beginning."

The secret of Billy's success was no secret at all to all of us who knew him. He was Irish to the core. The light in his Irish eyes and his Irish heart and soul was always on. It sparkled in everything he ever did, every story he ever told, every friend he ever made, everything he ever did. When the Kennedys and countless others hear the great Irish anthem, we think of Billy:

When Irish eyes are smiling,
Sure it's like a morn in spring.
In the lilt of Irish laughter,
You can hear the angels sing.

When Irish hearts are happy,
All the world seems bright and gay,
And when Irish eyes are smiling,
Sure they'll steal your heart away.

To Marsha and Barbara and A.J. and all the rest of Billy's wonderful family, on behalf of all the Kennedys, I say today, as others in our family have said so often over the years, "You stole all our hearts away, Billy. We love you, Billy. We miss you, Billy. And we'll always remember you."

HONORING BOB LENT

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before you today to pay tribute to a loyal friend and tireless advocate of America's working class citizens. On May 5, 1998, members and friends of the United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America will honor Mr. Bob Lent, as he retires from his position as director of Michigan UAW's Region I after many years of dedicated service.

It is nearly impossible to imagine the condition of Michigan's labor movement without the benefit of Bob Lent's insight and leadership. His is a career that has spanned half a century, beginning in 1949, when at the age of 19, he was hired by Dodge Motor Co. as a spray painter. He later left Dodge for the U.S. Army, serving as a paratrooper from 1951 to 1953. Upon his return to civilian life, Bob found employment with Chrysler and reestablished his association with the UAW. As a member of Local 869, Bob served in a number of capacities, including alternate chief steward, trustee chairman, vice president, and a 4-year tenure as president. Bob was appointed as education representative of region 1B in 1972, and became assistant director in 1982. When Region I and Region 1B merged to form a larger, stronger Region 1 in 1983, Bob was elected director, the position he has held to this day.

In addition to his illustrious career with the UAW, Bob has also developed a high degree of respect in the political, educational, and civic arenas as well. He has been a precinct delegate, and serves on Labor Advisory committees at Oakland University in Rochester and Wayne State University in Detroit. He is a life member of the NAACP, serves on the board of directors of the United Way of Pontiac-Oakland County, and the Detroit Area United Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, we in the great state of Michigan are more than proud of our reputation as the automotive capital of the world, having recently celebrated the 100th anniversary of the automobile. Just as we are proud of the product, we are proud and grateful for the men and women who day in and day out work to provide these quality products and bolster our pride. Bob Lent is one of those people. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Bob, his wife Earline, and their son Steven, all the best.

TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. STEVE R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to join my colleagues in commemorating the Armenian Genocide and the solemn memory of the 1.5 million Armenians who lost their lives earlier this century. This is an important day to reflect on the lessons of history and work to avoid the horrors faced by the Armenian people in 1915.

For the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, I would very much like to submit a letter concerning the Armenian Genocide that I sent to President Bill Clinton. It is my earnest hope that the United States Congress, with President Clinton's determining leadership, will swiftly move to adopt a resolution acknowledging the Armenian Genocide.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, April 21, 1998.

Hon. WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
President of the United States.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I am writing to you, as a proponent of peace and stability in the Caucasus, to urge your Administration to play an active role in ending Turkey's denial of the Armenian Genocide.

In addition to the clear moral imperative to appropriately recognize and commemorate all instances of Genocide, such a move would serve our own national interests by ensuring that the United States is viewed as an impartial and honest broker in the ongoing Nagorno-Karabagh peace process.

During your 1992 Presidential campaign, you acknowledged the "Genocide of 1915." Your words were welcomed by Armenians and all people of good conscience as a principled stand by a leader committed to resisting the Turkish government's shameful campaign to deny the Armenian Genocide. It is unfortunate that members of your Administration have failed to live up to your own words, issuing ambiguous statements about the "Armenian massacres." I strongly encourage the Administration to use the correct term, genocide, to describe the systematic and deliberate extermination of the Armenian people—a crime against humanity thoroughly documented in our own national archives.

As a nation, we pay a great price for our government's participation in the Turkish government's denial of the Armenian Genocide. As you would surely agree, complicity in the denial of genocide—for any reason, at any time—is simply unacceptable conduct for the world's leading defender of human rights.

The United States' long-standing acquiescence of Turkey's denial was accurately characterized in 1995 by Stanley Cohen, a professor of criminology at Jerusalem's Hebrew University, writing in "Law and Social Inquiry," published by the American Bar Foundation: "The nearest successful example [of collective denial] in the modern era is the 80 years of official denial by successive Turkish governments of the 1915-17 genocide against the Armenians in which some 1.5 million people lost their lives. This denial has been sustained by deliberate propaganda, lying and cover-ups, forging documents, suppression of archives, and bribing scholars. The West, especially the United States, has colluded by not referring to the massacres in the United Nations, ignoring memorial ceremonies, and surrendering to Turkish pressures in NATO and other strategic arenas of cooperation."

As I noted, withholding the proper recognition of the Armenian Genocide also significant hinders our nation's ability to help resolve the ongoing conflict over Nagorno-Karabagh. The Administration's assurance of security guarantees for the people of Nagorno-Karabagh are greatly weakened by our government's unwillingness, after 83 years, to acknowledge that a crime of genocide was committed against the Armenian nation. This unwillingness seriously undermines the faith that the people of Karabagh have that the United States will stand up for their rights in the event of renewed Azerbaijani aggression.

Mr. President, very appropriately, you have always stressed that the United States must lead on the question of fundamental freedoms around the world. Your statement on March 25th of this year in the Rwandan capital was in the proudest tradition of our nation's commitment to human rights. At the Kigali airport, you stated that, "Genocide can occur anywhere. It is not an African phenomenon. We must have global vigilance. And never again must we be shy in the face of evidence."

Mr. President, the evidence of the Armenian Genocide is clear. Now is the time to stand up for justice and help bring an end to Turkey's denial of the Armenian Genocide.

Sincerely,

STEVEN R. ROTHMAN,

Member of Congress.

COMMENDING SHELBY CORBITT VICK

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to talk about the value of an excellent education. I would like to tell you about Shelby Vick, a student from my hometown of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Shelby Corbitt Vick was born November 15, 1986 and is the eldest child and only daughter of Joseph James Vick and Patricia Burns Vick. She was born in Fort Collins. She attends St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School as a 5th grader. Shelby has one younger brother, Emmett James Andrew Vick. Emmett is nine years old and was also born in Fort Collins.