

agenda. Creating the right environment for negotiations had as its focus the issue of ensuring that Israeli-Palestinian security cooperation was functioning at 100 percent, and that Palestinians were exerting 100 percent effort to take effective unilateral steps against terror. That's why our ideas on security create a structure to ensure that the fight against terror will not be episodic, but that it endures.

From the beginning, we have made the security issue the center of our dialogue with the Palestinians. We have pressed them to understand that the fight against terror is a basic Palestinian interest. And what we have seen, especially over the past several months, is a concerted Palestinian effort—even in the absence of an agreement with Israel on the four-part agenda—against those who would threaten peace with terror and violence. The Palestinian Authority deserves credit for taking on such groups, but it is essential as they do that others in the region who tell us they support peace refrain from greeting with cordial hospitality and financial backing the enemies of peace.

Our suggestions for Israeli redeployments were also formulated with Israel's prerogatives and concerns in mind. We recognize, as reflected in the Christopher letter, that further redeployment is an Israeli responsibility under Oslo, rather than an issue to be negotiated. But it is in the nature of partnership that Israel should take Palestinian concerns into account, while following the terms of its agreement. Otherwise, the peace process cannot move forward.

In presenting our ideas, we did not define the areas from which Israel should redeploy. Our ideas placed a premium on Israel retaining overall security responsibility in the areas affected by the proposed redeployment. And our suggestion about the size of the next redeployment came down far closer to Israel's position than to that of the Palestinians.

Why did we suggest a size? Because that is the only way to reach the agreement on launching permanent status talks that Prime Minister Netanyahu asked us to achieve. In presenting and discussing our ideas, we have acted with discretion and patience. Because we realize the difficulty of the decisions the parties were being asked to make, we have gone the extra mile—in fact, the extra 20,000 miles, back and forth across the Atlantic many times. And we have done so without complaint, because America will always go the extra mile for peace.

I want to mention at this point also that America's commitment to peace and security in the Middle East has historically been a bipartisan commitment, stretching from the administrations of Truman and Eisenhower to Bush and Clinton. Because that commitment involves the security of a cherished ally and the vital strategic interests of the United States, our leaders have historically stood together in support of Israel, and shoulder to shoulder with our Arab friends in pursuit of peace. If America is to play its proper role in promoting stability in the Middle East, it is imperative that our leaders now—in the Executive Branch, in Congress, and within the Jewish-American and Arab-American communities—continue to work together on behalf of shared goals.

Tomorrow, I will meet with Prime Minister Netanyahu again, and I very much look forward to the meeting. We are working hard to overcome differences and I hope we will be able to make progress.

But the key point that I have been emphasizing to both Israeli and Palestinian leaders is that although America remains committed to the pursuit of peace, it is up to them—not to us—whether peace is achieved.

Over the past months, we have played the role of mediator, counselor, friend, shuttler,

cajoler and idea-maker. We have responded whenever called at literally any time of the day or night. We have done this because we care about Israel and its people; and we care about the Palestinians and Arabs; and we care about the future peace and stability of the region.

We are not giving any ultimatums, and we're not threatening any country's security. We are not trying to make any party suffer at the expense of another. All we are trying to do is find the path to peace, as the parties have repeatedly urged us to do. And what we have especially been trying to do in recent weeks is to issue a wake-up call. The leaders of the region have reached a crossroads. Act before it is too late. Decide before the peace process collapses. And understand that in a neighborhood as tough as the Middle East, there is no security from hard choices, and no lasting security without hard choices.

The parties must understand, as well, that there is urgency to this task. For time is no longer an ally of this process; it has become an adversary. The historic accomplishments that flowed from the Oslo process represented a strategic opportunity for peace that is now being put at risk. Consider that just two years ago, at Sharm al-Sheikh, representatives from Israel and a host of Arab states gathered at the Summit of the Peacemakers to say no to terror and yes to peace. They saw Israel as a partner. Unfortunately, that exhilarating sense of partnership has been lost.

Second, the very idea that negotiations can peacefully resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict is now under threat. Unless the leaders are willing to make hard choices, the field will be left to extremists who have no interest in peace.

Third, the clock continues to tick. The interim period under Oslo concludes on May 4, 1999—less than a year from now. Those who believe that drifting is acceptable, or who believe they can declare unilateral positions or take unilateral acts when the interim period ends, are courting disaster. Both sides must understand that the issues reserved for permanent status discussions—including the status of the West Bank and Gaza and of settlements—can only be settled by negotiation. That was the spirit and logic of Oslo.

America's interest and goal is a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, including the principle of land for peace. That will require decisive progress on all tracks, including the Israel-Lebanon track and the Israel-Syria track.

We are not a party to the negotiations. As President Clinton has repeatedly emphasized, it is not our right, nor our intention, nor is it within our capacity, to dictate terms or impose a settlement. At the same time, our credibility and interests are indeed affected by what the Israelis, Palestinians and Arabs do or fail to do. We are prepared to support their efforts as long as we judge they are serious about wanting to reach an agreement—and serious enough to make the decisions necessary to achieve it.

For too long, too many children in too many parts of the Middle East have grown up amidst violence, deprivation and fear. Too many lives have been cut short by the terrorist's bomb, the enemy's shell and the assassin's bullet. Too many opportunities have been lost to heal old wounds, narrow differences and transform destructive conflict into constructive cooperation.

Everyone with a stake in the Middle East has an obligation to do what can be done to seize the strategic opportunity for peace that now exists, and thereby to make possible a future of stability and prosperity for all the people of the region.

The United States believes this kind of future is within our grasp. But the peoples of the region will not realize that future if their leaders do not reach out with a vision as great as the goal to overcome past grievances, treat neighbors as partners and undertake in good faith the hard work of cooperation and peace. All that is required is for each to accord dignity and accept responsibility, and to act not out of passion and fear, but out of reason and hope.

For the peoples of the region who have suffered too long, the path out of the wilderness is uphill, but clearly marked. The time has come now, before the dusk obscures the guideposts, to move up that road; and by so doing, to answer the too-long denied prayers of the children—all the children—of the Middle East.

Thank you very much.

HONORING FARMINGTON HILLS
HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL AND
THEIR MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 1998

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention the achievements of the Harrison High School football team in Farmington Hills, Michigan. The Harrison High School football team, with a 46-8 record in 16 playoff appearances and eight state titles under their belts, are true champions in every sense of the word. Most recently, the Hawks added the 1997 Class "A" State Championship to their long list of accomplishments. In addition to their athletic prowess, the team also holds the eighth highest grade point average in the state with a 3.67 average GPA. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating these talented young athletes, Jory Hannan of the football program, and the many others who were an integral part of the Hawk's tremendous success.

A "POINT-OF-LIGHT" FOR ALL
AMERICANS: DR. BETTY SHABAZZ

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 1998

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of the renaming of the Glenmore School in Brooklyn, New York to the "Dr. Betty Shabazz Elementary and Preparatory School." Dr. Betty Shabazz stands as a model of what the students of Glenmore School must strive to become—an individual with strength, resilience and perseverance in overcoming life's greatest challenges. Dr. Betty Shabazz is a great "POINT-OF-LIGHT" whose legacy will live on forever and will positively influence many more generations to come.

On Monday, June 23, 1997, a great presence in the lives of countless citizens of the world departed this earth. Dr. Betty Shabazz was not just an inspiration to the African-American community, an advocate of equality for women and a proponent of children's rights. She was an inspiration to the human community; she was an advocate of equality for all people and she was an incarnation of

every ideal upon which this Nation was founded.

Born Betty Sanders in Detroit, Michigan on May 28, 1936, Dr. Shabazz married activist and civil rights leader El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz (Malcolm X) in New York in 1958. On February 21, 1965, she witnessed the assassination of her husband after the bombing of their home just three weeks earlier. Despite this tragedy, she exhibited determination as a single mother, raising and educating her six daughters: Attallah, Qubilah, Ilyasah, Gamilah, and twins Malika and Malaak.

When the harsh winds of hatred swept across our country and prematurely ended the life of Malcolm X, they could not overcome the strength of his wife. Dr. Betty Shabazz continued the struggle after his death, keeping his quest for justice alive. She found time to become a certified nurse, and later earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees, and a Doctorate in Education Administration from the University of Massachusetts. Admirably and courageously, she took the movement into academia, where she touched the lives of hundreds of students. Dr. Shabazz served Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn as Director of Public Relations and Director of Institutional Advancement with ability, passion, and caring, qualities reflected in everything she did in life.

As a single mother, Dr. Shabazz's challenges as a parent were not unique. However, they were heightened by the fact that she was the single mother of Malcolm X's children. She reared her six daughters alone, constantly preparing them for a life in the forefront of the African-American community, one that is a requirement for their lineage. In this way, Betty Shabazz has served as a model of motherhood and a reflection of the family values that every American family aims to emulate.

The greatness of Dr. Betty Shabazz is apparent. Despite the firebombing of her home in 1965 and the brutal murder of her husband, she refused to turn what must have been inconsolable anger into motivation. She turned inward, furthering her education and strengthening her resolve as she embarked upon her mission to raise six children alone and make significant contributions to the community at the same time.

A warrior in her own right, Dr. Shabazz has made her mark on the cause to uplift oppressed people around the globe, and especially within the African-American community. Her message will be forever with us, an inspiration to all who choose a life of service to their fellow man.

Dr. Betty Shabazz turned tragedy into triumph. She exemplified what we all can do if we are willing to make sacrifices. During this celebration, let us reflect upon the lessons taught to us by Dr. Betty Shabazz. Her life has been a testament to the virtues of family, community, and activism, and it is fitting for the Glenmore School to be renamed the "Dr. Betty Shabazz Elementary and Preparatory School" in her honor. Dr. Betty Shabazz is a great "POINT-OF-LIGHT" for all to admire.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 1998

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, the events of National Police Week officially begin tonight

with the 10th Annual Candlelight Vigil on the grounds of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

Tonight the names of 305 American heroes will be added to the Memorial's wall, which honors officers killed in the line of duty. 160 of these officers were killed in 1997, and the others died in previous years but have just recently been discovered.

The 160 police heroes killed last year represent an increase of 21% over the 132 officers who were killed in 1996. This is particularly disturbing in light of the recent overall decreases in the violent crime rate.

Another disturbing trend last year was the high number of alcohol-related deaths of law enforcement officers. Alcohol was a factor in at least 19 of last year's police fatalities, including killings by drunk drivers and shootings by individuals who had been drinking.

My home state of Minnesota lost one of its finest last year—a state trooper named Tim Bowe who had served as a protector for Governor Arne Carlson. Corporal Bowe was a 14-year veteran of the force who had 9 commendations and three life-saving awards, including two revivals of heart attack victims with CPR.

At nearly midnight on June 7, 1997, Corporal Bowe was about to finish his shift when he responded to a request for help from three Chisago County Sheriff's deputies. He and the deputies at the scene of a reported shooting had just begun approaching a nearby car when an assailant fired and shot Corporal Bowe in the chin. He died from the wound shortly afterward, leaving behind his beloved wife, Denise, a 6-year-old daughter and a 9-and-a-half-month-old son.

As someone who has many close friends serving in law enforcement, as someone who has logged 1,600 hours riding with police during the "dog watch" and power shift, and as one who has accompanied high risk entry teams on 65 crack raids, I am well aware of the risks that officers like Corporal Bowe face each day they put on the badge. My home state of Minnesota has lost a total of 185 peace officers, and America has lost over 14,622 since the first recorded death in 1794.

The names of slain officers are inscribed on the wall of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, located just blocks from this Capitol. I encourage every visitor to our nation's capital to visit this meaningful reminder of the men and women who paid the ultimate price to protect our communities.

As of co-chair of the House Law Enforcement Caucus with my colleague, BART STUPAK from Michigan, I have been working in a bipartisan way to promote legislation that honors these fallen heroes. We have had some success.

In last year's Taxpayer Relief Act, I worked with other colleagues to include a provision that makes the survivor benefits for families of public safety officers killed in the line of duty tax-free. Very recently, the House passed the Higher Education Act reauthorization with an amendment to provide scholarships to families of slain officers. Just yesterday, the House passed a resolution honoring law enforcement officers and a bill which will provide life-savings bulletproof vests to police departments.

Much more needs to be done. I encourage my colleagues who are not already part of the 71-member bipartisan Law Enforcement Caucus to join. We are holding a meeting tomorrow,

in Room 1640 of the Longworth Building, to review our accomplishments and discuss legislative initiatives. I hope all interested members and staff will participate in this important dialogue.

We need to honor the fallen, and we need to empower the living who protect our communities. The thousands of officers who put their lives on the line every day are the reasons we observe Police Week and commemorate Peace Officers Memorial Day each year on May 15.

PRESIDENTIAL RANK EXECUTIVES

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 1998

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, on May 7, I had the distinct honor and privilege of attending the annual dinner to recognize the members of the Senior Executive Service who have earned the distinction of Presidential Rank. This year, the dinner, sponsored by the Senior Executive Association's Professional Development League, honored the achievements of 68 leaders of the federal government's career service who have played important roles in improving the performance of federal agencies. They reflect achievements within 11 Cabinet Departments and six independent agencies, and they have contributed to saving American taxpayers billions of dollars.

I would like to enter into the RECORD capsule summaries of the achievements of these dedicated public servants and to express my appreciation as Chairman of the Civil Service Subcommittee for the distinguished leadership that they have provided to the federal workforce.

NATION'S TOP CIVIL SERVANTS RECEIVE PRESIDENTIAL RANK OF DISTINGUISHED EXECUTIVE

Recipients of the nation's highest civil service award have saved the federal government \$67.2 billion over the course of their careers. These 68 executives, who received the Presidential Rank of Distinguished Executive, were honored for their accomplishments at a black tie dinner on May 7 at the State Department, sponsored by the Senior Executives Association Professional Development League (SEA PDL).

Of the 11 departments and six agencies represented by this year's winners, the Office of the Secretary of Defense at the Defense Department led the way in savings, with the three winners from that agency posting a cumulative savings of \$16 billion. NASA was second with \$12.7 billion in savings, and the Office of Management and Budget third with \$12.6 billion.

However, savings alone do not tell the full story of these winners. The accomplishments of only one-third of the winners cited by SEA President Carol Bonosaro at the May 7 event include:

Serving as key author of START II, which will eliminate multiple-warhead, land-based missiles and cut U.S. and Russian strategic weapons by 50 percent below START I levels (Franklin Carroll Miller, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Security Policy, Office of the Secretary of Defense).

Leading a joint effort by government and industry using NASA technology to develop smart airbags for cars to improve children's safety (Dr. Daniel Mulville, Chief Engineer, NASA).