

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
FRESNO BEE

**HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fresno Bee on receiving the first-place award for general excellence from the California Newspaper Publishers Association. This is the second straight year the newspaper has won the organization's highest honor and the Fresno Bee is very deserving of this award.

The Fresno Bee has a daily circulation of 158,851 and a Sunday circulation of 191,963. It was judged against other daily newspapers with circulations of 75,001 to 200,000 copies. Clearly, this award displays the outstanding efforts of not only the Fresno Bee journalists, but of an entire newspaper staff who are committed to giving Fresno and the Central Valley a comprehensive, first-class newspaper. Naturally, the Fresno Bee exhibits strong local coverage, outstanding local photography and good local enterprise stories.

In addition to the general excellence award, the Fresno Bee received first-place awards for editorial comment, illustration/information graphics and design.

Associate Editor Russell Minick was honored for an editorial on a white supremacist groups' spreading of propaganda on the California State University Fresno campus. Mr. Minick took second place in the same category one year ago.

Bee artists John Alvin, Bob Campbell, Andrea Cooper and Severiano Galvan were given the graphics award for a two-page layout on the once-dominating Central Valley wetlands. Mr. Galvan earned the first-place award in the same category one year ago.

Bee photographer John Walker took second place for his photos featured in his portrait of Little Rascals star Tommy "Butch" Bond.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate the Fresno Bee on receiving the first-place award for general excellence from the California Newspaper Publishers Association. The Fresno Bee has provided 75 years of outstanding service to the Central Valley, using its excellent staff to create what truly is a first-class production. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the Fresno Bee and its staff many more years of success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 1998

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency, I was unable to be present for roll call votes 279 through 308. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on roll call votes 279, 281, 286, 287, 288, 290, 294, 295, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 303, 305 and nay on roll call votes 280, 282, 283, 284, 285, 298, 291, 292, 293, 296, 302, 304, 306, 307, and 308.

HONORING GRAND MASTER SEOUNG EUI SHIN FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NASHVILLE COMMUNITY AND THE SUCCESS OF THE SOUTHERN U.S.A. TAE KWON DO CHAMPIONSHIPS

**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 1998

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Grand Master Seoung Eui Shin and the 23rd Southern U.S.A. Open Tae Kwon Do Championships, of which he is director. Master Shin has served the Nashville community faithfully for more than twenty years, donating his time and talents to make a difference in the lives of countless children and young adults.

Master Shin was born in North Korea and grew up in South Korea during the turbulent times following World War II. By the age of 13, he had earned his black belt in Tae Kwon Do. He began to teach the art in high school and, later, in the Korean Army. He came to the United States and Nashville in 1974, and has been an invaluable member of the community ever since.

Now a ninth degree black belt, Master Shin is recognized around the world for his Tae Kwon Do abilities and his contributions to the martial art. He has become a leader in Nashville's Korean community and operates Shin's Martial Arts Institute in Bellevue. He gives freely of his time to programs at local elementary schools and community centers. Through his instruction, Master Shin has influenced the lives of many of his students. His students learn the value of control and self-discipline while gaining new respect for themselves and others. Several of Master Shin's students have gone on to teach Tae Kwon Do themselves, passing on what they have learned.

Seoung Eui Shin, by giving selflessly of his time to the youth of Nashville, has quietly made our world a better place and his become a role-model for us all. I thank you Master Shin for your contributions to our community and congratulate you and all the participants in the 23rd Southern U.S.A. Tae Kwon Do Championships.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. GLENN POSHARD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4194) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Chairman, it is with deep regret that I rise today in opposition to

the VA-HUD Appropriations measure for fiscal year 1999. I believe it provides inadequate funding for veterans' health care, and I cannot support a bill that shortchanges America's veterans in such an unjust manner.

As a veteran, I am acutely aware of and deeply grateful for the sacrifices that America's veterans have made in service to their country. As a legislator, I am committed to ensuring that the needs of these citizens are accorded the highest priority. I have great respect for Chairman LEWIS and Representative STOKES and am convinced of their concern for the welfare of our veterans. I also recognize the budget constraints which have forced them to make many difficult decisions. However, I believe that we can do better, and I am voting against this measure with the hope that veterans' health care and other programs will be granted the funding they deserve once it is made clear that this House will not tolerate such treatment of veterans' programs.

The funding levels provided in this measure are simply not sufficient to ensure the high quality health care our veterans deserve. The tragic result of such a shortfall will surely be the elimination or reduction of many VA specialized care programs and the inability of the VA to guarantee adequate care to the veterans who depend on its services. I trust that my fellow Members will agree that this is not the way we should demonstrate our appreciation for their service and sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this measure in an effort to make it clear to the American people and to the leadership of this body that we assign the utmost importance to funding programs that will meet the needs of America's veterans, and that this bill is a woefully inadequate expression of that priority.

COMMEND SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE EFFORTS TO REVIVE FAST TRACK

**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 1998

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would take a moment to commend the members of the Senate Finance Committee for their efforts last Tuesday to give "fast-track" authority to the President by attaching fast-track legislation to S. 778, the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act. This action by the Senate was also applauded on the editorial page in the July 24, 1998, edition of The Omaha World-Herald, as necessary to protecting the economic health of our nation by giving the President the flexibility and authority to negotiate international trade agreements expeditiously.

Unfortunately, the Clinton administration, which initially stated fast track was one of their top legislative priorities, labeled this initiative by the Senate Finance Committee as "political mischief." Why is it that the Nebraska press can readily identify legislation designed to safeguard the interests of U.S. workers and consumers when all the administration can do is play politics?

[From the Omaha World-Herald, July 24, 1998]

CLINTON'S SWITCH ON FAST-TRACK A  
PUZZLING POLITICAL MANEUVER

The Senate Finance Committee has resurrected a plan that was considered dead: giving President Clinton "fast-track" authority to negotiate international trade deals. But now the administration seems to be balking.

Fast-track authority enables presidents to negotiate international trade agreements without interference from Congress. When a deal is made, Congress can say "yes" or "no," but cannot rewrite it. Presidents have had the authority, granted by Congress, since 1974. But in 1994, the authorizing legislation lapsed.

Efforts to revive it earlier this year were supported by President Clinton, many congressional Republicans and business groups. But opposition was strong from protectionist labor groups and environmental organizations worried about pollution abroad. Those groups with the cooperation of Democrats, helped kill the proposal.

Maverick Republicans also had a hand on the ax. They attempted to hold fast-track hostage until Clinton agreed to reduce family-planning aid to Third World countries.

The Finance Committee voted 18 to 2 Tuesday to attach fast-track to a bill, already passed by the House, that would expand trade with Africa. President Clinton should be delighted.

But no. Press Secretary Mike McCurry asserted that the committee vote was "political mischief" rather than a commitment to free trade. Senate Democrats, too, were unhappy with the revival of the potentially divisive issue before an election.

Fast-track eases the way for U.S. negotiators to join in drafting international agreements. Without it, possible trading partners aren't motivated to make their best deal because they know Congress can always revise any agreement that is reached.

International trade has become increasingly important to the U.S. economy. That is especially true in the Midlands, where agricultural exports are growing fast. In Nebraska, for instance, exports have increased fivefold in the last five years.

Surely something that was so important just a few months ago remains important, even though an election is approaching. The president still needs the flexibility and authority granted by fast track to deal with trade agreements expeditiously.

When President Clinton declared that fast-track authority was one of his top legislative priorities, he was speaking out of a concern for U.S. trade relations. Senators and members of the House who pushed the issue had the same worthy motive.

Political maneuvering had to place in the conversation then. It still does not.

SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONDEMN PERSECUTION OF CHINESE IN INDONESIA

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 1998*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I call to the attention of my colleagues in the House a resolution condemning the persecution of Chinese in Indonesia which was recently adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the city of San Francisco. I want to mention in particular two outstanding Supervisors—Mabel Teng and Leeland Yee—who took the initiative in calling for

a resolution to condemn the at-times brutal treatment of ethnic Chinese living in Indonesia.

Mr. Speaker, the recent popular unrest in Indonesia led to gross abuse of the human rights of the Chinese population there. At my direction the Congressional Human Rights Caucus holds a briefing for Members of Congress and congressional staff today to understand the dimensions of this tragic assault against ethnic Chinese in Indonesia. The U.S. Government must make clear to the government in Jakarta that such abuses are totally unacceptable, and we must be certain that the Indonesian Government works to prevent the recurrence of such actions.

At a hearing of the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights which was held last Thursday (July 23) and which focused on human rights in Indonesia, I raised the issue of Chinese human rights violations in Indonesia with our Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights, John Shattuck. I want to reiterate, Mr. Speaker, what I said on that occasion. I earnestly hope that the cataclysmic changes which are sweeping over Indonesia today and which will have enormously negative ramifications for tens of millions of Indonesians in an economic sense, will herald the opening up of the process of democratization and respect for human rights—and particularly, respect for the rights of the Chinese population living in Indonesia.

One of the sad aspects of our Nation's own human rights record has been our failure to press for equal rights for the Chinese population of Indonesia, which has been pivotal in the economic development of that country. In the hearing last week with Assistant Secretary Shattuck, Mr. Speaker, I asked and received assurance that the Department of State will press the government of Indonesia for a full investigation of the brutal and violent acts taken against the ethnic Chinese community there and that we will actively and aggressively urge full observance of the human rights of Chinese in Indonesia.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution recently adopted by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors is an important statement on this important issue, and I commend Supervisor Teng and Supervisor Yee for their initiative. I submit the full text of this resolution to be placed in the RECORD.

CONDEMNING THE PERSECUTION OF CHINESE IN  
INDONESIA

Condemning the persecution, racial violence and sexual brutality against ethnic Chinese in Indonesia and urging our congressional representatives to call for a full investigation into these atrocious acts of violence and pressure the Indonesian government for a full investigation to seek accountability and justice.

Whereas, recently 1,200 people died in Indonesia as a result of targeted and vicious attacks and riots; and

Whereas, ethnic Chinese in Indonesia were targeted for racial violence, looting and sexual brutality; and

Whereas, various human rights groups report that at least 70 Chinese women were systematically raped, and 20 of those women died due to complications from their injuries; and

Whereas, rape victims included young girls; and

Whereas, Indonesian Chinese have been subjected to organized persecution that included looting, burning of churches and homes and mass raping in public; and

Whereas, human rights groups, including the Jakarta Legal Aid Institute, have accused the Indonesian government represented by security forces of failing to control the violence, and encouraging the brutality; and

Whereas, the Jakarta Legal Aid Institute and other human rights groups have filed a class action lawsuit against the Indonesian government for these attacks; and

Whereas, much of the media worldwide covered the student demonstrations in Jakarta, however, the specific reports of the widespread violence and attacks against the ethnic Chinese have been largely ignored; and

Whereas, the United States must condemn and denounce these horrific atrocities of violence and express the moral outrage of the American people; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board of Supervisors in the City and County of San Francisco condemns the persecution, racial violence and sexual brutality against ethnic Chinese in Indonesia; and be it

*Further Resolved*, That the Board of Supervisors in the City and County of San Francisco urges that our Congressional Representatives call for a full investigation into these atrocious acts of violence and pressure the Indonesian government for a full investigation to seek accountability and justice.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 1998*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, due to business in my Congressional District, it is with deep regret that I was unable to vote in support of roll call vote 340, a resolution honoring the slain capitol police officers, Jacob Chestnut and John Gibson. My sincerest condolences go out to their families and loved ones.

IN MEMORY OF ALAN J. GIBBS,  
LIFELONG PUBLIC SERVANT

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 1998*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, Alan J. Gibbs, died Saturday, July 25, at the age of 60. Most recently, Alan served as the Director of the National Transit Institute (NTI) at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

He was dedicated to public service, having worked for over 35 years at the federal, state, and local levels of government.

I join with his family, as well as my colleagues at Rutgers and throughout the State of New Jersey in remembering him, and honoring his accomplishments and great leadership. I know Rutgers is particularly proud of Alan's accomplishments at the National Transit Institute. Established at the Rutgers-New Brunswick campus in New Jersey's Sixth District in 1992, the NTI was created by Congress to develop education and training programs for transportation professionals and transit agencies across the nation. The NTI has trained thousands of individuals from transit agencies, metropolitan planning organizations, state departments of transportation, and employees of