

PERIODIC REPORT ON NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SUDAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106-157)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c) and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, November 5, 1999.

TRIBUTE TO A.M. ROSENTHAL

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express our appreciation for the service that has been given to our country and to the world by A.M. Rosenthal.

This past Friday was Mr. Rosenthal's last day at the New York Times. Mr. Rosenthal had a distinguished career at the New York Times beginning his tenure at the Times at age 21. He left his imprimatur on journalism and on the world through his opinion columns that exposed many cases of human rights violations and religious persecution.

Mr. Rosenthal was not afraid to speak truth to tyranny. He wrote unabashedly and boldly for those who suffered under egregious and appalling situations, while others remained silent.

Mr. Rosenthal addressed a wide spectrum of tyranny and never backed down. His wise words were the finest examples of speaking truth to abuses of power. His column spoke truth for the voiceless, freedom and liberty for the oppressed. His pen was truly mightier than the sword. Natan Sharansky, Harry Wu, Andrei Sakharov, and countless brave others have him to thank for stirring world opinion into forcing their freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I include the following articles for the RECORD:

[From the New York Times, Nov. 5, 1999]

WRITER-EDITOR ENDS A 55-YEAR RUN
A FINAL COLUMN FOR THE TIMES, BUT DON'T
SAY RETIREMENT

(By Clyde Haberman)

After 55 years as a reporter, foreign correspondent, editor and columnist, A.M. Rosenthal spent his last working day at The New York Times yesterday packing up his memories the only way he knew how: by writing about them.

Mr. Rosenthal ended a run of nearly 13 years on the newspaper's Op-Ed page with a column that appears today, looking back on a career that made him one of the most influential figures in American journalism in the last half of this century.

"I've seen happier days," he acknowledged in an interview.

But there was one word that he said he would never use to describe his new status. Don't dare to whisper "retirement," he said, recalling what Barbara Walters, an old friend, told him a few weeks ago when it became clear that his weekly column, "On My Mind," was near an end.

"She said to me, 'But Abe, you're starting fresh,'" he said. "And I suddenly realized, of course I was. Then I realized that I'm not going alone. I'm taking my head with me. I'm going to stay alive intellectually."

Mr. Rosenthal, 77 and universally known as Abe, said he intended to continue "writing journalistically," though at this point he had no specific plans. "I want to remain a columnist," he said.

There was an unmistakable end-of-an-era feel to the announcement yesterday that Mr. Rosenthal would leave a newspaper that, family aside, had been his life. Indeed, during his 17 years as its chief editor, until he stepped down in 1986 with the title of executive editor, "Rosenthal" and "The Times" were pretty much synonyms for many readers—often, though not always, with their approval.

Abraham Michael Rosenthal brought raw intelligence and enormous passion to the job, qualities that were apparent from his first days at The Times, as a part-time campus correspondent at City College in the 1940's. The college was tuition-free in those days, and a good thing, too, said Mr. Rosenthal, who was born in Canada and grew up in poverty in the Bronx. "Free tuition was more than I could afford," he said yesterday.

After becoming a full-time reporter in 1944, he covered the fledgling United Nations. Then, from 1954 to 1963, he was a foreign correspondent, based in India, Poland and Japan. Covering India was a personal high point. But it was in Poland, whose Communist rulers expelled him in 1959, that he won a Pulitzer Prize.

It was also where he wrote an article for The New York Times Magazine that, among the thousands he produced, contained a passage that some quote to this day. He had been to the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz.

"And so," he wrote, "there is no news to report from Auschwitz. There is merely the compulsion to write something about it, a compulsion that grows out of a restless feeling that to have visited Auschwitz and then turned away without having said or written anything would be a most grievous act of discourtesy to those who died there."

The passion in that paragraph carried into his time as editor.

On his watch, in 1971, The Times published the so-called Pentagon Papers, a secret government history of the Vietnam War. That led to a landmark Supreme Court decision upholding the primacy of the press over government attempts to impose "prior restraint" on what it may print.

Under Mr. Rosenthal, the once ponderous Times became a far livelier paper. Major innovations were quickly copied at other newspapers, notably special sections on lifestyles and science that were introduced in the 1970's. But his biggest accomplishment, in his view, was keeping "the paper straight," which meant keeping the news columns free of writing that he felt stumbled into editorial judgment.

On that score, he did not lack for critics. With his passion came dark moods and a soaring temper. Mr. Rosenthal made many

journalists' careers. But he also undid some. Even now, years after his editorship, his defenders and his attackers talk about him with equal vehemence.

Mr. Rosenthal agreed yesterday that people tended not to be neutral about him. Many will be saddened by his departure from The Times. "And," he said, "there'll be people dancing."

His column on the Op-Ed page, which first appeared on Jan. 6, 1987, often stirred similar emotions among readers. Over the years, recurring themes emerged: Israel's security needs, human rights violations around the world, this country's uphill war against drugs.

He focused on those themes once more for his final column. Then he turned to the mundane task of packing up mementos as well as memories. Off the wall came a framed government document from the 1950's attesting that the Canadian had become an American. It was, he said with a cough to beat back rising emotions, among his most valuable possessions.

[From the New York Times, Nov. 5, 1999]

A.M. ROSENTHAL OF THE NEW YORK TIMES

The departure of a valued colleague from The New York Times is not, as a rule, occasion for editorial comment. But the appearance today of A.M. Rosenthal's last column on the Op-Ed page requires an exception. Mr. Rosenthal's life and that of this newspaper have been braided together over a remarkable span—from World War II to the turning of the millennium. His talent and passionate ambition carried him on a personal journey from City College correspondent to executive editor, and his equally passionate devotion to quality journalism made him one of the principal architects of the modern New York Times.

Abe Rosenthal began his career at The Times as a 21-year-old cub reporter scratching for space in the metropolitan report, and he ended it as an Op-Ed page columnist noted for his commitment to political and religious freedom. In between he served as a correspondent at the United Nations and was based in three foreign countries winning a Pulitzer Prize in 1960 for his reporting from Poland. He came home in 1963 to be metropolitan editor. In that role and in higher positions, he became a tireless advocate of opening the paper to the kind of vigorous writing and deep reporting that characterized his own work. As managing editor and executive editor, Abe Rosenthal was in charge of The Times's news operations for a total of 17 years.

Of his many contributions as an editor, two immediately come to mind. One was his role in the publication of the Pentagon Papers, the official documents tracing a quarter-century of missteps that entangled America in the Vietnam War. Though hardly alone among Times editors, Mr. Rosenthal was instrumental in mustering the arguments that led to the decision by our then publisher, Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, to publish the archive. That fateful decision helped illustrate the futile duplicity of American policy in Vietnam, strengthened the press's First Amendment guarantees and reinforced The Times's reputation as a guardian of the public interest.

The second achievement, more institutional in nature, was Mr. Rosenthal's central role in transforming The Times from a two-section to a four-section newspaper with the introduction of a separate business section and new themed sections like SportsMonday, Weekend and Science Times. Though a journalist of the old school, Abe Rosenthal grasped that such features were necessary to broaden the paper's universe of readers. He insisted only that the writing, editing and