

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### STAY THE COURSE—DON'T TAP OUR STRATEGIC OIL RESERVES

#### HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2000*

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I welcome an apparent change in direction by Energy Secretary Bill Richardson away from draining millions of barrels of oil from the strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) in the coming weeks.

Draining the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and dumping foreign oil on our market is a dangerous precedent, both from an economic standpoint and as a national security issue. I am glad that Secretary Richardson backed down.

The Administration's strategy on dealing with rising oil prices has been unclear. Last month, Secretary Richardson indicated that the Energy Department might move to open the SPR and encourage foreign countries to dump oil on the U.S. market in an effort to reduce prices. The New York Times reported Sunday that Secretary Richardson is reluctant to open the reserves, but Time reports this week that "Richardson is quietly but vigorously pushing a proposal that would pour millions of barrels of oil from America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve onto the market in the coming weeks."

Mr. Speaker, I have been a vocal critic of plans to use oil from the SPR in response to the rising price of oil. Doing so would be extremely dangerous to our economy and our national security. The reserve was created to fill any gaps in oil supply during war or other emergencies. Using it to manage price is improper and contrary to long-standing practices.

It now appears that the White House has decided to stay the course. I have told the Administration that releasing oil from the reserves would not only threaten oil producers, but sets a dangerous precedent. Our Strategic Petroleum Reserve must be closely guarded in order to maintain our national security.

Large-scale government intervention in the oil market would hurt domestic oil producers. I know that high heating oil prices are a serious problem for working families in the Northeast, but Texas oil producers are not to blame. If we open our reserves every time the price of oil moves, we invite even more harassment from OPEC and the threat of an actual supply disruption.

Mr. Speaker, this entire episode highlights the fact that we need a national energy policy. Right now, all we do is respond to the emergency of the moment. We have no plan, no policy.

Secretary Richardson has wandered all over the map on this issue. I'm glad that good policy and reason prevailed.

President Clinton needs to take the long view of America's energy issues. I am hopeful that the White House will focus its energy on developing a long-term energy policy that will

protect American consumers and producers and while ensuring our national security.

### HONORING VICTORIA CRISTIANO MARION

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a woman who is a woman who has made a difference in her community.

Victoria Cristiano Marion was born to immigrant parents in Pueblo, Colorado. She knows that as long as there is family and education, little else matters. From the first day of school, Victoria knew that respect for education and for teachers was very important. She always knew she wanted to be a teacher and after she graduated from high school, Victoria attended summer classes at Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado. She passed the state exam that qualified her to teach in Colorado.

Victoria's first teaching position was in Pueblo County at Pleasant View School. After that, she worked at Danforth School and became a full-time teacher when she received her life certificate in teaching in 1929. She taught at Bessemer for four years and then accepted a position at Strack School.

In 1943, Victoria passed the principal's exam and was appointed teacher-principal at Strack. Victoria was principal at Strack, Edison School, Washington School, Goodnight School and Sunset Park School. She retired from Sunset in 1973.

During World War II, Victoria was called upon to sponsor Italian prisoners of war who were stationed in Pueblo. She taught them about life in America and also about the democratic form of government. Many of those soldiers immigrated to the United States after the war. One of those soldiers eventually became her husband. Victoria married Vincent Marion and they shared 40 years together.

Victoria taught naturalization classes for Italians that wished to become American citizens after the war. She also helped organize the local Dante Alighieri Society, an organization dedicated to preserving the Italian language. She received the honor of Cavaliere of the Italian Republic for her many years of service to the Italian people.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer a tribute to Victoria Cristiano Marion. She is a great American, dedicated to education and people.

### HONORING MR. CLARENCE E. EGER

#### HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2000*

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, this month, Mr. Clarence E. Eger marked his 50th year as a Cresson Township Supervisor.

During this half-century of public service, Mr. Eger has worked day and night on all facets of Township activity—always willing to help, and always anxious to serve the people in the region. Such service has resulted in an extremely high quality of community service.

The type of dedication to public service shown by Mr. Eger serves as a hallmark of the kind of selfless dedication and commitment that are the very heart and spirit of the United States of America. We're fortunate in our area to still have such strong commitment from so many individuals, and it's one of the characteristics that make communities like Cresson Township one of the best places to live.

It's an honor and pleasure for me to commend Mr. Eger on his 50 years of public service, and to make these remarks as a reminder to all Americans of how this type of dedication can improve the lives of so many people, produce tremendous progress in a community, and serve as the guideposts that keep our Nation the greatest in the world.

I congratulate Mr. Eger and wish him many more years of service.

### IN MEMORY OF SGT. GEORGE R. DINGWALL OF THE MIDDLE- TOWN, CONNECTICUT POLICE DE- PARTMENT

#### HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2000*

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join members of the Middletown Police Department, thousands of residents of the city and his home town of Haddam, and his family in remembering Sgt. George R. Dingwall. Sergeant Dingwall was killed in the line of duty on January 28 while attempting to apprehend two burglary suspects. Sergeant Dingwall made the supreme sacrifice in order to protect residents of his community and our State.

Sergeant Dingwall was a 19-year veteran of the Middletown Police Department. After joining the force in 1981, he served in a number of capacities, including in the traffic division, as a detective and as a member of the Department's SWAT team. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1989.

George Dingwall is described by those who knew him best—his colleagues, family and neighbors—as "a nice person," "a great guy" and "a great neighbor." Police Chief Edward Brymer has stated that Sergeant Dingwall

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

"had a distinguished career and was well respected by all of us at the Middletown Police Department." Lt. David Gervais, who joined the force with Sergeant Dingwall, commented that "he would drop everything to help family and friends." Sergeant Dingwall was also well-known as a loving husband and father.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my deepest sympathy to Sergeant Dingwall's family and friends, members of the Middletown Police Department, and residents of Middletown and Haddam. Sgt. George Dingwall is an American hero and he exemplifies the qualities of an extraordinary public servant—dedication to community, courage and selflessness.

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HONORING CHARLES M. BURT

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2000*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles M. Burt for being named the Irrigation Person of the Year by the California Irrigation Institute. Dr. Burt is currently a professor in the BioResource and Agricultural Engineering Department at the California Polytechnic State University, as well as the Director of the University's Irrigation Training and Research Center. Dr. Burt is being honored on January 24th at the California Irrigation Institute's 38th Annual Meeting.

Charles M. Burt is being recognized for his many contributions to education and the advancement of irrigation knowledge and practice. In addition to his roles as a professor and the Director of the Irrigation Training and Research Center, Burt is a member of several related organizations. He belongs to the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, the Water Resources Engineering Division of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Irrigation Association. He is also a member of the Advisory Board for the Office of Water Conservation, the American Society of Agronomy, the United States Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (USCID), and numerous others.

Dr. Burt began his irrigation career in 1975, when he designed several large drip systems in the USSR and Iran, as a Keller Engineering Irrigation System Designer. He worked on this through 1976 until he worked as an Irrigation System Designer for Wren-Oneal Co. in Fresno. In 1981 and 1982 Dr. Burt worked on irrigation design and project planning as the Chief Engineer and partner of JM Lord, Inc. Since that time, he has continued his commitment to irrigation and education at the California Polytechnic State University.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Charles M. Burt for being named Irrigation Person of the Year. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Burt many more years of continued success.

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HONORING COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER RALPH JOHNSON

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to pause and remember a man

who surpassed personal challenges to give fully to his community. Mr. Ralph Johnson passed away on December 28, 1999. He was 51.

Ralph served as a County Commissioner in Elbert county since 1996. He was a rancher who spent most of his life in the small town of Agate, Colorado. Before he was elected County Commissioner, Ralph served on the Agate School Board. In his younger days, he was a rodeo rider. In 1974 he was involved in an accident that nearly took his life. Ralph lived, but he lost the use of his legs and the accident caused health problems that eventually lead to his death.

Ralph was a soft-spoken cowboy who brought dedication and a sense of humor to his public service. He was always committed to his community. He will be remembered for his dedication and his readiness to do anything it took to serve the people.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer tribute in memory of Ralph Johnson, a cowboy's cowboy and a great American.

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THE SHANGHAI SYNAGOGUE: A  
VERY SPECIAL JEWISH COMMUNITY

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2000*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, this past December, Congregation B'nai Emunah in San Francisco marked its fiftieth anniversary. This Saturday, the congregation will celebrate this important milestone. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating this very special Jewish community on its longevity, unique history, and contributions to our city.

The name of the Congregation—B'nai Emunah—means "Children of Faith," and its history is truly unique. After Jewish businesses and synagogues were destroyed by the Nazis in 1938, many countries closed their borders to Jewish migrants who sought to flee the racism, terror and persecution they found under Nazi rule.

One stunning exception to this was the city of Shanghai, China. There threatened remnants of the Jewish community from Germany and Austria found refuge. Shanghai was a free city governed by the international Shanghai Municipal Council. The city and the Chinese people had already welcomed thousands of Russian Jewish refugees after the Soviet revolution of 1917. In 1938 Shanghai required no visas or other formalities for the more than 20,000 Jewish immigrants from Germany and Austria who flocked to that safe haven.

Mr. Speaker, immediately upon arriving in Shanghai, the German and Austrian Jewish community rebuilt in camps the sanctuaries that they had watched the Nazi mob destroy in their homelands. When the war in the Pacific broke out in 1941, the community was ghettoized in a dilapidated Chinese slum, but their synagogues continued to function. They survived and flourished even under Japanese occupation and occasional mistaken bombs from U.S. Air Force planes.

Following World War II and the outbreak of the Civil War in China, the entire Jewish community in Shanghai left China and dispersed. Thousands relocated to San Francisco, the

nearest American port. In 1949 a group of dedicated Jews met with one of the rabbis from Shanghai and made the decision to reestablish the synagogue they had twice lost. The new congregation embraced all the elements of the late Shanghai community—Russian, Sephardim and German/Austrian—and was named Congregation B'nai Emunah, although it has always been known as "The Shanghai Synagogue."

In the last fifty years, Congregation B'nai Emunah has expanded and flourished. A new generation has emerged to whom the Shanghai story is as important to their own identity as it was to the preceding generation. This jubilee fiftieth year will see the building of the "Shanghai Center," which will house a museum, library and archive. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in extending congratulations to Congregation B'nai Emunah on this very important occasion.

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A TRIBUTE TO SONIA SANCHEZ

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2000*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a woman who has become a living legend in Philadelphia and around the world, Sonia Sanchez. Sonia Sanchez deserves our praise for reasons more numerous than can be listed here. Her leading roles as a mother, activist, professor, and poet have made her a beacon of hope to people who have traditionally been marginalized in our society, including people of color, homosexuals, women, the poor and the young. A petite, African-American woman born into a poor family in Alabama, Sonia Sanchez transcended what most would consider a modest existence to become one of Temple University's most cherished professors. It is with a hint of sadness that I reflect on her accomplishments today, for last month Sonia decided to retire from Temple University, after 22 years of service.

To realize the significance that Sonia has had on our community, one need look no further than her resume, which serves as a testament to Sonia's courage and the strength of her convictions. She is the author of 16 books including *Homecoming*, *We a BaddDDD People*, and *Homegirls and Handgrenades*, for which she won the American Book Award in 1985. Sonia has also edited two anthologies; *We Be Word Sorcerers: 25 Stories by Black Americans* and *360 Degrees of Blackness Coming at You*. She was furthermore a contributing editor to *The Black Scholar* and *The Journal of African Studies*. Sonia has won a multitude of national awards for her accomplishments in literature including the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Humanities in 1988 and the Outstanding Arts Award from the Pennsylvania Coalition of Black Women.

Sonia's works are now recognized all over the world. She has lectured at over 500 universities and colleges in the United States and has traveled extensively, reading her poetry in Africa, Cuba, England, the People's Republic of China, Norway, and Canada. Despite such international acclaim, Sonia has always focused her efforts to the shaping of young