

natural path tapelaying systems. These are very complicated terms. What they do, Mr. Speaker, is they make technology in this country. We hear today about the technology revolution and what is going on in high tech, but high tech was nothing to Edson Ingersoll Gaylord, because he, in fact, probably is the inventor of those words, "high tech." Let us take something and let us make it better.

What did his friends say about him? Well, one person who started as a new employee at the company was really impressed when Edson Gaylord took 2 hours, walked him around the entire shop, showed him where the company had been and his vision of the future, because that is what he liked, being on the floor of the shop. His good friend, John Doar, an attorney out of Chicago, said this of Edson Gaylord. He said, "Edson Gaylord's mind has thrived on machine tool manufacturing technology. For as long as I have known him, this curiosity has energized him. This, plus the years of hard work, makes Edson as informed and as knowledgeable as anyone in the world about the opportunities for further developments in the machine tool industry."

Fortune Magazine said of Edson Gaylord, "He is the master builder of mammoth tools. He is the bellwether of the machine tool industry. Quite a man, making machines that are used on airplane lines and automobile lines."

His good friend, Dan LeBlond from the Institute of Advanced Manufacturing Sciences said of Edson, "An unrivaled inspirer and shepherd of people to accomplish pioneering and singularly successful innovation of advanced manufacturing and machine tool technology.

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"A perceptive and innovative industrialist."

He was a man that America will miss, a man with numerous awards for technology. We know him as Edson Ingersoll Gaylord. America knows him as the friend of innovation.

#### KURDISH RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my esteemed colleague in introducing a resolution calling for democratic, linguistic and cultural rights for all Kurds living in Turkey today.

The lands of Kurdistan are considered by many to be the birthplace of the history of human culture. Some of the earliest settlements as well as the earliest indications of the Neolithic Revolution have been found among the hills and valleys of this beautiful landscape. Yet even as one ponders the cultural advancements made on Kurdish soil thousands of years ago, one cannot help but wonder what lies in store for the Kurds' future.

For Kurds living in the Middle East, recent history has brought far less reason to cele-

brate. Kurds in Iraq, Iran, Syria, and Turkey have been persecuted by the regimes in power, with the most brutal assault being the poison gas attacks made by Saddam Hussein in 1988 which decimated an entire section of a city and its 5,000 inhabitants.

Although Saddam Hussein's heinous attacks caused unimaginable death and biological destruction, his regime, ironically, has not launched an all-scale offensive on the culture of the Kurds. It is unfortunate that the most comprehensive assault on the Kurdish language and culture has stemmed from our own ally and fellow-NATO member, Turkey.

Mr. Speaker, in 1997 I addressed this body on the cultural oppression of Kurds by the Turkish government and on the existence of democratically-elected Kurdish Parliamentarians unjustly jailed in Turkey. It is with a heavy heart that I stand before you today and recall recent events and happenings in Turkey, all of which suggest that nothing has changed. The Kurdish language and culture is still on Turkey's most wanted list and Kurdish Parliamentarians elected to give voice of their constituents, are still being silenced.

When I addressed this body three years ago, Turkish Kurdistan was under a declared State of Emergency, patrolled by the Gendarmerie. Torture and abuse of the Kurds, the searching of Kurdish homes without a warrant, and the persecution of assemblies and demonstrations were the norm. This situation, in flagrant breach of democracy, continues today. The 1999 U.S. Department of State Human Rights Report for Turkey states that members of the Gendarmerie continue to commit serious human rights abuses including the torture of Kurds, well-aware that the likelihood of their personal conviction is extremely slim.

Such lax prosecution is not the case, however, for Kurds. Six years ago four former members of Parliament, stripped of their official duties, were imprisoned for the crime of representing the will of Kurdish citizens. As I stand here today, Mrs. Leyla Zana, Mr. Hatip Dicle, Mr. Orhan Dogan, and Mr. Selim Sadak are still in jail. Labeled "Prisoners of Conscience" by Amnesty International, these four are guilty only of attempting to invigorate a true spirit of democracy in Turkey.

Three years ago 153 Members of Congress expressed their disapproval of the anti-democratic treatment of elected Kurdish representatives in the Turkish Parliament. I humbly stand before you to question whether it was enough. Today these four individuals are still in jail. Even more disturbing, the harassment of democratically-elected officials seems to be expanding from the national level to encompass local levels as well.

In February of this year, in a move that shocked many of us in this room, the Turkish Gendarmerie arrested three Kurdish mayors from cities in Turkish Kurdistan. One, the mayor of Diyarbakir, had just met with the Swedish Foreign Minister the day before his arrest in order to discuss hopes for a lasting and solid peace between Turks and Kurds. Although the mayors have since been released, their trials are pending, and if convicted, they too will face prison sentences. The arrests raise questions, not only about the legitimacy of Turkish democracy, but about the sincerity of Turkey's commitment to forging peace.

When I addressed the body three years ago, the Kurdish language could not be broad-

casted or taught, even as a foreign language, in schools. I am saddened to say that this negation of a people's language continues today. But, here I must add that the criminalization of speech and expression is not necessarily limited to Kurdish citizens communicating in their native tongue. High numbers of journalists, human rights workers, doctors, and lawyers who expose injustices committed by the military, police, or state are also subject to prison sentences and illegal torture making the anti-secession legislation perhaps the most "equal opportunity" of all laws in Turkey.

Mr. Speaker, the Kurdish Question, touches upon the very nature of democracy in Turkey and carries serious implications for the whole of Turkish society. Illustrations of how excessive laws mitigating Kurdish culture can spill into the mainstream, ultimately curtailing the freedoms of all citizens, are easy to find. Just last week authorities in Istanbul detained nearly 200 Kurds for illegally celebrating the Kurdish New Year, Newroz. Following their detention, authorities launched investigations of 6 Turkish newspapers that had reported on Newroz activities, for their crimes of spelling the holiday with a Kurdish "w" rather than the "v" found in the Turkish appellation. (the v is not the only letter charged with criminality—p and k have been banned from text books)

This persecution of a language and a culture, committed with such diligence that even individual letters come under fire, would be lamentable in any region of the world. But, that it occurs in the very Cradle of Civilization which bore witness to the first creative sparks of human culture and innovation instills the situation with a sense of tragedy so compelling that I believe it presents a direct challenge to those of us assembled here today.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution, supported by my esteemed colleagues BOB FILNER, JOHN E. PORTER, FRANK WOLF, and ANNA ESHOO, was written with the hope that the future of the Kurds need not be wrought with even greater persecution and suffering. It was written with the knowledge that democracy, rather than being a simple destination, needs to continually be nurtured. And it was written with the promise that peace and justice may be cultivated. I ask my friends and esteemed colleagues to join in support of this resolution so that language, culture and democracy will be permitted to flourish on the very ground that holds our common humanity's cultural roots.

#### WE NEED TO BRING AMERICA HOME FROM ITS INTERVENTION IN KOSOVO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, we have no business in Kosovo. Our policy is a misguided excursion into the danger-laden Balkans. We have no overriding national interest there.

We have heard vaunted allegations of human rights violations leveled against the Serbian government. Once again, we come to find out that an administration determined to mire us in overseas turmoil has greatly exaggerated the situation to win over a skeptical public and stampede the Congress.

We were told several months ago that as many as 100,000 Albanian Kosovars