which has received little attention in this country. Last Friday, the Turkish parliament secured the necessary support to vote Ahmet Necdet Sezer, a former top judge as the 10th President of the Turkish Republic. He will officially assume his post on May 16th.

This development was viewed positively by the European Union and western circles. President-elect Sezer is known as an outspoken advocate of democratic reforms and a staunch defender of secularism.

His accession to the presidency was also well received at home. According to a public opinion poll, he enjoys 81 percent popular support. According to the same poll, 75 percent of those polled believe that he would be a successful President.

Mr. Speaker, Turkey is well known as a dependable and strategically located NATO ally, but the State Department's 1999 report on global terrorism, which was recently released, highlights Turkey's contributions to curtail terrorism, perhaps one of the biggest threats to our security in this new millennium.

In 1999 Turkey not only captured Abdullah Ocalan, the leader of the vicious PKK which was responsible for the death of tens of thousands of people, but also was successful in thwarting the activities of the leftwing Revolutionary People's Liberation Party/Front (DHKP/C) as they prepared to inflict damage on U.S. targets.

The report details the Turkish police's successful operation against the terrorist group in a shootout on 4 June as the terrorists prepared unsuccessfully to fire a light antitank weapon at the U.S. Consulate in Istanbul from a nearby construction site. Authorities also arrested some 160 DHKP/C members and supporters in Turkey and confiscated numerous weapons, ammunition, bombs, and bomb making materials over the course of the year, dealing a harsh blow to the organization.

According to the report, Turkey also made significant progress against Islamic terrorism, as Turkish authorities continued to arrest and try Islamic terrorists vigorously in 1999. The report states that militants from the two major groups—Turkish Hizballah, a Kurdish group not affiliated with Lebanese Hizballah, and the Islamic Great Eastern Raiders-Front—managed to conduct low-level attacks.

There were at least two attempted bombings against Russian interests in Turkey during 1999. On 10 December authorities discovered a bomb outside a building housing the offices of the Russian airline Aero-Flot in Istanbul. The bomb weighed approximately 14 kilograms, was concealed in a suitcase, and was similar to a bomb found on the grounds of the Russian Consulate in Istanbul in mid-November. Turkish officials suspect that Chechen sympathizers were responsible.

While most of our NATO allies have benefited from the end of Cold War, experts maintain that since 13 of the 16 possible conflicts in the world are in Turkey's neighborhood, Turkey has not benefited from a peace dividend. We must continue to support and nurture the friendship we have with the Republic of Turkey, a close ally that continues to shoulder a heavy burden for regional peace and security.

HONORING DR. JOE SAMUEL RATLIFF FOR HIS 30TH YEAR IN THE MINISTRY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to recognize the achievements of Dr. Joe Samuel Ratliff, of Brentwood Baptist Church. On Wednesday, May 17, 2000, the congregation of Brentwood Baptist Church honored Pastor Ratliff for the many contributions he has made over the last 30 years in the name of the Lord.

Dr. Joe Samuel Ratliff of Lumberton, NC, received his Bachelor of Arts in History, from Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA. He received both the Doctorate of Ministry and Doctorate of Divinity degrees from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, GA. He has done post-doctoral work at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

It is difficult to imagine what the Houston community would be like today had Dr. Ratliff not been called to become Pastor of Brentwood in 1980. We have been truly blessed to have a man with his sense of dedication and selflessness among us. In 1993, Dr. Ratliff co-authored the book, Church Planting in the African-American Community (Broadman Press). He was named the first African-American Moderator of the Union Baptist Association . . . the nation's largest urban Southern Baptist body, consisting of 250,000 members in 1994. In March of 1997, his portrait was hung in the Hall of Fame in the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel on the Morehouse College Campus. Under Pastor Ratliff's leadership, the Brentwood family has grown to 10,000 strong.

Pastor Ratliff's time with the ministry has allowed him to develop a strong support network that extends outside the church. Dr. Ratliff currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Morehouse School of Religion and Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Interdenominational Theological Center. Dr. Ratliff is a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and is married to Mrs. Doris Gardner Ratliff.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask you and my fellow members of the 106th Congress to join me in saluting Pastor Joe Samuel Ratliff. Self-evident is his lifelong journey to enhancing the dignity and nurturing the spirits of all people. I am grateful that there are people like Dr. Ratliff who serve as examples of what we should all strive to be.

THE UCSD CANCER CENTER: WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH, GAINING WORLD-CLASS PRIVATE SUPPORT

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues the exciting, new research opportunities being pursued by the UCSD Cancer Center in La Jolla, California, and to recognize some very generous families and organizations for the extraordinary private support they have recently pledged to provide to the Center.

The UCSD Cancer Center is now undergoing a tremendous period of growth and resurgence. Directed by the distinguished Dr. David Tarin, the goal of the Center is to research and help deploy the many new treatments and protocols now being developed to fight and prevent cancer. Through the leadership of people like Labor Appropriations Chairman JOHN PORTER, the Republican majority in Congress has successfully raised the bar of investment in health research and cancer research as a major national priority of the people of the United States. Now this research, in many cases, requires a next step: the testing and evaluation of treatments and medicines through clinical trials. Such trials are a major focus of the UCSD Cancer Center, so that we can bring together medical professionals, researchers and patients to the benefit of everyone. By consolidating research and treatment at the UCSD Cancer Center, we will learn more about treating and preventing this horrible scourge of cancer, in a way that preserves and enhances the dignity and peace of cancer patients, their families and their loved ones.

Such cancer is not inexpensive. Conversely, though, I believe that we cannot afford not to invest in such a center. It gaining increasing recognition from the National Institutes of Health's National Cancer Institute, directed by my friend Dr. Rick Klausner. It is the focus of a regional effort by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, to apply local tobacco settlement funds to combat and prevent cancer.

I want to pay particular attention to several families who have put forth their own treasure to the improvement of this vital Center. Within the past several months, private gifts totalling $47 million have been pledged for this purpose.

In thanksgiving for a gift of $20 million by San Diego Padres majority owner John Moores and his wife Rebecca, the center will be named the John and Rebecca Moores UCSD Cancer Center.

Longtime investment banker and attorney Jerome Katzin and his wife Miriam have pledged another $15 million.

And many more gifts large and small, by San Diego's leading families and by people whose lives have been touched by cancer, have been pledged to this Center.

Mr. Speaker, this Center is gaining national recognition in its field. As a strong supporter of cancer research and of this Center, I want to bring both the Center and its private family supporters to the attention of my colleagues in Congress and to the country.

I commend my colleagues to read the attached article from the San Diego Union-Tribune, describing both the Center and the gifts of its supporters in greater detail.

[From the San Diego Union-Tribune, May 5, 2000]

WORLD-CLASS CANCER CENTER PLANNED AT UCSD

(By Cheryl Clark)

A regional cancer center financed by gifts of $47 million from local families is to be built in La Jolla, consolidating research and treatment in what UCSD officials hope will become one of the nation's best places for care.

The plan is to bring researchers, clinicians, prevention specialists and educators under one roof in an effort that UCSD Chancellor Robert Dynes called a ''bench-to-bedside approach to conquering cancer.''

''San Diego deserves a cancer center that ranks among the world's best, and UCSD is the logical place,'' Dynes said yesterday.

University officials hope the coordinated center eventually will receive the higher level and prestigious ''comprehensive'' designation from the National Cancer Institute.

That label would not only attract more qualified scientists and clinicians, it would be a magnet for funding for clinical trials of cancer compounds from the federal government, private foundations and pharmaceutical companies.

The announcement follows several ambitious and far-reaching developments recently in the San Diego medical community focusing on cancer research and treatment.

''We can now see on the horizon the realization of a dream,'' said Dr. David Tarin, associate dean for cancer affairs and the new center's director. ''At the moment, we are scattered at 24 sites and at two hospitals.''

The largest of the gifts was $20 million pledged by Padres majority owner John Moores and his wife, Rebecca. The center will be named the John and Rebecca Moores UCSD Cancer Center.

The Moores were unavailable for comment, but in a written statement they said, ''When we lived in Houston, we observed the profound impact of a vigorous, highly regarded cancer center equally dedicated to research and patient care.''

Another large contributor was Jerome Katzin, an attorney and former investment banker with Kuhn, Loeb & Co./Lehman Brothers for 35 years. He and his wife, Miriam, pledged $15 million.

Officials hope to start construction next year, following approval by the University of California Board of Regents.

The facility will be built on 2.4 acres southeast of Thornton Hospital near the Shiley Eye Center and the Perlman Ambulatory Care Center.

The five-story structure would house laboratories, outpatient treatment areas and conference and office space for teaching. Patients requiring acute care would be treated at other area hospitals such as Thornton or UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest.

Dynes, Tarin and David Bailey, dean of UCSD's School of Medicine, said they are halfway to their fund-raising goal. They anticipate the project will cost $75 million to build and an additional $25 million to support clinical trials and treatment programs. They said they are confident they will raise the remaining $53 million.

Numerous physicians and patients have criticized the region's existing cancer treatment resources, saying some patients who want to try certain experimental chemotherapies have to travel to larger programs in Los Angeles, Houston, Seattle, Boston or New York.

UCSD officials said they have long wanted to enhance their cancer program. Two years ago their application for National Cancer Institute funding received poor marks and was rejected, in part because evaluators said UCSD lacked a coordinated system by which UCSD and regional molecular biology research is translated to clinical care.

UCSD also was criticized for its lack of a formal vehicle for treating cancer in children. Plans to merge UCSD's pediatric program with that at Children's Hospital have fallen apart several times.

''It was mandated by the NCI that children should be included in clinical trials,'' Tarin said. ''We want to make that a major component.''

Bailey said he is having conversations with Children's Hospital and hopes to finally have an agreement.

Blair, Sadler, Children's president and chief executive officer, said such a collaboration would be ''an ideal marriage'' because Children's now has about 200 pediatric cancer patients enrolled in clinical trials and is following an additional 500.

UCSD is in a unique position to work on all sorts of common cancers, Tarin said, especially those that are not more prevalent in the San Diego area, such as uterine and cervical cancer and melanoma, which can be caused by overexposure to the sun.

''By assembling everything in one place, in a single building, we hope that the whole of our endeavor will become more than the sum of several parts, and that delivery of care will be a model for other communities to build upon,'' Tarin said.

''We need to understand the scale of this venture,'' he said. ''Fifteen hundred people every day will die of this disease. That may not sound like a great number, but it represents about five jumbo jet planes crashing, and that would be big news.''

UCSD is not the only major medical system trying to develop a cancer center. Seven months ago, cancer experts with the Scripps organization announced plans to build one and to apply for the NCI's ''comprehensive'' designation.

But UCSD appears to be the furthest along. Last week, NCI awarded UCSD's Dr. Thomas Kipps, a cancer immunologist, $16.5 million to direct a coordinated attack against chronic lymphocytic leukemia, the most common blood cancer among adults, at nine institutions around the country.

Also under way is an effort, spearheaded by Tarin, to use $100 million of the $1 billion in settlement money from tobacco litigation to organize a regional collaboration of all cancer centers.

That effort, advocated by county Supervisors Ron Roberts and Dianne Jacob, is in the planning stages, and a consultant was hired for $500,000 to write a report about what would be required to make that happen.

Roberts, who attended the news conference yesterday where architectural plans for the cancer building were unveiled, said: ''I don't think we ever assumed there wouldn't be rivalry between the institutions (Scripps and UCSD). But our dream was that we could link them regionally in a way they'd never been before.

''Our dream was that we could compete with the Boston, Houston and New York cancer centers in providing services. But we have a long way to go.''

Dr. Ernest Beutler, head of the Scripps molecular and experimental medicine department and chairman of the new Scripps cancer center's board of governors, said he doesn't see the two cancer center efforts ''as a competitive thing.''

''I don't think there could be too many people trying to make a dent in the cancer problem,'' he said.

Beutler declined to say how much Scripps has received in donations or whether Scripps and UCSD might be competing for the same philanthropic dollars.

''There will be areas where we certainly want to work with UCSD, which has some very good people,'' he said.

WORLD BANK PROTESTS

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues this recent editorial in the Star Tribune regarding the protests of the spring meetings of the World Bank and IMF in Washington, D.C. This intriguing perspective is an insightful analysis of the scope of the debt relief issue and role of the World Bank in combating this humanitarian challenge. Congress must move forward and address the growing problem of third world debt and follow a policy path that seeks to break the chains of debt for the world's most impoverished nations.

[From the Star Tribune]

WORLD BANK PROTESTS: WHAT, EXACTLY, IS THE POINT?

Anyone who has marched for justice or signed a petition can find some sympathy for the demonstrators who have swarmed into Washington, D.C., to disrupt spring meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. The question is: Why aren't they on the other side?

The World Bank, whose Pennsylvania Avenue headquarters has become an emblem of evil and conspiracy, is arguably the biggest antipoverty agency in the world today. In 1998 it made loans of $28.6 billion—mostly to very poor countries and mostly to build schools, improve roads, buy fertilizer, equip medical clinics and promote population planning.

Has the World Bank sponsored some destructive and ill-conceived projects? Certainly. But Americans who want less poverty in the world, more schools, cleaner water and better nutrition should be in the streets seeking more money for the World Bank, not less.

Some protesters would say their target is not the World Bank, per se, but the trend it represents—a process known as globalization, variously defined as the sweatshop production of Gap clothing or the ceaseless expansion of McDonald's.

But this is a narrow and shabby definition of what has happened in the world's since 1970. Three decades of rapid economic integration and massive capital flows have been accompanied not by the immiseration of the world's workers, but by the most rapid reduction in world poverty in a century. In Asia alone, 1 billion people have been lifted out of poverty since 1980, and the world's overall poverty rate has been cut in half, from 34 percent to 17 percent.

Global capitalism can't take all the credit for these developments. But it has played an important role, according to a new report by the consulting firm A.T. Kearney. Kearney studied 34 countries representing three-fourths of the World's economic output. It found that countries that opened themselves to world trade most rapidly—countries such as China, Poland, Chile, Portugal and the Philippines—also posted the fastest economic growth and, despite widening income gaps, also made the best progress in reducing poverty and increasing government spending on social ills.

Some share of the demonstrators would say they are not trying to halt world trade or shut down the World Bank, but steer both toward a path of social and environmental sustainability. That message makes for demonstrations genuinely useful. Of course, it's not terribly different from the message coming from inside the targeted buildings. The