

Jaime Garzon—Radionet (Colombia) in Colombia.

Pablo Emilio Medina Motta—TV Garzon (Colombia) in Colombia.

Guzman Quintero Torres—El Pilon (Colombia) in Colombia.

Hernando Rangel Moreno—Freelance, in Colombia.

Luis Alberto Rincon Solano—Freelance, in Colombia.

Alberto Sanchez Tovar—Producciones Colombia (Colombia) in Colombia.

Roberto Julio Torres—Emisora Fuentes de Cartagena (Colombia) in Colombia.

Agus Muliawan—Asia Press International (Japan) in Indonesia.

Supriadi—Medan Pos (Indonesia) in Indonesia.

Sander Thoenes—Financial Times (United Kingdom) in Indonesia.

Ilan Roeh—Israel Radio (Israel) in Lebanon.

Samuel Boyi—The Scope (Nigeria) in Nigeria.

Fidelis Ikwuebe—Freelance, in Nigeria.

Sam Nimfa-Jan—Details (Nigeria) in Nigeria.

Oleg Chervonyuk—Metropress Agency (Russia) in Russia.

Supian Ependiyev—Groznsky Rabochiy (Russia) in Russia.

Shamil Gigayev—Nokh Cho TV (Russia) in Russia.

Ramzan Mezhidov—TV Tsent (Russia) in Russia.

Valentina Neverova—Pravo (Russia) in Russia.

Lyubov Sloboda—Vesti (Russia) in Russia.

Alpha Amadu Bah Bah—Independent Observer (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Jenner Cole—SKY-FM (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Abdulai Jumah Jalloh—African Champion (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Mabay Kamara—Freelance, in Sierra Leone.

Mohammed Kamara—SKY-FM (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Paul Mansaray—Standard Times (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

James Ogogo—Concord Times (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Conrad Roy—Expo Times (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Myles Tierney—Associated Press Television News (USA) in Sierra Leone.

Munir Turay—Freelance, in Sierra Leone.

Anura Priyantha Cooray—Independent Television Network (Sri Lanka) in Sri Lanka.

Rohana Kumara—Satana (Sri Lanka) in Sri Lanka.

Vasthian Anthony Mariyadas—Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (Sri Lanka) in Sri Lanka.

Indika Pathinivasan—Maharaja Television Network (Sri Lanka) in Sri Lanka.

Michelle Lima—KSAT-TV (USA) in Texas.

Ahmet Taner Kislali—Cumhuriyet (Turkey) in Turkey.

Slavko Curuvija—Dnevni Telegraf (Yugoslavia) in Yugoslavia.

Gabriel Gruener—Stern (Germany) in Yugoslavia.

Volker Kraemer—Stern (Germany) in Yugoslavia.

IN HONOR OF MRS. GILBERT T. ADAMS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today with great sadness I honor Viola Mae Joss Adams,

who passed away Thursday, June 1, 2000. Viola Adams, known affectionately by all who knew her as Vi, was a woman of grace and elegance.

She was also a woman of intelligence and character. After graduating from high school in 1924 at the age of 16, she continued her education at The University of Texas at Austin. She graduated in 1929 with a double major in English and psychology and went on to teach high school.

Vi met Gilbert T. Adams during her time in Austin, and in 1932 they were married during the Great Depression on "a borrowed fifty dollars and a dime store ring." Vi and Gilbert subsequently moved to Gilbert's hometown of Beaumont, and she became a vital part of the civic life of her new community.

Mrs. Adams championed the issue of safety and received national recognition for her effort to see that every home in the country had first aid training. President Dwight D. Eisenhower recognized the value of Mrs. Adams' work and mandated that first aid be taught in public schools. An active Democrat, and a proud supporter of her husband's professional and political endeavors, Gilbert and Vi Adams were recognized by the Roosevelt, Truman, Kennedy and Johnson administrations for their contributions to our democratic process.

A woman strongly devoted to her family, Mrs. Adams had four children: Gilbert Timbrell Adams, Jr., John D'Estang Adams, Elizabeth Vi Adams, and Patricia Ann Adams. She also was graced during her lifetime with eight grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Viola Adams was a remarkable woman who was committed to her community, her country, and above all, her family. She was generous in spirit and was of deep religious conviction. She was of the utmost character, and her attributes of selflessness and commitment to others are rare gifts that this nation was lucky to have. With her passing, a great loss will be felt in the spirit and the heart of Beaumont.

COMMENDING THE MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP FOR ADDRESSING OVER FOUR DECADES OF INJUSTICE AND EXTENDING TEMPORARY MEMBERSHIP TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation, along with Congressman ROTHMAN, commending the member countries of the United Nations' Western European and Others Group (WEOG) for addressing four decades of discrimination in the UN and admitting Israel as a temporary, conditional member to that regional bloc.

For those of my colleagues who are unfamiliar with this issue, this is an important milestone for Israel because it places them firmly on the road to becoming a fully participating member of the United Nations. In order to be a fully participating member of the United Nations, countries must serve in a regional group.

Members of regional groups select member states on a rotating basis to serve on important United Nations bodies such as the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council. Because of anti-Israeli sentiment, Israel has been denied the opportunity to serve in the Asian States Group at the United Nations, even though it geographically belongs in that bloc.

Until such time as Israel can be an effective member of the Asian States Group, Israel has expressed a strong desire to serve on WEOG. WEOG consists of Western Europe, the United States, Canada, Turkey, New Zealand and Australia.

The struggle to gain Israel membership in WEOG has been a long and difficult one. And, until last week, one thought to be impossible by some. But, with Congressional support, dedicated individuals in the Clinton Administration, such as Vice President AL GORE and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Richard Holbrooke, were able to raise this issue with the highest levels of WEOG member governments and make it a clear priority. I thank them for all of their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Congressional support for Israel's acceptance into WEOG is very strong. Last October, I led a letter to Ambassador Richard Holbrooke signed by over 60 members, requesting that he make Israel's membership in WEOG a high priority. Additionally, legislation introduced by Congressman ROTHMAN calling for full equality at the United Nations for Israel has 63 cosponsors. I am proud to be an original sponsor of this legislation.

So Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate, for we have achieved something truly notable. However, the struggle for Israeli acceptance continues.

Israel's membership in WEOG is only temporary and must be reevaluated in four years. Additionally, Israel cannot participate as a WEOG member in meetings in Geneva, or on the Human Rights Committee at the United Nations. Although I have a great deal of respect for the human rights efforts of the U.N., they have been particularly unkind to Israel and it is a bitter pill to swallow to have them excluded from this committee.

This legislation, "Commending the member states of the United Nations Western European and Others Group for addressing over four decades of injustice and extending temporary membership to the state of Israel," also mentions the new hurdles that must be overcome to finally gain Israel status as a full member of the United Nations. It urges the WEOG member countries to admit Israel as permanent member, without conditions, until such time as she can play an effective part as a member of the Asian group.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask all of my colleagues to give strong consideration to cosponsoring this legislation. It took four decades to get Israel this far; it must not take as long to reach the final goal of full membership for Israel.

I would again like to thank my friend and colleague, STEVEN ROTHMAN, for his help and leadership on this issue. I would also like to thank Vice President GORE, along with Ambassador Holbrooke, for working so hard and keeping the pressure on the WEOG member countries. A copy of the legislation follows.

Commending the member states of the United Nations Western European and Others