

I strongly support legislative efforts to improve surveillance of autism and enhance federal research to prevent, treat and one day cure this developmental disorder. H.R. 4365, the Children's Health Act, would expand research and prevention activities in a number of childhood diseases.

Importantly, H.R. 4365 would help unravel the mystery of autism. This legislation would create up to five Centers of Excellence for autism. The bill would create a centralized and open facility for gene and brain banking, which is essential for scientific progress in autism. H.R. 4365 would also develop an autism awareness campaign for the public and physicians. Finally, it would bring together the resources of NIH, CSC, and DHHS to attack the problem of autism.

I look forward to working with my colleagues toward the enactment of this important legislation and other measures that will help move us toward finding a cure for autism.

TURKEY IN THE KOREAN WAR

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, as someone who joined the Marine Corps during the Korean War, I've always felt strongly about our allies in Turkey.

As we mark the 50-year anniversary of the start of the Korean War on June 25th, the Turkish military's bravery and heroism deserve great praise. The Turkish Brigade demonstrated superior combat capability and courage from the critical moment it entered the battlefield in October 1950, through the cease-fire agreement of July 1953.

Turkey provided the fifth-largest military contingent among United Nations forces—5,453 soldiers at the peak of the war. The Turkish Brigade is credited with saving the U.S. Eighth Army and the IX Army Corps from encirclement by communist enemies, and the 2nd Division from total destruction during critical battles in November 1950.

United Nations' Forces Commander in Chief General Douglas MacArthur said "The Turks are the hero of heroes. There is no impossibility for the Turkish Brigade."

No enemy attack succeeded in penetrating the front of the Turkish Brigade, while British and American forces were forced to withdraw from defensive lines. Even though out of ammunition, the Turks affixed their bayonets and attacked the enemy, eventually in hand-to-hand combat. The Turks succeeded in withdrawing by continuous combat and carrying their injured comrades from the battlefield on their backs.

Among the twenty U.N. Members contributing military forces in Korea, Time Magazine praised the Turkish Brigade for its courageous battles and for "creating a favorable effect on the whole United Nations Forces." A U.S. radio commentary in December 1950 thanked the Turkish Brigade's heroism for giving hope to a demoralized American nation.

Although the Korean War is often called "the Forgotten War," partly because it ended inconclusively with no real winner, the fierce combat ability of the Turkish Brigade should never be forgotten. The 717 Turkish soldiers

killed in action, and the 2,413 wounded in action, represent the highest casualty rate of any U.N. element engaged in the fighting. The simple white grave markers in a green field near Pusan will eternally remind us of the heroic soldiers of a heroic nation.

IN HONOR OF TIGER WOODS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to honor a living sports hero of our time. Having entertained millions around the world with his incredible skill and superb sportsmanship, the great Tiger Woods has most certainly earned the title of American Sports Legend. With a record-breaking 15-shot win at the U.S. Open last week, Tiger Woods once again amazed the golf world. This latest victory is now added to the long list of accomplishments that Tiger has achieved in his very impressive career.

Tiger Woods showed himself to be an exceptional athlete from very early on. He has had a remarkable beginning since becoming a professional golfer in the summer of 1996. He has won an impressive 22 tournaments, with 16 of those being on the PGA Tour. Most memorable was Tiger's victory in the 1999 PGA Championship and the 1997 Masters Tournament. With the latter, Tiger set yet another record by becoming the youngest Masters Champion in the history of golf; he was 21 years old.

This, however, is not the only record Mr. Woods has set. His 21 victories at age 23 exceed the career start of any other professional golfer. He won four consecutive PGA Tour events to end 1999, and started the millennium off with a fifth straight victory. This streak has only been surpassed by two other golfers more than 50 years ago. And possibly even more impressive is the fact that in Tiger Woods' last 21 PGA Tour starts, he has won 12 of them.

But how can any of us forget the sight of Tiger Woods this past weekend? As I watched Mr. Woods outshine his already astounding performances, I felt inspired by his motivation, his spirit, and his poise. I must admit, however, that I was most impressed by his drive. His drive not only to perform, but also his drive on the ball.

In the words of Tom Watson "Tiger has raised the bar." He has become, in the opinion of many, the best in professional golf. His story illustrates the value of practice, hard work, and positive character. The most astounding idea, however, is that his story is only beginning. America will watch in wonder at how much more Mr. Woods will accomplish in his future matches.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in congratulating Tiger Woods for his outstanding accomplishments. America should be proud to have such a fine athlete and such a fine citizen.

INTEREST RATE RESOLUTION

HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to introduce a sense of the House resolution with respect to interest rates.

As we all know, the Federal Reserve Board met today, and will meet again tomorrow, after which we will find out if interest rates will rise yet again, or remain at the current level. With six increases over the last year, we have seen a significant rise in rates. I recognize the Federal Reserve is doing the best job it can to maintain the longest economic expansion in U.S. history by keeping any signs of inflation in check. However, at this point I am convinced that any further increases could seriously impact ordinary working Americans without providing any sort of benefit.

Recent economic reports suggest that the economy is slowing in response to prior rate increases. Retail sales dropped in April and May, unemployment increased in May, and new home starts have decreased by 10% since December.

Just a few weeks ago, a number of our colleagues sent a letter to the Federal Reserve urging the board not to raise interest rates at their next meeting. They maintained that it could "lead to an unnecessary and socially damaging increase in unemployment without any significant offsetting advantage."

I agree with that sentiment. In addition to increased unemployment, it would raise borrowing costs yet again for working people and make it more difficult to purchase a home. While I understand the Fed's intent to engineer a "soft landing," do we really need additional actions to slow the economy when it is clear that is already occurring? As a follow up to the letter our colleagues sent to the Federal Reserve, I am introducing a resolution expressing the sense of the House that the Board of Governors should take action to decrease, or at a minimum not raise interest rates further at this time. I think it's important that we send the Fed a message about the impact continued increases will have on working families back in our districts. I hope you will join me in supporting this resolution.

RECOGNITION OF KOREAN WAR VETERAN STAFF SERGEANT MIGUEL BACH

HON. NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today, on the 50th anniversary of the day President Harry S Truman ordered military intervention in Korea, I honor the combat veterans of that war. I would specifically like to recognize the efforts of one of my constituents, Staff Sergeant Miguel Bach, a highly decorated veteran.

Visitors to our Nation's Korean War Memorial, here in Washington DC will read a simple, yet true phrase inscribed on the wall: "Freedom is not free." Few know the complete truth of this quote so well as our veterans of the

Korean war. We owe them a debt of gratitude which we can never repay. For these are the men and women who risked their lives to defend the freedom of another country, and in doing so defended our own freedom.

I am very proud to represent the many veterans who reside in New York's 12th District. Today, however, I would like to take a moment to commemorate the valor of one of those veterans. Mr. Miguel Bach, who is one of my constituents, is highly decorated veteran of the Korean war. He served in Korea with the 7th Infantry Division and the 45th Infantry Division. While on active duty in Korea in December of 1952, then Private First Class Bach was wounded during a battle in North Korea. For this he was awarded the Purple Heart. He later attained the rank of staff sergeant. In addition to the Purple Heart, Staff Sgt. Bach has been awarded with the Silver Star, Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star for his service to the nation.

This nation owes its many freedoms to the thousands of men and women who have shown courage, such as that displayed by Staff Sgt. Bach. I wish to personally thank each and every one of our combat veterans. On this day I specifically wish to extend my warmest thanks to our veterans of the Korean war and say how proud I am to represent Staff Sergeant Bach and his many fellow Korean war veterans in New York's 12th District. Our nation is forever in their debt.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN DAVID
MOORE

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a special service officer, Captain David Moore, commander of Coast Guard Group and Air Station Corpus Christi, who retires this week.

Captain Moore is the model service officer for the Coast Guard. In addition to just being an outstanding man, he deals squarely with whatever comes up, and he is a tireless advocate for the United States Coast Guard and the men and women who serve in his command.

This Coastie from the heartland (Iowa) began his service with the U.S. Coast Guard as a deck watch officer aboard the Coast Guard icebreaker *Glacier*, deployed to both the Arctic and Antarctica, where he developed a love of the earth's polar regions. He later earned his Naval aviator wings in Pensacola, FL.

While stationed in Alabama, after his first Coast Guard aviation tour, he was the operational commander for recovery operations after the onslaught of Hurricane Frederick. More importantly, while there, he met and married the former Lisa Scott of Mobile, Alabama.

Returning to the Arctic, Captain Moore was stationed at Kodiak, Alaska. Following that, he moved to Air Station San Francisco where he deployed support to the Exxon Valdez cleanup and responded to the San Francisco Bay Area earthquake in 1988.

In 1994, he returned to Alaska, stationed at Coast Guard Air Station Sitka, the area to

which he and Lisa will return upon his retirement. In 1996, he went south again, this time as chief of the Intelligence Division, Coast Guard Pacific Area in Alameda, California. He came to South Texas in 1998, assuming command of Group and Air Station Corpus Christi.

During his time in South Texas, he has overseen a growth in the Coast Guard facilities in Port Isabel/South Padre Island and was the incident commander for Hurricane Brett last year.

He is highly decorated; his personal awards for service include: 4 Coast Guard Commendation Medals, 4 Coast Guard Unit Commendations, 6 Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendations, a Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, 5 Humanitarian Service Medals and both the Arctic and Antarctica Service Medals. Captain Moore has accumulated over 6,000 flight hours, and his flight accomplishments include instructor pilot and chief of the Training Division at the Aviation Training Center in Mobile, AL.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending this unique patriot as he and his wife leave South Texas for life as civilians in Alaska.

IN HONOR OF LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA'S
TEN YEARS OF AIR
QUALITY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the outstanding environmental achievements of Lake County, California. June 28th of this year will mark the tenth consecutive year that the California Air Resources Board has designated Lake County as the only air district in California to attain all state ambient air quality standards. This is a great accomplishment for Lake County, as the State of California's Ambient Air Quality Standards are far more stringent than Federal standards, which makes this accomplishment even more remarkable.

The attainment of these air standards is a shared community achievement by the people of Lake County. The agencies, industries and individuals of this region have all contributed to the superior air quality of Lake County. There are many factors which have been involved in Lake County's success. All the best available control technologies in the geothermal, plastic fabrication and mining industries have been implemented. There has been a massive retrofitting of older gasoline stations and asphalt plants and a successful burn ban has been invoked during the summer season to decrease smog levels. Along with help from the public, these projects have been key factors in Lake County's continuous achievement in meeting state air quality standards.

There are thirteen official air basins in the state of California and the Lake County basin is the only one which complies with all ten of the state standards and has been the only one able to do so on a consistent basis. By implementing the Geyser's Air Monitoring Program, the Lake County Geyser industry has been able to drastically reduce the naturally occurring emissions of hydrogen sulfide gas, which is a known air contaminant. Yet, these gey-

sers are still able to generate electricity for nineteen power plants which themselves create enough electricity to power 880,000 homes.

Mr. Speaker, it is proper that we honor the people, industries, and government of Lake County, California for their outstanding success in creating a healthy environment. They have been able to achieve standards of air quality which all communities should strive for. It is an honor for me to represent the people of Lake County, first as their State Senator and now as their Congressman. Through their efforts they have created a community which is both a safe and healthy place to live for all its citizens.

CATHOLIC PRIEST MURDERED IN
INDIA

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, a publication entitled the Burning Punjab reported recently that another priest was murdered in India on Tuesday, June 6, 2000 by militant Hindu fundamentalist extremists. He was murdered in his mission near Mathura in the state of Uttar Pradesh. The priest, Brother George, was a 35-year-old member of the Borivilil order.

According to reports, the killers locked up Brother George's servant, broke into his room, and beat him to death. The assailants quickly escaped following the brutal attack. Because the crime seems to form a pattern with a previous incident in which a priest and two nuns were beaten in their rooms in Kosi Kalan, many people are beginning to believe that this act was the work of Hindu nationalist militants associated with a branch of the RSS, the parent organization of the ruling BJP. Several Christian organizations in India, including the All-India Catholic Union, the United Christian Forum of Human Rights, and the All-India Christian Council, have lodged strong protests about the incident with the government. They also condemned the attempt by the National Human Rights Commission to minimize two violent incidents against Christians in April. Unless the National Human Rights Commission begins taking these incidents seriously, it unfortunately will be regarded as a puppet for the government.

Mr. Speaker, just recently I informed my colleagues that many people already believe that the March massacre of 35 Sikhs at Chatti Singhpora was the responsibility of government forces. In fact, two separate investigations have already implicated Indian government counterinsurgency forces in that brutal massacre.

If we discover that these recent crimes have been committed by this group of BJP militants or government forces, India will have much explaining to do to this Congress. In fact, they should be held accountable for all their senseless actions. For years, I have been providing this Congress with reports that the Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984; 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947; more than 65,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988; and tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, Tamils, and Dalits.