

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE JULIAN C. DIXON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF
HON. CORRINE BROWN
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have served with Congressman JULIAN DIXON for the past eight years. I was saddened by the news early Friday morning, December 8, 2000, that JULIAN DIXON is no longer with us. My heartfelt condolences go out to his beloved wife Bettye and son Cary. He will be missed by our colleagues of this United States Congress.

When I thought of JULIAN, I thought of him as an officer and gentleman. JULIAN was an officer. As an officer, he was honorable, noble, trustworthy, and a quiet commander. As a gentleman, he was a man of chivalrous and genuine qualities.

Service was the guiding principle of his life. He was the eminent expression of congenial relationships, and yes character and temperament changed with every activity he was involved with. Lives touched by Representative DIXON became engaged and thereafter empathetic, kindly and honorable.

He worked hard for his constituents of California. He never tired of spreading princely qualities to everyone he met. Yes, he was a consensus builder. He will be missed.

With Representative DIXON, it was never about winning, but it was truly about how you managed the hand you were dealt.

He was an officer. He was a gentleman. He was my colleague.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE JULIAN C. DIXON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF
HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of JULIAN C. DIXON.

Mr. DIXON was a great member of Congress, and is to be commended for his accomplishments as the fifth ranking Democrat on the Appropriations Committee and as the ranking member on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

He was well-known for his commitment to our nation's civil rights and for the instrumental role he played in minimizing the effects of natural disasters that struck his community. His

leadership in the bipartisan effort to secure federal support for the Alameda Corridor project in Los Angeles and in obtaining federal funds for communities hard hit by cuts in defense spending are to also be commended.

JULIAN C. DIXON will be sorely missed on Capitol Hill. I extend my deepest sympathy to his family.

OSHA ERGO-NONSENSE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends this December 14, 2000, editorial from the Norfolk Daily News expressing strong concern regarding the new Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulation on ergonomics.

ERGO-NONSENSE

NEW OSHA WORKPLACE REGULATION ISN'T BASED ON A COMPLETED STUDY

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration calls its new regulation the "Ergonomics Program Standard." The National Federation of Independent Businesses has a different description: "Ergo-nonsense."

"Scheduled to take effect on Jan. 16, 2001, it is, without question, the most burdensome, expensive and intrusive regulation ever to be imposed on the small-business community," said Jack Faris, federation president.

We would have to agree. Ostensibly designed to help prevent repetitive motion injuries, like carpal tunnel syndrome, the new regulation will require employers to alter the workplace in order to do so. It's a noble intent.

But the regulation assumes that employers aren't already doing everything possible to take care of the health and well-being of employees. The regulation also doesn't have a scientific basis, seeing as how the National Academy of Science's study on ergonomics isn't even completed yet.

It's also curious how this 1,688-page regulation was able to be introduced and published in about a year's time, when, on average, it takes OSHA four years to do so with other regulations.

Because President Clinton allowed the regulation to move forward, it now will take legal action to stop it. That's not a sure thing, so business owners everywhere had better start preparing for their own version of "ergo-nonsense."

HONORING ELIZABETH MARQUARDT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Elizabeth Marquardt. Elizabeth Marquardt

has served for 22 years as a Governing Member of the Petaluma California School Board, the longest term in its history. Her vision, intelligence, and dedication has impacted the lives of hundreds of thousands of Petaluma students.

During her tenure Elizabeth was instrumental in raising money for schools and co-founding the Petaluma Educational Foundation. From sorting through the budget challenges following the passage of California Proposition 13 to hiring three superintendents, she has given generously her time and energy. Elizabeth has accomplished this while fostering a friendly, cooperative atmosphere that has helped board members work together to reach decisions that are best for the children of Petaluma.

It is my great pleasure to pay tribute to Elizabeth Marquardt. I am very proud to represent such a remarkable woman.

TRIBUTE TO MARIA MAGDA O'KEEFE

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a person I am proud to call my friend, Maria Magda O'Keefe of Paterson, New Jersey, who was recognized on Thursday, November 9, 2000 on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Hispanic Multi Purpose Service Center. It is only appropriate that she be honored as she retires from the Paterson City Council, for she has a long history of caring, generosity and commitment to others.

Maria was recognized for her many years of leadership in Paterson, which I have been honored to represent in Congress since 1997, and so it is only fitting that these words are immortalized in the annals of this greatest of all freely elected bodies.

Councilwoman Magda has a varied educational background and has studied in a multitude of fields. The State of New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Consumer Affairs certified her as a Social Worker. Also, the National Association of Forensic Counselors certified her to be a Domestic Violence Counselor. In addition, she is a Registered Nurse having earned her diploma at the Hospital de Damas in San German, Puerto Rico. She is a graduate of Central High School in Santurce, Puerto Rico. Also, she studied Health Education at Columbia University in New York and Cosmetology at the Master Headdresser Academy in Passaic, New Jersey.

Maria has always been an active and involved leader. One of her most important accomplishments was her founding of the Hispanic Multi Purpose Service Center (HMPSC) in Paterson. She is currently the Executive Director of the center. The HMPSC is a highly

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

respected agency that provides free social, educational and recreation services to the residents of Paterson and Passaic County.

This remarkable woman is a trailblazer for Latino elected officials in Passaic County. In her political career she has set many important milestones. In 1989, she became the first Hispanic Woman to be elected as the President of the Paterson City Council. Her vision and leadership has made it easier for all Hispanic Americans to seek and win elected office.

On the Council and in her daily life Maria remained devoted to the City of Paterson and the Hispanic community. She has served as Deputy Mayor of the city, as well as the Administrator of the Mayor's Office Division of Planning. In addition, she was a coordinator of the city's service programs for the Hispanic community and the nutritional programs for the city's Hispanic senior citizens.

Known for a questioning mind and an ability to get things done, Councilwoman Magda has served her community in a variety of positions. She was the Commissioner of the Board of Social Services and the Board of Health in Paterson. She was also a member of the Board of St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Paterson. She has served as a liaison between the Paterson City Hall and the community at-large. She was a member of Women in Government, the Paterson Chamber of Commerce, the Columbia University Health Panel and the Boy Scouts of America Board of Directors. In addition, she has served as Chairperson of the Paterson Great Falls Committee, and in 1976, she was the President of the Puerto Rican Parade.

Councilwoman Magda continually touches the lives of the people around her. She has received a myriad of awards including recognition from the United States Department of Defense, the Irish Culture Society, the New Jersey State Assembly and the Italiana Society.

Maria Magda O'Keefe was born on July 22, 1938. She has three siblings. Maria has two wonderful children Debra Ann Martinez and John Mitchell Morales. She has four grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Mr. Speaker, as a former mayor of Paterson that has worked with Maria for many years, I can say that I can think of no elected official who works harder or cares more about her constituents. Perhaps the greatest tribute to her is the unwavering faith of the voters of Paterson. They have demonstrated this by electing her time and again to her position.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Maria's family and friends, the City of Paterson, the State of New Jersey and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of Maria Magda O'Keefe.

IN HONOR OF THE HONORABLE
JOLENE MOLITORIS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a distinguished public servant and a truly remarkable woman, the current Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Jolene Molitoris.

A true champion of railroad safety, Jolene Molitoris was appointed by the President of the United States William J. Clinton, to be the first female Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration in 1993. In her tireless effort to improve safety in the United States and around the world, Administrator Molitoris established zero tolerance for any safety hazard as the industry standard. In addition, she created partnerships with rail labor and management, achieving historic increases in all safety categories. As a testament to the outstanding leadership of Administrator Molitoris, the FRA began its transformation from a traditional regulatory agency into a result and consumer-focused organization.

Under Administrator Molitoris' management (1993-1999), the public enjoyed the safest seven-year period in history. During this period there was a 43-percent reduction in employee injuries and fatalities and a 30-percent reduction in grade crossing injuries and deaths.

Throughout her years of public service, Administrator Molitoris has received many honors, including being named by Railway Age Magazine as one of the 16 most respected and admired "Great Railroaders of the 20th Century." In 1999, Administrator Molitoris received three awards: the Ellis Island Medal of Honor awarded by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations Foundation, Inc; and the Jolene M. Molitoris Golden Spike Award created by the Indiana High Speed Rail Association. Also, in 1999, the New Jersey Division of the Polish American Congress honored Administrator Molitoris as their Millennium Woman of the Year.

On a personal note, I have had the wonderful opportunity to work with Jolene Molitoris on a great many initiatives. I have great respect and admiration for her public service career. She is a person of solid integrity who possesses a true desire to serve the public's best interest. She is an individual of tremendous talent and her leadership of the FRA will be long remembered.

I ask my colleagues to join me in rising to honor this truly remarkable public servant for her distinguished years of service, and her dedication to making our Nation's railways safer.

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WORK! CHECK OUT THE FACTS
ON EHEALTHINSURANCE.COM

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, books, toys, flowers, clothes and insurance? Now you can shop for just about anything on the web, including insurance. I recently window-shopped for insurance using ehealthinsurance.com; the same program Republican health care staffers received a briefing on last week.

My window-shopping included looking at available health insurance options in Florida, Montana, Louisiana and Georgia through the eyes of people who were 25, 35, 45, 55 and 60, both married and single.

The data reiterated our findings from March, which proved that in order to help the uninsured we cannot simply give them refundable

tax credits; the tax credits have to be coupled with major insurance reform.

Many people who are uninsured are working poor and may not qualify for Medicaid; therefore if the tax credit does not cover almost the entire cost of insurance they will still not be able to afford it.

The results also proved that with age, tax credit becomes even more useless because health insurance prices rapidly increase as one ages. For example, a 25 year old low income couple in Billings, Montana could initially get by with a \$316.00 credit per month, but by the time the couple reached age 60 they would need \$1,032.00 per month to sustain the same plan from the same insurance company.

Shopping on the web is like shopping at wholesale; it allows us to buy books, clothes and the like at prices that most people can afford. The same thing cannot be said about insurance: without insurance market reform, health insurance will remain unaffordable for tens of millions.

To view charts relating to this issue, please visit my website at www.house.gov—stark.

TRIBUTE TO THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALPHA PHI OMEGA

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the 75th Anniversary of the founding of Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity.

On December 16, 1925, Frank Horton formed Alpha Phi Omega with a group of students at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania. Horton's service in World War I, and his subsequent introduction to the Scout Oath and Law, helped to inspire him to found the fraternity as a way to encourage young people to help others and to bring about a better, more peaceful world.

Alpha Phi Omega members are united by the principles of leadership, friendship and service. These principles are designed to aid fraternity members in discovering and developing their leadership abilities, not only by making last friendships, but also by planning and providing helpful service to others.

Since its founding, Alpha Phi Omega has chartered chapters at more than 700 campuses nationwide, and more than 300,000 Americans have been inducted into the organization. The fraternity is proud to count Members of Congress and even Presidents of the United States among its many distinguished alumni. Today, Alpha Phi Omega is active on about 350 campuses, large and small, with 18,000 current members throughout the country.

For its members, Alpha Phi Omega is much more than an extracurricular activity. It is a way for members to make their campuses, their communities and their world a better place for all of us. Alpha Phi Omega begins as a college experience, but its members have made it a lifetime commitment to turning Frank Reed Horton's noble ideal of a better and more peaceful world into a reality.

I commend Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity for a successful first 75 years,

and I would like to thank my friend and constituent, Mr. Ed Richter of Franklin, Ohio, for bringing this significant milestone to my attention. Mr. Richter currently serves as National Service/Communication Program Director for the organization.

I join my colleagues in wishing continued success to Alpha Phi Omega and its distinguished members and alumni.

THANKS TO MY CONGRESSIONAL
AND SUBCOMMITTEE STAFFS

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to the best Congressional staff in America: mine. My outstanding Chief of Staff, Ginny Hotaling, and my staff at home: Linda Maneck, with nineteen years of experience, Ed Kelly, with fourteen years, Carol Joy Cunningham, Dee Jay Kweder, eighteen years with me and five with my predecessor, Bob McClory, Mary Jane Partridge and Nancy Johnson, and my Press Secretary, Linda Mae Carlstone, now in her second tour in that position—all have done superior work in serving me and our constituents. In Washington, my acclaimed Administrative Assistant, Katharine Fisher, my Office Manager, Jerri Lohman, with me for twenty years, my Legislative Director, Spencer Pearlman, the Executive Director of the Human Rights Caucus, Jeanette Windon, my Scheduler Jori Frahler, Mike Liles, Eric Rasmussen, and David Fabrycky—they have also been incredibly responsive to the challenges of a very active and demanding office, and I can never thank each of these wonderful individuals enough.

My subcommittee staff is also simply the best on the Hill. Its exemplary Clerk, Tony McCann, and his colleagues: Carol Murphy, Susan Firth, Francine Salvador, and our detailees, Jeff Kenyon and Tom Kelly, have been knowledgeable, hard working and loyal. It has been a real privilege to work with them and with their predecessors, Bob Knisley, Sue Quantius, and Mike Myers, and I hope we can remain close in the years ahead.

IN HONOR OF WARREN-CENTER-
LINE STERLING HEIGHTS CHAM-
BER OF COMMERCE HALL OF
FAME RECOGNITION BANQUET
HONOREES TARIK DAUD, MARK
STEENBERGH, AND GERALD
ELSON

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today not only as a member of the United States House of Representatives but also as a member of the Honorary Committee for the Warren-Center Line-Sterling Heights Hall of Fame Banquet. This is the event's first year, and I am proud to be a part of honoring three exceptional individuals for their commitment to the betterment of their business and civic environments—Mayor Mark Steenbergh, Gerald

Elson, and Tarik Daoud. One simply needs to view the landscape to see the tangible evidence of the impact these individuals have had on the economic environment there.

Since Warren Mayor Mark Steenbergh became mayor of Warren, taxes are down, property values are up, and businesses are racing to take root in the city. Mayor Steenbergh's vision of a better Warren is evidence in the hard work and dedication to prosperity that he has put into the city. To many, the closing of the TACOM headquarters on Van Dyke spelled doom for the City of Warren. Mayor Steenbergh did Warren residents proud with his commitment to working with state and local officials to build a successful industrial park on the site. The crown jewel of Warren will shine in 2002, when the new Warren Community Center opens its doors. As Mayor of Macomb County's largest city, Mark Steenbergh is friend to all those who live and work in the Warren community.

Working his way up from design engineer, to his present position of Vice President of General Motors and GM of Operations for the North American Car Group, Gerald Elson personifies the hard working attitude of Western Macomb. His meteoric rise from the small town of Merrill, Michigan outside Saginaw to one of the highest ranking officials at the top company on Fortune Magazine's Global 500 shows proof of his brilliant ingenuity and business sense. In this capacity, and as Chairperson for the GM Warren County Relations Committee, Elson has served as the architect of General Motor's commitment to the City of Warren. Nowhere else in the world is the economy so reliant upon the auto industry as it is in Michigan, and Elson's committee to keeping GM on top makes him invaluable to the community's neighborhoods and business environment.

Community leader, business owner, and philanthropist, Tarik Daoud has been a part of the Macomb County Community since 1964. As owner of Al Long Ford in Warren, Daoud has recently been named a finalist for the 2000 Time Magazine Quality Dealer Award. This distinguished honor comes as a result of Daoud's tradition of exceptional performance not only as a car dealer, but also to the community. Daoud sits on numerous Boards including Salvation Army and the Warren YWCA, in addition to his work with the International Visitor Council, which hosts foreign visitors to the Metro Area. Tarik Daoud has earned his reputation and respect throughout the community not only for his success as a businessman, but also for his education and charitable contributions.

Please join me in thanking the Chamber of Commerce, and congratulating these three outstanding individuals for their devotion to their work and the betterment of our communities.

REMEMBERING THE FORGOTTEN
OF THE FORGOTTEN WAR: AFRI-
CAN AMERICANS IN KOREA

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, September 13–16, 2000 marked the 30th anniver-

sary of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) Legislative Conference, the most significant socio-political gathering in the country to discuss issues of importance to the African American community. On September 15, 2000 Representative SANFORD BISHOP, Jr. (D-GA) and I convened, in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration, another well attended, although highly emotional, 12th Annual Veterans Braintrust forum entitled: "Remembering the Forgotten of the Forgotten War: African Americans in Korea."

For the past several years my distinguished friend and colleague SANFORD BISHOP, Jr. and I have hosted the Annual Veterans Braintrust during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Legislative Conference because we both care a great deal about the well-being of America's veterans. Nevertheless, this year I was overwhelmed to be in the room with so many true heroes, and spoke for all my colleagues in thanking them for their service to this great nation. It makes me very proud that the Veterans Braintrust is one of the best attended forums during the Annual Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Conference. This year's event was particularly important because of the limited time we have to set the record straight on the sacrifices and service of African Americans during the Korean War. Because throughout the Korean War, African American soldiers were waging a war on two fronts. They fought gallantly beside their comrades in the most trying conditions, while battling the bigotry and racism that were still prevalent in the United States military. These same veterans continued their fight against racism at home by joining the grassroots of the Civil Rights Movement. Although Korea is known as the "Forgotten War," we told them that we will never forget, and we won't let our colleagues in Congress forget about the brave men and women who made the freedom we enjoy today possible.

Congressman SANFORD BISHOP, Jr., reaffirmed that the Veterans Braintrust is an event which has become one of the traditional highlights of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's annual legislative conference, adding that this is a family affair which brings veterans and their families together from throughout the country, and gives us an opportunity to discuss issues of critical concern to us all. To our distinguished panelist, he said, it is because of Korean War veterans, both men and women who have answered the call of duty that we have the strongest military in the world and praised their unselfishness in risking their lives to protect our freedom. Today is their day. African American Korean war veterans are finally receiving the recognition that they truly deserve. With that said, BISHOP introduced our keynote speaker, The Honorable Louis Caldera, Secretary of the Army.

Secretary Caldera began by stating, that this forum was aptly named. "Remembering the Forgotten of the Forgotten War." For many African Americans and for many reasons, Korea truly was the Forgotten War. It came on the heels of an exhausting World War II in which our Army literally led the effort to save the world from tyranny. Americans had expected to enjoy the fruits of this exhausting effort for some time. They had enough of war. But less than five years after V-J Day, they found themselves being asked once again to

sacrifice their sons and daughters to help defend freedom in a nation few had ever even heard of. But if Korea is the Forgotten War, then truly the African American soldiers who served in that conflict are the "Forgotten of the Forgotten War," as the title of this forum suggests. They had been set apart and marginalized as a fighting force long before the beginning of the conflict. But by war's end they were integrated into units throughout the Army and involved in the thickest of the fighting. The tremendous contributions our soldiers made in that war have never been fully recognized. And particularly the contributions of our Korean veterans were not recognized in the way we hailed the return of our World War II veterans and certainly even less was made of the service and contributions of our African American veterans who were not fully recognized. Those who were overlooked included men like Congressman CHARLES RANGEL and Congressman JOHN CONYERS, senior Members of the House, founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and decorated veterans of that war. Then Sergeant RANGEL was awarded the Bronze Star with "V" while he served with the 503d Field Artillery Battalion. And 2d

Of course there were tens of thousands of other African Americans who served bravely in the Korean War whose actions we must also commemorate and remember. I can tell you that I'm looking forward to next July 23, 2001, when we will lay a memorial wreath in a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery to pay tribute to the soldiers of the 24th Infantry Regiment and other African American soldiers who bravely fought and fell in that war. They gave their lives for freedom at Yechon, at the Han River, at Kunu-Ri and on many other battlefields where their blood now consecrates that land.

Although there are many lessons that we have learned from our involvement in the Korean War. One of the most important lessons that Korea taught us was that segregation has no place in a modern military (or our society), but especially in the U.S. Armed Forces. We learned that the Army fights best when it is unified. We learned that leadership and bravery and courage knows no color boundary. Until Korea, the Army had reflected America's long and tragic history of racial discrimination by maintaining segregated units. It was costly, irrational, and an inefficient way to do business. It cost us in terms of the combat effectiveness of those segregated units. There were places where soldiers and leaders did not trust each other, held each other in disregard, and were rotated quickly through units where they did not invest time in bringing out the best in their men. The result was an Army where certain units were maligned and their reputations impugned because of unfounded rumors, innuendo and the adverse impacts of a self-defeating policy.

President Truman's historic integration order of 1948 said the Armed Forces were officially integrated. But at the start of the Korean War, they were still segregated. Once we were thrown into that war we had no choice, in the wake of early setbacks, exacerbated by readiness shortcomings, our military leadership was forced to send African American troops to fight side-by-side with white soldiers at the front

lines. As Lt. Gen. Julius Becton, one of our Army's most senior leaders and a personal role model when I was a young officer recently recalled that as a young African American officer serving in the early days of the Korean War, the question was put to him, where should we send the replacements who had started to come over to fill the thinning ranks? The idea of sending black soldiers to black units and white soldiers to white units and not putting a white soldier under command of a black officer all of a sudden had no relevancy. They refused to accept that kind of thinking and said "we're going to send these soldiers where they are needed." And so they sent the soldiers to the units where they were taking the highest casualties. As General Becton now puts it "Korea was what broke the eggshell to make the omelet to make integration a reality." Because all of a sudden soldiers were fighting side by side for their well-being, depending on each other, drinking from the same cup, giving blood to one another to save each other's lives and it made all the difference. Today, at a time when diversity is increasing rapidly, the Army is taking full advantage of the trail of opportunity that was first blazed by these African American soldiers. African Americans still comprise 29% of the enlisted ranks and fully 11% of our officer corps. We could not be the world's best land power force without these soldiers and without their leadership. They are integral to all we do, and of the future of this great Army, from our peacekeeping operations in the Balkans to our deterrence Mission on the Korea Peninsula, to the Persian Gulf. In the coming years, when America will need to draw even more on the diversity of her communities to meet the new challenges of the 21st century, we will continue to count on young African American men and women to shoulder the heavy burden of our nation's security. Thank you very much. God bless you and God bless our Korean War veterans.

In addition, the Secretary of Labor paid a very special tribute to Korean War veterans bravery and helped honor those African Americans who served in the Korean War. The Secretary of Labor reminded each of us that the Korean War occurred at a time when African-Americans served in segregated units, and many of those units were in heavy combat. However, the success of the integration of the military enabled African American veterans to return home and become key participants in the success of America's workplace. Lastly, the Secretary asked that all Americans remember the loyalty and valor of African American soldiers who fought bravely in the Korean War, brought change at home, and helped build a bridge to better, and more diverse workplaces.

Next, a poem written and read by SFC Laurence Hogan, USAR, Ret., called "Korea—The Dying Game," dedicated to the men of the 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry (Bayonet) Division, who fought on Pork Chop Hill, set the tone for hearing a lot about the trials and triumphs of African American Korean war military luminaries like Col. Daniel "Chappie" James, Jr. (and later the first U.S. Air Force African American four-star General) who flew many combat missions during the Korean War and flew missions in Vietnam, as well as com-

bat members of the infantry, artillery, engineers and ranger airborne organizations.

Dr. Edwin R. Parson, noted Psychologist and recent recipient of the NAACP's Jesse Brown Leadership Award moderated our distinguished Korean war panelists Sgt. Eddie Dixon, National Historian, 24th Infantry Regimental Combat Team (RCT) Association; Dr. William Hammond, Author and Historian, US Army Center of Military History; Sgt. Maj. Samuel Gilliam, USA, Ret., Member of the 503d Field Artillery Battalion; Mr. Theodore "Ted" Hudson, Sr., 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division; CSM Samuel Jenkins, USA, Ret., President, 24th Infantry Regiment Combat Team Association; Col. Charles E. McGee, USAF, Ret., President of the Tuskegee Airmen Association, Inc.; Mr. Curtis "KoJo" Morrow, "G" Company, 1st Platoon, 1st Squad, 24th Infantry RCT; Maj. James "Big Jim" Queen, USA, Ret., Executive Officer, 2d Ranger Infantry Company (Airborne), and commentator Dr. William Ball, Professor of Political Science & University Scholar, from the University of Vermont.

Dr. Parson opened by asking and attempting to answer the question, "Why and how did America forget our Korean war veterans?" In his professional experience as a psychologist he was not sure what America's historical lack of memory for the Korean War and its warriors was due to. But, to forget such noble and heroic exploits by these veterans so completely tells an astonishing story of not only national amnesia, but also societal insensitivity. Moreover, many people believe that when it comes to African American contributions for fighting our nation's wars at home and abroad America has always had a bad memory. It had a bad memory in forgetting the 33d US Colored Troops during the Civil War, and showed this same tendency in the forgetting of that war, as noted by Dr. Harvey Black, an African American surgeon in the Army of Northern Virginia. So, American amnesia for the sacrifices of Black Americans who served in the Armed Forces, beginning with the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, Indian Campaigns, Spanish-American War, through World War I and II to Korea and Vietnam is by now legendary. Forgetting Korea and its veterans may thus be said to be no exception. It's a tradition. But, despite our nation's historic forgetfulness, we are here today honoring all Korean War veterans. As we believe that this special tribute to our African American war veterans aims to make memory a friend, not foe. To turn off the fear and face our past with renewed courage, like the courage so powerfully and memorably demonstrated by our veterans in places like Inchon, Pusan, Bloody Peak, Old Baldy, Hill 200, Triangle Hill, Hill 440, Hill 666 (or Gung Ho Hill), the Chosin Reservoir, Yalu, Chorwan Valley, Munsan-ni, Kumpchon, Taejon, and other places where war's violence was met by them with the liberating force of sacrifice and valor.

Later that evening, with the gracious assistance of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee, and underwriting by Quality Support, Inc., an SBA 8(a) Vietnam Veteran Owned Firm, we honored

those who made the freedom we enjoy today possible. Those brave men and women who laid their lives on the line for a country that too often treated them as second class citizens. The invocation was given by Rev. Nathaniel Nicholson, 24th Infantry Regiment Silver Star winner; opening remarks by Mr. Wayne Gatewood, Jr., President & CEO, Quality Support, Inc.; with my brief introductory remarks for our keynote speaker and awards presenter the champion of America's veterans at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Acting Secretary Hershel Gober with Ron Armstead, Executive Director, CBC Veterans' Braintrust as announcer.

Secretary Gober thanked everyone for their warm welcome and especially thanked the Veterans Braintrust of the Congressional Black Caucus for arranging this event to honor some of our nation's most distinguished veterans—our African American veterans of the Korean War. He applauded the Veterans Braintrust of the Congressional Black Caucus for having worked hand-in-hand with the Department of Veterans Affairs as an advocate for minority veterans. And our Department is proud of our long association with this important group. It is a true partnership, and our nation's veterans have seen real benefits from it.

In addition, he stated, fifty years ago, in response to an invasion by foreign troops, the United States and fifteen other nations sent troops to fight for the Korean Republic. It was the first time in history an international organization sent an international army to preserve democracy, and to fight for the freedom of another nation. 6.8 million Americans served in our military on active duty during the Korean War era; 1.8 million of them in the theater of operations. Nearly 37,000 Americans died; more than 92,000 were wounded. The fates of as many as 8,000 more men have never been accounted for. But thanks to their service and their sacrifices, Korea stands today a free nation, with people proud of their freedom, and grateful to the men and women from the United States who came to stand and fight with them in their hour of crisis. Among the 1.8 million men and women who fought in the Korean War there were more than 100,000 African Americans. Black personnel made up 13% of the total military strength in Korea. Americans of African descent have always served our nation with distinction; from Crispus Attucks at Bunker Hill, to the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War, to the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II. But before 1948, they fought, when they were allowed to fight, in segregated units—denied the opportunity to show their abilities in an integrated setting. However, after President Truman's 1948 executive order and the armed forces compliance forced by the requirements of war African American soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines were quick to show they were every bit the equal of any soldier in combat, anywhere.

Fifty years after the Korea was began, we know that America is best defended by an armed force that is truly representative of all of our nation's diversity. And it is also best defended by an armed force that is recruited, trained, and led in accordance with our nation's highest ideals—the ideals black veterans fought for in Korea. That knowledge may be the most important legacy that black Korean

war veterans have given us. VA is proud to serve the heroes of the Korean war, and of all wars.

The 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemorative Awards went to the following (partial list of) brave African American men and women LTC Mary Ellen Anderson, USA, Ret., Mr. Lonnie Ashe, Lt. Gen. Julius Becton, Jr., USA, Ret., Mr. Francis Brown, First Sergeant George Bussey, Sr., USA, Ret., Ens. Jesse L. Brown, USN (Posthumous), Mr. Nathaniel Brunson, Maj. David Carlisle, USA (Posthumous), Mr. Harold Cecil, Sgt. Cornelius Charlton, Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient (Posthumous), Col. Fred Cherry, USAF, Ret., Mr. Earnest Cornish, Mr. Arthur Code, Mr. Samuel Crawford (Posthumous), Sgt. Earl Danzler, Sr., Sgt. Edward Dixon, Mr. Gerald Eldridge, Sr., Mr. Daniel Faulk, Mr. Joseph Frederick, Mr. Willie Wren, Sr., Mr. Albert Gibson, Sgt. Maj. Samuel Gilliam, USA, Ret., SFC. Novel Harris, Mr. Oliver Holiday, SFC. Laurence Hogan, USA, Ret., Mr. Theodore Ted Hudson, Jr., CSM. Samuel Jenkins, USA, Ret., Dr. Edwin Nichols, Dr. Leonard Lockley, Mr. Wilfred Matthews, Col. Charles E. McGee, USAF, Ret., Mr. Jerome Milborne, Mr. Curtis 'KoJo' Morrow, Rev. Nathaniel Nicholson, 1st Lt. Mamie Smith Pierce, USA, Mr. William Ponder, Sr., Gen. Roscoe Robinson, USA, Ret. (Posthumous), Lt. Col. Lyle Rishell, USA, Ret., Sgt. Maj. Lewis Roundtree, USMC, Ret., Lt. Gen. Frank E. Peterson, Jr., USMC, Ret., Mr. Joseph Williams; Dr. Freeman Pollard, Ms. Marcine Shaw, Mr. Halbert Swan (Posthumous), Mr. James Thompson, PFC William Thompson, Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient (Posthumous), Mr. LaVonne Willis, Mr. Robert Fletcher, Mr. Joseph Patterson, Dr. Jerome Long, Mr. Thomas Wynn, Sr., Dr. Charles Johnson, Jr., Mr. Leemon Smith (Posthumous), Mr. Jerry Carter, Mr. Joel Ward, and Sr. Master Sergeant Eddie Wright, USAF, Ret. With special unit awards going to the 503rd Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Ranger Infantry Company (Airborne), 77th Engineers Combat Company, 159th Field Artillery Battalion, 272nd Field Artillery Battalion (MNG), 24th Infantry Regiment Combat Team Association, Inc., 630th Ordnance Ammunition Company, 231st Transportation Truck Battalion (MNG), 376th Engineer Construction Battalion (MNG), 715th Transportation Truck Battalion, 65th Infantry Regiment, and 65th Infantry Honors Task Force.

For the commemorative forms overwhelming success I would like to give special thanks to Ms. Constance Burns, Curator, US Army Center of Military History; First Sgt. George Bussey, Sr., USA, Ret., Member of the 24th Infantry Regimental Combat Team (RCT); Mr. Leroy Colston, President African American Naval Veterans Association; Mr. Harry A. Davis, Immediate Past President, 24th Infantry RCT Association; Col. William DeShields, USA, Ret., Founder & President, Black Military History Institute of America, Inc.; Dr. Deborah Newman Ham, Professor, Morgan State University, Department of History; Mr. Reginald Lawrence, Team Leader, Jacksonville Vet Center; Dr. Charles Johnson, Jr., Professor, Morgan State University, Department of History; Mr. Wayne Gatewood, Jr., President & CEO, Quality Support, Inc.; Mr. Nicholas Martinelli, Representative CORRINE

BROWN'S SANFORD BISHOP, Jr.'s Legislative Staff; Mr. Daniel Smith, Founder & President, Korean War Family Endowment; Mr. Wilson Smith, Founder & President of African American Medal of Honor Memorial Association; Mr. Gabriel Tenabe, Curator, Morgan State University Museum; Mr. Marvin Eason, White House Liaison, Department of Veterans Affairs; Mr. Clifton Toulson, Associate Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration; Ms. Marilyn Valliant, Catering Manager, Doubletree Park Terrace Hotel, and Mr. Ron E. Armstead, Executive Director, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Veterans Braintrust.

Once more, we would like to pay a very special tribute to three distinguished current members of Congress and Korean War veterans. Honorable CHARLES B. RANGEL (D-NY), Ranking Member on the House Ways and Means Committee, and Founder of the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust; the Honorable JOHN CONYERS (D-MI), Ranking member on the House Judiciary Committee; and the Honorable WILLIAM CLAY (D-MO) Ranking Member on the House Education and the Workforce Committee. Three veterans who have also fought in the long hard battle for social, political and economic justice for all Americans.

Finally, to the families of those killed, wounded, missing in action, or former prisoners of war, and particularly, Mr. Leemon Smith, Mr. Talmadge Foster, Past Director of Alabama's Veterans Leadership Program, Gen. Roscoe Robinson, USA, Ret. and Military Historians Col. David Carlisle and Col. John A. Cash, USA, Ret., speaking on behalf of the entire membership of the Congressional Black Caucus I would like to express our sincerest condolences and appreciation for their commitment, indomitable fortitude and dedicated service to country, community and family that characterized their lives.

We owe you all.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DR.
SAMUEL F. PETRAGLIA

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of my dear friend, Dr. Samuel F. Petraglia.

Dr. Petraglia, a decorated World War II veteran, was a family physician for forty-two years and an upstanding citizen of the community. He was the first Italian doctor to establish a practice in Poland, Ohio.

Dr. Petraglia was a very dedicated physician who never refused to treat a patient because they were unable to afford his services. He was also one of the few remaining physicians willing to make house calls to patients who were incapacitated.

Dr. Petraglia served on the staff of St. Elizabeth Health Care Center and the adjunct staff of Northeast Ohio Universities College of Medicine. I send my deepest regrets and sympathy to his wife and to his family. May God bless them.

HONORING KEITH WOODS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Keith Woods. Keith Woods has left the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce where he served with distinction—and flair—for 13 years. During his tenure, Mr. Woods made the Chamber into one of the most active in the state with a broad diversity of programs including classes, a speaker series, connections with the Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the creation of the popular Wednesday Night Market.

Keith's strong leadership in the business community and his well-known sense of humor have earned him a national reputation. He is known for the quick quips and insightful jabs that at various times run the gamut from self-depreciation to stinging sarcasm. He is Santa Rosa's toastmaster as well as the city's master of the roast.

He has also been honored three times by the California Association of Chambers of Commerce, including an award for Executive Director of the Year. Even beyond California's borders, Mr. Woods has had an impact, spreading the word at national chamber events about the importance of community involvement.

With Keith Woods at the helm of the Santa Rosa Chamber, there was always excitement, enthusiasm and new ideas in the business community. Thanks to Keith, it was never simply "business as usual." It is my great pleasure to pay tribute to Keith. I am very proud to be representing him.

TRIBUTE TO PASSAIC VALLEY
REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to the storied history of an important school in my district, Passaic Valley Regional High School in the Township of Little Falls, New Jersey. Saturday, September 16, 2000 marked the 60th anniversary of this fine institution of learning. It is only fitting that this school be honored, for it has a long history of caring and commitment to its students and the community at-large.

Passaic Valley Regional High School was recognized for its many years of leadership in Little Falls, which I have been honored to represent in Congress since 1997, and so it is only appropriate that these words are immortalized in the annals of his greatest of all freely elected bodies.

Passaic Valley Regional High School opened its doors on September 16, 1940, to some 610 students from Totowa, West Paterson and Little Falls, New Jersey. The school is governed by the Passaic Valley Regional High School, District #1 Board of Education which is composed of nine Board members from the three towns.

As a school committed to the development of well-rounded students, Passaic Valley has

added many other programs to augment its strong academic curriculum. These include a wide range of athletic, musical and literary activities, which are designed to stimulate and encourage the individual growth of each student.

It should be noted that the remarkable success of the Passaic Valley Regional High School is due to its community support. The Passaic Valley Regional High School, District #1 Board of Education, school administration, teachers and friends of the school have aided and fostered its growth and development. Thanks to the help of these individuals and the collective of their efforts this school is now a stellar force in the community.

I applaud the many outstanding and invaluable contributions that this school has given to the community. Education is one of the cornerstones of our culture. This wonderful school has added much to the rich history of the State of New Jersey, and we all should be proud that we are able to celebrate a day in its honor.

Mr. Speaker, as a former educator in New Jersey, I can say that I can think of no other school or faculty that works harder or care more about the students. Perhaps the greatest tribute Passaic Valley Regional High School is success of its former students. Alumni from this prestigious high school have risen to prominence in a variety of fields.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the Township of Little Falls, Passaic County, the State of New Jersey, the students, teachers, staff, Principal, Passaic Valley Regional High School, District #1 Board of Education, Superintendent and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community and the 6th anniversary of Passaic Valley Regional High School.

NORTH COAST HEALTH MINISTRY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize North Coast Health Ministry for their exemplary work in helping the uninsured and underinsured access health care services. As a volunteer organization, it fills an important need in my district for thousands of working families.

North Coast Health Ministry operates clinics that are staffed by physicians, nurses and other staff who volunteer their time and services to provide comprehensive health care services. Started in 1986, NCHM has established relationships with health care professionals and three local hospitals to treat referred patients when they need additional care and treatment, including surgery and recovery.

Since its inception, it has linked with other free clinics in the area to establish the Ohio Association of Free Clinics. This expanded network improves access to health care for the working poor throughout the state. Through the determination and initiative of the NCHM, the Ohio Association was recently awarded a \$600,000 grant to continue and expand its services.

I ask my colleagues to rise in recognizing the exemplary efforts of the North Coast Health Ministry and the many volunteers who

have contributed to it. I commend them for their kind works and congratulate them on their grant.

REPUBLICANS GIVE \$200 MILLION
GIFT TO DRUG INDUSTRY**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the Medicare bill before us gives a \$200 million gift to the nation's drug manufacturers—undoubtedly a pay-off for the industry's massive, \$80 million contribution to the Republicans and Governor Bush.

In section 429, as passed by the House, and in the versions of the bill circulating as late as December 12, Medicare was prohibited from either increasing or decreasing the rates of reimbursement for drugs. This section blocked an effort by the Justice Department, the HHS Office of the Inspector General and Medicare to save the taxpayer hundreds of millions of dollars a year in overpayments. CBO scored the blockage as costing about \$200 million. To offset the cost, the original bill, as passed by the House, also blocked drug companies from increasing their charges to Medicare.

Sometime between December 12th and last evening, someone in the Speaker's office or the Senate Majority Leader's office dropped the word "increase"—thus allowing the drug companies and doctors who profiteer from huge mark-ups on drugs to continue to rip-off patients and taxpayers. The bill before us now only blocks the cuts in reimbursement that had been recommended by the Department of Justice.

What a travesty. Senator McCAIN is right: it is way way past time for campaign finance reform.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
DEIDRA HAIR**HON. ROB PORTMAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a distinguished friend, Judge Deidra Hair, who will step down from her service on the Hamilton County Common Pleas Court on December 31, 2000.

In 1995, the Hamilton County Common Pleas Court was founded as Ohio's first drug court. Judge Hair, who helped to establish the drug court, has tirelessly handled about 1,500 cases each year. Her court has become a model across Ohio, and since 1995, ten additional courts in Ohio have been crafted in its likeness.

The goal of the drug court is to rehabilitate substance abusers and keep them out of court and out of prison. Those arrested on drug abuse charges or those who commit a non-violent felony under the influence of drugs may have their case heard by the drug court. Using strict criteria, the court may accept applicants who do not have a violent criminal background and who have committed a low-

level felony that does not require prison time. If accepted, they must plead guilty and enter drug rehabilitation. The goal is to break the cycle of addiction, so the court selects those who are most likely to be helped.

I have been privileged to observe the drug court and to attend an inspiring graduation ceremony for participants who have successfully completed this program. Through that, I've seen firsthand the good work that drug rehabilitation can do.

Judge Hair has literally helped to turn hundreds of lives around in the Cincinnati community, and she will be dearly missed when she steps down from the Hamilton County Common Pleas Court. All of us in the Cincinnati area wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

U.S. SUPREME COURT PREVENTED JUDICIAL INTERVENTION IN THE ELECTION

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court was consistent with common sense and the need to bring finality to a process which, in my judgment, should never have started. By that, I mean the judicial involvement in the election decision.

Before the onset of technology, in the distant past when paper ballots were used in elections, the standards for a valid vote were clear and universally observed. To vote, you placed an "X" in the box by the candidate's name. If you used a check mark or other mark or placed your "X" outside of the box, your vote for that office was invalid and, in the absence of fraud, was not counted.

Voting machines were meant to speed the process of voting and counting the votes cast. But they also have standards. If you do not punch the card in the manner specified, indicating your intended vote, the machine will not count it. If you can't understand the instructions or make a mistake as you vote, you can ask for help or a new ballot. The machine is impartial. It counts all properly cast votes. It does not count those not properly cast, nor should it. Unless there is a challenge to the workings of the machine in counting the vote, or other irregularity or fraud alleged, the count of the voting machine should be the certified or final count in the election.

The judicial challenges in Florida by the Gore campaign were based principally upon the cards that the machine did not count. The Gore contention was not that the machines did not count correctly, but that votes not properly cast by the voter should be counted by hand—somehow by having county election officials divine the voters' intentions. It is fascinating that the standards to do this were never established in two decisions by the Florida Supreme Court. Telling county election officials simply to use their best judgment was clearly unconstitutional, as the U.S. Supreme Court just ruled, since it violates the equal protection clause. It is also plainly an open invitation to manipulation of the results and fraud.

Fortunately, this episode will result in introducing new technologies for voting designed to foreclose any attempt to go outside the ma-

chine result in future elections. Once again, perhaps, technology will save us from ourselves. But let's leave this difficult process with several clear understandings. First, votes have to meet some minimum standard and voters have to take the responsibility for their own actions. More than two hundred years ago our new country placed its future on the judgment of individual people, not dictators or kings. But with rights come responsibilities. One is to meet minimum standard of preparation and execution to cast a valid vote.

Second, we should have learned that the judiciary, in the absence of alleged fraud, should not intervene in the political process. For most of our history this has been an unstated part of the separation of powers. The first decision of the Florida Supreme Court should have upheld the Secretary of State's certification. Unfortunately, their desire to intervene in the absence of alleged fraud necessitated not one but two trips to the U.S. Supreme Court. It is instructive that the court in Washington did not itself intervene but prevented the Florida court from doing so.

Finally, it is a testament to the founders of this great Republic that all of us are sufficiently imbued with the rule of law that we sat patiently through this long process and believed that it would be resolved as fairly as is humanly possible within that rule. We did not take to the streets, take the law into our own hands, or threaten to overthrow our system. It is not perfect, and we are not perfect, but we know it is the best system that humankind has ever devised.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF BARBARA B. ASWAD

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor one of our country's great scholar-educators, Dr. Barbara B. Aswad of Wayne State University. Dr. Aswad is retiring from Wayne State after 30 years as a professor of Middle Eastern Cultural Anthropology. Her research has focused on peasant culture, women and family studies, and urban anthropology.

Professor Aswad has conducted field studies in Arab villages and Turkish towns in the Middle East as well as in Arab-American communities here in the United States. She is a Fulbright Scholar and has published three books and 32 scholarly articles and chapters in books on Middle Eastern social organization. In 1991 she was elected President of the Middle East Studies Association of North America, the professional association for professors of Middle Eastern disciplines. Dr. Aswad was also a recipient of the prestigious Alumni Faculty Service Award for her service to Wayne State.

In addition to her many contributions to academic research and lengthy service in professional organizations, Dr. Aswad must be recognized for her dedication to her students, her department, and the Arab-American Community. She is widely respected by her peers not only as a fine educator, but as a wonderful person as well.

While Wayne State University may be losing a faculty member, ACCESS and other organi-

zations that Dr. Aswad is so dedicated to will still have a strong voice in our community. Please join me in wishing Dr. Barbara Aswad all the best in her retirement from Wayne State University.

AFRICA AND THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with you an outstanding speech by Ambassador Richard T. McCormack titled: The Challenges and Opportunities in Africa. In this speech, Ambassador McCormack's analysis and insight into the the problems and predicaments facing Africa are astute. I am hopeful that Ambassador McCormack's voice on Africa will be heard by both the next Congress and the next Administration.

PRESENTATION TO THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE PRESIDENCY

THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA

Every year my work for American companies, investment firms, and think tanks results in a tremendous amount of global travel. I have learned that there is simply no substitute for seeing local circumstances with your own eyes and talking face-to-face with leaders who are struggling to cope with their problems.

Last May I visited China and met with top Chinese leaders to discuss concerns about WTO issues. In June, I visited Bulgaria and the Czech Republic to consult with elected leaders and central bankers concerning economic opportunities and dilemmas. Earlier that year I discussed with central bankers in Europe problems involving the Euro and potential vulnerabilities in the international derivative markets. And I have continued to monitor Japan's ongoing banking and growth problems with close contacts in Japan.

But our chairman was aware of another extensive trip I took this summer to Africa at the request of friends. He suggested that I share with you tonight some of the observations and conclusions from this consultation with Presidents, central bankers, key officials from the African development bank, leaders at the Organization of African Unity, aspiring political leaders, and hundreds of ordinary citizens.

One of the reasons that I agreed to make this trip was my long standing interest in Africa beginning with my Ph.D. dissertation about Kenya many decades ago. I took this trip not because Africa is strategically important to the United States, but rather because there are hundreds of millions of people often in desperate circumstances in that part of the world. These people need our understanding and assistance if they are not to undergo catastrophe on a scale that has not been seen since the plagues and wars of Europe during the Middle Ages.

Furthermore, I knew that Africa has produced a number of leaders who have the right policy instincts and who care about their people, but who need support in implementing their visions.

So what I am going to do in the next few minutes is offer some snap shots of what I saw and heard on this trip to give you some sense of what is happening in parts of Africa today. Then I plan to list some suggestions that could help deal with some of the regional problems.

BENIN

Benin was the first country on the agenda. It is a small county in West Africa led by a remarkable man, President Kerekou. This veteran African leader had for many years followed a Marxist path, but realized at one point the bankruptcy of this approach and voluntarily left office. Years later, he ran for the Presidency on a very different platform and won overwhelmingly.

Benin, of course, was one of the great slave exporting countries in the 17th and 18th centuries. One Sunday morning during a recent trip to Washington, President Kerekou visited one of the largest predominately black churches. To the astonishment of the people, he begged forgiveness on behalf of his ancestors for having participated in the enslavement of their ancestors. I am told that there was hardly a dry eye in the church when the old gentleman finished his plea.

In Benin, there were two kinds of tribes. Some of the coastal tribes were the predators, and many of the tribes in the interior were the prey. The animosity between these two ethnic groups continues to this day to poison political and social life in Benin and elsewhere in West Africa. For the past several years, President Kerekou has organized reconciliation ceremonies to try to heal these wounds. And he has made considerable progress.

Indeed, so great is his stature as a regional moral leader that one of the other neighboring presidents I visited told me that he would happily lay on the ground and let Kerekou walk on him, so great was his respect for his distinguished neighbor.

IVORY COAST

In the Ivory Coast, I had two meetings with President Guei, whose name has recently been on the front pages of many American newspapers due to controversies surrounding the recent presidential election in the Ivory Coast. Indeed since our conversations, President Guei has fled into exile.

But in my meetings with him, it was obvious that he was an exhausted man with no evident ideas on how to deal with his country's multiple problems. He was surrounded by layers of bodyguards to foil assassination attempts. Within weeks of our visit, another coup attempt resulted in a narrow escape for the President and the death of a number of his guards.

I asked friends how he came to be President and was told a story which was largely confirmed later by the American embassy.

It seems that there were several hundred soldiers from Ivory Coast who had been sent on a peace keeping mission to a neighboring country. They had been promised a bonus for this dangerous assignment. When they completed their work and returned home, they applied to the Defense Ministry for their due bonuses, which

They then were told that the Ministry could not give them the bonuses, ostensibly because they were out of funds. The soldiers were told that they would possibly be paid next year.

The men were furious and took to the streets with their guns, firing into the air. Suddenly crowds of people emerged, cheering on the soldiers and thinking that they were part of the coup to remove the increasingly tyrannical incumbent President. The soldiers then moved to take over the television station and sought a replacement President. They realized that unless they found a new President, they would face the wrath of the incumbent as soon as they returned to their homes and barracks.

They first approached the Minister of Sports, who declined the honor. They then went to the farm of a retired general, Mr.

Guei, and offered him the Presidency. He too declined. The soldiers then threatened to kill many members of the existing government unless General Guei became the President. Then, holding General Guei's wife hostage on the farm, they escorted the General to the television station. At the station, he announced that he would be the new interim President, but said that he would only hold the job long enough to organize new elections.

After a few months, however, members of General Guei's family discovered that they had an amazing talent for business, hitherto unknown. Somehow, contracts materialized along with a host of other benefits. They were reported to have pressed General Guei to stand for a full term in the upcoming elections. Since the General lacked much in the way of charisma or ideas for dealing with the nation's problems, some of the General's advisors and associates crafted an election procedure that disqualified most of the more popular potential opponents on one pretext or another. One relatively weak opponent remained, however.

Shortly after I left the country, riots broke out between the various factions. General Guei lost the election and was forced to flee the country. But it is not clear what will happen next in Ivory Coast. There are great tensions in the country, where there seems to be as many as 60 tribes and language groups, divisions between Christians, Muslims, and Animists. There is also ill will between the native Ivorians and the more recent immigrants who are attracted by the relative prosperity and stability of the country in past decades. No one thinks that politics are yet settled.

NIGERIA

Nigeria was the next stop. From all the reports, the current President of Nigeria is an honest man with the interests of his people at heart. But there are a number of problems.

One of these is a culture of corruption which took root in part of the society and body politic in years past. A substantial percentage of Nigerian oil production is said to be officially unaccounted for. As you travel around chaotic Lagos, you frequently see warnings on buildings and fences against land scams.

The old agricultural base of the economy was neglected when oil became such a critical part of the economy. This contributed to over urbanization and drained the economy in other ways as well. During times of low oil prices, the lack of a more balanced economy is acutely felt. It also contributes to the high unemployment rate.

Airport security has been a persistent problem in recent years, particularly the smaller domestic airport in Lagos. Even my Nigerian hosts were alarmed as we ran the gauntlet of muggers and panhandlers between the parking lot and the actual terminal building. This, of course, also alarms potential foreign investors and tourists.

The new capital, Abuja, shows the signs of efforts of city planners to avoid the chaotic growth of Lagos. And Nigerians take justifiable pride in some of the new federal buildings. The most conspicuous feature of the local press, however, were articles about the struggle between the President and the new parliament over a self appropriation of \$40,000 to each member of Parliament for furnishings for their private residences. The President felt that this was excessive, particularly during a period of budgetary stringency.

Great tensions between Muslim and Christian regions of the country are building again. These tensions have deep historic roots, but have recently worsened due to a

campaign to impose Islamic law in areas of mixed populations with Muslim majorities.

You also hear the frequently expressed wish that the President would reach out to include more people in his inner circle, particularly younger people with recognized technical skills.

ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia was a country that I toured extensively when I wrote my Ph.D. dissertation, but I had not visited this country for several decades. I was interested in seeing what 20 years of communist rule and war had wrought in Haile Selassie's ancient kingdom.

My first visit was to the American embassy to seek a briefing on economic and political conditions in this country. To my dismay, the senior political and economic counselor who had served there for three years was unable to tell me even the rate of inflation. It was an extremely depressing visit. Fortunately, in my hotel, I discovered an old friend, a senior IMF official who was consulting with the Ethiopian government. So I did receive an outstanding economic briefing.

I also met with many of the key leaders in Ethiopia, who had just completed a successful defensive war against Eritrea, their neighbor to the north, and who were struggling to get the economy back on track. Many of these people are honest, but a Marxist education is not always the best preparation for organizing an efficient market economy.

In Addis Ababa, we saw a world class hotel, but which is surrounded on all sides by dire poverty. Large numbers of maimed veterans of past wars, street urchins, the aged, and women with babies beg at every opportunity. It is heart rending to see such scenes, and they are poison for the tourist industry, which could become a massive source of jobs and foreign exchange.

Famine stalks the land in part of Ethiopia, even as one drives by vast well watered and fertile agricultural lands which could produce much higher yields with modern agricultural techniques. Unclear land tenure policies, a reaction to the vast feudal holdings of the Imperial era, prevent ownership and consolidation which are necessary to introduce modern farming on an efficient scale.

KENYA

Many years ago I lived in Nairobi, Kenya. When I revisited this capital city, I found it virtually unrecognizable, swollen like many other African cities by weaknesses in the rural economy and the high birth rates. Drought and electrical shortages have caused famine and blackouts. I also saw the scars from the recent bombings of the American embassy. A large distant fortified replacement facility was rising in an isolated area far from the heart of the city. Yet another bunker-like "Festung Amerika", seeking to foil terrorist bombers, will be the inevitable final result.

I met with a number of able and prominent political leaders who were hoping to rise to power in the elections scheduled within the next two years. There was an awareness of the real cost of corruption to the national economy.

Kenya's agriculture is in crisis. Drought is only part of the problem. Kenyan farmers are compelled to sell their coffee, the country's main foreign exchange earner, to the government marketing board. This board has not yet paid the farmers for last year's crop, creating acute hardships and vast resentment. Such farmers are not in a position to make expensive outlays for fertilizer and other needed materials, guaranteeing a smaller crop next year to a country with a foreign exchange shortage and high unemployment.

One bright spot, though, is the vast game parks of Kenya which are a source of great local pride and considerable tourist revenue. During a visit, we actually observed a group in Masai with spears trying to run down a lion, which no doubt has been stalking their cattle. The drought had brought both the cattle and the Masai into the normally forbidden game park.

SOUTH AFRICA

In South Africa, the legacy of decades of apartheid has contributed to tension which are experienced at every hand. Johannesburg, once a vibrant city, has become an urban fortress with electrified fences and military concertina wire surrounding every affluent home and neighborhood. Private security services are one of the few booming businesses. Hotels are being built near the airport because much of the downtown area is no longer safe for visitors. Rural farmers find themselves sometimes virtually under siege. Perhaps as many as 50% of South Africans are unemployed. More than 20% are HIV positive and doomed unless medical assistance can be provided. Many of these stricken young men and women are deeply angry, contributing to the crime and violence. Educated young people are leaving the country in droves, moving to New Zealand, Australia, and elsewhere, and taking with them skills and talents which are desperately needed in South Africa itself.

Tension has arisen between former President Mandella and his successor. His successor is under great pressure to find jobs for black Africans. There is reluctance to confront the AIDS problem with the urgency that is needed. Land seizures supported by President Mugabe in Zimbabwe are putting growing pressures on South African leaders to follow similar policies. In Zimbabwe, such policies have proven catastrophic both for modern agriculture, the national economy itself, and for social peace. But it is not clear how long South African leaders can resist pressures to begin similar policies. There is great apprehension among the commercial farming communities.

Leaders of the South African government greatly resent unfavorable reports about conditions in South Africa since they desperately want to attract foreign investment to create jobs and support the currency. But the truth of the matter is that potential foreign investors always inquire of local contacts about true local conditions.

There is talk in South Africa, strongly opposed by the government, about breaking up the country into zones where racial and tribal concentrations exist. Unless stability is created, the growing anarchy could eventually lead to just such a result.

If the deterioration in South Africa leads to anarchy, civil war, and economic collapse, all neighboring countries with important commercial relationships with South Africa will also suffer. But the reverse is also true. If the South African economy can be stabilized and revived, growth and talent in South Africa will spread gradually throughout the southern region. So the stakes are very high. It is also important to remember that the earlier constructive action takes place, the easier it will be to achieve results.

Concerning South Africa, there are parts of the political class in other parts of the world which viewed their task as finished, once apartheid has been crushed and Mr. Mandella installed in office with a mission to reconcile the nation. But the truth of the matter is that Mr. Mandella is out of office. Many elites from socialist traditions

The complexities and dilemmas inherent in this situation have caused many people who were involved in the anti-apartheid struggle from Western countries to avert their eyes from the growing unrest in large parts of South Africa. It would be an historic tragedy if the elimination of apartheid only ushered in a new era of economic and political misery, and eventually a new one-party perpetuating misfortune on all citizens, black and white. This would be a collective failure for all of us.

CONGO

Reports on developments in former Zaire, now the Congo, are even more unsettling. These reports estimate that more than two million people have been killed in the war that has been raging throughout the country during the past two years. Here too there is talk about the possible breakup of this vast, potentially rich nation that has deteriorated steadily since 1960. Indeed, 70% of the modern hard surfaced roads built by Belgian colonists in Congo have reverted to bush and jungle and are unusable today.

Some of the world's richest mineral deposits are unworked due to violence, lack of mining machinery, collapsed transportation infrastructure, and poor maintenance of mines and facilities.

Revenues from some of the still working mining operations are being diverted to finance foreign troops defending the regime in Kinshasa against other foreign troops who are penetrating other parts of the country where a spill over from earlier wars had created intolerable conditions for neighboring countries.

Many African leaders have worked hard to bring peace to this wretched country and its 50 million people, but one agreement after another has not been implemented. And the war and killing continue.

WHAT TO DO?

1. It is important to understand that there is no magic wand that can, at a stroke, erase the legacy of decades of misrule, mistakes, injustice, poverty, and violence that have impacted parts of Africa. Many statistics are unreliable, particularly those which quantify bad news. But this knowledge should not paralyze us or prevent us from taking steps that can, in fact, mitigate some of the problems in the region and build a foundation for later growth and development. Furthermore, there are now a number

2. While there are generic problems in sub-Saharan Africa, such as the AIDS crisis and other public health problems of equal concern, each country in sub-Saharan Africa is truly unique in tribal composition, politics, history, traditions, resource base, religion, culture, and all the other factors that contribute to diversity. Without a detailed knowledge of these unique factors, it is difficult for even well-intentioned outsiders to contribute effectively in finding solutions to the problems. In the United States, for example, most parts of Africa lack an informed constituency of sufficient size to serve as a buffer against the mistakes that sometimes occur when policy issues in Washington become a compromise between a junior desk officer at the State Department, and a well-paid, politically connected lobbyist representing the incumbent ruler. Fortunately, America possesses talent and knowledge in depth about most parts of Africa. Some of our experts are in the academic world, some at the World Bank, some are retired diplomats, some sophisticated journalists, and so on. What is needed is an organized con-

sultative process where these experts can be brought together to address the problems of individual African countries. Had such a process existed, it seems doubtful to me that the American government would have thrown its support behind Mr. Kabila, for example, and events in Sierra Leone would have evolved differently. When we make mistakes of this kind, not only do we lose credibility, but we also impose heavier burdens on a region that is already staggering. We owe it to the people of Africa either to send in a varsity team or get off the playing field.

3. Economic development cannot take place where armies are contesting the ground. Prevention and resolution of these conflicts requires a more effective effort. From the American point of view, the first line of defense in preventing conflict is a vigilant, active, well-connected and supported United States Embassy. It also requires in Washington a back-up chain of command which actually reads the reports from the field and is prepared to act on them in a timely manner. This does not mean dispatching the 82nd airborne division every time the fire bell rings. It does mean rapid and effective coordination with allies and regional powers and organizations, not to mention forceful, private representations to potential malefactors. It is a lot easier to stop a conflict before it is unleashed, than to try to halt one, once blood flows and popular passions rise.

In recent years pan Africa and sub regional African organizations have shown themselves willing to fill part of the vacuum left by former colonial powers' increasing reluctance to engage directly in the affairs of their former subject peoples. Greater international support for the peacekeeping operations, including regional and sub-regional organizations therefore is needed. Similarly when America deploys its prestigious, heavy hitters in diplomatic peace making missions, such efforts need to be supported, first of all, by our own government. Undoubtedly, the United Nations can play a large role in the future in this context if adequately led and supported.

4. Conflicting commercial ambitions by companies and individuals in various African countries have sometimes produced foreign diplomatic support for individual leaders or potential leaders who are viewed as friends. ELF Petroleum's objectives and the multiple rival interests in the diamond industry are some of the many examples of this.

Even where such interests are not directly involved, paranoia about the potential of such sponsorship is helping to prevent advanced countries from working together effectively to support development in Africa. Covert support for this or that potential leader is assumed. The recent election in the Ivory Coast was a case in point, where riots were mobilized by one group to protest alleged French attempts to interfere in the election process.

Yet it is absolutely clear that advanced countries could accomplish much more in Africa by working together than by allowing divisions over conflicting commercial agendas to poison cooperation.

There are a number of highly able African leaders who care about the interests of their peoples, but who sometimes do not have the in depth, local talent needed to craft development strategies that could command wide support.

There is an urgent need for such strategies in sub-Saharan Africa. The best of African

talent needs to be engaged with that from cooperating multilateral organizations and individual countries to produce as realistic and comprehensive market based development plan for each country in sub-Saharan Africa.

At its peak, the mineral riches of one province in Congo provided 25% of the GNP of that country. Once peace comes, a high priority should be given to a plan to restore the power and transportation infrastructure to allow these minerals to play their earlier role in the local and global economy.

By the same token, unwise policies, such as the current efforts of President Mugabe to demagogue the issues involved in the commercial farming sector of his country, need to be more strongly discouraged by those in a position to deploy carrots and sticks. Everywhere in Africa there is a need for more intensive commercial farming, which has more than proven its potential in the latter part of the 20th century. The solid results achieved by efficient commercial farmers both in feeding local people and in providing desperately needed jobs and foreign exchange through exports is something that should not be ignored.

5. Delivery of health services is another area where more cost effective distribution systems are needed in some countries. A recent World Bank report suggested that of each \$100 appropriated for medicines by national budgets in Africa, only \$12 worth of such medicines reach patients. The rest of the money is lost through a combination of spoilage, corruption, and other apparent consequences of gross mismanagement.

The cost of commercially available treatment of HIV positive individuals or those with AIDS is about \$15,000/person. This is the approximate cost of educating 100 primary school students for an entire year. Offers by the United States to provide loans to impoverished African countries to allow them to purchase greater quantities of commercially available drugs to prolong the useful lives of the HIV positive will not find many willing takers among governments with unlimited pressing needs and limited resources.

Prevention is obviously the most important first line of defense against this scourge. Senegal does an effective job in this regard, and its HIV positive population is merely 1.8% by comparison with other countries with rates in excess of 20% and growing. Uganda is also now successfully lowering the infected number of their citizens through effective anti-AIDS information campaigns. But the Senegal and Uganda information programs should be put on the road and marketed in all the African countries.

Brazil has successfully begun to attack its own HIV problem with generic drugs produced at a fraction of the \$15,000 commercial rate. It did so by simply expropriating the technology and subsidizing the production and dissemination of the drugs.

Clearly, it is in the interest of all that current market-based incentives for research and development of anti-AIDS drugs should continue and intensify. Companies which are successful should be rewarded for their success. The franchises for distribution of HIV/AIDS medicines in Africa should be purchased by donor governments and multilateral health agencies.

Even if not all the millions now infected can be treated with anti-AIDS medicines due to cost factors and distribution complexities, at least the scarcest talent in the country, educated at vast cost, can be treated and their productive lives greatly extended.

6. Better education programs are clearly part of the answer to Africa's multiple prob-

lems. But today, less than 2% more women are being educated than was the case during the colonial period. Educational costs are unnecessarily high in some places because of unionized work forces that extract high salaries and benefits. In some places, governments cannot afford to field the number of highly paid teachers who are needed to address the requirements of Africa's children.

American children were educated in the 19th century with very simple structures and facilities. This is an area where friends of Africa in the developed world could perhaps usefully contribute more in talent, funds, and advice. Schools are also

7. Leadership. During the Cold War, the United States mounted an extensive effort to identify and support able, young people from many parts of the world. Large numbers were brought to the United States as visitors and hundreds of thousands were educated here. The AIDS scourge is decapitating large numbers of people, including the educated elites in Africa, and a massive effort to replace these vitally needed trained technical and leadership groups is urgently needed. This will have to be a shared task among many countries that are friends of Africa.

CONCLUSION

This presentation is by no means an attempt at a comprehensive look at Africa's current problems. Those interested in digging deeper into the details should begin by reading some of the useful publications that the World Bank has recently sponsored and examine the writings of other experts on Africa.

Rather this speech is an effort to point out some of the things that I saw myself on a recent tour of part of the continent and some of the conclusions that I reached.

It is intended as an appeal to parts of the policy community who normally have responsibilities far beyond this one isolated region. We all need to look again at what is happening in sub-Saharan Africa and reconsider our overall priorities.

There is plenty of evidence that when the broader policy community focuses its attention on a problem of this kind that it can greatly strengthen the local leadership classes that ultimately bear responsibility for implementing solutions.

In years past, non-profit organizations, scholars, journalists, retired diplomats, and politicians, as well as individuals working within governmental and multilateral organizations have made major contributions in Africa. River blindness, for example, has been almost eliminated from many parts of Africa. New strains of crops have turned some famine prone areas into food-exporting regions. Reconciliation efforts far from the eyes of the public have brought old enemies together. But when governments put their shoulders to the wheel with imagination, resources, and leadership, they can accomplish things that are far beyond what individuals can do.

There is both a need and an opportunity for collective international action in Africa today. The recent debt relief effort needs to be supplemented by programs that deal with other aspects of the continent's urgent needs.

Sometimes even a relatively modest effort in an area which is under-served can yield a disproportionately positive impact on the lives of a great many human beings. The opportunities now in Africa are great for this kind of commitment. I hope that some of you will take up the challenge. Leadership, imagination, and resources are urgently needed in this part of the world.

HONORING JAMES B. ORRELL

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize James B. Orrell. James Orrell has provided invaluable support and leadership to Marin County school districts and the Marin County Office of Education for 35 years. During his many years of service he has demonstrated leadership in public education and dedication to students, parents, teachers and community members.

James had worked in the Office of Education as Assistant to the Marin County Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Director of Employer/Employee Relations, Special Education Project Manager, liaison to the Marin County School Boards Association and the Joint Legislative Action Committee, and Administrative Assistant. He has also been a Teacher and Principal at San Quentin and Interim Superintendent of the Reed School District as well as representing Marin for 30 years on the California School Masters Board to promote excellence in education by recognizing outstanding teachers and administrators.

During his long career in public education, Mr. Orrell worked tirelessly to provide high-quality education programs, and services for all students. It is my pleasure to honor James Orrell. I am proud to represent such a dedicated educator.

TRIBUTE TO ANTONIO MEUCCI

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, Alexander Graham Bell is the man most commonly given full credit for the invention of the telephone. The courts awarded him one of the most valuable patents in American history, a patent that made him a millionaire and became the foundation for one of America's largest corporations. Certainly, the telephone has become a tool of modern communications so fundamental that many of today's business and social activities would be inconceivable in its absence. However, Bell's claim that he solely engineered the telephone was hotly disputed by a number of other inventors, one of which I wish to speak of here today. My motive is not to disparage or discredit the legend of Mr. Bell's findings, but rather to tell the story of Antonio Meucci, an Italian immigrant little known for his far-reaching contributions to our society.

Antonio Meucci was born in San Frediano, near Florence, in April 1808. He studied design and mechanical engineering at Florence's Academy of Fine Arts and then worked in the

Teatro della Pergola and various other theaters as a stage technician until 1835. From there he accepted a job as a scenic designer and stage technician at the Teatro Tacon in Havana, Cuba.

Fascinated by technical research of any kind, Meucci read every scientific missive he could acquire. He spent a great deal of his spare time in Havana on research and he soon gained notoriety for his creative and productive mind. His purported inventions included a new method of galvanizing metal, which was applied to military equipment for the Cuban government. He continued his work in the theater, but science had become his indomitable passion.

One day, in his home, Meucci heard an exclamation of a friend, who was in another room of the house, over a piece of copper wire running between them. He realized immediately that he had something that was more important than any discovery he had ever made. With that realization also came the understanding that to succeed as an inventor, he would need an environment that truly fostered his inquisitive mind and vibrant spirit. He would come to America, to explore this new communication possibility.

He left Cuba for New York in 1850, settling in the Clifton section of Staten Island, a few miles from New York City. Though poor finances and limited English plagued Meucci, he worked tirelessly in his endeavor to bring long distance communication to a practical stage.

In 1855, when his wife became partially paralyzed, Meucci set up a telephone system which joined several rooms of his house with his workshop in another building nearby. This was the first such installation anywhere. In 1860, when the instrument had become practical, Meucci organized a demonstration to attract financial backing in which a singer's voice was clearly heard by spectators a considerable distance away. A description of the apparatus was soon published in one of New York's Italian newspapers and the report with a model of the invention were taken to Italy with the goal of arranging production there. Unfortunately, the promises of financial support, which were so forthcoming after the original demonstration, never materialized.

Antonio Meucci refused to let this set back destroy his vision. Though the years that followed brought increasing poverty, he continued to produce new designs and specifications. Unable to raise the sum for a definitive patent, Meucci filed a caveat, or notice of intent, that was a preliminary description of his invention with the U.S. Patent Office. His telegrafo was registered on December 28, 1871 with the requirement that he file for converting it into a patent in 1874. Fate would deal Meucci a cruel blow, however, as he fell victim to a near fatal boat explosion. While he lay in hospital, destitute and ill, Meucci allowed the provisional patent to lapse.

Two years after the expiration of Meucci's caveat, Bell took out a patent for his voice transmitting electrical device, which he called the telephone. It is possible that sometimes several inventors have the same idea at the same time. In this case, however, what has mattered is not who had the idea for the telephone first, but who first turned the idea into a viable commercial enterprise. As we all know, it was Bell who succeeded in that respect.

For too long Antonio Meucci has been only a footnote in our history books. At many local libraries, a search for Meucci in the card catalogue yields nothing. His legacy deserves more. Remember that a federal court in the 1880's found that Meucci's ideas were significant to the invention of the telephone and the Secretary of State at the time issued a public statement that "there exists sufficient proof to give priority to Meucci in the invention of the telephone."

Mr. Speaker, many people from many different nations have contributed to the greatness of America. Antonio Meucci was indeed one such person. He is an example of someone who worked for the benefit of all. It is fitting that his efforts are recognized here today.

IN HONOR OF TOM SHORT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, President Thomas Short of IATSE, the International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employees, ranks as one of the City of Cleveland's favorite sons. Cleveland is proud of his strong, disciplined, patient leadership which has earned him the gratitude of the rank and file of the IATSE, the appreciation of all international labor leaders, and the respect of those who sit across the table from his I/A team.

As a member of the labor committee of the United States Congress and as a member belonging to IATSE Local 660 (when you are in politics it is always good to have another trade) I know first hand the powerful and positive impact Tom Short has had in protecting and advancing the economical, social, and political rights of working men and women. President Short achieves success for his members through making the use of principle, a practical and pragmatic goal.

As a veteran of both labor and politics, I am aware of the challenges which confront my brothers and sisters in the entertainment world. Surely this, the most dynamic of all industries, with so many exceptional individuals blessed with depth of talent and breadth of vision—surely you can call upon the limitless reservation of spiritual and creative energies always available to you, to design an environment of benevolence and co-operation where all are winners in the collective bargaining process.

Over thirty years ago, when I began my career in public service, I worked closely with Tom Short's father, Adrian, who led Cleveland's stage hand union. Adrian Short introduced me back then to his sons, Dale, a labor leader in his own right, and Tom, our honoree.

How very proud your father would be of this well deserved moment of grace, Tom, for you embody every dream he had—in your quest to elevate the dignity of all working people.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO HELP KEEP THE CAPITOL FUNCTIONING II

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, on October 24, I rose to thank all of the people that make this great institution work. I wish I could have mentioned all of our extended support staff by name. Peggy Sampson has been with the Republican staff almost as long as I've been in Congress. She does a fantastic job playing Mother Superior to all our pages, watching over them, helping to educate them, and generally herding them. This has become an infinitely more complex job when Republicans became the House majority, with the right to name so many more pages on our side. But Peggy not only does her job and does it in exemplary fashion, but she also helps the cloakroom staff in so many ways. She has been and is absolutely invaluable and irreplaceable. I also want to mention the garage attendants who are so friendly and helpful to all of us: Tommy, Dennis, Scotty and so many others are always there on the job and make our tour here safer and more enjoyable.

TRIBUTE TO FATHER JAMES E. HOFF

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Father James Hoff, a friend, educator and community leader, who will step down from his service as President of Xavier University on December 31, 2000.

Over the past ten years, Father Hoff has led Xavier to great new heights. In 1992, he began Xavier 2000 which led to the Century Campaign, the most ambitious fundraising campaign in the school's history, raising the endowment from \$24 million to \$89 million. He has also significantly strengthened the university's curriculum, advanced the quality of its faculty and created a more unified, attractive campus.

Perhaps most telling of Father Hoff's work is the success of Xavier's students. In the 1990's, the average high-school grade-point average of its incoming students rose from 2.9 to 3.49 for the current class. And, in 1998, the school ranked first in the nation for student-athlete graduation rates (100 percent).

In 1995, Xavier was recognized for the first time by U.S. News and World Report as one of "America's Best Colleges," placing fifteenth among Midwest schools. In its 2001 ranking, Xavier climbed to seventh among regional institutions in the Midwest. Xavier has also received recognition from Money magazine and the John Templeton Honor Roll.

Although Father Hoff surely deserves much of the credit, he is modest and quick to recognize Xavier's faculty and staff, Board of Trustees, administration and students—all of whom have helped to raise the level of excellence at the school.

He says his greatest accomplishment during his tenure is defining the school's mission: "to

prepare students intellectually, morally and spiritually to take their places in a rapidly changing global society and to work for the betterment of that society." He certainly has done that, and all of us in the Cincinnati area thank him for his vision and goodwill. We look forward to his continued leadership in our area.

RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF PAUL SELDENRIGHT

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a good friend of mine, Michigan State AFL-CIO COPE Director Paul Seldenright upon his retirement. Paul Seldenright has been standing up for working men and women for over 40 years, beginning in 1960 as a steelworker in Trenton. Every day during that 40 years, the working families of Michigan have had a champion in Paul. The political battles Paul has fought in Lansing and in the State of Michigan have had a direct impact on the standard of living for the working people in our State.

Paul's interest in politics led him to the position of chairman of his local PAC in 1962. In 1973, after associating himself with several successful political campaigns in Michigan, he began working for the Michigan AFL-CIO. He is a member of the A. Philip Randolph Institute as well as the Coalition of Labor Union Women and a lifetime member of the NAACP.

I want it to be known that Paul Seldenright has dedicated his life to the betterment of the working men and women of the State of Michigan. While I know Paul's retirement is well-deserved, his passion for politics and his dedication to working families will not let retirement take him from the causes he believes in and has fought for all his life.

Please join me in honoring the career of one of Michigan's working heroes as Paul completes his final days as Michigan State AFL-CIO COPE Director. Paul, we wish you all the best.

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, in the closing days of the 106th Congress, I rise today to add perspective to the issue of the Armenian Genocide. Like many, I was deeply disappointed that the House did not consider H. Res. 596, the Armenian Genocide Resolution.

As my colleagues are well aware, the resolution was not considered because the Republic of Turkey decided to turn a sense of the House Resolution about the extensive U.S. record on the Armenian Genocide into a litmus test of its relationship with the United States. In an effort to stop the resolution, Turkey made repeated threats. In fact, many newspaper articles covering the progress of H. Res. 596 cited Turkey's numerous threats should this body move forward.

These threats were not only directed at the United States, but also at Armenia and Armenians living in Turkey. In Istanbul, Turkey, people threw rocks at the windows of the Armenian Church of Samatia, an Armenian priest was subjected to physical attacks, another priest was arrested for referencing the Armenian Genocide, True Path Party leader Tansu Ciller called for the deportation of 30,000 Armenians, military activities increased along the border, and this shocking list goes on.

I regret that the Republic of Turkey opted to use coercion to make its case. However, it is even more regrettable that the United States succumbed to such tactics. I believe that we must remain vigilant in the face of threats and those who continue to deny the Armenian Genocide.

While the resolution was aborted in Congress, internationally the pace of Genocide affirmation continued. During November alone, despite Turkish threats, the European Parliament, along with France and Italy, all adopted resolutions affirming the Armenian Genocide. In addition, Pope John Paul II recognized the Armenian Genocide. Today I am submitting copies of these documents for the record.

Many experts have called for a dialogue between Turkey and Armenia on this subject. In fact, on October 3rd, the State Department offered to broker a dialogue between these two countries. While Armenia has repeatedly agreed, Turkey has refused. During his address at the Assembly of Turkish-American Associations in Washington, DC last month, Anthony Blinken, U.S. National Security Council European Director, indicated that Turkey had the responsibility to take the first step to start a dialogue with Armenia. Blinken said "as a small, landlocked country suffering from economic problems, Armenia sees Turkey as offering a fist, not a hand."

I agree with Mr. Blinken on this point. From Armenia's perspective, Turkey's ongoing hostile actions and continued violations of international human rights laws and treaties represent a significant security threat. Turkey's defense spending is the highest of any NATO country as a percentage of its Gross National Product (GNP) and over the next 25 years Turkey plans to spend \$150 billion modernizing its armed forces—against whom is unclear. Armenia simply does not have the resources to defend its own borders, especially given Turkey's military superiority and defense spending. Turkey's blockade, refusal to establish normal relations, military superiority, refusal to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide, and complete solidarity with Azerbaijan's demands regarding the Nagorno Karabagh conflict has only served to reinforce Armenia's view and has forced Armenia to rely on third parties to buttress its security capacity. As my colleagues know, Armenians faced genocide at the beginning of the 20th Century and the Armenians of Nagorno Karabagh suffered another attack during the end of the 20th Century. It is incumbent on us to ensure that Armenians and others around the world are not subjected to genocide in the 21st Century.

I would like to point out to my colleagues that since gaining its independence Armenia has consistently reached out and sought to normalize relations with Turkey only to be rebuffed at every step. Last year, when Turkey suffered a devastating earthquake, Armenia was one of the first countries to offer assist-

ance. Armenia, having endured a major earthquake years before, has developed an expertise in earthquake response and recovery. Despite Armenia's offer, Turkey initially rejected assistance. In fact, it was reported that Turkey's Minister of Health, Osman Durmus, rejected offers of blood from Armenia because he didn't want Turkish blood mixed with theirs. More recently, Armenia offered earthquake assistance to Azerbaijan. To date, Azerbaijan has not accepted Armenia's offer. Finally, Armenia's President, Robert Kocharian has proposed the creation of a regional security system that will facilitate long-term peace and regional cooperation. President Kocharian stated, "the creation of such a system will allow the states of the region to cast away the current concerns and to overcome the atmosphere of distrust. It will allow [the settlement of] the current conflicts, to avoid the emergence of new dividing lines, to establish long-term peace, and to think about prospects of development and [a] prosperous future." Turkey did not take President Kocharian up on his offer.

Time and time again, Armenia has shown its willingness to normalize relations with its neighbors. However, Armenia's offers have fallen on deaf ears. In my view, if Congress is unwilling to recognize and affirm the U.S. record in response to the Armenian Genocide, why would Turkey feel any obligation to enter into a dialogue with its weaker neighbor Armenia when it has successfully silenced the United States? It is my hope that we can continue to work on these important human rights issues during the 107th Congress and create an atmosphere in the Caucasus region whereby the security of all countries is not at issue and people can exchange views without the fear of retribution.

ITALIAN RESOLUTION

The Italian Chamber of Deputies has observed that on November 15, 2000 the European Parliament approved by a large majority a proposal deriving from the Periodic Review on the progress made by Turkey towards admission to the European Community, a review completed by the European Commission in 1999. The Turkish government has been encouraged to intensify its efforts towards democratization, especially in the fields of criminal law reform, independence of the judiciary, freedom of expression, and the rights of minorities.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies has also observed that the recent resolution deals with questions concerning the Armenian people in three paragraphs of particular significance: "we urge recognition of the genocide inflicted upon the Armenian minority [within the Ottoman Empire] committed before the creation of the modern Republic of Turkey (paragraph 10); improvement of relations with Turkey's neighbors in the Caucasus, as proposed by the Turkish government itself (paragraph 20;" and, in support of the suggestion put forward in paragraph 21 by the Hon. D. Cohn-Bendit, President of the Bipartisan Parliamentary Commission on UE-Turkish relations, "invites the Turkish government to open negotiations with the Republic of Armenia, restore diplomatic relations and trade between the two countries, placing an end to the blockade currently in place."

The Chamber of Deputies therefore urges the Italian Government, in concordance with the proposals described above, to pursue energetically the easing of all tensions between peoples and minorities in that area, [i.e. the Caucasus], in order to create, with due observance of the territorial integrity of the

two states, pacific coexistence and respect for human rights, thereby expediting a more rapid integration of Turkey within the European Community.

International Affirmation of the Armenian Genocide—Resolutions and Declarations—Vatican City, November 10, 2000, Joint Communiqué of Pope John Paul II and Catholicos Karekin II

His Holiness Pope John Paul II, Bishop of Rome, and His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, give thanks to the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, for enabling them to meet together on the occasion of the Jubilee of the Year 2000 and on the threshold of the 1700th anniversary of the proclamation of Christianity as the state religion of Armenia.

They also give thanks in the Holy Spirit that the fraternal relations between the See of Rome and the See of Etchmiadzin have further developed and deepened in recent years. This progress finds its expression in their present personal meeting and particularly in the gift of a relic of Saint Gregory the Illuminator, the holy missionary who converted the king of Armenia (301 A.D.) and established the line of Catholicos of the Armenian Church. The present meeting builds upon the previous encounters between Pope Paul VI and Catholicos Vasken I (1970) and upon the two meetings between Pope John Paul II and Catholicos Karekin I (1996 and 1999). Pope John Paul II and Catholicos Karekin II now continue to look forward to a possible meeting in Armenia. On the present occasion, they wish to state together the following.

Together we confess our faith in the Triune God and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, who became man for our salvation. We also believe in One, Catholic, Apostolic and Holy Church. The Church, as the Body of Christ, indeed, is one and unique. This is our common faith, based on the teachings of the Apostles and the Fathers of the Church. We acknowledge furthermore that both the Catholic Church and the Armenian Church have true sacraments, above all—by apostolic succession of bishops—the priesthood and the Eucharist. We continue to pray for full and visible communion between us. The liturgical celebration we preside over together, the sign of peace we exchange and the blessing we give together in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, testify that we are brothers in the episcopacy. Together we are jointly responsible for what is our common mission: to teach the apostolic faith and to witness to the love of Christ for all human beings, especially those living in difficult circumstances.

The Catholic Church and the Armenian Church share a long history of mutual respect, considering their various theological, liturgical and canonical traditions as complementary, rather than conflicting. Today, too, we have much to receive from one another. For the Armenian Church, the vast resources of Catholic learning can become a treasure and source of inspiration, through the exchange of scholars and students, through common translations and academic initiatives, through different forms of theological dialogue. Likewise for the Catholic Church, the steadfast, patient faith of a martyred nation like America can become a source of spiritual strength, particularly through common prayer. It is our firm desire to see these many forms of mutual exchanged and rapprochement between us improved and intensified.

As we embark upon the third millennium, we look back on the past and forward to the

future. As to the past, we thank God for the many blessings we have received from his infinite bounty, for the holy witness given by so many saints and martyrs, for the spiritual and cultural heritage bequeathed by our ancestors. Many times, however, both the Catholic Church and the Armenian Church have lived through dark and difficult periods. Christian faith was contested by atheistic and materialistic ideologies; Christian witness was opposed by totalitarian and violent regimes; Christian love was suffocated by individualism and the pursuit of personal interest. Leaders of nations no longer feared God, nor did they feel ashamed before humankind. For both of us, the 20th century was marked by extreme violence. The Armenian genocide, which began the century, was a prologue to horrors that would follow. Two world wars, countless regional conflicts and deliberately organized campaigns of extermination took the lives of millions of faithful. Nevertheless, without diminishing the horror of these events and their consequences, there may be a kind of divine challenge in them, if in response Christians are persuaded to join together in deeper friendship in the cause of Christian truth and love.

We now look to the future with hope and confidence. At this juncture in history, we see new horizons for us Christians and for the world. Both in the East and West, after having experienced the deadly consequences of godless regimes and lifestyles, many people are yearning for the knowledge of truth and the way of salvation. Together, guided by charity and respect for freedom, we seek to answer their desire, so as to bring them to the sources of authentic life and true happiness. We seek the intercession of the Apostles Peter and Paul, Thaddeus and Bartholomew, of Saint Gregory the Illuminator and all Sainly Pastors of the Catholic Church and the Armenian Church, and pray the Lord to guide our communities so that, with one voice, we may give witness to the Lord and proclaim the truth of salvation. We also pray that around the world, wherever members of the Armenian and the Catholic Church live side by side, all ordained ministers, religious and faithful will “help to carry one another’s burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ” (Gal 6:2). May they mutually sustain and assist one another, in full respect of their particular identities and ecclesiastical traditions, avoiding to prevail one over another: “so then, as often as we have the chance, we should do good to everyone, and especially to those who belong to our family in the faith” (Gal 6:10).

Finally, we seek the intercession of the Holy Mother of God for the sake of peace. May the Lord grant wisdom to the leaders of nations, so that justice and peace may prevail throughout the world. In these days in particular, we pray for peace in the Middle East. May all the children of Abraham grow in mutual respect and find appropriate ways for living peacefully together in this sacred part of the world.

9. TURKEY’S PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCESSION
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION ON THE 1999
REGULAR REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION ON
TURKEY’S PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCESSION
(COM(1999) 513-C5-0036/2000-2000/2014(COS))

The European Parliament,

—having regard to Turkey’s application for accession to the European Union,

—having regard to its resolution of 3 December 1998 on the European Strategy for Turkey,

—having regard to the 1999 Regular Report from the Commission on Turkey’s progress

towards accession (COM(1999) 513-C5-0036/2000),

—having regard to its resolution of 2 December 1999 on the implementation of measures to intensify the EC-Turkey customs union,

—having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 764/2000 of 10 April 2000 regarding the implementation of measures to intensify the EC-Turkey Customs Union,

—having regard to its resolution of 6 September 2000 on measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey,

—having regard to its resolution of 7 September 2000 on the Turkish bombardment of northern Iraq,

—having regard to Rule 47(1) of the rules of Procedure,

—having regard to the report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security and Defence Policy (A5-0297/2000),

A. recalling the decision taken on 13 December 1999 by the European Council meeting in Helsinki to grant Turkey the status of candidate country for accession to the European Union and to establish an accession partnership and a single financial framework with a view to helping Turkey’s application to progress in accordance with the Copenhagen Criteria,

B. whereas, following the granting to Turkey of candidate country status, the Union must now, by common agreement with the Turkish Government, devise and implement in an appropriate manner a credible comprehensive strategy with a view to accession,

C. whereas accession negotiations cannot begin until Turkey complies with the Copenhagen criteria,

D. whereas a climate of mutual trust should be created between Turkey and the European Union so that Turkey does not perceive the Union as an “exclusive Christian club” but as a community of shared values which embrace, in particular, tolerance for other religions and cultures, and whereas no formal cultural or religious conditions are attached to accession to the European Union,

E. whereas a clear and detailed programme will be an effective encouragement to accelerate reform in favour of protection of human rights and democracy, and will greatly strengthen the hand of those in the Turkish government, parliament, and civil society institutions who are keen to establish full respect for basic rights in their country,

F. noting the legislative changes carried out along the path towards democratisation since the 1995 constitutional reform and the establishment in the Turkish Grand National Assembly of the Conciliation Committee, which is responsible for reforming the constitution,

G. welcoming the signature by Turkey on 15 August and 8 September 2000 of four important UN conventions, on political, civil, social and cultural rights respectively, which must be ratified as soon as possible so that human rights and democratic pluralism may be guaranteed in that country,

H. emphasising that, despite the progress already achieved along the path towards democratisation, human rights and the situation of minorities must continue to be improved by the implementation of those conventions,

I. whereas, according to Lord Russell-Johnston, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the confirmation by Ankara of the sentence imposed on former Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan is not in conformity with the principles of democratic pluralism,

J. whereas Resolution 1250 of the UN Security Council called on the Turkish and Greek Cypriot communities to begin negotiations in the autumn of 1999, and whereas no progress in that direction has been recorded, despite the encouraging contacts made under the aegis of the UN Secretary-General in December 1999 and in January 2000; regretting, on the contrary, the violation of the military status quo by Turkish occupation forces in the village of Strovilia since 1 July 2000,

K. whereas the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in "Loizidou v. Turkey" (No 15318/89), handed down on 28 July 1998 and ruling in favour of the plaintiff, has still not been implemented,

L. whereas the election to the Presidency of the Republic of Mr. Sezer, who has demonstrated his commitment to the rule of law, will make it easier for the necessary reforms to be successfully completed,

M. noting Turkey's place in the economy of Europe—it had a GDP of USD 185 billion in 1999—and the links already established between Turkey and the European Union, with

N. whereas, in December 1999, the package of economic reforms demanded by the IMF with a view to introducing budgetary austerity and to curbing galloping inflation was approved by the Turkish Parliament,

O. encouraging the Turkish Government, on the one hand, to commit itself to carrying out structural reforms which, ranging from dismantling state subsidies to reorganizing pensions and accelerating privatisation, must therefore strengthen the bases of a free market economy accessible to all and, on the other, to continue its efforts to adopt Community legislation,

P. recognizing Turkey's important geostrategic position, having regard to its role within the Atlantic Alliance and its status of WEU associate member, but noting that geopolitical and strategic considerations must not be the decisive factors in negotiations about accession,

Q. welcoming the fact that Turkey has signalled its intention to commit military capabilities under the common European security and defense policy,

R. regretting and unequivocally condemning the recent incursion by the Turkish Air Force into Iraqi airspace when Kendakor was bombed on 15 August 2000,

S. endorsing the view set out in the Commission report that Turkey has undertaken a significant process of self-evaluation as regards the level of harmonisation of its legislation with the *acquis communautaire* and that it is the only candidate country to have joined the Customs Union,

T. welcoming the decision taken in this spirit on 5 July 2000 by the Turkish Parliament to include in the eighth five-year development plan the principles governing transposition of the *acquis communautaire* and to establish a Secretariat for the European Union responsible for coordinating the work required for such transposition,

U. emphasizing, however, that a sustained effort is still needed to push through the current reform of the Turkish Civil Code, with particular regard to parental and women's rights,

V. expressing its concern about the bill seeking to make it possible to dismiss civil servants on ideological or religious grounds,

I. Welcomes the resumption of institutional activities and political dialogue in the

Association Council, which met on 11 April after being suspended for three years, and welcomes in particular the recent implementation of the Association Council's conclusions with the initiation of an analytical review of the *acquis communautaire* through the establishment of eight subcommittees entrusted with the task of setting priorities for incorporation of the *acquis*; notes with satisfaction that the first meetings of three of those subcommittees have been successful and trusts that the remaining subcommittees' meetings will be held by the end of this year;

2. Encourages the Turkish Government to step up its efforts to achieve democratisation, with particular regard to reform of the Penal Code, independence of the judiciary, freedom of expression, the rights of minorities and the separation of powers, and especially the impact of the role of the army on Turkish political life;

3. Calls on the Turkish Government and Parliament to ratify and implement the UN conventions on political, civil, social and cultural rights which it signed recently;

4. Encourages in this respect the Turkish Parliament and Government to incorporate in the government programme the report drawn up by the Secretariat of the Turkish Supreme Coordination Council for Human Rights; welcomes the Turkish Council of Ministers' adoption of this report on 21 September 2000 as a "reference and working document"; and calls for the section on cultural rights to be reinserted into the report, with specific measures to protect the rights of minorities being added thereto;

5. Looks forward to the early abolition of the State Security Courts and welcomes the adoption of the law suspending the prosecution of, and penalties imposed on, press and broadcasting offences;

6. Calls, initially, for an amnesty with a view to achieving a reform of the Penal Code in the medium term so that it complies with the universal principle of freedom of expression;

7. Views the recent decision by the Constitutional Court on the law offering a reprieve to those who have committed press offences as a step that reinforces the rule of law; encourages the competent authorities to take this opportunity to continue their reforms in this direction, knowing that this process will logically lead them to a fundamental reconsideration of Article 312 of the Penal Code;

8. Calls, after the many promises made to this effect, for the death penalty to be abolished as soon as possible as part of the reform of the Penal Code and, pending such abolition, for the current moratorium on executions to be maintained;

9. Recalls the importance it attaches to recognition of the basic rights of the cultural, linguistic and religious groups in Turkey, who make up the country's multi-faceted population;

10. Calls, therefore, on the Turkish Government and the Turkish Grand National Assembly to give fresh support to the Armenian minority, as an important part of Turkish society, in particular by public recognition of the genocide which that minority suffered before the establishment of the modern state of Turkey;

11. Notes the decisions taken on 30 November 1999 to lift the state of emergency in the

Province of Siirt and on 26 June 2000 in the Province of Van, and calls on the Turkish Government to lift the state of emergency in the other provinces of the south-eastern region as well; calls for a specific solution to be found for the Kurdish people, encompassing the requisite political, economic and social responses;

12. Urges the Turkish Government genuinely to redirect its policy with a view to improving the human rights situation of all its citizens, including those belonging to groups whose roots go back deep into the country's past, by putting an end to the political, social and

13. Demands the release of Leyla Zana, winner of the European Parliament Sakharov Prize, and of the former MPs of Kurdish origin imprisoned because of the views they hold;

14. Welcomes the Turkish Government's adoption in September 2000 of an action plan which aims to restore economic balance with a view to resolving regional disparities by committing appropriate resources, and to promote the reopening of hamlets and the reconstruction of villages so that their inhabitants may return to them, together with other measures aimed at boosting investment in the south-east;

15. Welcomes the decisions taken by the Helsinki European Council to set up a single financial framework, based on an appropriate level of resources, and an accession partnership; calls on the Council and Commission to implement those two decisions as soon as possible and to reassess the amount of the European Union's financial assistance to Turkey, which should meet the needs of the pre-accession strategy on the basis of previous European Council conclusions with particular reference to the issue of human rights as well as the issues referred to in paragraphs 4 and 9(a) of the Helsinki conclusions;

16. Calls on the European Council, in accordance with the provisions of the European Union's political dialogue with the associated countries, to take note of the Turkish Government's request to be involved in one way or another in the process of developing the common foreign and security policy and welcomes Turkey's determination to contribute to improving European capabilities within the framework of the common European security and defence policy; considers that any such contribution has to be preceded by a clearly stated policy of respect for the territorial integrity of Member States;

17. Welcomes the start of negotiations on confidence-building measures agreed on 31 October 2000 by the foreign ministers of both Turkey and Greece;

18. Calls on the Turkish Government, in accordance with Resolution 1250 of the UN Security Council, to contribute towards the creation, without preconditions, of a climate conducive to negotiations between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities, with a view to reaching a negotiated, comprehensive, just and lasting settlement which complies with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the recommendations of the UN General Assembly, as reaffirmed by the European Council; hopes that this will be possible during the fifth round of proximity

talks which will begin on 10 November 2000 and that those talks will result in bilateral negotiations, under the aegis of the UN, which will enable substantial progress to be made;

19. Calls on the Turkish Government to withdraw its occupation forces from northern Cyprus;

20. Calls on the Turkish Government, as it has proposed, to improve its relations with all its neighbours in the Caucasus within the framework of a Stability Pact for the region;

21. Calls in this connection on the Turkish Government to launch a dialogue with Armenia aimed in particular at re-establishing normal diplomatic and trade relations between the two countries and lifting the current blockade;

22. Calls on the Turkish Government, in cooperation with the Commission, to pursue its efforts with a view to enhancing the implementation of the pre-accession strategy as regards the incorporation of the *acquis communautaire*, notably by improving the situation in fields such as the single market, agriculture, transport, the environment and administrative organisation;

23. Welcomes the Turkish Government's recent statement that the reform process, which covers the amendments to the Turkish Penal and Civil Codes, including parental and women's rights, would be stepped up during the coming year;

24. Calls on the Turkish Government to comply with previous and future decisions of the European Court of Human Rights and to consider the proposals made by the Council of Europe with regard to the training of judges and police officers;

25. Reminds Turkey also of the commitments it has given within the Council of Europe and calls on it to transpose Council of Europe instruments in particular so as to permit more effective monitoring of the application of political measures that are part of the accession partnership;

26. Takes the view that Turkey does not currently meet all the Copenhagen political criteria and reiterates its proposal for the setting up of discussion forums, consisting of eminent politicians from the European Union and Turkey as well as representatives of civil society, in order to promote political

dialogue and help Turkey progress along the path towards accession; welcomes the initiative taken by the former President of Turkey, Mr. Demirel, to establish a Europe-Turkey Foundation, which might also be involved in those forums;

27. Calls on the Commission to devise and implement additional programmes in the field of education, given the exceptionally high proportion of the population (50%) under 25, in order to help foster understanding of the basic principles of the shared values of Europe;

28. Calls on the Council and the Commission to find ways to improve the effectiveness of MEDA Programmes for democracy in Turkey with a view to strengthening civil society there, consolidating the democratic system and supporting free and independent media in that country;

29. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and to the Turkish Government and Grand National Assembly.