

National Education Association, Council of the Great City Schools, American School Counselors Association, National School Boards Association, National Middle School Association, and American Federation of Teachers in Supporting efforts to "Meet the crisis of violence head-on, while simultaneously addressing the academic needs of students, giving them the tools to become whole, productive human beings; responsible, humane, ethical, participating members of our democracy and our society;" and

Whereas, NCSL applauds the goals of Operation Respect and its efforts to work with state legislatures to ensure the health and well-being of the next generation of children: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That, NCSL forwards Operation Respect's proposals for state legislative action for review and consideration where appropriate by the 50 state legislatures, territories and commonwealths of the United States.

HONORING GARO MARDIROSSIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Garo Mardirossian for being selected as Los Angeles' Trial Lawyer of the Year 2000. Mardirossian was selected for the honor by the board of governors of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles.

Mardirossian is originally from Aleppo, Syria. Due to that government's intolerance of Christian-Armenians, his family moved to Lebanon and lived in Beirut for two years. At the age of eleven, Garo and his family decided to relocate to Cleveland, Ohio. From Cleveland they moved to La Mirada and finally settled in Los Angeles, California.

Mardirossian earned his Bachelor's degree in Economics from UCLA and earned his law degree from Whittier Law School in 1981. Later that same year, he founded the Law Offices of Garo Mardirossian. His firm started out by handling small personal injury and auto injury cases. Garo has established himself and his firm as defenders of the U.S. Constitution. He often speaks at attorney association's conventions, bar association meetings, and at law schools.

Garo's trial achievements include:

Palmer v. Schindler Elevator Company—in which Garo won a \$5.75 million verdict for his client who suffered post-concussion syndrome and a broken arm and leg when a belt in an elevator disintegrated.

Saakyan v. Modern Auto—an eight year case of defective tires where the jury returned a verdict of \$21 million.

Hakiman v. Gabbai—in which a jury returned a verdict of \$6.65 million for a man badly burned due to an apartment complex full of malfunctioning stoves.

Since 1986, Garo has been married to his wife Kathy, who is also a lawyer in his firm. They have three children: Ani, Nora & Kevin.

Mr. Speaker, I want to honor Garo Mardirossian for being selected as Los Angeles' Trial Lawyer of the Year 2000. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Mardirossian and his family many more years of continued success.

THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF AN INDEPENDENT UKRAINE

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues to the Flag Raising celebration of the 10th Anniversary of Independent Ukraine, that was held at 12:30 p.m. in Rockland County, New York, on August 26, 2001, at the County Offices Complex, in New City.

This event was sponsored by the Ukrainian Community of Rockland, under the leadership of Ukrainian American Veterans of Rockland, with their former National Commander, Dr. Vasyl Luchkiw, serving as the Event Chairman. I commend the Rockland County Executive, the Honorable Scott Vanderhoef, the Chairman of the County Legislature, the Honorable Ilan Schoenberger, and our County Legislators for providing a place to hold the celebrations. I also would like to extend a special thanks to the Honorable Theodore Dusanenko for his help throughout the years, and a heartfelt thanks to all of the participants for making this celebration possible.

I join the members of the Ukrainian Community in celebrating this significant anniversary. It is a miracle that, without bloodshed, the Soviet Empire, which held the Ukraine in its thrall, has melted away.

The anniversary program included thoughtful remarks by Commander Luchkiw, which I ask to be printed at this point in the RECORD for the information of my colleagues:

ON THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY . . .

(By Dr. Vasyl Luchkiw)

UKRAINE MADE IT!!! Ukrainian people made it! Contrary to all predictions and against all odds, Ukraine not only survived the past ten years, but actually made significant progress on its way to become a western democratic state. Even economy has been edging upward and there is hope for Ukrainian people who have suffered politically, economically, culturally and even spiritually for so many years. But there remains a lot to be done and Ukraine probably will not be able to do it alone. It needs help. It needs help in the broadest meaning of the word. Yes, it even needs help with fighting corruption. The 75 years of corrupt Soviet government and society left its indelible mark on Ukraine and it does not know how to get rid of it.

Western world must remember, that Ukraine greeted restoration of its independence with empty hands and empty coffers. Since that fateful day in August 1991, Ukraine had to improvise every step of the way. Its people had to suffer the brunt of economic shortfalls. The struggle is not over yet and west better not wait too long with its help.

There has been talk about a type of "Marshal Plan" for Ukraine. Whatever it is, it better come soon. Procrastination with help for Ukraine may turn into disaster for western Europe, if not the entire democratic world. Ukraine's neighbor to the north is waiting "ready and willing." It is aching for a chance to "show" people of Ukraine that it is he that truly cares about Ukraine and that is he to whom Ukraine should turn for support and guidance. Need we say more?

This 10th anniversary is an appropriate time for the Western world, and particularly for the United States, through its congress

and administration, to demonstrate strong support for Ukraine and its people (despite legitimate concerns on such as freedom of the press, rule of law, piracy and copyright, continuation of political and economic reforms, etc.), particularly now that Ukraine appears to be drawn more and more toward Russia.

The 10th anniversary is not the time to turn Ukraine and its people away from the West. Rather, this is time for the United States to do as is suggested in the House Resolution 222: "continue to assist in building a truly independent Ukraine through encouraging and supporting democratic and market-economy transformation in Ukraine, keeping the doors of Europe and trans-Atlantic institution open to this nation."

SPEECH BY PROF. BASILIO CATANIA

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2001

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, recently, I took to the floor to tell our colleagues about Antonio Meucci, who is one of history's forgotten inventors. I would like to take this opportunity now to insert into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD excerpts of a lecture of Prof. Basilio Catania that he gave in October 2000 at New York University. I believe you will find it very informative and illuminating. I commend it to all our colleagues.

ANTONIO MEUCCI, INVENTOR OF THE TELEPHONE: UNEARTHING THE LEGAL AND SCIENTIFIC PROOFS

For 12 years I have researched the life and inventions of Antonio Meucci. My research was largely based on original documents, found in archives located in Italy, Cuba and the United States. Here I will briefly touch on topics connected with Meucci's priority in the invention of the telephone, namely, the Bell v. Globe trial, the United States v. Bell trial, and the scientific proofs of Meucci's priority.

Regarding the Bell v. Globe trial, it is known that Judge Wallace's decision, issued in New York on 19 July 1887, ruled in favor of the Bell Company against the Globe Telephone Company and Meucci. The report of this trial is at 31 F. 729 (Cir. Ct., S.D.N.Y., 1887). In particular, the Deposition of Antonio Meucci is also available in many public libraries, such as the New York Public Library and the Library of Congress.

However, it must be remarked that, while the Bell Company had sued the Globe Company and Meucci for patent infringement, it is largely unknown that the U.S. Government sued the Bell Company and Graham Bell for fraud, collusion and deception in obtaining the telephone patent(s). See 32 F. 591 (Cir. Ct., D. Mass., 1887). The U.S. Government set out to prove that Meucci—not Bell—had discovered the electromagnetic telephone and that the German Philipp Reiss had discovered the variable resistance transmitter, later called the "microphone." In other words, whereas in New York the Bell Company claimed that Bell, not Meucci, was the inventor of the telephone, in Washington the Government claimed the opposite. Here is a brief chronology of what had happened in Washington, before the commencement of the Bell action against Meucci.

As early as 31 August 1885, the U.S. Solicitor General consented to petitions from several parties and authorized the U.S. Attorney for Western Tennessee to institute a suit