

closed much longer than had been originally expected, thanks to everyone's efforts, Congress itself was able to remain active and not fulfill the terrorists' goals.

I want to thank everyone who assisted in allowing my staff to conduct business from the GAO offices while our own offices in the Longworth building were closed. Because of their generosity and flexibility, the criminals behind the spread of anthrax failed in their attempt to disrupt democracy and bring the American government to a halt. In this way, they played an important role in the ongoing war on terrorism. I greatly appreciate their willingness to accept some inconveniences in order to achieve a greater goal—to keep America working.

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MY AMERICA

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 8, 2001*

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, we are fortunate to have talented people all across this Country who are able to take the patriotism and appreciation each of us feel for America, our freedoms and liberty and translate them into word and song. Among those talented folk is Gary Davis, who I have had the pleasure of knowing for many years, and whose singing and songwriting career I have had the pleasure of following.

I proudly commend the lyrics of Gary's song, "My America," to my colleagues as a wonderful expression of what makes our Country so great.

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MY AMERICA

"She's always there to lend a hand  
Where evil forces breed  
An' she's the last to turn away  
A friend in time of need  
Her shoulders bear the burden  
Of the helpless and the weak  
That's why I love My America  
"Her flag is first in battle  
For the cause of liberty  
Her children die on distant shores  
So others' may live free  
She's suffered more for freedom  
Still, she turns the other cheek  
And, that's why I love My America  
"Her spirit never waivers  
And, her heroes never cease  
Her awesome wrath is tethered  
By her greater love for peace  
Her arms embrace the weary,  
The hopeless, and the meek  
And, that's why I love My America  
(That's why I love My America)  
"With her enduring courage  
And, God's almighty hand  
She'd storm the fiery gates of hell  
And boldly, take command  
Her victory bells would tell the world  
'United, We Will Stand'  
And, that's why I love My America."  
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INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR  
IRELAND

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 8, 2001*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the gentledady's motion.

Last year Mrs. LOWEY and I, working with Chairman CALLAHAN, Mr. WALSH and Speaker HASTERT were successful in obtaining an appropriation of \$25 million for the International Fund for Ireland. Funding for this project has never been as integral to the viability of a lasting peace in Northern Ireland, as it is right now.

Since the creation of the Northern Ireland Assembly, the practice of crisis politics has been the norm, more often than the exception. In recent days, however, the Nationalists and the Unionists have finally arrived at a point that will allow them to move forward.

I commend the IRA for their historic announcement of disarmament.

I would also like to express my support for the election of Mark Durkan as Deputy First Minister, and the reelection of David Trimble as First Minister.

After several difficult days, I am pleased to see that the parties have resolved the latest impasse and returned to the bargaining table.

Despite the tremendous strides that have been made by both sides in Northern Ireland, it is difficult to celebrate these achievements while people are still being murdered in the streets of Belfast. When Ulster political leaders disagree, they debate, vote, and sometimes walk away from the bargaining table. When Unionists and Nationalists on the ground disagree, people die.

The International Fund for Ireland promotes contact, cooperation and reconciliation between Unionists and Nationalists in Northern Ireland.

By working together on issues of mutual concern such as building a strong economy, and maintaining safe neighborhoods, the fund helps secure peace where it must begin. Through person to person contact.

IFI is a crucial instrument in ending the cycle of hate and violence that has consumed Northern Ireland for far too long. Therefore, it is essential that the Committee continue to fund IFI in the amount of \$25 million, and support the stronger language passed in the House version of this bill. The future of the children of Northern Ireland hangs in the balance. We cannot let them down.

I urge my colleagues to support this motion.

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TRIBUTE TO DAVID R. HOLMES

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 8, 2001*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor David R. Holmes, an outstanding civic leader in Dayton, Ohio, within my district. David's vision, energy, and commitment have been a driving force for development in Dayton during the last decade, especially in the downtown area.

David was a founder and co-chairman of the Downtown Dayton Partnership. This nonprofit

organization was established in 1991 to expand business in downtown Dayton and to make the city center a more pleasant place to live, work, and shop. The Partnership has also supported expanding cultural and entertainment opportunities in downtown.

David also served as chairman of the RiverScape Development Team and helped raise \$28 million to revitalize the downtown river front area. The result is a beautiful scenic and recreational area along the Great Miami River that offers a variety of activities, programming, and sites, including a fountain that shoots streams of water 200 feet in the air as a backdrop for laser shows.

Under his direction, Reynolds and Reynolds spent millions of dollars restoring historic buildings in downtown Dayton near the company headquarters.

Several years ago, David asked to meet with me to generate support for the RiverScape project. I was deeply impressed with his plans and I immediately agreed to help. Looking back now, it is easy to forget that in those days it took a lot of courage to put so much energy into downtown Dayton development when so many people thought it was a lost cause.

David's other civic contributions include chairing Dayton's 1992 United Way campaign, one of the most successful United Way drives in Dayton history. He served on numerous boards of directors of local charitable and educational organizations.

David is currently chairman of the board for The Reynolds and Reynolds Company. He served as president and chief executive officer from 1989 until May 1999. At the same time he donated his time to Dayton, he was an outstanding businessman, leading Reynolds and Reynolds through explosive growth.

Tomorrow, on November 9, 2001, the Downtown Dayton Partnership will honor David during a ceremony at Dayton's RiverScape. I offer him my congratulations and thanks for the work he has done on behalf of our community. However, the real monument to his achievement is not our words, but the landscape of Dayton that will be forever changed because of his efforts.

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VETERANS DAY

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 8, 2001*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, Abraham Lincoln once said "let us have faith that right makes might; and in that faith let us to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it." President Lincoln was no stranger to the price of liberty. The largest war on American soil was fought before his eyes.

During this time when Americans are again answering the call to protect our beloved nation, it is imperative the House appropriately recognize and thank those who so valiantly and selflessly served this great nation.

The comforts and prosperity enjoyed today have been dearly purchased with American blood. Freedom, justice, and liberty are more than mere slogans. They are principles that have drawn the ire of America's enemies beginning with King George and the British Army.