

So for me it has been, I guess, sort of a continuing of the spirit that we knew in Texas. Mickey Leland would not have wanted this day to pass without his words being offered: Thank you, friend. Thank you, friend.

And so as a student of yours, though my efforts may not have been as they should have been, let me recommit myself, and when I say that, I suggest that all of us are filled with the responsibilities of this body, but let me recommit myself to the teacher's teachings and that we will fight against hunger. We wish you well and we know that you, in your role in Rome, will fight hunger around the world. We thank you. A heavenly and sincere farewell to you and your wife. We thank you for all of your service.

TRIBUTE TO HON. TONY HALL

(Mr. McNULTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, TONY HALL has been a friend of mine for 14 years. When you have seen firsthand the enormity of the hunger problem on the face of this earth, you can understand the commitment of TONY HALL. My first appointment by a Speaker of this body was to the Select Committee on Hunger. And 3 months after that appointment, I was in Sudan with Mickey Leland, with GARY ACKERMAN, with my late friend Bill Emerson. And in that country the year before, 1988, 280,000 people starved to death, in that one country. I often use these numbers to illustrate sometimes that we do not have our priorities straight.

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If a few thousand people die in Europe, we get involved in the conflict, as well we should. In the homeland of my ancestors, in Ireland, over the past 30 years in what we call "The Troubles," between 3,000 and 4,000 people have died, and I think that is a lot of people; and I am glad we are getting involved in trying to bring peace in that conflict. But in that one year, in one country on the continent of Africa, 280,000 people starved to death, and somehow we do not as a Nation have the same commitment to doing something about that.

In that one nation over the period of the last 20 years, more than 2 million people have starved to death on what I call the forgotten continent.

I can tell you, if any one person in this body has worked consistently to make sure that is not the forgotten continent, and that men, women, and children do not starve to death on this Earth of such great bounty, it is TONY HALL.

I can remember when I was in one of those camps down in southern Sudan, it was either Mugud or Wau, and I looked out and I could see huge numbers of people, as far as the eye could see, without really knowing where

their next meal was coming from. It was very moving to me.

I remember turning to TONY's friend, Mickey, who was chairman of the select committee at the time, and saying to him, "Mickey, how are we going to solve all of this?" And he quoted the Talmud. He was giving me a lesson. He said, "Mike, if you save one life, you save the world." That was his message to me, that each one of us has to do our own small part in trying to correct horrendous situations like that.

No, none of us can solve all of the problems of the world, but if each of us helped in our own small way with whatever talents or resources we have, we could solve these problems. That is something that that teacher has demonstrated to me, and I thank him for it.

I know there are many others who want to speak, Mr. Speaker; so I will abbreviate my remarks. I will just conclude by saying that TONY HALL is one of the people who lives the prayer of St. Francis and especially understands and demonstrates that it is in giving that we receive. He understands the fundamental principle, that life is to give, not to take.

I salute you, my friend; and thank you for your commitment to the men, women, and children of this world.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE TONY HALL, A TRUE SERVANT-LEADER IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY AND HUNGER

(Mr. RAMSTAD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the greatest humanitarians to ever serve in the United States Congress. Congressman TONY HALL has inspired not only the Members of this body, but people throughout the entire world, with his untiring and selfless dedication to helping people in need.

Congressman TONY HALL is a true servant-leader. The minute you meet TONY and talk to him about what drives him, you can easily understand why he has been nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize, in 1998, 1999 and 2001. Tony Hall's pioneering leadership for hunger relief programs and international human rights is legendary.

After 24 years as a Member of Congress and all TONY HALL has accomplished around the world, it is easy to understand why President Bush has nominated him for the rank of ambassador as the United States representative to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture, the organizations that deal with international hunger relief.

TONY has served the people of his district in Ohio and the people of this great country with great distinction for 24 years, and we are all going to miss TONY as he leaves the House for

his new position. But TONY will remain uppermost in our hearts and minds as he continues the important work which has defined his legacy here in Congress.

TONY HALL has left his mark, Mr. Speaker, in so many ways. I have worked closely with TONY on many legislative initiatives, including hunger, housing, and welfare issues. It has been a real privilege to serve with TONY as a member of the Congressional Hunger Center, of which TONY HALL is the founder and chairman.

But, Mr. Speaker, I am even more privileged to have come to know TONY and his wonderful wife, Janet, on a personal level and to witness firsthand their important ministry to people in need.

Although examples are endless, one example leaps to mind. TONY and I have shared many fond memories of the 20th anniversary dinner of our Greater Lake Country Food Bank in Minneapolis, which I helped found. My good friend, our good friend, Hy Rosen, who is the director of this important food bank in Minnesota, asked me to find a keynote speaker for the 20th anniversary celebration in April of 2000. Of course, I thought immediately of my friend TONY HALL.

I will never forget TONY's stirring, inspiring message to the overflow crowd of volunteers, staff, and community leaders that night at the Greater Lake Country Food Bank. TONY's message inspired all of us to work even harder to help fight hunger, inspired all of us to move to greater heights in the war against hunger, inspired all of us to greater accomplishments on behalf of people in need.

TONY HALL has that effect on people. TONY can motivate like few others because of the way TONY HALL speaks right from the heart. TONY HALL walks the walk.

Mr. Speaker, TONY HALL calls it his "personal passion" to fight hunger and improve conditions for the neediest people, both here at home and abroad.

TONY and I have been active with an organization in Washington called the People's House. I keep a card in my wallet which talks about the People's House as a place where any person in our Nation's Capital can call and talk to a friend, anytime, night or day. The friends who made this possible know that TONY is a true friend to so many people, a person who every day sees his calling as helping the less fortunate and bringing the light of the Lord into all areas of this life.

Those of us who know TONY are very pleased to see him continuing the important work he began here in Congress 24 years ago in his new position as ambassador to the U.N. organizations that deal with international hunger relief. I might add, this is a great appointment by President Bush. He could not have chosen a more qualified, a more compassionate or a better individual to serve in this important position.

I am truly privileged by TONY's friendship the past 12 years; and I wish,