

years. We have spent many late nights serving on the Rules Committee together.

TONY has been offered the opportunity to represent the United States as a leading advocate to promote global food security and reduce hunger throughout the world. He will serve as the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture based in Rome. His efforts on behalf of the hungry will be greatly missed in the House of Representatives—his work remains a beacon for other members to follow.

Alleviating hunger and improving conditions for the neediest people, both here at home and abroad, has been his personal passion throughout all the years I have worked with him. His new position will enable him to focus on this mission with the full support and authority of the entire United States government.

Representative HALL embodied all the best traditions of this institution. He is known for a commitment to the best interests of his district and the nation as a whole.

With his work and passion he has shown during his years in Congress, he has made this world a better place, and I am very confident he will continue to do so in this new position.

Among his many legislative accomplishments, TONY wrote the bill enacted in 1992 that created the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. He recently wrote legislation to stop importing “conflict diamonds” that are mined in war-torn Africa and which fund Al-Qaeda’s international terrorism, and he also spearheaded international efforts to draw consumers’ attention to the importance to this “blood trade.”

In his new position, TONY HALL will assist international hunger relief. He will help to draw attention to international food, hunger, and agriculture issues before they reach the crisis stage and to promote innovative hunger-related practices by private groups and governments. This position will give him the opportunity to continue to be a leading advocate for ending hunger and promoting food security around the world.

Best Wishes, TONY. And thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO
CONGRESSMAN TONY HALL

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2002

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my colleague, and friend, Congressman TONY HALL, as he becomes the United States Ambassador to the United Nations food and agriculture agencies in Rome, Italy.

First elected to the House of Representatives in 1978, TONY has served the good people of Montgomery County, Ohio with distinction and honor. He has been a driving force and advocate for issues like ending world hunger, promoting food security, stopping the importation of “conflict diamonds” in Africa, and an infinite number of legislative accomplishments here in Congress.

He has embraced his role as Congressman in an honorable fashion, and with his experiences as a public servant, I have no doubt that he will step into his new position with the

same grace and fervor that he has demonstrated over the past three decades. Based on his experiences with our own government, there is no better person to lead the fight for human rights.

We will miss his strength and wisdom, but his experiences and passion for the oppressed make him the ideal person to lead the Food and Agriculture arm of the UN. It is hard to see him go, but it would be selfish for us not to let this fine leader use his strengths to help overcome the hunger problems facing our world.

I want to wish TONY all the best as he embarks on this new journey. If his future accomplishments are any reflection of his past contributions, the world will be a better place.

TRIBUTE TO REP. TONY HALL OF
OHIO

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2002

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, we come to the House floor today to pay tribute to our colleague from Ohio, the Honorable TONY P. HALL.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, TONY was nominated by President Bush to be the United States ambassador to the United Nations food and agricultural agencies located in Rome, Italy. He is awaiting final Senate confirmation, which could come in a matter of days. Once confirmed, he will resign as the representative of the 3rd District of Ohio and take his post in Rome where he will be able to continue his passionate work as a leading advocate for ending hunger and promoting food security around the world.

TONY will be greatly missed in the House of Representatives, but I know that he is absolutely the right person to serve as the United States representative to the World Food Program, the Food and Agricultural Organization, and International Fund for Agricultural Development, all agencies of the United Nations which assist international hunger-relief efforts.

This is a bittersweet time for me. I have had the privilege and honor to call TONY HALL my colleague for two decades, but more importantly, I have come to call TONY HALL my best friend in Congress. Many people don’t understand how a Democrat from Ohio and a Republican from Virginia, who more often than not are on the opposite sides of votes in the House, can share a friendship.

But it’s been easy to be TONY’s friend because he is one of the most decent, sincere, loving, dedicated people that I know. He finds his strength through his deeply held faith in God. I have come to know him well through our weekly Bible study together, where we have shared personal moments about our families, our lives, our work in Congress. We’ve had weighty and serious discussions, we’ve laughed together and we’ve shared tears.

As a public servant, TONY embodies Christ’s teachings in Matthew 25: “For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink . . . inasmuch as you did it to the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.” His life’s work is consumed with spiritual purpose.

TONY HALL’s name is synonymous with the cause of alleviating hunger both domestically and worldwide. He believes that food is the most basic of human needs, the most basic of human rights, and he has passionately worked to convince others that the cause of hunger, which often gets lost in the legislative shuffle and pushed aside by more visible issues, deserves a prominent share of attention and resources to assist people who are the most at risk and too often the least defended.

But TONY hasn’t limited his humanitarian work to hunger issues. He is a tireless advocate for the cause of human rights around the world and most recently has focused his attention on the illicit diamond trade in Sierra Leone. He convinced me to travel with him to Sierra Leone in late 1990 to see how the machete-wielding rebels there have intimidated men, women and children by hacking off arms, legs, and ears. He has led the effort in bringing to the attention of Congress the conflict diamond trade and authoring legislation to certify that the diamonds Americans buy are not tainted with the blood of the people of Sierra Leone and other African nations.

We also traveled together in January to Afghanistan with Congressman JOE PITTS as the first congressional delegation to that country since the war on terrorism. We visited hospitals, an orphanage, schools, and refugee camps. We met with U.S. diplomats and soldiers; with local leaders and officials with direct responsibility for humanitarian problems and refugees; with representatives of United Nations and private relief organizations; and in Pakistan with refugees and members of religious minority groups.

TONY is never deterred in his effort to help make a positive difference in the lives of suffering people. He has traveled to wherever the need arises and met with whomever he can to effect change, taking risks few would take, with his own comfort and safety never entering his mind.

I believe TONY’s life destiny is to be a servant, though in his college days, if he’d had a little larger frame, he may have had a career in football. An Ohio native, in 1964 he received his A.B. degree from Denison University in Granville, Ohio, and while at Denison, he was a Little All-American tailback and was named the Ohio Conference’s Most Valuable Player in 1963.

But his inner voice and his servant’s heart directed him to what would become a career of service. During 1966 and 1967, he taught English in Thailand as a Peace Corps volunteer. He returned to Dayton to work as a realtor and small businessman for several years, but before long, he was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives where he served from 1969 to 1972, and then to the Ohio Senate, serving from 1973 to 1978. On November 7, 1978, TONY was elected to the House of Representatives from the 3rd District of Ohio and has served with distinction since.

TONY HALL’s worldwide hunger relief quest began in earnest in 1984 when he first visited Ethiopia during that nation’s Great Famine. What he saw then, especially the faces of emaciated children, was indelibly etched in his mind, forever transforming him and instilling a passion that drives him in his quest to help feed the starving people of the world.

In 1993 this House, in what has been described in Politics in America as “a wave of frugality,” abolished the Select Committee on

Hunger, as well as three other select committees. Having served as chairman of the Select Committee on Hunger and having worked in 1984 as the principal supporter of the legislation which created the Select Committee on Hunger, TONY HALL fought to keep the committee alive because of its importance as a forum to raise the cause of hunger and the very survival of vulnerable populations.

In an effort to use this disappointing event as a means to elevate the problem of hunger, TONY embarked on a 22-day water-only fast. He was also dismayed that congressional leaders would not even let the House vote on the matter. But through his perseverance, the momentum of this fast led to the creation of two new hunger entities: the Congressional Hunger Caucus and the Congressional Hunger Center, which I was honored to co-chair with TONY here in the nation's capital. Those forums allowed TONY to continue the fight against hunger, to ensure that issues of both domestic and world hunger remain at the forefront of national debate, and to accomplish what always was the goal of the Select Committee on Hunger: to push responsible policies and to generate a national sense of urgency to solve hunger once and for all.

His humanitarian work also has focused on efforts to improve human rights conditions around the world—in the Philippines, East Timor, Paraguay, Romania, and the former Soviet Union. In 1983 he founded the Congressional Friends of Human Rights Monitors. He was the principal U.S. nominator of East Timor Bishop Carlos Belo, winner of the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize.

TONY himself was nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize for his advocacy for hunger relief programs and improving international human rights conditions. He is the author of legislation supporting child survival, basic education, primary health care, micro-enterprise, and development assistance programs in the world's poorest countries.

But while TONY's name is known far and wide for his hunger and human rights work, he also has been a stalwart representative for the people of the 3rd District, vigorously defending his district and its largest employer, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton.

He was the principal author of legislation enacted in 1992 to establish the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. Also in 1992, TONY introduced successful legislation extending the life of the Dayton Area Health Plan which provides health care services to more than 42,000 low-income residents of Montgomery County, costing taxpayers \$1 million less than a traditional health care program.

He was a leader in Congress in support of the Air Force Science and Technology program, which is headquartered at Wright-Patterson. He wrote legislation passed in 1993 which laid the foundation for the privatization of the Energy Department's Miamisburg Mound Plant, a former defense nuclear facility. He has supported legislation to create high tech jobs in the Dayton area that combine the region's strengths in aerospace and automobile manufacturing. He is the author of legislation to improve safety for police and emergency workers assisting stopped vehicles on highways.

The people of his district also know well his work on hunger issues because it was there in 1984 that he founded Saturday Meals for Sen-

iors, a weekend hot lunch program for seniors in need in Dayton which has fed over 10,000 meals at group sites and to shut-ins every year since.

In 1985 TONY introduced legislation incorporated in the 1985 Food Security Act to promote gleaning programs, which gather the produce left behind after commercial harvests, to feed hungry people. He also organized annual gleaning projects in Dayton, beginning in 1986 which salvaged 77 tons over a three-year period, and helped organize gleaning projects throughout Ohio.

Also in 1985, TONY organized STOP HUNGER . . . FAST!, a broad-based, community-wide effort in Dayton, which raised \$330,000 that year for hunger relief efforts in the U.S. and Africa.

There are so many examples of how TONY HALL's passion and principles and Christian values have made a positive difference in the lives of those suffering from hunger around the world for over two decades. His efforts have included work to convince the community of nations that food must never be used as a weapon against hungry people. TONY HALL's legacy of fighting hunger spans from Dayton, Ohio, through Washington, D.C., on to the Horn of Africa and around to North Korea.

In 1982, two years before his work to create the House Select Committee on Hunger, to call attention to wasted food that could be used for hunger relief, TONY organized a media event and luncheon serving only food salvaged from trash cans and then worked for passage of legislation which outlined steps to make food available to hungry people that would otherwise be wasted.

In 1984, following reports of massive famine and starvation, TONY visited relief camps in Ethiopia and revisited the country again in 1987, after working tirelessly during that time to investigate efforts to head off a repeat of Ethiopian famine and encourage early action to prevent loss of life in not only Ethiopia but other drought-stricken nations in sub-Saharan Africa, and urge Ethiopian leaders to allow famine relief to reach all the people of Ethiopia, including regions affected by civil war.

Legislation TONY authored passed the House in 1985 calling on the U.S. to support measures aimed at immunizing the world's children against six major childhood diseases.

TONY successfully led efforts in Congress to earmark \$38 million in FYs 1986–1990 to fund vitamin A programs in developing nations, in light of significant evidence linking vitamin A to improvements in children's health.

TONY visited Haiti with the Select Committee on Hunger in 1987 and again with the Congressional Hunger Caucus in 1993 to investigate humanitarian assistance projects. Following the 1993 visit he helped to secure U.S. Agency for International Development support to assist a leading non-governmental organization to begin feeding over a half million more malnourished Haitians.

In 1988 TONY visited Bangladesh during the devastating flood and upon his return, worked for passage of legislation to aid Bangladesh's recovery from the flood.

In 1989 TONY visited Sierra Leone and convinced Executive Branch officials to change food assistance programs to better serve humanitarian needs.

TONY contacted leaders in Ethiopia calling for a summit to address the issues of providing humanitarian assistance to conflict situ-

ations and the issue of children as victims of war in the Horn of Africa. The summit was held in April 1992. For his hunger legislation and his proposal for a Humanitarian Summit in the Horn of Africa, TONY HALL and the Hunger Committee received the 1992 Silver World Food Day Medal from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

He also is the recipient of the United States Committee for UNICEF 1995 Children's Legislative Advocate Award, U.S. AID Presidential End Hunger Award, and 1992 Oxfam America Partners Award. In 1984, he received the Distinguished Service Against Hunger Award from Bread for the World, the highest award given by the organization to recognize efforts to fight world hunger. In 1988, the U.S. Agency for International Development awarded TONY HALL its Presidential End Hunger Award "for continued demonstrated vision, initiative and leadership in the effort to achieve a world without hunger." He is also a recipient of the NCAA Silver Anniversary Award and received honorary Doctor of Laws degrees from Asbury College and Eastern College and a Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Loyola College. In 1994, President Clinton nominated TONY HALL for the position of UNICEF Executive Director.

In May 1994, TONY led a Presidential Delegation to the Horn of Africa and was the first U.S. legislator to visit Rwanda. He focused efforts with the Congressional Hunger Caucus to convince the administration to formally recognize that genocide was occurring there and take the lead in the United Nations to establish an international tribunal to bring those responsible for the murder of thousands of Rwandans to trial. After visiting what at the time was the largest refugee camp in history on the east side of Rwanda, he strongly advocated immediate and improved cooperation by all international donors for the relief of Rwandan refugees and convinced administration officials to visit sites of humanitarian disaster in Rwanda leading to the assistance being provided today.

TONY's concern for those suffering in famine-stricken areas took him to North Korea where he first visited in August 1996, just weeks after North Korea's "breadbasket" region was hit by a flood which reduced the country's harvest by half and left the people there vulnerable to a massive food shortage. He returned to North Korea in April 1997 on a humanitarian mission to focus attention on the 5 million people at risk of death from starvation from an imminent famine. To help spur an international response to help the starving North Korean people, TONY traveled to South Korea and Japan in August 1997 to promote additional humanitarian aid. He spoke to the largest church in South Korea and encouraged private efforts to the North. He also urged Japanese officials to consider a larger role in aiding people suffering from severe food shortages and suggested that Japan's surplus rice could leverage price donations to aid people facing starvation in North Korea.

Troubled by continuing reports of worsening conditions for the Korean people and not satisfied that the necessary reforms were in place to avert the crisis the Koreans were facing that was unlike any since the famine that claimed 30 million people in China nearly four decades ago, he made his third visit to North Korea in October 1997 to again call on the world to focus its attention on the disaster unfolding there.

Perhaps what TONY so effectively conveys when he works to help end the suffering of the world's hungry people is his personal conviction that lending humanitarian aid is above politics. In his discussions with North Korean leaders about their country's acceptance of peace talks, they expressed concern about the agenda for the talks and that food aid would be used as a political weapon during the talks. He assured them that the United States had a long tradition of providing food aid solely on a humanitarian basis, which he personally considers a point of pride, and that this policy will continue, and he urged them to begin formal negotiations on the peace talks with that assurance.

He made his fourth trip to famine-stricken North Korea in November 1998, traveling to cities in the far northeastern part of the country and a town south of the Pyongyang capital, visiting orphanages, schools, hospitals, and an "alternative food" factory, before returning to Pyongyang for meetings with senior North Korean government officials and aid workers. He reported that grave-covered hillsides and overflowing orphanages were the most visible changes there since he visited a year earlier.

He observed that the food donated by the United States and others is helping to save the lives of children in North Korea, but that food alone won't cure the ills there. Stopping the dying will take a new focus on health—one sufficient to combat the debilitating effects of contaminated water and an almost complete lack of medicine and one he found missing in the current approach of the government of North Korea. He also reported that private and United Nations health initiatives are impossibly underfunded.

Yet in his visits throughout the countryside, where no one can escape the ravages of famine, TONY HALL found something in this fourth visit with the North Koreans that made him realize that his efforts to help turn the tide toward a brighter future for these suffering people were bearing fruit. He found—hope. He called "heroic" the efforts of ordinary North Koreans to overcome their difficulties, as he saw an "alternative food factory" which turns leaves and twigs into the noodles that are becoming a staple in the diets of too many people. He saw people working at all hours of the day and night, moving the cabbage harvest, gathering twigs for kitchen fires, and gleaning already cleanly picked fields. Denuded hills and rows of crops planted three-quarters up the hills were clear evidence of their desperate efforts.

And when he had the chance to speak with ordinary citizens through his own interpreter and out of the presence of his government "minders," the shyness he had seen in earlier visits was replaced with absolute determination in their voices to overcome their troubles. Even faced with slow starvation, the telltale signs of which show on skin darkened by malnutrition, these brave people have hope, a hope that TONY HALL in his work as a humanitarian ambassador has helped instill by showing the people of North Korea that the community of nations cares and is there to help them in their time of need—"When I was hungry, you gave Me food."

TONY's passion took him to southern Sudan in Africa in May 1998 where famine was threatening 700,000 Sudanese people in a nation torn by a 15-year civil war and where 2 million lives had already been lost. His own elo-

quent words in June 1998 from his trip observations may best reflect why TONY HALL is the right person to now be the U.S. ambassador to the U.N. world food programs:

"What I witnessed in Ethiopia convinced me that there was no greater service, besides to the people who elect me to Congress, than to those people who are so desperately poor that they can't even feed themselves. I have been to dozens of countries since then, to some of the regions hit hard by both natural disasters and man-made ones. But it was not until I visited the forgotten nation of Sudan two weeks ago that I saw conditions as terrible as those in Ethiopia. The humanitarian aid reaching those people is a drop in the bucket of what is needed. If we are sincere about stopping the death toll from climbing from two million—to three million people—we have to do more. The people of southern Sudan need food and medicine. But they also need peace, and we should not squander the narrow window that may now exist to bring an end to this hideous war . . . Anyone who has seen the terrible condition of the people in southern Sudan feels the same determination I do to find a way to bring peace—and relief—to them."

TONY's call for an immediate cease-fire and heightened diplomatic attention to Sudan's peace process, and his urging of the United States and other friends of the peace process to step in and enhance and support invigorated negotiations, struck a chord. It's taken some time, but fueled by one of the largest humanitarian relief efforts in history, with the United States providing the greatest share of aid, today's headlines report that breakthroughs in peace talks in Sudan could very well pave the way to end the 19-year civil war in which more than 2 million people have died.

TONY HALL speaks for those in so many desolate places in the world who can't speak for themselves. Playwright George Bernard Shaw once said, "You see things; and you say, 'Why?' But I dream things that never were; and I say, 'Why not?'"

TONY HALL says "Why not?" and follows those words with action. Why not work to stop the suffering of the poorest of the poor? Why not help to feed the starving people? Why not help the desperate people of Sierra Leone or the Sudan?

George Bernard Shaw also said, "The worst sin towards our fellow creature is not to hate them, but to be indifferent to them: that's the essence of inhumanity." There is no fiber in TONY HALL's body that knows indifference. He is the essence of humanitarianism, the embodiment of service to mankind, a follower who daily lives Christ's teachings as he seeks ways to feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty.

His leadership and his vision embrace and offer succor to those in need, even in the most remote corners of the world. His concept to end hunger serves as a beacon to light the way. His achievements in providing lifesaving food to so many is the road map to ending starvation. His efforts to end human misery the world over inspire others to take up that cause.

TONY HALL is an inspiration to everyone fortunate enough to know him. He has a wonderful combination of compassion and passion filled with spiritual purpose-compassion to see the suffering in the less fortunate in the world and the passion to work to do something about it.

Today is a bittersweet time for me, to be sure. My best friend in Congress is leaving, but he will now have the world's stage to continue his life's work of helping to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate in our world.

Godspeed, my dear friend.

THE HONORABLE TONY HALL

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2002

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with mixed emotion that I say goodbye to my dear friend and colleague, TONY HALL.

Anyone who knows TONY, knows him to be one of the most considerate, and kindest gentlemen ever to grace this House with his presence. There is a reason why he has been nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize, where most of us would be honored just to be considered once.

TONY's commitment to the survival of children, particularly in poor countries, along with his support of development assistance programs in the world's neediest countries, makes him eminently qualified to represent the United States to the United Nations food and agriculture agencies in Rome. TONY's work and dedication in promoting hunger relief programs and improving international human rights conditions is legendary. I still remember when, nine years ago, in an effort to draw attention to the plight of hungry people in the US and around the world, he fasted for three weeks in response to the abolishment of the Hunger Committee.

Mr. Speaker, it's this dedication and compassion that will make TONY an excellent Ambassador. While the House will lose a dear and respected friend once he is confirmed by the Senate, the United Nations will gain a fair and principled man who, I am certain, will do wonders for the poor and needy of the world.

Though I am sad to see TONY leave, I am happy for him, and for all the good work that lies ahead of him.

TRIBUTE TO REP. TONY HALL

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2002

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my fellow Ohioan and good friend, TONY HALL.

For years, Tony and I have worked together for the benefit of the citizens of the Miami Valley on numerous projects and initiatives. I am very happy that he has this new opportunity to work directly on hunger issues as the United Nations, but it is still very sad to see him leave the House of Representatives.

Tony is now at the end of a nearly 24-year career representing the people of Montgomery County on Capitol Hill and is taking his crusade against hunger to a global stage.

The youngest son of one of Dayton's most beloved mayors, TONY has been a football star, a Peace Corps volunteer, a noted world traveler, a devoted husband and father, and a