

National Network for Youth Agency of the Year Award, and I am proud to recognize their outstanding achievement.

The National Network for Youth states in its award letter: "It is truly a great honor that Crosswinds Youth Services this year has been judged to be the best organization in the Nation serving runaway, homeless, and other youth in crisis. This award goes to the best among the best in America. Crosswinds is the first organization in Florida to win this award."

According to the National Network for Youth, each year in America, 5,000 runaways die from assault, illness, and suicide.

Crosswinds is an extraordinary organization doing extraordinary work. The men and women involved in this organization need to be commended, and I am honored to rise in support of them on this day.

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#### CONFRONTING THREATS TOGETHER

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, in Brussels today, the North Atlantic Council of the NATO Alliance continues to deliberate on a matter that has potentially grave consequences for the alliance. France, Germany, and Belgium have blocked the consultation and planning for the defense of Turkey, which that country has requested by the unprecedented invocation of article IV of the NATO Treaty.

At best, it would inexcusably delay planning for the defense of an ally, possibly leading to an avoidable loss of life should Turkey come under attack. At worst, it means the very end of the alliance, as its core mutual defense guarantee would be exposed as nothing more than empty words from the French, German, and Belgian governments.

No longer is this a question of whether authorizing NATO planning somehow signals a decision to use military force against Iraq. This was the argument used by the three allies on Monday when they blocked a response to Turkey's article IV request.

Should France, Germany, and Belgium continue to object to prudent contingency planning to deter or to defend against a possible threat to Turkey, the core collective-defense commitment of the alliance will be called into doubt.

This Member hopes that President Chirac, Chancellor Schroder, and Prime Minister Verhofstadt recognize that this is no longer an Iraq question. This is no longer a U.N. question. This is now a question about whether the 19 NATO allies will fulfill their solemn treaty commitments.

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#### HONORING CROSSWINDS YOUTH SERVICES

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

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join my colleague from Florida in recognizing Crosswinds in Brevard County, Florida.

President Bush reminds us that America is a great, compassionate nation, and there is no better example than Crosswinds, which serves the youth and the teenagers and runaways that come to our community. They have won the prestigious National Network for Youth Award, and we are very proud of them.

I was especially proud to be there as Boeing employees, who contributed huge amounts of their own dollars voluntarily opened the Boeing room at this fine facility. I was also proud to lead the Duck Race this year, where we raised money by floating some 10,000 ducks over the Intercoastal River. I will tell you that the fine people who lead this organization, including Jan Lokay, Jim Ross, Cynthia Handley and many, many others really care deeply about children.

Finally, I want to recognize the young children that are working hard to turn their lives around for a better future, Mr. Speaker. There is no better example of President Bush's call for American compassionate leadership than Crosswinds in Brevard County.

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#### CONDEMNING LIBYA'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE UNITED NATION'S COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

(Mrs. MUSGRAVE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong objection and even my disgust at the recent selection of Libya as the Chair of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

It is shameful and it defies logic for Libya to sit in judgment of any nation on the critical issue of human rights. Libya is widely known to be a sponsor of international terrorism and an abuser of the most basic human rights. The American people will never forget that the Libyan terrorists were the ones who hijacked Pan Am Flight 103 and murdered hundreds of innocent passengers.

Mr. Speaker, it is very evident that the only thing Libya knows about human rights is how to abuse them. Any notion that a terrorist nation such as Libya should lead any commission on human rights is absolutely repugnant.

Mr. Speaker, our President has made it very clear, the United Nations has some important decisions to make that will determine whether or not the

United Nations will be relevant in the world community. One of these decisions is whether or not they will allow a terrorist state and a human rights abuser like Libya to chair the U.N. Commission on Human Rights.

Mr. Speaker, we represent a country founded on the principles of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We should not, and I pray we will not, use taxpayers' dollars to support any commission chaired by a nation with such an outrageous record on human rights.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in join me in condemning Libya's involvement with the U.N. Commission on Human Rights.

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#### LIBYA'S BLATANT DISREGARD FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, as the United Nations charges towards irrelevance, we have this latest news that Libya has been selected to become Chair of the United Nations Commission on Rights.

Libya continues to be a blatant violator of human rights and remains on our own State Department's list of state sponsors of terror. Libya's totalitarian regime under Muammar Qadhafi has been a leading state sponsor of terrorism, including on November 13 the German court which convicted a Libyan national for the bombing in 1986 of the La Belle disco in Berlin; and the court further declared that there was clear evidence of responsibility of the Libyan Government for the bombing. Additionally, Libya was responsible for the explosion of Pan American Airline Flight 103 that crashed in Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 259 passengers and crew and 11 citizens on the ground.

To add insult to injury in this latest mockery of the United Nations, Iraq is in line to chair the United Nations Conference on Disarmament later this year.

Mr. Speaker, the world needs a credible spokesman for human rights and democratic values. The ascension of Libya to chair this body and the ascension of Iraq to chair the Conference on Disarmament make a further mockery of the Commission and the entire United Nations.

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#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OTTER) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, February 7, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of