

Today, the vast majority of the Puerto Rican society favors the immediate and permanent cessation of the bombings and shellings. Past Presidents of the United States, under similar circumstances, have ordered the immediate and permanent cessation of military operations in other locations. For instance, in 1975, President Gerald Ford, by an Executive Order, terminated the use of the island of Culebra for military purposes. Likewise, President George Bush, on October 22, 1990, directed the Secretary of Defense to discontinue the use of the island of Kaho'olawe for bombing and target practice.

Your fellow Americans are seriously concerned about the ailing health, the violation of human and civil rights of the Viequenses, as well as the impact on their environment and natural resources. Under the Constitution of the United States, you have the authority to call for the immediate cessation of the bombing and the shelling that are affecting these rights. Therefore, the undersigned urge you to order an immediate and permanent end of the bombing in Vieques.

Respectfully,

Anibal Acevedo Vilá (D-PR), Luis Gutierrez (D-IL), Jose Serrano (D-NY), Nydia Velázquez (D-NY), Ed Pastor (D-AZ), Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX), George Miller (D-CA), Charles Rangel (D-NY), Edolphus Towns (D-NY), Patsy Mink (D-HI), Neil Abercrombie (D-HI), Bobby Rush (D-IL), Bob Menendez (D-NJ), Edward Markey (D-MA), Hilda Solis (D-CA), Major Owens (D-NY), Mike Honda (D-CA), Sam Farr (D-CA), Elliot Engel (D-NY), Cynthia McKinney (D-GA), Carrie Meek (D-FL), Eva Clayton (D-NC), Louis Slaughter (D-NY), Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Nita Lowey (D-NY), John Larson (D-CT), Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA), Brad Carson (D-OK), Mark Udall (D-CO), Tom Udall (D-NM), Grace Napolitano (D-CA), Charlie Gonzalez (D-TX), Donna Christensen (D-VI), Danny K. Davis (D-IL), Albert Wynn (D-MD), Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Joe Baca (D-CA), Robert C. Scott (D-VA), Ciro Rodriguez (D-TX), Anthony D. Weiner (D-NY), Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA), Sanford D. Bishop Jr. (D-GA), Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH), Robert Underwood (D-GU), Rod Blagojevich (D-IL), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Karen McCarthy (D-MO), David Phelps (D-IL), Nick Rahall (D-WV), Eni Faleomavaega (D-AS), Bill Pascrell (D-NJ), David Bonior (D-MI), Howard Berman (D-CA), Bernard Sanders (I-VT), William Jefferson (D-LA), Dale Kildee (D-MI), Sen. John Corzine (D-NJ), Betty McCollum (D-MN), Jesse L. Jackson Jr. (D-IL), Bob Filner (D-CA), William Lacy Clay (D-MO), Ted Strickland (D-OH), Lane Evans (D-IL), Dennis Kucinich (D-OH), Robert Brady (D-PA), Jim McDermott (D-WA), John Olver (D-MA), Lois Capps (D-CA), Lynn Woolsey (D-CA), Barbara Lee (D-CA), Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY), Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY), Alcee L. Hastings (D-FL), Melvin Watt (D-NC), Bennie Thompson (D-MS), Jerrald Nadler (D-NY), James E. Clyburn (D-SC), James McGovern (D-MA), Lloyd Doggett (D-TX), John Conyers Jr. (D-MI), Martin Meehan (D-MA), Elijah Cummings (D-MD), Barney Frank (D-MA), Jerry F. Costello (D-IL), Diana DeGette (D-CO), Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY), Michael McNutty (D-NY), Joseph Crowley (D-NY), Gene Green (D-TX), Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), Earl Hilliard (D-AL), Maxine Waters (D-CA), James Oberstar (D-MN), Janice Shakowsky (D-IL), Nick Lampson (D-TX), Bill Delahunt (D-MA), Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), William Lipinski (D-IL), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Thomas Allen (D-ME), Carolyn Kilpatrick (D-MI), Maurice Hinchey (D-NY), John LaFace (D-NY), Lynn Rivers (D-MI), Robert A. Borski

(D-PA), James A. Barcia (D-MI), Chaka Fattah (D-PA).

RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF PHIL LELLI

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2004

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the passing of Phil Lelli, a good friend of mine and a great leader of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union from Tacoma, Washington.

Philip M. Lelli was a born longshoreman; he began his career on the Tacoma, Washington waterfront in 1949 and retired in 1993. He was President of the Tacoma Longshore Union Local 23 from 1966 to 1993, and I recall quite well the advice and counsel he freely gave to me and to other political leaders throughout his tenure of Union leadership. Afterward, he remained deeply engaged in community affairs in the Puget Sound area, serving as a Port of Tacoma Commissioner and the Harry Bridges History Chair Trustee at the University of Washington.

Today in the House of Representatives, I would like to express my sincere wishes of sympathy to the Lelli Family, Mr. Speaker, and to extend my thanks and the appreciation of a grateful community for the many contributions that Phil has made. I would also like to include in today's RECORD the notice that was printed in today's News Tribune newspaper from Tacoma, Washington.

[From the News Tribune, Apr. 28, 2004]

(By Philip Lelli)

HANGS HIS HOOK

Longshore leader Philip Martin Lelli was born December 4, 1929, in Edgewood and passed away April 25, 2004, in Puyallup. He was the son of Martin and Mary (Baller) Lelli and attended Fife schools and Pacific Lutheran University. He married Joanne Williams April 18, 1953, in Fife. Phil and Joanne were the proud parents of five sons: Jay (Judith E. Peterson), Marty, Dean (Susan), Vance (Kimberlie) and Ross, and grandparents of Janelle, Jayson A. (Jennifer), Paula, Rori, Scott, Mathew, and Marina. There are three great-grandchildren, MacKenzie, Kailee and Ryan. Also surviving is his brother Tom (Phyllis) Lelli. One son, Ross, and a sister, Jeanne Retallick, preceded him.

Phil Lelli was a dominant figure on the Tacoma waterfront from the moment he lifted his first 180-pound sack of wheat in 1949 until he retired as a gearman in 1993. He was a born longshoreman: a practical physicist who could come up with the most effective method of moving any size or weight of cargo; a leader of men in times of great technological change; and a stalwart ally who won hundreds of friends in ports all over the world.

His mentor was T. A. "Tiny" Thronson, a veteran of the Great Strike of 1934. Thronson's advice, "Do a hard day's work and you'll get rewarded with more opportunity," was Phil's guiding principle as President of Tacoma Longshore Union 23 from 1966 until 1983. He never abandoned his belief that port-union cooperation would result in a Golden Age. He teamed with Port Executive Director E. L. Roy Perry, Union Business Agent George Ginnis, and Port Commissioner Robert Earley to raise Ta-

coma from a backwater log port to become the fifth largest container port in North America.

During his 55 years on the waterfront, Phil served as Port of Tacoma commissioner, Propeller Club president, Tacoma Longshore pension club president, and University of Washington Harry Bridges History Chair trustee. The Propeller Club awarded Philip its highest honor, Master Mariner, in 1982. The Harry Bridges Chair designated him its Distinguished Supporter in 2003.

After Phil and Joanne's youngest son died in a waterfront accident in 1989, the Propeller Club created the Ross E. Lelli Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Phil Lelli learned the meaning of community service from his father, Martin, who taught his son to care for other people, especially the poor. In the 1980s Phil and Father William Bischel S.J. organized the Hospitality Kitchen to serve hot lunches to the Tacoma homeless. Phil rescued a stove from the old Knights of Pythias Temple. Longshore workers trucked the stove to the Kitchen, took out a wall, installed the stove, and rebuilt the wall. The longshore union continues its support of the Kitchen, which serves 450 meals a day.

Visitation will be from 8 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Saturday, May 1 (International Workers Day), followed by the Funeral Mass at 10:00 a.m. at St. Andrews Catholic Church, 1401 Valley Ave., Sumner. Rosary services will be at 7 p.m. Friday at St. Martin of Tours Church 2303-54th Avenue East, Fife. Grave-side services will be at Gethsemane Cemetery, 37600 Pacific Highway, at noon May 1. The Longshore Union will honor brother Phil with an open house from 1 to 4 p.m. There is an online guest book at www.mountainviewtacoma.com

Arrangements are by Mountain View Funeral Home, 253-564-0252. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in the name of Philip Lelli to the Ross E. Lelli Memorial Scholarship, PO Box 453, Tacoma, WA 98401, or the Hospitality Kitchen, 1323 S. Yakima Ave., Tacoma, WA 98405.

REMEMBERING CHERNOBYL

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2004

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember those who lost their lives and those who are suffering the aftereffects of the world's worst nuclear accident—Chernobyl, April 26, 1986.

The suffering extends outside Ukraine's borders to Russia, Belarus and beyond. I ask my colleagues to take a moment to honor those innocent lives that will be forever changed by such a horrific event.

I applaud the efforts of the United States Department of Energy, the International Atomic Energy Association, and other donor nations in remediation and containment efforts in Ukraine. Estimates indicate that these projects may last at least 100 years. Our commitment must remain firm.

I am including for the RECORD an article highlighting some of the challenges ahead and devastation many have already faced.

[From CBS News, Apr. 26, 2004]

REMEMBERING CHERNOBYL

Across the former Soviet Union, people lit candles, laid flowers and held demonstrations Monday to mark the 18th anniversary