

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A LEADER IN CENTRAL VALLEY
HEALTH CARE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, for the past 20 years, Saint Agnes Medical Center has been blessed by the presence of Sister Ruth Marie Nickerson. Since her arrival to Fresno in January of 1984, she has embraced her position as President and CEO of Saint Agnes Medical Center. Now, as Sister Ruth moves forward in her life-long commitment to help those people in most need, it is clear that she has left a lasting mark upon the Medical Center, as well as upon the entire Fresno community. During her tenure at Saint Agnes, employee size grew from 1,500 to its present size of 2,700. Several new wings and centers opened under her direction, including the California Eye Institute, the Cancer Center, the Heart and Vascular Center, and the medical center's East and North Wing expansions.

In addition to these projects, Sister Ruth was also influential in the expansion of the Holy Cross Center for Women. At the women's center, she oversaw the establishment of the Gathering Place, a safe spot where children now learn and play; MaryHaven, an educational facility designed to teach women important life skills; and Naomi's House, an overnight respite for women.

Beyond her position at the medical center, Sister Ruth Marie Nickerson serves on the board of many organizations, including the Fresno Business Council, Fresno Compact, Poverello House, and The California Endowment (TCE). She was also a past board chair of the Catholic Health Association of the USA, the Alliance of Catholic Health Care, and the Hospital Council of Northern & Central California. Currently, Sister Ruth serves as chair of the Regional Advisory Council of the Central Valley Health Policy Institute.

While these numerous projects and board positions are impressive and speak volumes of her commitment to providing quality health care to the people of the Central Valley, what is most notable about Sister Ruth Marie Nickerson is the warmth and compassion with which she conducts her daily activities. She possesses the distinct ability to bring people together to work for the good of the community, and she accomplishes such with both a kind heart and revered sense of humor.

HONORING OFFICER DAVID M.
RANES

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Officer David M. Ranes for his

exemplary service with Turlock Police Services and to his community. An event to celebrate the retirement of Officer Ranes will be held on Friday, April 15, 2005 in Turlock, CA.

David Ranes was born in China Lake, CA on March 9, 1955. After graduating from Turlock High School in 1972, David enrolled in the Modesto Regional Criminal Justice Training Academy, class number F-1. Upon completing his training, David was hired by Turlock Police Chief James Greenway to serve and protect his community on August 16, 1979.

Throughout his entire career, Officer Ranes worked various special assignments. He has served as patrol officer, detective, narcotics agent, and background investigator. While in Detectives, he investigated a homicide that is now going to trial as a death penalty case. Officer Ranes was privileged to serve under the tenures of former Turlock Police Services Chief(s) James Greenway, John Johnson, Robert Johnson, and current Chief Ronald Lott.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Officer David M. Ranes for his 26 years of service with Turlock Police Services. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Ranes upon retirement and in wishing him many more years of continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE U.S. TSUNAMI WARNING AND EDUCATION ACT

HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today (along with my colleague Mr. INSLEE from Washington State) to introduce the U.S. Tsunami Warning and Education Act of 2005. On December 26 of last year, we all watched with horror and complete bewilderment as a massive tsunami swept across the Indian Ocean Basin ravaging 11 nations, killing more than 150,000 people, and affecting the day-to-day lives of millions.

This event was a wake up call for coastal communities around the world, and certainly for coastal communities in the U.S. While the U.S. does have a tsunami detection and warning system in the Pacific, this event forced us to reexamine that system and we found that most of the vulnerable communities in the U.S. are not adequately protected or prepared for a similar event.

The Administration responded quickly to the Indian Ocean Tsunami with a proposal in January to strengthen and expand the current U.S. tsunami detection and warning system. The Science Committee took the lead in Congress and held a hearing on the Administration's proposal and heard from experts who expressed some concerns about the Administration's proposal and had numerous recommendations to improve it.

We took the Administration's proposal and the comments from many experts and devel-

oped the U.S. Tsunami Warning and Education Act. The bill would authorize \$30 million a year for 30 years for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to: strengthen the current tsunami detection system in the Pacific and expand it to the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico regions; conduct a community-based tsunami hazard mitigation program to improve preparedness of at-risk areas; maintain a dedicated tsunami research program; and provide technical assistance and training to the international community on the development of a global tsunami detection and warning system.

While tsunamis are going to continue to threaten our coasts, this legislation ensures that we can be better prepared through early detection, instant warnings, and an educated population.

CONGRATULATIONS TO UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO-FRESNO ON THE OPENING OF THE MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate University of California San Francisco Fresno Medical Education Program on this ceremonious occasion of the opening of the Medical Education and Research Center.

As UCSF School of Medicine celebrates its 30th anniversary in the Valley, the program deserves congratulations for providing much needed medical services to our area. With 175 medical residents trained each year in the program, over 50 percent of these residents remain in the Greater San Joaquin Valley to set up their practices. The Medical Education Program offers a unique community development experience. Medical students can train with some of the best and brightest doctors, at the same time deliver services to community members that may not have been previously accessible.

This Center is a product of a bipartisan effort to provide medical resources to a program that offers unsurpassed benefits to the community. As one of nine Central Valley members of the California State Legislature who sought funding for the Medical Education and Research Center, it is certainly uplifting to see this project come to fruition. By constructing a new Center, UCSF-Fresno will no longer be forced to make do with facilities that are functionally obsolete or geographically separated over a wide area.

The new Medical Education and Research Center will serve as the operating location for the Medical Education Program and house both the administrative and educational components of this program. The facility will allow the Medical Education Program to expand and fill its role as a leader in health and education

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

in the 21st Century. Just as important, this facility is yet another critical addition to the Community Regional Medical Center campus in downtown Fresno, a long time vision for this community and now a reality.

In this building, students of medicine will have the opportunity to learn the intricacies of medicine and its impact on the broader community. Simultaneously, the center will provide individuals the insight to the various health issues challenging the residents of this region.

This facility has been years in the making, and the entire community will reap the rewards of the newest addition to UCSF-Fresno.

HONORING OFFICER WILLIAM S.
KIMBLE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Officer William "Bill" S. Kimble for his exemplary service with Turlock Police Services and to his community. An event to celebrate the retirement of Officer Kimble will be held on Friday, April 15, 2005 in Turlock, CA.

Bill Kimble was born in Patterson, CA on April 12, 1955. After graduating from Patterson High School in 1973, Bill enrolled in the Modesto Regional Criminal Justice Training Academy, class number F-2. Upon completing his training, Bill was hired by Turlock Police Chief John Johnson to serve and protect his community on June 5, 1980.

Throughout his entire career, Officer Kimble has served in various capacities, he has functioned as field training officer, officer in charge, traffic officer, school resource officer, D.A.R.E. officer, SWAT officer—sniper, community services supervisor, and detective. He served as President and on the Board of Directors of the Turlock Associated Police Officers. Since 1985, Officer Kimble has been a senior Major Accident Investigation Team investigator. He was privileged to serve under the tenures of former Turlock Police Services Chief(s) John Johnson, Robert Johnson, and current Chief Donald Lott.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Officer William "Bill" S. Kimble for his 25 years of service with Turlock Police Services. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Kimble upon retirement and in wishing him many more years of continued success.

IN MEMORY OF POLLY GONZALEZ

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my condolences to the family and friends of Polly Gonzalez. Anyone that lives in the Las Vegas Valley knows the contribution that Polly gave not only to Channel 8 Eye Witness News, but also to her family, friends, and community. This was even exemplified in her death on March 28th as she was taking her two daughters to see the wildflowers in Death Valley.

Polly Gonzalez started her career in journalism 20 years ago at the San Jose State University. Overcoming a rough and troubled childhood living in a home where her mother would sell street drugs to provide food for her children, Polly became an award winning anchorwoman. As an anchorwoman in Salina, California she was one of the first journalists to uncover the growing gang problem within this tiny community. She eventually joined Channel 8 in 1994 and became a co-anchor for the twelve o'clock and four thirty news casts. During her career at Channel 8 she covered such stories as the Oklahoma Bombing in 1995.

She was the first Latino anchor in Las Vegas and was very proud of this fact. She considered herself to be a role model to her two daughters and to the other Latino women she knew and represented. She wanted them to know that anything is achievable through hard work and dedication and used her life story as an example.

As a Nevadan and Channel 8 viewer, I will always remember the professional, yet warm and friendly way Polly delivered the news into my home. I felt that Polly had a sincere desire to bring accurate and fair news to my family as if she were a close personal friend or family member herself.

I would like to express my sincere sympathy to the family, friends, and co-workers of Polly Gonzalez. Our hearts go out to those individuals mourning the loss of a family member, friend, and role model. As we move forward in our lives, may we never forget the achievements and contributions of Ms. Polly Gonzalez.

HONORING MS. ELLEN GIBSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and wish well in retirement Ms. Ellen Gibson of Fresno, California. Ellen has diligently served her community for over 30 years.

Ms. Gibson began her public service career in 1972 with Congressman Bernie Sisk. Through the years Ellen became an instrumental team member in the district offices of two other Congressional Representatives. She joined the staff of Congressman Tony Coelho in 1979 and, my predecessor, Congressman Cal Dooley in 1991.

Ellen began as a District Aide to Congressman Sisk where she generated press releases, performed general office duties and handled constituent casework. After her time there she joined Congressman Coelho as an Office Director. In this capacity Ellen managed the Fresno district office, trained new staff people, and was responsible for federal casework. Finally, Ellen became Congressman Dooley's Senior Casework Manager.

While her responsibilities were many, Ellen was devoted to, and excellent at, one of the most important aspect of a district office—casework. To this day her coworkers laud Ellen's assiduous efforts to help the people of the San Joaquin Valley. This type of work is one of the most demanding tasks a Congressional staff member faces, and Ellen not only

embraced, but also effectively managed this large responsibility.

Ellen's work positively impacted the lives of the many people she touched. Whether she helped somebody attain their citizenship, or their social security benefits, Ellen met each and every case with renewed energy and desire to help.

Ellen has set the standard for individuals who follow in her footsteps, and her shoes will be difficult to fill. Her retirement is bittersweet. While we will miss her greatly, this time is much deserved.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOHN W.
IVES, INSTALLATION COM-
MANDER OF FT. GEORGE G.
MEADE

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Col. John W. Ives, Installation Commander of Ft. George G. Meade. Col. Ives will retire from the military in June, and I want to personally thank him for his years of service to our Nation.

Col. Ives began his distinguished Army career as an enlisted soldier in 1972. In 1981, he was commissioned as a military intelligence officer, and he has spent much of his Army career in military intelligence. Col. Ives became Installation Commander of Ft. Meade in 2002 and he has been instrumental in efforts to modernize and upgrade the 5,400-acre base located in Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

As Installation Commander, he has overseen the first stages of a \$400 million housing redevelopment, the demolition of 100 aging structures from World War I and World War II, and the continuing environmental cleanup of the Army post, which is listed as a Superfund site. In addition, he has supervised important security improvements that have become necessary since 9/11.

The Colonel also has positioned Ft. Meade for the future. He understands that Ft. Meade is part of a larger community and has worked with Anne Arundel County officials to enhance future development opportunities, both on and off the base. He understands that Ft. Meade must keep pace with the future needs of our Nation.

I hope my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in saluting Col. Ives for his dedication and service to our nation. His leadership and understanding of complex issues have made him one of the most successful Installation Commanders in recent memory.

SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME
ACT

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Texas, Mr. TED POE, for his leadership on this important subject

and for inviting me during Nation Crime Victim's Week to express my support for the Victims of Crime Act.

As many of you know, Congress enacted this landmark legislation over two decades ago to make sure victims of crime receive the care and treatment they need to recover from tragic incidents. This legislation sent a clear message to victims across America that Congress will not turn its back on anyone during these difficult times. Unfortunately, the President's proposed budget is on the verge of breaking that promise. His budget would cut \$1.2 billion from this successful program and use it to pay off mounting deficits. This cut will translate directly into less money for programs that help victims throughout our Nation.

The people in my home district of Central Kentucky will immediately feel the effects of this cut. This program has provided millions of dollars for the Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center, which this year alone helped over 750 rape victims. For the last 30 years, the Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center has served 17 counties throughout Central Kentucky. It was the first rape crisis center in the state and one of the first in the nation.

Thanks to the Center's services, over 750 women this year have had a friend to face what could have been the most traumatic event of their life. If the President's budget goes through, the Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center will have to drastically cut its services, lay-off experienced staff, and close the doors of their offices throughout Central Kentucky. Without this funding, there will be fewer staff members to answer calls at the Center's 24-hour crisis line.

Do we really want to leave a 19 year old young woman on hold as she is reaching out for help after a tragic incident? Or even worse, less funding will result in fewer rape crisis counselors to meet a woman at the hospital and sit with her as she undergoes a rape exam and a police interview. Are we willing to have a woman wait alone in the hospital because her hometown does not have a designated rape counselor? And what are we going to say to the women who continue to experience trauma beyond the hospital or the police station. A funding cut would also leave hundreds of rape victims without counselors to help them as they experience flashbacks or relapses. How is a woman expected to rebuild her life if we strip away the tools she needs to do so?

On behalf of all the residents in Kentucky who have suffered terrible crimes and are working to put their lives back in order, I encourage all of my colleagues to support a budget that protects victim's rights. We must keep our promise to these individuals and not leave them waiting at the hospital alone without a friend or counselor to provide relief. We made a promise in 1984 to care for these individuals and we have a responsibility to fulfill that promise. All I am asking is that we do what Congress said it would do in the first place.

IN MEMORY OF DR. VINCENT
LEEROY BLOOM OF FRESNO,
CALIFORNIA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Dr. Vincent Leeroy Bloom of Fresno, California. He is survived by his wife, Melanie, son, David and daughter, Rebecca.

Dr. Bloom, retired chair of the Communication Department at California State University, Fresno, is remembered by all as a dedicated scholar, a loving husband, a passionate teacher, and a strong community member. Students, faculty, colleagues, family and friends not only mourn his passing, but also celebrate his life.

Born in Cambridge, Minnesota, Vince received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Bethel College in St. Paul, Minnesota. He continued his education at Colorado State College and received his Master of Arts Degree in Speech Communication in 1967. Ever the dedicated student, Vince attained his Ph.D. in Communication from Ohio University in 1970.

Fresnans were soon to enjoy the intellectual stimulation of the Doctors Bloom when Vince and his wife Melanie moved to California and joined the Communication Department at California State University, Fresno.

While at CSU Fresno, Dr. Bloom managed to touch the lives of many. He served as department chair for three years, developed a course for shy students, and served as chair of the Academic Senate Standards and Grading Committee. Vince was also chair of the Athletic Advisory Council. In this capacity, Dr. Bloom was instrumental in forming the committees on campus that upheld athletic academic standards.

Dr. Bloom's efforts, however, did not solely focus on Fresno State. Vince served as chair of the National Communication Association Commission on Communication Apprehension and Avoidance; whose newsletter he edited. He was also active in the Western States Communication Association.

While he effectively negotiated the scholastic sphere of his life, Vince also ventured outside of academia. He was a member of Northwest Church, where he served on its Deacon Board. In his efforts to motivate youth he sponsored the College Age Group at his church and taught Sunday school.

It goes without saying that Dr. Vince Bloom was an integral part of the community. His journey through life was guided by his level of commitment to others—a level matched by very few. Although he has passed on, his memory will forever have an impact on the lives of the people who knew him.

IN SUPPORT OF THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT FUND

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, too often the dignity and respect that crime victims deserve

are lost in the system, a system that is supposed to ensure justice for all.

Last October Congress passed and the President signed into law the Justice For All Act which brought some justice back to victims through an established and enforceable set of rights, including the right to be present during proceedings, the right to confront assailants in proceedings, and the right to be notified about the release or escape of the perpetrator from custody.

If these funds are diverted from the Victims of Crime Act Fund, crime victims will suffer again.

The Victims of Crime Act Fund, VOCA, was established by Congress in 1984 as a way to ensure the continued support and protection for the victims of crime. It is funded through fines, forfeitures, and fees assessed against criminal defendants and is directed toward states where it is used to provide services to those organizations that serve crime victims. It is not funded through general tax revenue.

In my own district in Cincinnati the organization ProKids is one such organization that benefits from VOCA funding. ProKids trains special court appointed advocates to serve as a voice for children who have been abused or neglected. VOCA funds provide a substantial portion of the organization's operating budget, without which the protection that ProKids provides to children will end.

We cannot continue to deny those who suffer most from crime. I urge my colleagues to oppose using these funds for any purpose other than for which Congress intended.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, April 14, 2005, through an inadvertent error during voting on S. 256, the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act, I was recorded as not voting. I ask unanimous consent that the permanent record indicates that on rollcall vote No. 108 I would have been recorded as having voted in the negative.

BANKRUPTCY ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2005

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I want to address my remarks to an important provision of S. 256, that is a clarification of Section 303 of the Bankruptcy Code. Section 1234 restates and strengthens Congress' long-standing intent that an involuntary bankruptcy action should not be predicated on disputed claims. Otherwise, opportunistic litigants seeking to gain advantage in contract disputes may improperly employ the leverage of the bankruptcy court.

Because bankruptcy courts should not be used to resolve disputed claims in involuntary cases, the clarification in Section 1234 re-emphasizes that a person who disputes the

amount of, or liability for, a claim should not be disadvantaged by the stigma and expense of an involuntary bankruptcy proceeding. Put simply, the bankruptcy courts in this nation should now uniformly hold that any claim that is subject to a dispute or litigation, or if it is contested, whether as to the amount of the claim, or as to liability for the claim, that claim cannot be used to commence an involuntary bankruptcy case. This is the bright line that Congress intended to create in 1984 because involuntary bankruptcy carries with it, not only a responsibility, but the burden on behalf of petitioning creditors to be accurate and certain that their provable claims are qualified by being without dispute as to either liability or amount before commencing an involuntary bankruptcy case. The consequence of bad faith or even sloppy work here is more disastrous than in garden-variety litigation or through the voluntary use of the bankruptcy laws.

It is incomprehensible that an involuntary bankruptcy petition could be based on claims that are inaccurate as to either liability or amount; the injustice that would result from such a filing is so manifest. Despite this manifest injustice of national significance, judges continue to condone the filing of involuntary petitions brought by creditors using disputed claims. For this reason, section 1234 was made a necessary part of this legislation.

There has never been a vote recorded in opposition to this provision because it clearly expresses the unanimous will of Congress; it is the furthest thing from the mind of any Congressman that an involuntary case could be brought on the basis of claims that are disputed. To the contrary, as expressed by this legislation, it has been the will of Congress since 1984 that any claim used to commence an involuntary case must be without dispute.

The bankruptcy courts should not be enjoyed by involuntary petitioning creditors who cannot then prove up claims as to liability or amount. That party should stand in the most accountable legal position. This clarification is necessary because the intent of Congress has been blurred by judicial decisions that go so far as to split disputed claims into "disputed" and "undisputed" parts, or to describe disputes as "potential disputes." These decisions are wrong and the damage they have caused to the victims of involuntary bankruptcy cases brought using such claims is incalculable. The remedy for such victims rests on an expansive reading of Section 303(i).

Finally, it is the intent of Congress, as expressed through the unique retroactive application of Section 1234, to require the dismissal of any involuntary petition brought by using disputed claims, including any bankruptcy cases that are pending as a result of the misapplication of Section 303.

CHINA'S "ANTI-SECESSION LAW"

HON. TOM FEENEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, on December 29 of last year, the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress took a highly provocative action when it voted to submit an "Anti-Secession Law" to the full Congress which convenes on March 5.

The text of this proposed law was not made public, but there can be absolutely no doubt about its intent. It is intended to create in China's national law the legal justification for a military attack against Taiwan.

The law would spell out a range of activities which, if taken by the Taiwanese people and their democratically elected leaders, would legally constitute secession. Many of these activities, such as Constitutional reform and popular referenda, are the mainstay of any democracy. Yet the Chinese would use them as a legal excuse for a military attack.

We all know that Taiwan is caught in a very different bind. On the one hand it is a flourishing democracy, one of the most vibrant in Asia, with unfettered freedoms of speech, the press and assembly and intensely competitive free political parties.

On the other hand it is claimed as sovereign territory by its gargantuan neighbor, the very antithesis of a free and open democratic society! And this neighbor regularly threatens to annex Taiwan by force.

The United States, under the terms of the Taiwan Relations Act, which is the legal bedrock of our policy, insists that the future of Taiwan be determined by peaceful means. And we have demanded that no actions be taken by either Taiwan or the People's Republic of China, that endanger the tenuous peace and stability that now exists across the Taiwan Strait.

Mr. Speaker, we call this situation, difficult as it is, the status quo. We have had, on occasion, to caution Taiwan about actions which might appear to challenge this status quo.

Now the PRC, through belligerent and dangerous legislation, would substantially change the so-called status quo.

There is still time for China to alter its course. It has seemed to change its normally shrill tone toward Taiwan in recent weeks. I urge the Chinese leadership to put this legislation aside, leave the status quo intact and open itself, instead, to meaningful dialogue and negotiations with the leaders of Taiwan.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II AND EXPRESSING PROFOUND SORROW ON HIS DEATH

SPEECH OF

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I was honored to support H. Res. 190, a resolution passed April 6 that commended the life and achievements of His Holiness Pope John Paul II. Likewise, I am proud to say I was the lead sponsor of legislation that was passed by the House and Senate in 2003, House Concurrent Resolution 313, that urged President Bush to present the Presidential Medal of Freedom to the Pope. Thankfully, President Bush did just that in June of last year.

In a time when many leaders look to the polls and test political winds for guidance, Pope John Paul II stood unflinching at the center of the most controversial moral debates of our time, and held firm, always supporting the sanctity and dignity of every human life.

His presence will be sorely missed, but his accomplishments will long be relished.

Mr. Speaker, as a reminder of the Pope's enduring and historic contributions to world peace, human freedom and to the security and national interests of the United States, I request that the following remarks that I delivered on the House floor on November 18, 2003 be printed in the RECORD.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida. I rise to pay tribute to His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, who in October marked his 25th year as Bishop of Rome and Supreme Pastor of the Catholic Church.

I also wish to offer my sincere appreciation to all my friends and colleagues in the House who have joined together to urge the President to present the Medal of Freedom to Pope John Paul II.

The celebration of the Silver Jubilee of Pope John Paul II's pontificate is but the latest in a series of remarkable milestones that have characterized his life and his ministry.

From his birth on May 18, 1920, Karol Jozef Wojtyla's life has been intertwined with the fate of his native Poland and synonymous with the struggle for his individual freedom and dignity.

In 1978 when then-Cardinal Wojtyla, the Archbishop of Krakow, was elected Pope, the world was a much different place. For the more than 3 decades since Winston Churchill delivered his famous "Iron Curtain" speech, people around the world prepared for what many regarded as the inevitable new war that would someday engulf the East and the West. To win the Cold War, geopolitical strategists honed and implemented various policies including the doctrines of containment and mutual-assured destruction.

At this pivotal moment in history, when the status quo included the subjugation of half the populations of Europe and the omnipresent threat of nuclear annihilation, a remarkable and energetic new Pope set foot on the world stage. To many in the West, this new Polish Pope was an unknown entity. While we recognized immediately his energy, courage and leadership, these same qualities were reviewed with suspicion by some in the East, particularly the communist rulers in Poland.

Pope John Paul II's commitment to freedom, his affection for his native Poland, and the devotion of his countrymen to him were never more evident than the summer of 1980. That August, the Solidarity Workers Union, which Cardinal Wojtyla had nurtured and protected, organized a peaceful strike at the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk.

With the Pope's portrait suddenly appearing everywhere and the admonition from his inaugural sermon, "Do not be afraid," on the lips of the workers, his support and reassurance provided vital sustenance for the strikers and ignited a spiritual spark in their struggle to secure dignity and freedom. Ultimately, that spark would lead to the demise of Soviet communism and the liberation of hundreds of millions in Eastern and Central Europe.

History has recorded the remarkable achievement of Pope John Paul II and his relentless advocacy in pursuit of individual dignity, freedom, and peace. The Pope has not confined his efforts solely to the struggle against totalitarianism. He has engaged wherever people are downtrodden and oppressed.

Mr. Speaker, the Congress should pass House Concurrent Resolution 313 and urge the President to present the Medal of Freedom, our Nation's highest civilian award, to His Holiness.

In authorizing the first Medals of Freedom in 1963, President Kennedy proclaimed that persons who have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace or cultural or other significant public or private endeavors should be so recognized. By any measure it is apparent that there is no individual more deserving of this recognition than Pope John Paul II.

Two other recipients of the Medal of Freedom, President Ronald Reagan and Lady Margaret Thatcher, shared the Pope's commitment to Solidarity in the 1980s. In my estimation, their leadership changed the course of human history. In 1984, while welcoming the Pope to the United States, President Reagan spoke of the connection between freedom, the founding of our own Nation, and America's debt to His Holiness.

President Reagan stated, "I can assure you, Your Holiness, that the American people seek to act as a force for peace in the world and to further the cause of human freedom and dignity. Indeed, an appreciation for the unalienable rights of every human being is the very concept that gave birth to this Nation. Few have understood better than our Nation's founding fathers that claims of human dignity transcend the claims of any government, and this transcendent right itself has a transcendent source."

The President went on to state, "To us, Your Holiness, the Holy See and your pastorate represent one of humanity's greatest moral and spiritual forces," and "your words, your prayers and your example have made you, for those who suffer oppression or the violence of war, a source of solace, inspiration and hope." It is no exaggeration to recognize that this remarkable man has brought hope, comfort and faith to literally billions of people around the world during the course of his ministry.

Three weeks ago today I was honored to be joined by 30 Members of the House in introducing this resolution. Since that time we have gained additional support for which I am grateful, and I particularly appreciate the work of the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) and the Committee on Government Reform who reported our resolution to the floor in such a timely manner.

As stated previously, our bipartisan resolution calls upon the President on behalf of all the people of the United States, to present the Medal of Freedom to Pope John Paul II as a sign of our gratitude for his significant, enduring, and historic contributions to the causes of freedom, human dignity, and peace. We urge the President to do so without delay.

Finally, I include an article by Carl Bernstein entitled "The Holy Alliance," which appeared in the February 24, 1992, edition of Time, as well as an article by Father Robert A. Sirico entitled "The Cold War's Magnificent Seven; Pope John Paul II; Awakener of the East," which was published in the Winter 1992 edition of Policy Review.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would invoke President Reagan once more. When asked his assessment of the Pope before meeting him the first time, the President replied, "He is an example of what so many people have always said about Christian and Judaic tradition, and that is, that when really needed, God provides a man. And I think in Pope John Paul he did just that."

Billions around the world are thankful that God has provided such a man.

The articles referred to are as follows:

[From Time Magazine, Feb. 24, 1992]

THE HOLY ALLIANCE

(By Carl Bernstein)

Only President Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II were present in the Vatican Li-

brary on Monday, June 7, 1982. It was the first time the two had met, and they talked for 50 minutes. In the same wing of the papal apartments, Agostino Cardinal Casaroli and Archbishop Achille Silvestrini met with Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Judge William Clark, Reagan's National Security Adviser. Most of their discussion focused on Israel's invasion of Lebanon, then in its second day; Haig told them Prime Minister Menachem Begin had assured him that the invasion would not go farther than 25 miles inside Lebanon.

But Reagan and the Pope spent only a few minutes reviewing events in the Middle East. Instead they remained focused on a subject much closer to their heart: Poland and the Soviet dominance of Eastern Europe. In that meeting, Reagan and the Pope agreed to undertake a clandestine campaign to hasten the dissolution of the communist empire. Declares Richard Allen, Reagan's first National Security Adviser: "This was one of the great secret alliances of all time."

The operation was focused on Poland, the most populous of the Soviet satellites in Eastern Europe and the birthplace of John Paul II. Both the Pope and the President were convinced that Poland could be broken out of the Soviet orbit if the Vatican and the U.S. committed their resources to destabilizing the Polish government and keeping the outlawed Solidarity movement alive after the declaration of martial law in 1981.

Until Solidarity's legal status was restored in 1989 it flourished underground, supplied, nurtured and advised largely by the network established under the auspices of Reagan and John Paul II. Tons of equipment—fax machines (the first in Poland), printing presses, transmitters, telephones, shortwave radios, video cameras, photocopiers, telex machines, computers, word processors—were smuggled into Poland via channels established by priests and American agents and representatives of the AFL-CIO and European labor movements. Money for the banned union came from CIA funds, the National Endowment for Democracy, secret accounts in the Vatican and Western trade unions.

Lech Walesa and other leaders of Solidarity received strategic advice—often conveyed by priests or American and European labor experts working undercover in Poland—that reflected the thinking of the Vatican and the Reagan Administration. As the effectiveness of the resistance grew, the stream of information to the West about the internal decisions of the Polish government and the contents of Warsaw's communications with Moscow became a flood. The details came not only from priests but also from spies within the Polish government.

DOWN WITH YALTA

According to aides who shared their leaders' view of the world, Reagan and John Paul II refused to accept a fundamental political fact of their lifetimes: the division of Europe as mandated at Yalta and the communist dominance of Eastern Europe. A free, non-communist Poland, they were convinced, would be a dagger to the heart of the Soviet empire; and if Poland became democratic, other East European states would follow.

"We both felt that a great mistake had been made at Yalta and something should be done," Reagan says today. "Solidarity was the very weapon for bringing this about, because it was an organization of the laborers of Poland." Nothing quite like Solidarity had ever existed in Eastern Europe, Reagan notes, adding that the workers' union "was contrary to anything the Soviets would want or the communists [in Poland] would want."

According to Solidarity leaders, Walesa and his lieutenants were aware that both Reagan and John Paul II were committed to

Solidarity's survival, but they could only guess at the extent of the collaboration. "Officially I didn't know the church was working with the U.S.," says Wojciech Adamiecki, the organizer and editor of underground Solidarity newspapers and now a counselor at the Polish embassy in Washington. "We were told the Pope had warned the Soviets that if they entered Poland he would fly to Poland and stay with the Polish people. The church was of primary assistance. It was half open, half secret. Open as far as humanitarian aid—food, money, medicine, doctors' consultations held in churches, for instance—and secret as far as supporting political activities: distributing printing machines of all kinds, giving us a place for underground meetings, organizing special demonstrations."

At their first meeting, Reagan and John Paul II discussed something else they had in common: both had survived assassination attempts only six weeks apart in 1981, and both believed God had saved them for a special mission. "A close friend of Ronald Reagan's told me the President said, 'Look how the evil forces were put in our way and how Providence intervened,'" says Pio Cardinal Laghi, the former apostolic delegate to Washington. According to National Security Adviser Clark, the Pope and Reagan referred to the "miraculous" fact that they had survived. Clark said the men shared "a unity of spiritual view and a unity of vision on the Soviet empire: that right or correctness would ultimately prevail in the divine plan."

"Reagan came in with very simple and strongly held views," says Admiral Bobby Inman, former deputy director of the CIA. "It is a valid point of view that he saw the collapse [of communism] coming and he pushed it—hard." During the first half of 1982, a five-part strategy emerged that was aimed at bringing about the collapse of the Soviet economy, fraying the ties that bound the U.S.S.R. to its client states in the Warsaw Pact and forcing reform inside the Soviet empire. Elements of that strategy included:

The U.S. defense buildup already under way, aimed at making it too costly for the Soviets to compete militarily with the U.S. Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative—Star Wars—became a centerpiece of the strategy.

Covert operations aimed at encouraging reform movements in Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Financial aid to Warsaw Pact nations calibrated to their willingness to protect human rights and undertake political and free-market reforms.

Economic isolation of the Soviet Union and the withholding of Western and Japanese technology from Moscow. The Administration focused on denying the U.S.S.R. what it had hoped would be its principal source of hard currency in the 21st century: profits from a transcontinental pipeline to supply natural gas to Western Europe. The 3,600-mile-long pipeline, stretching from Siberia to France, opened on time on Jan. 1, 1984, but on a far smaller scale than the Soviets had hoped.

Increased use of Radio Liberty, Voice of America and Radio Free Europe to transmit the Administration's messages to the people of Eastern Europe.

Yet in 1982 neither Reagan nor the Pope could anticipate the accession of a Soviet leader like Mikhail Gorbachev, the father of glasnost and perestroika; his efforts at reform unleashed powerful forces that spun out of his control and led to the breakup of the Soviet Union. The Washington-Vatican alliance "didn't cause the fall of communism," observes a U.S. official familiar with the details of the plot to keep Solidarity alive. "Like all great and lucky leaders, the Pope

and the President exploited the forces of history to their own ends."

THE CRACKDOWN

The campaign by Washington and the Vatican to keep Solidarity alive began immediately after General Wojciech Jaruzelski declared martial law on Dec. 13, 1981. In those dark hours, Poland's communications with the noncommunist world were cut; 6,000 leaders of Solidarity were detained; hundreds were charged with treason, subversion and counterrevolution; nine were killed; and the union was banned. But thousands of others went into hiding, many seeking protection in churches, rectories and with priests. Authorities took Walesa into custody and interned him in a remote hunting lodge.

Shortly after Polish security forces moved into the streets, Reagan called the Pope for his advice. At a service of meetings over the next few days, Reagan discussed his options. "We had a massive row in the Cabinet and the National Security Council about putting together a menu of counteractions," former Secretary of State Haig recalls. "They ranged from sanctions that would have been crushing in their impact on Poland to talking so tough that we would have risked creating another situation like Hungary in '56 or Czechoslovakia in '68."

Haig dispatched Ambassador at Large Vernon Walters, a devout Roman Catholic, to meet with John Paul II. Walters arrived in Rome soon after, and met separately with the Pope and with Cardinal Casaroli, the Vatican secretary of state. Both sides agreed that Solidarity's flame must not be extinguished, that the Soviets must become the focus of an international campaign of isolation, and that the Polish government must be subjected to moral and limited economic pressure.

According to U.S. intelligence sources, the Pope had already advised Walesa through church channels to keep his movement operating underground, and to pass the word to Solidarity's 10 million members not to go into the streets and risk provoking Warsaw Pact intervention or civil war with Polish security forces. Because the communists had cut the direct phone lines between Poland and the Vatican, John Paul II communicated with Jozef Cardinal Glemp in Warsaw via radio. He also dispatched his envoys to Poland to report on the situation. "The Vatican's information was absolutely better and quicker than ours in every respect," says Haig. "Though we had some excellent sources of our own, our information was taking too long to filter through the intelligence bureaucracy."

In the first hours of the crisis, Reagan ordered that the Pope receive as quickly as possible relevant American intelligence, including information from a Polish Deputy Minister of Defense who was secretly reporting to the CIA. Washington also handed over to the Vatican reports and analysis from Colonel Ryszard Kuklinski, a senior member of the Polish general staff, who was a CIA informant until November 1981, when he had to be smuggled out of Poland after he warned that the Soviets were prepared to invade if the Polish government did not impose martial law. Kuklinski had issued a similar warning about a Soviet military action in late 1980, which led the outgoing Carter Administration to send secret messages to Leonid Brezhnev informing him that among the costs of an invasion would be the sale of sophisticated U.S. weapons to China. This time, Kuklinski reported to Washington, Brezhnev had grown more impatient, and a disastrous harvest at home meant that the Kremlin did not need mechanized army units to help bring in the crops and instead could spare them for an invasion. "Anything that

we knew that we thought the Pope would not be aware of, we certainly brought it to his attention," says Reagan. "Immediately."

THE CATHOLIC TEAM

The key Administration players were all devout Roman Catholics—CIA chief William Casey, Allen, Clark, Haig, Walters and William Wilson, Reagan's first ambassador to the Vatican. They regarded the U.S.-Vatican relationship as a holy alliance: the moral force of the Pope and the teachings of their church combined with their fierce anticommunism and their notion of American democracy. Yet the mission would have been impossible without the full support of Reagan, who believed fervently in both the benefits and the practical applications of Washington's relationship with the Vatican. One of his earliest goals as President, Reagan says, was to recognize the Vatican as a state "and make them an ally."

According to Admiral John Poindexter, the military assistant to the National Security Adviser when martial law was declared in Poland, Reagan was convinced that the communists had made a huge miscalculation: after allowing Solidarity to operate openly for 16 months before the crackdown, the Polish government would only alienate its countrymen by attempting to cripple the labor movement and, most important, would bring the powerful church into direct conflict with the Polish regime. "I didn't think that this [the decision to impose martial law and crush Solidarity] could stand, because of the history of Poland and the religious aspect and all," Reagan says. Says Cardinal Casaroli: "There was a real coincidence of interests between the U.S. and the Vatican."

The major decisions on funneling aid to Solidarity and responding to the Polish and Soviet governments were made by Reagan, Casey and Clark, in consultation with John Paul II. "Reagan understood these things quite well, including the covert side," says Richard Pipes, the conservative Polish-born scholar who headed the NSC's Soviet and East-European desks. "The President talked about the evil of the Soviet system—not its people—and how we had to do everything possible to help these people in Solidarity who were struggling for freedom. People like Haig and Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige and James Baker [White House chief of staff at the time] thought it wasn't realistic. George Bush never said a word. I used to sit behind him, and I never knew what his opinions were. But Reagan really understood what was at stake."

By most accounts, Casey stepped into the vacuum in the first days after the declaration of martial law in Poland and—as he did in Central America—became the principal policy architect. Meanwhile Pipes and the NSC staff began drafting proposals for sanctions. "The object was to drain the Soviets and to lay blame for martial law at their doorstep," says Pipes. "The sanctions were coordinated with Special Operations [the CIA division in charge of covert task forces], and the first objective was to keep Solidarity alive by supplying money, communications and equipment."

"The church was trying to modulate the whole situation," explains one of the NSC officials who directed the effort to curtail the pipeline. "They [church leaders] were in effect trying to create circumstances that would head off the serious threat of Soviet intervention while allowing us to get tougher and tougher; they were part and parcel of virtually all of our deliberations in terms of how we viewed the evolution of government-sponsored repression in Poland—whether it was lessening or getting worse, and how we should proceed."

As for his conversations with Reagan about Poland, Clark says they were usually short.

"I don't think I ever had an in-depth, one-on-one, private conversation that existed for more than three minutes with him—on any subject. That might shock you. We had our own code of communication. I knew where he wanted to go on Poland. And that was to take it to its nth possibilities. The President and Casey and I discussed the situation on the ground in Poland constantly: covert operations; who was doing what, where, why and how; and the chances of success." According to Clark, he and Casey directed that the President's daily brief—the PDB, an intelligence summary prepared by the CIA—include a special supplement on secret operations and analysis in Poland.

The Pope himself, not only his deputies, met with American officials to assess events in Poland and the effectiveness of American actions and sent back messages—sometimes by letter, sometimes orally—to Reagan. On almost all his trips to Europe and the Middle East, Casey flew first to Rome, so that he could meet with John Paul II and exchange information. But the principal emissary between Washington and Rome remained Walters, a former deputy director of the CIA who worked easily with Casey. Walters met with the Pope perhaps a dozen times, according to Vatican sources. "Walters was sent to and from the Vatican for the specific purpose of carrying messages between the Pope and the President," says former U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican Wilson. "It wasn't supposed to be known that Walters was there. It wasn't all specifically geared to Poland; sometimes there were also discussions about Central America or the hostages in Lebanon."

Often in the Reagan years, American covert operations (including those in Afghanistan, Nicaragua and Angola) involved "lethal assistance" to insurgent forces: arms, mercenaries, military advisers and explosives. In Poland the Pope, the President and Casey embarked on the opposite path: "What they had to do was let the natural forces already in place play this out and not get their fingerprints on it," explains a analyst. What emerges from the Reagan-Casey collaboration is a carefully calibrated operation whose scope was modest compared with other CIA activities. "If Casey were around now, he'd be having some smiles," observes one of his reluctant admirers. "In 1991 Reagan and Casey got the reordering of the world that they wanted."

THE SECRET DIRECTIVE

Less than three weeks before his meeting with the Pope in 1982, the President signed a secret national-security-decision directive (NSDD 32) that authorized a range of economic, diplomatic and covert measures to "neutralize efforts of the U.S.S.R." to maintain its hold on Eastern Europe. In practical terms, the most important covert operations undertaken were those inside Poland. The primary purposes of NSDD 32 were to destabilize the Polish government through covert operations involving propaganda and organizational aid to Solidarity; the promotion of human rights, particularly those related to the right of worship and the Catholic Church; economic pressure; and diplomatic isolation of the communist regime. The document, citing the need to defend democratic reform efforts throughout the Soviet empire, also called for increasing propaganda and underground broadcasting operations in Eastern Europe, actions that Reagan's aides and dissidents in Eastern Europe believe were particularly helpful in chipping away at the notion of Soviet invincibility.

As Republican Congressman Henry Hyde, a member of the House Intelligence Committee from 1985 to 1990, who was apprised of some of the Administration's covert actions, observes, "In Poland we did all of the things

that are done in countries where you want to destabilize a communist government and strengthen resistance to that. We provided the supplies and technical assistance in terms of clandestine newspapers, broadcasting, propaganda, money, organizational help and advice. And working outward from Poland, the same kind of resistance was organized in the other communist countries of Europe."

Among those who played a consulting role was Zbigniew Brzezinski, a native of Poland and President Jimmy Carter's National Security Adviser. "I got along very well with Casey," recalls Brzezinski. "He was very flexible and very imaginative and not very bureaucratic; if something needed to be done, it was done. To sustain an underground effort takes a lot in terms of supplies, networks, etc., and this is why Solidarity wasn't crushed."

On military questions, American intelligence was better than the Vatican's, but the church excelled in its evaluations of the political situation. And in understanding the mood of the people and communicating with the Solidarity leadership, the church was in an incomparable position. "Our information about Poland was very well founded because the bishops were in continual contact with the Holy See and Solidarnosc," explains Cardinal Silvestrini, the Vatican's deputy secretary of state at that time. "They informed us about prisoners, about the activities and needs of Solidarity groups and about the attitude and schisms in the government." All this information was communicated to the President or Casey.

"If you study the situation of Solidarity, you see they acted very cleverly, without pressing too much at the crucial moments, because they had guidance from the church," says one of the Pope's closest aides. "Yes, there were times we restrained Solidarnosc. But Poland was a bomb that could explode—in the heart of communism, bordered by the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and East Germany. Too much pressure, and the bomb would go off."

CASEY'S CAPPUCCINO

Meanwhile, in Washington a close relationship developed between Casey, Clark and Archbishop Laghi. "Casey and I dropped into his [Laghi's] residence early mornings during critical times to gather his comments and counsel," says Clark. "We'd have breakfast and coffee and discuss what was being done in Poland. I'd speak to him frequently on the phone, and he would be in touch with the Pope." Says Laghi: "They liked good cappuccino. Occasionally we might talk about Central America or the church position on birth control. But usually the subject was Poland."

"Almost everything having to do with Poland was handled outside of normal State Department channels and would go through Casey and Clark," says Robert McFarlane, who served as a deputy to both Clark and Haig and later as National Security Adviser to the President. "I knew that they were meeting with Pio Laghi, and that Pio Laghi had been to see the President, but Clark would never tell me what the substance of the discussions was."

On at least six occasions Laghi came to the White House and met with Clark or the President; each time, he entered the White House through the southwest gate in order to avoid reports. "By keeping in such close touch, we did not cross lines," says Laghi. "My role was primarily to facilitate meetings between Walters and the Holy Father. The Holy Father knew his people. It was a very complex situation—how to insist on human rights, on religious freedom, and keep Solidarity alive without provoking the com-

munist authorities further. But I told Vernon, 'Listen to the Holy Father. We have 2,000 years' experience at this.'"

Though William Casey has been vilified for aspects of his tenure as CIA chief, there is no criticism of his instincts on Poland. "Basically, he had a quiet confidence that the communists couldn't hold on, especially in Poland," says former Congressman Edward Derwinski, a Polish-speaking expert on Eastern Europe who counseled the Administration and met with Casey frequently. "He was convinced the system was falling and doomed to collapse one way or another—and Poland was the force that would lead to the dam breaking. He demanded a constant [CIA] focus on Eastern Europe. It wasn't noticed, because other stories were more controversial and were perking at the moment—Nicaragua and Salvador."

In Poland, Casey conducted the kind of old-style operation that he relished, something he might have done in his days at the Office of Strategic Services during World War II or in the early years of the CIA, when the democracies of Western Europe rose from the ashes of World War II. It was through Casey's contacts, his associates say, that elements of the Socialist International were organized on behalf of Solidarity—just as the Social Democratic parties of Western Europe had been used as an instrument of American policy by the CIA in helping to create anticommunist governments after the war. And this time the objective was akin to creating a Christian Democratic majority in Poland—with the church and the overwhelmingly Catholic membership of Solidarity as the dominant political force in a post communist Poland. Through his contacts with leaders of the Socialist International, including officials of socialist governments in France and Sweden, Casey ensured that tactical assistance was available on the continent and at sea to move goods into Poland. "This wasn't about spending huge amounts of money," says Brzezinski. "It was about getting the message out and resisting: books, communications equipment, propaganda, ink and printing presses."

LOOK FOR THE UNION LABEL

In almost every city and town, underground newspapers and mimeographed bulletins appeared, challenging the state-controlled media. The church published its own newspapers. Solidarity missives, photocopied and mimeographed on American-supplied equipment, were tacked to church bulletin boards. Stenciled posters were boldly posted on police stations and government buildings and even on entrances to the state-controlled television center, where army officers broadcast the news.

The American embassy in Warsaw became the pivotal CIA station in the communist world and, by all accounts, the most effective. Meanwhile, the AFL-CIO, which had been the largest source of American support for Solidarity before martial law, regarded the Reagan Administration's approach as too slow and insufficiently confrontational with the Polish authorities. Nonetheless, according to intelligence sources, AFL-CIO president Lane Kirkland and his aide Tom Kahn consulted frequently with Poindexter, Clark and other officials at the State Department and the NSC on such matters as how and when to move goods and supplies into Poland, identifying cities where Solidarity was in particular need of organizing assistance, and examining how Solidarity and the AFL-CIO might collaborate in the preparation of propaganda materials.

"Lane Kirkland deserves special credit," observes Derwinski. "They don't like to admit [it], but they literally were in lock-step [with the Administration]. Also never

forget that Bill Clark's wife is Czechoslovak, as is Lane Kirkland's wife. This is one issue where everybody was aboard; there were no turf fights or mavericks or naysayers."

But AFL-CIO officials were never aware of the extent of clandestine U.S. assistance, or the Administration's reliance on the church for guidance regarding how hard to push Polish and Soviet authorities. Casey was wary of "contaminating" the American and European labor movements by giving them too many details of the Administration's efforts. And indeed this was not strictly a CIA operation. Rather, it was a blend of covert and overt, public policy and secret alliances. Casey recognized that in many instances the AFL-CIO was more imaginative than his own operatives in providing organizational assistance to Solidarity and smuggling equipment into the country. According to former deputy CIA director Inman, Casey decided that the American labor movement's relationship with Solidarity was so good that much of what the CIA needed could be financed and obtained through AFL-CIO channels. "Financial support wasn't what they needed," says Inman. "It was organization, and that was an infinitely better way to help them than through classic covert operations."

The Solidarity office in Brussels became an international clearinghouse: for representatives of the Vatican, for CIA operatives, for the AFL-CIO, for representatives of the Socialist International, for the congressionally funded National Endowment for Democracy, which also worked closely with Casey. It was the place where Solidarity told its backers—some of whose real identities were unknown to Solidarity itself—what it needed, where goods and supplies and organizers could be most useful. Priests, couriers, labor organizers and intelligence operatives moved in and out of Poland with requests for aid and with detailed information on the situation inside the government and the underground. Food and clothing and money to pay fines of Solidarity leaders who were brought before Polish courts poured into the country. Inside Poland, a network of priests carried messages back and forth between the churches where many of Solidarity's leaders were in hiding.

In the summer of 1984, when the sanctions against Poland seemed to be hurting ordinary Poles and not the communists, Laghi traveled to Santa Barbara to meet with Reagan at the Western White House and urge that some of the sanctions be lifted. The Administration complied. At the same time, the White House, in close consultation with the Vatican, refused to ease its economic pressures on Moscow—denying technology, food and cultural exchanges as the price for continuing oppression in Poland.

Much of the equipment destined for Solidarity arrived in Poland by ship—often packed in mismarked containers sent from Denmark and Sweden, then unloaded at Gdansk and other ports by dockers secretly working with Solidarity. According to Administration officials, the socialist government of Sweden—and Swedish labor unions—played a crucial role in arranging the transshipment of goods to Poland. From the Polish docks, equipment moved to its destination in trucks and private cars driven by Solidarity sympathizers who often used churches and priests as their point of contact for deliveries and pickups.

"SOLIDARITY LIVES!"

"The Administration plugged into the church across the board," observes Derwinski, now Secretary of Veterans Affairs. "Not just through the church hierarchy but through individual churches and

bishops. Monsignor Bronislaw Dabrowski, a deputy to Cardinal Glomp, came to use often to tell us what was needed: he would meet with me, with Casey, the NSC and sometimes with Walters." John Cardinal Krol of Philadelphia, whose father was born in Poland, was the American churchman closest to the Pope. He frequently met with Casey to discuss support for Solidarity and covert operations, according to CIA sources and Derwinski. "Krol hit it off very well with President Reagan and was a source of constant advice and contact," says Derwinski. "Often he was the one Casey or Clark went to, the one who really understood the situation."

By 1985 it was apparent that the Polish government's campaign to suppress Solidarity had failed. According to a report by Adrian Karatnycky, who helped organize the AFL-CIO's assistance to Solidarity, there were more than 400 underground periodicals appearing in Poland, some with a circulation that exceeded 30,000. Books and pamphlets challenging the authority of the communist government were printed by the thousands. Comic books for children recast Polish fables and legends, with Jaruzelski pictured as the villain, communism as the red dragon and Walesa as the heroic knight. In church basements and homes, millions of viewers watched documentary videos produced and screened on the equipment smuggled into the country.

With clandestine broadcasting equipment supplied by the CIA and the AFL-CIO, Solidarity regularly broke into the government's radio programming, often with the message "Solidarity lives!" or "Resist!" Armed with a transmitter supplied by the CIA through church channels, Solidarity interrupted television programming with both audio and visual messages, including calls for strikes and demonstrations. "There was a great moment at the half time of the national soccer championship," says a Vatican official. "Just as the whistle sounded for the half, a Solidarity Lives! banner went up on the screen and a tape came on calling for resistance. What was particularly ingenious was waiting for the half-time break; had the interruption come during actual soccer play, it could have alienated people." As Brzezinski sums it up, "This was the first time that communist police suppression didn't succeed."

"Nobody believed the collapse of communism would happen this fast or on this timetable," says a cardinal who is one of the Pope's closest aides. "But in their first meeting, the holy Father and the President committed themselves and the institutions of the church and America to such a goal. And from that day, the focus was to bring it about in Poland."

Step by reluctant step, the Soviets and the communist government of Poland bowed to the moral, economic and political pressure imposed by the Pope and the President. Jails were emptied, Walesa's trial on charges of slandering state officials was abandoned, the Polish communist party turned fratricidal, and the country's economy collapsed in a haze of strikes and demonstrations and sanctions.

On Feb. 19, 1987, after Warsaw had pledged to open a dialogue with the church, Reagan lifted U.S. sanctions. Four months later, Pope John Paul II was cheered by millions of his countrymen as he traveled across Poland demanding human rights and praising Solidarity. In July 1988, Gorbachev visited Warsaw and signaled Moscow's recognition that the government could not rule without Solidarity's cooperation. On April 5, 1989, the two sides signed agreements legalizing Solidarity and calling for open parliamentary elections in June. In December 1990, nine years after he was arrested and his labor

union banned, Lech Walesa became President of Poland.

[Correction (Apr. 27, 1992): A short article accompanying our report on the cooperative effort of President Reagan and Pope John Paul II to assist Poland's Solidarity movement [Cover, Feb. 24] incorrectly stated the U.S. position on financial aid for family planning in foreign countries. The U.S. announced in 1984 that it would withhold funds for abortion or coerced birth control—but not for all family planning.]

[From the Policy Review, 1992 Winter]
THE COLD WAR'S MAGNIFICENT SEVEN; POPE JOHN PAUL II; AWAKENER OF THE EAST
(By Fr. Robert A. Sirico)

The victory of the Free World in the Cold War ranks with the victory of the Allies in World War II, the landing on the moon, and the spectacular advances in health and prosperity around most of the world as the most important achievement of mankind in this century. There were countless heroes in the defeat of Communism—among them the people of the former Soviet empire whose indomitable spirit ultimately triumphed over their enslavers, and the taxpayers of the Western alliance who spent trillions of dollars over more than 40 years to protect their countries and civilization from the Soviet threat. The West was also blessed by extraordinary leaders and moral voices who defined the nature of the conflict, galvanized the popular will to resist Communism, and created the institutions that led to eventual victory. Policy Review pays tribute here to seven of those leaders whose words and deeds were essential for the wonderful events of the last few years.

It was a nervous clique of geriatric Stalinists who watched from Moscow in 1979 as millions of Poles poured into the streets of Krakow to greet their native son Karol Wojtyla when he returned to them as Pope John Paul II. A political awareness dawned among these teeming masses when they saw in one another's boldness the impotence of the dictatorship that claimed dominance over their lives.

Nor were the only witnesses to these events Politburo members and Poles. Lithuanians and Ukrainians, Hungarians and Czechoslovakians also witnessed with astonishment the unfurling of Solidarity banners in a Communist nation.

Perhaps it was not so astonishing to the new pope. As a young boy Wojtyla used to pause for a few moments following Mass to offer a series of prayers "for the conversion of Russia."

From the outset, Wojtyla was a robust, intense, strong, and disciplined young man. His charismatic personality was augmented by his facility with languages and further honed by theatrical training. His combination of fervent piety and firm anti-Communism would serve him well in his future as priest, bishop, and cardinal in Poland. In a country that is itself 93 percent Roman Catholic, such a profession would necessitate dealing with Russia's surrogates, sometimes making strategic accommodations, without yielding the moral ground to Communism.

John Paul comprehended the dynamics of Marxism both intellectually and personally. He knew Communism well, so well that some left-wing theologians initially mistook his familiarity with Marxism for sympathy. They hoped he would lead a new and enriched dialogue between Christianity and Marxism. Instead, by virtue of his philosophical and theological training, he was equipped both to refute Marxism's logical errors, and also to offer a more compelling alternative in its place.

As leader of the largest Christian religion, John Paul is also the leader of a vast enter-

prise, joined by thousands of subsidiary organizations. These are linked by a common set of beliefs and symbols, enabling the transcendence of the usual barriers of language, culture, and geographic border. This expansive umbrella enabled him, through gesture, encyclical, and homily, to inspire millions of people living under regimes that violated their ability to work for authentic liberty.

MORAL CONFLICT

During his pontificate, two other figures stepped onto the world stage and occupied with him critical roles in the momentous events that would unfold. A year after John Paul assumed his place at the Vatican in 1978, Margaret Thatcher came to occupy 10 Downing Street. About a year and a half later, Ronald Reagan took up residency in the White House.

The common thread between John Paul, Thatcher, and Reagan is that while they appreciated the art of politics, they understood the global situation in fundamentally moral categories. They understood, as few world leaders have understood, that the argument in favor of freedom is a moral argument as well as a political and economic one. Without the moral dimension, the battles that these cold warriors waged would have been meaningless and uninspiring.

The compelling dignity and moral depth of John Paul is especially highlighted when he contrasted with the leaders of another international religious body, and their posture toward the dictatorships of Eastern Europe. I speak here, of course, of the World Council of Churches. Almost from its inception, and throughout the past 40 years, the socialist penchants of the WCC prevented it from offering any kind of principled opposition to the immorality of Communism.

"Liberation" was the central theme of the WCC's Nairobi Assembly in 1975. South Africa was denounced alongside "white Atlantic nations"; the rights of aborigines in Australia were defended even as the plight of migrant workers in Europe was decried.

Yet a motion to include in this litany of injustice a mention of religious repression in Russia was turned back. Instead, the assembly would only acknowledge that it "devoted a substantial period of discussion to the alleged denials of religious liberty in the USSR" [emphasis added].

While the officers of the WCC were funding Marxist guerrillas in Africa in the name of "liberation," John Paul was teaching the Polish under ground in the effective use of nonviolent resistance to totalitarianism. He did this in his writings, as well as in the numerous meetings and audiences he held with leaders of the underground.

No doubt historians who write on this period in years to come will not only see the moral dimension, but also the superb tactical insight of the use of nonviolence. Too aggressive a stance on the part of the Polish underground and the Soviet Union might have cracked down at a much earlier and more vulnerable stage. Drawing on a tradition accustomed to martyrs, whose blood, it is said, is the seed of the Roman Catholic Church, prayer and determination in the face of persecution resulted in one of the most radical yet bloodless revolutions in world history.

SPIRIT OF LIBERTY

If there is one word to characterize the legacy John Paul will leave to history, perhaps that word is liberty.

Historians will undoubtedly note the amazing move in the Catholic world toward democratic political processes and free economies in the period of this pope's reign. This is clearly evident in Latin America where the Pope has confronted unjust regimes of every stripe.

How fitting, then, that John Paul, this priest from Poland who lived under what is arguably history's most immoral and destructive political system, should have been the one to write the epitaph for collectivism in its Communist, socialist, and welfare statist incarnations. This he has done in the form of his most recent social encyclical, *Centesimus Annus* ("The Hundredth Year").

Celebrating the centenary of Pope Leo XIII's pastoral letter *Rerum Navarum*, *Centesimus Annus* looks at the events of this age and envisions a world where government is strictly limited and based on the rule of law; where free people trade in free markets to produce a more prosperous economy for all the world's needy; and where the social system is rooted in moral and religious tradition.

It will be interesting to see whether this moral vision will have greater impact on the West or on the former republics of the Soviet empire that John Paul did so much to free.

Nothing written here is to be construed as necessarily reflecting the views of The Heritage Foundation or as an attempt to aid or hinder the passage of any bill before Congress.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2005 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 20

9:30 a.m.
 Environment and Public Works
 To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gregory B. Jaczko, of the District of Columbia, and Peter B. Lyons, of Virginia, each to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. SD-406

10 a.m.
 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
 To continue hearings to examine proposals to improve the regulation of the Housing Government-Sponsored Enterprises. SD-538

Appropriations
 Defense Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the National Guard and Reserve Budget. SD-192

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
 Education and Early Childhood Development Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine the Federal role in helping parents of young children. SD-430

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Science and Space Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine International Space Station research benefits. SR-253

Small Business and Entrepreneurship
 To hold hearings to examine the small business health care crisis, focusing on alternatives for lowering costs and covering the uninsured. SR-428A

10:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 District of Columbia Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the government of the District of Columbia, focusing on the District of Columbia Courts, the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, and the Public Defender Service. SD-138

Appropriations
 Homeland Security Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of Homeland Security. SD-124

2 p.m.
 Armed Services
 Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine the readiness of military units deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2006. SR-222

2:30 p.m.
 Judiciary
 Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine a review of the material support to Terrorism Prohibition Improvements Act. SD-226

Intelligence
 Closed business meeting to consider certain intelligence matters. SH-219

APRIL 21

9:30 a.m.
 Foreign Relations
 To hold hearings to examine the anti-corruption strategies of the African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank and European Bank on Reconstruction and Development. SD-419

Judiciary
 Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-226

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of Amtrak. SR-253

Appropriations
 Transportation, Treasury and General Government Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2006 for the Office of Management and Budget. SD-138

10 a.m.
 Armed Services
 To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kenneth J. Krieg, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, and Lieutenant General Michael V. Hayden, United States Air Force, for appointment to the grade of general and to be Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence. SD-106

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
 To continue hearings to examine proposals to improve the regulation of Housing Government-Sponsored Enterprises. SD-538

Budget
 To hold hearings to examine structural deficits and budget process reform. SH-216

Finance
 To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Robert J. Portman, of Ohio, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador. SD-628

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
 To hold hearings to examine easing costs and expanding access relating to small businesses and health insurance. SD-430

Veterans' Affairs
 To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to examine the legislative presentations of the Fleet Reserve Association, the Air Force Sergeants Association, the Retired Enlisted Association, and the Gold Star Wives of America. 345 CHOB

10:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine an overview of methamphetamine abuse. SD-192

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
 Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine governmentwide workforce flexibilities available to federal agencies including the implementation, use by agencies, and training and education related to using the new flexibilities. SD-562

1:30 p.m.
 Armed Services
 Personnel Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine present and future costs of Department of Defense health care, and national health care trends in the civilian sector. SR-232A

2 p.m.
 Printing
 Business meeting to consider organizational matters. S-219, Capitol

2:30 p.m.
 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
 Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine the President's management agenda, including Federal financial performance, best practices, and program accountability. SD-562

- Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Housing and Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. SD-538
- Judiciary
Intellectual Property Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the patent system today and tomorrow. SD-226
- Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219
- APRIL 22
- 9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine United States Special Operations Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2006; to be followed by a closed session in S-407, Capitol. SR-222
- APRIL 26
- 9:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the Millennium Challenge Corporation's global impact. SD-419
- 10 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the status of the Department of Energy's Nuclear Power 2010 program. SD-366
- Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Retirement Security and Aging Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine pensions. SD-430
- 2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the preparedness of the Department of Agriculture and the Interior for the 2005 wildfire season, including the agencies' assessment of the risk of fires by region, the status of and contracting for aerial fire suppression assets, and other information needed to better understand the agencies ability to deal with the upcoming fire season. SD-366
- APRIL 27
- 9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings to examine regulation of Indian gaming. SR-485
- 10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-430
- 10:30 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Thomas C. Dorr, of Iowa, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development, and to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation. SR-328A
- APRIL 28
- 10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine the Higher Education Act. SD-430
- 2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 242, to establish 4 memorials to the Space Shuttle Columbia in the State of Texas, S. 262, to authorize appropriations to the Secretary of the Interior for the restoration of the Angel Island Immigration Station in the State of California, S. 336, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study of the feasibility of designating the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Watertrail as a national historic trail, S. 670, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life of Cesar Estrada Chavez and the farm labor movement, S. 777, to designate Catoctin Mountain Park in the State of Maryland as the "Catoctin Mountain National Recreation Area", and H.R. 126, to amend Public Law 89-366 to allow for an adjustment in the number of free roaming horses permitted in Cape Lookout National Seashore. SD-366
- MAY 11
- 9:30 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation's translation program. SD-226
- SEPTEMBER 20
- 10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion. 345 CHOB
- CANCELLATIONS
- APRIL 28
- 10 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine U.S. Assistance to Sudan and the Darfur Crisis. SH-216