

Beginning in the early 1990s, Dr. Storrs's research focused more on Brazil and Mexico within the context of U.S. initiatives to promote free trade in Latin America. On Mexico, he dealt with issues relating to congressional passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1993, congressional concerns with political stability and a guerrilla insurgency in 1994, and a large financial assistance package for Mexico in 1995. He also worked extensively on congressional initiatives to strengthen regional and bilateral drug control programs with Mexico. For well over a decade Larry has provided extensive support to the annual U.S.-Mexico Interparliamentary Group meetings, and he has accompanied the U.S. delegation for the past 7 years.

Larry Storrs is a fine example of those many dedicated staff of the Congressional Research Service who help inform Congress as it deliberates important public policy issues. His gracious demeanor and considerable expertise on Latin America made him an invaluable asset to Congress for many years. On behalf of my colleagues, I extend our deep appreciation to Larry for his service, and wish him the very best in future endeavors. I doubt he will really retire from teaching. Good teachers never do. There will always be someone lucky enough to learn from Dr. Storrs. We wish you the best, Larry!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to surgery, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

December 17, 2005:

Rollcall vote 663, on Agreeing to H. Res. 623—Providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 664, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2520—the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act, I would have voted aye.

December 19, 2005:

Rollcall vote 665, on Agreeing to the Conference Report H.R. 1815—the National Defense Authorization Act of FY 2006, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 666, on Agreeing to H. Res. 639—Waiving points of order against the conference report on H.R. 2863, FY 2006 Department of Defense Appropriations, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 667, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended to H. Con. Res. 284—Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the 2005 presidential and parliamentary elections in Egypt, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 668, on the Motion to Recommit with instructions H.R. 2863—Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, I would have voted nay.

Rollcall vote 669, on Agreeing to the Conference Report H.R. 2863—Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 670, on Agreeing to the Conference Report S. 1932—the Budget Reconciliation Act of 2006, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 671, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree—Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the education curriculum of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, I would have voted aye.

U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL KOFI ANNAN INAUGURATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to my Colleagues' attention to a very important event, the first annual International Day of Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust, which took place last Friday, January 27, 2006, at the U.N. in New York.

Mr. Speaker, under the leadership of my two good friends, Secretary General Kofi Annan and General Assembly President Jan Eliasson, the U.N. established this annual remembrance, and in doing so, has taken a critical step to begin to undo a dark legacy of bias and hatred directed against Jews and the Democratic State of Israel that has long plagued the U.N. The idea for an annual U.N. Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust, which was instituted by Resolution 60/7 on November 1, 2005, grew out of an event that took place one year ago in New York, an historic Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly to mark the 60th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Nazi Death Camps on January 25, 2005. Last year's U.N. Special Session was convened with the support of the vast majority of U.N. member State's at the urging of Secretary General Annan.

The relevance of and the need for this International Day of Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust could not be more clear. Mr. Speaker, in the months following the establishment of the International Day of Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust by Resolution 60/7, the current President of Iran, Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, has publicly stated that he believes that Holocaust is a "myth" and that Israel "should be wiped off the map."

Mr. Speaker, I draw my colleagues' attention to the courageous remarks U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan delivered on the occasion of the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust last Friday, January 27th. The Secretary General stated, "Remembering is a necessary rebuke to those who say the Holocaust never happened or has been exaggerated. Holocaust denial is the work of bigots. We must reject their false claims whenever, wherever and by whomever they are made."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the entire text of the Secretary General's important address be placed in the RECORD. I also ask that the entire text of remarks delivered at that same event by General Assembly President Jan Eliasson of Sweden and Israel's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambas-

sador Dan Gillerman be included in the RECORD.

MESSAGE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST BY SECRETARY-GENERAL KOFI ANNAN

Today, for the first time, the United Nations marks what will, from now on be an annual observance: the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

There can be no reversing the unique tragedy of the Holocaust. It must be remembered, with shame and horror, for as long as human memory continues.

Only by remembering can we pay fitting tribute to the victims. Millions of innocent Jews and members of other minorities were murdered in the most barbarous ways imaginable. We must never forget those men, women and children, or their agony.

Remembering is a necessary rebuke to those who say the Holocaust never happened or has been exaggerated. Holocaust denial is the work of bigots. We must reject their false claims whenever, wherever and by whomever they are made.

Remembering is also a safeguard for the future. The abyss reached in the Nazi death camps started with hatred, prejudice and anti-Semitism. Recalling these origins can remind us to be ever on the lookout for warning signs.

As the Holocaust recedes in time, and as the number of survivors dwindles, it falls to us—the current generation—to carry the torch of remembrance and uphold the cause of human dignity.

The United Nations was founded as a reaction to the horrors of the Second World War. Even so, the international community has too often failed to stand up to mass atrocities.

In recent years we have taken important steps to improve on that record, such as establishing the International Criminal Court and agreeing on the collective responsibility to protect.

On this International Day of Commemoration, the theme of our observance is "remembrance and beyond". In that spirit, let us pledge ourselves to even greater efforts to prevent genocide and crimes against humanity.

MESSAGE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, H.E. MR. JAN ELIASSON, ON THE OCCASION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Today we observe for the first time the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. This event will take place every year on 27 January. This follows the adoption without a vote of General Assembly resolution 60/7 on "Holocaust remembrance", on 1 November, 2005.

This year's commemoration is of special significance. It takes place only one year after the General Assembly's Special Session on 24 January 2005, which marked the sixtieth anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps.

The liberation of the Nazi death camps revealed to the world one of the most horrendous crimes against humanity. Auschwitz-Birkenau, Dachau, Sobibor, and Treblinka are among the sites where the lives of millions of people were extinguished on political, religious or ethnic grounds.

Remembering this low point in human history is a solemn duty for all of us. We must continue to exorcise the evil of the past. In resolution 60/7, the General Assembly unequivocally "rejects any denial of the Holocaust as an historic event, either in full or in part."