

My mother told me how helpless she felt. She knew what her government was doing was wrong but she didn't know how to change it. She felt powerless but also felt guilty and ashamed because of what the United States government had done.

She was a life long Democrat and cast her first Presidential vote for FDR . . . but she never agreed with what he did to her neighbors.

There was no apology, no financial support, no help from the Federal Government until many years later.

Finally, on February 19, 1976 President Gerald Ford formally rescinded Executive Order 9066.

And, at long last, on July 21, 1980 Congress adopted legislation establishing the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) to investigate the claim that the incarceration of Japanese Americans and legal resident aliens during World War II was justified by military necessity.

On August 10, 1988 the Civil Liberties Act was signed into law, authorizing payments of \$20,000 to each person that suffered from internment and established the Office of Redress to identify, locate, and pay these individuals, 82,219 were paid.

By then my neighbors and my parents neighbors who had been unjustly incarcerated—Ed Kawazoe, Jimi Yamaichi, Ted and Raiko, and many others—received at long last an apology. Some lived long enough to receive the compensation provided for in the law.

These efforts were celebrated in the community of Japanese Americans. But they were also celebrated in the broader community because Americans who were not incarcerated, like my mother, felt the shame and the guilt.

And while an apology could not undo the injustice and the compensation did not fully cover the loss, it helped that our country admitted the mistake and tried to make amends.

On March 4, 2004 H. Res. 56, introduced by Congressman MIKE HONDA, passed the House by a unanimous vote of 404-0. The resolution supports the goals of the Japanese, German, and Italian American communities in recognizing a National Day of Remembrance on the day FDR signed the infamous Executive Order 9066—February 19, 1942. It also seeks to increase public awareness of the events surrounding the restriction, exclusion, and internment of individuals and families during World War II.

Today, I support Mr. HONDA's resolution to recognize February 19th as the Day of Remembrance. It is the least we can do—spend one day per year reflecting on the horrors of internment, remember those who suffered, and work to find ways never to repeat that terrible page in history.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 16 I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

BUSH ONCE AGAIN SKIRTING LAW IMPACTING OUR NATIONAL SECURITY

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, Congress should not allow the United Arab Emirates port deal to go through. It must be stopped, and House Republicans should grow a backbone and finally stand up to the president in the name of national security.

This deal shows once again the lengths the Bush administration will go to bend the laws to their advantage. The administration failed to conduct a 45-day investigation that is legally required. This, in itself, should be enough to stop this deal.

The national security implications are simply too important to ignore. And, unfortunately, House Republicans have neglected our vulnerable ports since 9/11. Over the past four years, House Republicans have opposed and defeated Democratic efforts to increase funding for port security. Right now, only six percent of cargo coming into the U.S. is being checked, producing a large hole in our homeland security. Democrats have tried to increase port security funding on this House floor FOUR TIMES over the last four years, and House Republicans defeated our efforts every time.

It's time Republicans make port security a priority.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND WORK OF MS. MARY JO AVERY, ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary contributions of a community and labor leader in the 4th Congressional District. Ms. Mary Jo Avery, long-time member and officer of Local 4603 of the Communications Workers of America, has dedicated her life to public service. I salute her for her achievements as she retires from SBC-Ameritech after 32 years of service.

Within the labor movement, Ms. Avery worked tirelessly to advance women's leadership and to advocate for solutions to the unique difficulties women workers often face. An award-winning union leader, she also played a pivotal role in developing the Wisconsin Women's Network into a vibrant and powerful organization. She helped mentor, develop, support and advance women leaders, not only within the labor movement but in the broader community. Herself a devoted parent—mother of four, grandmother of 9, and great-grandmother of 5—she argued for establishing policies and practices that would facilitate workers' efforts to maintain a work/family balance. CWA's leadership on this issue no doubt drew many lessons from Ms. Avery's own personal experience.

Also a noted civil rights activist, Ms. Avery connected the labor movement to local and

national civil rights struggles. She received the National A. Philip Randolph Rosina Tucker Award for civil rights leadership and the Black Women's Network's Outstanding Achievement Award. Since 1995, she has served as President of the Milwaukee Chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, and was previously appointed to the City of Milwaukee's Civil Rights Commission.

I have known Ms. Avery for over 20 years. She has been an important ally in the struggle to realize ideals we both share, and has been a personal source of inspiration and support. In all she does, Mary Jo works to ensure that the promise of America is extended to those often left out—women, people of color, and other vulnerable communities. I commend her for these accomplishments, thank her for her groundbreaking leadership, and wish her a long and enjoyable retirement.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES PEACE CORPS

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, it was exactly 45 years ago today, on March 1, 1961, that President John F. Kennedy signed the Executive Order establishing the Peace Corps under its first Director, Sargent Shriver. Five months later, in that distant summer of 1961, the inaugural group of volunteers prepared to leave for the African country of Ghana. These first Peace Corps volunteers "boarded a chartered Pan American propeller driven plane for the 17-hour flight to Accra." This was the beginning of not only a life-shaping experience for these 56 pioneers but also the commencement of the entire Peace Corps saga which we are honoring today. These fellow citizens had responded to the clarion call contained in President Kennedy's inaugural address, which had challenged all Americans to "ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

Since that first summer, over 170,000 volunteers have answered the late President's call, serving in over 137 countries. These are our diplomats of the highways and byways. They bring the smiling face of American optimism, the famous American can-do spirit, and the American dedication to democratic values to the far corners of the globe. Their "offices" are found in dirt-floor village classrooms, at rural health clinics, on Third World farms, in development projects in some of the world's worst urban slums, and at orphanages for the abandoned children of the world. Their rewards are found in the shy smiles of students, the grateful laughter of children, and the hearty handshakes of senior citizens who have finally found their longed-for American friend. The price these volunteers are willing to pay for their unique experience of service often includes sweat and toil, loneliness and frustration, but also the hearty laughter of welcomes and the sad tears of fond farewells. They are the unsung heroes of America's continued engagement with the peoples of the developing world. At a time when anti-Americanism has become the fashion in certain quarters overseas, Peace Corps volunteers have served

their country in a manner which promotes international understanding and which makes all Americans proud.

And so I join the Peace Corps Director, Gaddi H. Vasquez, and his dedicated staff at both Peace Corps Headquarters and in the field, in honoring those over eight thousand volunteers, currently serving in 71 countries around the world, as well as those who served in the past. The present volunteers, at a time of increased security concerns in many overseas locales, deserve special recognition for their decision to leave family and friends, home and hearth, and their comfortable, secure lives behind in pursuit of the Peace Corps mission of "world peace and friendship."

Former volunteers often use the linguistic and cultural skills they acquired in Peace Corps service later in their professional lives. They sometimes find themselves continuing to work with distinction in the fields of government and international affairs. Their ranks include current Members of the House and Senate as well as Congressional staff. In this regard, these "RPCVs," as returned volunteers are called, continue to make a contribution, providing windows of understanding regarding diverse cultures of which most Americans have only a scant knowledge. Every year around this March 1st anniversary date, returned volunteers visit classrooms and community centers around the United States to carry their message of international friendship and understanding. At a time of heightened sensitivity to the need for greater cultural understanding of peoples from different traditions, the insights of former Peace Corps volunteers constitute a too little recognized national treasure.

There is one endeavor related to the Peace Corps put forward during my tenure as Chairman of the International Relations Committee of which I am particularly proud. This is the legislative effort undertaken by myself and my good friend from across the aisle, TOM LANTOS, to see that there was sufficient funding to achieve President Bush's goal of increasing the size of Peace Corps. This undertaking was one concrete means for addressing the new challenges to international mutual understanding found in our post-September 11th world. Let us all hope that the Peace Corps continues to grow as one response to these challenges. Money spent on the Peace Corps is money well spent.

And so, today, I send greetings to those serving around the world who have asked for little in return while asking what they, themselves, could do for their country. Whether this message finds you on some Caribbean isle, high in the Andes mountains, along a river in western Africa, in a sub-Saharan village, in a classroom in eastern Europe, on the steppes of Mongolia, in a river town in China, in a crowded urban center in Bangladesh, or far away in the South Pacific, I send you salutations on your anniversary date. Thank you for your service as America's Goodwill Ambassadors along the world's highways and byways. May you achieve every professional and personal success and may the Peace Corps flourish for the next 45 years.

CONGRATULATING THE PALM HARBOR UNIVERSITY BOYS AND GIRLS VARSITY TEAMS FOR WINNING THE FLORIDA STATE SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Palm Harbor University High School boys and girls varsity soccer teams. Both teams were recently crowned 2006 Florida State Soccer Champions (Class 5A).

The Palm Harbor University Hurricanes boys' team (26-4) shut out defending champion, Auburndale, 3-0 to claim the state title. The girls' team (20-1) also left their competition scoreless, as they triumphed over Bloomingdale High School 2-0 to win the Class 5A finals.

This was the second state championship for the Palm Harbor University boys (2002, 2006) and the third title for the girls team (1999, 2000, and 2006). Palm Harbor University made history with the 2006 championships, marking only the second time in Florida where a public school won boys and girls soccer titles in the same year.

For the benefit of my colleagues, following my remarks I will include reports from the St. Petersburg Times about the championship efforts of these two teams.

Congratulations to Coach Mike Mannino and Coach John Planamente for their leadership, dedication and the positive examples they set. In addition, Principal Harry Brown and his administration, Athletic Director Bob Heintz, the faculty and staff, the parents, the students, the alumni and the fans should all be applauded for their community spirit and faithful support. Most importantly, I would like to commend those outstanding student athletes who exemplified the meaning of sportsmanship, hard work and competitive spirit. All around, a job well done! You have made us all proud and we look forward to supporting Palm Harbor University boys and girls soccer teams next year.

[From the St. Petersburg Times, Feb. 10, 2006]

PALM HARBOR CLAIMS THIRD STATE CROWN (By Keith Nebuhr)

FORT LAUDERDALE.—One day after stunning the Nation's top-ranked team, Palm Harbor U. claimed an even bigger victory.

And this one comes with a ring.

Behind solid play on both ends, the Hurricanes defeated Bloomingdale 2-0 in the Class 5A final at Lockhart Stadium on Thursday night to complete 2 days in South Florida the players aren't soon to forget. Annie Stalzer's goal in the 48th minute gave PHU the lead. Kelly Brinkman added a score in the 78th minute that iced it.

When the game ended, PHU players raced toward the sideline to celebrate with fans. After accepting the gold medals and the championship trophy, they took a team picture. Many then called friends and relatives on their cell phones to give them the news.

"We've been play so well" Stalzer said. "This is the perfect season! We couldn't ask for anything better."

The title is the third for PHU (20-1), which also earned championships in 1999 and 2000.

The Hurricanes lost to Fort Lauderdale St. Thomas Aquinas 3-0 in last season's final, but this time, the Hurricanes weren't to be denied. Since the start of its district tournament (a span of seven games), PHU outscored opponents 24-2. And it beat Aquinas 2-1 in the semifinals.

"The experience of being here helped," Hurricanes coach John Planamente said. "Every year, we've taken another step."

Bloomingdale (24-2-1), going for its second title, had allowed 10 goals all season before Thursday. Only once had an opponent scored more than one. In the playoffs, just one of the Bulls' previous opponents found the net.

"They played a great game," Bloomingdale coach Sue Peet said of PHU.

PHU outshot Bloomingdale 16-4 (the Bulls had two shots in the first 75 minutes) and made sure it had two or three defenders around star midfielder Marissa Kazbour at all times.

PHU was equally solid on offense. But though the Hurricanes constantly pressured Bloomingdale's defense, they couldn't break a scoreless tie until Stalzer's goal, which bounced off one defender and over the head of goalkeeper Cristina Coca.

[From the St. Petersburg Times, Feb. 17, 2006]

PHU MAKES HISTORY IN VICTORY (By Brandon Wright)

FORT LAUDERDALE—Nate Wysk dropped flat on his back, extending his arms to the sky. Nick Eby ran full speed by midfield and slid across the moist grass. Eugene Starikov was scooped up by booster club vice president Doug Eby, who carried the diminutive striker like a baby. And of course, coach Mike Mannino got the customary Gatorade bath.

Palm Harbor University (26-4) scored a pair of goals in a three-minute span of the first half to complete a torrid run through the final four with a 3-0 win against defending champion Auburndale for the 5A state crown.

The Hurricanes became the sixth school ever, and second public school, to win both boys and girls soccer titles in the same year.

The PHU girls beat Bloomingdale 2-0 last week. It was the second boys championship in school history, the first coming in 2002.

"We put our whole hearts into winning state and we fulfilled our goal," Starikov said. "We won a state championship, baby!"

"I was very nervous coming in," said Eby, who scored PHU's first goal. "But we deserve this, we worked so hard every day at practice."

PHU rolled through the final four games, outscoring opponents 8-0. The Hurricanes also put an end to Auburndale's 22-game win streak.

"To come in and give up no goals at this level of play and score eight goals grand total is awesome," Mannino said.

Much like the semifinal where PHU scored four goals in an 11-minute stretch, the Hurricanes struck quickly against Auburndale (24-2). Eby and Thomas Harrington scored three minutes apart right at the end of the first half, seizing momentum just before the break.

"Every team in the playoffs has been strong, but we took over with those two goals right before half," Eby said.

Both teams had quality chances in the first half before PHU broke through. Ishmail Kamara's shot from point-blank range was smothered by Auburndale goalkeeper Derek Miller and Brent Hileman just got fingers to Kyle Sample's attempt, ricocheting the ball against the crossbar before it was cleared.

But it was Eby, who came into the game with just two goals, who got the only strike