

"Each time they were adding to my fame as the enemy of the Turk.

"In the corridors of the courthouse, the fascists physically attacked me with racist curses.

"They bombarded me with insults. Hundreds of threats hailed down for months by phone, e-mail and post, increasing all the time.

"I persevered through all of this with patience, awaiting the decision that would acquit me.

"Then the truth would prevail and all those people would be ashamed of what they had done.

"My only weapon was my sincerity. But when the decision came out, my hopes were crushed. From then on, I was in the most distressed situation a person can possibly be in.

"The judge had made a decision in the name of the Turkish nation and it had legally registered that I had denigrated Turkishness. I could have coped with anything but this.

"In my understanding, the denigration of a person on the basis of any difference, ethnic or religious, is racism, and there was no way this could ever be forgiven . . .

"Those who tried to single me out and weaken me have succeeded. With the false information they oozed into society, they created a significant segment of the population who saw Hrant Dink as someone who insults Turkishness.

"The memory of my computer is filled with angry, threatening lines sent by citizens from this sector.

"How real are these threats? To be honest, it is impossible for me to know for sure.

"What is truly threatening and unbearable for me is the psychological torture I placed myself in. The question that really gets to me is: What are these people thinking about me?

"Unfortunately, I am now better knowing than before and I feel people looking at me, thinking: Oh, look, isn't he that Armenian guy?

"I am just like a pigeon, equally obsessed by what goes on on my left and right, front and back. My head is just as mobile and fast.

"What did foreign Minister Gul say? Or Justice Minister Cicek? There is no need to exaggerate about Article 301 on insulting Turkishness. Has anyone been actually put in prison?

"As if going to prison was the only price to pay. This is the price. This is the price.

"Do you ministers know the price of making someone as scared as a pigeon?

"What my family and I have been through has not been easy. I have considered leaving this country at times . . .

"But leaving a boiling hell to run to a heaven is not for me. I wanted to turn this hell into heaven.

"We stayed in Turkey because that was what we wanted, out of respect for the thousands of people here who supported me in my fight for democracy. . . .

"I am now applying to the European Court of Human Rights. I don't know how long the case will take, but I do know that I will continue living here in Turkey until the case is finalized.

"And if the Court rules in my favor, I will be very happy and will never have to leave my country.

"2007 will probably be an even harder year for me. The Court cases will continue. New ones will be initiated and God knows what kind of additional injustices I will have to face.

"I may see myself as frightened as a pigeon, but I know that in this country people do not touch pigeons.

"Pigeons can live in cities, even in crowds. A little scared perhaps, but free."

Well, Mr. Dink, unfortunately, found otherwise when he was gunned down outside of his office by young men no doubt inflamed by the passions that the government did so little to quell. Hrant Dink, who had the courage to talk about some of the darkest periods of Ottoman history, of the genocide of the Armenian people, the first genocide of last century that claimed a million and a half lives, paid for that courage with his life.

Well, we will have the courage here soon to take up a resolution on the Armenian genocide. All we have to do is vote. That is very little compared to what Hrant Dink did and the price that he paid.

I had a chance to meet him in Istanbul a couple of years ago. He was optimistic about the future. He was optimistic about Turkey's future, about its willingness to examine its past. Regrettably, that optimism was misplaced.

Today we remember a courageous journalist, Hrant Dink. And his legacy lives on.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DREIER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### HONORING ALAN M. HANTMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased tonight to come to the floor for a special order presentation. Let me start out by reading some names. Dr. William Thornton, Benjamin Henry Latrobe, Charles Bulfinch, Thomas U. Walter, Edward Clark, Elliott Woods, David Lynn, J. George Stewart, George M. White, and Alan M. Hantman.

My colleagues, I read these names. They are the names of the 10 architects of the United States Capitol.

This week will mark the last days in service to the United States Congress, and this historic structure, of the Ar-

chitect of the United States Capitol, Alan M. Hantman. And I am pleased to rise this evening to recognize his service.

Of course, we have had many presidents, we have had many Speakers of the House. We have only had 10 architects who have been in charge of this incredible structure that we call our United States Capitol.

Alan Hantman will leave his service, leaving a legacy untold by almost any of his predecessors. And it has been my honor and pleasure to work with him on a project that will dramatically change the nature of the United States Capitol, that is, the United States Capitol Visitors Center.

Let me reminisce for just a minute, as I thank him for his 10 years of dedicated and sometimes difficult and trying service to Congress. But let me reminisce, if I may, about Alan Hantman coming to serve as our United States Capitol architect.

I have been involved in the Capitol Visitors Center for some 14 years, since I came to Congress, committed that the people who visit this institution should have the opportunity to have an enjoyable, informative and memorable visit to the United States Capitol. Instead, in the past, they have stood in the rain, snow, sleet, cold, ice, without even common comforts or courtesy in front of our most historic structure, and sometimes denied access to the structure or again common conveniences.

I was a little bit afraid because I know the way this place runs, when they were selecting an architect, some 10 years ago, that they might find someone in this process that would deep six the project, so I spent a particular amount of time as author of two authorization measures for the project, talking to Alan Hantman, and I was convinced he was the right person at the right time in the history of the United States Capitol.

He undertook that expansion of the United States Capitol Building, the largest in history. It will increase the volume, the sheer volume of the Capitol by some 70 percent. And he has done an incredible job.

At the same time, he has had to make this Capitol run. I often joked when I first came here that the U.S. Capitol was run like a southern plantation with bad management.

Alan Hantman changed that. He brought professionalism to his position and to service and to, again, to the most monumental project, not on behalf of those who serve here. The Capitol Visitor Center, in fact, is the first structure and expansion to the Capitol in the history of the Capitol for the public, for those who own the place and to make, again, their visit an enjoyable, informative and educational experience.

Alan brought with him great experience from the private sector with more than 10 years heading up the Rockefeller Center Management Corporation