

SALUTING THE "THREE AMIGOS" FROM THE SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT DRAFTED TO THE NBA

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the accomplishments of three outstanding student athletes from the seventh Congressional District of Illinois; Michael Finley, Sherrill Ford, and Donnie Boyce of Maywood, IL. Recently, these three students were drafted into the National Basketball Association [NBA].

When these three young men attended Proviso East High School in Maywood, IL, they were often together and were nicknamed the "three amigos," after the movie with the same name. As high school seniors, they were the leaders of the 1991 Proviso East Pirates basketball team that won the Class AA State Champion. While Michael, Sherrill, and Donnie were at the helm, the Pirates won the first of two back-to-back State championships.

After high school, Michael Finley went on to play small forward at the University of Wisconsin and was recently drafted in the first round by the NBA's Phoenix Suns. Sherrill Ford played forward for the University of Illinois-Chicago Flames and was the first round draft pick of the Seattle Supersonics. Donnie Boyce was a guard on the University of Colorado's basketball team and was drafted in the second round by the Atlanta Hawks. Donnie succeeded despite the fact that he was recovering from a broken leg.

Mr. Speaker, these three young men possess outstanding talent and have been highly successful student athletes. As the Representative of the congressional district that produced Isaiah Thomas and is home to Michael Jordan, I am looking forward to a bright future for Maywood's "three amigos" and wish them lots of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. URSULA F. SHERMAN

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the Berkeley-Richmond Jewish Community [JCC] to honor Ms. Ursula F. Sherman at the First Annual Cultural Arts Tribute held September 10, 1995.

Ms. Sherman is a founder and founding board member of the Berkeley-Richmond Jewish Community Center, which serves as one of California's most active centers of Jewish life. She is a past president and current active board member of the JCC. She has played a central role in promoting Jewish cultural activities at the center. Ms. Sherman is also co-founder of Berkeley-Oakland Support Service [BOSS] which provides shelter, transitional housing, job counseling, and other social services to thousands of the East Bay's homeless. She serves as a current board member of BOSS.

Ms. Sherman also serves as president of the board of "A Traveling Jewish Theater," a

nationally renowned innovative theater company. She is a board member and former president of the Jewish Arts Community of the Bay [JACOB], an association of board members of the Jewish Federation of the Greater East Bay and is trustee of the Northern California American Jewish Congress. Previously, she served as a board member and chair of the Religious School Committee of Berkeley's Congregation Beth El.

A Berkeley resident for many years, Ms. Sherman has devoted her life to improve and enrich the lives of everyone around her. Her commitment to community building and social justice is deeply impressive and worthy of commendation.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to congratulate the Nesconset Fire Department for 60 years of dedicated service to the people of Nesconset, St. James, Ronkonkoma, and Smithtown. The residents of the Nesconset Fire District are fortunate to have such a well-trained and devoted fire department. The Nesconset Fire Department worked hard to establish itself as one of the best departments in New York and has achieved an impeccable record.

The success of the fire department is a direct result of the dedicated and effective management displayed by its members. Under the leadership of Chairman Nalio D'Orzaio the fire department has continued to play an active role in the life of the Smithtown community. This leadership umbrella extends to the other members of the board of fire commissioners, Frank Bernabeo, Vincent Puelo, James Goelz, and James Trube as well as the loyalty and hard work exemplified by Chief Officer Greg Anderson, First Assistant Andrew Normandeau, Second Assistant Neil Zanfardino and Third Assistant Thomas Guerriere. The Nesconset Fire Department consists of more than 123 volunteer firefighters, containing no career employees, offering further evidence of their passion and commitment to the community they serve.

On Saturday, September 17, 1995, the Nesconset Fire Department celebrates its 60th anniversary with a parade, marking the culmination of a long, proud history by recognizing and honoring the efforts of those who have sacrificed and served the department and community. Therefore Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask the rest of the House to join me in congratulating the fire department on achieving this milestone. This is a much deserved tribute and I wish them all the best on their day of recognition and glory. They give of themselves because of the love and pride they share for their community, and we applaud their extraordinary service and efforts. These courageous individuals have truly earned this recognition. May they continue to serve their community for many years to come.

HONORING BENNETT A. LANDMAN

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, recently Bennett A. Landman, an outstanding student at Orinda High School in my home district in California, won a signal honor. Bennett was awarded second place in the physics and astronomy category in the senior division at the 1995 California State Science Fair.

Bennett's project, titled "Chaotic Cards," investigated the path of a falling card and its relation to chaos. This innovative project ultimately determined that the interaction of the surface of the card and the air when it resists torque is a source of chaos in the fall of the card.

The sophistication of this project was matched by the creativity that inspired it. Bennett deserves high praise for the discipline and energy he brought to this endeavor. Innovation and commitment have been the hallmarks of America's scientific achievements throughout the years, and these same qualities are evident in Bennett's fine work.

It is a pleasure for me to recognize Bennett Landman, and to wish him well in all his future efforts. He is a credit to his family, his school, and to California.

TRIBUTE TO HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, today marks the commencement of Hispanic Heritage Month.

From as early as the 1400's, people of Hispanic descent have contributed to the benefit of our national mosaic. In 1492 Spain was the only country that would support a visionary Genoese explorer's quest in finding a sea route to India. As a result of Queen Isabella's courageous backing of Christopher Columbus, America was discovered.

Since then, the Hispanic-American community has infused a rich cultural, ethical, and intellectual flavor into our melting pot. Men like Everette Alvarez who, as a brave young Navy pilot, became the first American prisoner of the Vietnam war. For 8 long years he painstakingly endured all of the mental and physical anguish that the North Vietnamese could inflict, and survived as a hero.

Women like Jovita Mireles Gonzales, an historian and folklorist who was one of the first people write in English about the Mexican-American culture. As a folklorist, she became the first Mexican-American president of the Texas Folklore Society.

And men like Dr. Luiz Alvarez, a physicist who developed a radar beam that could guide an airplane to landing under impossible visual circumstances. This innovation gave the United States of America a great advantage during World War II. As a pioneer in the world of high-energy physics, Dr. Alvarez achieved the highest goal in his field in 1968 by becoming the sole recipient of the Nobel Prize.

Today, Hispanics continue to contribute to the fabric of our community. On Long Island, I would like to acknowledge four residents of my constituency who are truly leaders among the Hispanic community and have flourished in their fields: Mr. Angel M. Rivera for his excellence in youth services; Miss Alexandra Feliciano for her outstanding academic leadership; Mr. Hector D. LaSalle for his contributions to the legal profession; and Dr. Dennis Da Silva for his dedicated activities in the medical field and community.

The list of achievements is endless. For that reason it is of utmost importance to honor the rich contributions of Hispanic-Americans in our society. I proudly applaud their efforts. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month.

DISAPPROVING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SPEECH OF

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 8, 1995

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the BRAC Commission's 1995 base closure list and in support of House Joint Resolution 2.

No where in the United States has BRAC had such a devastating impact as it has had in the Sacramento area. In all four rounds of BRAC the Sacramento area has shouldered well over a quarter of all jobs lost in California due to BRAC.

BRAC made a terrible decision to close McClellan AFB which I represent. Sacramento has been hit far more than any other community in this country. No where in the United States has a community been hit three separate times. Sacramento has already given its fair share to base downsizing.

I voted for the creation of an independent base closure commission because it would be insulated from the politics of individual Members of Congress and their districts so that BRAC could make fairminded decisions as to which bases ought to be closed based on the basis of national need.

However, I must say with great regret and dismay that this BRAC Commission was exceedingly political, made its decision in a vacuum, and in my mind deliberately inflicted undue pain on the people of Sacramento.

BRAC made its decision based not on the facts, but rather the politics of base closures, that up until now have been void from the process.

I believe that BRAC grossly distorted the process and abdicated its responsibility as an independent commission.

This decision was based on data and analysis generated by the Commission staff that was not certified. Further, there was no opportunity—even when specifically requested—for the Air Force or DOD to review the staff analysis and determine the operational impacts of the recommendations. The impacted communities were not provided with an opportunity to respond to this analysis either.

I believe that this approach seriously undermines what was designed to be an open and

fair process and contradicts the spirit of the BRAC statute.

I would like to discuss three areas where I feel that the BRAC Commission substantially deviated from the intent of the BRAC statute as well as its total disregard for the Department of Defense's recommendations. In my mind and the minds of many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle that have been adversely affected by this decision, the BRAC Commission clearly subverted and deviated from the BRAC statute and past BRAC Commissions.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

The Sacramento region has suffered two previous base closures—Mather AFB (1988) and the Sacramento Army Depot (1991). These closures resulted in the loss of 11,516 direct jobs and 28,090 total.

The closure of McClellan will result in a loss of 13,000 direct jobs and over 31,000 total jobs.

The total combined effect of all three closures results in over 59,000 total jobs lost which represents 7.8 percent of the region's total employment. These three closures make Sacramento the hardest hit community in the entire country for all four BRAC rounds.

MILITARY READINESS

The recommendations to close McClellan and Kelly are simply unacceptable. Of all the options for eliminating excess capacity in the Air Force depot system, the Commission's approach will cause the most turbulence, will cost the most money, and will have the most negative impact on mission support capabilities.

The substitution of judgment by the BRAC staff on the cost and savings associated with these two bases is deeply troubling. Changing assumptions and parameters based on anecdotal information and running COBRA analyses using nonbudget quality data and with no input from military officials are causes for great concern.

A review of the military's BRAC budgets demonstrates that previous cost assessments of prior rounds understated. In fact, earlier this year, the Navy reprogrammed more than \$700 million from operations and maintenance accounts to cover cost overruns in its base closure account. We should not risk the readiness of our troops on a cost and savings evaluation which did not receive the same level of budget scrutiny as Secretary Perry's original recommendations.

In a letter dated June 21, 1995, Secretary of the Air Force Sheila Widnall and Air Force Chief of Staff Ron Fogleman wrote to the BRAC Commission that "the staff generated BRAC proposal described to us will * * * preclude the Air Force from carrying through on vital readiness and modernization programs."

Secretary Widnall and General Fogleman further stated that "the essential business of the Air Force * * * would be greatly disrupted."

CROSS-SERVICING

There is widespread agreement, including the recently published Commission of Roles and Missions Report, that cross-servicing and privatization are the smartest, cheapest, and least disruptive methods of downsizing large industrial facilities. Every major study in this area, from the Defense Science Board to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, agree that cross-servicing

and privatization are the right way to downsize depot maintenance.

The fact that neither the Defense Department nor the Commission were successful in instituting cross-servicing in a comprehensive manner to remove redundancies among the services is a major disappointment.

In my view, the Commission's recommendations are not an appropriate or acceptable substitute for eliminating capacity in defense industrial facilities the right way through cross-servicing.

This BRAC list comes up short. The enormous costs, loss of capabilities, and overall impact on readiness are too great a risk. There is a right way and a wrong way to downsize depots. This is definitely the wrong way.

I understand probably better than most that we as a Congress have the responsibility to close bases down that are unneeded in the wake of the end of the Soviet Union and the cold war.

But BRAC's decision risks readiness, will not eliminate excess capacity, and asks the people of Sacramento to shoulder a far higher proportion of pain than does the rest of the country.

The BRAC Commission has gone too far this time, I ask my colleagues to support this resolution and reject the Commission's ill-advised recommendations.

THE GREEN REVENUE PATH

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, as we consider changes to the Tax Code, I hope that we can consider bills to discourage pollution and the depletion of scarce natural resources.

I've long proposed these kinds of tax changes, and I am today introducing the first in a series of such tax bills—a bill which will eliminate various subsidies designed to encourage the consumption of polluting materials and the destruction of scarce natural resources.

I would like to enter in the RECORD at this point an excellent op ed on this subject which appeared in the September 10 Washington Post entitled, "The Green Revenue Path." Over the coming months, I plan to introduce other bills to advance the ideas contained in this article.

THE GREEN REVENUE PATH—FOR HEALTHY GROWTH, WASHINGTON SHOULD TAX RESOURCES, NOT LABOR

(By Ted Halstead and Jonathan Rowe)

For all the talk of radical tax reform in Washington, there's a basic question that the politicians and experts have somehow missed. The leading proposals, whether Democratic or Republican, are justified by what they wouldn't tax—capital gains, interest income, etc.—not by what they would tax. Purporting to encourage savings and investment, these proposals would all tend to shift the burden of taxation in one way or another from income onto work—that is, onto the folks who, in Sen. Phil Gramm's apt phrase, "pull the wagon."

There's a better way, one that doesn't penalize the things—work and enterprise—that America needs most. Instead of taxing the creation of wealth, the government ought to