

age of 20. He established a poultry farm which sold and exported high quality eggs to the local community and off-island localities such as Wake, Midway, and Johnston Islands.

The destruction brought about by World War II opened a window of opportunity for him to focus on the field of construction and development. In 1947, he joined Kenneth T. Jones, Jr. and Segundo Leon Guerrero in the formation of the Pacific Construction Co. Roughly 4 years later, he and family members founded the Frank D. Perez and Bros. Co., a conglomerate comprising a hardware store, a concrete block plant, and a construction company. Frank served as its president and general manager.

The company was incorporated in 1960 and came to be known as Perez Bros., Inc. They have since been pioneers in the development of housing subdivisions on the island. Perezville, the island's first private housing subdivision, was the outcome of this campaign spearheaded by Frank through Perez Bros. A virtual wilderness back in 1933 when Frank first acquired the land, Perezville, is now regarded as one of the island's best housing developments. Perezville and scores of high quality structures around the island could be considered as legacies of Frank Perez and Perez Bros.

His involvement in business ventures, however, has never caused him to cut back on his civic commitments. Aside from active participation in church and community projects, he has also made a mark in local governmental affairs. He was appointed to the House Assembly in 1937 while still in his twenties and went on to serve as an elected member of the Guam Legislature and its predecessor, the Guam Congress. It was as a senator in the Eighth Guam Legislature in 1965 that he sponsored a bill that established the Guam Economic Development Authority [GEDA], the agency which became the catalyst for Guam's economic development.

After seemingly countless decades of dedicated service and substantial contributions to the community, Frank Perez still chooses to remain active. He still attends to the business of Perez Bros. With Frank on the job, the island can continue to count on Perez Bros. to provide the same quality products and service that we have grown accustomed to during the more than four decades under his supervision.

Frank D. Perez, for the better part of this century, has contributed greatly to every aspect of Guam's development. I would like to take this occasion to commend and congratulate him on all his accomplishments and on his well-deserved induction to the Guam Business Hall of Fame. I join his wife, the former Carmen Sirena Camcho Duenas; his children; Frank, Joseph, Gregory, George, Thomas, Daniel, John, Mary, Carmen, and Margarita; who, together with the Guam Chamber of Commerce and the people of Guam, celebrate this man's extraordinary accomplishments.

## COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 1995*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Representative JOHN EDWARD PORTER and Representative FRANK PALLONE to commemorate and remember the victims of the Armenian genocide, a sad chapter of world history that remains unrecognized by our Government to this day.

As many of my colleagues have already stated, between the years of 1915 and 1923, a systematic and deliberate campaign of genocide by the Ottoman Turkish Government resulted in the deaths of more than 1½ million Armenians and the exile of a Nation from its historic homeland. One witness noted the ferocity of the attack by stating that the streets ran with blood.

The United States Ambassador to Turkey at the time, Henry Morgenthau, a witness to the genocide, noted that "When the Turkish authorities gave the orders for these deportations, they were giving the death warrant to a whole race; they understood this well, and in their conversations with me, they made no particular attempt to conceal the fact."

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is long past time for the Congress to officially recognize the fact that such a terrible crime against humanity took place. To do less would be irresponsible and wrong. The United States Archives contain extensive documentation regarding the Ottoman Turkish Government's premeditated attack on the Armenian people between 1915 and 1923.

The Archives also document American interventions to prevent the full realization of Ottoman Turkey's genocidal plan and provide humanitarian assistance to those who survived.

Mr. Speaker, how long will we as a Nation turn our backs on this vicious crime? How long can we let it escape official documentation? It is time that America of today take its rightful place alongside of America of that day, the America of Henry Morgenthau, the America that stood up to the Ottoman depredations and offered what assistance it could.

Surely, this is the least we can do.

## COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 1995*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker I rise to join my colleagues today in honoring the memory

of the 1.5 million Armenians who perished during the genocide of 1915. This horrible period still haunts us today, and the memory of the men, women, and children who perished remains.

This was the first true genocide of the 20th century. Despite the atrocities which occurred at the hands of the Turkish Empire, despite the documentation, the eyewitness reports, and countless publications which describe these atrocities, some people continue to deny that this crime against humanity actually took place.

Fortunately, there are many Members of Congress who have been willing to rise up and take a stand against this denial. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Members who joined me in initiating a letter to President Clinton, urging him to officially recognize the Armenian genocide: FRANK PALLONE, JOHN PORTER, and MARGE ROUKEMA. Congress can only make its voice heard on this issue if people like us, Democrats and Republicans, east coast and west coast, join forces to push for the recognition of this terrible human tragedy.

I would also like to thank the Armenian National Committee, especially Elizabeth Chouldjian, for her ongoing vigilance and dedication in providing me with useful and timely information on Armenian issues. Without your help, Elizabeth, I would be unable to do this work on behalf of Armenian-Americans in my district and around the country.

Mr. Speaker, if the international community is serious about preventing crimes against humanity, it is essential for us to recognize the atrocities that occurred against the Armenian people at the beginning of this century, by honoring the memory of 1.5 million men, women, and children who perished. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 80th anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

## COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 1995*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 80th anniversary of a profound tragedy. I am referring to the Armenian genocide of 1915 to 1923, carried out by the Ottoman Empire.

It is not a story that is widely known. There is little mention of it in our history books. It is not taught to our children in school. And it is not commemorated on the kind of scale it deserves. On behalf of the Armenians who live in my community, I take this opportunity to honor the victims of the genocide.

The Armenian genocide was the culmination of a long effort by the Ottoman Turks to destroy the Armenian people. During the decades preceding the First World War, the Ottoman government tried repeatedly to achieve this goal. In 1895 300,000 died. In 1909 another 30,000 died before the Western powers intervened to stop the bloodshed.

Unfortunately, World War I provided the cover they needed. With Europe and the United States preoccupied by war, the Ottoman