EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO WATERFORD TOWNSHIP AT THE TIME OF ITS TRICENTENNIAL

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Waterford Township and its citizens during this celebration of its 300th birthday. This yearlong celebration, with its kickoff parade and pageant, circus, tree lighting ceremony, ecumenical service, anniversary ''Sweetheart Reception'' for the 65 couples in the township who have been married 50 years or longer, and now, the Finale Fair, pays tribute to the contributions of the 11,000 residents of this 37-square-mile community, located in the Third Congressional District of New Jersey.

Lands encompassed by the original Township of Waterford later became Atlantic County in 1837 and Camden County in 1844. Additional lands were used to form what is now known as Cherry Hill. Land given from Waterford Township provided for the creation of Chesilhurst Borough and Voorhees Township, and the enlargement of the county of Burlington.

Originally viewed by the early settlers of Philadelphia as a place of fresh air in the pines, it was the location of many summer homes for city folk. Today, it is the only community in Camden County to lie totally under the protection of the Pinelands Preservation Act. The Wharton State Forest, its open spaces, streams, and wildlife are an integral part of the charm and beauty of this community.

However, it is the people of Waterford Township who have made this community grow and prosper. The support of the township's civic organizations such as the Rotary, Fire Company, schools, churches, and the Tri-Centennial Committee, demonstrates the commitment of its residents to the betterment of their community.

It will be the people of Waterford Township who will protect and ensure its continued prosperity as it begins its fourth century. Their sharing and showing the spirit of pride in their heritage and their community today sets them apart and holds them together. To them, I pay tribute.

COMMENDING STUDENTS FROM WAIAKEA HIGH SCHOOL

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize the stellar performance of Waiakea High School students from Hilo, HI in the We the People—The Citizen and the Constitution national competition. The outstanding performance of these students against 49 other schools from across the Nation demonstrated a thorough grasp of the fundamental principles embodied in the U.S. Constitution.

I commend the Waiakea High School students and their teacher, Patrick Marquart for their commitment and dedication to learning about the freedoms and responsibilities which the Constitution and Bill of Rights bestows on us all. The district coordinator, Helen Kobayashi, and the State coordinator, Sharon Kaohi also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help the team reach the national finals.

The We the People program, supported and funded by Congress, is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The 3-day national competition simulates a congressional hearing in which students' oral presentations are judged on the basis of their knowledge of constitutional principles and their ability to apply them to historical and contemporary issues.

This program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective of the significance of the U.S. Constitution and its place in our history and our lives. I am proud of Waiakea High School's achievement in reaching the national finals, and of their outstanding performance in the national competition.

My congratulations to: Elijah Clark, Brienne Colton, Deborah Dacallo, Lannis Enriques, Jeffrey Fuke, Chatney Gram, Rhiannon Kauwa, Ian Kawamoto, Joy Kobayashi, Janelle Kuroda, Christine Miyasaki, Jill Nagashima, Celina Nelson, Shane Okimoto, Brandon Tenn, Malia Uyehara, and Kristy Yamamoto.

THOUGHTFUL WORDS ON WETLANDS

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, the absolute chaos unleashed by the current section 404 wetlands program in the 1972 Clean Water Act is excellently documented in the following editorial, which appeared in the Lewistown Sentinel, a newspaper in my Ninth Congressional District of Pennsylvania. Indeed, the word ''wetlands'' is not even mentioned in the main provisions of the original 1972 act. Instead, abuses and distortions that exist currently in the wetlands regulatory program stem from just 10 words in original 1972 legislation: ''The discharge of dredged or fill material into navigable waters.''

It is from this simple phrase that bureaucrats and judges have created what is so eloquently written described in the editorial's concluding paragraph. This editorial provides a good overview of the issue and I commend it to my colleagues and all people interested in the wetlands debate.

[From the Lewistown Sentinel, May 31, 1995]

CLEAN WATER BILL IS SOLID LEGISLATION

Two years ago last week, conservationist Bill Ellen was released from the federal prison at Petersburg, Va., after serving a six-month sentence for allegedly violating wetland regulations.

Ellen ran afoul of the Environmental Protection Agency in the course of building a wildlife preserve, where he was the project supervisor.

A couple of loads of clean fill were placed on land so dry that his crews were spraying water on the ground to reduce dust for safety reasons. But overly broad regulations—upon which even assorted federal and state agencies did not agree at the time—called the spot wet, at least by the EPA's lights.

If revisions to the Clean Water Act adopted by the House of Representatives this week become law, there won't be any more Bill Ellen cases. The legislation requires the Army Corps of Engineers—the primary wetlands agency—and the Department of Agriculture to write new regulations, this time with real definitions that would put wetlands into three categories according to their ecological importance. Land in the least significant category could be used for other purposes, whereas land in the most significant category would be tightly restricted. Property owners might be entitled to just compensation in such instances.

Rep. Bud Shuster is a sponsor of the bill, which passed the House in a 240–185 bipartisan vote. Shuster, whose district includes Mifflin and Juniata counties, is chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Central Pennsylvania's congressman has spent a good bit of time lately defending the bill against broadsides from the Clinton administration. The White House is threatening a veto. In a public relations campaign against the bill, they're calling it ''The Polluters' Protection Act,'' which is utter nonsense.

Among other points, Shuster has correctly pointed out that the bill contains many points that align with Clinton's own blueprint for federal reform. He also noted that the bill received support from the bipartisan National Governors' Association, which Clinton once headed.

''The president read from a script handed him by the environmental extremists,'' Shuster said. ''This is a common-sense bill written and supported by an overwhelming bipartisan majority of House members.''

Shuster is right on the money. Like him, we can't see the logic in Clinton's attack. He's missing the real question at hand, which is whether environmental regulation in this country is going to be governed by rule of law or by arbitrary bureaucrats.

Americans are entitled, through their elected representatives, to define what is important and what's not and to set down some clear definitions.

THE HEALTH INFORMATION MODERNIZATION AND SECURITY ACT

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Health Information Modernization and Security Act with Mr. SAWYER. In the Senate, Mr. BOND and Mr. LIEBERMAN introduced the same bill as S. 872. Our bipartisan, bicameral bill was developed over several years in an open, cooperative effort between the private and public sectors. Our purpose is to reduce excessive paperwork and administrative waste in the health care system by facilitating the development of an electronic health information network.

Health information systems are on the verge of a dramatic transformation. Today, financial and administrative information commonly is keyed into a computer, printed in paper form, and then mailed or transmitted to another person who rekeys the information into another computer. The constant demand for more information in less time is pushing the current system toward electronic data interchange [EDI], the computer-to-computer exchange of information in a standard format.

The technology exists today to move away from a paperwork system and toward an electronic health information network. Although many institutions have internally automated health information systems, there are barriers to sharing information externally, among institutions. First, no single entity in the health care industry has the market power to move the industry toward a common standard. Second, antiquated State licensing laws make computerized medical records technically illegal in 12 States and legally ambiguous in 16 others. Third, there are privacy concerns related to the degree of access to health information.

The Health Information Modernization and Security Act removes the barriers that block the modernization and simplification of health information networks. Once these barriers come down, the private sector will be able to reduce unnecessary paperwork, which adds nearly 10 cents to every health care dollar; expose fraud in ways that are impossible under the confusing, disjointed paperwork system we have today; protect patient privacy and the confidentiality of health information; and provide consumers with the data they need to compare the value of insurance plans and health services.

Basically, our bill sets up a process that moves the health care industry toward a common electronic language for sharing information. The Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is required to adopt standards for health information, but only if those standards already are in use and generally accepted. The Secretary is required to adopt financial and administrative data standards, security standards, privacy standards for individually identifiable health information, and special rules for coordination of benefits, code sets, electronic signature, and unique health identifiers for individuals, employers, health plans, and health care providers.

The Secretary is not required to adopt standards for clinical data or information in the patient medical record. Financial and administrative data often is handled electronically today, and there is general agreement on the type of standards that should be adopted. Clinical information, in contrast, is more complicated and there is little consensus on the quantity or content of the data that should be standardized. Further, adopting clinical standards involves complex privacy requirements and a debate about whether or not data should be centralized. However, after 4 years, but sooner than 6 years, the Secretary must recommend to Congress a plan for developing and implementing uniform, electronic data standards for information in the patient medical record.

Within 2 years after the Secretary adopts the standards, health plans are required to comply. The mandate is on the payer, not the provider. Providers are required to comply with the standards for any business they do with Medicare. Payers and providers may deviate from the standards by mutual agreement. For example, a payer may agree to accept information on paper claims, but they are not required to accept that information if it is not in the standard format adopted by the Secretary. Similarly, a provider may agree to provide additional information requested by the payer, but they do not have to provide that information if it is not among the standards adopted by the Secretary. This creates the market-oriented leverage necessary to converge on a single industry standard.

To conclude my remarks, I want to credit the work and commitment of the people behind this legislation. In 1991, Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan articulated a vision of a health care information system. Mr. BOND first introduced legislation to achieve that vision in 1992, updated that work in 1993—Mr. Sawyer and I were the House sponsors—and now we introduce the final product of our continuing efforts here today—the Health Information Modernization and Security Act.

CONGRATULATIONS FLORIDA HOSPITAL

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Florida Hospital in Orlando, FL, on the occasion of the beginning of construction for the Walt Disney Memorial Cancer Institute's new facility in my congressional district.

When its new facility is complete, the institute will bring honor to Orlando as a leader in diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of cancer. We are grateful to Florida Hospital for providing a service of this magnitude, including research and cancer prevention education, for the citizens and families of central Florida.

We are fortunate to have dedicated caregivers like Florida Hospital and the Walt Disney Memorial Cancer Institute in Orlando. We congratulate them on their commitment to bring quality cancer care to our citizens.

TRIBUTE TO MARIANNE TETA AND MARTIN GOLDEN, BAY RIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AWARD DINNER DANCE

HON. SUSAN MOLINARI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Ms. MOLINARI. Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me as I recognize the dedication, determination and efforts of two outstanding citizens of Bay Ridge, NY, Marianne Teta, president of the Bay Ridge Community Council and Martin Golden, president of the Fifth Avenue Board of Trade and the recipient of the 1995 Bay Ridge Community Council Civic Award.

This dynamic team allied civic, business, church, and veterans groups in an ongoing public awareness campaign which resulted in the continued operation of Fort Hamilton Army Base, a historic landmark serving our country since 1825.

Marianne J. Teta, lifelong resident of Brooklyn, presently serves as the director of NYNEX Consumer Affairs for Brooklyn and Staten Island. Among the many organizations Marianne is presently active in are the Bay Ridge Lions, Ragamuffin and the Bay Ridge Parks and Waterfront Council.

Martin Golden resides in Bay Ridge with his lovely wife Colleen and their son Michael. Together they manage the Bay Ridge Manor and aid many worthly organizations such as the Angel Guardian Home and Heart Share.

We are fortunate to be blessed with these caring individuals who have encouraged community pride and involvement by supporting our neighbors in the armed forces. They are a credit to Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, and an important part of the fiber that strengthens our neighborhoods and Nation.

INVESTORS MAKE LOUSY CROWBARS

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following column by Cynthia Beltz from the Journal of Commerce to the attention of my colleagues.

[The Journal of Commerce, May 25]

INVESTORS MAKE LOUSY CROWBARS

(By Cynthia Beltz)

The world's major industrialized nations this week launched two years of negotiations to reduce barriers to cross-border investment. Just last week, the United States threatened Japan with 100 percent tariffs on luxury auto imports unless its auto parts market is opened to U.S. companies. Unfortunately, such tit-for-tat tactics in the trade arena are now spreading like an infectious disease into the investment field, threatening to thwart the negotiations before they get off the ground.

U.S. investment policy traditionally has rejected aggressive reciprocity tactics. Instead, Washington has maintained open-door policies at home while promoting them abroad. The strategy has paid off. The best companies in the world have flocked to the

United States, boosting productivity and economic welfare. New research from the Census Bureau shows, for example, that foreign-owned plants are more productive, more technology-intensive and pay higher wages than the average U.S.-owned plant. Developing countries are also moving at a record pace to emulate America's successful open-door investment policy. More than 40 nations moved in this direction in 1992 alone. Indeed, attitudes have shifted from deep suspicion of multinational investors to active solicitation.

Foreign direct investment, or FDI, is now the most important source of external finance for developing countries, which attracted a record 40 percent of global FDI flows in 1994. A lack of modern infrastructure that threatens future growth is further driving FDI liberalization in areas still restricted in many nations. Countries such as India and Indonesia, for example, are breaking down telecommunication monopolies and encouraging increased foreign participation.

The irony is that the United States is moving in the opposite direction. In contrast to the unilateral opening now occurring in developing countries, the United States has started to experiment with a new generation of laws and regulations that promote the discriminatory treatment of foreign investors.

Since 1988 substantial machinery has been put in place to block FDI deals and to penalize foreign-owned firms for the offensive practices of their home-country governments. First popular in the area of research and development policy, these tit-for-tat tactics are now being used against foreign investors through the deregulation of U.S. financial services and communications sectors. In both cases, pending legislation would condition the access of foreign investors—such as banks and telecommunication firms—on comparable market-opening measures in their home countries. U.S. negotiators have further indicated their intention to link the two during the investment negotiations, which are being held under the auspices of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Caught in the cross-fire are deals like the proposal by Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom to buy a 20 percent stake in Sprint; rival AT&T wants the deal blocked until equal access is secured in the German and French markets. Also caught are proposals to unconditionally eliminate the existing 25 percent restriction on foreign ownership of media and telephone companies. These proposals don't have a chance until the tactic of using investors as a trade tool is rejected as economic nonsense.

For starters this approach treats liberalization as a concession and discounts the intrinsic value of foreign investment to the U.S. economy. Opening financial services and telecommunications more to competition and foreign participation will generate benefits for the U.S. economy that do not depend on more open rules abroad. Sir James Graham, a 19th century British statesman, said it best: to create a link between the two is to ''make the folly of others the limit of our wisdom.''

As San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank President Robert T. Parry put it, the ''hammer of reciprocity'' is a crude policy tool that misses the fundamental point: Competition is America's secret economic weapon, not reciprocity.

Take the case of the auto industry. Foreign-owned car plants in this country—so-called transplants—have brought key technology and management practices to the United States, strengthening the domestic industry and transforming the nation's Rust Belt into an export belt. By contrast, consider the sheltered telecommunications industry in Germany and the slow pace of deregulation, which have kept costs high and hurt firms within the industry as well as downstream users.

Further, if the United States hopes to secure an investment agreement—either through the OECD or an expanded World Trade Organization—that is based on the principles of nondiscrimination, then approving the use of foreign investors as a crowbar is hardly an auspicious start. Is this really the precedent the United States wants to set for other countries, especially the dynamic developing economies? Just as the OECD is trying to narrow the scope of investment restrictions, Washington is carving out a new category of exceptions to the principle of nondiscrimination, with potentially damming consequences.

The hazard of being a leader is that others watch and follow. The anti-dumping laws provide an unfortunate case in point. Initially promoted as a ''trade remedy,'' anti-dumping laws have spread around the world, to the detriment of U.S.-owned multinationals. More than 40 nations—half of them developing countries—have adopted anti-dumping laws. Indeed, there has been a sharp increase in cases since 1990, and U.S. exporters are now the target of these laws more often than any other country. What seemed to help in the short term instead has worked to reduce corporate flexibility and hurt the efficiency of the global economy.

If other countries follow the U.S. lead in investment and use FDI as a trade tool, we will have created an administrative nightmare. We also will have squandered a rare opportunity to develop a comprehensive, nondiscriminatory investment regime.

Rather than take this troubled path, the United States should lead by example and resist the tit-for-tat approach to investment challenges. Competing for, not restricting, investor dollars—domestic or foreign—drives the economy forward. Let's stick with the program that works.

Cynthia Beltz, a research fellow at The American Enterprise Institute in Washington, is editor of the forthcoming, ''The Foreign Investment Debate'' (AEI, 1995).

SUPPORT THE NAVY'S SUBMARINE MODERNIZATION PLAN

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to read the article below from this month's issue of Sea Power Magazine, which underscores the need for Congress to support the Navy's submarine modernization plan. The article was written by James Courter, former Congressman and chairman of the BRAC Commission, and Loren Thompson, executive director of the Alexis de Tocqueville Institution.

The timing of this article could not be better as Congress debates the Navy's plan to complete the third *Seawolf* and continue design work on the follow-on less expensive new attack submarine. I urge all my colleagues to read this informative article and to support the Navy's submarine plan.

The article follows:

THE NEXT SUBMARINE—AND THE ONE AFTER THAT

(By James Courter and Loren Thompson)

In the years since the fall of the Berlin Wall, the future of the Navy's submarine construction program has become somewhat uncertain. The service has taken several steps to adjust to the diminished threat, including scaling back the program to build Seawolf-class nuclear-powered attack submarines (SSNs). In the late 1989s the Navy was planning to build as many as 29 Seawolfs; the program now has been cut back to a mere three boats. Meanwhile, the Navy has initiated the design of a less expensive follow-on attack submarine, and has concentrated its new submarine construction work at the General Dynamics Electric Boat (GD/EB) shipyard in Groton, Conn.

Despite these efforts, critics in Congress and elsewhere have urged that additional changes are needed. Some favor termination of the third ship of the Seawolf class. Others believe that all construction of nuclear-powered ships, aircraft carriers as well as submarines, should be carried out at one location. And still others argue that the Navy should build at least some diesel-powered submarines rather than the more expensive nuclear boats.

Despite the critics, a careful examination of recent history, current technological trends, and prospective geopolitical developments builds a compelling case for the continued production of SSNs as a reasonable trade-off between future military requirements, current geopolitical uncertainties, and continuing constraints on resources.

BACK TO THE FUTURE

Although the United States fought two world wars prior to the full emergence of Soviet military power in the late 1940s, many policy-makers apparently believe the earlier threats of this century—including the Soviet threat—have no relevance to current or future U.S. security needs. But there is, in fact, a common thread that links all the great military threats of the twentieth century to all of the others, and to the equally imposing challenges that America may face in the foreseeable future.

That common thread is geopolitical uncertainty. Three times in the twentieth century, anti-democratic coalitions sought to dominate Eurasia. The imperialist threat posed by Germany and Austria Hungary was followed by fascist aggression mounted by Germany and Japan, which gave way to communist-sponsored subversion and political upheaval emanating from the USSR and Communist China. These three challenges largely defined U.S. defense policy and spending patterns in the twentieth century.

Such threats were not unanticipated in the nineteenth century. Geopolitical theorists such as Halford Mackinder and Alfred Thayer Mahan had noted the disproportionate concentration of people and material resources in Eurasia, and correctly concluded that insular powers such as the United States must possess the political, economic, and military strength needed to ensure their access to what Mackinder called the ''world island.'' To allow one power, or a coalition of powers, the theorists argued, to control the Eurasian landmass might set the stage for domination of the whole world. During the Cold War, the strategy of assuring access to Eurasia—and of preventing Soviet and Chinese control of it—was christened ''containment'' by George Kennan. But the basic geopolitical roots of the Cold War containment policy differed little from the strategic considerations that in earlier times had drawn the United States into global conflicts against imperialism and fascism.

American seapower played a central role in enabling the United States to execute its containment strategy, just as it played an important part in the efforts of U.S. foes—Germany and Japan in World War II and the

USSR in the Cold War—to defeat that strategy. Even after the advent of intercontinental aircraft, control of the sea lanes remained essential to U.S. economic prosperity and national security. In fact, the relevance of seapower has increased dramatically as the U.S. economy has become increasingly linked to the economies of Europe and Asia—and, not incidentally, also has become more and more dependent on energy resources, such as Middle East oil, and other vital raw materials available only, or primarily, from foreign suppliers. The breakup of the Soviet Union into numerous republics—four of them armed with nuclear weapons—has not significantly altered this reality.

What it has altered, though, is the sense of urgency among U.S. decision-makers about the need to preserve naval forces adequate to safeguard freedom of the seas and to protect U.S. interests overseas. The United States is currently engaged in its third great demobilization of the twentieth century—and, although this one has been more gradual than those following the world wars, it seems to be based on the same assumption that great-power threats to U.S. national security are a thing of the past. The current U.S. defense posture thus is predicated in large part on the expectation that U.S. forces will face no future military challenge more imposing than regional conflict. The budgetary result has been a massive demobilization and downsizing of the force structure. As an ancillary consequence, the U.S. defense production base, including the shipbuilding and aerospace industries, and their suppliers, also has been seriously weakened.

THE RELEVANCE OF SUBMARINES

Nowhere is this fact more apparent than in the building of nuclear submarines. Thirty years ago, there were half a dozen public and private shipyards in the United States capable of building submarines. Today, there are two—and soon there may only be one. The Navy's current submarine construction plan calls for building a single nuclear-powered attack submarine at General Dynamics Electric Boat every other year into the next decade.

This minimal production rate, combined with the accelerated retirement of boats now in the active fleet, will, by the turn of the century, reduce the Navy's SSN fleet to a force of only 45 to 55 ships. (The Clinton administration's Nuclear Posture Review also has recommended retention of 14 Trident ballistic missile submarines (SSBN's) to serve as the core of the nation's nuclear deterrent.)

Many defense analysts have pointed out that the presently contemplated rate of submarine construction is not sufficient to sustain even the much-reduced operational now force planned. Assuming a service life of 30 years for each boat, a build rate of one new submarine every other year would eventually produce a fleet of only 15 submarines. However, because the current inventory of operational SSNs exceeds the established requirement, the Navy does not plan to address the production-rate issue until early in the next century. For the time being, its main concern is simply to ensure that a submarine design and production base is preserved. And concern is warranted: If even one submarine is dropped from the current minimal-construction plan for replacement SSNs, the production base for nuclear-powered submarines may indeed collapse.

The relevance of attack submarines to future U.S. national security requirements is based primarily on the continuing requirement to guarantee U.S. access to Eurasia, and recent history suggests that major new threats to the stability of the world island could emerge in the relatively near future—initially, perhaps, in the form of regional aggression. The question that arises in that context concerns the future role of nuclear-powered attack submarines.

INSTABILITY AND PERSISTENCE

The most obvious such role revolves around the traditional mission of maintaining control of the world's sea lanes. By countering enemy submarines and surface combatants, attack submarines assure the safe ocean transit of U.S. and allied naval and merchant vessels. Because of the general decline in Russian military power, that mission may seem to be perhaps less critical in the mid-1900s than it was during the Cold War. But U.S. naval intelligence officials have warned that ''the bear still swims''—and have backed up that statement with hard evidence. The Russians continue to build several new submarines per year, and they have made significant progress in matching—in some cases surpassing—the stealthiness of U.S. submarines, even while they cut back drastically on many other components of their military power. The present instability of the Russian regime, and the persistence of anti-Western, anti-democratic political attitudes in Russia, both strongly suggest that the United States should not allow itself to fall behind Russia's technological achievements in the underwater arena.

A related and potentially more ominous development to which the Russians—and several U.S. allies—have contributed is the rapid proliferation of non-nuclear submarine technologies to developing countries. There are now over 600 submarines deployed around the world, operational in the navies of more than 40 countries. Not all of those submarines pose a direct threat to U.S. use of the sea lanes, but a growing number do. In recent years, Russia and various Western nations have agreed to sell diesel-electric submarines to, among other countries—not all of them friendly to the United States—China, Egypt, India, Iran, Pakistan, and Syria. In addition, several of the more developed nations of the Third World have begun or are beginning to develop an indigenous capacity to produce diesel-electric or even nuclear-powered submarines.

The problem posed by the proliferation of submarine technology is today more embryonic than urgent, but the pace of proliferation, combined with the strategic location of several recent purchasers of modern submarines, is worrisome. It would require only a few submarines to close the Straits of Gibraltar or the Straits of Hormuz—which would be likely targets of Libya and Iran, respectively, in the event of future conflict. Continued U.S. access to Middle East oil, and to Asian and European markets, demands that the U.S. Navy be prepared to deter or counter major new submarine threats. The current U.S. submarine program is for that reason aimed primarily at developing and building the submarine platforms, sensors, and weapons needed to track and destroy submarines that in the future will be faster, more lethal, and, above all, increasingly stealthy.

LAND-ATTACK SSNs

A second key role that attack submarines will in all likelihood be assigned in the future is the delivery of precision firepower against land targets ashore. The precedent for this mission is well-established in the fleet of SSBNs, which have for so long been the most survivable ''leg'' of the U.S. strategic nuclear triad, and which have as their primary if not exclusive mission the destruction of enemy ICBM (intercontinental ballistic missile) silos, air bases, and other strategic land targets. In the future, though, the parallel capability of SSNs to launch conventional cruise missiles against land targets may play a greater role in U.S. naval strategy and tactics. Because of the loss of U.S. bases overseas and the need in recent years, as a result of budget cuts, to ''gap'' forward-deployed Navy battle groups in waters adjacent to areas of potential crisis, it may become increasingly necessary for the Navy to rely on submarines to compensate for the absence of surface combatants and tactical naval aviation.

The vulnerability of surface ships to the increasingly sophisticated cruise missiles, land-based as well as sea-based, possessed by so many Third World nations and regional powers also will require submarines to play a growing role in the land-attack mission. A recent war game at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, R.I., demonstrated that a U.S. surface fleet could suffer severe losses to land-based cruise missiles.

There is nothing hypothetical about this threat; it is already a very real and increasingly difficult problem. A long-time U.S. ally, France, currently is developing a stealthy, long-range cruise missile called the Apache that will be able to use a direct link to reconnaissance satellites for guidance. While the French have no plans to export the new missile, it is clearly only a matter of time before all of the key technologies—stealth, cruise missiles, realtime satellite reconnaissance—are available to other industrialized countries and, probably, to some lesser-developed nations as well.

Such trends in the capabilities of weapons will require parallel changes in the operating tactics and battle doctrines of all the world's navies. As it becomes increasingly necessary for major surface combantants and auxiliaries to remain further offshore, the ability of submarines to elude detection will enhance their usefulness in the land-attack role. Indeed, some observers already believe that the capacity of submarines to remain stealthy will make the attack submarine the true capital ship of the next century.

Submarines probably also will retain the various ancillary missions, such as reconnaissance and the insertion of special-operations forces, that they assumed—or that were thrust upon them—during the Cold War. While such roles may not in themselves justify spending a billion dollars or more for a nuclear-powered attack submarine, they are a useful complement to the submarine's primary mission and thus, by helping to amortize the SSN's operating as well as initial-construction costs, would be a key factor in the overall cost/benefit equation.

MAINTAINING AN ADEQUATE FORCE

Despite recurrent reports throughout the Cold War that new technology was about to render the oceans transparent, U.S. submarines have remained exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, for adversaries to track and target, thanks primarily to the Navy's long-term and continuing effort to improve the stealthiness of its submarines. Although the sensitivity and signal-processing capabilities of potential adversaries' sonar systems have improved significantly, they have not managed to match the pace of ''quieting'' U.S. submarines. Experts are nearly unanimous in believing that American submarines can remain ahead in the survivability race—but only for as long as the Navy continues a reasonably vigorous technology program to maintain—or, preferably, enhance—the stealth of its own submarines.

Unfortunately, the survivability of U.S. submarines is only half of the combat equation. The other half is the survivability of enemy submarines, a matter about which the U.S. Navy has good reason to be worried. The newest Russian submarines have actually

surpassed the quietness of the most advanced, quietest, and most survivable boats—the Los Angeles-class SSNs—now in the U.S. active fleet. The threat posed by Russia's stealthy Akula-class SSNs imposes new and unprecedented demands on U.S. sensors and weapons. Thus, despite its temporary surplus of nuclear-powered attack submarines, the United States has two compelling reasons to build new and even more advanced SSNs: (a) it must preserve the stealthiness of its own submarines; and (b) it must overcome the stealthiness of the most advanced foreign-built submarines.

The Seawolf SSN program, and the follow-on new attack submarine (NSSN)—scheduled to begin construction in 1998—are intended to meet both of these needs. The NSSN will incorporate the advanced quieting, sensor, and weapons technology of the Seawolf in a less expensive hull that is more compatible with anticipated future budgetary limitations. Although it will cost considerably less than the Seawolf, it will be able to accomplish all of the post-Cold War missions, including the land-attack mission, envisioned for U.S. attack submarines.

The pace of development for the NSSN will not allow construction of the first of the class to begin any earlier than 1998, however. The Navy already has committed $900 million to the construction of a third Seawolf submarine, and in the fiscal year 1996 defense budget is seeking the remaining $1.5 billion needed to complete it. That common-sense economic rationale is not, of course, the only reason the Navy wants to complete construction: The third Seawolf will contribute significantly to future seapower capabilities, and will help satisfy a Joint Chiefs of Staff requirement for at least 10 to 12 submarines with Seawolf-quality stealthiness by 2012.

THE BUDGETARY/RISK TRADEOFF

A recent study of the U.S. submarine production base by the Rand Corporation concluded that little money would be saved by allowing a production gap to develop in the construction of new submarines. The risks, though, would be considerable. The third Seawolf illustrates this finding clearly. The cost of the boat will be $2.4 billion, of which $900 million is already obligated. Since it will cost at least that much more to terminate contracts and shut down production of the third boat, the Navy faces the choice of spending: (a) nearly $2 billion, with nothing to show for it; or (b) $2.4 billion, to get a very capable submarine.

Its decision to embrace the latter option is driven, though, not only by the budgetary arithmetic, but also by the urgent need to preserve the nation's ability to build submarines. Consolidation of all nuclear-ship production at Newport News Shipbuilding—builder of the Navy's nuclear-powered carriers and other surface combatants, as well as more than three dozen SSNs and SSBNs—would not only reduce the U.S. nuclear shipbuilding industrial base to one yard, but also would deprive the nation of the pre-eminent submarine integration facility at Electric Boat, and of a highly skilled work force as well.

It might at some future date be considered necessary, for strictly budgetary reasons, to consolidate all nuclear construction at one yard—but to do so would mean a loss of flexibility and of surge capacity, and would entail some serious national security risks as well.

Fortunately, that decision does not have to be made this year. The overwhelming case for completing the SSN–23 gives the Navy, and Congress, the time needed for a detailed and much more comprehensive study of the cost/benefit tradeoffs involved in making what would be an irreversible change in the long-term U.S. submarine construction program. For at least the time being, though, the Navy itself apparently has concluded that it makes more sense to keep nuclear submarine production at its preferred source, Electric boat, while maintaining the construction of nuclear-powered surface ships at Newport News Ship-building.

The near-term costs of such an approach are outweighed, the Navy says, by the overriding national security need to ensure the preservation of an adequate industrial base. The Navy's industrial plans for submarines are in that respect similar to its military plans. Both focus on the long term, because it is assumed that the long term is when major new threats to national security may arise. A long-term approach may, of course, create certain near-term budgetary pressures, but those pressures reflect the service's unwillingness to sacrifice its enduring requirements in order to address the more transitory concerns of the moment. Considering the evidence of the recent past and the global trends evident today in technology and politics, it is hard to argue with such an approach.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN EAST TIMOR

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, as cochairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, I rise today to speak out about human rights conditions in Indonesia, and specifically, on the island of East Timor. Home to nearly 200 million people, Indonesia is the fourth most populous nation in the world. Congress has already pressed the Government of Indonesia to give the people of East Timor greater freedom and to ensure the protection of their fundamental human rights. I am disheartened, however, by the lack of progress on ending abuses being committed by Indonesian military forces and the frequent reports of torture and other serious abuses being committed in East Timor. This year, the State Department's ''Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1994'' states:

The [Indonesian] Government continued to commit serious human rights abuses and in some areas, notably freedom of expression, it became markedly more repressive, departing from a long-term trend towards greater openness. The most serious included the continuing inability of the people to change their government and harsh repression of East Timorese dissidents.

In November 1994, the U.N. Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary, and Arbitrary Executions reported that the atmosphere in East Timor continues to be oppressive and resembles the conditions that precipitated the mass killings by Indonesian forces in November 1991. The rapporteur's report serves as a warning to the world and should be a call to action for the international community to prevent a repetition of severe human rights violations.

In addition, I remain concerned about the large Indonesian military presence on the island and about reports indicating that one of the Indonesian army battalions that was responsible for the Santa Cruz massacre recently returned to the region. I also oppose the mistreatment of Timorese political prisoners, the heightened migration of Indonesian settlers to East Timor, and the obstruction of international observers who are working to monitor trials of dissidents and report on conditions in East Timor. I firmly believe that these developments demand a strong response by the international community.

Indonesian President Suharto has recently cracked down on free press, causing the firing of journalists who voice their dissent. This campaign to intimidate journalists is not the only repression that has intensified. There are frequent cases of Christians being arrested, beaten, and intimidated. There is little freedom of association, assembly or expression, and members of the security forces responsible for these human rights violations enjoy virtual impunity. Assistant Secretary of State John Shattuck recently reported to Congress that the human rights situation ''Which began worsening in late 1994, worsened further in January of this year.'' I call on Members to put pressure on the Indonesian Government to end their pattern of abuses in East Timor. I call on my colleagues to join me in my efforts to remain vocal and keep a bad situation from further deteriorating

I also commend to Members the following article, from the Boston Globe dated April 3, 1995, which explains United States shortcomings in promoting human rights in Indonesia.

One way to continue to keep pressure on the Indonesian Government is to continue the ban on International Military Education and Training [IMET] funds to them. I applaud Representative REED of Rhode Island for the amendment he intends to offer to the American Overseas Interest Act to cut all IMET funds to Indonesia for fiscal year 1996 and fiscal year 1997. I urge Members to support this amendment, which is a strong and clear message to the Indonesian Government that their disregard for human rights will not be tolerated by the United States.

[From the Boston Globe, April 3, 1995]

COMPROMISING HUMAN RIGHTS

The most generous way to describe the Clinton administration's approach to human rights is to call it ambivalent.

John Shattuck, assistant secretary of state for human rights, has said all the right things and produced candid reports on human rights around the world. But President Clinton ignored Beijing's abuses for the sake of trade, subordinated human rights to strategic concerns when Boris Yeltsin assaulted Chechnya and made the fatal mistake of refusing to classify the mass murders in Rwanda as genocide when to do so might have enabled UN forces to stop the slaughter.

Recently there has been an unusually overt demonstration of the administration's ambivalence on human rights. Speaking in the Indonesian capital, Jakarta, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. William Owens, said the Pentagon wants to resume a US program for the military and educational training of the Indonesian army, a program that Congress suspended in 1992 because of Indonesia's flagrant abuse of human rights on the conquered territory of East Timor.

The same day, Shattuck was telling Congress that the human right situation on East Timor, ''which began worsening in late 1994, worsened further in January this year.'' Shattuck's testimony replicated a report by the organization Human Rights Watch/Asia on ''Deteriorating Human Rights in East Timor.'' The report describes ''extrajudicial

executions, torture, disappearances, unlawful arrests and detentions and denials of freedom of association, assembly and expression.''

As Clinton and the new Congress consider the Pentagon's request for $600,000 to spend on the training of Indonesian officers, they ought to heed the counsel of the US Catholic Conference. ''As difficult as the situation in East Timor has been over the years,'' the bishops' office noted, ''congressional protests and representations by various US administrations have helped limit the severity of human rights abuses, keeping a bad situation from becoming much worse.''

This is no time to encourage Indonesian persecution of the East Timorese.

SALUTE TO M.L. ''LIN'' KOESTER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute a longtime friend and former colleague who will be leaving the city of Simi Valley to become Ventura County's chief administrative officer.

When I joined the Simi Valley City Council in 1979, one of our first objectives was to find an administrator who could lead the city into the next decade while restoring the fiscal and personal security city residents expected and deserved.

Lin Koester was that administrator. In more than 15 years on the job, he has established a list of accomplishments and successes that would be the envy of any manager in the private or public sector.

Through Lin's tenure, Simi Valley has earned the respect of other municipalities from around the State for its strong record of fiscal conservatism and financial stability. With an annual budget of more than $88 million and more than 500 employees, the city has weathered the economic downturn that has plagued southern California and the entire Nation over the past few years and has emerged in good financial shape with a $14 million general fund reserve.

But Lin's achievements are hardly limited to the area of financial management.

While he has served as city manager, Simi Valley has established a statewide reputation for its innovative efforts and programs in the areas of recycling and hazardous waste management.

Under Lin's leadership, the city has maintained its reputation as one of the top three safest cities of its size in the entire country. It has also financed and built a new city hall and senior center and has helped establish a local DMV office, a new county courthouse and a library. The city has also seen the construction and opening of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, while construction continues on a new cultural arts center—scheduled to open later this year. A new, state-of-the-art, police facility is expected to open within the next 3 years.

None of these things happened by accident. They happened because of strong, thoughtful leadership and an ability to get the most from a well-chosen, well-organized professional staff.

As Lin moves on to put his time-tested talents to work for the county, Mr. Speaker, I would like to join many of his former colleagues and friends in wishing him well. I know that Simi Valley is a much better place today because the years Lin spent at the helm. I am confident that, years from now, we will be able to look back and say the same thing about Ventura County.

HONORING ALISON GAVRELL

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, in June, a very talented young woman from my district in California will be traveling to Washington to receive a major literary award. Alison Gavrell will receive the Silver Award at the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards National Exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery of Art for her short story, ''Don't Believe Everything You Read.''

This prestigious program, which honors talented young writers and artists from across the Nation, is designed to encourage some of America's finest and most gifted students in the pursuit of excellence. Alison plans to read from her story at the Library of Congress Saturday, June 17, and will be part of the ceremony and recreation for all national award winning students at the Corcoran the following day.

Alison, a student at the Dorris-Eaton School in Walnut Creek, deserves high praise for her diligence, self-discipline, and creativity. My congratulations also go to her parents, Elaine and George Gavrell, and her teacher, Ms. Deeni Schoenfeld for their contributions to Alison's signal achievement. It is a pleasure for me to recognize Alison in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN H. WATTERS

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Stephen H. Watters, who for 19 years, has been the director of the middle school at William Penn Charter.

Over the past 20 years, he has helped to define and shape one of the finest middle school programs in the country. Stephen H. Watters has demonstrated his long-term leadership and commitment to the school, the development of its curriculum, and to his caring approach to students, parents and peers.

Steve is leaving the Penn Charter family this summer and will assume his new responsibilities as head of the Green Vale School, a K–9 school in Glen Head, NY.

Steve's departure will further impact Penn Charter with the departure of his wife, Anne Watters, who has served as director of lower school admissions as she joins her husband in New York.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Mr. Watters for a job well done.

HONORING YVONNE MCCALL

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today and pay tribute to an outstanding educator from Fairfax County, VA, who is retiring this month.

S. Yvonne McCall, is the principal of Silverbrook Elementary in Fairfax Station, VA. She was selected as the National Distinguished Principal of Virginia 1993.

I first met Mrs. McCall in 1981 when she brought in private and charitable donations to build a new playground at Glen Forest Elementary School, where she was principal.

Mrs. McCall encourages her students to strive for academic excellence. Her motto is: ''Reach for the moon. If you don't make it, then you'll at least land among the stars.''

McCall has designed a number of innovative programs at Silverbrook. They include: PEP [Parents Energizing Parents], a parent support group; PLUS [Parents Lending Us Support], a program designed to train volunteer parents; RESPECT [Rules Expected at Silverbrook—Plans Everyone Can Trust], a schoolwide discipline program designed to reward positive behavior; Social Skills, a program that encourages good cafeteria behavior by rewarding well-behaved students with a complimentary lunch at a local restaurant; and, a mentor program with employees of the school's business partner, HFSI, through which the partners communicate via electronic mail.

Mrs. McCall began her career in Fairfax County in 1971 as a reading teacher at Fairview Elementary School. In 1980, she assumed the post of principal at Glen Forest Elementary School and later served as principal at Dogwood Elementary School, where she remained until assuming the reigns at Silverbrook Elementary in 1988.

Throughout her career, Mrs. McCall has earned honors. She received the Outstanding Principal Award from Mount Olive Baptist Church in 1985. From 1986 to 1993, McCall was nominated seven times for the Washington Post Distinguished Educational Leadership Award. She received the Department of the Army's Outstanding Civilian Service Medal in 1991. In 1991, McCall was also a finalist in the National Distinguished Principal of Virginia program. In 1993, she was awarded the Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals' School Bell Award for her leadership abilities and her innovative and successful school programs.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues join me in honoring Yvonne McCall for all of her hard work and dedication in molding the way that our children view themselves and the world. Mrs. McCall is a credit to her profession and has been a vital assets to thousands of families in northern Virginia who have been touched by her professional leadership.

TRIBUTE TO MARK BISCOE

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding educator, Mr. Mark Biscoe.

For 36 years, Mr. Biscoe was a member of the Fenn School family. He dedicated life to teaching, coaching, and guiding young students at this small school for boys in Concord, MA.

Mr. Biscoe began his distinguished career in 1958. Throughout his career, he has assisted countless numbers of students. Each of his students has been a recipient of his sincere kindness, care, and responsible guidance. His supervision and instruction have been significant factors in shaping Fenn boys into young men and preparing them for the future.

In his role as teacher, coach, and sometimes parent, Mr. Biscoe has provided emotional as well as educational support. He has made many invaluable contributions to the Fenn community. Unfortunately, our society often takes its teachers for granted. But, when we consider the positive effects a teacher can have on the lives of children, we begin to appreciate the value of the profession.

Mr. Biscoe's commitment is a lesson about teaching through example. He dedicated himself to improving his community and he succeeded. He is held in the highest esteem by all who know him. I know many parents, students, and colleagues are grateful to Mark Biscoe for his contributions. I extend my congratulations and best wishes to him on his retirement. I know that the Fenn School will continue to benefit from Mr. Biscoe's involvement and contributions.

HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN CHINA: MILLIONS SUFFER WHILE THE GOVERNMENT IS REWARDED BY THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, two significant events marking the tragic human rights record of the People's Republic of China must not be allowed to pass without this body pausing to remember the victims in China who are not allowed to speak out for themselves without fear of persecution, imprisonment, torture, and death. There are even those victims who will never have the opportunity to cry out for their lives.

On June 1, the Maternal and Infantile Health Care Law went into effect in the People's Republic of China. This law, though titled a ''health care'' policy, is nothing short of Nazi-style eugenics policy added to an already oppressive, nonvoluntary, coercive one-child-per-couple family planning policy being implemented in China.

China's coercive population control policy is already well known and is a crime against women. Xiaorong Li, the vice-chair of Human Rights in China's Executive Committee and a research fellow at the Institute of Philosophy and Public Policy at the University of Maryland recently wrote: ''In assessing the population policy, the unfair burdens that women have been made to bear in recent history for mistaken national policies must not be ignored * * * If China faces a population crisis, is it just to make women (and children) primarily bear the cost of reducing birth rates?'' She goes on to note that ''75 percent of urban women would like to have two children, but most settled for having one child to avoid losing subsidies, housing, medical care, retirement benefits, and even their jobs. Rural women seem to suffer more from pressures of all kinds * * * to evade the quotas set by the policy and produce more, preferably male, babies. They alone have to endure abortions in the 7th and 8th months of pregnancy, use IUD's, take the pill, get sterilized, bear the children, and suffer the health consequences of all these things. In most cases, they alone are punished for their extra-quota births, having to escape the harassment of family planning workers, lying about their pregnancies, and eluding the teams sent to take them for abortions and sterilizations.''

The new law goes even further than setting quotas, it is aimed at ensuring that parents can have a perfect child, according to Sun Nianfu, senior obstetrician at Beijing's Capital Hospital. To this end, the law prohibits marriage between people if one of them has a serious hereditary disease, which is medically deemed unsuitable for reproduction unless the couple would agree to take long lasting contraceptive measures or give up childbearing by undergoing tubal ligation. Further, the law indicates that when a woman is determined to be carrying a child that may have serious hereditary diseases or have a serious deformity, the pregnancy should be terminated.

What will this mean for the people of China? According to one report ''couples discovered to have a genetic predisposition toward conditions like diabetes, mild retardation, or even rheumatoid arthritis * * * could be forced by the government's medical establishment to abort their child.'' The law, so vague in its definition of serious diseases would allow the government and medical officials to determine in each case which people may get married, which couples may have children, which children may be born.

Three days after the eugenics law went into effect, on June 4, the world remembered the brave men and women who filled Tiananmen Square 6 years ago calling for democratic reform and greater freedoms. Tragically, that peaceful protest, watched by millions the world over, turned violent when the government ordered military troops into Tiananmen Square and opened fire on peaceful, unarmed citizens.

Hundreds were killed. The Chinese Government has never given an accounting of the exact number. More were rounded up and imprisoned. Many of these peaceful protesters remain in Chinese prison, many of them are imprisoned in labor camps, where they are forced to participate in China's slave labor system, producing items exported to the United States under the administration's tragic trade policy which sacrifices human lives and dignity on the altar of the dollar. On Friday the President once again renewed MFN with China, while paying lip service to the human rights situation in China. While unborn children are being called undesirable, while women are forced to undergo coerced abortions and sterilizations, while hundreds of political dissidents are imprisoned and their voices silenced, the government which inflicts there horrors on the people is rewarded.

Mr. Speaker, fortunately there are others who have more integrity. And these people are paying a high price for standing up for human rights. Several appeals, signed by dozens of China's leading intellectuals have been issued calling for a commemoration of the Tiananmen Square victims and the release of those who are still detained for their participation in the peaceful protests. Some of those who have signed the petitions have been arrested, including Wang Dan, the 26-year-old former student leader at Tiananmen Square. Others arrested include Wang Xizhe who was imprisoned for 12 years for his participation in the 1978 Democracy Wall movement, Liu Xiaobo, a professor, Huang Xiang, a poet, and Liu Nianchun.

And, Mr. Speaker, we must not forget that Wei Jingsheng, the father of China's democracy movement was detained on April 1, 1994 and has vanished without a trace. He had already spent over 14 years in prison. He was released in September 1993 during China's bid to host the Olympics in the year 2000. Once this no longer served their purpose, Wei was picked up by authorities and has not been heard from since. At this point he has not been charged with any crime nor have there been any judicial proceedings against him.

Mr. Speaker, today the government of China enjoys most-favored-nation trade status with the United States. Government officials and the military are reaping the rewards of unlimited trade with our Nation while at the same time they trample the rights, dignity, and lives of millions of women and men in the name of population control and stability.

These victims of China's human rights abuses must not be forgotten. Today I honor the forgotten women and men of China, who are victims of Nazi-like eugenic policies, who cannot choose the number and spacing of their children, whose bodies are violated, whose voices are silenced, but whose hopes and dreams remain alive.

BROWN INTRODUCES PATIENT CHOICE LEGISLATION

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker. I rise on behalf of myself and my colleague, Mr. LATOURETTE, to introduce legislation to ensure patient choice of medical equipment under Medicare.

Under current law, the Medicare Program will reimburse beneficiaries for durable medical equipment only if they choose the basic model. Those beneficiaries who wish to choose an upgraded piece of equipment for convenience or comfort reasons must pay for the equipment themselves. In fact, some beneficiaries are forced to use the basic model of equipment even if it may make their condition worse because they cannot afford to pay the full amount for an upgraded model.

I do not believe that Medicare should not be dictating choices to elderly beneficiaries, If an

85 year-old Medicare patient wishes to use an electric wheelchair because it helps her get around better, she ought to be assured that Medicare will cover up to the amount for a basic model.

During last year's debate on health care reform, one of the comments I heard most often from the families of northeast Ohio was concern about restrictions on patient choices. Health care is too personal to allow choices to be determined by Government bureaucrats.

This legislation would ensure beneficiaries true choice of medical equipment such as wheelchairs, hospital beds, walkers and other aids. In addition, the bill includes measure to protect beneficiaries from high pressure sales and allows the Health Care Financing Administration [HCFA] to establish guidelines for the purchase or rental of upgraded equipment.

Restrictions on coverage for medical equipment were established in response to fraud and abuse in the program. However, these restrictions have become outmoded and inflexible. This legislation would protect older Americans from the hard sell by equipment suppliers while providing the flexibility in their equipment choices.

It is not my intent to allow the industry to oversell grandma on the luxury models of all equipment, but we need to have some common sense about Medicare coverage. Why shouldn't Medicare beneficiaries have access to equipment that all Americans do? Why should they be penalized?

Furthermore, while this legislation ensures that additional choices are available to the elderly, this bill is revenue neutral to the Medicare Program. Medicare current covers medical equipment at a standard level. My legislation would simply ensure that Medicare beneficiaries could choose an upgraded model and be reimbursed from Medicare at the standard level. Thus, the U.S. taxpayer will pay no more for this choice legislation.

I urge my colleagues to join in cosponsoring this necessary legislation.

THE PASSING OF AN AMERICAN HERO

HON. RON WYDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. Speaker, let us take a moment today to remember one of the great advocates for justice who died at the age of 89 on April 22—my friend and Gray Panthers colleague, Margaret Eliza Kuhn. I had the pleasure of knowing Maggie for 20 years. She was the inspiration for the Oregon Gray Panthers, pioneer advocacy organization that has worked to bring seniors and young people together in Oregon since 1975. Maggie is truly an American hero.

Maggie Kuhn founded the Gray Panthers in response to her forced retirement. Her goal was simple: unite the generations to serve as advocates for fundamental social change that would reduce injustice, discrimination, and oppression in our society.

Maggie was given a sewing machine to celebrate her retirement, a seemingly appropriate gift, but she never even found time to open it. She was too busy. Instead, she served as a tireless champion for those without a voice in our society.

Maggie Kuhn led the fight to root out discrimination against older Americans. Kuhn thought it was absurd to waste the valuable talents of older Americans, and helped to shatter the myth that growing older is synonymous with powerlessness, decrepitude, and weakness.

Kuhn saw a natural connection between young and old. She said that the mind needs exercise to stay healthy. Kuhn encouraged seniors to return to school. She encouraged older Americans to teach children, based on their vast life experiences.

Maggie Kuhn and the Gray Panthers have always had an aggressive agenda of social action. Maggie refused to let government and society stunt the productivity of seniors by forcing them to retire at age 65. She argued that forced retirement damages self-esteem and leads to feelings of uselessness. She felt it was unconscionable that this physical and psychological damage could be forcibly imposed as a person ages. Maggie fought mandatory retirement until she won.

Maggie Kuhn would be outraged today by the recent attacks on the role of seniors in our society. When talking about Medicare much of the media says seniors, not out of control health costs, are the problem. When talking about Social Security, seniors, not the use of the Social Security surplus to fund other programs, are again described as the problem. When it comes to the economy, again seniors are described as the problem and held out as takers, not producers.

The fact is millions of seniors are producers, not takers, and Maggie led the way for older people to use their skills to make our communities better places every day. Seniors are part of the solution, not problems as so often portrayed in today's media.

Older Americans are making valuable contributions every day in many ways around the country. Stop in at your local blood bank, school lunch program, or your favorite charity. You'll see that seniors are the glue that holds these programs together. They are the National Senior Service Corps, the Peace Corps, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program [RSVP], and AmeriCorps. Just look around—seniors are helping—because Maggie Kuhn helped open the doors for older Americans.

Maggie's credo was age and youth in action, and I'm pleased that this House is beginning to understand the need for policies that bring the generations together. Recently, the House voted for my amendment to promote kinship care, which gives seniors and other adult relatives the opportunity to support and raise children, as an alternative to forcing children from broken homes into foster care run by strangers. Enacting a national plan to promote kinship care would be an ideal way to honor Maggie Kuhn, who led the fight to bring younger and older people together.

Maggie hated waste and foolish bureaucracy. Democrats and Republicans alike can work together to reduce fraud and waste in vital government services and protect consumers. In support of this objective, Congress should pass the bipartisan legislation introduced by the chairs of the House Older Americans Caucus that would attack fraudulent and unethical practices in the sale of private long-term care insurance.

In the days ahead, Congress will debate many important issues of social justice. Let us remember Maggie Kuhn's life and support government policies that empower and liberate our citizens.

Maggie Kuhn led a life of unselfish service to others. She felt that the greatest sin was to waste time and to waste human potential. She lived her life to the fullest. Millions of Americans, young and old, have been touched by her work.

Maggie Kuhn was once asked how she would like to be remembered. She recited her favorite epitaph: ''Here lies so-and-so, under the only stone she left unturned.''

Maggie Kuhn, a true American hero, will be much missed.

BIENNIAL CONGRESSIONAL REFORM

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution providing for the biennial review of the structure and organization of Congress.

One of my major conclusions from my work last Congress on the Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress is that the institution is better served if congressional reform is treated more as an ongoing, continual process rather than something taken up in an omnibus way every few decades. Congress has set up three major bipartisan, bicameral reform efforts in recent times—the 1945, 1965, and 1993 Joint Committees on the Organization of Congress. All three panels were given extremely broad mandates—to look at virtually all aspects of Congress in order to improve efficiency and effectiveness. The panel last Congress took up everything from committee jurisdiction reform and the congressional budget process to ethics reform and congressional compliance with the laws we pass for everyone else. We conducted scores of hearings, heard from hundreds of witnesses, looked over thousands of pages of testimony, considered hundreds of reform ideas, and issued reports totalling several thousand pages.

In my view, it would be far preferable to have the House take up a congressional reform resolution each Congress:

First, the task would be much more manageable. Members would be able to focus attention on the key reform issues of the day, rather than consider the entire range of procedural and organizational matters over from previous Congresses.

Second, political tensions would be lessened. Letting systematic institutional reform slide for several years only allows problems to fester and heightens partisan tensions.

Third, continual attention to reform is needed. We live in a rapidly changing world and need to keep the institution of Congress up to date on a regular basis.

Fourth, public confidence in Congress would be bolstered. Regular, systematic reform of Congress should help improve its operations and remove unnecessary impediments to legislative action.

Thus I strongly favor bringing a congressional reform resolution to the House floor every Congress, and letting Members work their will on the major reform issues of the

day. That is what the resolution I am introducing today would help to bring about. It has three main components:

The first, and main, part, Section 1, would require the House Committee on Rules each Congress to consider submitting to the House a congressional reform resolution. My proposal does not require that they report out and send such a resolution to the floor. It instead says that they should consider submitting such a resolution to the House, and—if they decide against such a resolution—they would have to explain—as part of their end-of-Congress report required in Section 3 below—why they thought congressional reform was not needed.

The biennial reform resolution proposed in Section 1 would draw upon two sources of information, among others:

Section 2 provides for a general floor debate on congressional reform during consideration of the legislative branch appropriations bill. Just as we set aside time for a Humphrey-Hawkins debate on the economy each session during consideration of the budget resolution, so we should set aside time for regular debate on how well Congress is working, allowing the main committee involved in congressional reform to take part in the discussion. The time of the year when we are funding Congress would be an appropriate time to discuss how well Congress is working.

Section 3 requires that the Committee on Rules, as part of its oversight agenda, submit a systematic and comprehensive report at the end of each Congress on the effectiveness of House organization, operations, and procedures. Earlier this year the House required each committee, including Rules, to submit an end-of-Congress report on its overnight activities. My resolution would require that a section of the Rules Committee report specifically take up the need for congressional reform—what was done on reform during that Congress and what might the areas of future reform.

Mr. Speaker, interest in congressional reform tends to ebb and flow according to the changing interests of the main House players in reform, the shifting national agenda, the varying amounts of media coverage given to the operations of Congress, and the changing winds of public interest in major reform. I believe we need to regularize the process so that whoever is in charge of reform in the future will be looking seriously at scheduling and debating a congressional reform resolution each Congress.

My idea is not a new one. The Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970 stated the need for a congressional panel to ''make a continuing study of the organization and operation of the Congress.'' Moreover, the 1974 bipartisan House Select Committee on Committees, headed up by Richard Bolling, stated: ''A key aspect of any viable reoroganziation is provision for continuing evaluation of its effectiveness, and for periodic adjustments in the institution as new situations arise.'' I believe it is time to finally follow through on these recommendations and regularize the congressional reform process.

A TRIBUTE TO MELVIN AND JOSEPHINE CARLSON

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, on June 9, 1945, Melvin and Josephine Carlson were married in the Holy Name Church in West Roxbury, MA.

That is 50 years, for those of you who may not be mathematically inclined. On the occasion of this monumental anniversary, I must take time out to pay tribute to their lives together.

Melvin and Joey met at Fort Devens Army Base in Ayer, MA. For Melvin, an illustrious military career was in the works. A World War II combat veteran of Guadalcanal and Bourgainville fighting, he holds Legion of Merit, Purple Heart, and Combat Infantry Badge honors. He is also authorized to wear the Distinguished Unit badge.

Melvin worked for General Electric, and is recently retired from New England Confectionery Co. as director of research and development.

Josephine, a graduate of Regis College in Weston, MA, taught elementary students at St. Dominici's School in Brookline, MA. These days, it is reported that she spends some of her time gardening, reading, and making afghans for her grandchildren.

Speaking of children, Melvin and Josephine have three: Joseph Eric, Richard Melvin, and Elaine Marie, each of who coincidentally went to Boston College. Melvin and Joey have two grandchildren: Heather Ann and Eric Joseph Carlson.

I hear that, in addition to spending as much time as possible with their children and grandchildren, they are very active in their church, and they are loved by many good friends, both old and new.

Fifty years is quite an achievement. I hope my colleagues will join me in wishing Melvin and Josephine Carlson many more memorable years together. Congratulations and happy anniversary.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET—FISCAL YEAR 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 67) setting forth the congressional budget for the U.S. Government for the fiscal years 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the Congressional Back Caucus substitute budget for fiscal year 1996. The CBC substitute is a caring budget, it shows compassion for the American people and is one that the American people can be proud of. It not only balances the budget, the measure is responsive to the housing, health, education, and employment training needs of the American people.

Unlike the Republicans' budget proposals, House Concurrent Resolution 67, which holds our elderly hostage to their compromised health care condition and economic status, the Congressional Black Caucus substitute treats our elderly with the dignity and respect that they not only deserve—but have earned. Adequate funding is provided for the older Americans' programs, including essential nutrition programs, low-income home-energy assistance, and assisted housing. Medicare is preserved.

The lives of more 2,000,000 Medicare seniors in Texas would be dramatically impacted, and by the year 2002 each Medicare senior in Texas would be asked to pay an additional $1,112 out-of-pocket expenses. Each would be forced to pay $4,000 more for fiscal years 1996 through 2002 to make up for the cuts. We want the future to be free but not on the backs of seniors and those most vulnerable. Unlike the Republicans' budget proposal which forces our elderly to choose between food and heat, under the CBC alternative their quality of life is enhanced.

The CBC substitute is also kind to our Nation's children, including those yet to be born. It provides adequate funding for Healthy Start, Child Care, and Head Start. Our children are our future. They have placed their future in our hands, we cannot sacrifice the trust.

In addition, the CBC substitute budget strengthens support for higher education, student aid, TRIO, education for the disadvantaged, school reform, biomedical research, and community infrastructure. The CBC has heard the voice of the American people, and responded with a sound budget that is fair, responsible, and overturns the Republicans' assault on our Nation's most vulnerable citizens—the children, the elderly, the Veterans, and hard-working families.

The Congressional Black Caucus substitute budget stands on its own merits. We know we must maintain a strong national defense—but we also know we must establish our fiscal policy and priorities in a responsible and compassionate manner.

THE AVERAGE AMERICAN HAS REASON TO BE ANGRY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

(From the Christian Science Monitor, June 1, 1995)

THE AVERAGE AMERICAN HAS REASON TO BE ANGRY—LOW PAY, LONG HOURS, AND A WIDENING GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR

(By Bernard Sanders)

It has recently been widely reported that the average American is angry. Well, the average American should be angry.

Since 1973, the working people of this country have worked longer hours, earned less, and lost much of the economic security they previously had. During the last 22 years, 80 percent of American families have experienced falling or stagnant real incomes. Meanwhile, average Americans are experiencing a major drop in their standard of living, while the rich and powerful have never had it so good.

New statistical studies show that the wealthiest 1 percent of the population own nearly 40 percent of the wealth of this country, more than the bottom 90 percent. That is the greatest concentration of wealth in the industrialized world and, most significantly, it is a trend accelerating faster here than anywhere else.

In 1959, the richest 4 percent of American families earned as much income as the bottom 35 percent. By 1989, that top 4 percent earned as much as the bottom 51 percent. In 1980, the average pay for a chief executive officer of a major corporation was 42 times as high as that of a factory worker. Today, the CEO earns 149 times as much.

Meanwhile, while profits soar and CEOs reap huge salary increases, the purchasing power of the minimum wage has declined by 26 percent over the last 20 years. Many of the new jobs being created are low-wage, part-time, or temporary, without benefits. As major corporations continue to ''downsize,'' the number of temporary jobs in America has exploded form 962,300 in 1987 to 1,657,700 in 1993.

Tens of millions of American workers are experiencing extraordinary financial insecurity and pressure. Will they have their jobs tomorrow, or is the owner moving the company to China where he can get workers for 20 cents an hour? Will their limited health-care benefits be cut even further? Will they ever collect on the pension plan they've been promised?

From 1988 to 1993, worker productivity in the private sector increased by 5.9 percent. Average hourly earnings, however, declined by 4 percent. By 1993, the typical family had lost $1,400 of the buying power it had in 1991. People are working longer, harder, and more productively—and they're becoming poorer. Should the average American be angry?

Given the crisis facing the American middle class, what has the new Republican-controlled Congress been doing to address our nation's underlying economic problems?

JOBS

There is nothing in the ''Contract With America'' to address our $160 billion trade deficit, the decline of our manufacturing base, and the loss of missions of decent-paying manufacturing jobs. How do we get corporate America to reinvest in this country, rather than in cheap, unprotected labor abroad? This is apparently not a subject of much interest to the Republicans, who have recently received huge amounts of corporate campaign contributions.

DECLINING LIVING STANDARDS

At a time when the rich are getting richer and the middle class and the poor are getting poorer, the Republicans have adopted a series of bills to cut benefits drastically for working people and the poor-making life more difficult for those already hurting the most. The Republicans are proposing major cuts in child nutrition, fuel assistance, education, affordable housing, Medicare, Medicaid, and college financial aid.

TAX CUTS

Fifty percent of the individual tax breaks passed by the Republican House will go to people making a $100,000 a year, and the upper 1 percent will get more in tax breaks than the bottom 60 percent. For the lower middle class, there will be virtually no tax reductions at all.

Should the average American worker be angry?

If we are to turn this country around and create an economy that provides well for all the people, and not just the rich, we must focus on the real causes of our problems—and demand real solutions.

Most importantly, we must have the courage to take on the big money interests who—through their control of the economy, the political parties, and the media—make most of the decisions that affect our lives now and those of our children, too.

THE GOLDEN TEMPLE MASSACRE: SELF DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE FOR KHALISTAN

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the terrible conditions that the people of Khalistan must endure on a daily basis. June 3–6 marks the 11th anniversary of the Golden Temple Massacre, where the Indian army massacred thousands of Sikhs. The situation has not improved, and the Indian police routinely use torture, murder, and rape to oppress the Sikh people. This religious intolerance and ethnic warfare amounts to genocide and must stop.

We need only look at the former Soviet Union to understand why a society based on ethnic repression cannot work. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the republics were finally able to break free and exist in peaceful democratic states. It has been predicted that India will suffer the same fate and it is our duty to support and encourage the people of the Sikh Nation. The following remarks by Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh should be read to fully understand the importance of the situation.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,
Washington, DC, June 3, 1995.

Remarks of Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President, Council of Khalistan, on the Eleventh Anniversary of the Golden Temple Massacre, at Washington, DC.

I am glad to see so many people her today. As you know, the Sikh Nation celebrated its 296th birthday this past Vaisakhi Day. That was a joyous occasion; today is a sad one. We all know about the oppression the Sikh Nation has suffered under India's tyrannical occupation of our homeland, Khalistan. At least 120,000 Sikhs have been murdered in India since 1984. Tens of thousands of Sikhs remain in prison. In many rural areas, where the killings are most frequent, whole villages are emptied of their most able bodied young men.

The bloody massacre we commemorate today helped to clarify for the Sikh Nation its true place in Hindustan's sham ''democracy.'' The oppression and bloodshed inflicted on the Sikh Nation by the brutal Indian tyrants make it crystal clear that there is no place for Sikhs in India. For ourselves and for out children, we must liberate Khalistan. Only a free and independent Khalistan will insure that the Sikh Nation can live in peach, prosperity, and freedom.

Freedom for Khalistan is coming soon. It is inevitable. Dr. Jack Wheeler of the Freedom Research Foundation, who predicted the Soviet collapse, predicted almost a year ago that within ten years, India will cease to exist as we know it.

When Sikhs read about India's recent destruction of one of Kashmir's most sacred mosques, we felt a familiar pain remembering how we felt when thousands of our Sikh brethren were slaughtered in the Golden Temple massacre.

In the country that bills itself as ''the world's largest democracy,'' military forces are being used to attack the faith, identity, and even the very being of the Sikh nation. But instead of breaking the Sikh nation, as the tyrants of Hindustan had hoped, it has led to a resurgence of the Sikh faith in our struggle for dignity and freedom. The Golden Temple massacre crystallized a desire in the Sikh nation for a free and sovereign Khalistan.

As you all know, today marks the anniversary of that act of wanton desecration. From June 3 through 6, 1984, 15,000 troops of the Indian army launched a surprise military attack on the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the holiest shrine of the Sikh people. Simultaneously, they attacked 38 other Sikh temples throughout Punjab, Khalistan. These attacks, timed on a holy day for the Sikh nation, left 20,000 Sikhs dead. Many innocent, unarmed men, women and children, who had come only to pray on the anniversary of the martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Ji, were gunned down in the very temples in which they sought peace and solace.

The operation took 72 hours to complete. A news blackout in Punjab was initiated immediately before the attack. In the Temple complex itself, hundreds of Sikhs were forced into rooms designed to hold no more that 20 or 30 people. Most died of asphyxiation. Many Sikh women were raped before being killed.

In one episode, one hundred Sikh boys, students at the temple who were between 8 and 12 years old, were lined up along the sacred pool that surrounds the Temple. The Indian army officers asked each boy, one by one, if he supported Khalistan. One by one, each boy would cry out Bulleh So Nihal! (''Everyone cry out and be contented!''), and the rest would respond Sat SRI Akal (''God is Truth!''). One by one, each boy was shot in the head. Yet the Indian regime claimed that ''Not a single woman or child was wounded in the operation proper at the hands of the Army personnel.''

Other Sikhs were herded together, their turbans were removed and used to tie their hands behind their backs. They were blindfolded and their unshorn beards were stuffed into their mouths. They were then killed by machine gun fire. Bodies were piled together and shipped to nearby Gobindgarh fort, where they were drenched in kerosene and burned. The stench of smoldering bodies permeated in the area for two weeks. Sant Bhindranwale and 20,000 other Sikhs lost their lives.

The damage to the Temple complex was extensive. We cannot forget how the Akal Takht, the throne of timeless God, was severely damaged and the Temple's library building was destroyed. Priceless original manuscripts written by the Gurus were burnt. The Golden Temple itself was riddled with bullet holes, many precious stones inlaid upon its walls removed by Army personnel.

In the mopping up operations, the Indian forces planted sophisticated weapons inside the Golden Temple in an effort to legitimize the action. The Golden Temple was utterly desecrated. In the 400-year history of the Golden Temple, no ruler had done the kind of damage the Indian Government meted out in the 72-hour massacre. The Guru Granth Sahib, the holy book of the Sikh religion, had bullet holes in it. This is Indian religious tolerance.

Eleven years later, we remember. The Sikh nation can never forget the brutal massacre and desecration that took place during those dark days. We cannot forget, and the memory reminds us that we must take back our homeland from the tyrannical Indian regime. We must liberate Khlistan from the grip of oppression, and we should do so very soon. It is our destiny. Raj Karega Khlasa! Khalistan will be free.

Eleven years later, the killing has not stopped. Virtual martial law and press blackouts have been in place almost continuously

since 1984. In November 1984, after Sikh bodyguards assassinated Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Congress party and government sponsored rioting broke out in cities all over India. 40,000 Sikhs lost their lives, 20,000 Sikhs in New Delhi alone. Sikhs were pulled out of shops, homes, trains and buses, and burned alive. For three days, television stations throughout India, all State controlled, aired the simple message, Blood for Blood.

Indian newspapers recently reported that 25,000 bodies have been cremated and listed as unclaimed by the Indian regime since 1990. In Amritsar district alone, over 6000 bodies were listed as unidentified. This is one of 13 districts in Punjab. A mass grave which held the remains of 400 Cambodians shook the world, as it should have. Why does the mass cremation of 25,000 in Punjab, Khalistan, get ignored? These Sikhs were brutally tortured and murdered by the Indian police, then cremated to hide the evidence.

Sikhs are not the only victims. Indian ''democracy'' has murdered over 150,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, over 43,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, and other tribal people. According to the State Department's 1994 report on human rights, between 1991 and 1993 the Indian regime paid over 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs. Many people simply ''disappear.'' It is the great unknown holocaust.

These atrocities are part of a pattern of oppression by the corrupt Indian regime. According to the Indian magazine Sunday, for every case of human rights violations that is reported, another thousand go unreported.

I am sure that you know what happened to Simranjit Singh Mann. On December 26, Sardar Mann made a speech calling for a peaceful, democratic, nonviolent movement to liberate Khalistan. He asked the 50,000 Sikhs in his audience to raise their hands if they agreed with him. All 50,000 did so. For this blatant act of free speech, Mann was arrested under the so-called ''Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act'' (TADA). Although the regime has repealed TADA, and despite a Supreme Court ruling that asking for Khalistan is not a crime, Mann remains in a windowless cell almost five months after he was arrested. This is typical of the kind of tyranny practiced against the Sikh nation by the Indian regime.

According to the government of India, all Sikhs are terrorists. The regime has even outlawed the Sikh baptismal ceremony of amrit. Most Sikhs have a friend or relative who has been imprisoned, tortured or killed by police, ostensibly because they are terrorists. This is the myth that justifies the Indian government's bloody campaign of ethnic cleansing. The world is beginning to realize that Sikh terrorism is a myth. On November 6, the Indian newspaper Hitavada reported that the Indian regime paid the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, $1.5 billion to foment terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir, then blame it on ''Sikh militants.'' Again, Indian ''democracy'' is exposed.

This oppression must stop. On October 7, 1987, the Sikh nation declared its independence from India, forming the separate country of Khalistan. Sikhs ruled Punjab from 1710 to 1716 and from 1765 to 1849. Punjab belongs to the Sikhs. Sikhs own 95 percent of the land in Punjab, Khalistan. Over two-thirds of the population of Punjab is Sikh. No Sikh has ever signed the Indian constitution. In the Indian-run elections in Punjab, Khalistan, in February 1992, 96 percent of the Sikhs there did not vote, according to India Abroad. India's occupation of Khalistan is destroying our homeland. The Sikh Nation has made its desire for freedom clear. We want our country back. We want to live in peace, and we want to live apart from India in a free, democratic society.

Every day the world is exposed to the brutality of India's occupation of Khalistan. In May 1994, Human Rights Watch/Asia and Physician for Human Rights released a report entitled Dead Silence: The Legacy of Abuses in Punjab. The report quotes a police officer as saying, ''Once I became a police officer in Punjab, I realized that torture is used routinely. During my five years with the Punjab police, I estimate 4,000 to 5,000 were tortured at my police station alone.'' Another policeman was quoted as saying that 500 people were killed at his police station in five years. At least 200 of these torture centers currently operate in Indian-occupied Khalistan.

In 1947, when India achieved independence, three nations were to receive power. The Hindus got India, the Muslims got Pakistan, and the Sikh Nation was to receive a state of our own. But the Sikh leadership at the time made the critical mistake of taking our share with India on the solemn promises of Gandha and Nehru that Sikhs would enjoy ''the warm glow of freedom'' in Punjab and that no law affecting Sikh rights would be passed without Sikh consent. Almost immediately, those promises were broken and the repression of our people began.

India is not one nation. It is a conglomeration of many nations thrown together for administrative purposes by the British. It is the last vestige of colonialism. With 18 official languages, India is doomed to disintegrate just as the former Soviet Union did. Freedom for Khalistan and all the nations living under Indian occupation is inevitable. The Sikh Nation's demand for an independent Khalistan is irrevocable, irreversible, and nonnegotiable. But we are willing to sit down with the Indian regime anytime to demarcate the boundaries of Khalistan. It is time for India to recognize the inevitable and withdraw from Khalistan.

An independent Khalistan will help make South Asia nuclear-free. Punjab, Khalistan, produces 73 percent of India's wheat reserves and 48 percent of its rice reserves. As a country where it takes three days' pay to buy a box of cereal, India will have to sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty because it needs food. Once India disarms, Pakistan will have no reason not to do so as well. Khalistan will sign the NPT and a 100-year friendship treaty with the United States.

In the past eleven years, there have been thousands of cases of Sikh deaths and torture at the hands of Indian police and security forces. According to domestic and international human rights groups, the following are frequently used torture methods by the Indian government:

A log of wood made heavier by weights is placed on the legs of the detainee and rotated up and down.

The legs of detainees are often stretched and then the thigh muscles are beaten until they tear.

Body joints are beaten with a heavy baton.

Electric shocks are applied to genitals resulting in impotency.

Sikh women and girls are raped, then usually killed or rendered infertile.

Family members are forced to watch while violence is inflicted on other family members. Often the parents must watch as their children suffer.

Husbands are forced to beat their wives and vice versa.

Pregnancies are forcibly terminated.

Security officials sponsor death squads throughout Punjab. Typically, these agents arrive in unmarked cars, dressed in plain clothes and carry automatic weapons. The death squads pick up suspects and take them to interrogation centers.

According to Asia Watch, ''virtually everyone detained in Punjab is tortured.'' Sikhs who die of torture are routinely listed as having died in fake ''encounters'' with the police. Behavior like this is the reason that Amnesty International has been barred from conducting an independent human-rights investigation in Punjab, Khalistan since 1978. Even Fidel Castro's Cuba has allowed Amnesty International into the country more recently.

Eleven years after the Golden Temple massacre, the human rights situation has only gotten worse. Our history and the history of other minority nations under Indian occupation teach us that freedom for Khalistan, Kashmir, and Nagaland is the only way to prevent further massacres like the one in the Golden Temple.

Secular democracy in India is a myth. The plight of minority nations in India is a direct result of Indian government's racial and ethnic intolerance. A Brigadier General of the Indian Army made clear the actual, if unofficial, policy of the Indian government he said that he would execute the mayors of all six villages, kill all the adult males, and confine all the women to army camps, that they would reproduce with Hindus and thereby ''breed a new race.''

No longer can genocide be an accepted norm of democracy. Let me close with a poignant quotation from a former world leader, one that expresses the very situation in which Sikhs find themselves.:

A government that has to rely on the Criminal Law Amendment Act and similar laws, that suppresses the press and literature, that bans hundreds of organizations, that keeps people in prison without trial, and that does so many things that are happening in India today, is a government that has ceased to have even a shadow of a justification for its existence.

These were the words that Jawaharlal Nehru used to describe the British Administration in India in 1936. What is the difference between the India of 1936 and the India of 1995? I'll tell you. Our small homeland of Punjab, Khalistan has 500,000 security forces. The British never stationed that many troops in the entire Indian subcontinent. And the British, in the century in which they ruled Punjab, never came near slaughtering the 120,000 Sikhs India has slaughtered in the last eleven years.

The free countries of the world support peace, justice, and freedom. I call on all Americans to support freedom for Khalistan. All the Sikh Nation asks is the same freedom that Americans enjoy.

On this anniversary of the Golden Temple massacre, Sikhs will never forget the brutal desecration of our most sacred shrine. I know that by 1999, which will be the 300th anniversary of the birth of the Sikh nation, the truth will be known, and the Sikh nation will celebrate that year in a free and sovereign Khalistan.

Khalistan Zindabad! India out of Khalistan!

SAFE KIDS AND OREGON

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the work that Oregon First Lady Sharon Kitzhaber is doing in my home State to protect our children from preventable injuries. Getting children involved in their own safety is something that makes good sense,

particularly because it prevents untold human suffering and millions of health care dollars. We cannot wait to take action; unintentional injuries are the No. 1 killer of children under age 14.

Sharon Kitzhaber is to be commended for her work with the National Safe Kids campaign. Safe Kids is all about getting children buckled up or getting bike helmets on their heads. Oregon's First Lady has been working to spread the word throughout the State that by working together, we can save lives and money. In fact, according the National Safe Kids campaign, every dollar spent on prevention saves up to $70. In terms of injuries, for example, universal bike helmet use by children ages 4 to 15 would prevent 45,000 head inquires a year.

I join with National Safe Kids to protest recent attempts in Congress to eliminate funding for the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control [NCIPC]. NCIPC has been instrumental in highlighting the important role that prevention can play in saving money and lives in America. In fact, NCIPC is the lead Federal agency for the prevention of injuries outside the workplace and has developed an impressive partnership with private and public institutions to carry out their vital mission.

I pay special tribute to the efforts of Oregon's First Lady, Sharon Kitzhaber, and urge all my colleagues to get involved in the National Safe Kids campaign.

WALDEN POND RED MAPLE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, whenever I return home to Michigan, I am always grateful to spend time with the people I have the privilege to represent in the U.S. House of Representatives. I am fortunate to have been raised in a district where people are community oriented and dedicated to creating organizations that better our lives.

Last month, on May 6, 1995, I was pleased to have the opportunity to join the members of a group that epitomizes pride in our community—the Friends of the Roseville Public Library. An organization dedicated to improving the city's library, they gathered to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the group.

The guest speaker at the anniversary celebration was Mr. Robert Selwa. Bob recently celebrated his 25th anniversary with our local paper, the Macomb Daily, where he specializes in community journalism. Bob relishes covering what he calls ''the heart of life in America—people in their homes, with their families, friends, and neighbors; in their schools and in their churches, patriotic folks who believe in this country and the values of life.'' For 25 years, he has done a fine job covering ''the heart of life in America'' and the people of Macomb County know they can count on him.

Bob has been a friend for many years and I was pleased to share the podium with him at the Roseville event. His remarks were enjoyed by everyone in attendance and I wish to share them with a large audience. Bob reminds us all of our literary heritage from Thoreau's Walden Pond to the American writers of todays. I am pleased to submit his speech as part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and hope that my colleagues and their constituents find it as inspiring as I did.

OUR LITERARY HERITAGE: BOOKS AND LIBRARIES BRING AMERICA TOGETHER

(By Bob Selwa)

Our thanks for this celebration go to Rose Kollmorgen, our outstanding library director in Roseville, and to the Friends of the Roseville Library, and to all our students and patrons, supporters and friends, including Congressman Dave Bonior.

Beginning today it will be said that a tree grows in Roseville—a special tree—a tree representing our literary heritage in America.

We dedicate this special tree today to mark the 20th anniversary of the Friends of the Roseville Library, a dedicated group of volunteers, and of the Roseville Civic Center, a magnificent facility.

The tree we dedicate is a red maple grown from a seed from one of the trees in the woods by Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts.

The maple tree is a proud member of our woodlands from New England across the northern Appalachians and throughout the Midwest. The maple is one of the favorites at home and in our neighborhoods, in our yards and of our streets. The red maple is honored as the state tree of Rhode Island, and its cousin the sugar maple as the state tree of Vermont, West Virginia, New York and Wisconsin.

Our Walden Pond red maple will be a reminder of the wonderful work for 20 years of the Friends of the Roseville Library. This organization has funded 180 speaker programs at the Roseville Civic Center, hosted an annual Children's Christmas party, and provided bus tours for the public. The Friends have given computerized databases, historical books and display items, a 55-gallon aquarium, the compact disk collection, video shelving, the ''Books on Tape'' collection, library seasonal decorations, and other donation totalling an estimated $140,000.

Thanks to both our civic leaders and our volunteers, the Roseville Public Library today has 110,000 books, 4,000 videos, and a variety of other materials including records, computer software, and books on tape.

Today the Walden Pond Reservation of Massachusetts is a 300-acre wilderness forever wild. It includes a 64-acre lake. But New England typically saves the word lake for only the largest inland bodies of water, and names its smaller lakes as ponds, and so we have the name Walden Pond.

In 1845 the woods by Walden Pond were owned by the great author, poet, philosopher and lecturer Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1803–1882, one of our foremost transcendentalists and one of many great literary figures of Concord, Massachusetts.

One of Emerson's followers and friends was Henry David Thoreau, 1817–1862. Thoreau was born in Concord and graduated from Harvard University in 1837. Though he could have pursued any profession he wished, he chose to do odd jobs, such as work as a gardener and handyman and housekeeper for his friend Emerson.

One day Thoreau approached Emerson with the idea of building a cabin in the woods by Walden Pond and going there to live to see what life in harmony with nature would really be like.

Both cherished nature and both encouraged and practiced individualism, and so it was natural for Thoreau to want to go off into the woods by himself, and natural for Emerson to support the idea.

On July 4, 1845, Thoreau moved to the woods by Walden Pond. With his own hands he built a simple wooden cabin, just enough to shelter him from the occasional rain of the Massachusetts springs, summers and autumns and the cold and the snow of the Massachusetts winters.

And so the seasons passed by at Walden Pond—the summer and autumn of 1845, the winter, spring, summer and autumn of 1846, and the winter, spring and summer of 1847. Occasionally Emerson checked on his friend in the woods. Occasionally Thoreau came to town. But essentially Thoreau was there by himself in his cabin in the woods, wandering those woods and the shore of that beautiful lake, with the birds and the deer as his company.

Emerson attained great fame in his time, but Thoreau attained even greater enduring fame, when many years later, he reflected on those times in the woods, and wrote the classic, ''Walden.''

Transcendentalists such as Emerson and Thoreau believed in the harmony of man and nature, in the importance of the individual, and in the idea of passive resistance to civil wrongs. When Thoreau went to jail rather than pay a federal tax in protest of the federal government's support of slavery and of war with Mexico, and Emerson came to visit him, the exchange was memorable.

''What are you doing in there?'' asked Emerson.

To which Thoreau asked, ''What are you doing out there?''

Thoreau's ''On Civic Disobedience'' written from that experience in jail profoundly changed the course of civilization, impacting Mohandas Gandhi of India and Dr. Martin Luther King of America. The writings and lectures of Emerson and the writings of Thoreau created the American literary revolution. And they impacted our literature all through the generations including the great 20th Century New England poet Robert Frost.

From Emerson and Thoreau, to Laura Ingalls Wilder's beautiful and poetic prose showing life on the frontier as it really was for settlers, to the touching plays of Thornton Wilder especially ''Our Town,'' to the poetry of Frost, and to the sweeping historical novels today of James Michener, we have a literary heritage in America to cherish.

And today, in the wake of the terrorism that occurred in Oklahoma City, as we struggle to build a national community and define what our country is all about, we reflect on what our literary heritage provides us and what our libraries such as this excellent facility in Roseville mean to us.

Our literary heritage began with the American Revolution, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution when letters and pamphlets and newspapers brought 13 separate colonies into one united nation.

Our literary heritage today is two centuries rich of a vast land. The heritage of America is full and fascinating in the charms of our 50 unique states. Our literary heritage bonds a diverse people, as books and libraries bring America together.

So today, when we dedicate the red maple from the Walden Pond woods, let us reflect on the writings of our American masters such as Henry David Thoreau and Robert Frost.

Here is a little taste of what Thoreau wrote in ''Walden'':

''I lived alone, in the woods, a mile from any neighbor, in a house which I had built myself, on the shore of Walden Pond, in Concord, Massachusetts. . . .

''The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation. . . . But alert and healthy natures remember that the sun rose clear. It is never too late to give up our prejudices. No way of

thinking or doing, however ancient, can be trusted without proof. What everybody echoes or in silence passes by as true today may turn out to be falsehood tomorrow. . . .

''I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach. . . . I wanted to live deep and suck out the marrow of life. . . .

''Our life is frittered away by detail. . . . I say, let your affairs be as two or three, and not a hundred or a thousand. . . .

''Why should we be in such desperate haste to succeed, and in such desperate enterprises? If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears. . . .

''Love your life, poor as it is. . . . The setting sun is reflected from the windows of the almshouse as brightly as from the rich man's abode. . . .

''Cultivate poverty like a garden herb, like sage. Do not trouble yourself much to get new things. . . . Turn the old; return to them. . . .

''Only that day dawns to which we are awake. There is more day to dawn. The sun is but a morning star.''

Such is the philosophy of Henry David Thoreau from ''Walden'' represented in the red maple tree we dedicate today.

Robert Frost's deep, stirring poetry builds upon that philosophy, as with ''The Road Not Taken.''

''Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
''And sorry I could not travel both
''And be one traveler, long I stood
''And looked down one as far as I could
''To where it bent in the undergrowth.

''Then took the other, as just as fair
''And having perhaps the better claim,
''Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
''Though as for that, the passing there
''Had worn them really about the same.

''And both that morning equally lay
''In leaves no step had trodden black.
''Oh, I kept the first for another day!
''Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
''I doubted if I should ever come back.

''I shall be telling this with a sigh
''Somewhere ages and ages hence;
''Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
''I took the one less traveled by,
''And that has made all the difference.''

With these thoughts we dedicate a red maple, one of the most beautiful and sturdiest of all trees. The red maple buds magnificently in spring, shades us well in summer, comes to full glory in autumn, and then promises us new hope in winter.

It reminds us of Robert Frost, and Henry David Thoreau, and so many of the authors who have given us a great American literary heritage. Thanks to that heritage, we come together as Americans, linked by a common love of books and of libraries and of our country.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF MAXINE COHEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SAN ANTONIO COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

HON. FRANK TEJEDA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. TEJEDA. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to honor an outstanding woman in San Antonio, TX, a woman who in words and deed has built bridges between diverse communities and fought with uncompromising dedication for her values. Maxine Cohen, the executive director of San Antonio's community relations council, is a woman of action, giving new meaning to the words of Oliver Wendell Holmes when he said: ''To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it,—but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor.''

The Jewish community in San Antonio earlier this week honored Maxine Cohen in a beautiful and moving tribute. Diverse community leaders, one after the other, stood up to praise her and highlight for all to hear the positive impact that one person has made. Ms. Cohen has spearheaded holocaust education programs in San Antonio schools, founded the San Antonio Holocaust Memorial and Museum, responded to attacks on the Jewish community in various media, and fought for the security and well-being of Israel. She has reached out to others. Recognizing the value of shared experience and personal relationships, Ms. Cohen established an organized dialogue with local Catholics to break through old barriers and emerge with lifetime friendships. Her work concretized what we already knew: that we as humans share fundamental values and bonds that emerge from and at the same time transcend religious lines.

Maxine Cohen combines inner strength, personal conviction, and unlimited spirit. One after the other, her admirers recalled instances of her selflessness and dedication, her love and caring for her fellow Jews and for the entire San Antonio community. She inspires others to become involved in politics, in community, in our schools, teaching all of us time and again the virtues of involvement and activism. Senator Robert Kennedy must have envisioned Maxine Cohen when he uttered the following words in a 1966 address at the University of Capetown, now inscribed at his gravesite in Arlington National Cemetery:

It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.

Maxine Cohen contributes far more than her share of ripples of hope, and with her setting the example for us, we can hope for a future in which we stand proud for ourselves, whatever our background or race, and appreciate each other for our unique contributions to our great Nation and the entire world.

CHAPLAIN PRECIADO AND THE VFSC

HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the laudable work of a nonprofit, charitable organization in my congressional district, the Veteran Family Service Corp. [VFSC]. Started 4 years ago during the Persian Gulf war, the VFSC has helped thousands of veterans find food, clothing, shelter, and drug and alcohol treatment.

Through the tireless work of Chaplain Robert Preciado, the founder and president of the Veteran Family Service Corp., hundreds of indigent veterans and their dependents in the San Gabriel Valley receive moral and material support every other Wednesday. The VFSC provides 9 to 12 tons of food monthly, directly to veterans, homeless shelters, and food pantries in the community.

The VFSC, through its food bank, gives veterans who are down and out a helping hand. Chaplain Preciado offers hope to people who have run out of hope. I have stood with Chaplain Preciado and seen first hand the admirable work he does.

During natural disasters, the Veteran Family Service Corp. has extended its services to nonveterans. The VFSC, for example, provided much-needed relief to victims of the Northridge earthquake. With the help of countless volunteers, the cities of Baldwin Park, Irwindale, and Azusa, as well as the California Army National Guard 40th Infantry Division, the VFSC provided over 27 truckloads of provisions to earthquake victims. The VFSC has also provided help to flood victims in the South Bay area in January 1995.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I salute Chaplain Preciado and the Veteran Family Service Corp. for providing food, clothing, assistance, and hope to veterans and their families in need.

COMMEMORATION OF THE RETIREMENT OF ALBERT M. DREYFUSS

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to take this opportunity to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the retirement of one of the most distinguished business and civic leaders in my home town of Sacramento, Mr. Albert M. Dreyfuss.

For nearly 50 years, Al has made Sacramento a better place to live, both through his landmark building designs and through his service to the community.

As an architect, I can think of no one who has made a greater impact on the Sacramento area than Al. From our airport, to our leading hotels, to some of the finest, most modern office buildings that grace our skyline, Al has been a true innovator in creating facilities that have made our city more attractive, and our businesses more efficient.

As a community leader, Al has taken his abilities as an architect and literally donated them to our community's governments and civic organizations. He was a founding member of the Capitol Area Plan Committee in 1959, and served as its chairman from 1959 to 1967. Under Al's leadership, CAP led our region through some important transitions as Sacramento grew into a major metropolitan area. But he also made sure that, as Sacramento developed, it did so responsibly while preserving its rich historical heritage.

Mr. Speaker, as Al undoubtedly is aware, I, at one time, aspired to be an architect. When I look at all Al has accomplished in his career, I cannot help but wonder what would be left for me to achieve as an aspiring architect, had I followed that path. As he leaves the firm he

established in 1950, Al leaves behind a lifetime legacy that will never be forgotten.

THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, May 31, 1995 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

BALANCED BUDGET PLANS

The House of Representatives recently completed action on the budget resolution, which sets broad dollar targets for federal spending and revenues for the next seven years. Each of the four versions considered by the House would, in theory, balance the federal budget by the year 2002. Some would even produce a surplus and begin reducing the national debt.

The House leadership deserves credit for bringing balanced budget resolutions to the floor. The deficit this year is projected to be just under $200 billion. The deficit has been significantly reduced—from 4.9% of the total economy three years ago to 2.5% today—but much more needs to be done. The cuts necessary to erase the deficit will be felt by all Americans. Congress' challenge is to make sure that the burden of cuts is distributed fairly.

A Moderate Plan: I support a balanced budget. The budget resolution I voted for would balance the budget by 2002, begin to reduce the national debt, stabilize the Medicare trust fund, and invest in our children through student loans, Head Start, and childhood immunization. It would make tough but fair cutbacks in almost every part of the budget: foreign aid, welfare, agriculture, transportation, housing, and many others. It did not raise tax rates. The gradual reductions would cut the deficit in half by 1999, provide a surplus in 2002, and reduce the national debt (the sum of yearly deficits) by $160 billion more than the majority's budget. This budget received the most bipartisan support. Unfortunately, it was defeated.

The Majority Plan: The majority leadership's resolution passed the House. While I disagreed with several of its priorities, the majority's budget has some positive features. It is a serious attempt to break the pattern of government overspending with hard targets and a final date to balance the budget. It forces the nation to confront fiscal decisions avoided for too long.

The majority's budget would cut spending for virtually all federal programs except defense, which would increase sighificanlty. It also assumes cuts in tax revenue by $280 billion reduction over seven years and an additional $350 billion in the following three years.

The largest savings in the majority budget come from a $288 billion in Medicare services, compared to spending levels required under current law. The plan would eliminate 284 programs, reduce student loans, cut major agricultural programs, and make significant cuts in child nutrition services. Heating assistance to low-income families would be abolished, and only 50 percent of housing assistance vouchers for older persons would be renewed. The majority's budget would also eliminate small business assistance, community development funds, and assistance to rural communities for wastewater treatment.

Reservations: I did not support the majority budget resolution for several reasons:

First, the majority delayed most of the tough spending cuts until 2001. Until then, we will have deficits in excess of $100 billion per year. My preference is to reduce spending gradually each year, rather than postponing action.

Scond, the job of balancing the budget is made much more difficult by huge tax cuts. I do not think we can justify large tax breaks until the budget is balanced—especially when the tax cuts start early and the bulk of the spending cuts are delayed for six years. If and when a surplus occurs, then Congress should pass tax cuts. It does not make sense to borrow more money to give ourselves a tax cut.

Third, my spending priorities are different. Half of the total savings come from health care and assistance to the poor. We should not ask the poor to bear more than their share of the burden. The curbs on Medicare and Medicaid are too steep. I prefer fair, across-the-board cuts in most programs, and deep cuts in ''corporate welfare''—wasteful subsidies to business. We should also preserve funding for long-term investments such as health and science research, infrastructure, and education. These are necessary to continue economic growth, increase revenues, and reduce the deficit.

Fourth, the majority budget devolves a great deal of responsibility to state and local governments in a short period of time. This may be a good idea in many cases, but we need more information on the ability of these governments to handle new duties. Balancing the federal budget will be a hollow victory if state and local governments fail to run programs well or raise taxes to meet exploding costs.

Fifth, I am not convinced the majority plan would achieve a balanced budget. The plan makes optimistic economic assumptions that it could lower interest rates almost two percentage points and boost economic growth. That might occur, but the hope of $170 billion in savings from this should not be assumed in advance.

Conclusion: The House action on the budget was a significant step toward restoring fiscal responsibility to the federal government. The Senate has also passed a budget resolution, with no immediate tax cut. The House and Senate resolutions must be reconciled in what will be a contentious conference committee, with tax cuts at the center of debate. The budget resolution itself is not subject to a Presidential veto, but the measures to implement it must be approved by the President.

The toughest choices lie ahead, when Congress debates these specific spending cuts. It is one thing to say that Medicare services must be reduced by $288 billion over seven years, but quite another to decide exactly how these savings will be accomplished. The real budget decisions are just beginning.

The popular promise of 1994, that the budget could be balanced painlessly, will not be kept. The strongest evidence of that is the deep cuts in Medicare and Medicaid services. The right way to reduce the deficit is to distribute the burden of spending cuts fairly. The challenge is to balance the need for austerity with critical investments in long-term growth. We should reduce unnecessary and marginal programs, but also invest in programs that will help working families build a more prosperous future.

TRIBUTE TO LORNA M. HART

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Mrs. Lorna M. Hart for her 30 years of outstanding service as a teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District. In recognition of her dedication to the children of Los Angeles, Mrs. Hart will be honored by her friends and family at an appreciation dinner on June 10, 1995. It is a pleasure to share with my colleagues just a few of her many accomplishments.

A dedicated student, Mrs. Hart received her bachelor of arts degree from the University of California at Los Angeles [UCLA] in 1960. By 1965, Mrs. Hart received her general elementary teaching credentials and began her 30 year career with the Los Angeles Unified School District. Later, she returned to school, and in 1975 she earned her masters of arts in education from California State University, Los Angeles, as well as a media education credential.

From 1964 until her retirement in September of last year, Mrs. Hart taught elementary and special education, touching the lives of many young students. As a special education teacher to students with physical disabilities, Mrs. Hart worked closely with administrators, school support staff, teachers, and parents to enrich the educational experience of disabled youth. Mrs. Hart was also responsible for implementing ''Career Week'' for young children and served on the Ethnic Heritage Committee for the Los Angeles Unified School District.

In addition to her teaching, Mrs. Hart has contributed greatly to the Los Angeles Christian community. Mrs. Hart was ordained to preach the gospel and is the former assistant pastor of the People's United Community Church of Christ, Inc. Mrs. Hart is currently affiliated with the Emmanuel Independent Community Church where she is an associate pastor and minister of christian education. She serves on the board of directors for Christian Women in Action, is president of the Community Alliance of Pastors and Ministers, and treasurer of the West Adams Christian Athletics.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in saluting Mrs. Lorna M. Hart on her many years of dedicated service to her students and the Los Angeles Unified School District. It is a pleasure to join her family, friends, and colleagues in recognizing her distinguished teaching career and wishing Mrs. Hart well on the occasion of her retirement.

FIFTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF EDWIN AND CHARLOTTE WENTA

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to bring to the attention of my colleagues an exemplary couple from the Third Congressional District of Illinois, Mr. and

Mrs. Edwin Wenta. On Sunday, June 11, 1995, Edwin and Charlotte will celebrate their 50th weeding anniversary with their family and friends at the sky room of the Martinique Restaurant in Evergreen Park.

On June 9, 1945, Edwin and Charlotte were married at the San Buena Mission in Ventura, CA. It was near the end of World War II and Ed was on leave from the U.S. Navy.

Edwin and Charlotte have two children, son Terry and daughter Diane, and five grandchildren, Lisa, Nick, Deanna, Dierdra, and Gerald. The entire Wenta family joins me in saluting Edwin and Charlotte on this special occasion.

The Wentas are a role model of the family strength and integrity that has made America great. Their commitment to each other and their family is impressive and deserving of special recognition and honor. I am sure that my colleagues join me in congratulating Edwin and Charlotte on their many years of love and commitment. May their life together continue to be an adventure and offer them many more pleasant memories.

TRIBUTE TO NEW LOS ANGELES MARKETING PARTNERSHIP

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my good friend Larry Fisher and others for launching the New Los Angeles Marketing Partnership, a much-needed effort to counter the negative image of Los Angeles in the media. With a riot, an earthquake, fires and a sensational murder trial having dominated the news from Los Angeles in the past 3 years, the New Los Angeles Marketing Partnership could not be arriving at a better time. I wish them all the luck in the world.

Seeing the outline of the program, which will officially kick off on June 7, I am confident it will achieve its goals. The participants truly love Los Angeles, and have a keen sense of what it is that makes this a great city, including climate, extraordinary ethnic diversity and a thriving entertainment industry. The chosen theme, Together we're the best, Los Angeles conveys the spirit of optimism guiding this project.

For the first 5 years, New Los Angeles Marketing Partnership will be reminding the people of Los Angeles County about the exciting place in which they live. This effort will be specifically targeted at all 88 cities in Los Angeles County.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Larry Fisher and the other members of the New Los Angeles Marketing Partnership, whose faith in the city of Los Angeles and dedication to improving its image is an inspiration to all of us who live and work there.

MEDICARE CUTS ARE A BAD IDEA

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, there is an old country and western song that goes, ''She got the gold mine, and I got the shaft.'' The Republican budget would give the gold mine to wealthy special interests and give the shaft to America's elderly—$300 billion in tax breaks, $300 billion in Medicare cuts.

The Republicans indignantly cry that these are not really cuts, they are only slowing the growth of Medicare. Tell that to the literally millions of people who depend on Medicare in Ohio, and Pennsylvania, and California, and all over this country, who will have $3,500 more taken out of their pocket over the next 7 years in higher premiums, deductibles, and copayments. Tell those people that these are not really cuts.

The cuts in services which will pay for tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans, tax breaks for special interests, tax breaks for people who do not need these kinds of tax breaks—to people with the highest income in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I support Medicare and ensuring that older Americans have access to health care services when they need them from the doctor of their choice. As Republicans move to make these cuts in Medicare, they are talking about rationing health care and limiting seniors' ability to choose their doctor.

We should reject that, Mr. Speaker. We should reject this kind of thinking. It is not good for America's elderly. It is not good for the American people.

RETIREMENT OF JOHN ADDEO: APPRECIATION FOR A GREAT CAREER

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, June 9, 1995, Mr. John Addeo, Jr., of Ocean, NJ, will be honored with a retirement dinner at Squire Pub in West Long Branch, NJ. It is a great honor for me to pay tribute to Mr. Addeo on this occasion.

Mr. Addeo has served as the principal of the Woodmere School in Eatontown, NJ, since 1968. In total, Mr. Addeo has dedicated 34 years of his life to education. A 1957 graduate of Long Branch High School and a 1961 graduate of Monmouth University, Mr. Addeo began his teaching career in Asbury Park. He received his master's degree from Newark State College in 1968 and became prinicpal at Woodmere later that year. He also was an instructor at Brookdale Community College and serves as a member of the Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association and the New Jersey Education Association.

John and Theresa Addeo are the parents of John Addeo III and Melissa Addeo Ardito. The list of Mr. Addeo's current and former community affiliations is a long one. He is a former member of the Italian-American Association and the Eatontown Lion's Club. He is a charter member and first vice president of the Eatontown/Tinton Falls Kiwanis Club, former Little League baseball and softball coach in Ocean Township, a former member of the Ocean Township Zoning Board of Adjustment and the organizer of Boy Scout Troop 376.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his career, John Addeo has exemplified the very best qualities of America's proud tradition of public education. Generations of students who have passed through the Woodmere School—many of them fully grownup and now in important positions of responsibility, some of them now parents themselves—have benefited from his dedication and leadership. As his friends, colleagues, and students pay tribute on the occasion of his retirement, I am proud to add my voice in recognition of the fine job that John Addeo has done for nearly a quarter of a century in one of the most important jobs I know of: the education of our young people.

AN AGENDA FOR THE NATION

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, June 7, 1995, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

AN AGENDA FOR THE NATION

Hoosiers continue to express to me their widespread discontent in the country, their unease with government, and anger at those who conduct its business. They understand changes are being made in government—that federal jobs are being eliminated, budgets are being trimmed, agencies are being eliminated—but believe more can and should be done to make government more responsive to the needs and demands of the average American.

The challenge facing Congress and the President is to make the changes that will restore the public's faith and confidence in government. Hoosiers mention the following reforms most often in my recent public meetings, and I think their views reflect the concerns of most Americans.

Deficit reduction: Deficit reduction should be a top priority. Congress acted last session to cut $600 billion from the projected deficits. The House and Senate recently approved budget plans to eliminate the deficit over the next seven years, but the budget resolution only provides a rough outline for how deficit reduction will be achieved. The tough decisions on specific spending cuts lie ahead. I agree that the deficit must be reduced.

Investment: Americans favor steps to reduce the budget deficit that are fair and balanced. It makes no sense to try to balance the budget by slashing federal investment programs. The private sector is the engine for economic growth, but government can play a role by supporting training and education of our workers as well as investing in our infrastructure and our technology. Such investments are critical to economic growth, and without growth, balancing the budget becomes immensely more difficult. Most of the investment trends over the past several years have been in the wrong direction. We need a shift in federal priorities away from consumption and toward investment, and we need to emphasize both public and private investment.

Reinventing government: The federal government is bloated and should be downsized. Congress and the Executive Branch adopted significant measures last session to make government work better and cost less, from streamlining Pentagon procurement policies to eliminating outdated government agencies. These efforts can and should be expanded this year. Americans want bold changes in government today, and Congress and the President should support that.

Tax reform: Tax reform and simplification should be priorities again. Several proposals are pending in Congress to significantly simplify the tax code. Those proposals include replacing the income tax with a consumption tax or a flat tax; or reducing the rates in the current system in exchange for fewer exemptions and deductions.

Congressional reform: Real government reform means cleaning up our system of campaign finance, restricting special interest PACs, and ending lobbyists' gifts to members of Congress. Voters are deeply suspicious that organized interest groups have become too powerful and that they have multiplied to the point that they now are clogging the arteries of the democratic system.

Health care: Americans are concerned about the rise of health care costs and the risk of losing coverage if they leave their jobs. In almost every public meeting now, a constituent will pull out a hospital bill that has delivered a knock-out blow to family finances. They favor incremental reforms to our health care system, such as barring insurance companies from denying coverage to people with pre-existing medical conditions, or cutting administrative costs in the system. They do not want to see drastic cuts in Medicare services.

National defense: Our military strength should be preeminent. Americans are proud of our military forces, and recognize that in a dangerous world those forces will be called upon to perform difficult missions. They favor improved readiness and strengthening our ability to meet realistic threats to our national security, but not wasteful spending to meet threats long since gone with the end of the Cold War. They know that defense dollars can be more prudently spent, and money can be saved by cutting waste, fraud and abuse.

Foreign policy: Americans are wary of our commitments overseas, but they do not support a compete withdrawal from foreign affairs. They recognize that his country must be engaged in the world—not because it feels good, but because it's in the national interest to do so. They believe that the world is a better, more secure place because of American leadership. They think the overriding consideration in any challenge should be to act to protect the American national interest. They support trade policies that open foreign markets to U.S. businesses and farmers; arms control efforts that make the world a safer place; and use of force, when necessary, to defend key interests.

Values: I am impressed by the number of constituents who talk about the importance of values, religion, and faith. They understand that not all our problems are fiscal, and they are concerned about the coarsening of our culture, the breakup of the family, and a decline in civility. Voters are rightly concerned about where as a society we are headed. They believe federal programs should strengthen families and traditional values and not in any way undermine them. At the same time most Americans say that the federal government should not be excessively entangled in people's religious lives.

Conclusion: This is not meant to be an exhaustive list, but it is a good start. What underlies the public's demand for change is a deep anxiety about the future. Many working families have watched their income stagnate or fall for a decade and are worried about the future. Government must help working people confront the uncertainties caused by a changing global economy. It should try to give them more security and confidence about the future. The demand from ordinary Americans is for greater economic and personal security. They want the good life in a stable community. They want a chance to send their kids to college, to live in safe communities, and to enjoy a rising standard of living.

Our fundamental task is still to put the nation back on the track—now and in the future—toward broad prosperity for all Americans.

BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE THROUGH NAVY UPPER TIER

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, a near-term defense against ballistic missile attack can be achieved by upgrading existing Navy AEGIS cruisers, destroyers, and standard missiles.

[From the Wall St. Journal, June 5, 1995]

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK—DOABLE MISSILE DEFENSE

Opponents of defending America against missile attack have long argued that (1) it can't be done and (2) even if it could, it's too expensive. Meanwhile, proponents of missile defense of late have been squabbling among themselves about the pros and cons of their individual pet projects.

But now, under the auspices of the Heritage Foundation, a group of 16 eminent scientists and former military and civilian Defense officials have put aside their differences and joined to come up with a proposal that is doable and affordable. Better yet, it would work.

At the core of the Heritage Team B plan is an upgrade of the Navy's Aegis air-defense system to allow it to shoot down long-range and short-range ballistic missiles. The Aegis is a shipboard radar-tracking and interceptor system that directs surface-to-air missiles, also on ships, against enemy aircraft and cruise missiles. It is intended for use in combat theaters—for example, to defend the Marines from attack as they storm a beach.

The Navy is already working on an upgrade that would allow it to intercept missiles outside the atmosphere, in the ''upper tier.'' The Upper Tier system would also be for theater use, though the upgrade would vastly expand the territory it could protect. The Team B proposal calls for Upper Tier to be upgraded even further, to shoot down missiles of any range. Given such a capability, if Upper Tier were deployed on ships scattered around the American coast, it would provide a protective shield against strategic missiles aimed at the U.S.

And therein lies the rub. For, incredibly, the United States has agreed not to defend itself against missile attack. This was the mad promise made 23 years ago in the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty with the Soviet Union. It is an even more reckless pledge today considering the growing threat of missile attack. A full upgrade of Upper Tier would violate the ABM Treaty since it could be used to defend the U.S. against attacks by strategic missiles.

If we proceed along the current track, Frank Gaffney, a former Reagan Defense official and a member of Team B, points out that a Navy Aegis commander in the Sea of Japan would be in the absurd position of being able to shoot down a missile the North Koreans aim at Tokyo, but incapable of shooting down one heading for Chicago. How on earth could it possibly be in our national interest to dumb down the Upper Tier system so that it can be used to protect our allies and our troops abroad, but not one heading for our homeland?

The experts on Team B say a fully upgraded Upper Tier system could begin to be deployed in three years at a cost of only about $1 billion. For a total cost of between $2 billion and $3 billion, 650 interceptors could be deployed on 22 Aegis cruisers by 2001. The reason this is so cheap is that the U.S. has already invested close to $50 billion in the Aegis system; most of the necessary infrastructure is already there.

A fully upgraded Upper Tier alone wouldn't provide a perfect national defense, but it's a start. Team B also wants to expedite work on Brilliant Eyes, a space-based sensor capable of detecting missile launches and tracking missiles in flight. And it calls for putting more money into research on space-based defenses, which in the long run are the most effective and cheapest way to defend against missile attack.

It is hardly controversial to assert that it won't be all that many years before a pirate in a place like Baghdad or Pyongyang gets hold of a nuclear bomb and the means with which to deliver it. When that capability exists, it will of course be too late to start slapping together a national missile defense.

The House National Security Committee took a step in the right direction when it marked up a defense spending bill that would authorize more money for Upper Tier, Brilliant Eyes and missile defense in general. Similar legislation is making its way through the House Armed Services Committee.

That's the good news. The bad news is that the House bill makes it clear that all this must be done within the confines of the ABM Treaty. Even worse is the possibility that the ABM Treaty might be expanded to cover some theater missile defenses, as suggested in the agreement President Clinton signed in Moscow earlier this month. Some Members of Congress ought to ask their constituents whether they really want their government to consciously retard its defensive capability because of an antique Cold War treaty. It's now time for this country's political establishment to admit that future missile technology is likely to be carrying something much nastier than communications satellites.

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE PRESIDENT RETIRES

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to honor Rear Adm. Joseph Charles Strasser for his faithful and dedicated service to the U.S. Navy. In June 1995, Rear Admiral Strasser will retire from the Navy. For the past 5 years, Admiral Strasser has headed the Naval War College, bringing outstanding instruction in strategy and military affairs to officers of our country.

Strasser was commissioned into the U.S. Navy in June 1963, after graduating from the Naval Academy. His initial assignment was as an exchange officer with the Argentine Navy. In July 1968, he began studying at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. There he earned a master's degree in international relations, a master's degree in international law and diplomacy, and a Doctor of Philosophy in political science. He went on to attend the command and staff course at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, RI.

In January 1987, he was selected for promotion to rear admiral and In August of the following year he became the commander of

Crusier-Destroyer Group Three. He was also the commander of Battle Group Foxtrot, and set sail on the U.S.S. *Enterprise* for her around-the-world cruise. On July 17, 1990, Rear Admiral Strasser became the 45th president of the Naval War College.

Rear Admiral Strasser has been awarded many decorations including the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Meritorious Unit Commendation, and various campaign and service ribbons. I know that this body joins me in wishing the best of luck to him as he becomes the CEO for Pennsylvania State-Dubois Campus. My congratulations and best wishes to Rear Admiral Strasser, his wife Barbara, and their four children.

TURTLE BAY ASSOCIATION SALUTED FOR PLAYGROUND REVITALIZATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to alert my colleagues to an exciting community development project that has taken place in my district.

Mr. Speaker, we are daily confronted with the news of the breakdown of our country's infrastructure, of crumbling communities that have ceased to care. Across this Nation, the most basic city institutions, such as parks and playgrounds, have seriously declined in recent years, as drug dealers and the homeless move in and residents and their children stay away. That's why I think it is important to herald the kind of community action that has resulted in a stunning turnaround for Gen. Douglas MacArthur Playground in New York City. Over the past year, the Turtle Bay Association, with the overwhelming support of neighborhood residents, has effected a revitalization for the embattled playground.

The new MacArthur Playground should serve as a shining example to all those who doubt that communities can rally to bring about substantive change. Beginning in 1994, the Turtle Bay Association organized badly needed renovations to the park, such as replacing contaminated sand in the sandbox and repairing damaged park equipment. Recently, the City Parks Foundation donated substantial funds for the construction of a state-of-the-art modular play system. To reduce installation costs, neighborhood residents actually raised money to purchase the equipment themselves. Now MacArthur Playground stands ready for its official ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 6th, a monument to community action as well as an oasis for hundreds of children and their parents.

The Turtle Bay Association and local residents should be commended for their devotion to this extremely worthy project. Richard and Amy Harary, and David and Susan Post Jensen in particular deserve special recognition and thanks for their efforts to turn MacArthur Playground around. I would also like to salute 860 and 870 UN Plaza, Chemical Bank, The Family School, Post Jensen Inc., Richard's Interior Design, the City Parks Foundation, and the Tenants of 301 East 47th Street. Finally, local merchants who donated food for volunteers at the project deserved recognition for their generous part in this revitalization. These people and organizations are a reminder to us all that urban decline is not irreversible, that caring neighbors can effect a world of good. They give us hope for the future of our troubled cities.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to report such good news to my colleagues, and to be able to congratulate all those who made it possible for New York's children to play in MacArthur Playground again. I am confident that their efforts will be enjoyed by generations to come, and I am hopeful that they will inspire others to do the same for their communities.

THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF HEAD START

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Head Start. It is hard to believe that one of the most successful of the Great Society's programs is now 30 years old. For three decades this Federal program has been helping to improve the quality of life for children throughout out Nation.

Head Start Works. It has proven to be successful in contributing to the readiness of children beginning school. It is far more than child care. It is a comprehensive program that provides health, nutrition, and family services. It involves parents by encouraging them to participate in classroom activities, accompanying children on field trips, becoming substitute teachers, and teaching them to help their children learn and grow. This family focus is one of the reasons Head Start has been so successful. Unfortunately, many parents are unable to participate on a regular basis because they must work. For these parents, Head Start is a Godsend. Without Head Start, many children would simply lack adequate supervision because their parents must struggle to pay the bills.

Head Start is especially important for children with special needs. The identification of speech or language difficulties as well as more severe impairments allows early intervention to minimize and sometimes prevent the long-range effects of such obstacles. The health component provides youngsters an opportunity to have a complete health appraisal, another advantage that many of these children may not have had otherwise.

Today, the Macomb County Community Services Agency [MCCSA] is hosting a Birthday celebration to mark the success they have had in many of the communities I have the privilege to represent. According to their mission statement, the challenge of MCCSA Head Start is to empower participants towards self-sufficiency and skill development thereby removing barriers which limit the realization of individual potential. Since the summer of 1965, the MCCSA Head Start program has been removing barriers for literally thousands of children. Originally a summer program serving barely 100 children, Head Start in Macomb County has grown to serve children in 41 classrooms and four home based clusters. A ''Community Action Agency,'' MCCSA is dedicated to families and individuals seeking to improve their quality of life. For thirty years they have been meeting the challenge with positive results.

On this 30th anniversary, I applaud those who have made the program a success and I encourage my colleagues to join me in pledging continued support of Head Start.

CONGRESSIONAL REFORM

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, May 17, 1995 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

REFORM OF CONGRESS

Congress has made significant progress in its efforts to prevent and prosecute ethics violations by individual Members. A ban on honoraria for speeches, full financial disclosure, a prohibition on the use of official funds for campaign expenses, and increased scrutiny by the ethics committee have all made Members of Congress more accountable to the public. But public confidence in the institution remains low, and further steps are necessary.

Congress must continue to prosecute personal ethics violations vigorously, but we must also strengthen Congress by addressing institutional integrity more broadly. Some congressional conduct, while it may be legal, hampers the democratic process in the interest of political gain. We must broaden our concept of public morality and the standards of conduct to include a sense of fairness, respect for honest differences, and responsibility to the democratic process.

I have often expressed the concern that money plays a disproportionate role in American politics. The high cost of campaigns is increasing the dependence of candidates on special-interest groups, forcing candidates to spend too much time raising money instead of focusing on issues of national importance and meeting with voters.

Congress as an institution is damaged by the perception that the flood of campaign money or favors from lobbyists are influencing the behavior of Members of Congress. Even though there is little evidence showing a direct impact on Members' voting records, the public cannot be blamed for thinking otherwise. The democratic process is also damaged when Members make unfounded allegations or denigrate Congress as a whole for personal political gain. Many important reforms came close to passage last year, only to falter in election-year politics. I support a number of additional reforms to improve the public image of Congress, including the following:

Campaign Finance Reform: The importance of Political Action Committees (PACs) should be reduced. We should cap the total amount of PAC contributions a candidate could accept per election cycle and reduce the maximum PAC contribution limit. Members of Congress should also be prohibited from running ''leadership PACs'', which some use to gain influence over other Members. Reform should require candidates to emphasize small individual donations, capping the amount of large contributions a candidate could accept per election cycle.

Gift Ban: I have cosponsored legislation to ban all gifts to Members, with limited exceptions for close personal friends or family. This bill would ban lobbyist contributions to a legal defense fund and prohibit lobbyists from making charitable contributions at a Member's behest. The bill also limits the ability of Members to profit from generous book-writing deals.

Lobbying Reform: Current registration requirements allow thousands of paid lobbyists to evade lobbying disclosure rules. Congress should act to close these loopholes and require lobbyists to disclose who pays them, whom they lobby, what issues they lobby for, and how much they are paid to influence the legislative process or the executive branch. In addition, Members of Congress and congressional committees should disclose information about legislation they introduce that was written by lobbyists.

Ethics Panel: I have introduced legislation to create an outside panel to investigate charges against Members. It is enormously difficult for the ethics committee to fairly investigate, prosecute, and judge ethics complaints against fellow Members. With less of an investigative burden, the committee could focus on important institutional ethics issues, including preventive education on ethics and guidelines on extremely harsh personal attacks.

Congressional Salary: I have consistently voted against congressional pay raises during my time in Congress, including the most recent increase in 1989. I support the proposals to freeze Members' salaries for several years. Current law provides for an automatic cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for Members unless Congress votes it down each year. While Congress has blocked these increases in recent years, these automatic COLAs should be abolished. At the very least, Congress should not receive an increase until the budget is balanced.

Congressional Pensions: I support significant reductions in congressional pension benefits. Possible reforms include increasing Members' personal contributions, capping total pension benefits, and means-testing benefits for former Members in lucrative jobs. Congress should conduct a comprehensive study to bring congressional benefits in line with benefits in the private sector.

Franking: Since 1992, with my strong support, the House has cut its mailing budget by more than 70%, banned mass mailings within 60 days of an election, and required all mass mailings to be approved by a bipartisan franking commission to ensure that they are substantive and non-partisan. Additional reforms are still needed. Congress should further restrict unsolicited mailings and ban ''postal patron'' mailings to all residents unless they advertise public meetings or solicit information. All large mailings should be disclosed for public scrutiny.

Ongoing Reform Process: I am introducing legislation to require regular congressional reforms—taking reform up every Congress rather than having one-shot, omnibus packages every twenty or thirty years. Members should have the opportunity to vote on significant reforms at least every two years. Reform should be a continual, ongoing process, and not wait until problems force belated change.

Conclusion: No issue is more important than the restoration of the confidence of Americans in their government. Americans will forgive government's honest failings if they believe that it cares about their needs and is trying to do a better job. Members of Congress have an obligation to earn the public's respect and trust. Congress has taken some important steps, but other, broader reforms are necessary if Congress is to be the truly representative body the people deserve and the nation's founders intended.

URGING SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED STATES COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT OF 1995

HON. NORMAN Y. MINETA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. MINETA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce bipartisan legislation to celebrate key moments and presidents in American history, and by doing so help provide for the continued education of Americans about these subjects in the years ahead.

Commemorative coins have played a unique role in celebrating American history, as well as in providing a source of income for those nonprofit organizations which care for the legacies represented by these coins. This is part of the inspiration for the United States Commemorative Coin Act of 1995, which I am introducing today along with my colleagues Reps. LIVINGSTON of Louisiana, JOHNSON of Texas, SKELTON of Missouri, YATES of Illinois, HOYER of Maryland, STUPAK of Michigan, LIGHTFOOT of Iowa, and CUBIN of Wyoming.

Organizations supporting this effort include the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. Mint, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee. Our purpose is clear. In the effort to streamline important U.S. commemorative coin legislation, this bill includes a program of six commemorative coins to be minted during the next 2 years. To explain why this is in the national interest, some background history is in order.

In November of 1994, the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee published its first annual report to Congress. The Committee, which is congressionally authorized, concluded that given the recent decline in commemorative coin sales there must be greater thought and limits to future coins. Offering numerous coin programs during the same period threatens the success of each individual program, does a disservice to those honored with commemorative coins, and increases the risk that the programs will operate at a loss to the Mint.

In its report to Congress, the Committee stated its full support of the 1993 Sense of the Congress Resolution, enacted as part of Public Law 103–186, which seeks to limit the number of commemorative coin programs in any 1 year. The legislation introduced today provides for the following coins to be minted: Bicentennial of U.S. Gold Coins (1995 minting), Harry S Truman and the United Nations (1996 issue), 150th Anniversary of the Smithsonian Institution (1996 issue), Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial (1997 issue), 125th Anniversary of Yellowstone National Park (1997 issue), and National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (1997 issue).

Mr. Speaker, this is a well-balanced program with original sponsors to represent the subjects to be honored. In my added capacity as a Regent of the Smithsonian Institution, I had previously introduced H.R. 1079 with fellow House regents LIVINGSTON and JOHNSON to authorize the Smithsonian coin. But this omnibus bill offers several advantages to our Nation, including a faster legislative process and the certainty of what our commemorative program will be in its entirety over a 2-year period.

I urge our colleagues to join in this effort and move this legislation quickly.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SPORTS ARENA FINANCING ACT OF 1995

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, at the request of the District of Columbia, I introduced H.R. 1509 on April 7, 1995, in order to begin the necessary process that will enable the District to begin work on a new sports arena. Since then, the District has developed a different funding mechanism and has requested that a revised bill be introduced. Mayor Barry and the City Council have assigned a very high priority to the new arena because of its revenue-generating potential at a time when the city is in acute financial distress. The Council has given its wholesale support to the project and the Mayor has expedited the project in the District to free it from procedures that might otherwise delay it. We will try to do the same here in the Congress.

I particularly appreciate that Representative TOM DAVIS, chairman of the subcommittee that must carry the legislation through the Congress, has agreed to become an original cosponsor and to expedite the bill.

H.R. —

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''District of Columbia Sports Arena Financing Act of 1995''.

SEC. 2. PERMITTING DESIGNATED AUTHORITY TO BORROW FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SPORTS ARENA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—An agency or instrumentality may borrow funds for purposes of developing and constructing a sports arena in the District of Columbia if the agency or instrumentality is granted the authority to borrow funds for such purposes by the District of Columbia government.

(b) TREATMENT OF DEBT CREATED.—Any debt created pursuant to subsection (a) shall not—

(1) be considered general obligation debt of the District of Columbia for any purpose, including the limitation on the annual aggregate limit on debt of the District of Columbia under section 603(b) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act (sec. 47–313(b), D.C. Code);

(2) constitute the lending of the public credit for private undertakings for purposes of section 602(a)(2) of such Act (sec. 1–233(a)(2), D.C. Code); or

(3) be a pledge of or involve the full faith and credit of the District of Columbia.

SEC. 3. PERMITTING CERTAIN DISTRICT REVENUES TO BE PLEDGED AS SECURITY FOR BORROWING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The District of Columbia (including the agency or instrumentality described in section 2(a)) may pledge as security for any borrowing undertaken pursuant to section 2(a) any revenues of the District of

Columbia which are attributable to the sports arena tax imposed as a result of the enactment of D.C. Law 10–315.

(b) EXCLUSION OF PLEDGED REVENUES FROM CALCULATION OF ANNUAL AGGREGATE LIMIT ON DEBT.—Any revenues pledged as security by the District of Columbia pursuant to subsection (a) shall be excluded from the determination of the dollar amount equivalent to 14 percent of District revenues under section 603(b)(3)(A) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act (sec. 47–313(b)(3)(A), D.C. Code).

SEC. 4. NO APPROPRIATION NECESSARY FOR ACTIVITIES RELATING TO BORROWING.

The fourth sentence of section 446 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act (sec. 47–403, D.C. Code) shall not apply with respect to any of the following obligations or expenditures:

(1) The proceeds of any borrowing conducted pursuant to section 2(a).

(2) The pledging of revenues as security for such borrowing pursuant to section 3(a).

(3) The payment of principal, interest, or other costs associated with such borrowing.

THE ENDING OF AN ERA

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, the 351st Missile Wing, Whiteman AFB, MO, under the command of Col. G.D. Blackmore, recently completed deactivation of its 150 Minuteman II Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles under the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty and has today inactivated. This unit's accolades remain unparalleled in the annals of ICBM history. The only six-time winner of the ICBM missile competition, only simultaneous holder of the ICBM community's tripe crown of awards, and six Air Force outstanding unit awards are but a small part of the recognition of this wing's total contribution to our country's success in winning the cold war.

The men and women of the 351st have continuously maintained a silent vigil in the rural countryside of west-central Missouri since 1963. Twenty-four hours a day, every day for 32 years, the 351st kept the deterrent posture that safeguarded our great Nation so very well. The 351st Missile Wing carried out this immense responsibility in tremendous style, and we, the citizens of this country, owe them a debt of thanks which cannot be repaid.

The wing continued its pursuit of excellence even while deactivating. Everything this unit did was done using quality approaches, and that effort paid great dividends. From first place international public sector in my great State's Quality Award Program, to winning the Secretary of the Air Force Team Quality Award, to first place in Air Force Space Command's Unit Quality Award, the men and women of the 351st have become an example to the entire Air Force in trust, teamwork, and continuous improvement.

Safety was the wing's No. 1 goal while deactivating and was the underlying philosophy of the unit. Nothing is more challenging than deactivation of a weapon system covering a 10,000-square-mile area in west-central Missouri, in all kinds of weather and conditions.

Many of the tasks the wing performed during deactivation have never been done before at an operational unit. The 351st saved the Air Force over $163 million by returning items to the supply system. All of the arduous maintenance, security, and operations efforts were performed without incident, and this fact illustrates that the wing routinely turned the intricate into the commonplace. Safety was more than a phrase in the wing, it was a way of life—the safe conduct of all wing activities.

The outstanding efforts of this wing have clearly established them as the benchmark for others to emulate. After more than 32 years of faithful and outstanding service to the Nation, the wing cased its flag for the final time today. The legacy of the Whiteman Warchiefs has been one of continuous excellence in every area of their mission. The 351st Missile Wing takes its place today as one of the finest units ever to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO LOUISVILLE MALE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MIKE WARD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the outstanding performance of Louisville Male High School from Louisville, KY, in the ''We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution'' national competition which was held in Washington, DC, April 29–May 1. These outstanding young people competed against 49 the classes from throughout the Nation and demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.

This program is administered by the Center for Civic Education and is one of the most extensive of its kind. In its 8-year history the program has reached more than 20 million students in elementary, middle and high school. The competition at the national level simulates a congressional hearing during which students testify as constitutional experts before a panel of judges. I applaud this program and, as a result, these students for their participation in an invaluable educational experience.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that a copy of the list of participants which I am submitting be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I hope that the students of Male High School will continue their interest in Government.

The competing class was from Louisville Male High School. The teacher was Sandra Hoover. The students were as follows: Shannon Bender, Josh Bridgwater, Shilo Burke, Katie Callender, Scott Embry, Jessi Followwill, Adam Greenwell, John Grissom, Christy Jones, Jonathan Keith, Stephanie McAlmont, Stephen McAlmont, Shannon McMillan, Travis Moore, Kristi Mosier, Adam Pedigo, Melanie Rapp, Amber Rowan, Chris Rutledge, Shannon Simms, Eric Stevens, April Stivers, Ricky Suel, Danyaun Vandgrift, and Shaniqua Wade. The State coordinator was Tami Dowler. The district coordinator was Tommy Dowler.

A REQUEST TO INCLUDE TEXAS HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 30 IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

HON. CHARLES WILSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, the following was sent to me by the Secretary of State of Texas. I respectfully request that it be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
SECRETARY OF STATE,
May 29, 1995.

I, Antonio O. Garza, Jr., Secretary of State of the State of Texas, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of House Concurrent Resolution 30, passed by the 74th Legislature, Regular Session, 1995, as signed by the Governor on May 25, 1995, and as filed in this office on May 25, 1995.

Enclosure.

ANTONIO O. GARZA, JR.,
Secretary of State.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas, In response to an Act of Congress approved April 10, 1869, the 12th Legislature of the State of Texas convened in Provisional Session from February 8 to February 24, 1870, and ratified Amendments XIII, XIV, and XV to the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, Those federal constitutional amendments, each ratified by separate joint resolutions of the 12th Legislature on February 15, 1870, solidified some of the most precious rights that have been guaranteed constitutionally to Americans, particularly ethnic minorities who were granted the blessings of equal citizenship and the beginning of an end to their past oppression; and

Whereas, Amendment XIII eliminated forever the practice of slavery, Amendment XIV promised due process and the equal protection of the laws, and Amendment XV prohibited denial of suffrage on the grounds of race, color, or previous condition of servitude; and

Whereas, Over time, copies of the three resolutions regrettably have vanished from the holdings of the Texas state archives, yet others are preserved in Washington, D.C., by virtue of their certification and transmittal to the Secretary of State of the United States and to the presiding officers of the United States Congress; and

Whereas, The 1995 Regular Session of the 74th Legislature coincides with the 125th anniversary of these historic ratification actions and marks an appropriate time for the conveyance to this state of replicas of the three resolutions so that Texans may view and appreciate a series of documents that have played such and important role in the extension and elaboration of their civil rights: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the 74th Legislature of the State of Texas, Regular Session, 1995, hereby respectfully request the National Archives and Records Administration to make copies of the joint resolutions of the 12th Texas Legislature ratifying Amendments XIII, XIV, and XV to the United States Constitution and transmit those copies to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for placement in the state archives; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Texas secretary of state forward copies of this resolution to the archivist of the United States at the National Archives and Records Administration, to the vice-president of the United States and

speaker of the United States House of Representatives with a request that this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record, and to all members of the Texas delegation to the United States Congress, as an official request to the federal government by the 74th Legislature of the State of Texas: And, be it further

Resolved, That if and when such replicas are received from the National Archives and Records Administration, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission be hereby directed to place them in the holdings of the state archives to be available for public viewing and photocopying and in all other respects to be treated as any other material worthy of archival storage and retrieval.

THIRTEENTH PRECINCT HONORED FOR WORK WITH KENMORE HOTEL

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to New York's 13th Police Precinct and its valiant efforts on behalf of the Kenmore Hotel, its tenants and the surrounding community.

The Kenmore is the largest single room occupancy hotel in New York City. On June 8, 1994, it was seized by the Federal Marshalls and police officers, thereby becoming the largest building ever seized under the Federal Forfeiture Act. During the 9 years prior to its seizure, the Kenmore had steadily fallen into disrepair and become a haven for crime and drugs. The sad fact was that a once great landmark of New York, a place where Nathaniel West and Dashiell Hammett once lived and wrote, had become a crime-ridden residence. Drug dealing, prostitution, robberies, burglaries, and serious assaults are common in the building. The problems of the Kenmore became a source of concern not only to its residents, but to the surrounding community.

Due to the efforts of the personnel of the 13th Precinct and, in particular, one community policing officer, Scott Kimmins, major efforts were taken to inform and involve other local and Federal agencies regarding these developments. Officer Kimmins, whose beat included the Kenmore, walked the halls of its 23 floors daily for several years. On July 11, 1994, I was joined in front of the Hotel by Attorney General Janet Reno, New York Governor Mario Cuomo and others to personally honor Officer Kimmins and his colleagues at the 13th Precinct for their courageous efforts in cleaning up the Kenmore. Nearly a year after that auspicious day, the 13th Precinct continues to maintain a presence at the Kenmore, ensuring greater safety for its residents and neighbors.

Thanks to Federal intervention and under the auspices of the Federal marshals, the Kenmore is now under new management. Though still far from perfect, conditions are improving. Indeed, I am hopeful that the U.S. Attorney's office will be successful in stripping the current owner of his ownership and reversing this sad chapter in the Kenmore's history.

It is because of the extraordinary efforts of Captain Michael Darby, Officer Scott Kimmins, and others at the 13th Precinct that the conditions at the Kenmore have improved so dramatically. Indeed, I am pleased to report that all incidents of drug and non-drug-related crimes, including assaults, have dropped substantially since the seizure.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the 13th Precinct and its officers for their courageous effort to improve conditions at the Kenmore and to make New York City a safer, better place in which to live.

SOCIAL SECURITY

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, May 24, 1995, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

SOCIAL SECURITY: QUESTION AND ANSWERS

When I meet with Hoosiers I often hear from those concerned with Social Security insurance and benefits. Older persons seek assurance for secure payments at adequate levels. Younger persons question how program changes could affect their plans for retirement. Questions also arise concerning the solvency of the program and the nature of proposed reforms.

What are the various parts of the Social Security program and how is the program run?

Social Security, also known as the Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI), is the nation's largest retirement and disability program. It pays benefits when a person retires, becomes disabled, or dies, if eligibility requirements are met. Family members may also be eligible for benefits. It is financed through taxes on wages and self employment income. More than 95% of the work force is required to pay these taxes on the first $61,200 of income. Benefits are dispersed through a trust fund dedicated exclusively to the payment of Social Security benefits. The Social Security Administration, which manages the program, is an independent agency accountable to Congress. The administrative costs of the program are less than 1% of benefit payments.

How is the money in the Social Security trust fund managed?

In the past, Social Security has worked on a pay-as-you-go basis: workers' payroll taxes went out almost immediately as benefits to retirees. However, as of 1983, baby boomers are paying for benefits of current retirees while also contributing funds to finance their own future benefits. The trust fund's $400 billion surplus is invested in U.S. government bonds, the only investment allowed by law. The federal government has never defaulted on its payments to the trust fund.

Is the Social Security trust fund included in the federal budget?

The answer to this question is both yes and no. In 1990 Congress took action to exclude the trust fund from budget calculations. However, this has not prevented economists and others from including the trust fund in their budget calculations as a way to obtain a more accurate portrayal of the federal budget and its impact on the economy.

Which seniors are affected by recent changes in the Social Security program?

The 1993 budget deficit reduction package increased the portion of taxable benefits for wealthier beneficiaries from 50% to 85%. This higher tax applied only to the top 13% of Social Security recipients—couples with a retirement income of $44,000 and individuals with income over $34,000.

The House recently passed a bill amending the Social Security earnings limit and income tax level. The bill includes provisions that would raise the Social Security earnings limit over five years to $30,000 and reduce the level of income tax on Social Security benefits for higher-income recipients. The Senate has taken no action on this bill.

Will Social Security be used to balance the budget?

The inclusion of the Social Security program in a balanced budget amendment has greatly concerned seniors. The House considered several versions of a balanced budget amendment this year. I voted for measures to exempt Social Security from a balanced budget amendment. The version that passed the House does not exclude Social Security. The Senate did not pass a balanced budget amendment.

The budget resolution drafted by the House Leadership proposes a 0.6% reduction in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as a means of slowing the Social Security program's growth. Social Security COLAs are based on the CPI. Therefore, an adjusted CPI would reduce the COLA starting in 1999.

Is the Social Security program stable for the years ahead?

The program is projected to be solvent only for the next 35 years. After that point, the amount of benefits being paid will exceed receipts. As the baby boom generation ages, the reserves are projected to be drawn down by the year 2030.

What can be done to ensure that our children and grandchildren will receive benefits?

A number of proposals to ensure the solvency of Social Security has been mentioned, such as reducing benefits for future recipients, raising the payroll tax, increasing the retirement age, or instituting a means test denying full benefits to those with large incomes from other sources. Various proposals have been made to privatize the system, such as requiring workers to place part of their Social Security contribution into a system of mandatory IRAs. Some Members of Congress have proposed major changes in the program, such as allowing trust fund monies to be invested outside of the U.S. Treasury. No one solution is likely to cure all the problems, and a good argument can be made for doing several things at once.

The Bipartisan Commission on Entitlement and Tax Reform studied the stability of Social Security but was unable to reach a consensus on solutions to the problem. The President has created the Advisory Council on Social Security to examine Social Security financing and other program issues.

How confident can we be about the future of Social Security?

Social Security is important to the 42 million people who count on the benefits for their income, as well as those planning their future retirement. If future generations are to receive benefits, we must recognize that some difficult decisions must be made to prevent Social Security insolvency. The future of Social Security is a test of democratic government. A clearly foreseeable disaster lays ahead, but it is not imminent. The question is whether an agreement can be reached on some reasonable reforms so that older persons can live in some security without hurting younger people. I do not want to see the benefits of current Social Security recipients reduced. The federal government has made a commitment to current and future recipients, and I will work to ensure that commitment remains strong.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1776: THE BLACK REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOTS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced, with my colleague DONALD PAYNE of New Jersey, H.R. 1776, the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Commemorative Coin Act. This legislation will direct the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a special coin in commemoration of the many black soldiers who fought for out Nation's independence and our individual freedom. In addition to recognizing the often forgotten contributions of African-Americans during this historic period of our Nation's history, distribution of such a coin will enable the Black Patriots Foundation to succeed in funding the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial, to be located in Constitution Gardens between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.

More than 5,000 black revolutionary war patriots fought shoulder-to-shoulder with white patriots, heroically sacrificing so that we can stand here today, a free people and a world leader. This contribution should not be forgotten. As generations of children visit our Nation's capital and walk the mall, they should have a concrete reminder that we are descendants of men and women of all races and ethnic backgrounds and only together can we create a Nation in which individual social freedom and justice are a reality.

I urge my colleagues to join in honoring black revolutionary war patriots through this commemorative coin act and enable the Black Patriots Foundation to complete the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial here in Washington, DC.

HOUSE RESOLUTION COMMENDING POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUES NATIONWIDE

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. MILLER of California. It gives me great pleasure today, together with my fellow cosponsors, to introduce a resolution commending Police Athletic Leagues [PAL] across this country for their excellent work on behalf of our Nation's youth.

PAL was created over 50 years ago in New York City by Lt. Ed Flynn, who, faced with persistent gang violence, organized a baseball league to give kids an alternative to crime. PAL now has 246 local chapters in cities nationwide, including Jacksonville, Des Moines, New York, Denver, Dallas, San Francisco, and Seattle. And in my congressional district, there are PAL organizations in Benicia, Martinez, Richmond, and Vallejo.

Three million kids participate in PAL's recreational and educational program, such as athletic tournaments, police cadet clubs, and computer training. Fifty years after its inception, the principal mission of PAL remains the same: Police officers volunteer their free time to work with youths in promoting trust and understanding in an atmosphere of cooperation. The kids benefit by receiving positive role models and learning life skills. The officers benefit by getting an opportunity to make a real, positive difference in kids' lives.

Mr. Speaker, in my own State, PAL—called CAL-PAL—is easily one of the largest juvenile crime prevention programs in California, with over 50,000 kids participating. CAL-PAL includes over 25 chapters, each as varied as the towns or cities in which they operate. CAL-PAL has established itself as a viable, successful juvenile crime prevention program by focusing on athletic and other related youth activities. Their motto is ''Filling Playgrounds Not Prisons.'' PAL's long years of experience with kids shows that sporting activities help bring out the best in kids. Youth members of PAL learn to be part of a team—they learn how their individual efforts are part of a collective goal, they learn endurance and perseverance, and they learn that hard work leads to success. And above all they gain self-awareness and self-esteem, which are the essential building blocks of every child's personality, but are especially important to disadvantaged kids. PAL also serves the purpose of cementing positive relationships between kids and police officers, a relationship that is based on mutual respect and deep admiration.

Clearly, we need to do all we can to reduce crime among our youth. Although crime in the Nation has subsided somewhat in recent years, violent crimes committed by juveniles has surged. PAL is certainly no substitute for tough crime fighting strategies and policies. But police athletic leagues, acting in concert with these policies, are out in the field everyday attempting to turn back the rising tide of crime by providing constructive activities for kids. PAL's police officers deserve our support and our commendation.

REDEDICATION OF DOUGHBOY STATUE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of May 30, 1995, the community of Concordia, MO, rededicated the Doughboy Statue, first erected in 1923, in the city's central park. It was a memorable experience for me to participate in the ceremonies with community leaders, including Dick Stuenkel, Rev. Paul Wobus, and Mayor Alfred Rodewald. Brig. Gen. Ron Marcotte of Whiteman Air Force Base delivered an address. Mayor Rodewald delivered the rite of dedication, which was a fitting tribute to the community's veterans:

RITE OF REDEDICATION OF DOUGHBOY MONUMENT

In the Name of Almighty God, the Creator of all things, the Redeemer of sinful mankind and the Sanctifier of all that is made just and holy.

On Sept. 23, 1923, this community dedicated a monument. The monument was formed of Bedford limestone. It depicted an American soldier—a Doughboy of World War fame—standing at attention, standing 6 feet tall, a weapon at his right side, in full uniform, dignified, in Central Park, Concordia, MO.

Here the Doughboy monument has stood for 71 years. It has been a symbol of appreciation for all who joined the Armed Forces of America to defend her against human injustice: in the Civil War from 1861 to 1865; the Spanish-American War in 1898; and the World War from 1914 to 1918.

The monument has endured 71 years of exposure to the elements of west central Missouri. It has received tender glances from people who wanted to know of its significance and meaning. It has been greeted by warm faces from patriotic Americans and foreigners alike. Through the years, the Doughboy has stood as a proud symbol in central park.

This monument of stone has stood in silence. Yet it has projected a message of dedication and commitment by area citizens to the defense of liberty, peace and justice for all. Dedicated to those who defended America in the Civil War, Spanish-American War, and World War I, the Doughboy has held its place in Concordia while more wars raged and the U.S. Government called upon new generations of local men and women to bear arms in her defense.

The monument stood through World War II, from 1939 to 1945; the Korean war, from 1950 to 1953; the Vietnam war, from 1965 to 1973; and the Persian Gulf War in 1991.

This monument of stone, reflecting material blemishes from years of exposure to elements at central park, was recently refurbished. It was refurbished through the effort of many—including the city of Concordia; American Legion Post 258 and auxiliary; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5649 and auxiliary; Concordia Area Heritage Society; Concordia Lions Club and Concordia Civic Club.

Refurbished, the monument dedicated in 1923 is ready for rededication.

I, therefore, rededicate the Doughboy Monument with this rite. May this monument of stone continue to project its message of commitment to liberty, peace and justice for all mankind to everyone who lives in and visits this community. May God grant it to stand enduringly as a symbol of peace and as a symbol of love for God and country in the town that chose the name Concordia as it sought peace and harmony following many painful experiences in the Civil War.

As floodlights focus on the Doughboy Monument tonight we rededicate it to its mission.

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. [let the lights turn on]

1995 FARM BILL

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Debra Lundgren, a farm wife from Kulm, ND, who gave a short, but meaningful speech in April when U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Dan Glickman, was in North Dakota for a regional farm forum. Her speech follows:

I am here today as a farm wife. It is a role I enjoy, but one I do not get to perform very often. Because I am married to a farmer, I cannot afford to be a farm wife. I would rather work on the farm, but can't—and I'm not alone. Eighty-seven percent of the income generated by the average U.S. farm operator household comes from off-farm sources.

My husband farms full-time and works an additional job, fulltime job. I am presently working two jobs, so no one can say we are

lazy. Nor are we getting rich from program payments.

Between bureaucrats and the media, farmers take a beating every day. They sensationalize program abuse and tend to forget those of us trying to make a living.

Unfortunately, most people who are removed from agriculture believe there is an unlimited flow of financial support from the government to the farmer. That sir, as you know, is not true. In fact, our government has kept the price of our commodities artificially low. You must admit, it's a consumer subsidy, not a farm subsidy. Expenses have risen since the depression. Prices have not.

In countries that have been hungry, governments provide price supports to make sure their farmers will produce. Japan pays their farmers $32.88 for each bushel of wheat. Syria pays $23. Even Bangladesh supports prices above the United States of America.

Please don't let the word ''price supports'' be misunderstood. We are not asking for welfare. We are, in essence, requesting a minimum wage. Unlike most people working for a minimum wage, we invest for the privilege.

Mr. Secretary, the original intent of the farm program was to narrow the gap in income between farmers and the rest of the population. Family farmers still stand to benefit from that ideal, but the current abuse of the programs allow the largest 18% of farms to collect ⅔ of the benefits. The time has come to change the programs, not throw them out. Target the benefits, based on production, to family farmers. Reward the efforts of the farmers who continue to provide quality food for America's families while struggling to feed his own. The new wealth created by a fair price would revitalize rural and urban main streets across the country.

Finally, we may be only 2% of the population, but that means that 98% of the population depends on us to provide their food. I'd say that makes us an extremely important part of this country. I'd say that deserves the respect of anyone who had breakfast this morning or supper last night. I'd say we are worth the effort of a farm bill that directs program benefits to farm families who risk everything every year.

Wouldn't you?

AUTHORIZING A CALIFORNIA URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation to authorize the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] to establish a California Urban Environmental Research and Education Center [CUEREC].

I am honored to be joined in this effort by 13 California colleagues: Mr. DELLUMS, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. HORN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. MILLER, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. MINETA, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. TORRES, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. FILNER.

Legislation to authorize EPA research programs was unfortunately not acted upon in the last Congress. However, CUEREC did receive a line item in the 1995 Department of VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies appropriations bill to cover start-up costs. This line item has allowed CUEREC to begin its first year of operation and the center was dedicated on October 21, 1994 at a tree planting ceremony on the Cal State Hayward campus.

The bill requests $4.5 million for fiscal year 1996 because CUEREC is mandated to work with all 22 California State Universities in its 2nd year of operation and because CUEREC will need this level of support to carry out the activities set out for it in the legislation.

Currently, CUEREC is in the process of linking California's major university systems—the Cal State University [CSU] campuses, the University of California [UC] campuses, as well as private universities and colleges—to deal with the employment and environmental challenges of California's military base closures and defense conversion. Among other activities CUEREC will: help remove market barriers for small environmental business enterprise development; help in military base conversion and utilization focused on increasing sustainable economic development and job creation throughout California; encourage the transfer of government developed and/or sponsored environmental technology to the private sector while working closely with such laboratories as Lawrence Livermore, Sandia, and Lawrence-Berkeley; encourage the funding of viable environmental projects throughout California; assist women and minority owned small businesses in complying with local, State, and Federal environmental regulations and taking advantage of opportunities in sustainable economic development; avoid duplication in environmental research and education programs by developing an on-line data base of such activities available to all California universities and colleges; help coordinate Cal State and UC environmental applied research and education programs; and advise local, State, and Federal officials on the economic and envionmetal implications of development programs throughout California.

Prior to CUEREC, no EPA sponsored research center had been established in California. Seventeen such EPA sponsored research centers have already been established in other States. CUEREC would be the first to focus on urban environmental policy, base closures, and defense conversion environmental problems. CUEREC would also be the first to include all of the universities and colleges in a single State.

Both Senators were very supportive of the legislation last year. CUEREC is a unique program, providing many important benefits for California and a cost effective model; university based program for the Nation and I urge my California colleagues to support it.

MARY N.D. MATANANE, GUAM NURSES ASSOCIATION 1995 NURSE OF THE YEAR

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this occasion to commend Mary N.D. Matanane, an outstanding member of Guam's island community, for having been chosen as the Guam Nurses Association's Nurse of the Year for 1995.

For over two decades, Mary Matanane has dedicated herself to the health care profession, working for both the private and public sectors. Prior to her retirement from government service, she worked for a total of over 19 years with the Guam Memorial Hospital and the Department of Public Health and Social Services. She currently serves as the assistant director and clinical supervisor at Clark Home Nursing Service.

Throughout this time, Mary worked toward uniting the members of Guam's nursing profession and improving the quality of health care available on the island serving as president and director-at-large of the Guam nurses Association for the past 18 years. In addition to her significant role in several of the association's committees, she also served as chairperson for the Governor's Task Force for Maternal Child Health and the Maternal and Child Health Advisory Council.

Her devotion to the community through the nursing profession has resulted in a number of awards including the 1994 ANA Search for Excellence Award, the 1993 National League for Nursing Centennial Leadership Award, the 1993 Department of Public Health and Social Services Supervisor of the Year Award. It is only befitting for her to be selected as 1995's Nurse of the Year.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I congratulate Mary Matanane for having been chosen as the Guam Nurses Association's Nurse of the Year for 1995. We commend her efforts, hard work, and contributions to the island.

IN RECOGNITION OF A DEDICATED EDUCATOR, RICHARD F. PULICE

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a special individual, dedicated educator, and childhood friend, Richard F. Pulice, director of instruction, Montebello Unified School District.

Richard has dedicated over 34 years of service to providing the children of Montebello with a superior public education. Immediately upon graduating from Occidental College in 1961, Richard began his longstanding career by teaching at Bandini Elementary School in the city of Commerce. He taught at Bandini until 1969. During this time he also earned his masters degree in education administration, which he received from Whittier College in 1967.

For the next 18 years, Richard proceeded to hold various principal positions throughout the Montebello Unified School District. He was principal at Bella Vista Elementary, Suva Elementary, and Potrero Heights Elementary. In 1987, Richard was appointed as director of elementary instruction for the Montebello Unified School District and in 1992, he was appointed director of instruction, a position he currently holds.

In addition to his extensive professional accomplishments, Richard has been involved in local, county, and State efforts to improve our educational system. He has served as an advisor to Montebello's Board of Education and superintendent on current issues and trends in education. Richard is also responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the instructional program from kindergarten

through 12th grade, and the selection of education materials and staff development activities for the professional staff of the district.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I rise to salute a recognized and respected educator, Richard Pulice. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to him for his outstanding commitment to public education, and to wish him luck on all his future endeavors.

KENSINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CELEBRATES ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Kensington Congregational United Church of Christ in Philadelphia on its 100th anniversary.

The Kensington Congregational Church has witnessed many changes throughout the years. Under the watchful eye of Reverend Alan Reider, the church has maintained its commitment to its members and its community. The Kensington Congregational Church has 68 faithful members and draws a standing room crowd every Sunday.

The church offers provides the youth in its congregation with great opportunities through programs such as Sunday School, Bible School, Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops. The congregation also helps those in need with its Emergency Food Cupboard. Last year, the Kensington Congregational Church helped feed 576 families—nearly 1,500 people.

In recent years, the church has also opened its doors to the community at large, hosting meetings to address problems affecting Kensington. The congregation has worked with community activists to address problems ranging from drug abuse to flooded streets.

I hope my colleagues will join me today in wishing Rev. Alan Reider and the congregation of the Kensington Congregational Church a very happy 100th anniversary. I wish the Kensington Congregational Church the very best in its next 100 years of service.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHERN CENTRAL NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the village of Fairport's firefighters for hosting the 100th Anniversary Convention of the Northern Central New York Volunteer Firemen's Association. The Northern Central Volunteers have provided an invaluable service not only to volunteer firefighters throughout upstate New York, but also to the many people whose lives they have protected. I am pleased that my home village of Fairport is playing such a significant role by hosting this important event.

The Northern Central New York Firemen's Association was created in 1895 when William Weedsport and a few other volunteer firefighters between Rochester and Syracuse met to discuss issues relative to firefighters in their region. Since then, they have been a local adjunct to the Fire Association of New York State. The Northern Central New York Volunteer Firemen's Association has worked very closely with its State association to promote and protect the interests of firemen for the past 100 years.

The Northern Central delegation's contribution to the history of firefighters in New York State has been immeasurable. Three of the presidents of the Firemen's Association of New York State and one president-elect have come from the Northern Central Association in the past 15 years. Several of the Northern Central Volunteers have also served as trustees and presidents for the Firemen's Home in Hudson, NY.

The Rochester delegation of the Northern Central Volunteers also has a long history of leadership. After the Second World War, the Northern Central volunteers grew in membership and geographical area. Seneca, Ontario, Oswego, Steuben, and Yates Counties were added to the existent membership in Cayuga, Monroe, Onondaga and Wayne Counties. Sam Pitcher of Fairport, Joey Kuhn of Penfield and Lavern Barrett of Lyons were instrumental in adapting the Northern Central Firemen's Association to this dramatic growth. By writing a new constitution, creating new committees such as the Public Relations Committees, establishing new honors such as the Fireman of the Year Award, and launching new program's such as the Ladies Day Program, they and all of the members since 1895 have helped carry the Northern Central volunteer firemen into the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, we should all be thankful for the courage and commitment to the safety of the people of New York State that the Northern Central volunteer firemen have displayed over the past 100 years. Please join me in saluting their service to our Nation.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE AMENDMENTS OF 1995

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Federal Deposit Insurance Amendments of 1995, which addresses the weak condition of the Savings Association Insurance Fund [SAIF] and the risk that it poses to the U.S. taxpayers. This is an issue that must be addressed this year.

Currently the SAIF insured institutions are required to pay the interest and carrying costs on the Financing Corporation [FICO] debt. This obligation has been continuously diverting larger portions of the SAIF premiums from ever reaching the SAIF. Under the current structure two problems exist. First, if the SAIF deposits continue to shrink it is likely that there will not be enough money to meet the FICO obligation. Second, there will not be enough money to protect the taxpayer from losses associated with the thrift fund.

Today I am proposing a comprehensive solution to the SAIF problem. It addresses meeting the FICO obligation and providing an adequate cushion for the taxpayer.

My proposal requires that when the Bank Insurance Fund [BIF] exceeds the 1.25 percent designated reserve ratio any excess monies be rebated to the banks. This reestablishes the rebate that existed prior to the enactment of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act.

In order to safeguard the taxpayer, my proposal assists in the SAIF capitalization by spreading the FICO obligation across the BIF and the SAIF in proportion to the insured deposits held by members of the respective funds. My proposal also extends the availability of funds appropriated for the Resolution Trust Corporation [RTC] to cover losses from SAIF members until the SAIF reaches the designated reserve ratio. This should assure that the SAIF reaches the designated reserve ratio in a timely manner.

The interest earned by the BIF will be used to pay for the BIF insured institutions' share of the FICO obligation. The remainder of the interest will be paid into the BIF and may be eligible for rebate.

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency [OCC] and the Office of Thrift Supervision [OTS] will be merged on January 1, 1996. My bill in this regard is similar to Chairman LEACH'S proposal introduced earlier this year.

Upon enactment of this proposal, the Treasury Department will be required to complete within 12 months a study on combining the bank and savings association charters into a unified charter.

This bill specifically requires the Treasury to consider issues concerning taxes consequences, Federal home loan bank membership, regulation of holding companies, and mutual ownership. The Treasury will also be required to report back to Congress with a legislative proposal as part of this study.

Finally, when the SAIF reaches the targeted reserve ratio of 1.25 percent, the BIF and the SAIF will be merged into one fund. Within 12 months of this merger, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation [FDIC] shall require that all insured institutions have a bank charter whether the new unified charter, State or other bank charters.

My solution does not affect the reduction in premiums that BIF insured institutions are scheduled to receive. The BIF will be fully capitalized this year and the FDIC is required to reduce BIF members premiums. Nothing in my solution or any other potential solution to the SAIF problem should jeopardize this reduction. The FDIC should move expeditiously to finalize the required reduction in premiums.

When the Congress passed Federal Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 [FIRREA] to address the clean-up of the savings and loan crisis, it was based on faulty assumptions. The Congressional Budget Office [CBO] and the Office of Management and Budget [OMB] predicted thrift deposits would continue to grow at 7 percent annually. In reality, the SAIF insured deposits have decreased at an average rate of approximately 5 percent per year. Based on the CBO and OMB estimates the SAIF should have a $1.3 trillion deposit base. However, there is only $721 billion from which to derive premiums.

One of the results of the faulty assumptions is that the FICO interest payments continue to divert larger percentages of thrift premiums each year from reaching the SAIF. The FICO obligation is sizable, diverting $795 million per

year, or 46 percent of the premiums, from the SAIF. As the percentage of premiums paying the FICO obligation continues to increase, the capitalization of the SAIF slows. Without corrective legislation, the SAIF may never capitalize, putting the taxpayer at risk.

In February 1995, the Federal Housing Finance Board noted that thrifts are unlikely to meet the FICO interest payments through their maturity. Price Waterhouse, FICO's outside auditor, and GAO have reported that if the assessment base continues to shrink a FICO default will occur by the year 2000.

The portion of the SAIF deposit base available to pay the FICO obligation has declined at an annual rate of 10 percent because insurance premiums paid by so-called Oakar and Sasser banks cannot be used to pay the FICO obligation. An Oakar bank is a BIF member that has acquired a thrift and therefore pays into the BIF and the SAIF. A Sasser institution had a savings association charter and has converted to either a commercial bank or State savings bank. A Sasser bank remains a SAIF member.

The SAIF is grossly undercapitalized. Currently, the SAIF has $2 billion in reserves backing up approximately $693 billion of insured deposits. This is about 28 cents for every $100 of insured deposits which is far below the Congressionally mandated reserve ratio of $1.25 per $100. In order to meet the designated reserve ratio the SAIF needs approximately $8.5 billion, an additional $6.5 billion to its reserves.

According to Jonathan Fiechter, the Acting Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, ''The SAIF is weak * * * A sudden economic downturn, a weakness in a particular real estate market, or unexpected stress on the deposit insurance system could overwhelm the thinly capitalized SAIF and render it insolvent.''

An undercapitalized SAIF puts the taxpayer at risk. On June 30 of this year the RTC will no longer be responsible for resolving failed thrifts. This means that losses in excess of SAIF reserves must be covered by the taxpayer.

According to the FDIC, problem thrifts currently hold $31 billion in assets and the SAIF only has $2 billion in reserves. This is simply not enough because the failure of one of the large problem thrifts or a combination of small problem thrifts could deplete the reserves of the SAIF and leave the taxpayer holding the bag, again.

Additionally, even if the SAIF becomes fully capitalized, the OTS believes that the fund will not be sound. A key ingredient to a sound insurance fund is size. The fund must be large enough to spread risk and absorb a series of simultaneous losses of at least moderate size. Since the fund is much smaller than Congress anticipated due to the faulty assumptions, the SAIF fails to meet the basic standards of size and diversity.

This issue must be addressed now. The Federal Deposit Insurance Amendments of 1995, protects the taxpayer from footing the bill resulting from another savings and loan fiasco.

THE ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGENCY

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with my colleagues an editorial recently published in the Boston Globe which highlights the impact of legislation pending before the House and Senate which would fold the U.S. Agency for International Development, the United States Information Agency and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency into the State Department. I think that the Globe makes a very strong case for allowing the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency to retain its current status as an independent agency.

THE MASOCHISM OF CHAIRMAN HELMS

All other systems are worse than democracy, Winston Churchill once observed. But there are moments when it is salutary to remember that Churchill also recognized that democracy can look plenty bad. This is one of those moments.

Grandstanding, demagoguery and perversity: These are some of the qualities on display in congressional attempts to restructure and cut funding for agencies that carry out US foreign policy.

Though budgets of these agencies should be scrutinized for economies and pruned accordingly, the legislation initiated by the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. Jesse Helms, is composed of measures that would, if implemented, do grave harm to US interests and to millions of people around the world.

In a spirit of score-settling, Helms, a North Carolina Republican, and other conservatives in Congress have been truffling the House and Senate foreign aid bills with irresponsible provisions pertaining to America's lost sovereignty over the Panama Canal and abortion in China. In a hamhanded manner, they have also been seeking to meddle in the Clinton administration's delicate negotiations to make North Korea abandon its nuclear weapons program without having to bomb Pyongyang's cooling ponds. The posturing of Helms and his emulators in the House, if judged by its likely effects, amounts to a show of unwitting masochism.

Of three independent agencies the Helms bill would absorb into the State Department—the US Agency for International Development, the US Information Agency and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency—the strongest case for preserved independence belongs to the arms control agency. Not only does this lean, inexpensive agency have the most impressive record of achievements and the most fateful missions in the aftermath of the Cold War, it also owes its success to its status as a separate, specialized entity.

The agency has saved taxpayers billions of dollars and enhanced US security because it has been able to offer advice on policy directly to the secretary of state and the president. Its expert judgments on Pakistan's nuclear weapons capability or on the proper interpretation of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, for example, did not have to be trimmed or inverted to comply with the parochial bureaucratic interests of the Departments of State and Defense.

Without the independence of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, the other national security bureaucracies would hardly have pursued the banning of the Soviet Union's dangerous and destabilizing SS–18, an intercontinental ballistic missile with multiple warheads. Nor would the United States be on the road to a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty and a verifiable Biological Weapons Convention. If the arms control agency were folded into the State Department, as Helms proposes, its decisive, expert influence on crucial issues of national security would inevitably be diluted. The loss would be incalculable.

THE PTA

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Parkville Middle School in my district. I received a large notebook of letters and artwork from Parkville students, requesting a commemorative stamp in honor of the Parent Teacher Association [PTA]'s 100th anniversary in June 1996. Most of us have been PTA members ourselves and we know that this outstanding organization has dedicated itself to strengthening the family-school-community partnership which is essential to quality education.

The PTA has an impressive record. It has been involved in working toward achieving better schools, healthier children, and stronger families for out Nation's future. Over the years, it has conducted nationwide campaigns to promote awareness on such issues as drug and alcohol abuse, protection of the environment, teacher appreciation, safety, AIDS, and the promotion of positive self-images.

In 1912, the PTA sponsored the first hot-lunch programs in our schools. In 1941, it initiated a nationwide school-lunch program. The PTA is responsible for the organization of field trips, launching health information projects, and sponsoring events which create a more well-rounded, quality educational experience.

I would like to read to you a couple of reasons these students want to commemorate the PTA:

Also in 1976 they began a nation wide project to combat violence on television. This was needed so that children will behave in play and in class without violence. Remember, children can not vote what they want, that's what the PTA does.

I remember when at my old school Villa Cresta Elementary and my big fifth grade trip was coming up, a thrilling three days at Camp Wo-Me-To. The Villa Cresta PTA paid the rent fee for each cabin so all us fifth graders only had to pay for food and activities such as rock climbing and stream study. The camp fee was able to let low income families pay for their child's trip. Do you remember when you were a kid in especially elementary school or even middle or high school when the PTA did something for your school like a Fun Fest or Fiesta? Well I do remember.

I believe that the PTA should get a commemorative stamp in honor of the National PTA. My personal experience with the PTA is that in my old Elementary School, Fullerton, our PTA made a day for us kids. The day was called Fun Fest Day.

I am sure that many of you have received similar letters from your constituents. I have written to the National Stamp Advisory Committee expressing my support for commemorating the PTA's 100th anniversary next year.

I encourage my colleagues to support this effort as well.

THE SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH CELEBRATES 100 YEARS IN BLUEFIELD

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, 1995 is a memorable year for the residents of Bluefield, WV. For it was 100 years ago that the Sacred Heart Catholic Church was dedicated on Mercer Street. The theme of this years celebration is ''Remember, Rejoice, and Renew.''

Late in the 19th century, the coal industry, the railroad, and commercial trade brought numerous Catholics to southeastern West Virginia. The first Catholic service in Bluefield took place on Princeton Avenue, when the Reverened John McBride came on horseback from Wytheville, VA, to perform the ceremony. Mr. Speaker, the first Catholic service in Bluefield even predated the incorporation of the city of Bluefield, WV.

Five years later, in 1984, the Most Reverend P.D. Donahue, Bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling, WV, appointed the Reverend Emile Olivier the pastor of the growing Catholic community in Bluefield. Through Reverend Olivier's tutelage and the hard work of the parish, the Sacred Heart Church was dedicated on Mercer Street in Bluefield on October 27, 1895. The church continued to grow and was responsible for the creation of other Catholic communities in Powhatan, Gary, Welch, Williamson, Princeton, and Our Lady of Lourdes in Bluefield.

Mr. Speaker, the Sacred Heart Church in 1995, as in 1895, is a family of Christians whose mission it is to bring about the Kingdom of God on Earth by their worship, evangelization, and strengthening of relationships and service to church and community. It is with great honor that I help to honor the centennial year of Bluefield's Sacred Heart Church. Remember, Rejoice, and Renew.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, as the 104th Congress considers changes to the unemployment compensation [UC] system, I would like to bring to your attention a recent speech by Leon Lynch, Vice President of the United Steelworkers of America. Mr. Lynch's views, which focus on the unemployment insurance reforms recommended by the Advisory Council on Unemployment Compensation, were delivered to the National Foundation for Unemployment Compensation and Workers Compensation last month in Atlanta. These remarks provide an important viewpoint that should become part of the debate over UC reform.

REMARKS OF LEON LYNCH TO THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION AND WORKERS COMPENSATION

The focus of my presentation today is unemployment insurance reforms recommended by the Advisory Council on Unemployment Compensation. To date, the Council has issued two reports containing a number of recommendations to improve our unemployment insurance program. The Council's major recommendations are focused on bringing the unemployment insurance system more into line with the realities of the 1990s economy and labor market. I believe they deserve the support of business and labor, and I want to explain why.

Since I joined the Advisory Council only late last summer, I did not directly participate in the adoption of the recommendations of the first report, which dealt mostly with the reform of the extended Benefits (EB) program. The second Council report, released in February 1995, focused broadly on the regular UI program. I was on board last year and I voted in favor of the recommendations of that report. The third and final report, due in February 1996, will focus on the administrative aspects of UI.

In all honesty, I am continuing to learn about our unemployment compensation system from the testimony presented by witnesses at Advisory Council meetings, the briefing papers prepared by Advisory Council staff, discussions among the Advisory Council, and meetings such as this. I have enjoyed my participation in the work of the Advisory Council and I hope to work for the adoption of the Council's recommendations at both the federal and state levels.

Having admitted that I am not an unemployment insurance expert, however, should not be taken as less than my full endorsement of the recommendations of the Advisory Council to date. You don't need a Ph.D to understand that our UI system is neither serving the needs of unemployed workers nor employers as well as it should.

As a trade union leader, I have long understood the terrible human impact of the defects in our UI system. These defects are much clearer to close observers. If you haven't done so, I encourage you to review the Advisory Council reports. They contain many more facts supporting the Council's recommendations than I can cover today. I hope you will take the time to review the reports since even those who regularly deal with UI will find a fair and impartial review of all aspects of the UI program.

I often hear employer representatives claim that our UI system isn't broken. I challenge you to read the reports with an open mind and come away with anything but a conclusion that, in key respects, our UI system can be improved and made to work better for all interested parties.

I want to begin my discussion by pointing out some of the factual findings from the February 1995 Advisory Council report. Many of you may be generally aware of UI developments, but I think these particular findings deserve mention.

First, there's been a serious erosion in the number of unemployed workers getting UI benefits. The ratio of insured unemployed workers (those that file a claim and have monetary eligibility) and the totally unemployed (those who are unemployed and actively seeking work) is widely used as an indicator of how many unemployed workers get UI benefits. In 1993, 32 of the 52 jurisdictions had an IU/TU ratio under 33 percent. Twelve states had a ratio of less than 25 percent. South Dakota had a ratio of 15.3 percent. In other words, the ratio of unemployed workers getting UI benefits was a third or less in a majority of the states, and less than 2 in 10 in South Dakota.

Complaints about the declining proportion of unemployed workers getting UI have not been met with sympathy by employers. However, even so-called ''job losers'' are no longer getting UI benefits at past levels. Job losers fall in the unemployed workers category which is closest to the involuntarily unemployed workers who are supposed to get UI—even according to most employers.

The 1995 report finds a steep decline in receipt of UI benefits in the ''job losers'' category. In fact, the ratio of UI claimants to job losers has fallen nearly forty percent since 1970.

The other reason cited for the reduced number of unemployed workers getting UI benefits is that eligible workers apparently aren't applying. While the research on non-applicants is not as clear as we might wish, on a practical level there are many things we can do to encourage potentially eligible UI claimants to apply for benefits. These include providing better UI claims information to workers at the time of layoff, permitting electronic and telephone claims, prohibiting employer retaliation, and continuing to improve the customer service aspects of agency claims handling. I believe that the Advisory Council will consider some of these administrative matters in the coming year.

Analysts disagree about why the ratio of insured unemployed workers to totally unemployed workers has fallen, but all recent studies show that legislative restrictions on UI eligibility and disqualifications have contributed. The only argument among the experts is the weight assigned to federal and state UI law changes as compared to other factors.

In fact, in most states, there are dollar estimates made on the amount of money to be ''saved'' when legislative restrictions on UI are passed. Since many of you have pushed for this so-called ''cost saving'' legislation to reduce the number of UI benefits recipients in your states, we should have few claims of innocence in this audience. We in organized labor are past the point of needing more studies concerning the reasons for the decline in receipt of UI benefits. We expect positive action to reverse the decline.

Often, when government is slow to act or fails to act, we have to looked for solutions elsewhere. That's what we've done in the Steelworkers—in this and other areas, such as employment security, pensions and health care.

For the unemployed, we have negotiated supplemental unemployment benefits—commonly known as SUB. The fair-minded employers we have contracts with recognize that unemployment compensation by itself—where it exists—is nowhere near sufficient to keep a family going.

With SUB, however, circumstances improve substantially. When one of our members is laid off, SUB will provide benefits ranging from 70 percent to 90 percent of the worker's wages. And it provides these benefits for two years.

When the worker is receiving UC, that amount is deducted from the SUB payment. When UC expires, SUB makes up the difference. The result is that no matter what the level of UC is, the worker receives the same percentage of wages.

The rationale is simple: Workers should not suffer for events over which they have no control. SUB payments help them to survive until they are recalled to their former jobs, or until they find new employment.

Even though we are proud of what we have done in this area, we feel this is an area that is properly the government's responsibility. Is any that with full knowledge of the atmosphere in Washington—an atmosphere with which I disagree completely. But that's a different story for a different time.

The problem we are dealing with today has its own import, and I'm pleased that the Advisory Council report this year makes specific recommendations to reverse the decline

in UI benefits. In the meantime, the various experts can argue about the weight of factors that cause the decline.

Let me discuss two recommendations which would start to move our UI system in a positive direction.

First, the Advisory Council recommends that no state set its monetary eligibility requirement higher than the equivalent of 800 hours of work at the state's minimum wage, with the higher quarter wages requirement no more than 200 hours of minimum wage work. This should encourage states to resist the trend toward requiring more and more earnings to gain UI monetary eligibility.

The factual basis for this recommendation was a staff study of the monetary eligibility provisions of all state UI laws. This study showed that lower wage workers and part-time workers with substantial labor market participation still failed to meet monetary eligibility requirements in some states. The 800 hour recommendation converts to roughly a fifteen hour week for a full-year worker. I do not think these workers have shown so little attachment to the labor market that we should exclude then entirely from the UI system and force them onto welfare and Food Stamps.

Another recommendation would begin to move part-time and low wage workers back onto UI. It is the adoption of a moveable, or flexible, base period. Under a moveable base period, workers with insufficient earnings in the first four of the five completed calendar quarters, can use their ''lag'' quarter wages to meet the monetary eligibility. In Vermont, workers can even use the current, or ''filing'' quarter wages, to meet the monetary eligibility standard.

At this time, eight states have some form of flexibility as to the period over which they measure monetary eligibility for UI benefits. Six states have a so-called moveable base period. Maine, Massachusetts, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington. California and New York permit different periods of measurement as well. In 1997, Michigan will adopt a moveable base period as part of its conversion from a wage request state to a wage record state.

The rest of the states define their base periods as the traditional first four of the last five completed quarters. As a result, wages can be as much as eighteen months old, depending on when the unemployed worker files and when she or he worked. A worker who needs his or her ''lag quarter'' wages to meet monetary eligibility standards must wait up to three months to obtain benefits under the traditional definition of base period. The moveable, or flexible, base period permits these workers to gain UI benefits much sooner, by counting the lag quarter wages toward monetary eligibility.

The Advisory Council relives that workers needing the moveable base period to gain UI eligibility have demonstrated adequate labor market attachment, as defined by each state. They should not be denied UI benefits solely because of the distribution of their wages in their base periods. For this reason, all states should consider the Advisory Council's moveable base period recommendation. Especially those which are currently paying UI benefits to very low percentage of their unemployed workers.

We also believe that the U.S. Department of Labor should encourage this action. Another important area of Advisory Council activity has been our examination of state UI trust fund solvency. Here, I believe the Advisory Council has made good progress toward increasing the solvency of the UI system, while maintaining a good deal of state flexibility.

Analysis by the Council staff has shown clearly that states with lower reserves are much more likely to be forced to borrow from the feds, raise taxes, or cut UI benefits in a recession—or a combination of FUTA penalty taxes and interest payments. Both benefit cuts and increased taxes during recessions should be avoided. Workers need the benefits during any period of unemployment, but especially during a recession. And employers need the spending boost provided by UI benefits during a recession, and can least afford a tax increase during economic downturns.

For this reason, the Advisory Council has recommended that States avoid so-called, ''pay as you go'' financing, and provide for forward funding of UI. In other words, during periods of economic recovery, the state should permit funds to accumulate in its trust fund for payment later during a recession.

Rather than debating continuously over the exact level of reserves that are desirable, the Council compromised on a level somewhat lower than the 1.5 high cost multiple which has been historically defined as prudent. There was some feeling that requiring this level of reserves drew too much capital out of the economy and was less productive. Instead, the Council recommended that states maintain a reserve equal to one year of benefits at the average of the three years of highest payouts over the past 20 years.

The innovative part of the Council's solvency recommendation was the suggested use of federal interest premiums on trust fund deposits over the desired level of reserve, and interest breaks for states forced to borrow despite having reached the desired level prior to the recession. In other words, the Council did not set a ''federal standard'' for solvency, but, set up a method of encouraging states to accumulate higher reserves prior to the next recession.

The Advisory Council also made a number of recommendations related to the budgetary treatment of UI by the federal government. For years, both labor and employers have urged the removal of the UI trust funds from the budget. The Council recommended that all UI trust funds be removed from the federal unified budget.

The inclusion of the UI trust funds causes a number of distortions. Dedicated UI revenues have been treated as offsets against the budget deficit allowing regular state UI benefit payments to be counted in federal spending. In addition, the tightening of administrative funding over the last several years, and the recent difficulty in getting supplemental appropriations for unexpected UI workload is a result of having the UI trust fund in the budget. We say this must end.

Another result of having UI in the budget is to make it subject to cost cutting measures designed for budget balancing, rather than for UI policy. One example is the federal income taxation of UI benefits. This is nothing more than a federally imposed reduction in state weekly benefit amounts. The Council has recommended the repeal of income taxation on UI benefits.

In the coming year, the Advisory Council will be looking at administrative financing of UI. Last year, the Council recommended that the state agencies collect the federal FUTA taxes used for administrative financing. Currently, the Internal Revenue Service assesses charges of up to $100 million a year to collect the FUTA revenue, and the states feel that they are in a position to collect FUTA taxes without using scare resources.

I believe that administrative financing will be a matter for continued examination because proper levels of appropriations and proper use of the administrative funds are so critical to the UI system. As Bruce Springsteen has said, ''sooner or later, it all comes down to money''.

Employer support for UI and ES will increase, if they feel that their FUTA taxes are wisely spent. State agency employees need and deserve adequate wages and benefits. State administrators need flexibility and better incentives for meeting UI program goals. The federal partner needs to better ensure that service improvements and efficiency are a product of its financing. And, unemployed workers need pleasant, accessible, and effective UI and ES offices.

The Advisory Council often refers to the two traditional, and inter-related, national goals of the UI program. That is, adequate wage replacement for unemployed workers and economic stabilization. It is critical that both of these national goals be met, and that state and federal actions undercutting these goals be reversed.

Wage replacement at an adequate level of benefits is of obvious interest to organized labor. But, in addition, organized labor recognizes that the overall level of workers getting UI benefits must also be improved. Otherwise, the UI programs are only a hollow shell, leaving many workers who have substantial labor market involvement without UI benefits. For these reasons, the Advisory Council should consider methods to encourage states to pay adequate levels of UI benefits to a higher proportion of unemployed workers in the coming years. Possible solutions include trust fund enhancements, administrative funding incentives, and federal goals for states in these areas.

Let me close with some comments directed to the employer community and its approach to UI. I believe employers need to take a broader view of UI than what I usually hear from their representatives.

The other side of the coin from adequate UI benefits is economic stabilization. This is the other national goal of UI, and it still deserves our combined support. It truly helps employers.

UI benefits buy groceries, pay rent, keep the utilities connected, and purchase other necessities for unemployed workers and their families. In other words, all UI benefits are spent with employers—a fact that some employers have apparently forgotten. The unemployed worker's pocketbook is merely a way station for UI benefits on their way to an employer's bank account.

Most employers are also on fairly thin ice on the cost issue. Nationally, state UI payroll taxes amounted to .9 percent of total payrolls in 1993. This is not insignificant, but it is near the historically lowest levels of the early 1970s, and well below the 1.4 percent level reached in the recession of 1982–1983.

The federal FUTA tax rate is at historic low levels, amounting to only 36 percent of average wages. This has severely eroded the actual FUTA tax rate, which has fallen in relation to inflation since the federal taxable wage base was last increased in 1983. At that time, the FUTA payroll tax amounted to $81—today it's $56. So even with the much maligned .2 percent surcharge, FUTA taxes, in terms of real dollars, are at the same level as they were in 1970. In 1970, the net FUTA tax rate was .5 percent and the taxable wage base was still $3000.

While each employer naturally concerns itself with its labor costs, employers as a group should recognize that UI benefits help maintain a stable economy and society. While $25 billion or so are paid in UI benefits in any given year, these 25 billion were also spent. And, unlike defense spending or social security benefits or highway construction funds, these UI dollars were mostly spent in areas where unemployment was higher and local employers most needed a spending boost.

In short, the business approach to UI doesn't seem to have changed, even though the bad old days of higher UI taxes and lenient treatment of unemployed workers are long gone. Whatever the validity of the cost-cutting approach of the mid-1970s to mid-1980s period, employers, should rethink their ''cost above all else'' approach to UI.

Especially in the current political climate, the views of employers are of paramount importance. Unless the policies advocated by employers change, the downward trend of the past fifteen or twenty years will continue, and this will have serious impacts on employers and the larger society—not just on unemployed workers.

The developments of the last fifteen or twenty years have undercut the achievement of our national UI goals. This was mainly due to the effective elimination of the EB program in 1981, the spread of state restrictions on UI eligibility and the adoption of harsher disqualifications during the 1970s and 1980s. Meeting these national UI goals is important to workers *and* employers. For this reason, favorable action on the recommendations of the Advisory Council on Unemployment Compensation is important to employers as well as the rest of our society. I hope that employers will review their UI policy positions in light of the Advisory Council's recommendations. This would be an important step in restoring the vitality of our UI system.

Thank you, and I look forward to your questions following the remarks of Bob Mitchell.

RECOGNIZING SERVICE BY WCTE–TV

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, WCTE–TV in Cookeville, TN, provides a great service to the television viewers of Putnam County and the Upper Cumberland region of Tennessee. The enclosed article from the New York Times shows how the small, but capable staff juggle many responsibilities and produce quality local programming.

[From the New York Times, Apr. 17, 1995]

WHERE PUBLIC TV IS MORE THAN A POLITICAL FOOTBALL

(By Laurie Mifflin)

COOKEVILLE, TN.—When people argue about public television in Washington, Boston, New York or Los Angeles, they talk about ''Sesame Street,'' ''Nova'' and ''Frontline''; about whether the political programming is too partisan, about whether opera and ballet are too elitist, and about slashing station budgets of $100 million a year or more.

Here, too, in Cookeville, in the Upper Cumberland region of Tennessee, public television means ''Sesame Street,'' ''Nova'' and ''Frontline.'' But political programming means covering monthly meetings of the Putnam County Commission. Cultural programming means the Smithville Fiddlers Jamboree and the Tennessee Tech Faculty Brass Quintet. The budget runs a little over $1 million. And the station consists of three rooms and a truck.

The boxy WCTE–TV truck is parked beneath the iron girders and concrete risers of the Tennessee Tech football stadium, the station's home. It is a ''remote truck,'' divided inside into three cramped carrels lined with audio and video editing equipment, the kind of truck television crews use when they cover events away from the studio.

This remote truck does venture out—to cover Tech football or basketball road games—but as soon as it is parked under the stadium, thick hanks of blue cable are pulled out and connected to other cables leading to the station's control room, because the truck doubles as the station's main editing facility.

So when Donna Castle and Rick Wells return from videotaping teenagers in Cane Creek Park who are testing leaf and water samples in a regional ''Envirothon'' contest, for example, Mrs. Castle climbs into the truck and sits down to edit a Hot Puddin' Cake recipe for that week's ''Cumberland Cooking With Cathy'' show.

Mr. Wells heads to the ''studio'' on the other side of the parking-bay wall—a windowless 20-by-30-foot room with cinder-block walls and klieg lights sprouting from the ceiling—to operate a camera focused on teams of jittery high school students competing in the Upper Cumberland Academic Bowl. And when that taping starts, Mrs. Castle will have to stop editing because David Dow will need the truck's control panel to direct the three-camera Academic Bowl production.

WNET in New York and WGBH in Boston may be the signature stations of the Public Broadcasting Service because they produce many of its best programs, but the mom-and-pop stations of small-town America have deep roots in the public television heritage, too.

The two dozen or so smallest PBS stations in the country receive 30 to 40 percent of their budgets from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, so eliminating Federal financing could force them to close up shop. But ''zeroing out'' now appears unlikely; when Congress returns from Easter recess, the House and Senate will have to reconcile their versions of bills to cut back financing, with the compromise likely to be in the 10-to-15-percent range.

But for Donna and Richard Castle, the operators of WCTE, Channel 22, in Cookeville, even a 10 percent cut will hurt their bare-bones budget of $1.16 million (which includes 18 salaries). And because it would be cheaper simply to pick up PBS's national programming, Channel 22 would probably cut back the thing that makes it distinctive: its local programming.

WCTE was founded in 1978 as part of the state Department of Education, and Mr. Castle, 58, the general manager, still calls it ''educational TV'' as often as he calls it ''public TV.'' The station offers instructional programs used by local schools and by parents who teach their children at home, as well as programs informing the community about local government, local schools, local cultural affairs and local businesses.

''We're here for the public, and I try to remember it all the time,'' Mrs. Castle said. ''If people around here want to see the Smithville Fiddlers Jamboree instead of something from the Theater of the Rhinoceros in San Francisco, that's O.K.''

Mr. Castle pronounces himself ''stumped'' by the Washington politicians who seem so down on public television. ''We've never been partisan or played politics in any way,'' he said of WCTE. ''And when they talk about public TV being for the wealthy and the elite, well, that's sure not true here.''

Cookeville lies midway between Nashville and Knoxville, far enough from each for the area to qualify for Federal money to build an 840–foot television and radio transmission tower. To the east, the countryside's rolling ridges become small mountains; there, television reception requires either a satellite dish or a huge antenna. Many people cannot afford either.

''In our viewing area, 60 percent of the people don't have cable,'' Mr. Castle said. ''In the mountainous parts, if you don't have a dish, you can't even get ABC, CBS or NBC. In some of the historically poor areas around here, the only station people get is Channel 22.''

Channel 22, one of the smallest PBS stations in the country in terms of both budget and viewership, is so small that it falls ''below measurable standards'' for rating by the A.C. Nielsen Media Research Company. Nielsen estimates WCTE's cumulative weekly audience (house-holds that tune in for at least 15 minutes a week) at 17,000 to 18,000.

The station gets its modest home rent-free from Tennessee Tech, whose green campus graced by red-brick Georgian buildings is the town's centerpiece. Of the station's $1.6 million budget for 1994–95, $393,254 comes from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and $498,315 from the state.

Finding that level of financial support around Cookeville would be unlikely. Membership in Channel 22, which costs $25 a year, accounted for $50,000 last year. An annual eight-night auction at the town's Drama Center, run by 200 volunteers, added $72,000. There are no large corporations here, and persuading local businesses to underwrite programs instead of buying advertising on local commercial stations is difficult.

''We charge $50 a program a week,'' said Tina Majors, WCTE's director of development, ''whether it's for a local program or one from PBS, but that's for a 13-week commitment. Some businesses won't commit to that, but they'll spend $100 for two spots in a big local event like Horse Show Night at the county fair.''

Ms. Majors is WCTE's newest employee, hired about 18 months ago because of fears about losing financing. She is just about the only one who doesn't work on programs. ''There's nobody here who can't run a camera,'' Mr. Castle likes to say.

Sue Gibbons, the traffic manager, said, ''Richard and Donna's three boys grew up in the station, pulling cable and helping out.'' Russ Castle, 23, now works for a local radio station but still ''runs a camera,'' unpaid, on all Tennessee Tech football games for WCTE. His 20-year-old twin brothers, Art and Roger, attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and run cameras (also without being paid) when they are home.

Steve Boots, the station's young assistant manager, describes his job as ''anything from grabbing a broom to hosting a show.'' He was the host for the Uppper Cumberland Academic Bowl in early April.

Channel 22's director of educational programming, Becky Magura, started out as a college intern in 1980 and has run the camera on hundreds of football and basketball games by now. She also produces the Academic Bowl shows and many segments for ''Upper Cumberland Camera,'' a magazine-format show that appears every Thursday night.

That program—''52 new shows a year; we don't repeat,'' Mrs. Castle says with pride—has done segments on the effort to restore defunct movie theaters, on a conference offering advice to women in business, and on a Tennessee Tech professor using computer simulation in chemistry experiments.

The station also produces the ''Upper Cumberland Business Profile,'' an interview program; ''Education in the Upper Cumberland,'' and ''Cumberland Cooking With Cathy.'' ''When she did her Christmas show, we stupidly said, 'Send us an envelope if you want recipes,'" Mrs. Castle said. ''We got over 600 requests. Joyce Hunter and I sat there and stuffed all those envelopes.''

WCTE's productions look and sound as professional on the screen as most shows aired

on Channel 13 in New York. Indeed, its one-hour special on the Smithville Fiddlers Jamboree was offered nationally by PBS, and more than 100 stations picked it up.

Teachers, parents and elderly residents watch the instructional programming offered every weekday between 9:30 A.M. and 2:30 P.M., including some courses for college credit. Mrs. Magura, the mother of a 4-year old, coordinates the schedule with PBS and makes sure teachers get the guides that go with it.

''A lot of our rural schools don't have VCR's,'' she said, ''so teachers watch our program guide very closely. If something they want is on at 10:30 A.M., they put on the TV in their classroom at 10:30 A.M.''

Mrs. Castle bristles at two frequent criticisms of public television: that it serves only an elite and offers too much provocative programming.

''People come up to me and say they watched 'Upper Cumberland Camera,'" she said, ''and some of them go on and say, 'Boy I sure enjoyed that mystery program you had on.' So they watch us, and then maybe it leads them to watch 'Mystery' or 'Nova' or Charles Dickens, too.''

As for programming, she points out that middle Tennessee has a cultural heritage of its own. ''Our local programming gives people around here a positive image of themselves, too,'' she said. ''It gives people things to feel proud of.''

HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, while health care reform legislation has been temporarily set-aside for other pressing business, we can not neglect the important issues raised during the health care reform debate.

A major focus of several of the proposals involved the need to increase the number of doctors providing primary care services. Today, too many new physicians elect to practice specialized medicine where they can earn higher salaries. As a result, there is a deficiency in the number of physicians that practice general family health care or primary health care.

I would like to direct my colleagues' attention to the efforts of Dr. Robert Ross, chairman and founder of Ross University School of Medicine located on the Island of Dominica in the Caribbean. Dr. Ross has greatly contributed to reversing the trend in the declining numbers of primary care physicians. Dr. Ross opened Ross University in 1978 with just 13 students. Since that time, over 2,500 students have received medical degrees from the university. In fact, Ross University celebrated its 33d commencement on June 3, 1995, at the United Nations. Ross University graduates have continued on into medical residency training and medical practice all over the United States.

Ross University is committed to academic excellence and requires its students to complete the basic sciences portion of the curriculum in Dominica.Then, they return to the United States to complete their clinical clerkships in teaching hospitals. Recently, I toured the campus in Dominica and found the facilities to be of the highest quality—utilizing state-of-the-art technologies.

In addition, many Ross University graduates have set up their primary care practices in rural and urban areas that would otherwise go without the attention of a physician. These foreign-trained medical students help fill the critical shortage of primary care physicians. In fact, over 20 percent of the practicing doctors in the States of Michigan, North Dakota, Illinois, Connecticut, and Delaware were educated outside the United States. In New Jersey, the figure is 33 percent, and in New York this number is nearly 50 percent.

Dr. Ross and Ross University provide a valuable service to the American people. I urge my colleagues to examine the contribution foreign medical schools can make with respect to primary health care.

KEEP ACDA INDEPENDENT

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, now is not the time to be dismantling the one agency whose sole mandate is to formulate, negotiate, implement, and verify arms control and nonproliferation agreements.

The Arms Control and Disarmament Agency [ACDA] should remain an independent agency with the goal of strengthening U.S. national security through effective arms control agreements. President Eisenhower, who first proposed the agency, and President Kennedy, who founded it, both recognized the need for an independent voice on arms control matters within the Federal Government.

The United States is pursuing the biggest, broadest arms control and nonproliferation agenda in history. With the end of the cold war and the rising threat of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, we need a clear focus on resolving outstanding arms control issues.

Now is not the time to abolish ACDA. Yet that is exactly what the Republicans are doing in H.R. 1561, the American Overseas Interests Act.

The American people want a world that is safer for their children than the one in which they grew up. Let us hope we can avoid the days when school children learned to duck and cover under their desks at the same time they were learning their ABCs. An independent ACDA provides an assurance that our Nation will continue to maintain the proper focus on arms control and nonproliferation agreements.

I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 1561.

IN MEMORY OF FLOYD CECEL COUGILL

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special man, Floyd Cecel Cougill, who passed away recently after a lifetime of helping the people of southern Illinois. It is with great sadness that I offer my condolences to his family, and say that Floyd's passing is a great loss to all who knew him.

Floyd dedicated his life to helping the hard-working people of southern Illinois. At the young age of 13 Floyd started to work at the Metropolis Box Factory, and later he made his way to the Metropolis Bending Co. where he became a charter member of Local No. 1301 of the Laborers International Union of North America. In 1949, Floyd founded the Construction and General Laborers Local No. 1320 of the American Federation of Labor, and served as its business agent until his retirement in 1973. Even during his retirement Floyd remained active in the union by continuing to serve as an organizer for the Laborers International Union of North America.

Mr. Speaker, Floyd's unquestionable personal integrity and honesty gained the respect of all who knew him. It is for this reason that people turned to him when they needed sound advice. It was for his unparalleled commitment to honesty that Southern Illinois University invited him to serve on a special panel that was designed to help find solutions to labor-management relations for the entire southern Illinois region. Floyd was always willing to help solve problems that the working people of southern Illinois face on a daily basis. His life was dedicated to helping ensure that these people had decent jobs and decent lives.

Floyd's efforts to help the lives of working people will not be forgotten. The unions he helped found and the workers he helped to gain meaningful representation serve as a living monument to his work and dedication. Rarely in life is one person able to directly help the lives of countless individuals, but through Floyd's hard work, he was able to serve his neighbors in crucial ways. Mr. Speaker, I believe I speak for many when I say Floyd Cecel Cougill will truly be missed, but will always be remembered.

NATIONAL MARITIME DAY

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay homage to America's merchant mariners. As you may be aware, each year, at the request of the Congress, the President declares May 22 as National Maritime Day to honor the Nation's merchant mariners. The significance of National Maritime Day was marked the week of May 21 with special ceremonies and events held in Washington, DC, and cities throughout the country.

Fifty years ago, on Maritime Day in 1945, the leaders of the U.S. Armed Forces, including General Eisenhower and Admiral Nimitz, praised the American merchant mariners who sailed on civilian merchant ships moving war materials to Europe and the Far East. These men and ships participated in every landing operation of the Marine Corps in the Pacific. Their skill and courage made a vital difference to our Armed Forces in the European and Pacific theaters of World War II. The American merchant marine later provided strong support to our Armed Forces during the conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf.

As a Vietnam veteran, I was grateful for the assistance of the civilian merchant mariners.

In fact, 172 Victory Ships were activated during Vietnam as part of the Maritime Administration's National Defense Reserve Fleet (NDRF). A crew of approximately 35–45 U.S. citizen merchant mariners manned each vessel. I wish to extend a special thanks to the 15,000 or so merchant mariners who crewed the various National Defense Reserve Fleet ships throughout my time in Vietnam. Any member of the Armed Forces will tell you that the cooperation of the entire organization is needed to retain order, readiness, and fighting efficiency. As I flew over Vietnam, I was grateful for our dedicated mariners at sea.

As we pay tribute to their service to this country, remember that the American mariners need U.S.-flag ships to sail on in peacetime in order to be available to us in emergencies. Unless a maritime bill is enacted this year, our U.S.-flag presence in international trade is likely to vanish, along with civilian sealift support and seafaring jobs. I urge you to support our mariners by supporting H.R. 1350, the Maritime Security Act of 1995.

FINCH, PRUYN, THE HEART AND SOUL OF GLENS FALLS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, Finch, Pruyn, the heart and soul of Glens Falls, NY, will mark its 13th decade on June 22.

It might even be said, Mr. Speaker, that a company grew into a town, a town that grew into a small city Look magazine called Hometown, U.S.A. in 1944. Even in this era of downsizing, plant closings, and moves to foreign lands, outstanding management has kept Finch, Pruyn not only a thriving enterprise employing over 1,000 people, but a respected corporate neighbor as well.

Creating and preserving the conditions that allow the Finch, Pruyns of America to prosper should be the first priority of this Congress, Mr. Speaker. The health and prosperity of companies like Finch, Pruyn mean jobs for Amercians, growth for our economy, and vibrant, thriving communities.

That's what Finch, Pruyn has meant to Glens Falls, an important employer and a source of pride because of its leadership in the paper industry. That industry, as does the equally important tourist industry, both require a concern for the environment, and in this area, too, Finch, Pruyn has been a leader.

A symbol of that leadership is its present chairman of the board, a good friend of mine, Richard J. Carota. Two years ago Dick Carota was named Executive of the Year by the Paper Industry Management Association, and never was an award more deserved.

Dick Carota began as a $1.35-an-hour sweeper in 1956, and rose up the ranks. Having done so, there isn't a single job he doesn't understand. As I said on this floor in 1993, Dick Carota listens to everyone, respects everyone, sets high standards, and gets everyone to work as a team. His all-American success story is typical of the spirit of Finch, Pruyn. I'll say it again, Mr. Speaker, I'm proud of Dick Carota, and I'm proud of the outstanding company he leads.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and this entire House to join me in wishing Finch, Pruyn all the best on this occasion of its 130th birthday, and many more decades of industry leadership and contributions to the community.

HONORING DR. DAVID N. MESCHES

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleaques to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of the Mid-Hudson Consortium for the Advancement of Education for the Health Professions, which is now commemorating its 20th anniversary. For the past two decades, the consortium has promoted invaluable training programs for health care professionals that respond to the needs of the mid-Hudson community. Vital to the success of this organization have been the tremendous efforts of my good friend, Dr. David N. Mesches.

Dr. Mesches was a strong advocate of managed care even before managed care was an established system of health care delivery. In the hopes of attracting physicians to our area who would provide affordable, quality care, Dr. Mesches and his colleagues have paved the way toward improved care by the formation of the consortium as well as other programs they have created such as the Mid-Hudson Rural Family Practice Resident Training program.

Through the continued efforts of Dr. Mesches, the resident program annually attracts a considerable number of physicians and medical students through an affiliation with the New York Medical College and the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. These health care providers are being trained to respond to the specific needs of the community in which they live and work and the program proudly boasts that 75 percent of its graduates not only remain in New York State but also in the community in which they were trained. This is an astounding success rate and it has benefitted the people of the mid-Hudson Valley immeasurably. We are indeed grateful for it as well.

I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in commending Dr. David N. Mesches for his very generous hard work and devotion to our community.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN F. LONG

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues the outstanding service to our Nation of Mr. John F. Long, of East St. Louis, IL. John Long served as a U.S. soldier from the 125th Infantry, who served his country during World War II.

Mr. Long, originally from Cairo, IL, entered the U.S. Army in October 1941, and fought a number of World War II battles in Italy. Those conflicts included Rome, Arno, the Appennines, and the Po Valley.

Private Long's bravery won him the Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Medal, American Defense Ribbon, American Theater Ribbon, European African Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with three Bronze battle stars, and one service stripe.

John Long, who will turn 76 on June 15, was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in November 1945. This year commemorates the 50th anniversary of his World War II service, and I am confident he watched, as we all did, the recent commemoration of V–E Day. On this glorious day, 50 years ago, John Long joined his fellow servicemen to accept the surrender of the Axis Powers to the Allied victors. His Army service in the battles of Italy was part of this victory, a contribution we honor in the House today.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1776: THE BLACK REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOTS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced, with my colleague DONALD PAYNE of New Jersey, H.R. 1776, the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Commemorative Coin Act. This legislation will direct the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a special coin in commemoration of the many black soldiers who fought for our Nation's independence and our individual freedom. In addition to recognizing the often forgotten contributions of African-Americans during this historic period of our Nation's history, distribution of such a coin will enable the Black Patriots Foundation to succeed in funding the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial, to be located in Constitution Gardens between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.

More than 5,000 black revolutionary war patriots fought shoulder to shoulder with white patriots, heroically sacrificing so that we can stand here today, a free people and a world leader. This contribution should not be forgotten. As generations of children visit our Nation's Capital and walk the mall, they should have a concrete reminder that we are descendants of men and women of all races and ethnic backgrounds and only together can we create a Nation in which individual social freedom and justice are a reality.

I urge my colleagues to join in honoring black revolutionary war patriots through this commemorative coin act and enable the Black Patriots Foundation to complete the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial here in Washington, DC.

FAIRNESS FOR PAKISTAN

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues' provisions in the American Overseas Interests Act that address basic issues of fairness for Pakistan.

I think it was the Greek poet Aeschylus who once wrote that the greatest wish a man could have was to live in interesting times.

I think all of us know that we live in a time of rapid change. But as the United States moves forward into this new world, we can't afford to forget where we've been. We can't afford to leave our oldest and truest friends behind.

For nearly 50 years, the United States and Pakistan have been close friends and allies. Even though we come from different cultures and have different customs, in the end we are united by our hopes and dreams for the future and by our deep, profound belief in democracy. Those values have brought us together through tough times—and they must sustain us now.

However, I'm concerned that we have pushed Pakistan away from us the past few years.

Mr. Speaker, I have said it before and I'll say it again: Pakistan is not a terrorist nation or a nuclear outlaw, and it's time we stop treating them as if they were.

If we are truly going to meet the goals we all share in South Asia we must work with both India and Pakistan to make it happen.

To be honest, I'm encouraged by some of the developments I have seen recently. Thanks to Prime Minister Bhutto's efforts at reform, over $20 billion has been invested in Pakistan—half of which came from private American investors. That's more than any other time in history. In addition, we were all appreciative of Pakistan's efforts to work with us to capture Ramzi Yousef, one of the key suspects in the World Trade Center bombing.

Last week, I'm also told that for the first time since 1990, the Pentagon has had fruitful discussions with Pakistan about our common defense interests in South Asia.

And as we all know, both the White House and Congress are working with Pakistan to come up with ways to resolve this dispute over the planes. I agree with President Clinton: I don't think it's right that Congress keeps the money Pakistan paid for those planes. Not only have we kept over a billion dollars—we're actually charging Pakistan a $50,000 storage fee for each jet. Some in Congress have suggested that we should sell the planes to a third party, then give the money to Pakistan. But we are working on this issue now and hopefully we'll reach a solution in the next few months.

But there are two other issues we should all be able to agree on. The Senate is working on the antiterrorism bill. But while we work for solutions, we can't allow people to be scapegoated on the basis of ethnicity or race.

When those first reports were coming out of Oklahoma City—looking for three ''Middle Eastern men''—it brought back painful memories from the Persian Gulf war, when Moslem-Americans actually saw their homes being searched. As much as we all want to crack down on terrorism, we have to do it in such a way that doesn't hurt innocent people and doesn't violate constitutional rights.

When this bill comes to the House floor—which should be in the next month or so—I look forward to working to make sure these concerns are addressed.

I also look forward to continuing to work and to speak out on behalf of the people of Kashmir. By all indications, the situation in Kashmir isn't getting any better.

Just last Saturday, the Indian Government canceled elections in Kashmir yet again—and extended its direct rule. We can't sit back as Indian Government security forces continue to rape, torture, and murder innocent women and children.

If India hopes to have any kind of relationship with the United States in the future, I believe these issues must be addressed, the troops must be withdrawn, international observers must be allowed in, and the people of Kashmir must be given the opportunity to determine their own destiny. Because if they're not, I believe the whole issue of Indian aid comes into question. The world simply cannot afford to have two nuclear powers locked in mortal combat over disputed territory any longer. It's up to all of us to help solve this.

Mr. Speaker, the Pakistani-American community has provided real leadership on these issues in recent years. We all live in a time of exciting change.

I look forward to working to make sure that we can make that change work for all of us.

HAPPY 100TH ANNIVERSARY EASTERN STAR HOME

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Eastern Star Nursing Home for 100 years of quality service. Located in Macon, IL, the home has, for a century, provided exceptional living conditions for the Sisters of the Order of the Eastern Star of Illinois. I want to take this opportunity to wish them my very best as they enter a new era of providing excellence in health care.

The members of Eastern Star offer guidance and support to young women from across the country, and always strive to work together for the benefit of mankind. This nonprofit, sheltered, and intermediate life care facility is dedicated to providing superior medical care to its residents, furnishing 58 women a caring and compassionate home that ensures a safe and secure living environment.

The Eastern Star Nursing Home is the only remaining retirement home specifically designated for the Sisters of the Order of the Eastern Star of Illinois. Since 1895, the home has set the standard of excellence in this area of health care. I applaud the home's dedicated staff, and I salute the members of this civic minded organization. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the Eastern Star Nursing Home on its century of service to the people of southeastern Illinois.

REFUTING DEMOCRAT SCARE TACTICS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to the comments of Ian M. Yarian, a resident of Gansevoort, NY in my congressional district. Ian, for one, has not fallen prey to the vicious scare tactics being employed by Democrats who have no solutions to the crises facing our Nation. It is certainly encouraging to see the comments of Americans outside the beltway who don't fall victim to the Washington propaganda which floods the news media.

To that end, Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to submit Ian's remarks as published in The Saratogian newspaper in Saratoga Springs, NY. I ask all my fellow Members to pay close attention to the logic of his argument, especially those colleagues on the other side of the aisle who simply seek to employ class warfare as opposed to addressing the concerns of the people.

REPUBLICANS AREN'T OUT TO ROB US

(By Ian Yarian)

After reading the May 17 Speaking Out column by Ron Deutsch, I can't help but speak out also.

I am one of the so-called middle class the Republicans are accused of trying to rob. I am also a single parent. I am tired of the leftist drivel being spouted concerning the Contract With America, People like Mr. Deutsch are either ignorant of the facts or they are intentionally misrepresenting them. The proposed spending for the balanced budget does not cut vital services, nor does it redistribute the money from such programs to the wealthy.

First, the Republicans are not cutting welfare, Social Security or Medicare. What they are doing is trying to curb the runaway spending increases that will bankrupt the programs and leave nothing for my generation.

The programs are in fact being increased in accordance with appropriate inflationary figures instead of the arbitrary current services baseline which makes no logical budgetary sense. Democrats routinely hide behind this automatic 10 to 12 percent annual spending increase to mask their irresponsible spending habits and turn the truth around to claim Republican-proposed smaller increases are cuts.

Mr. Deutsch further shows his ignorance by comparing the so-called ''cuts'' to tax reductions. Tax cuts such as those being proposed have been historically proven to increase revenue generated for the government because they encourage consumer spending, business expansion and investment. They don't need to be paid for. Redistribution of wealth is unfair, to everyone, but the Democrats want us to send more and more of our money to them so they can decide who gets what. They say whatever it takes to scare us into doing it. With so many blatant lies coming out of the mouths of Democrats lately, they must believe we are all to ignorant to look up the facts for ourselves. Unfortunately, few make the attempt.

The federal school lunch program fiasco is one such example. The Republicans proposed a 4 percent increase in funding. President Clinton and the Democrats had proposed a 3 percent increase, but they campaigned the countryside to tell people the Republicans were planning to take food from the mouths of children. The only people cut out by the Republicans would have been the federal elitists who have been mismanaging the program and lining their pockets. Control of the lunch program would have been given to individual states where programs have been proven again and again to be more efficient. Do Democrats feel our state governments are as incapable as they believe the citizens to be?

Democrats are clearly interested only in preventing Republicans from doing what they were elected to do, not in the future of America. I am firmly convinced if Republicans all got together and decided to give a

gift of $100 from their own personal bank accounts to every American citizen, the Democrats would claim this was a ''mean-spirited cut'' and an attempt to steal from children and the elderly. Unfortunately, the media would support them since you rarely see reporters make a Democrat back up what he says.

I am not wealthy or influential, and the only people I see, ''dipping into my pockets'' are the Democrats. The only chance I see for the future of America is from the Republicans. If the only arguments against the Contract With America consist of fear mongering and lies, what are the real motivations of the Democrats? And just what do they propose to ensure a prosperous future for us all? I would really like to know.

DON'T CUT FINANCIAL AID TO STUDENTS

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, recently I received a letter from a young woman in my district. She brought up some very good reasons why Republicans should not cut Federal funding for student financial assistance.

She said: ''College is the best investment in America's future.'' I agree. That only way to insure that America prospers tomorrow is to make education and training available to our Nation's children and young adults today. These ill-considered Republican budget cuts are a short-sighted move that will limit America's future.

While graduates may earn more over their lifetime than nongraduates, they do so because they master specialized skills and knowledge demanded in our complex and dynamic economy. While graduates may earn more money than non-graduates, they don't have money to pay tuition and other expenses this year, before they enter or complete college. The small amount of Federal financial aid provided through interest subsidies and grants are essential to allow many students to attend colleges and universities.

In the words of the same young woman: ''The opportunity to go to college is a privilege that should be everyone's right. Every student with the ability and the determination to work for a college education should have that opportunity. But suggested cuts in student aid programs would make financing a college education more difficult for average Americans.''

She is right. Not only would the cuts mean that post-secondary education would be more difficult to obtain for so-called average or middle-class Americans. These cuts would also make it virtually impossible for less privileged Americans to gain access to a post-secondary education.

While we must balance the budget, it is penny-wise and pound foolish to skimp on one of the most important investments we can make—the education of young people or the continuing education of adults.

This young women from my district and her peers are tomorrow's work force. We must give them the tools they will need—and we all will need—to compete and succeed in the global marketplace of the 21st century.

I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the letter be inserted in the RECORD.

Hon. EDWARD MARKEY,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: College is the best investment in America's future, I urge you to support continued funding for college loan and student aid programs.

A college education means increased opportunity—opportunity to advance in a career, to earn more, and to contribute more to the economy and to society.

The opportunity to go to college is a privilege that should be everyone's rights, Every student with the ability and the determination to work for a college education should have that opportunity. But suggested cuts in student aid programs would make financing a college education more difficult for average Americans.

Please don't cut our future short. Don't cut student aid.

Sincerely,

ERICA MARTIN-DOYLE.

TRIBUTE TO FIVE MINNESOTA IMMIGRANTS

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, in light of the antiimmigrant sentiment currently prevalent in much of U.S. society, I wanted to submit the following article which appeared in the St. Paul Pioneer Press newspaper in my district in St. Paul, MN. This article tells a different story from those often heard about immigrants. Immigrants to the United States, like the five people being honored in Minnesota, work hard to make important contributions to our society.

As we consider changes to immigration law in Congress, I hope that we will keep in mind that these five people are a true representation of what immigration means to the United States.

FIVE MINNESOTA IMMIGRANTS HONORED FOR ACHIEVEMENT—RIGHTS GROUP AWARD IS FOR CONTRIBUTION

(By Ann Baker)

The last time Rocky Ralebipi went home to Pietersburg, South Africa, it was 1992, two years after Nelson Mandela walked out of prison.

Seeing tank-like army vehicles called ''hippos'' patrolling her family's segregated black neighborhood, she couldn't shake off the memory of a 1977 police raid on the university where she was a student. Classmates suspected of conspiring against the apartheid government were beaten to death and flung out of 10th-story windows.

It's a memory the College of St. Catherine librarian will never forget.

Tonight, Ralebipi and four other immigrants who live in the state will be honored at the Minneapolis Hilton by Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights for their outstanding contributions to Minnesota's economy and community life.

Nazie Eftekhari, Jose Lamas, George Meredith and Viet Ngo, who with Ralebipi are immigrants from four different continents, teach, invent, create and manage businesses and operate communication networks. All but Meredith came to Minnesota as students.

''These individuals are not unique,'' said Nancy Arnison, deputy director of Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights. ''They represent what immigrants bring to this country.''

Arnison points to local surveys showing that Minnesotans tend to believe immigrants brought more harm than good, even before California's Proposition 187 barred undocumented immigrants' families from free school and vaccinations.

In the meantime, anti-immigrant sentiment is on the rise nationally, with welfare reform bills in the U.S. House and Senate proposing to deny numerous federal services to legal immigrants who are waiting to become naturalized.

Eftekhari, who is from Iran, founded and directs one of the first managed-care health corporations in the United States, called the Araz Group. Recipient of the 1995 Bloomington Small Business Person of the Year award, she has 115 employees.

''It's the strength of this country that people can come here and accomplish their dreams,'' she says.

Lamas left Mexico for California by himself six years ago at age 14, supporting himself with restaurant jobs. He graduated from Worthington Senior High School on Monday, and has published three editions of a six-page Spanish language newspaper, supported by advertisements, for the Worthington area.

In the fall he plans to enroll at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter to study prelaw. He also likes to tinker with inventions, especially auto safety devices. He has legal immigration papers now and hopes to become a citizen in three years.

Meredith, a 28-year veteran of 3M, came here on a job transfer from South Wales eight years ago. He is an executive vice president in charge of the company's life sciences division, which produces medical, pharmaceutical and dental products.

Now a U.S. citizen, Meredith lives in Grant township, which he calls ''a satisfying place to live from a community standpoint.'' He enjoys the outdoors, fishing, skiing and sailing on the St. Croix.

Ngo, an engineer and sculptor who came from Vietnam in 1970, founded and operates a sewage treatment company, Lemna Corp. of Mendota Heights. He creates parks out of ponds with floating duckweed, packed into wire mesh to cleanse the effluent. His method is praised as cheap, natural and esthetic.

''And I'm as American as chow mein,'' he says.

''We're trying to dispel the myths that immigrants are flooding our shores, taking American jobs, draining the welfare system and failing to assimilate,'' said Arnison.

In fact, she said, immigrants, who have been entering at the ''hardly a flood'' rate of 1 million a year, make up 8 percent of the population, compared with 15 percent in the early 1900s. Together, they earn $240 billion a year and pay back $90 billion in taxes. Only 9 percent of immigrant households are on welfare.

Next week, Ralebipi, who now directs the College of St. Catherine's health sciences library, will return to South Africa, this time to teach library technology for a year to students at her alma mater, the University of the North.

This time she is excited, not scared. She is confident that in South Africa freedom has become ''really real'' and she is eager to help build the newly integrated society.

CONTRACT FROM AMERICANS

HON. RANDY ''DUKE'' CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, last week my constituents sent me a Contract from Americans. The first line of this contract says

it all. ''We the undersigned citizens are concerned about the future that awaits us,'' they say. They are worried about the growing size of government. They are angry about the cruel Federal welfare state. And, above all, they call on us to get to work and balance the Federal budget.

I take their concern to heart. Not just because I agree with them, but because the people that sent me this contract are very important to me. It was written by a group of students from Escondido High School in my district.

Students like these are standing up to the people that say they don't care. They know how important it is that we balance and change the way government does business. It is their future that is at stake, not ours.

If we fail, these students know that they will have to live with the debt. In their contract, they note that, ''the interest alone on our national debt is more than our entire national budget was when America was a better place to call home.''

These young adults are taking the initiative to make a difference, and to make us change our ways. I am proud of them for making their voice heard.

Mr. Speaker, this contract represents the voice coming from the future of our country. I ask unanimous consent that it be included in the record so that every Member of this body can read it. We must hear their voice. We must make the future better for these children.

CONTRACT FROM AMERICANS

We the undersigned citizens are concerned about the future that awaits us. We feel the role of Government is to ensure the safety of the citizens, and prolong the sovereignty of the nation. unfortunately, the nation that awaits us is not safe and is not sovereign. The continual waste of tax dollars on entitlement programs such as unending welfare, food stamps, special aid for drug addicts, paying farmers to not plant, and ensuring farmers profits must stop. In a true democracy everyone would vote on such spending. But as we live in a representative republic, you were selected to represent our wishes. With this in mind, we ask that you ensure the stability of our futures by enacting the following legislation:

1. The spending on welfare, food stamps, AFDC, and others must decrease. These programs have increased to 54% of the total federal budget with no end in sight. If this spending continues on the same course, you will authorize spending of all our tax dollars on programs that are designed to help only a fraction of our nation's population. We believe some people deserve help, but only for limited periods of time. These programs were designed to make life better. In reality they have not made people's lives better, and in many instances' people have been so harmed by the continual give away of money they have lost the will to ''get off welfare.'' The welfare program is so full of waste, fraud and redundancy, that it can only be repaired with a major overhaul. We feel if the social programs continue, they should be managed by the states where the recipients reside.

2. The furnishing of money to drug addicts must stop. Under your current rules, if someone is a drug addict, you authorize additional welfare (SSI) income over and above their ''normal'' welfare entitlement. Drugs cost money. If you give someone, who is addicted to drugs more money, that means they will only buy more drugs. This program was created to get people off drugs, an idea with good intentions. Unfortunately it has not worked. There are no indications that drug addiction is on the decrease. In fact, drug addiction is on the increase, with the addict's drug of choice being once again, heroin.

3. Farm subsidies in all forms must stop or be reduced. You are authorizing farmers to receive income by not planting crops, at the same time people are going hungry, and food prices are going up. It is difficult to understand the concept of paying people to ensure they do not do their job, especially when others that need jobs cannot get a job. Additionally, if farmers grow certain crops, such as sugar, and do not make enough profit, you authorize payments to them to ensure they make what has been predetermined as a reasonable profit.

4. Balance the Federal Budget. Every American and every American business can spend only what they earn. The Federal Government should be held to the same standard. We are deeply in debt, yet the overspending continues. The interest alone on our debt is more than our entire national budget when America was a better place to call home.

The discussion in vogue these days, according to U.S. News and World Report, and the New York Times is ''how little Generation X wants to contribute to the world, how they only play video games, buy CD's and watch television.'' We are members of Generation X, and very much want to contribute to the world. That is why we are so concerned about its current condition. Most of us work while going to high school. Hopefully, we will all be working soon. We want to contribute our fair share.

People of all ages need role models. We expect you to be a role model. But continually giving away our tax dollars on frivolous programs that pay people not to contribute sends a clear message that it is acceptable not to contribute. That is not acceptable to us. You were elected to be a leader. We expect you to lead the way for all of us for a better tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Iriceyda Baza; Ryan Bezenek; Maria Borbolla; Juan Broderick; Amy Brooks; Chris Cabrera; Fernando Carranza; Elizabeth Cervantes; Toeey Chov; Abe Copeland; Michelle Dalope; Lorena Delatorre; Matthew Dewall; April Dillard; Elva Duron; Mainardo Flores; Karin Giron; Christi Henderson; Saul Hidalgo; Jennylind Johnson; Crystal Lara; Tessa Larsen; Jose Morales; Elizabeth Nunez; Josh Pippins; Art Reyes; Araceli Rodriguez; Alfonso Rosas; Ana Salas; Adriana Sanchez; Marty Sanchez; Kimmy Sitaket; Karen Stivers; J'nesse Thompson; Valerie Torres; and Damion Voss.

WORKING FOR PEACE IN KASHMIR

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the Congress should take a strong stand in support of an end to the violence in Kashmir.

The American Overseas Interests Act, H.R. 1561, recognizes the need for all parties in the conflict in Kashmir to resolve the conflict peacefully.

India and Pakistan have fought two wars over this region.

Kashmir is still plagued by violence.

More than 20,000 people have been killed.

Tensions are on the rise again.

A mosque sacred to the Moslems in Kashmir was recently burned to the ground.

And on Saturday, June 3, the Indian Parliament once again extended New Delhi's rule over Kashmir and postponed elections, which were set to take place next month.

The call for peace is more important than ever.

I will continue to push for an even stronger message—to press India to respect human rights, to urge an end to the violence, and to allow the Kashmiri people to determine their own future.

While I am glad that India repealed the TADA law which has kept many minorities behind bars for political reasons, India needs to do more.

India should take further steps to allow international human rights groups access to Kashmir, and India should prosecute security personnel involved in abuses of human rights.

We cannot ignore the conflict in Kashmir.

The recognition of this issue in the bill is an important step in working toward a peaceful resolution.

Mr. Speaker, while I am not voting for H.R. 1561 because I believe it takes us a giant step back in building democracy around the globe, I wanted to indicate that I support this action on Kashmir.

CONGRATULATIONS MT. ZION SWINGSATIONS

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Mt. Zion Swingsations, a special group of young people from my district who recently were awarded the National Show Choir Title at the Showstoppers 2-day national competition. These dedicated singers were named the best 14-piece combo in the Nation, and competed against 14 schools from across the country.

The Swingsations is directed by Connie Mulligan with Scott Hines as the instrumental director. The members of this sensational singing group are Jon Alford, Brian Babis, Jeff Badorek, Kim Bartholomew, Kristen Borders, Brian Bowman, Pete Bowman, Dannielle Brown, Josh Butts, Zach Carter, Heather Childs, Brian Clark, Eric Corman, James Drayton, Bill Egbert, Beth Ellingston, Brian Fogarty, Jared Gleason, Jessica Goodwin, Neil Goodwin, Sara Goveia, Jennifer Greenwell, David Hendricksen, Bob Higar, Paul Higar, Brian Howell, Tim Jones, Christy Laesch, Tatum Landreth, Lindsay Lehew, Kate McCullough, Tracy McGhee, Ashley McKittrick, Aaron Monts, Byron Muniz, Jeanie Owens, Tray Patrick, Jamie Pflum, Angie Pickowitz, Jimmy Rade, Ginger Roberts, Danny Rutherford, Derek Schmaiz, Scott Sill, Amanda Skowronski, Jeremy Skowronski, Tina Sphar, Brian Spry, Brian Stimson, Carrie West, Richie Williams, Ted Williams, Scott Willis, Todd Wilson, Eric Wortman, Evan Wortman, Jim Yantis, and Keisha Young.

It should be also noted that soloist Kelly Courtawa won a national vocalist award and the Swingsations choreographer, Dwight Jordan, was awarded an artistic production award.

I applaud this fine group of award-winning performers who entertain thousands in the 19th Congressional District and across the country each year. The Swingsations exemplify the meaning of ''champion,'' and I am proud to represent them in the U.S. Congress.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUND FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF OVERSEAS WAR MEMORIALS

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to establish an account to accept and disburse funds for the maintenance and repair of selected overseas war memorials. My distinguished colleague, the ranking member of the Veterans Affairs Committee, SONNY MONTGOMERY, joins me in introducing this bill.

The American Battle Monuments Commission is tasked with maintaining our overseas cemeteries and war memorials in a manner befitting the sacrifices of those who served this Nation in time of war, especially those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom.

When requested to assume responsibility for a specific memorial, the Commission makes an assessment of the condition and historical value of the site. In this way, the Commission accepts responsibility for only the most important sites. Typically, the request to assume responsibility includes funds to maintain the memorial.

Today, the Commission is increasingly being asked to assume responsibility for overseas memorials whose private sponsors have dwindled in numbers. But the passage of time now makes it difficult for these patriots to provide the active oversight needed to ensure the appropriate condition of the memorial.

My bill will provide the Commission an account to accept private donations, direct the Secretary of the Treasury to invest excess funds in interest bearing obligations of the United States, and authorize use of those funds for memorial maintenance.

In this manner, we can continue to honor those who have fought and died and keep the memory of their sacrifices alive as a reminder for the generations who have inherited the legacy of their commitment. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

ABMC BACKGROUND NOTES

ABMC currently has statutory authority to take over private monuments it considers worthy of retention.

Past takeovers include the Ranger monument at Point du Hoc overlooking Utah Beach and the Cabanatuan Memorial in the Philippines honoring 75,000 U.S. and Filipino POW's held by Japan.

ABMC is currently considering taking over monuments for 3 Engineer units and a 29th Division monument on the Normandy beaches, as well as several USAF monuments.

ABMC estimates that about $300,000 is available for these and a few other sites, if they can get the account established. Interest on investments in government securities will also be added to the account to maintain solvency for the next ten years or so.

TRIBUTE TO SMYRNA NISSAN EMPLOYEES

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, in the coming days and months Congress will be making big decisions about the way our economy works. These decisions will have a lasting impact on how America meets the 21st century and whether our workers and companies will have the tools to compete. I take my responsibility to make sure that America goes into the future strong and prepared very seriously.

America has the most skilled, productive, and dedicated workers in the world. Despite vocal nay-sayers' predictions about the American economy declining in the face of international competition, I have found the opposite to be true.

I did not have to go far to find proof. There are 6,000 hard-working people in Smyrna, TN who go to work every day at the Nissan Motor Manufacturing Corp. with the attitude that ''every day we want to do better than we did yesterday.'' Those words came from Nissan CEO and President Jerry Benefield who has proven that rewarding hard work and making sure that employees know they have the power to create—or break—their company.

Those Smyrna Nissan employees have reason to be proud. They have built the most productive car and truck assembly plant in America for the second year in a row.

One of the secrets of their success is attitude. Another is their extensive training and know-how. Those are the two keys that set not only the Smyrna plant apart from other American plants, but also what sets American companies apart from the rest of the world. Smyrna employees assemble a car in just 2.2 worker days, setting the benchmark for national productivity.

I want to congratulate and thank the 6,000 of you who earned this recognition on behalf of Smyrna. It goes to show that Tennessee, and America, are poised to take the lead in innovation and productivity. All of you are obviously going above and beyond just doing your job—and doing it very successfully.

SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE IS HERE NOW

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, I had the pleasure of touring a school in my district which is setting the trend for the future of education. Mason Middle School, in Warren County in southwest Ohio, uses a state-of-the-art technology-driven curriculum so that students can easily enter the high-tech workplace and adapt to a changing world.

If our world is transitioning to an information-based society, these students will be way ahead of the curve. As our current methods of production become obsolete, more and more work will have to do with information processing. Because of Mason Middle School's emphasis on information and technology, its students are being given the skills to compete in the work force of the future and the confidence to succeed there. Students also learn to appreciate the interconnectedness of the world, preparing them to interact in a global economy.

When we create schools such as this, we are doing more than providing for our children's success in an age of ever-expanding technology. We are laying the groundwork for a new political system. Our system is based on democracy, or the will of the people. To express the will of the people, we rely on representation. Computers will make our system of representation more responsive. What began with polling by mail and then phone has evolved into direct communication and decisionmaking. Instead of relying on our Senators or Congressmen and women to represent us, in the future, we can begin to represent ourselves. A democratic system can only be effective with an informed and engaged electorate. Technology will bring us even closer together—creating a more participatory democracy.

Using today's far more advanced computers, satellites, telephones, cable, polling techniques, and other tools, not to mention the Internet and other communication networks, an educated citizenry can, for the first time in history, begin making many of its own political decisions. I'd say that's pretty exciting stuff. And I would also say that I am very proud that a school in the Second Congressional District is leading the way.

BUILDING DEMOCRACY IN UKRAINE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the American Overseas Interests Act, H.R. 1561, does not encourage economic and democratic reforms in the New Independent States.

The bill cuts aid to Ukraine and other New Independent States by nearly $100 million.

At a time when Ukraine is receiving a more significant share of United States assistance to the NIS, this bill negates the gains that have been made.

However, one positive step in the bill in the increase of our assistance to the victims of Chernobyl.

This bill provides a $10 million commitment to help the victims of the Chernobyl disaster, especially the children.

Thyroid cancer is plaguing the children in the region.

There are hundreds of thousands of people with severe health problems.

And the worst is yet to come, because many of the effects of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster will not be known until later this decade.

There is a desperate need for this aid.

Ukraine faces a severe shortage of medical supplies and effective health care.

Our aid to Ukraine and other New Independent States is less than 10 percent of the foreign aid budget, which is less than 2 percent of our Federal budget.

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased we were able to help the victims of Chernobyl.

But the bill on balance will not provide much help to Ukraine.

We must do better than this to build democracy and continue economic reforms in Ukraine.

CONGRATULATIONS DR. GEORGE MITCHELL

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Dr. George Mitchell of Marshall, IL. On May 19, 1995, Dr. Mitchell was given the National Rural Health Association's Rural Health Practioner of the Year Award. The ceremony was part of the 18th Annual National Conference that was held in Atlanta, GA. The people of southeastern Illinois have known for over four decades of Dr. Mitchell's award winning contributions, and now the entire Nation does as well.

This is not the first time Dr. Mitchell has been recognized for his dedicated service to the people of rural Illinois. In 1993, he was awarded the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians' Family Physician of the Year Award. In 1992, he was honored with the Distinguished Service Award from Lake Land College. In addition, the Illinois State Senate honored him for his ''commitment to public service in the State of Illinois.''

Since 1946, Dr. George Mitchell has provided quality health care to the people of southeastern Illinois. Dr. Mitchell has worked 49 years with his community to help improve the lives of his friends and neighbors. Whether he is called upon to aid the ill, or to help ensure that the area has an organized and effective ambulance service, Dr. Mitchell is always willing to help the people of Clark County.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Mitchell's lifelong commitment to patient care, community involvement, and continued contributions to his profession led to his being chosen as this year's National Rural Health Practitioner. For decades Dr. Mitchell has given of himself, so that others are able to live a better life. Dr. George Mitchell is an outstanding individual, and I am proud to represent him in the U.S. Congress.