

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DEBATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THREE MEASURES RELATING TO UNITED STATES TROOP DEPLOYMENTS IN BOSNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM LIGHTFOOT

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 1995

Mr. LIGHTFOOT. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to address the deployment of United States troops to Bosnia. I would first like to try to put the situation in a more personal context.

It is early evening. The sun set about an hour ago, it is dark, and you are looking forward to a short rest stop as you make your way from western to eastern Iowa to spend Christmas with family and friends.

The roadside sign says you are entering the city of Ottumwa, population 24,488.

Something is wrong. The city appears to be in nearly total darkness. The only illumination visible is from a few scattered street lights. Not a single home has a light showing. How can this be? It's only 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve and the town should be a hive of activity preparing for the Christmas celebration.

A strange, eerie feeling grips your chest. You cannot believe your eyes. No one is in Ottumwa. No policemen are on the streets, the fire station is closed, stores are dark. You search in vain for just one house with a light on.

Even the all-night convenience store is dark. Its Christmas lights are unlit. No one is in sight. No Christmas lights are showing in the downtown area or out at the mall. Deserted. Everyone has disappeared.

Is this something out a science fiction movie? Where have all the people gone?

This fictional scenario is the equivalent of the 24,000 American homes that will have an empty chair at the Christmas dinner table. The missing sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, and husbands and wives are in Bosnia.

Why?

In my opinion, for no good reason.

The decision has been made by the President to send our troops into harm's way on an alleged peacekeeping mission. Perhaps in some other countries of the world this might be a possibility, but in Bosnia the hatred runs centuries deep.

Ask any policeman on the beat, in a civil disturbance, regardless of how much the combatants hate each other, they resent an outsider even more. It is human nature.

Unfortunately, the Balkans teach hatred from childhood. The sniper rifle bullet to the head is to avenge great, great, grandpa. Once that score is settled we still have all the rest of the family carrying a grudge. And thus the carnage goes on.

Our American troops are the cop going into this senseless civil feud that has raged for centuries.

Senator DOLE and former Presidents Bush and Ford say we must support the troops. I agree. The way we do that is by bringing them home.

This Christmas I would ask each of you to set an empty chair at your Christmas dinner table as a reminder of the young men and

women who will follow their orders to the letter. Brave young people who didn't join the military to be used as policemen in a civil dispute in which we have no national interest. Young Americans who take their duty to country very seriously and did not run away when called to action. Tremendous people who will not be home for Christmas.

One additional request: Each in your own words and your own way, please offer a prayer for these young folks.

CRITICAL CARE FOR HIGH-RISK YOUTH

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, many of us understand that our children are our most precious resource. The young people of today certainly are the leaders of tomorrow. We want them to grow to adulthood with a stable support system so that they in turn can understand the value of help to those in need of it, even when they will not admit it.

AuSable Valley Community Mental Health Services, under the direction of Peggy Hendrickson, has established the AuSable Valley High Risk Youth Diversion-Middle School Success Program to help children in area middle schools who are at high risk for substance abuse, delinquency, and school dropout. Efforts are targeted toward helping children at a formative age when they can recover from a momentary misdirection in their personal outlook. Those students with high incidence of school absenteeism and other high-risk indicators, such as several disciplinary referrals, school failure, peer conflict, or a history of family problems, are selected for the care that this program can provide.

The program helps build personal values and offers a support system. Certainly direct contact with the students is offered. But group enrichment activities, home visits with parents or guardians, and providing liaison between parents and school personnel are vital to the success of this program.

The Middle School Success Program started in West Branch 5 years ago, with funding from the Federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program, and discretionary funding from the Governor of Michigan. The program was expanded earlier this year to the Hale and Oscoda Area Schools. It has been such a success that it was recognized last month by the U.S. Center for Substance Abuse Prevention as a national Exemplary Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention Program, having been nominated by Northern Michigan Substance Abuse Services and the Michigan Center for Substance Abuse Services, Michigan Department of Public Health.

I want to offer my personal congratulations to Peggy Hendrickson, the program director, and the members of the Direct Service Staff, Joe Fika, Kathy Eno, Sandra Van Wormer, Belva Iseler, Darla McKelvey, and Lisa Hawkins-Jack. Supervisor Kerry Boyd deserves our appreciation, as does Dr. Floyd Smith, the executive director, and the members of the AuSable Valley Community Mental Health Services Board. Their record of achievement—most notably having 100 percent of

participants either remaining or becoming drug free, 90 percent decreasing or eliminating classroom evictions for behavior, 80 percent reducing or eliminating school detentions, and a number of other accomplishments all deserve our praise.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in congratulating these wonderful people for a record of accomplishment, offering a future of hope.

MANDATORY TESTING FOR THOSE CONVICTED OF ASSAULT THAT MAY HAVE EXPOSED VICTIM TO AIDS VIRUS

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, you have probably heard about the 6-year-old girl from Queens, Collete Lopez, who was stabbed with a hypodermic needle by a mentally disturbed vagrant. Collete and her family received some good news recently when Collete's initial test for HIV virus came back negative. But Collete will have to continue to be tested for the next 6 months before she and her family know for certain that she was not infected with the AIDS virus.

Mr. Speaker, I was shocked to learn that the perpetrator of this assault has no legal obligation to take an AIDS test himself. Under current law, a percentage of Federal funds are withheld from those States that fail to enact laws requiring convicted sexual offenders be tested for AIDS. However, there is no provision that addresses cases like this, where the victim is potentially exposed to the AIDS virus through a non-sexual, yet violent, assault. Until the perpetrator in this case is tested, the Lopez family will continue to be victimized by fear and uncertainty.

I have introduced legislation that would remedy this unthinkable situation. My legislation would force States to enact laws to require, at the victims request, that those who perpetrate crimes such as this one, undergo an AIDS test and report the results to the victim.

Mr. Speaker, for victims of violence, it is difficult enough dealing with a traumatic event, and its aftermath, without the specter of AIDS. When violent crime potentially causes a transfer of blood, the perpetrator should be required to take a blood test to determine whether they exposed their victim to the AIDS virus. My sincere hope is that this legislation will enable victims, such as Collete Lopez, and their families to get past the vicious crime, and on with their lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LAMAR S. SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, December 13, I was recorded as voting "no" on the motion offered by Mr. CALAHAN disposing of Senate amendment 115 to H.R. 1868, the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations

Act of 1996. I intended to support this amendment and offer this Extension of Remarks to reflect my support for this motion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on December 14 I was unable to vote on rollcall votes 861 and 862 because I had to attend a special Metro-Dade Commission meeting in Miami. I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 861, a motion to recommit with instructions H.R. 2621 and I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 862, final passage on H.R. 2621, a bill to enforce the public debt limit and to protect the Social Security Trust Fund.

FIRE AT THE MALDEN MILLS

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the firemen and the emergency services workers who worked so hard to extinguish a fire which burned down the Malden Mills in Methuen, MA, the region's largest textile manufacturer. I would particularly like to thank Chief Ken Bourassa of the Methuen Fire Department, who coordinated the firefighting efforts, and also Mayor Dennis A. DiZoglio, who is working with Federal and State agencies in order to rebuild the mills which are so important to his town.

On December 12, there was an explosion in one of the buildings of the mill complex. Within a short period of time, the flames spread to the surrounding buildings, reducing four of them to ashes and damaging a fifth. The flames were fanned by winds which exceeded 45 miles per hour which hindered the efforts to contain the blaze. Firefighters also experienced collapses in their water lines. Despite these and other problems, they were able to contain the fire within 12 hours.

Chief Bourassa assembled a force of over 100 firefighters from 30 departments throughout New Hampshire and Massachusetts to combat the fire. The operation that he organized on that evening was a model of cooperation. If it were not for the dedication of these professionals, the fire would have spread further, damaging a large section of Methuen and leaving hundreds homeless.

Malden Mills is the region's largest manufacturer of textiles and also the town's largest employer. Each year, the company's sales exceed \$500 million, and the plant employs over 1,400 workers. Its presence in the region has brought economic prosperity to Methuen and contributed to Merrimack Valley's commercial growth.

Under Mayor DiZoglio's leadership, and with assistance from Lawrence Mayor Mary Claire Kennedy, plans are under way to rebuild the mills. He has secured funding from the Department of Labor and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to aid in the redevelopment. He has also been working to secure Federal disaster relief funds.

I applaud the efforts of these officials to rebuild Malden Mills. With the leadership of Methuen's officials and with assistance from State and Federal agencies, Malden Mills will be rebuilt quickly. Then, like the Phoenix, it will rise from its ashes and once again take its place as the leading manufacturer in this region.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 846, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted "nay". I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the permanent RECORD immediately following the above rollcall votes.

BARNEY GOTTSTEIN: PHILANTHROPIST, BUSINESSMAN AND EXTRAORDINARY AMERICAN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Barney Gottstein through his life's work and achievements, has become the quintessential embodiment of the American Dream in its finest form. As Barney celebrates his 70th birthday, I rise today as a friend and an admirer to honor his extraordinary spirit and character.

Born of hardy pioneer parents who created a warm and nurturing home in the cold, forbidding, and primitive surroundings of Alaska in the early 1920's, he eagerly and gratefully absorbed their profoundly puritan values. Barney's father spent his first bitterly cold Alaska winter in a tent. His mother was an outstanding school teacher who overcame the physical hardships with her contagious and living passion for Alaska's children and the pursuit of knowledge.

Barney's life has consisted of a never-ending attempt to put the finest values on which this country was built into daily practice in all his endeavors. He served our country with great distinction in the military and he was a brilliant student at the University of Washington. His analytical excellence was widely acclaimed by his professors and fellow students. He was a magnificent father to his five children, and he contributed in a vast and unique way to the economic development of his beloved home State of Alaska.

His passion was to open doors of opportunity to others, and he found endless avenues to pursue these goals through local, statewide, and national leadership. He served as a Democratic National Committeeman, Democratic State Chairman, delegate to national conventions, strategist and leader in countless political races for local, State, and Federal office.

Barney Gottstein's philanthropic activities are far-flung, enormously generous, creative, and overwhelmingly anonymous. I have never met a person who is more interested in getting the job done and less interested in getting credit for it.

For many years, Barney has been a leader in helping Israel through a biotech venture capital investment foundation designed to make that country self-sufficient and functioning at the cutting edge of technology.

Despite his propensity for anonymous philanthropy, Barney has been widely recognized for his life's achievements. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws by the University of Alaska at Fairbanks in 1991 "for his outstanding record of public service and for his leadership in building and promoting Alaska's educational system." He was named to the Alaska Business Hall of Fame in 1989 for his immense contributions to the economic well-being of the State.

I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Barney on his 70th birthday for his many substantial contributions to our country and in wishing him many happy years with his wonderful family and many friends.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM LIGHTFOOT

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. LIGHTFOOT. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency I was unable to be present and voting on December 15, 1995.

Had I been present I would have voted in favor of the rule and final passage for H.R. 1530, the Department of Defense authorization conference report.

A TRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS LEADER, LINWOOD PARKER

HON. DAVID FUNDERBURK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay special tribute to an outstanding citizen who is a civic, community, business, and political leader. Mr. Linwood Parker is an American success story, a model others should follow.

Mr. Linwood Parker is a resident of Four Oaks, NC, in the heart of the 2d district. He is married to Patsy Robert Parker and has two children; Lisa and Elizabeth. He is a member of the Four Oaks Baptist Church. Linwood Parker has an extensive education in the field of business. After going through Johnston County Public School and graduating four Four Oaks High School, he studied at East Carolina University, Georgetown University, American University, and Bentley College. He is a graduate of Hardbarger Business College and a fellow of the National Tax Practice Institute.

Mr. Parker has excelled in business endeavors in Johnston County. He is president of Linwood Parker and Co., Associates; is qualified by Treasury exam to practice before the IRS; and is president of White Swan Barbecue Restaurants.

He has made an outstanding mark in community activities and has gained statewide recognition and awards. Additionally he has been a leader of the Republican Party in his county, district, and State.