

renewal process and make Romania's MFN status permanent.

Romania meets all the criteria for permanent MFN: unhindered emigration; a free market economic system; a multiparty democratic political system with free and fair elections, and respect for basic human rights and freedoms. As a nation still in transition after the 1989 revolution, Romania is still working to institutionalize these changes. But I have no doubt about the commitment of the Government and people of Romania to staying on the course of full integration into the Western community of nations. Romania is a founding member of the World Trade Organization, and has strongly expressed its desire for membership in such Western institutions as the EU and NATO. The granting of permanent MFN is regarded by foreign governments as a manifestation of U.S. support. It represents our acknowledgment that a nation has expressed strong commitment to the values that we hold dear. In a case such as Romania, it also signals our encouragement and support for the reforms that are still being made and the progress yet to come.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that my colleagues will agree that Romania is deserving of this support and acknowledgment. Since granting permanent MFN to Romania will not affect the United States budget, this legislation is literally a cost-free way for us to express to the people and Government of Romania our admiration for what they have accomplished in 6 short years, our encouragement for their efforts to continue on the path they have chosen, and our hope for a better future for their children.

TRIBUTE TO STANLEY AND GWEN
MCCRACKEN

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 1996

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise before you today to pay tribute to two great Americans, Stanley and Gwen McCracken. In recognition of their exemplary service as the DAV and DAV Auxiliary State commanders of the great State of Michigan, their many friends and colleagues will join in honoring them during a Joint Testimonial Dinner to be held at DAV Chapter 129 Memorial Home, located in Utica, MI on Friday, April 26, 1996.

Commander McCracken is a veteran of both the U.S. Army and the U.S. Air Force, serving both services with honor and distinction. He enlisted in the Army in 1958, serving as an infantryman. In 1963, Stanley decided to reenlist in the Air Force. He was assigned to the Strategic Air Command, Ramey Air Force Base, Puerto Rico. His tour of duty included and encompassed many responsibilities, including being attached to the 42nd Bomber Wing, Combat Support Group. While at Ramey, he was assigned to a Recovery Team, as well as being an integral member of a ground crew, and finally assuming the duties of crew chief aboard a B-52 bomber.

Stanley McCracken earned the stripes of staff sergeant along with numerous decorations and awards for his outstanding military service before he was honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1967.

Commander McCracken has been elected to, and successfully held every chapter level office, including chapter commander for two terms. He has also been an active member of the St. Clair County, MI, Allied Veterans Council for several years, in addition to being a member of DAV Chapter 51. Mr. McCracken accumulated extensive experience before assuming the State commander's job. He was an elected member of the State Administrative Board for 4 years before he was picked by the membership as a department line officer. He ultimately progressed his way through the various chairs, of the department, and was elected as State commander of the DAV in June 1995.

Equal in service to the DAV, Mrs. Gwen McCracken was elected to serve as commander of the Disabled Americans Auxiliary, Department of Michigan, in June 1995. Gwen McCracken has a long, outstanding record of service to her community. She has been a driving force in a number of organizations that are committed to improving the quality of life for those who are less fortunate. Mrs. McCracken was instrumental in helping to found Volunteers Assisting the Disabled, an organization that provides summer camp opportunities to adult MDA patients, who would otherwise, simply because of their age, be exempted from participating in camp.

Gwen McCracken is a life member of the Corporal Ian M. Gray Unit 51. She has been an extremely active member of the DAVA, eagerly accepting the duties and responsibilities of the many positions and offices of the organization that she has held including; state chaplain, senior page, first vice commander, and senior vice commander.

The McCrackens, through their collective energy, enthusiasm, and zeal, have stood like sentinels on behalf of not only disabled veterans, but on behalf of all veterans and their families. Their many years of combined service have helped to preserve and protect the promise that was made to care for those who have borne the battle, their widows, and their children.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I stand before you today asking that you and my fellow Members of the 104th Congress join me in honoring Stanley and Gwen McCracken. They have spent their lives in dedicated service to their country and community. I am pleased to have this opportunity to join with their family, friends, and colleagues to extend my deepest thanks for their tireless efforts on behalf of Michigan veterans.

TRIBUTE TO REV. CHARLES L.
MOORE

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 1996

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, the Reverend Charles L. Moore, at the age of 86, is the oldest active priest in the 19 county greater Cincinnati archdiocese. During his religious career, he has served as a parish priest, high school teacher, jail chaplain, mission administrator, church pastor, district moderator of the National Catholic Community Services, archdiocesan director of the Catholic Information Services, and military service counselor in World War II in Florida.

Father Moore has spent the last 16 years serving the parishioners at the Holy Family Parish in Middletown, OH, the students at Fenwick High School, and John XXIII Elementary School.

June 6, 1996 will be the 60th anniversary of Father Moore's ordination into the priesthood. I want to congratulate Father Moore on his years of service and dedication to helping the people of Southwestern Ohio.

A LEGACY OF LENIENCY

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton loves to talk up his record on crime, but the facts are the facts. The best antidrug legislation and the best law enforcement are useless if judges are not willing to uphold the law. When judges such as the ones the President has appointed show more sympathy for the people they prosecute, than for victims, the heroic efforts of the police and the law are muted.

The American people deserve the best qualified judges that reflect their priorities and values. It does not serve America well when a judicial nominee to one of the highest courts in the land does not possess even rudimentary knowledge of constitutional law—even if he is a golfing buddy of the President. If the President and Washington special interests get their way, we will get a judge trainee. This venerable position requires experience and extensive knowledge of the law. The nominee, Charles Stark possesses neither. He even testified before Congress that he could make up for his ignorance of landmark court decisions and constitutional law by taking some courses or asking other judges for help.

Mr. Speaker, this is no way to run a railroad. Most Americans will agree that we do not need a judge who needs on-the-job training. We need judges who will protect the rights of crime victims, not invent new, more expansive rights for criminals. We need judges who will follow through with the tough-on-crime measures my Republican colleagues and I have passed. But, perhaps more importantly, we need a President who will nominate such individuals.

JOSEPH S. FRANCIS: FOUR DECADES OF SERVICE TO SAN DIEGO

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 1996

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joseph S. Francis, executive secretary-treasurer of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, who will be honored with a Distinguished Service Award by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council on April 27, 1996.

After four terms and 16 years of exemplary service, Joe Francis is stepping down from his leadership position with the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, whose affiliates number 103 local unions representing approximately 108,000 members. His strong leadership, vast experience, and organizing skills