by your Committee and by others working elsewhere. They demonstrate that during the Nazi era the Swiss were far from neutral. Their assistance to the Nazi war machine, through the clandestine conversion of looted gold into Swiss francs, enable the Germans to buy fuel and other raw materials they needed to prolong the war. Some estimates in testimony before the U.S. Senate hearings following the War suggest the cost may have been staggering in the lives of American soldiers, Allied soldiers, Jews and other civilians across that continent.

The Germans were looting synagogues, schools, museums and the bodies they were about to toss into the ovens. They snatched works of art. They took wedding rings and gold teeth and melted them down. They cast ingots that were falsely marked to appear as if they were pre-war gold and, as records are showing, they took it to bankers who were only too willing to look the other way.

Mr. Chairman, many Jews in Central Europe, and many others in those countries, saw the Nazis coming and made the trip to Switzerland because they thought their assets could be held safely there. They put their faith in Swiss neutrality and the integrity of that nation's banking system. It appears they were betrayed.

Only through a full, fair and impartial audit can we uncover the truth. I would hope the Swiss bankers will cooperate fully in this endeavor as it appears to be the only way to deal with this crisis in confidence they have created and has been called into question by so many.

Mr. Chairman. I do not propose here a discussion of specific amounts of money. Yet, I believe that each dollar recovered represents a little piece of dignity, not just for the survivors who will benefit, but for all mankind who will have demonstrated that it remains morally unacceptable for anyone to profit from the ashes of man's greatest inhumanity to man.

MEDICARE

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Budget Office has recently reported that Medicare is in far worse shape than the Clinton administration originally led the American people to believe. Left unchecked, Medicare beneficiaries face losing coverage and in the process our children will be robbed of the benefits of a balanced budget.

Last April, the Clinton administration predicted the trust fund would take in $45 million more this fiscal year than it would spend. Instead, it is $44.2 billion in the hole in just the first half of this fiscal year.

According to a new CBO study, the trust fund will be in the red $443 billion by the year 2005. That $443 billion figure represents the extra money the Government would have to add to the trust fund over the next decade to pay for benefits through the end of 2006. Even with the honest numbers of the CBO, the President and his advisers refuse to recognize the grave situation facing Medicare. My Republican colleagues and I have faced the challenge head on.

We have proposed measures that will not only save, but improve Medicare. The President has consistently refused to come to the table. He would rather make this an election-year issue, demagoging Medicare and scaring our seniors.

Medicare's problems are much more serious than President Clinton and his Medicare trustees will admit. It is now apparent that more is needed than the same old smoke-and-mirror gimmicks this administration relies on.

THE TERRORISM PREVENTION ACT

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that the Senate Concurrent Resolution 55, making corrections to the Terrorism Prevention Act and adopted on April 24, 1996, under a unanimous-consent agreement, made a number of substantive changes to sections in the jurisdiction of the International Relations Committee. I am very supportive of the goals of the Terrorism Prevention Act and am concerned that several of these changes may actually undermine U.S. efforts to address the terrorism threat.

I am astounded that these changes were made at the last hour, without even a single call to the minority members of the International Relations Committee. The issues involved are troubling and far-reaching—not technical. They require a full airing by the committee of jurisdiction to understand all the ramifications for U.S. security and foreign policy concerns. Had I had warning, I would have objected to the inclusion of these provisions in a bill to be considered in the House under a unanimous-consent agreement.

First is the change to Section 801, Overseas Law Enforcement Training Activities. In the conference report, this section authorized the Departments of Justice and Treasury to conduct overseas law enforcement training activities ''subject to the concurrence of the Secretary of State.'' This language, requested by the administration, was necessary to ensure coordinated, targeted, and cost-effective overseas law enforcement assistance. The new language permits the Departments of Justice and Treasury to go overseas ''in consultation with the Secretary of State.'' This undermines the Secretary's statutory authority to conduct U.S. foreign policy and raises the likelihood of an explosion of uncoordinated training programs.

I support the Justice and Treasury Departments' law enforcement activities, including their overseas efforts to reinforce the protection of law enforcement in the United States. But we need coordination of overseas training if those programs are to be effective. The State Department, which has the global perspective on U.S. foreign policy, is the only agency with the ability and authority to coordinate U.S. civilian activities abroad.

Next are the changes to sections 325 and 326, which amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961. The conference report's section 325 stated the President may withhold foreign assistance from any country, whose government aids the government of a terrorist State. The report's section 326 provided that the President may do the same with regard to governments providing lethal military equipment to terrorist states. The concurrent resolution turned ''may'' into a ''shall,'' tying the President's hands. The provisions retain a national interest waiver. But, they will complicate and obstruct the President's ability to conduct foreign policy.

We should press other countries to oppose terrorist governments. But we must find creative ways to fight terrorism, not tie the President's hands in making case-by-case judgments in this very important, but highly fluid, area. What does it mean that a third country provides assistance to a terrorist state? Is the President now required to cut assistance to our allies participating in the KEDO program? That program ensures that North Korea does not engage in a nuclear weapons program, and it may be undermined by this new prohibition. Does section 326 now prohibit our assistance to Russia and other emerging democracies in Europe, or our assistance to some of our most important allies? These are the questions we should have fully examined in open and closed sessions before the prohibitions on the President's authority became law.

I conclude by repeating my distress at the process in which these important statutory and policy changes were made. The changes have far reaching troubling ramifications, and should not have been done under unanimous consent without consultation of the appropriate committees of the House.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO DORIS PARKER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues of the House,

I would like to take this opportunity to bring to your attention a very special person in my 15th Congressional District who always seems to go beyond the point of commitment.

The woman of whom I speak is Doris Parker, this year's recipient of the Ted Weiss Community Service Award which will be presented to her by the Three Parks Independent Democrats on Sunday, May 5, 1996.

Ms. Parker, who is the widow of the late great musician Charlie ''Bird'' Parker, is certainly deserving of this award, for her commitment to the community and her tireless efforts, are well known by many.

She serves as treasurer of the 24th Precinct Community Council; recording secretary for the North West Central Park Multiblock Association, Inc.; member of the board of directors for Veritas Therapeutic Community Foundation; member of the board of directors for the Westside Crime Prevention Program; and is first vice president of the Federation of West Side Neighborhood and Block Associations.

These are just a few of the many community outreach efforts that Doris Parker gives her time and talents to.

New York is blessed to have this hard working and faithful community activist, and I am proud and fortunate to be able to call her my friend.

Doris, this is for you.