EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HIGH–TECHNOLOGY RESURGENCE IN LOS ANGELES OFFERS PROMISE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, for some time it has been clear to me that America can no longer afford to maintain two separate industrial bases—one for defense and another for commercial products. The cost and inefficiencies are too great, and we are finally beginning to learn that each sector can leverage the advances of the other.

The key to leveraging is dual-use partnerships, which have been at the core of several small Federal research programs like the Advanced Technology Program, the Technology Reinvestment Program and the Manufacturing Extension Partnership—each of which has been targeted for reduced funding, if not elimination, in this Congress.

Recently, Joel Kotkin contributed an article to the Los Angeles Times noting how recent trends in dual-use research are restoring strength and vibrancy to the economy of southern California. Several of the examples are the result of changing policies and procurement patterns in the U.S. military. More importantly, all are examples of how businesses in southern California are taking advantage of the rich defense industry heritage and the continuing high quality of workers—an example that may be a model for other parts of the country.

I commend the article to my colleagues:

[From the Los Angeles Times, July 7, 1996]

THE ''SILVER'' AGE OF STATE'S DEFENSE-AEROSPACE ECONOMY

(By Joel Kotkin)

The end of the Cold War seemed to mark the demise of Southern California's defense and aerospace-driven ''golden age,'' throwing the state into its worst recession in decades. But the region's heritage as the world leader in military and space technology is now poised to boost its burgeoning information age economy.

Indeed, the announcement on Tuesday that Lockheed-Martin will build the new X–33 reusable spacecraft at its Palmdale facility, creating about 2,000 new jobs, fits into a wider picture of a restored Southland aerospace and defense industry.

Between the late 1980s and last year, roughly 55%, or 175,000, California aerospace-related workers lost their jobs. This year, despite widespread predictions of 20,000 additional layoffs, the industry seems to have stabilized; economist Stephen Levy sees the once-reeling sector creating net new jobs through 1998.

Nowhere will this reversal of fortune be more positively felt than in the Los Angeles area—where 80% of all the state's aerospace job losses occurred, including 50,000 in 1993 alone. Even as the two other pegs of the local economy—the ''creative industries'' and international trade—have grown robustly, the depth of the defense-aerospace downturn seriously slowed growth in the critical high-technology sector.

The recent recovery in aerospace and defense electronics is critical because it has the potential to restore the region's once-strong reputation as a center for technology development. During the economic free-fall of the early 1990s, Southern California was viewed nationally—and often viewed itself—as a technological laggard behind such areas as the Bay Area, Seattle and even Utah. This image of Southern California as little more than a ''tinsel town'' surrounded by Third World misery hurt the recruitment and promotional efforts of technology-related companies in such disparate fields as computer software and multimedia.

But today, with the resurgence in high-tech aerospace and defense electronics, Southern California's position as a leading edge economic region is being restored. Los Angeles County now has an annual job growth rate equal to Seattle and higher than San Francisco—both widely regarded as boomtowns. For the first time in years, L.A. County's employment engine is running hotter than that in suburban Orange County and the Inland Empire.

The improving defense-aerospace picture stems, in part, from changing federal procurement patterns, growing diversification into commercial fields by local defense companies and increased aircraft sales. Perhaps most important, the turn-around reflects a new emphasis in the U.S. military: away from large-scale weapons systems and toward information technologies. This shift represent, in the words of one analyst at the Army War College, ''a revolution in military affairs.''

The military's new direction has played directly to Southern California's strength in defense electronics. It is increasingly clear that the Persian Gulf War, with its reliance on satellites and ''smart'' weapons, represented only the first phase of a continuing ''digitalization'' of military systems—encompassing sophisticated battlefield communications systems, satellites and anti-missile technology.

Engineers and scientists at TRW, for example, are working on a series of advanced systems for the army's elite Force XXI, which is expected to become the model for the new, ''digitized'' army. Among the projects being worked on at TRW, most of whose defense operations are in the South Bay, are a new system of computer communications devices for mechanized forces; a special high-frequency identification system designed to prevent ''friendly fire'' accidents, and laser technologies designed to shoot down incoming missiles from terrorists.

As a result, TRW—a firm that cut roughly 9,000 jobs during the early 1990s—added more than 1,200 last year, largely high-skilled, well-paid workers. And it is planning to add another 1,300 this year. The decision to grow in Southern California is due largely to the region's work force—which leads the nation in mathematicians, engineers and skilled technologists. As an overall scientific research center, the Southern California region ranks third nationally, behind only San Francisco and Boston.

''We chose to stay where are—and we have asked the question—because fundamentally the No. 1 driver is the pool of technical talent.'' explains Fred Brown, TRW group vice president for Space and Electronics. More than half of his division's recent hires, he estimates, come from local colleges and universities.

Much the same process can be seen at other key defense firms in Southern California. Rockwell recently added 400 new jobs at its Anaheim Autonetics and Missile Systems plant and Hughes Electronics is expected to add another thousand workers this year. Although this is not the en masse hiring of factory workers that occurred in the 1980s and earlier, it signals a marked improvement in market conditions for the region's scientific, engineering and technical talent.

Contributing much to the improving prospect has been the ability of defense firms, both large and small, to shift technologies into commercial markets. In contrast to the heavily hyped but relatively ineffective government ''conversion'' programs, such as the Calstart electric car effort, Los Angeles' real defense restructuring has been a classically capitalist ''creative destruction''—with the associated dose of pain.

Take TRW's gallium arsenide technology, developed for military use in satellite and communications systems. It now has large new markets in such commercial areas as cellular phones, leading TRW to consider keeping its Redondo Beach foundry on 24-hour shifts to meet both commercial and military demand.

Similarly, Hughes, based in El Segundo, has focused on its satellite technology and its successful Direct TV enterprise, turning the defense firm into something of a telecommunications superpower. Defense has dropped from nearly two-thirds of the company's from nearly two-thirds of the company's revenues in the late 1980s to roughly 40%. Rockwell, another aerospace powerhouse, has cut its dependence on defense spending over the past decade from 50% to 15%. High-tech electronics now account for the largest share of company revenues.

An equally dramatic conversion has taken place among a plethora of smaller technology companies. Nurtured by research monies from the military or NASA, these firms are now shifting into commercial markets.

Particularly promising are a group of companies now using military-derived simulation and image processing technology to enter such growth fields as special effects and educational software. Raj Dutt, President of R&D Laboratories in Culver City, has spent a decade creating advanced satellite systems for the military. Now the same technology can also be used to carry heavy data loads, something of increasing interest to telecommunications and entertainment firms.

Dutt, who expects to boost his nondefense share of business from 10% to nearly half over the next two years, suggests the biggest problem for companies like his may be ''cultural.'' Essentially, defense firms, large and small, must move away from their ultra-metriculous, 8-to-4 culture, to the more fast-paced environment characteristic of the commercial sector. ''We have to learn how to compete in the real world,'' says Dutt, a Caltech-trained physicist.

Yet, like RDL, many smaller defense firms find confronting reality not only necessary, but profitable. Perceptronics, based in Woodland Hills, is now using its warfare-honed

simulation system for such things as electronic training systems for commercial trucking companies. Illusion Inc., a small contractor in Westlake Village, is now taking ''virtual reality'' technology, developed for designing aircraft and military training exercises, into such diverse venues as museums and movie special effects. In each of the past three years, Illusion Inc. has doubled its revenues and expects to expand to 50 employees by 1997, up from its current 20. ''The future for companies like ours,'' said Peter Beale, Illusion Inc.'s chairman, ''is to combine the creative vision of Hollywood with the engineering vision of the defense industry.''

Such new uses for military technology and talents could also prove critical in providing the Southland economy with an important new source of high-wage jobs that lessen its current dependence on the volatile film industry or the always uncertain course of foreign trade. As Southern California begins to harvest the overlooked fruits of its rich defense industry heritage, it may enjoy the broad, diversified economic recovery that many thought could never happen here again.

ENDING STUDENT SUBSIDIES

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I recently received a copy of an article that was written by Ross Booher and Kevin W. Jones entitled, ''Ending Student Subsidies''. One young man is currently attending the University of Tennessee Law School, and the other is just entering. Both Ross and Kevin are not only excellent students, but they are citizens who I am certain will contribute greatly to our society and its future.

I request that a copy of this article, ''Ending Student Subsidies'' be placed in the RECORD at this point, so I can call it to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

[From the Chronicle of Higher Education, Nov. 24, 1995]

ENDING STUDENT SUBSIDIES

(By Ross I. Booher and Kevin W. Jones)

Although college lobbyists apparently have persuaded Congress to abandon plans to eliminate the federal interest subsidy on guaranteed student loans this year, lawmakers are likely to scrutinize the program again in the future as they search for ways to cut wasteful government spending. We urge them to do so. Even though we are students who currently enjoy the benefits of this taxpayer largess, we believe that the interest subsidy should be dropped, American taxpayers spend almost $2.5-billion a year for interest on guaranteed loans while the borrowers are students and for six months after they graduate. The borrowers never repay any of this interest.

We believe that this subsidy amounts to a taxpayer-financed gift to people who neither need it nor deserve it. Eliminating the subsidy would not make student loans or a college education less available, because the loans themselves still could be obtained. Further, the maximum amount that could be borrowed would remain the same; students would not pay any interest while they were in school; and they would continue to have a six-month grace period after graduation before the began repayment. The only change we suggest is that once students begin repayment, they pay all the interest that has accrued. The interest should be added to the student's debt, not to the national debt.

We believe that students, and everyone else, would be better served by a stronger economy. We are willing to ''sacrifice,'' not out of altruism, but because we and everyone else will benefit from a national economy not bogged down by federal debt. According to the U.S. Treasury Department's latest estimates, the federal government is nearly $5-trillion in debt. Unless we cut all but the most-essential spending the interest on the national debt alone will soon consume almost all federal tax revenue. This scenario augurs ill for the schooled and unschooled alike? All federally financed programs would be endangered.

Many who oppose ending the subsidy fear that, without it, students from lower-and even middle-income backgrounds will be unable to afford higher education. This fear is unfounded. Students who are willing to borrow money to pay for college still would be able to do so, but, as the people who benefit from the loan (and the education), they simply would have more to repay after graduation. Isn't it reasonable for the recipient of education to have to pay for it, particularly when the financial rewards of college continue to far outweigh the costs?

The U.S. Department of Education calculates that eliminating the federal interest subsidy would increase the loan repayment of an undergraduate student who chooses to borrow the maximum amount available during his or her undergraduate year by about $69 per month during the standard 10-year repayment period. Even this, the highest possible increase, would easily fit into the budget of most college graduates—who, according to the most recent census data available, earn $1,039 per month more than the average high-school graduate. The vast majority of undergraduates, however, borrow far less than the maximum loan amount, and thus the increases in their payments would be smaller.

What about more-expensive graduate and professional degrees, such as those in medicine and law? Will students be able to afford them without the interest subsidy? Again, the answer is yes, The Department of Education calculates that eliminating the interest subsidy would increase the payments of the average student who receives Ph.D., and who chooses to borrow the maximum amount available, by about $382 per month during the standard 10-year repayment period. This is a great deal of money, but, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, the average Ph.D. recipient earns $3,853 per month and the average recipient of a professional degree earns $4,961 per month. The comparable figures for people with a bachelor's degree and people with a high-school diploma are $2,116 and $1,077, respectively.

Looking at the big picture, those who borrow the maximum among of $138,500 to obtain a doctoral degree enable themselves to earn an average of $1.4-million more during their lifetime than the average high-school graduate. Recipients of a professional degree in fields such as law and medicine earn, on average, a staggering $2.2-million more than the average high-school graduate.

Organizations lobbying to preserve the interest subsidy, such as the American Medical Student Association and the Student Osteopathic Medical Association, point out that, in the years immediately following graduation, many people who earn a graduate or professional degree earn very little relative to the amount of debt they have incurred. According to the A.M.S.A., medical doctors can earn an average of about $2,500 per month during residency training. The A.M.S.A. currently argues that it is difficult to make payments on a $100,000-plus student loan with such a salary.

For this very reason, the government provides the option of temporarily or permanently making payments on a 30-year repayment schedule. This method dramatically lowers monthly payments, by spreading them out over a longer period. When borrowers complete their postgraduate training and begin to realize the financial rewards of their education investment, they may choose to return to the standard 10-year repayment schedule, thus lowering the total interest they will pay. We believe that this option makes eliminating the subsidy relatively painless, even for those whose earnings are not very high immediately after they receive their advanced degree.

Some supporters of the interest subsidy point out that not all jobs requiring a college education pay the Census Bureau's ''average salary.' Wouldn't losing the interest subsidy hurt students who choose to incur student-loan debts and then enter occupations that pay very little? Again, provisions already are in place to address that concern. First, most students now begin repaying their loans six months after they graduate, but longer deferments are granted for a variety of reasons—including unemployment, a return to full- or half-time student status, acceptance of an academic fellowship, and economic hardship. Further, if graduate serve in a public-service position (for instance, as a nurse, public-school teacher, member of the armed forces, or peace Corps or Vista volunteer), their loans may be partially or completely paid by taxpayers—who receive obvious benefits from the graduates' service.

What about students who borrow because they want to attend an expensive private college or university, but then decide to enter a low-paying field not included in the public-service category above? Such students may find that, in a world of limited resources, they cannot always have everything they want: They may have to choose between pursuing a low-paying career and attending an expensive college.

Of course, they may decide that they want to do both badly enough to be willing to take out student loans and accept a 30-year repayment schedule and a lower standard of living. If that is their choice, it should be their responsibility to cope with the consequences, not that of the American taxpayer.

MOLLIE BEATTIE WILDERNESS AREA ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 1996

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, on June 27, 1996, we lost Mollie Beattie, a friend and an ally, to a battle with brain cancer. Head of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS], Mollie worked diligently to preserve our ecosystem and protect it for the future of our Nation. As the first woman to head the USFWS, she worked wonders shrinking budgets while still expanding the Federal refuge system.

A philosophy major at Marymount College in Tarrytown, N.Y. Mollie later found herself involved in an Outward Bound course, through which she rediscovered her love for nature, which led her to a career as an environmental official. Her philosophy on the environment

changed the way that the USFWS worked, by providing for the ecosystem as a whole instead of dividing the country into parts.

In particular, Mollie was instrumental in helping me create legislation to authorize the purchase of Shadmoor in Montauk, Long Island. When acquired, this land will be preserved as a national wildlife refuge. Thanks to her help and dedication, this legislation is now law and we are one step closer to the preservation of Shadmoor.

The entire Nation may not realize the extent to which Mrs. Beattie has touched our lives, but those who knew her personally and knew what she worked for will miss her dedication and her spirit. May she rest in peace.

JESSE OWENS' LEGACY STANDS: A SPECIAL SALUTE TO OLYMPIC COMPETITORS

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, a few days ago, the games of the 1996 summer Olympics began. The city of Atlanta is hosting the biggest Olympics ever with more than 10,000 athletes from 197 countries gathered for the centennial games. This includes an Olympic-record 4,000 women athletes who are competing in Atlanta. The 16 days of Olympic competition promises to be exciting from start to finish.

I am proud that the 1996 Olympics include outstanding athletes from the great State of Ohio. Our State is represented in many of the Olympic events, including gymnastics, swimming, track and field, diving, archery, and team handball, just to name a few. I take pride in saluting these outstanding athletes as they strive for victory in the Olympic arena. I also salute the Olympic team coaches and assistant coaches who were selected from the State of Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, as the Olympic games get underway, many articles are being written about previous Olympic champions. I read with interest an article which appeared in the July 15, 1996, edition of USA Today. In that article it is reported that the sports staff was asked to vote on the greatest moments in Olympic history. They were unanimous in selecting Jesse Owens' 1936 performance as the one that best signifies the Olympic spirit.

We are reminded that 60 years ago, the world watched as Jesse Owens became the first person in the history of the Olympics to capture four gold medals. In accomplishing this feat, Jesse Owens, the son of a sharecropper and grandson of a slave, shattered Adolf Hitler's hopes for Aryan supremacy in the games. Owens also captured the hearts of the world with his stunning performance and remarkable grace.

Jesse Owens died in 1980 at the age of 66. Throughout his life, he continued to exhibit the type of spirit that made him an Olympic hero and American legend. Jesse Owens is perhaps the greatest athlete who ever lived. I am proud that this Olympic hero was reared and attended school in my congressional district. I am also proud to be the author of legislation which awarded Congress' highest honor, the Congressional Gold Medal, to Jesse Owens posthumously.

Mr. Speaker, I want to share the USA Today article which is entitled, ''Owens' Legacy Stands,'' with my colleagues and others throughout the Nation. I applaud the athletes who are gathered in Atlanta for the summer games. It is my hope that they will be inspired by Jesse Owens and his achievements. As we celebrate the centennial Olympics, we pay tribute to the memory of this great American.

[From USA Today, July 15, 1996]

OWENS' LEGACY STANDS

HIS SUPREME STATEMENT STILL INSPIRES IN '96

(By Gary Mihoces)

Adolf Hitler planned a 400,000-seat stadium in Germany to host the Olympics for all time, according to his chief architect. At the 1936 Berlin Games, he settled for a 110,000-seat stadium to showcase his belief in Aryan supremacy.

But Jesse Owens made his statement at those '36 Games with four gold medals in the sprints and long jump, a track and field feat matched only by Carl Lewis during the boycotted 1984 Games.

With 16 days of Olympic competition about to begin in Atlanta, USA TODAY staffers selected 16 moments best signifying the Olympic spirit.

Owens' performance was rated the ultimate. His legacy—not Hitler's giant stadium—looms over every Olympics.

''I don't think I've been anywhere (that) anybody who is a sports fan has not heard of Jesse Owens,'' says Harrison Dillard, who was inspired by Owens to become an Olympic track champion himself in 1948 and 1952. ''It's not only what he did, but the circumstances under which he did it, right there in front of Hitler.''

Owens, son of an Alabama sharecropper and grandson of a slave, represented the USA when blacks were barred from major pro sports at home. He competed in a Berlin where Hitler's brand of racial superiority was official policy.

Hitler already had stripped Jews of citizenship, but anti-Jewish signs were taken down during the Games. Nazi newspapers downplayed their references to the ''black auxiliaries'' of the U.S. team.

Owens had been a sensation at Ohio State, where in a 1935 meet he broke three world records and tied another.

''He was only 23. He was very focused on why he was there, to do the best he could in his events,'' says Owens' daughter, Marlene Rankin. ''I don't think he was very conscious of what was happening politically.''

One popular story was that Hitler snubbed Owens by refusing to shake his hand. According to the book *The Nazi Olympics* by Richard Mandell, the International Olympic Committee sent word to Hitler after the first day's competition that ''he should congratulate all or none'' of the medalists and that Hitler chose the latter.

So when Owens won the 100 on the second day, he wasn't greeted by Hitler, ''nor was any other winner on that or any of the following days,'' Mandell writes.

Owens later said, ''It was all right with me. I didn't go to Berlin to shake hands with him anyway.''

But Owens was among 10 black members of the U.S. track and field team who combined for 13 medals.

That ''highly annoyed'' Hitler, former Nazi architect Albert Speer wrote in his memoir *Inside the Third Reich*. Speer said Hitler decided black athletes ''must be excluded from future games.''

Speer also designed the giant stadium Hitler had planned for Nuremberg to host the Games for ''all time to come.''

Owens' second gold came in the long jump. But he fouled on his first two qualifying jumps and had one more. German jumper Luz Long reportedly suggested Owens place a towel behind the takeoff board to use as his starting point to avoid fouling.

That story has been refuted by many, but Owens easily made his third qualifying jump and won the final with an Olympic-record jump of 26 feet, 5¼ inches. Long hurried to congratulate Owens and they left the field arm in arm, Mandell writes. Long was later killed in the war.

On Aug. 5, Owens won the 200 meters in an Olympic-record 20.7 seconds. He expected that to be the end of his competition, but he and Ralph Metcalfe were added to the four-by-100-meter relay team to replace Marty Glickman and Sam Stoller.

Glickman and Stoller were Jewish. There were reports they were bumped off the relay team because U.S. officials bowed to pressures from the Nazis. There were other claims that it was simply a matter of ensuring the victory.

Owens was lead runner on the relay team, which set a world record.

Just after his Olympic victories, Owens ran afoul of the Amateur Athletic Union. When he declined to continue in a European tour the AAU had arranged to offset Olympic expenses, he was suspended from U.S. amateur competition.

In the years after the Olympics, his ventures ranged from running exhibition races against horses to a failed dry cleaning business. However, he later found a niche as a public speaker and goodwill ambassador until his death in 1980 at age 66 of lung cancer.

Rankin is executive director of the Chicago-based Jesse Owens Foundation, which has several scholarship programs.

''He always believed that the youth of any country is its greatest resource,'' she says.

Dillard says Owens later worked at a recreation center in Cleveland. ''He had a rough time, particularly early on,'' says Dillard. ''The endorsements were not there, and high-profile companies were not using African-Americans.''

Commercial use of Owens' name or likeness now is controlled by CMG Worldwide of Indianapolis, under agreement with Owens' heirs.

But Rankin says Owens never despaired that he wasn't born in an era of more lucrative rewards.

''Money didn't mean an awful lot to him,'' she says. ''He liked what it would buy . . . But he was not extravagant. He loved the sport, the discipline of training and the challenge to do it better. Not better than someone else, just best for yourself. And his best just happened to be better than most.''

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I was away from the House on an official leave of absence on July 17 attending a memorial service at which I was a speaker. While I was out, I missed seven rollcall votes. Because I have each year since coming to Congress published and provided my constituents my entire voting record, I want the record to show that had I been in the House and voting on July 17, I would have cast the following votes:

''No'' on rollcall 320, Hoyer amendment to H.R. 3756, fiscal year 1997 Treasury, Postal Service, General Government appropriations.

''No'' on rollcall 321, Solomon amendment to H.R. 3756.

''No'' on rollcall 322, Gutknecht amendment to H.R. 3756.

''Yes'' on rollcall 323, on passage of H.R. 3756.

''Yes'' on rollcall 324, motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3166, Government Accountability Act of 1996.

''Yes'' on rollcall 325, motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3161, extend most-favored-nation status to Romania.

''Yes'' on rollcall 326, motion to close portions of the conference on H.R. 3230, fiscal 1997 Defense authorization.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on July 17 and 18, 1996 for rollcall votes 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, and 331. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall votes 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, and 331, and I would have voted ''nay'' on rollcall votes 329 and 330. I request that the RECORD reflect my positions on these votes.

TRIBUTE TO VILLAGE OF ORCHARD PARK ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my enthusiastic congratulations to the village of Orchard Park, in New York's 30th Congressional District, on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

Founded in the early 19th century by Quakers, Orchard Park originally fell under the charter of the town of East Hamburg, NY. A group of concerned citizens petitioned the town of East Hamburg for the incorporation of the village of Orchard Park on August 21, 1921, and on October 18, the measure was subsequently ratified by a vote of 155 to 96.

Throughout its celebrated history, the village of Orchard Park has steadfastly demonstrated its distinct sense of civic loyalty and pride through its dedication to local education, financial development in its business and retail districts, and careful maintenance of the village's original charm of 1921.

As a former teacher in the Orchard Park Central School District, I have seen first hand the village's dedicated commitment to its residents, distinguished community service, and strong sense of community spirit and pride.

Mr. Speaker, today I join with the residents of the village of Orchard Park, village Mayor Patricia Dickman, the members of the village board, and indeed, our entire western New York community in warm tribute to the village of Orchard Park on the occasion of this historic anniversary, and send my personal best wishes for continued prosperity in the future.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MINISTER JOHN CHANG

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to see that Mr. John Chang has been appointed the new foreign minister of the Republic of China.

Educated at Georgetown University, Mr. John Chang is a career diplomat. His most recent post was minister of the Overseas Chinese Commission, Republic of China.

Minister Chang speaks fluent English and French. An avid swimmer, he also excels in tennis and golf. He is married and has three children.

Under Minister Chang's leadership, I believe that the Republic of China and the United States will become even closer partners in trade and other matters vital to the interests of both nations. It is my personal hope that the Republic of China and the People's Republic of China will soon engage in serious discussions—as equal partners—of their eventual reunification and that the Republic of China will soon be able to participate in the activities of the World Trade Organization and the United Nations.

In the meantime I send my best wishes and congratulations to Foreign Minister John Chang of the Republic of China.

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT DEBT REDUCTION ACT OF 1996

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today I am happy to introduce a bill cosponsored by Representatives GREENWOOD, MCKEON, FATTAH, FAWELL, CLINGER, and GEKAS which corrects a technical problem with the language of the Higher Education Act that thwarts competition among lenders in the Federal Family Education Loan Program and results in higher costs for students in need of unsubsidized student loans.

The Higher Edcuation Act as interpreted by the U.S. Department of Education allows lenders to pay origination fees—3 percent of the loan amount—charged a student at the time as subsidized loan is obtained; one where the Federal Government pays the interest on the student's behalf while in school. Unfortunately, the Department has interpreted the language of the Higher Education Act to prohibit lenders from paying origination fees—3 percent of the loan amount—charged a student if the student obtains an unsubsidized loan one where the student is responsible for all the interest.

The result is that student's obtaining unsubsidized student loans are forced to pay higher up-front costs simply because of an interpretation that we believe is incorrect.

Under the bill being introduced today, anyone may pay the origniation fees on behalf of the student borrower. This is particularly significant in Pennsylvania because of the loan programs administered by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency. For the 1995–96 school year—prior to the Department's ruling on the origination fee issue—students and families in Pennsylvania had an extra $2 million available for immediate educational expenses due to a special loan program which reduced a student's origination fee from 3 to 1 percent. More than 36,000 students received this benefit for the 1995–96 school year. If we allow the Department of Education's interpretation to stand, more than 9,300 students, in Pennsylvania will have to forego the benefit of reduced up-front fees and we don't think that should happen.

The great thing about this proposal is that it doesn't cost the Federal Government a dime, while student's reap the benefits of competition in the student loan program.

And this doesn't just help Pennsylvania students. Lenders across the country can offer to pay a student's origination fees so students have more cash to pay for their higher education expenses. Reduced interest rates are already being offered by many lenders as a reward for making monthly payments on time and this is also a feature offered by the Pennsylvania program which helps students save a little money during the repayment period. The combined effect of reduced up-front costs and lower interest rates during repayment make all student loans more affordable and manageable for students.

I am particularly pleased to include for the RECORD, a letter from the Pennsylvania Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators who have expressed their wholehearted support for this legisation. These are the people on the front lines in the student financial aid office who daily advise adn counsel our college students on ways to finance a college education and I am delighted to have their support.

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS,

July 3, 1996.

Hon. WILLIAM F. GOODLING,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE GOODLING: The Pennsylvania Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (PASFAA) is a professional organization dedicated to promoting access to higher education by providing financial assistance to those who might otherwise be unable to attend. With more than 550 members, the PASFAA membership encompasses virtually every segment of higher education and every component of student financial assistance.

The purpose of this letter is to express PASFAA's wholehearted support for legislation which would allow for a reduction in the cost of origination fees for borrowers of unsubsidized student loans. Such legislation would enable lenders and guarantors to reduce the up front cost of student loans, thereby increasing the amount of money students would have available to them to meet their educational expenses for the 1996–97 academic year. In doing so, lenders would be providing a direct financial benefit to students without putting a corresponding burden on the federal budget or the taxpayers, making this legislation even more attractive.

This legislation would provide an immediate benefit to Pennsylvania residents receiving loan assistance through PHEAA's Keystone and Keystone Direct Loan Programs. In addition, lenders nationwide would now have the opportunity to offer low-cost loans by reducing origination fees if they so desire.

PASFAA deeply appreciates your support of student aid programs, and looks forward to working with you on this and other legislation designed to benefit college students. If we can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact any of our officers.

Sincerely,

GEORGIA K. PRELL,
PASFAA President.

TRIBUTE PAID TO MARJORIE JEFFRIES OF MILTON, MA

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a woman who embodies beauty in culture, in nature, in life.

Marjorie Jeffries is a longtime resident in Milton, MA, who has never stopped living by her own advice: ''Pay attention to the Milton community and give yourself to it.''

In 1953, she and her husband David transformed a densely wooded piece of land into a nature paradise, complete with gardens of perennials, rocks, daylilies, and irises. The Jeffries built their home here, under a canopy of red oak and white pine trees, and protected the land with a conservation order. The deer, foxes, skunks, and chipmunks who live in the area roam freely here, and will be able to enjoy it forever. People, dogs, and horses who passed the house on their way to the Blue Hills often stop to mingle with the Jeffries or the animals in their yard.

After listening to the music that birds contributed to her backyard, Marjorie Jeffries decided to contribute some music as well.

Thirty-nine years after graduating Bryn Mawr College with a bachelor of arts degree, she earned a music major equivalent at Wellesley College. She then earned a master of arts in music composition from Connecticut College.

She continued her music studies, and has become a widely recognized composer and flutist. She has received grants and commissions for several of her pieces, and earned a citation from Gov. Michael Dukakis. She is a member of the Longy School of Music orchestra, and has served as the composer in residence for the Milton Public Schools.

Marjorie has always wanted others to be able to share in the joy of arts. In 1974, she founded the Milton Performing Arts to provide an outlet for the citizens of Milton to pursue their interest in writing, arts and music in an open forum. In 1992, she was designated as the Artist of the Month by the Milton Art Association for her ''Variations of the View from Chickatawbut Hill,'' which was displayed at the Milton Public Library.

In addition to her contributions to nature and art, Marjorie has been active in many other communities. As a regular participant in town meetings, her opinions have garnered respect, despite the fact that she ruffles the feathers of State and national politicians on occasion. She also is a trustee of the Milton Public Library, and has worked to make the library a better tool of knowledge for the residents of Milton.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that we could all do well to follow Marjorie Jeffries' advice, to pay attention to our communities, and give ourselves to them.

OREGON'S WELFARE-TO-WORK PROGRAM

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, Oregon has an outstanding welfare-to-work program in place that has allowed Oregon to achieve one of the Nation's steepest declines in welfare cases. Since March 1994, our welfare caseload has dropped from 44,000 to 32,000, and State officials expect that these numbers will fall to less than 25,000 in the next 4 years. Most of the credit for this success goes to our vigorous JOBS welfare-to-work program and the Oregon Health Plan, which provides health insuracne to pepole who otherwise would go on welfare.

Oregon has received waivers from the Federal Government which allow sweeping changes in our welfare system. These waivers enable Oregon to require all welfare recipients to seek jobs to move their families out of poverty. The goal is for families on welfare to take control of their lives and avoid long-term dependence on welfare. Like the Castle-Tanner substitute and the underlying bill, Oregon's JOBS program shares the expectation of aggressively moving people from welfare to work. All three also emphasize aggressive child support collection, employment supports such as child-care subsidies, and can require teen parents to live in safe, supervised settings. I am pleased that the Republicans' Medicaid reform plan, which I strongly opposed in the Commerce Committee, has been dropped from this bill.

These bills, as well as the one being debated in the Senate, contain language that enables States with waivers to continue their existing welfare programs. In addition, the legislation states that if new requirements are put into law, they will not apply to States with waivers. In order for Oregon to make the strides that we are committed to, it is essential that this language be maintained and that it include States whose waivers were approved by September 30 of this year. I will work with Members in the other body to make sure this provision remains in the conference report on the bill.

Oregon is a national leader in welfare reform. I support reforming our welfare system and am committed to moving the process forward. I call on other States to match Oregon's achievements in sensible, humane welfare reform.

SCANA CORP. RECEIVES THE COMMON GOALS AWARD

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the SCANA Corp., which serves the Second Congressional District of South Carolina, for receiving the Common Goals Award from the Edison Electric Institute [EEI] last week in Washington. The award, was given for outstanding achievement in the field of educational partnerships, was bestowed on the SCANA Corp. for its sponsorship of ''The Coach,'' a computer equipped traveling classroom. ''The Coach,'' which is staffed with State adult literacy specialists, travels throughout South Carolina to offer free training to employers for the development of adult literacy programs for their employees. In presenting the award, EEI President Tom Kuhn noted that, ''by helping people improve themselves, SCANA opens the way to a more highly skilled workforce, a more competitive economy, and a better quality of life.''

Mr. Speaker, the SCANA Corp. is to be commended on the contributions that ''The Coach'' has made to increasing adult literacy in South Carolina. As it celebrates its 150th anniversary, the SCANA Corp. can take great pride in its history of service to the people of the Palmetto State.

H.R. 3814—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE APPROPRIATIONS

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to revise and extend my remarks. Wake up America. Wake up and see what the Dole-Gingrich Republicans are trying to do to you again. Just when you had thought the Republicans had learned some lessons of last year when they, over and over again, shut down the Federal Government, while assiduously trying to dictate their extremist conservatism on everyone, and unabashedly trying to deny personal liberties and restrict public services, they are back at it again. I must say, they are a persistent bunch. In these proposed appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, State, Justice, and major related agencies, the Dole-Gingrich cabal is attempting to legislate morality and economies through the appropriations process. Tucked neatly among programs in this bill that most people recognize, that is, the Census Bureau, F.B.I., Drug Enforcement Administration, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the U.S. Supreme Court, are severe levels of funding reductions that are undoubtedly designed to strangle the Small Business Administration [SBA], the Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC], the Minority Business Development Agency [MBDA], and the Legal Services Corporation [LSC].

Funding for the Small Business Administration, is slashed by almost $21 million below last year's appropriations, the SEC is cut by $225.1 million less than requested by President Clinton's budget, and the Legal Services Corporation is under funded by over $199 million. Since the Dole-Gingrich Republicans have been unable to kill them politically in an up and down fight on neither policy nor politics, they're trying to severely maim them by cutting off the checking account that funds them. Wake up America, look around you, and think about what the conservative Dole-Gingrich folk are doing to America's economy and to the right of every American to have legal counsel.

It is easy to understand why the Dole-Gingrich Republicans slashed the social programs in the Department of Health and Human Services appropriations a few days ago: there

weren't many fat-cat special interests supported in there. Frankly, I expected the appropriations bills for fiscal year 1997 to be not quite as radically conservative as those they forced through Congress for fiscal year 1996 which caused the Federal Government to shutdown. However, they have in this session already passed several bills that cut spending in domestic areas that are important to hard-working Americans, that are vitally significant to the social, economic and personal well-being of this country: education, health services and research, housing, and transportation, just to name a few.

So, here we go again. This fiscal year 1997 appropriations bill for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, State, and related agencies is for $29.5 billion. While this is a substantial amount of money, one must remember that it takes a lot of money to fund a Federal Government as responsive and responsible as ours ought to be. Yet, this bill is for $2.1 billion less than the President has, after careful consideration, determined that he needs in order to be able to carry out plans and programs necessary to fight crime, create jobs and train the necessary workforce, to prevent and address family and societal violence, drugs and illegal immigration. Those are critical imperatives, but they are not the only priorities that need funding and are not all the priorities of my constituents in the Seventh District of Illinois. Among my constituents are the richest and the poorest of America, and they report to me that they need people programs that benefit women, minorities, and persons with very limited incomes, as well as the several very important agencies that severely effect them all, but that are targeted for funding cuts.

For example, the Legal Services Corporation [LSC] is an agency that provides free and reduced-fee legal services to low-income individuals. By proposing dramatic cuts in funding for the LSC, the Republicans risk the following results: (1) a 2 million reduction in the number of clients served; (2) a 50 percent decrease in the number of neighborhood offices (from, 1100 in fiscal year 1995 to 550); (3) a cut by more than half, in the number of LSC lawyers available to provide legal services; and (4) a startling cut-off of legal assistance to clients in thousands of communities across the Nation. This Republican fiscal 1997 appropriations of $141 million for LSC is a devastating cut from the fiscal year 1995 funding level of $415 million, and is unquestionably meant to destroy the Legal Services Corporation. Wake up Americans. Open your eyes and see what the Dole-Gingrich Republicans who control this body have just done. They have defeated an amendment to restore reasonable funding to the LSC that would have prevented the virtual abandonment of the longstanding Federal commitment to the legal protection of working poor Americans, including victims of spousal and child abuse, dead-beat parents who run out on the child support obligations, and victims of consumer fraud.

Another program gutted by the Republicans and left to bleed a slow death, is the Minority Business Development Administration [MBDA] within the Department of Commerce. The mission of the MBDA is to work to develop and support the successes and increase competitive opportunities for minority-owned businesses—to ensure that minority Americans can participate in the economy not just as workers, but also as entrepreneurs and global leaders. The MBDA supports citizens who may be first generation business owners in their efforts to succeed. Created in 1969 by President Nixon, the MBDA provides technical assistance to minority entrepreneurs that greatly increase their ability to compete in domestic and international markets. While minorities make up 25 percent of the U.S. population, they represent only 9 percent of the Nation's business owners. MBDA has a proven record of leveraging scarce public resources by partnering with the private sector to increase capital and market opportunities in underutilized business communities, and yet the Republicans who control this body are so determined to render ineffectual a good program that was created by their own President Nixon, that they have also rejected an effort to restore reasonable funding for the MBDA.

There are many valuable programs that should be funded under this bill; however, the appropriations levels proposed by the Republicans will only weaken, injure and damage the successful efforts underway to bring about a reduction in waste, fraud, and abuse of the public trust. I urge my colleagues to defeat this bill so that we can get back to the negotiating table in the best interest of all Americans. If this bill should be passed by the Congress, I will urge the President to veto it and send it back to the drawing board.

THANK YOU DONALD E. BECKER

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, many of us believe that public service is among the greatest calling that exists. On July 23, many fortunate people who live in Genesse Township will come together to celebrate the remarkable more than 25 years of service that Donald E. Becker has provided as the township's treasurer.

Donald Becker's devotion to his community is easy to understand. His grandfather, August George Becker was the township supervisor from 1922 to 1926, and his father, Walter Becker, was in the Genesee County Sheriff's Department. Donald Becker was the co-founder of the all volunteer Kearsley Genesee Rescue Squad, as well as its treasurer. He has also been tremendously involved in the Genesee County Treasurer/Clerk Association, the Genesee Parks Commission, the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission, and the region 5 planning commission.

With all of this professional involvement, it is remarkable to note that Donald Becker is most noted for his personal style of dealing with people. For example, he hand-delivers checks for the school districts because he believes it's important for the checks to get there. He has been involved on so many committees because he believes that you have to get to know people in order to be effective as a community leader.

He has been careful with taxpayers dollars, leading efforts to allow for the investment of local funds in savings accounts, allowing interest earnings to both supplement local revenues, and to help reduce the need for any additional tax assessments.

With all of the wonderful public activities that this man has undertaken, it is also very good to know what he considers his most important hobby to be spending time with his wife, Geraldine, his children and their spouses, his grandchildren, and his great grandson. A man can be no luckier that having a rewarding career, and recognizing the ultimate importance of his family.

Mr. Speaker, local officials are the hallmark of our democratic society. They help people understand the importance of good government. Genesse Township has been very fortunate to have Donald Becker, and, indeed, his family, for these many years. I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing him the very best as he celebrates his years of service to Genesee Township.

WHY CATHOLIC SCHOOL MODEL IS TABOO

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I think that anyone who is truly interested in education should read the following article from the July 17, 1996, issue of the Wall Street Journal. I would like to call it to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

WHY THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL MODEL IS TABOO

(By Sol Stern)

New York City's Cardinal John J. O'Connor has repeatedly made the city an extraordinary offer: Send me the lowest-performing 5% of children presently in the public schools, and I will put them in Catholic schools—where they will succeed. The city's response: silence.

In a more rational world, city officials would have jumped at the cardinal's invitation. It would have been a huge financial plus for the city. The annual per-pupil cost of Catholic elementary schools is $2,500 per year, about a third of what taxpayers now spend for the city's public schools.

NO IDLE BOAST

More important, thousands more disadvantaged children would finish school and become productive citizens. For Cardinal O'Connor's claim that Catholic schools would do a better job than public schools is no idle boast. In 1990 the RAND Corporation compared the performance of children from New York City's public and Catholic high schools. Only 25% of the public-school students graduated at all, and only 16% took the Scholastic Aptitude Test, vs. 95% and 75% of Catholic-school students, respectively. Catholic-school students scored an average of 815 on the SAT. By shameful contrast, the small ''elite'' of public-school students who graduated and took the SAT averaged only 642 for those in neighborhood schools and 715 for those in magnet schools.

In 1993 the New York State Department of Education compared city schools with the highest levels of minority enrollment. Conclusion: ''Catholic schools with 81% to 100% minority composition outscored New York City public schools with the same percentage of minority enrollment in Grade 3 reading (+17%), Grade 3 mathematics (+10%), Grade 5 writing (+6%), Grade 6 reading (+10%) and Grade 6 mathematics (+11%).''

Yet most of the elite, in New York and elsewhere, is resolutely uninterested in the Catholic schools' success. In part this reflects the enormous power of teachers' unions, fierce opponents of anything that

threatens their monopoly on education. In part it reflects a secular discomfort with religious institutions.

I myself have felt this discomfort over the years, walking past Catholic schools like St. Gregory the Great, near my Manhattan home. Every morning, as I took my sons to public school, I couldn't help noticing the well-behaved black and Hispanic children in their neat uniforms entering the drab parish building. But my curiousty never led me past the imposing crucifix looking down from the roof, which evoked childhood images of Catholic anti-Semitism and clerical obscurantism.

Finally, earlier this year, I ventured in, and I was impressed. I sat in, for example, as fourth-grade teacher Susan Viti conducted a review lesson on the geography of the Western United States. All the children were completely engaged and had obviously done their homework. They were able to answer each of her questions about the principal cities and capitals of the Western states—some of which I couldn't name—and the topography and natural resources of the region. ''Which minerals would be found in the Rocky Mountains?'' Miss Viti asked. Eager hands shot up. Miss Viti used the lesson to expand the students' vocabulary; when the children wrote things down, she insisted on proper grammar and spelling.

I found myself wishing that my own son's fourth-grade teachers at nearby Public School 87, reputedly one of the best public schools in the city, were anywhere near as productive and as focused on basic skills as Miss Viti. Both my boys' teachers have wasted an enormous amount of time with empty verbiage about the evils of racism and sexism. By contrast, in Miss Viti's class and in all the other Catholic-school classes I visited, it was taken for granted that a real education is the best antidote to prejudice.

Miss Viti earns $21,000 a year, $8,000 less than a first-year public-school teacher. ''I've taught in an all-white, affluent suburban school, where I made over $40,000,'' she says. ''This time I wanted to do something good for society, and I am lucky enough to be able to afford to do it. I am trying to instill in my students that whatever their life situation is now, they can succeed if they work hard and study.''

You might expect liberals, self-styled champions of disadvantaged children, to applaud the commitment and sacrifice of educators like Susan Viti. You might even expect them to look for ways of getting government money to these underfunded schools. Instead, they've done their best to make sure the wall of separation between church and state remains impenetrable. Liberal child-advocacy groups tout an endless array of ''prevention'' programs that are supposed to stave off delinquency, dropping out of school and teen pregnancy—yet they consistently ignore Catholic schools, which nearly always succeed in preventing these pathologies.

Read the chapter on education in Hillary Clinton's ''It Takes a Village.'' Mrs. Clinton advocates an alphabet soup of education programs for poor kids, but says not a word about Catholic schools. Similarly, in his books on education and inner-city ghettos, Jonathan Kozol offers vivid tours of decrepit public schools in places like the South Bronx, but he never stops at the many Catholic schools that are succeeding a few blocks away.

Why are Catholic schools taboo among those who talk loudest about compassion for the downtrodden? It's hard to escape the conclusion that one of the most powerful reasons is liberals' alliance with the teachers' unions, which have poured hundreds of millions of dollars into the campaign coffers of liberal candidates around the country. Two weeks ago I attended the National Education Association convention in Washington, a week-long pep rally for Bill Clinton punctuated by ritual denunciations of privatization.

Before the teachers' unions rise to political power, it was not unusual to see urban Democrats like former New York Gov. Mario Cuomo support government aid to Catholic schools. Mr. Cuomo's flip-flop on this issue is especially revealing. In 1974, when he first ran for public office, Mr. Cuomo wrote a letter to potential supporters: ''I've spent more than 15 years . . . arguing for aid to private schools,'' he wrote. ''If you believe aid is a good thing, then you are the good people. If you believe it, then it's your moral obligation, as it is my own, to do something about it. . . . Let's try tax-credit plans and anything else that offers any help.''

Mr. Cuomo soon learned his lesson. In his published diaries he wrote: ''Teachers are perhaps the most effective of all the state's unions. If they go all-out, it will mean telephones and vigorous statewide support. It will also mean some money.'' In his 1982 campaign for governor, Mr. Cuomo gave a speech trumpeting the primacy of public education and the rights of teachers. He won the union's enthusiastic endorsement against Ed Koch in the Democratic primary. Over the next 12 years, in private meetings with Catholic leaders, Gov. Cuomo would declare that he still supported tax relief for parochial school parents. Then he would take a completely different position in public. For example, in 1984 he acknowledged that giving tax credits for parochial-school tuition was ''clearly constitutional'' under a recent Supreme Court decision–but he refused to support such a plan.

Politically controlled schools are unlikely to improve much without strong pressure from outside. Thus, the case for government aid to Catholic schools is now more compelling than ever, if only to provide the competitive pressure to force state schools to change. And the conventional wisdom that government is constitutionally prohibited from aiding Catholic schools has been undermined by several recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions.

SUCKER'S TRAP

Since the powerful teachers' unions vehemently oppose any form of government aid to Catholic schools, reformers are often skittish about advocating vouchers or tuition tax credits, fearing that will end the public-school reform conversation before it begins. But to abandon aid to Catholic schools in the name of public-school reform is a sucker's trap. We have ended up with no aid to Catholic schools and no real public-school reform either.

Catholic schools are a valuable public resource not just because they profoundly benefit the children who enroll in them. They also challenge the public school monopoly, constantly reminding us that the neediest kids are educable and that spending extravagant sums of money isn't the answer. No one who cares about reviving our failing public schools can afford to ignore this inspiring laboratory of reform.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, on July 18, 1996, I was absent from the House of Representatives due to the tragic explosion on TWA Flight 800 over the First Congressional District of New York. I felt it was appropriate to return to my district to support and comfort my constituents impacted by this disaster as well as to help coordinate local, State, and Federal search and rescue efforts.

Had I been present I would have voted ''yes'' on roll No. 327, ''yes'' on roll No. 328, ''no'' on roll No. 329, ''no'' on roll No. 330, and ''yes'' on roll No. 331.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3734, WELFARE AND MEDICAID REFORM ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 17, 1996

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3734, the Balanced Budget Welfare Reform Act, a bill designed to overhaul our Nation's welfare system. Fifteen months ago, many of my colleagues and I stood before this body and showed our staunch disagreement with the House-passed welfare reform bill which made disastrous cuts in our Nation's welfare programs. I wish I could say that, since then, some compassion and reason had been interjected into this debate and produced a more favorable bill for consideration.

Unfortunately, H.R. 3734, the bill being deliberated today, targets the poorest in this country, in order to meet Republican budget priorities. When we examine the provisions of this legislation, it is abundantly clear that our colleagues have reneged on their commitment to ensure a ''family friendly'' Congress and to protect our Nation's children.

H.R. 3734 slashes more than $61 billion over 6 years in welfare programs. This bill guts funding for the Food Stamp Program, cuts into the SSI protections for disabled children, drastically cuts child nutrition programs, and slashes benefits for legal immigrants. Mr. Speaker, I find these reductions in quality of life programs appalling.

How can my Republican colleagues praise this bill's work requirements when H.R. 3734 provides inadequate funding for education, training, and employment—essential components in contributing to longevity in the workforce? How can they stand by a bill that slashes more than $3 billion in funding for meals to children in child care centers and homes? As if that were not devastating enough, this bill would cut nearly $23 billion over 6 years from the Food Stamp Program and an additional $23 billion in the SSI Program.

H.R. 3734 sends a signal to the Nation that our Government leaders place a very low priority on those individuals who have very little. In Cuyahoga County, we have a 20 percent poverty rate in a county of 1.4 million people. In the city of Cleveland, it is an alarming 42 percent. Throughout Cuyahoga County, more than 228,000 people receive food stamps. Many of these individuals constitute America's working poor. This punitive welfare measure will undoubtedly endanger their health and well-being.

Mr. Chairman, I can understand and support a balanced and rational approach to addressing the reform of our Nation's welfare system.

But I cannot and will not support this legislation which would shatter the lives of millions of our Nation's poor. In order to move people to self-sufficiency, we must provide adequate education, training, child care, and jobs that pay a livable wage. Anything short of that does great disservice to our national sense of compassion and our moral responsibility to help the poor help themselves.

On behalf of America's children and the poor, I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 3734.

IT'S THE REAL ECONOMY THAT COUNTS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, one of the most infuriating aspects of our economic affairs to many people is the extent to which the bond market treats good news as bad news. This was of course most recently displayed when the best employment news we have had in years triggered serious financial downtrends. People who trade bonds have of course a right to do whatever they wish. But we as policymakers must make it very clear that we will not be driven by their short term gyrations and in particular that we will continue to pursue policies that expand employment opportunities and real incomes for working people without being deterred by the negative short term impact this may have on the bond business. James K. Galbraith, formerly of the staff of the Joint Economic Committee in better days, and now a teacher of economics at the Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas, recently wrote on this subject in a very instructive fashion. It is essential that we listen to Mr. Galbraith and not allow financial speculation to perform the reverse alchemy which has from time to time characterized their efforts.

WHAT INFLATION?

(By James K. Galbraith)

AUSTIN, TX.—The economic news on Friday was so good it was a disaster. Unemployment has fallen to 5.3 percent, the lowest it has been in six years. June payrolls increased by 239,000 jobs. And the average hourly wage rose by nine cents, the biggest one-month jump ever recorded, a level ''noticeably above the inflation rate,'' as The New York Times reported.

Pandemonium on Wall Street! The yield on the 30-year Treasury bond leaped a quarter of a point, finishing at 7.18 percent. And stocks plummeted: the Dow Jones industrial average dived 114 points.

Amid the commotion, one could hear the bond bears roaring their message that, with inflation sure to surge, the Federal Reserve must raise short-term interest rates. Many of the bears said that had the Fed's Open Market Committee known at its meeting last Wednesday what the secretive Bureau of Labor Statistics would announce two days later, it would surely have raised them. Some urged the Fed to correct this ''error'' immediately without waiting until the next regular meeting in August.

Nonsense. There is no cause for alarm. The evidence does not portend surging inflation. To begin with, the annual rate remains low: 2.9 percent in the year that ended in May. Inflation is not accelerating. Instead, productivity growth appears to be picking up. If this pattern continues, it will permit wages to grow for some time, with little effect on price inflation.

The decline in unemployment also means little. Some economists still hold to the notion of a ''natural rate of unemployment'' at 6 percent or a slightly lower figure, below which they believe inflation spirals out of control. But joblessness has been less than 6 percent without raising inflation since September 1994.

Recent economic studies confirm their is little reason to fear that prices will rise simply because of low unemployment—or for that matter, rapid growth. Most inflation of past decades had different causes, like oil shocks and war.

Some say to forget the facts. An official of a regional Federal Reserve bank recently told Business Week (anonymously, of course) that ''you have to move on anecdotal data'' In other words, monetary policy should be based on gossip. Mercifully, it is likely that the Federal Reserve Board's governors do not share this view.

The bears in the bond market must also know that their inflation warnings are unfounded. So what are they up to? The answer seems clear. We have a speculation problem, not an inflation problem.

The bears make their living by betting on the Fed's next decision, not by calling the economy. The bears predict when short-term rates will be raised and when they will decline. By selling and buying long-term bonds in advance, they can make a lot of money—if their predictions are right. So it is natural that they try to affect the Fed's decisions.

This game has been in full cry since at least October 1993, when bond-market insiders correctly anticipated (and may have provoked) the Fed's rate increase of February 1994. All through that year, each time the Fed raised interest rates, the stock and bond markets churned.

If short-term rates are pushed up tomorrow, many ordinary investors will panic and dump their bonds and stocks. Then the speculators can buy cheap and ''shear the sheep''—the small investors, in the speculators' lingo.

Sell bonds, create gossip, influence policy—what a game! But maybe the game has changed. News reports preceding the Fed's inactivity last week suggested that the chairman, Alan Greenspan, may have given up the ''pre-emptive strike'' anti-inflation strategy of 1994. Good. The idea that the economic evidence counts for something is central to proper monetary policy.

But Mr. Greenspan's possible credibility as a pragmatist, only a week old and none too sturdy, will depend on facing down the bears.

It would be an extremely good thing if the Federal Reserve held the line through the summer and fall—at least as long as core inflation (calculated without volatile food and energy prices), measured over six months or so, remains reasonable.

In that event, the interest rates on long-term bonds will finally begin to decline, and maybe short-term rates will follow. Traders committed to a strategy of creating panic will lose money. So what?

The Fed did the right thing. Now it should stand firm and show the speculators who is in charge.

FREE PRESS IN HONG KONG UNDER ATTACK

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I recently read a New York Times article outlining Chinese threats to restrict Hong Kong's press once the British colony comes under Chinese rule. This information, while extremely upsetting, is hardly shocking. Although the Chinese Government professes to be committed to ensuring a smooth, peaceful transition for Hong Kong, actions by the Chinese Government tell a very different, very disturbing story. As the saying goes, ''actions speak louder than words.''

In 1984, to help ensure the smooth transition of Hong Kong from British to Chinese control, Britain and China both signed the Joint Declaration providing for the peaceful return of Hong Kong to Chinese rule. This document, registered at the United Nations, specifies that Hong Kong will enjoy a high degree of autonomy except in foreign and defense affairs, and that the legislature will be elected. China has repeatedly violated the commitments made in this binding document, leading to increasing tensions between Hong Kong and China as the July 1, 1997, date fast approaches.

Mr. Speaker, just one example will suffice to demonstrate how the Chinese have chosen to ignore commitments made in the Joint Declaration. Recently, Chinese authorities threatened to abolish the first ever democratically elected legislative council and replace it with an appointed legislature. This action would not only be in clear violation of the Joint Declaration, but also in violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

With China now threatening to restrict freedom of the press in Hong Kong, it becomes clear that Chinese officials do not intend to grant Hong Kong the degree of autonomy previously promised. This should leave us all deeply concerned about the future of Hong Kong. Mr. Speaker, Hong Kong has close to 60 papers and 675 periodicals. These papers and periodicals provide Hong Kong citizens and those throughout the world with the truth about what is happening in Hong Kong, and throughout all of Asia. Restricting free press in Hong Kong will severely limit the world's ability to follow events in Tibet, China, and Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, Hong Kong is the world's best example of the prosperity that results from a strong and vibrant free enterprise system existing under the rule of law. China's threats to dismantle the legislature and restrict freedom of speech are not idle threats. I have no doubt that if we let Chinese threats go unchallenged, each and every threat will indeed be carried out. Tyranny thrives on the weakness of others, and the United States has been weak in its response to Chinese behavior. Mr. Speaker, we must do everything possible to ensure that democratic advances in Hong Kong are not reversed by oppressive Chinese policies. As 1997 approaches, the United States must stand with those in Hong Kong, such as journalists opposing illegal restrictions on their free speech, who are rightly unwilling to capitulate to Beijing's efforts to strip the citizens of Hong Kong of their democratic rights and freedoms.

PATIENT RECOGNITION DAY

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, for the 8th year in a row, the board of visitors of Bronx Psychiatric Center is holding a Patient Recognition Day to honor those who have significantly progressed on their path toward eventual discharge back to the community or have made a positive impact on the lives of their peers on their wards.

Patient Recognition Day actually honors the efforts of many people whose dedication has contributed to the recovery process. They are the staff and professionals at Bronx Psychiatric Center who put forth great care into and take great pride in their work. There are the board of visitors, Mr. Samuel Lopez, president, Sylvia Lask & Helen Rosello who oversee the center on behalf of the Governor of New York State. There are, of course the family and friends of the patients who lend so much support and understanding.

Mr. Speaker, the greatest honor, however is reserved for the patients who have trusted and worked with all the people I mentioned above. As its name suggests, Patient Recognition Day is the time we set aside to applaud the great strides they have made and encourage them to continue on their path to recovery.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join with me in paying tribute to all the people who make this Patient Recognition Day something special in my district.

MARYAM RAJAVI CHALLENGES ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISM

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to draw your attention to Iran, but not to the ugly image often cast by this country. I want to talk about the hope for democracy emerging from Iran, about those who are resisting against the ruling regime, about those striving to rescue not only the people of Iran, but also the whole world, from the terrorist mullahs who have held us all hostage for too long.

On Friday, June 21, a crowd of 25,000 people gathered in London for a program of speeches and musical performances in celebration of the 15th anniversary of this resistance movement against the mullahs. The keynote speaker was the resistance's president-elect, Maryam Rajavi. In remarks entitled "Women, Voice of the Oppressed," Mrs. Rajavi called for "a world coalition against fundamentalism."

The speakers and spectators were not limited to Iranians. A large number of British parliamentarians and dignitaries, various groups of European and Arab intellectuals, politicians, writers, artists and women's rights activists were among the crowd. Marzich, the Grande Dame of Persian music, performed the "Operetta in Solidarity," accompanied by the London Festival Orchestra and an ensemble of traditional Iranian musicians.

Associated Press Television reported that Maryam Rajavi "not surprisingly received a standing ovation from the audience at the London festival and her defiant speech was interrupted several times by deafening applause."

Mr. Speaker, I think that it is important to heed Mrs. Rajavi's message, which is diametrically opposed to that of the fundamentalist mullahs in Iran. I am, therefore, submitting a copy of her speech at London's Earl's Court Exhibition Centre, for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

WOMEN, VOICE OF THE OPPRESSED—SPEECH BY MARYAM RAJAVI, PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE IRANIAN RESISTANCE, LONDON, JUNE 21, 1996

I wish to thank you all for your generous sympathy and kind support. Greetings to my dear follow Iranians who are listening now in the meetings honoring June 20th in different countries.

I am very happy to see you all and part take in this magnificent event. I had come to London on a private visit, and was invited to speak about the topic this gathering is addressing: Women, Voice of the Oppressed.

Each year, on this occasion, we speak of June 20th and of a cry for freedom that will reverberate forever in the history of Iran. It is only fitting for me to begin by honoring the 15th anniversary of this turning point.

June 20th for us, the people of Iran, was a day of destiny the day the Iranian people arose against the suppression of freedoms. It is the day the pervasive and tortuous resistance against religious tyranny began. It is the day when the nation's will became crystallized in the formation of the National Liberation Army of Iran. June 20th is rightly designated as the Day of Iranian Martyrs and Political Prisoners, those shining stars who pierced the night of oppression with their enormous sacrifice to the cause of freedom and popular sovereignty.

I also wish to pay tribute to the women the world over who have striven for equality and emancipation, and to salute the oppressed women of my homeland, Iran from whose ranks tens of thousands have fallen in the struggle for freedom.

Please allow me to pay my special respects to the memory of Ashraf Rajavi, a woman and pioneer in our nation's Resistance, who endured much torture under the shah's regime and was martyred in February 1982 by Khomeini's henchmen. [Ashraf was the wife of the Iranian Resistance leader Massoud Rajavi] Before the eyes of other detainees in Evin prison, her murderers desecrated her lifeless body and then slapped around her infant son. Along with the other martyrs of this struggle, she has an immortal place in the history of our people. Hail to Ashraf and all standard-bearers and martyrs to the cause of freedom.

HISTORY-LONG OPPRESSION

Indeed, suffering and sacrifice are the price we have to pay to attain our freedom. This is the essence of the relentless tug-of-war which gives meaning to human existence. This is why the song of freedom has never been silenced by the tyranny of despots, and why the flaming range of the oppressed shall overturn the foundations of oppression.

Women are history's first victims of oppression. Besides having to endure political and socio-economic oppression, they must repent for the sin of being women.

Yet half of the human beings on this planet are women, and inevitably gender oppression and the culture inherent to it directly affect and enchain the other half of the human race as well, the men Hence, genuine freedom for the individual and society is ultimately attainable solely through the emancipation of oppressed women. In other words, discrimination against women transcends and affects all other domains of human existence.

Sa'di, the great 12th century Iranian poet, has put it eloquently:

Of one body are the children of Adam
All created from a single gem
If fate afflicts one with great pain
How can others rest calm and sane.

History often tells us of slaves and celebrates their freedom, but so little is said about "the slave of slaves," the most tormented and oppressed members of human society. Today, we have assembled here so that their voice, lost in the chilling silence of centuries, may be heard: The voice of women, the voice of the oppressed.

The history of humankind is the history of human being's glorious quest for freedom, and at the same time a wretched chronicle of oppression. While man gradually succeeded in freeing himself from the absolute dictates of nature, he soon found himself enchained by his fellow man. Thus, history began with the oppression of man by man. Slavery, that great tragedy of human history, was directed by the likes of Nero and Pharoah, and the voice of the oppressed was drowned out by the cracking whips of their masters. All that remained was the rattling of the shackles, as the dark age of slavery prevailed.

Was mankind to remain forever at the mercy of this blind destiny? One answer came on that fateful day near Nazareth, when Jesus Christ proclaimed: "He anointed me . . . to preach a release to the captives . . . to send the crushed ones away with a release."

The message of Jesus was a clear proclamation of human destiny. "One can and must rebel against bondage and slavery."

The revolt by Spartacus was doubtless rooted in the belief that slavery was not forever and that freedom could ultimately be achieved. Spartacus and his fellows, however, knew that for them, at least, freedom was inconceivable, unless upon a cross. On the eve of the last battle, Spartacus cried: "My friends, we have come a long way together, longing to return to our land and live free. But tomorrow, we have to fight again. Perhaps there is no place for us in this world. But one thing is certain. We are free!"

The next day, 6,000 slaves were crucified along the road from Rome to Capua. That was the price of freedom. But the day came when the thunderous voice of the oppressed resonated everywhere and put an end to the age of slavery. Indeed, the pages of history may abound in oppression, pain and blood, but on the other side of every bitterness and humiliation lies the sweetness and magnificence of liberation.

There was a time when such tyrants as Attila, Genghis Khan and Hitler roamed the earth, but now, in the new age of global communications and information, the interdependence of civilizations and the new relationships among nations inhibit such roguish aggression. History has never ceased to move on. By relentlessly challenging all obstacles to liberty, humanity has liberated itself from the fetters of antiquated social and political relationships, and charged forward.

But one cry, and one cry alone, has remained unanswered, stifled in the depths of history: It is the cry of "the slave of slaves," the cry of women, the voice of those enduring the ugliest of all oppressions. Gender oppression ran so deep that no one believed it even existed. Gender oppression was not considered as oppression at all, rather as natural for women.

I am woman
My bare feet
Pacing the parched earth
Since the First Day
In search of a drop of water. . . .

Women were doubly enslaved once as all other slaves and oppressed people, those subjugated and exploited in every age of history,

and once as women. Yes, the footprint of woman can be seen in all shackles of bondage, and the voice of the oppressed can be heard in her smothered cries.

Extracting the root of oppression from the dusty pages of oblivion, Simone de Beauvoir said: ''All subjugated social classes did not exist at some point. They came to exist later. But women have always been there. They are women due to their physiological traits. But spontaneously, the very word ''woman'' has an insulting ring to it in a man's ears and produces in his mind a mixture of sexual exploitation and humiliation.''

The story of women is a tale of a latent oppression woven into the depths of their lives and very existence. The bonds that tie women to their omnipresent oppressors are unique. Not even in their dreams do these first slaves on the face of the earth reject and annihilate their masters. When they assume that their bondage is eternal, the tragedy is complete.

MISOGYNOUS MULLAHS

But there exists an even more painful story: the tragedy of women in my fettered homeland, Iran, under the reign of the inhuman mullahs, who not only consider woman as eternally a slave, but also negate her humanity. Can one speak of women and the movement for equality without exposing the misogyny and barbarism of the fundamentalists who rule Iran?

About which aspect of this bitter, unbearable tragedy should I tell you? Should I speak of the hundreds of women who are assaulted in the streets everyday? Or of those arrested and lashed? Or of the respectable women forced to sign confessions that they are prostitutes, just because of the color of their dress or a lock of hair showing from beneath their scarves? Or of the women ruthlessly stoned to death?

Or should I tell you the tragic story of nine-year-old girls, who, according to the mullahs' laws, must be wed? Or about the 12 or 13-year-olds who are sold to 50 or 70-year-old men? Innocent children who wither away under physical and psychological stress. Or should I speak of the many victims of self-immolation and other forms of suicide?

In early 1992, the state-controlled dailies wrote that in the impoverished regions in northeastern Khorassan and southeastern Sistan and Baluchistan, small children are sold for $60 to $70. In north Khorassan alone, 1,700 such girls had been abandoned.

You have probably heard of the tragedy of millions of girl carpet weavers in Iran, who labor in damp, filthy workshops, where they contract paralysis, tuberculosis and scores of other diseases. These children weave the prime of their youth into the fabric of the carpets they make.

Or should I tell of the multitude of women office employees, teachers and workers who were expelled from their jobs simply because they were women? According to official statistics by the national census bureau in 1986, only nine percent of people with jobs were women. The situation has only gotten worse.

Or should I recount the untold tales of suffering of the millions of homeless widows and orphans, women and children who fell victim to the unpatriotic war? Shall I speak of the pain of homelessness, slander and humiliation, the pressures of destitution, rape and suppression?

Or should I tell you about the epic resistance of tens of thousands of women who were savagely tortured or executed for their defiance of the ruthless, despotic theocracy and for joining the ranks of the Resistance for freedom?

Or should I tell of the brutality and cruelty of the clerical regime's executioners, who sent elderly grandmothers, pregnant women and little girls before firing squads without even establishing their identities?

Or should I tell you the shocking stories of young women who were crushed under vicious tortures, raped and their blood drained on the eve of their execution, all in accordance with the mullahs' official decrees?

I tell you that neither the people, nor history nor God will ignore these atrocities. These criminals will be held accountable for destroying so much talent and potential. As the Quran says [in condemning the burial alive of infant girl children]: ''For what crime she was killed?''

Hail to these martyred heroines in chains, who despite all the savagery, never surrendered, but continued to resist for freedom and liberation. They rushed headlong in search of freedom, guiding lights in the quest for liberty. Indeed, as Ashraf Rajavi said: ''The world has never known what the Iranian people, and particularly the women of my homeland, have gone through in these years.''

The head of the regime's Judiciary, Mullah Yazdi, has officially proclaimed: ''A woman needs her husband's permission to leave her home, even to attend her father's funeral''

Mullah Azari Qomi, one of the regime's ideologues, says: ''They Vali-e Faqih (the regime's supreme leader) can forcibly marry girls against their own and their fathers' wishes.''

Mullah Sadouqi, who was Khomeini's representative in central Iran, once said during a meeting of the Assembly of Experts: ''It would be a shame and an utter disgrace for us to have a woman as president or prime minister.''

In their theological teachings, the mullahs try to justify their astronomical lies by stressing that three groups of people must be lied to: Women, infidels and hypocrites

The inhuman mullahs' most sinister sin, however, is that they attribute their misogynous atrocities and reactionary stances to Islam. As the Quran warns, ''Woe to those who write the book with their own hands, and then say: This is from God. To traffic with it for a miserable price.'' In truth, the mullahs perpetrate these atrocities and engage in demagoguery only to maintain power.

Iranian women have risen up against this monster, a monster which has emerged from the depths of the Dark Ages, whose very survival depends on misogyny and gender apartheid. This beast is not just the enemy of the Iranian people, it is at war with humanity.

GLOBAL THREAT

From Tehran, the beating of theocracy, the octopus of fundamentalism has extended its blood-drenched tentacles into Islamic states and Muslim societies around the world. It is the main threat to global and regional peace. Exploiting the religious beliefs of more than one billion Muslims, the mullahs ruling Iran promote expansionism, while exporting crisis and discord. Their foreign policy consists of meddling in the affairs of Islamic countries, issuing fatwas to murder foreign nationals and launching terrorist operations abroad. Other aspects of this policy include spending huge sums on armaments of all kinds, especially weapons of mass destruction such as biological, chemical and nuclear weapons.

Such a foreign policy is inherent to the fundamentalists' nature. The theocracy ruling Iran thrives on crisis. It is hostile to the most important global peace initiative in the Middle East, and its policies and actions only nourish warmongering extremists and fundamentalists.

These realities demonstrate how the ominous specter of religious fascism haunts global peace. The world community, for its turn, has a moral duty to confront and overcome this phenomenon.

I again emphasize here that these reactionaries who suppress the Iranian people, and particularly Iranian women, and export terrorism and fundamentalism under the cloak of religion, have nothing to do with Islam. They are the peddlers of religion and exploit the name of Islam to advance their sinister, inhuman objectives. Islam is the religion of peace, freedom, liberty, equality, love, mercy and liberation. The mullahs' fundamentalist mindset, however, rests upon vengeance, enmity and ignorance and is at war with human values and world peace.

As we approach the end of the twentieth century, fundamentalism's brazen enmity toward human values and world peace has spilled onto issues of international concern. In 1993, during the International Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, the Iranian regime opposed the principle of the universality of human rights. In 1994, during the World Conference on Population Control in Cairo, it opposed women's right to family planning. In 1995, during the World Conference on Women in Beijing, it opposed the principle of equality between women and men. And in 1996, adamant in its pursuit of terrorism and enmity toward peace, it rebuffed the Sharm Al-Sheikh summit.

UNITED FRONT

The international community has failed to demonstrate enough sensitivity to the dangers of appeasing the religious, terrorist dictatorship ruling Iran. Hence, the mullahs still find opportunities to take advantage of such conciliation. Through terrorist blackmail, they take the policies and even the moral principles of governments hostage.

Events in recent months confirm that the clerical regime always takes advantage of its diplomatic facilities to interfere in Middle Eastern countries and engage in assassinations in the West. Two months ago, the mullahs declared for the umpteenth time that the issue of the *fatwa* against British Novelist Salman Rushdie can only be settled by his murder. Faced with such a regime, decisiveness is the only policy. It is not only a moral and humanitarian obligation, but a political and historical necessity as well. The future of democracy, development and peace on a global scale depends on such a policy.

Here, the issue of women and the movement for equality join with the fight against fundamentalism. Not only are women the standard-bearers of the movement for equality, but they are also the driving force behind development, peace and social justice. In this context, the documents of the World conference on women in Beijing unequivocally underscore that, ''Women's empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society, including participation in the decision-making process and access to power, are fundamental for the achievement of equality, development and peace.''

Yes, in my view, humanity will be rid of the foreboding specter of fundamentalism only when women take on their leading role in this global challenge, and use every democratic means to block appeasement of the misogynous, inhuman mullahs of Iran. This is particularly the case because the issue of fundamentalism is at one and the same time the key political problem confronting Islamic nations, and the most critical foreign policy problem facing many other countries.

Allow me, therefore, to call upon my sisters, women throughout the world, to arise and form a world coalition against fundamentalism. Such a coalition would comprise all humanitarian, progressive women and men, who will doubtless rush to the assistance of Iranian women, the prime victims

of the Mullahs' oppression. A common front against fundamentalism serves the interests of global peace, and will preclude a repeat of the bitter experience of appeasing fascism on the eve of the Second World War.

I wish to underscore here that women's leading role in the fight against fundamentalism doubly serves the movement for equality and the effort to uproot sexual discrimination. The only way to propel that movement forward is to link it with a progressive political movement. If women have no share in political power; if they are not part of the leadership and the decision-making processes on social issues; if they do not have a serious, equal role in economic management, and if they are not actively and visibly involved in international politics, all the talk about equality between women and men rings hollow. Real equality only comes about when women take on key roles in tackling the primary challenges of the day.

WOMEN LEAD THE WAY

In order to overturn the system of gender discrimination and bring about fundamental change, women must predominate political leadership for a specific period of time. The objective of such a predominant role in leadership is to guarantee equality and uproot sexual oppression, not to replace patriarchy with matriarchy. Thus, all the prerequisites and consequences are liberating in their essence. Once the oppression has been eradicated, the energies thus set free will break through the impasses currently confronting human society and will help to establish a new system of human relations, both within a community and on a global scale.

Now, in the great era of women's emancipation, the victims of centuries of the most dreadful historical oppression will echo the voices of all oppressed peoples. Today, the voice of women is indeed the voice of the oppressed, those whose cries reach no one; the voice of the children denied all rights and means to grow; the voice of the poor and destitute, who moan not just for lack of bread, but for lack of compassion.

Now it is the turn of women to rebel against all forms of oppression, to rise and end gender-based oppression and inequality, to unite women and men in their true human identity. They must rebel and give a new lease of life to human society, rise and topple the pillars of all oppression, tear asunder the status quo and chart a new course.

RESISTANCE'S EXPERIENCE

Ladies and gentlemen,

Please allow me to speak of the achievements of the women in the Iranian Resistance, achievements which in reality belong to all women in the movement for equality. To enhance our gains, we look to our sisters' ideas and experiences the world over.

After a century of active participation in the social struggle, Iranian women came face to face with the onslaught of religious, terrorist dictatorship, namely the fundamentalists ruling Iran. As the reactionary beast awakened, the mounting difficulties had only one message for our women: all-out resistance Capitulation and submission were impossible. women took part in the political struggle and rose up to resist the reactionaries and defend democratic freedoms. Now, they convey the cries of an enchained and oppressed, yet proud and resistant, nation.

After 15 years of struggle against the reactionaries, these pioneering women occupy key positions as leaders of the Resistance movement. Fifty-two percent of the Resistance's parliament are women. The General Command of the National Liberation Army of Iran is made up essentially of women, and the Leadership Council of the Mojahedin, the pivotal force within the Resistance, is comprised entirely of women. Women also command and manage at different levels in the combat, technical and specialized units of the army, in the movement's political structure and in organizational affairs. Under their directorship, the male-female division of labor has become a thing of the past.

WOMEN'S EMANCIPATION

But how did we manage such achievements?

Twelve years ago, locked in a life-or-death struggle against the rule of the mullahs, the Resistance movement realized that women must take on greater responsibilities. At that juncture, our women played a prominent role in the fight against the clerical regime, but one thing was blocking the gates to change: doubts about women's capabilities.

In the story of women's liberation, tragedy and heroism are often ironically entwined. This is my constant feeling in my dealings with the women's struggle. See for yourself how well-entrenched male-dominated thinking is, in the roots and veins of society and culture.

Within our organization, which was fighting against the mullahs, all the heroism of women and the sacrifice of tens of thousands of women martyrs were still not enough to make us believe in their equality, to break the barriers of sexual oppression and discrimination. I sometimes thought to myself, what else must women do to make others believe in them? How is it that these women defeat the executioners in prisons with their bare hands, but cannot come to grips with political concepts and lack the necessary resolve to manage our affairs? Had this will and these emotions been created for women only to offer comfort to their husbands at home? I found that hard to believe.

Most tragically, these same women did not see themselves as sources of admirable heroism and lacked the will to change. After all, women had historically brought about many wondrous achievements; the crux of the matter was their lack of faith in themselves. hence the need to rebel against such misgivings.

It was then that we reached the conclusion that gradual change would prove useless, that the missing element and the real solution to break this mindset was women's participation in leadership.

Indeed, in our confrontation with the ruling reactionaries, we needed to rid ourselves of the residue of their thinking and values. Inevitably, we had to crush the heart of the reactionary misogyny which negates women's human identity and ability to lead the society. In this way women could break through the barriers of historical degradation and oppression embedded within their own thinking, and believe in themselves. It was also necessary to convince the men that they need no longer question the capabilities of the women who had fought alongside them on all the battlefields of the struggle for freedom. Once these changes had overturned the mindset of all the Mojahedin in the form of an internal revolution, our women broke the spell of self-doubt. Not merely as isolated examples, but as a generation of emancipated women, they ably assumed key leadership responsibilities.

NEW VALUES

The most outstanding characteristics of these women were their sense of responsibility, their willingness to learn, their commitment to discipline, their impressive decisiveness, and most important of all, the selfless devotion which emanated from their human qualities. These traits also had a constructive impact on the work place.

These women had learned to believe in themselves; that they were free and equal human beings; that they were not created for men and not identified with them; that they were no one's possession; that they owned their own body, life and emotions. They overcame the world of ''the weaker sex,'' a world of subordination and irresponsibility, and were reborn in their true human image.

The first signs of this birth were the new relationships among women. They realized that they first had to like the women around them, if they were to act in solidarity with one another and accept each other's command.

It is perhaps appropriate for me to speak, beyond the many new values that blossomed in the revolution in our thinking, about the role of these women in maintaining a healthy relationship between women and men. It was only in this way that a mixed army in which the relationships among people were pure and the combat capability enormous, took shape, arousing the admiration of many observers.

And finally, one of our greatest achievements was that our women's emancipation immediately affected the liberation of our men, and improved their capabilities. Those men who rushed to welcome this change, despite its hardships, were proud to forge ahead in the path to equality.

Needless to say, in the world of discrimination, men, too, are enchained and enslaved by a domineering and authoritarian attitude. Truly, to deny the humanity of those human beings closest to him—his mother, sister and wife—must not a man first negate his own humanity? How else can a human being accept such oppression with a clear conscience? We have seen a generation of men regain their lost human identity in the movement to reject gender oppression, men who displayed the ultimate form of freedom and emancipation by accepting the leadership of women.

Yes, we have witnessed the birth of a generation of liberated women and men, shining beacons in an auspicious transformation of human relationships. This transformation came about through the leadership of Massoud Rajavi. Because of it, our generation and our Resistance movement were thrust forward on the road of human evolution and advancement. Of course, this generation, under this leadership, was tempered in an all-out anti-fundamentalist resistance. Its most important trait has been that in the political arena, it submitted to no compromise with the fundamentalists. This was a generation that arose on June 20th, 1981, to protest the suppression of liberties. In never relenting, despite 100,000 martyrs, it demonstrated that it will not stop until it achieves—at whatever cost—the Iranian people's fundamental rights, namely, freedom and national and popular sovereignty.

This generation crushed the mullahs' demagoguery about the war and obstructed the export of fundamentalism by campaigning relentlessly for peace in and out of Iran.

This generation broke the spell of the inhuman mullahs' posturing about religion through sacrifice and selflessness. It charted a resistance that has today emerged as the democratic, progressive and popular answer to fundamentalism, and is recognized as the antithesis of fundamentalism.

Along this path, the Mojahedin and combatants of Iran's freedom had to forsake everything to guarantee the liberation of their beloved people and homeland. They had to cleanse themselves of all the pollutants of the ruling reactionaries' mindset. They had to arise and eradicate concepts based upon gender discrimination, and ensure women's emancipation and acceptance of responsibility.

CRUCIAL STEPS

Permit me in this brief opportunity to mention the most important points learned

from our experience, as time limitations make it impossible to discuss our accomplishments in any depth.

First, to begin the process towards eradicating relationships based on gender oppression, women must enter the field of political and social activity.

Second, to this end, women must occupy positions of political and social leadership. Within the movement for equality itself, at least 50% of key positions of responsibility must be held by women. Through a policy of positive discrimination for a certain period of time, women's historical deprivation must be compensated for. Accordingly, a system of quotas is needed, that favors ever greater assumption by women of social responsibilities. The spirit, essence and hallmark of such privileges are a greater sense of responsibility by women and men and an end to exploitation and sexual oppression.

Third, women's emancipation is a prerequisite to the liberation of men, and must lead to it. Solutions which aim only to swap the places of women and men will only result in the latter's destruction, aggravating the alienation of the sexes and the conflicts between them. Obviously, that will not bring about women's emancipation either. On the other hand, there is nothing unrealistic about creating a new set of human relationships and equality between the two sexes, given their monistic human essence.

Fourth, contrary to the misogynous reactionaries, we must underscore the principle that women's rights are human rights. These encompass all individual and social rights stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. On this basis, a woman's body and emotions are her own, and she has the right to birth control.

Fifth, the conflicts between the family and social and political responsibilities are common, erosive problems for all women. We believe that it is the right of all women, particularly combatant women and those who struggle in the movement for equality, to choose freely. This right must be fully recognized, so that they can, whenever necessary, choose to give priority and precedence to political and social responsibilities.

WOMEN AND THE FUTURE

Women's participation in the resistance movement prepares the cultural and ideological grounds to eradicate sexual oppression. Such active participation, albeit difficult and abound in sacrifice, gives credence to the equality of Iranian women and the recognition of their rights. In contrast to Khomeini, who never recognized women's minimum rights, Iranian women's rights and freedoms are unequivocally and specifically recognized in the platform of the National Council of Resistance and the provisional government, as well as in a specific declaration ratified by the NCR on the freedoms and rights of women.

Accordingly, I reaffirm the recognized rights of women in the Iran of tomorrow.

1. Women's social, political and economic rights will be completely equal with men's;

2. Women will enjoy the right to free political and social activity, social intercourse and travel without the permission of another person.

3. Women's associations will be recognized and their voluntary organizations supported nationwide;

4. In order to eradicate inequality and dual oppression, special privileges in various social, administrative and cultural arenas will be considered.

5. Women will have the right to elect and be elected in all elections, and the right to suffrage in all referendums;

6. Women will have the right to employment and freedom of choice of profession, the right to hold any public or government position, and the right to serve as judges in all judicial bodies;

7. Discrimination between women and men in hiring and during employment is banned. Women and men will receive equal pay for equal work. They will receive identical retirement pensions, disability payments, children support and alimony and unemployment insurance;

8. Women will have the right to use, without discrimination, all instructional, educational athletic and artistic resources, and will have the right to participate in all competitions and artistic activities;

9. Women will be completely free to choose their clothing and covering;

10. Women will be completely free to choose their spouses, to marry and divorce, and will enjoy the same rights as men;

11. Legal inequalities regarding testimony, inheritance, and guardianship of children will be eliminated. During pregnancy, child birth and child rearing, women will enjoy special rights and accommodations. Widowed or divorced women and the children under their care will be supported by the country's social welfare system;

12. Any sexual exploitation of women, under whatever pretext, is banned. Any coercion or imposition on women in family life, as well as marriage before legal age, is forbidden.

13. Polygamy is banned;

14. Employment of minor girl children is banned, and they will enjoy special educational privileges.

Ladies and gentleman, dear compatriots, what I have enumerated are the natural expectations of women. They are rights that for centuries have been ignored and denied, as the women trying to attain them have been suppressed. They are the common demands of our sisters around the world.

My homeland, however, tells a different story, because:

The mighty resistance of Iranian women and the pain and blood of tens of thousands of martyred and tortured women have given new meaning to these words, and have colored them with a brilliant courage, seriousness, love of life and hope of construction.

The women of Iran have defied the mullahs' humiliation and proudly challenged the guardians of inequality.

Women and mothers forsook their marriages for the freedom of their people and country, and bid farewell for an indefinite period to their beloved children.

Women undertook the heaviest and most complex responsibilities in the battle against the misogynous and inhuman fundamentalists.

HISTORIC MANDATE

My sisters, you women who have rebelled against inequality.

My brothers, you men who chose to follow your conscience rather than opt for the special privileges of male domination.

I call upon you to come to the aid of our Resistance movement against the most evil religious tyranny in history. I ask you to rise up and join hands to form a global coalition and a front against fundamentalism.

The misogynous, inhuman mullahs are intent on destroying the rights and freedoms of women and trampling upon their human dignity in order to bolster the pillars of their regime. But I say to these mullahs, you are gravely mistaken. The world will bear witness when you become an example for those who ponder enslaving, suppressing and beguiling the people.

And I say, if you think that you can get what you want because the yearning to live freely and think freely has died in the world, you are gravely mistaken. You have done your utmost to humiliate, suppress, torture and slaughter Iranian women, but rest assured that you will receive the blow from the very force you discounted, the very force whom your reactionary mindset cannot allow you to take into consideration. The era of demagoguery and deceit under the cloak of religion has ended.

On the eve of the 21st century, enlighten people the world over, the proud Resistance of Iranian people and the combatants of freedom will not allow you to abuse religion.

In closing, and in again calling upon all my sisters—here, across Iran and gathered in other countries—I wish to stress;

The women of the past, who endured a history of torment and oppression, and the women, children and men of the future, today turn their eyes to you. They ask you to rise to the occasion and assume your historic role. It is you who will propel human history into the golden age of equality, peace, democracy and development.

Hail to all free-thinking women and men everywhere, who are paying the high price of liberty. Victory lies before you, belongs to you and awaits you. Indeed, the oppressed of today are the victors of tomorrow. Their voice will resonate throughout eternity.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 23, 1996, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 24

9:30 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Business meeting, to mark up S. 1166, to enhance public confidence in the safety of the American food supply, and facilitate the development and adoption of safe, effective pest control technologies.

SR–328A

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admistration's (NASA) space station and space shuttle programs.

SR–253

Environment and Public Works

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by a hearing on the nominations of Nils J. Diaz, of Florida, and Edward McGaffigan, Jr., of Virginia, each to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

SD–406

Labor and Human Resources

Business meeting, to mark up S. 1490, to improve enforcement of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and benefit security for participants by adding certain provisions with respect to the auditing of employee benefit plans.

SD–430

Rules and Administration

To resume hearings to examine the role of the Federal Depository Library Program of the Government Printing Office in ensuring public access to Government information.

SR–301

Indian Affairs

Business meeting, to mark up S. 199, Trading with Indian Act Repeal, S. 1893, the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Claims Settlement Act, S. 1962, the Indian Child Welfare Act Amendments, H.R. 2464, to add additional land to the Goshute Indian Reservation in Utah, H.R. 3068, to revoke the Charter of the Prairie Island Indian Community, S. 1970, the National Museum of the American Indian Act Amendments, S. 1972, the Older Americans Indian Technical Amendments Act, and S. 1973, the Navajo/Hopi Land Dispute Settlement Act.

SR–485

Select on Intelligence

To hold hearings on the status of the Dayton Peace Accord.

SH–216

10:00 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Financial Institutions and Regulatory Relief Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the condition of consumer credit, focusing on the risks of deteriorating credit quality on financial institutions and the economy.

SD–538

Governmental Affairs

Financial Management and Accountability Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 1434, to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for a two-year (biennial) budgeting cycle.

SD–342

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting, to mark up S. 1791, to increase, effective as of December 1, 1996, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of such veterans, and other pending committee business.

SR–418

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD–419

JULY 25

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To resume hearings on S. 1726, to promote electronic commerce by facilitating the use of privacy-enhancing technologies.

SR–253

Energy and Natural Resources

Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 1699, to establish the National Cave and Karst Research Institute in the State of New Mexico, and S. 1809, entitled the ''Aleutian World War II National Historic Areas Act''.

SD–366

Governmental Affairs

Business meeting, to consider the nomination of Franklin D. Raines, of the District of Columbia, to be Director, Office of Management and Budget, and to mark up S. 1376, to terminate unnecessary and inequitable Federal corporate subsidies, S. 1931, to provide that the United States Post Office building that is to be located at 9 East Broad Street, Cookeville, Tennessee, shall be known and designated as the ''L. Clure Morton Post Office and Courthouse'', and S. 1629, to protect the rights of the States and the people from abuse by the Federal Government, to strengthen the partnership and the intergovernmental relationship between State and Federal governments, and to enforce the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

SD–342

Labor and Human Resources

To hold hearings to examine recent developments in genetics research and public policy issues surrounding the application of new genetic technologies.

SD–430

10:00 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to review the General Accounting Office (GAO) report on the Federal Reserve System.

SD–538

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 1794, to provide for the forfeiture of retirement benefits in the case of any Member of Congress, congressional employee, or Federal justice or judge who is convicted of an offense relating to official duties of that individual, and for the forfeiture of the retirement allowance of the President for such a conviction.

SD–342

Judiciary

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD–226

JULY 29

2:00 p.m.

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON RESTRUCTURING THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

To hold a closed executive session.

SD–192

JULY 30

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine the conditions that have made the national forests in Arizona susceptible to fires and disease.

SD–366

Special on Aging

To hold hearings to examine incidents of suicide among the elderly.

SD–628

2:00 p.m.

Judiciary

Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights Subcommittee

Business meeting, to mark up S.J.Res. 8, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit retroactive increases in taxes, and proposed legislation authorizing funds for the United States Commission on Civil Rights.

SD–226

JULY 31

10:00 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine competition in the telecommunications industry.

SD–226

AUGUST 1

10:00 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to review foreign policy issues.

SD–419

Judiciary

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD–226

2:00 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings on the implementation of Section 2001, Emergency Timber Salvage, of Public Law 104–19.

SD–366

SEPTEMBER 5

2:00 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 931, to authorize the construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System and to authorize assistance to the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, for the planning and construction of the water supply system, S. 1564, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide loan guarantees for water supply, conservation, quality and transmission projects, S. 1565, to supplement the Small Reclamation Projects Act of 1956 and to supplement the Federal Reclamation laws by providing for Federal cooperation in non-Federal projects and for participation by non-Federal agencies in Federal projects, S. 1649, to extend contracts between the Bureau of Reclamation and irrigation districts in Kansas and Nebraska, S. 1719, Texas Reclamation Projects Indebtedness Purchase Act, and S. 1921, to transfer certain facilities at the Minidoka project to Burley Irrigation District.

SD–366

SEPTEMBER 17

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.

334 Cannon Building

CANCELLATIONS

JULY 23

9:30 a.m.

Select on Intelligence

To hold hearings on the status of the Dayton Peace Accord.

SH–216

POSTPONEMENTS

JULY 23

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on S. 1678, to abolish the Department of Energy.

SD–366

JULY 25

10:00 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings on S. 1961, to establish the United States Intellectual Property Organization, and to amend the provisions of title 35, United States Code, relating to procedures for patent applications, commercial use of patents, reexamination reform.

SD–226