

TRIBUTE TO THE 7TH GREAT DOMINICAN PARADE AND CARNAVAL OF THE BRONX

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to recognize the Great Dominican Parade and Carnival of the Bronx on its seventh year of celebrating Dominican culture in my South Bronx congressional district.

Under its founder and president Felipe Febles, the parade has grown in size and splendor. It now brings together an increasing number of participants from all five New York City boroughs and beyond.

On Sunday, thousands of members and friends of the Dominican community will march along the grand concourse in honor of Juan Pablo Duarte, the father of the independence of the Dominican Republic.

The event will feature a wide variety of entertainment for all age groups. This year's festival includes the performance of Merengue and Salsa bands, crafts exhibitions, and food typical of the Dominican Republic.

In addition to the parade, President Febles and many organizers have provided the community with nearly 2 weeks of activities to commemorate the contributions of the Dominican community, its culture, and history.

Mr. Speaker, it is with enthusiasm that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful celebration of Dominican culture, which has brought much pride to the Bronx community.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN NEFF

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my friend and associate, Mr. John Neff. I would like to acknowledge John on his retirement after 32 years of dedicated service to Frankford Hospital. John has truly reshaped the hospital, and moved it to the forefront of modern health care.

When John first came to Frankford Hospital in 1965, it consisted of a single, extremely outdated facility. As he retires, we can see the transformation that he has created. Thirty-two years later, the hospital is a contemporary health system, with five state-of-the-art facilities. Throughout his tenure, John focused on using change as a catalyst to see the hospital's objective of service come to fruition. With his fingers on the pulse of innovation, he is leaving Frankford Hospital poised to meet the demands of a new era in health care.

John has always agreed with me that the needs of seniors in Philadelphia are of utmost importance, and has continued to work to provide quality health care for seniors in our community. As a member of the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania, he has worked in conjunction with this group to see that health care in Philadelphia maintains the necessary components of superior care for its patients.

Not only has John changed the care side of the hospital, but he has also changed the way

in which it dealt with employees. When employees of the hospital speak about John, they often use the words kind, compassionate, and open. He has developed a feeling of fellowship and community within the hospital, with the staff describing John and other members as family.

As John moves on to a time in his life where he can devote himself to his other great passions: family, grandchildren, flying, and golf, I congratulate him on 32 years of unwavering service and dedication to Frankford Hospital and the people of Philadelphia. John is a model of perseverance and true dedication. He has taken the lead without apprehension, and challenged the status quo. With great respect, I wish to honor and applaud my friend and colleague. May he have continued success.

IN HONOR OF BILL COBANE: AN EXEMPLARY INDIVIDUAL; A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to William Cobane, a special gentleman who has distinguished himself through his outstanding dedication to my district. He served as an intern in my office, and excelled to become a congressional staff member who served my constituents earnestly and without desire of reward. In recognition of his dedicated service, I would like to honor Mr. Cobane for his exceptional voluntary service and efforts on behalf of the Sixth Annual Project Children Luncheon on July 21, 1997 at O'Donoghue's Pub in Hoboken, NJ.

Tradition and excellence are key words describing this truly dedicated citizen. Mr. Cobane has worked extensively on the Project Children benefit—an organization committed to promoting peace in Northern Ireland. This organization annually brings children from Northern Ireland to spend part of their summer in America with host families. Driven by his Irish roots, Bill Cobane works to make sure these children have the wonderful opportunity to experience and enjoy this time in America, and away from the violence in their homeland.

His hard work and commitment to the event has benefited the lives of many young children from Northern Ireland. He has dedicated much of his time and efforts toward the success of this special event.

Mr. Cobane's work and dedication are an example of his loyal and committed service to others. His volunteerism demonstrates his dedication to his community and his stature as a model citizen. His service to my district will always stand as a shining example for others. I am proud to have such a caring individual work on the Project Children Luncheon.

WAS JOHN HUANG DEBRIEFED?

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, our worst fears about the depth and significance of the administration's scandals are being realized.

Is there anyone who still thinks this is just about campaign finance reform? We read in today's Washington Post column of Robert D. Novak the headline "Was John Huang Debriefed?" Was he, indeed? I raised this question quite some time ago with Commerce Secretary Daley and was met with the delays and stonewalling that have characterized this administration. What else are we to conclude, but that at the very least when it comes to Mr. Huang and security matters this administration has something to hide.

I place the Novak column in today's RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, July 17, 1997]

WAS JOHN HUANG DEBRIEFED?

(By Robert D. Novak)

A previously missing government form that should have indicated whether John Huang was debriefed by a security officer before he left the Commerce Department two years ago turned up last Friday. But the place where the now infamous Democratic fund-raiser was supposed to have signed is blank.

Any government official with top-secret access—Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce Huang included—must attest to the return of all classified information when debriefed as he leaves the government. But Huang's unsigned debriefing document underlines questions about what he did with government secrets and how well they were protected.

Complete answers can come only from investigators with subpoena powers. Contrary to the White House mantra, current Senate hearings concern much more than campaign finance reform—such as Huang's security clearance, dubious on its face. Immediately following CIA briefings, Huang would regularly contact the Chinese Embassy. Yet, even after resigning from the government and going to the Democratic National Committee (DNC), he received another security clearance. The CIA, which had given him documents, was not alerted to Huang's change of status.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, the conservative weekly Human Events several weeks ago obtained from the Commerce Department Huang's "Separation Clearance Certificate," noting that his "effective date of separation" was Jan. 17, 1995 (though he actually went to the DNC in December). Commerce officials signed the document on Jan. 22, noting Huang's return of government charge cards, his parking permit and his diplomatic passport. "Security debriefing and credentials" was noted and signed by a Commerce Department security officer named Robert W. Mack.

At that debriefing, Huang should have signed a Standard Form 312 acknowledging return of classified material. But an official Commerce spokesman told Human Events editor Terrence Jeffrey two weeks ago: "The recollection of our security personnel is that he [Huang] was debriefed but that a Standard Form 312 has not been located."

What's more, there are indications it was never given to congressional investigating committees. On July 3, Rep. Jerry Solomon (R-N.Y.), chairman of the House Rules Committee, wrote Commerce Secretary William Daley demanding the Form 312 by July 9.

That deadline came and went, but late on Friday, July 11, the piece of paper was dispatched to Solomon. It showed that on July 18, 1994, Huang signed for his security briefing. But Huang never signed the debriefing acknowledgment that "I have returned all classified information in my custody."

If security officer Mack signed off for the debriefing, why didn't Huang? "For reasons