

CONGRATULATING USUHS ON ITS  
25TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 1997*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, last year this House overwhelmingly endorsed and recognized the important role of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in maintaining the health and readiness of our Nation's Armed Forces. Today I am proud to congratulate this fine institution, located in my congressional district in Bethesda, MD, on its 25th anniversary.

Public Law 92-426 established USUHS in 1972 to ensure continuity and leadership for uniformed medicine. USUHS has graduated 2,470 military medical officers; 2,276 of them continue in active duty today, constituting 17 percent of Department of Defense's physician force.

USUHS has met every goal and mission envisioned by the founders of the remarkable institution, the West Point of military medicine. The overall USUHS retention rate is an incredible 93 percent. Of those who have completed their original obligation, 85 percent continue on active duty in service to their Nation.

The high level of performance and deployability of USUHS graduates was validated during congressional hearings in 1994. The three Surgeons General and USUHS graduates who served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm testified that USUHS physicians were immediately deployable to combat areas and aptly utilized combat, field sanitation, unconventional warfare, and preventive medicine training.

In addition, USUHS provides products and services to DOD that should be recognized and factored in to the cost-effectiveness of the University: one, the newly accredited Graduate School of Nursing provides family nurse practitioners and registered nurse anesthetists for the Federal Nursing Chiefs; two, the Office of Graduate Medical Education provides consultation on internship, residency, and fellowship training programs for DOD and is the administrative office for the National Capital Military Medical Education Consortium; three, the Graduate Education Programs have granted over 444 graduate degrees; and four, in 1996, the Office of Continuing Education for Health Professionals [CHE] provided 107 accredited programs with an attendance of 3,500 physicians and 3,031 nurses. USUHS CHE generated cost-avoidance for DOD by eliminating extensive travel expenses and time away from the hospitals and clinics. In 1996, the Military Training Network, part of CHE, developed and implemented policy guidance and ensured compliance with curriculum and administrative standards for resuscitative and trauma medicine training programs for 242,663 DOD personnel.

Those who say that the university is too expensive are wrong. The cost-effectiveness of USUHS should be judged based on all of the products and services it provides to the Nation. The General Accounting Office report of September 1995 substantiated that USUHS costs are comparable to scholarship costs based on expected years of service and all Federal costs. And, this conclusion was reached by GAO without considering all of the

other products and services provided by USUHS.

The facts demonstrate that USUHS has more than met its mandated mission. There is no doubt that the university is providing a corps of career-oriented, dedicated, military medical officers who will lead the military health care system into the 21st century.

In conclusion, I want to recognize and congratulate the superb faculty and staff of USUHS for a job well done. Happy Anniversary to our Nation's Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND  
EDUCATION AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS  
ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. PATSY T. MINK**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 16, 1997*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2264) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Chairman, the Hoekstra amendment, HA 356, bars the use of Federal funds to pay for an election officer to continue overseeing the election of any officer or trustee of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

The Government has already spent about \$17 million to oversee the Teamsters' 1996 election because the Bush administration's 1989 consent decree obligated the Government to do so. The consent decree, signed by the Government in 1989 said:

"The union defendants consent to the Election officer, at Government expense, to supervise the 1996 IBT elections."

The election officer concluded on August 21, 1997 that the 1996 election had to be run again because the election protests filed with the officer uncovered campaign misconduct that, she concluded, "could have persuaded at least a small percent" of the voters and "affected the outcome."

Given these facts, Mr. HOEKSTRA'S amendment, if enacted, bars funding necessary to supervise the court ordered re-run of the 1996 election.

The election officer has explained why she thinks we need to proceed with this re-run election:

[T]he election of International officers is the clearest expression of the control of the members over their Union; it is also the key to insuring that organized crime, employers, or any other outsiders do not use the Union for their own purposes. To avoid a rerun because of the disruption it brings could allow this union to lose its most valuable resource: the support, participation, and confidence of its membership. Such a result cannot be allowed.

A study of the recent history of the Teamsters shows we have come a long way in our effort to rid this union of mob influence.

In 1986, former Chief Circuit Judge Irving R. Kaufman, the chair of President Reagan's

Commission on Organized Crime, concluded that the mob's influence of the Teamsters was both intrusive and pervasive and insisted that President Reagan prosecute the Teamsters and use of civil RICO statute to take over the union.

In 1989, the Bush administration entered into a consent decree, the one I've mentioned already, that permitted the Federal district court to take over the union, to appoint a monitor, and to appoint an election officer. This consent decree also changed the Teamsters' constitution, providing for the unprecedented direct election of the Teamsters' top officers by the rank and file members.

By 1989, we had learned some hard lessons when we had not been vigilant in the supervision of union elections. The Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations was highly critical of one union election, after 20 months of a government trusteeship, that resulted in the mob-dominated union officers being replaced by a slate allegedly tied to these same officers. Thus, the scrutiny of the Teamsters' election was intense.

The Bush administration's consent decree split the anticipated burden of the first two elections, requiring that the Teamsters pay the \$21 million necessary to run the first election in 1991, and that the Government pay the cost of second election.

Therefore, I believe we are legally obligated by the consent decree, agreed to by the Bush administration. This House can not support the Hoekstra amendment without being in contempt of a court order.

CONGRATULATIONS TO VAROUJAN  
BALOTIAN, TAMAR KATAROYAN,  
AND MANO HANDIAN**HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 1997*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate three outstanding individuals from the Armenian General Athletic Union. These individuals exemplify leadership in their organization that has earned them the Homenetmen Member of the Year Award, Athlete of the Year Award, and Scout of the Year Award.

The Armenian General Athletic Union serves the sporting needs of Fresno's Armenian community with competitive tournaments that emphasize fraternity and shared accomplishment. Fresno's chapter has nine competitive teams that participate in events statewide, as well as a Boy Scout Troop.

This year's recipient of the Homenetmen Member of the Year was Varoujan Balotian. Balotian is one of the founding members of the Fresno chapter and is also one of the first members of the central executive committee. Balotian's guidance and dedication has shaped the Armenian General Athletic Union into the fine organization that it is today. However, Balotian's success is not limited to the union, as he is a long-time manager at one of Fresno's finest mens stores.

Athlete of the Year was awarded to 18-year-old Tamar Kataroyan. This award is presented to only one athlete from a random selection between the 16 chapters in the western region. Kataroyan has been involved in all aspects of the organization including the coaching of youth and participation in tournaments.