

Civil Rights leader Reverend Ronald I. Schupp. For the past two years, Reverend Schupp has held a peaceful twenty-four hour fast and vigil outside of the Chinese Consulate in Chicago calling upon the government of the People's Republic of China to grant independence to Tibet and its people.

This vigil has been held on March 10, now known as Tibetan National Day, recognizing for thirty-nine years the ongoing efforts of the Tibetan people to gain their freedom.

The 14th Dalai Lama, who in 1989 won the Nobel Peace Prize for his continuing efforts for a nonviolent peaceful solution to end the occupation of Tibet, is still laboring ceaselessly to accomplish this goal. I fully support Reverend Schupp and the vigil he is once again undertaking.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DERAN
KOLIGIAN

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 9, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Deran Koligian for being recognized "Man of the Year" by the Armenian National Committee of Central California. Deran Koligian is committed to working hard for the community and Armenian-Americans.

Deran Koligian represents the first Supervisorial District on the Fresno County Board of Supervisors. He is serving in his fourth term and represents some urban areas of Fresno and a large agricultural region in western Fresno County. Koligian served as the 1996 Chairman of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

With his duties as a member of the Board of Supervisors, Koligian serves on the Fresno County Audit and Debt Advisory Committees, Central Valley Project Authority Advisory Committee, Biological Diversity Task Force, San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review, Cal-ID Board, I-5 Business Development Corridor Commission, Ambulance Authority, Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Solid Waste Commission, Pleasant Valley Habitat Plan Board of Directors and Steering Committee, Southeast Solid Waste Commission, Selma-Kingsburg-Fowler County Sanitation District, West County Solid Waste Planning Board, Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging, and Solid Waste Enforcement Hearing Panel. He serves as an alternate member of the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District, Mid-Valley Water Authority, Water Resources Management Executive Committee, and San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust.

He was born and raised in Fresno and is a graduate of Madison Elementary School, Central High School, and Fresno State College (now California State University, Fresno). Additionally, he served as an Army infantryman during World War II in the South Pacific.

Supervisor Koligian has been an outspoken advocate for agriculture as a member of the Board of Supervisors of Fresno County. While being engaged in farming his entire life, Koligian has been very actively involved in civic organizational work. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of Madison Elementary School for 12 years, followed by 12 years of service on the board of Central High School.

He was also a member of the Fresno County Schools Trustee Association and Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission. Koligian has also served as chairman of the Fresno-Madera Land Bank Association and Chairman of the Fresno County Planning Commission.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to congratulate Deran Koligian for being recognized as "Man of the Year" by the Armenian National Committee of Central California. Deran Koligian's dedication and pride for the Armenian heritage warrant this recognition. I ask my Colleagues to join me in wishing Deran Koligian many more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO THE WOMEN'S RE-
SOURCE CENTER CALIFORNIA
LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 9, 1998

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Women's Resource Center of California Lutheran University. This organization will celebrate their Nineteenth Annual "Creative Options—A Day for Women" on Saturday, March 7th.

March has been designated "Women's History Month" by the Congress of the United States as a tribute to American women of every race, class and ethnic background that have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation. Women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural and social role in every aspect of American life. They serve as leaders in the forefront of every major progressive movement for social change and have worked to create a more fair and just society for all. And though our country has come a long way in recognizing the talents and accomplishments of women, there are still hurdles to be overcome.

The Women's Resource Center offers many services to women, from academic resources to emotional support. In addition, they sponsor a variety of forums aimed at facilitating discussions on the leadership role of women in our community. Creative Options is a day for women to come together to discuss their experiences. This day of reflection is spent listening and talking with each other about hardships associated with being a woman in today's society. From sharing personal stories, women learn from each other how to cope with struggles in their careers, families, and daily lives. With an emphasis on renewal and growth, many view the day as an opportunity to work toward self-improvement.

Throughout this month, schools, businesses and organizations will pay tribute to the role women have played in our country's history. However, the Women's Resource Center of California Lutheran University is an organization that works throughout the year to provide women with strength and support in every area of their lives. Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring the work they have already done and continue to do.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 1998 CON-
GRESS-BUNDESTAG STAFF EX-
CHANGE

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 9, 1998

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the U.S. Congress and the German Parliament have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and convey Members' views on issues of mutual concern.

A staff delegation from the United States Congress are being chosen to visit Germany March 22 to April 4 of this year. During the 2-week exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag members, Bundestag party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies. Cultural activities and a weekend visit in a Bundestag Member's district will complete the schedule.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for 3 weeks this summer. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington and visit the districts of congressional Members.

The Congress-Bundestag is highly regarded in Germany and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. The ongoing situation in Bosnia, the future expansion of NATO and the proposed expansion of the European Union, as well as plans for a single currency will make this year's exchange particularly relevant.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff members who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag sends senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern in Germany and the United States such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, immigration, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the program for the Bundestag staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two Bundestag staffers in their Member's district over the Fourth of July break, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants are being selected by a committee composed of U.S. Information Agency personnel and past participants of the exchange.

Senators and Representatives who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a résumé and cover letter in which they state why they believe they are qualified and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated. Applications may be sent to Connie Veillette at 2309