

Originally founded in 1650 in Le Puy, France, the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph devoted themselves to God and to their fellow citizens. They minister to school children, the sick, and others in need. After enduring hardship in the Reign of Terror in France that nearly sent some of the sisters to the guillotine, the Congregation rebuilt themselves and was committed to developing a ministry in America.

Six sisters came to America in 1836 intent on serving God through service to the people. After establishing fifteen houses, the Congregation of St. Joseph staffed St. Mary's School in Painesville in 1872. The sisters then went on to serve at Saint Therese, Nazareth, and Saint Joseph Academies. In their tradition of education and service, the sisters effectively labored for the institutions of the Cleveland Diocese.

My fellow colleagues, join me in congratulating the Congregation of Saint Joseph for their 125 years of service in Greater Cleveland.

PRISON CAMP TORTURE IN NORTH KOREA

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 1998

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to insert for the record information on some of the most disturbing news that I have heard recently about the egregious torture which was a reality to thousands of prison camp residents in North Korea.

I recently met with Mrs. Soon-Ok Lee and Mr. Chul-Hwan Kang, survivors of the horrifying prison camps of North Korea. The two survivors now live in South Korea and desire to share with the world the truth about North Korea. Both Mrs. Lee and Mr. Kang are willing, at some risk to their safety, to testify before this body about their treatment while in the prison camps and about the general situation of the people of North Korea. It is vital that their information is shared with the world.

Mrs. Soon-Ok Lee described the torture she endured at the hands of prison authorities. After severe beatings in which she lost many teeth and suffered partial paralysis in her face, she was subject to water torture. North Korean authorities forced her to lie down on her back and then they inserted a special kettle spout into her mouth. The spout was made so that it expanded in her mouth and she could not breathe without swallowing water. The guards then poured gallon upon gallon of water into the spout thereby forcing it into Mrs. Lee's body. Due to the incredible amount of water flowing into her body, she became unconscious and her stomach became distended. When it was clear that her body could hold no more, the guards stopped, waited for her to awake, laid a board on her stomach and jumped on it. This forced the water back out of her mouth and caused her excruciating pain. She again lapsed into unconsciousness. Prison officials repeated this scenario a number of times both to Mrs. Lee and other prisoners.

Mr. Chul-Hwan Kang witnessed similar egregious violations of human dignity. He was in prison from age nine to nineteen. Authorities imprisoned Mr. Kang at such a young

age, because North Korean authorities arrest three generations of family members if a person is accused of a crime against the state or public order. When Mr. Kang's grandfather was arrested for spying, they also arrested and imprisoned the 9-year-old boy. While in the prison camp, Mr. Kang, along with most other prisoners, suffered from extreme malnutrition. In order to survive, he ate snakes, rats, and frogs. In addition to suffering from malnutrition, he watched countless executions carried out either by hanging or by firing squad. Inmates were forced to watch all executions. When guards completed some executions such as hanging, prisoners were forced to stone the dead bodies until they were no longer recognizable as human.

Mr. Speaker, horrors such as this do not continue indefinitely when the international community is educated, outraged, and spurred to action. The American public must become aware of these egregious human rights violations. It is of the utmost importance that we begin the process of disseminating the information as widely as possible so that peoples of our nation and others can act on behalf of the suffering North Koreans.

BUDGET SURPLUS HIGHER THAN EXPECTED

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, just yesterday the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released new figures that show that the budget surplus for this year will be between \$43 and \$63 billion—drastically higher than the \$18 billion surplus that was predicted after last summer's historic balanced budget agreement. This is one more indication of what we can achieve with a Republican-led Congress that is dedicated to ending wasteful and irresponsible government spending.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I would like to applaud my colleagues for making the balanced budget and this substantial surplus a reality. Appropriations is the only committee with a direct impact on spending and the federal budget. Under Chairman BOB LIVINGSTON's (R-LA) leadership, we have fundamentally changed the way Washington spends its money. Since taking control of Congress, Republicans have effectively eliminated 307 outdated and unneeded programs, streamlining government and making it more accountable to the American taxpayer.

Fueled by the American entrepreneurial spirit, our growing economy has been a fundamental partner in this accomplishment. Mr. Speaker, I take pride in the new figures for the budget surplus and applaud those Americans, from homemakers to small business owners, who have helped make it happen. These individuals are the ones who know best what to do with surplus dollars, not bureaucrats in Washington. I urge the Administration and my colleagues in Congress to do the right thing with the surplus: send it back to the public through tax relief and debt reduction.

A TRIBUTE TO NANCY SMITH

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 1998

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Nancy S. Smith, a long-time employee of the Library of Congress.

Nancy is retiring from the federal government after over 43 years of service—all of those years at the Library of Congress. She has spent her entire career in the budget office at the Library. Her most recent assignment was as an assistant to the budget officer.

All who know and worked with Nancy came to appreciate and admire her steadfast professionalism and her attention to the detail that characterizes the work of federal budget making. Nancy was the authoritative "number cruncher" in the Library's budget shop and all three Librarians of Congress for whom she worked were the beneficiaries of her skills and diligence.

The House Appropriations Committee, in particular, has been grateful for all the work and care Nancy put into preparing the variety of tabulations and explanations needed to review the budget program of the Library of Congress. In addition to being on call throughout the normal workday, Nancy was often called upon to spend evenings and weekends in preparing the analysis necessary for congressional oversight. She was always there when needed.

We will all miss Nancy. After these 43 years she has certainly earned a rewarding retirement.

She can now devote her time to travel and her love of opera and classical music.

Well done, Nancy. And—Bon Voyage!

THE "RUPTURED DUCK" GETS A RIDE ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 1998

Mr. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Kitty Kelly, a constituent from Livermore, California and the daughter of Mr. Wilfred John Kelly, who was an Electricians Mate Second Class in the United States Coast Guard.

Mr. Wilfred Kelly entered into military service in July of 1942 at a time when our country was in terrible conflict. He joined the U.S. Coast Guard, served abroad the USS *Gloucester*, and was Honorably Discharged from service in 1946. Upon leaving active duty, Mr. Kelly was awarded the Honorable Discharge Lapel Pin, nicknamed the "Ruptured Duck", as recognition for his honorable service. The "Ruptured Duck" is awarded to all members of the U.S. Coast Guard who have served with honor and distinction, and who have been discharged honorably.

Mr. Kelly always had a great respect and personal admiration for the space industry. He believed in the necessity of space exploration and was fascinated by our country's ability to expand its pioneering spirit into the reaches of outer space. Sadly, Mr. Kelly passed away on