

communities." He has truly left an indelible mark for all to follow.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Rev. Spurgeon Eugene Crayton for his valuable contributions to the community of Brooklyn.

THE U.S. ARMY SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS: COMMITTED TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY IN OUR HEMISPHERE

**HON. MAC COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, as many of my colleagues have come to know, there is an ongoing movement led by the Maryknoll Order of the Catholic Church to attack American foreign policy and her right to defend her interests through closure of the U.S. Army School of the Americas. The School is our nation's preeminent training facility for Spanish speaking militaries and police forces and for U.S. military officers slated to be stationed in South America, Central America, or the Caribbean. The School of the Americas provides training in professional military and police operations (including a Spanish-language Command and General Staff Officer Course). Other coursework includes drug interdiction and eradication, peacekeeping, and resource management. Most importantly, each course focuses on supporting and maintaining democracy and protecting human rights. The School is widely recognized as having developed the foremost human rights training program available at any military training institution in the world, including other U.S. training centers.

Unfortunately, you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink. While the vast majority—well over 99 percent—of the School's graduates have returned to serve their nations honorably, those who oppose U.S. foreign policy in the region have seized upon the horrible actions of a very few School graduates as justification for U.S. disengagement throughout our own hemisphere. These former students have acted illegally and immorally in spite of what they learned at the School, not because of it. Suggestions that the Army's School of the Americas has somehow been responsible for, or complicit in atrocities committed by rogue Latin American soldiers are outrageous, inflammatory, and completely unsubstantiated. Implicating our own dedicated soldiers in the wrongdoings of criminals throughout Latin America represents an attack not only on the School, but also on the U.S. Army, on the U.S. Armed Forces as a whole, and on American foreign policy and the American government's right to protect her national interests abroad.

Today, the United States pursues its foreign policy in Central America, South America, and the Caribbean with fewer military deployments than are required in any other region of the world. We are able to accomplish this because of the confidence that we have in the American-trained military leadership of the region's democracies. If there were no School of the Americas, pursuit of our foreign policy in Latin America would be very costly both in human and monetary terms.

Large military deployments would probably be required to continue current international

drug interdiction, peacekeeping, and humanitarian relief missions throughout the region. Such deployments would not only put thousands of American lives at risk, but would also vastly increase the region's burden on the taxpayer. Currently, the entire Southern Command Area of Responsibility (which encompasses 1/6th of the Earth's surface, including all of Central America, South America, and the Caribbean) requires an investment of only about \$550 million per year to protect our national security interests. Compare this to the costs associated with operations in the much smaller regions of Bosnia, costing over \$2 billion last year, or Iraq, costing over \$1.6 billion last year.

An honest assessment of Latin American history over the last 50 years demonstrates clearly that the U.S. Army School of the Americas saves lives.

Recently, Latin American military officers trained at the School were responsible for negotiating a peaceful settlement to the Ecuador/Peru border dispute.

During the 90s, military coups threatened in Venezuela and Paraguay have been averted through U.S. contacts and cooperation with soldiers trained at USARSA.

Jose Serrano, Colombia's new drug czar who was featured recently in the Wall Street Journal, has made great progress in eliminating police corruption and in attacking the operations of that nation's drug kingpins. He is a former guest instructor at the School.

Jaime Guzman, the Minister of Defense of El Salvador, has nearly eliminated human rights abuses by the Salvadoran military. During the 1980s, such abuses numbered nearly 2000 incidents each month. Now they nearly never occur, thanks to the School of the Americas human rights training that General Guzman received at Fort Benning, and then implemented in El Salvador.

While most of the turmoil of the 1980s has receded in the region, new threats have emerged and must be addressed. The Army School of the Americas continues to be an important support structure for many of the region's fledgling democracies, particularly in fighting on the front lines of the war on drugs. With all of the progress that has been made in the region, it would be irresponsible to turn our backs while drug traffickers and terrorists chip away at freedom and democracy in Central and South America and continue to kill our children on our own streets.

Recently, the Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Southern Command General Charles Wilhelm referred to the inter-American drug supply as the greatest chemical weapons threat currently faced by the United States. Every year, hundreds of billions of dollars worth of deadly, addictive chemicals flow across our borders from Mexico and South America and end up in the bodies of American citizens—many of them children. We must have the School so that we may continue to train Spanish-speaking soldiers and police to interdict drugs and eradicate them at their source. Hundreds of thousands of Americans have died of the effects of narcotics smuggled from without our hemisphere, yet the School's opponents still seek to close this institution which is having a more profound impact on inter-American drug trafficking than any other military training facility in the world.

Opponents of the Army School suggest that it should be closed in the interest of human

rights. But whose human rights are we talking about? Through its training programs, the School of the Americas protects the human rights of Latin American citizens from both wayward military officials and drug death squads (like the one that recently ambushed a Colombian National Police scout team, killing them all). Furthermore, the School protects U.S. human rights and interests by attacking the drug crisis at its source and by maintaining peace and constructive relations throughout the militaries of our region. The only humans whose rights would be protected by closing the School are those of the drug lords and criminals who are the enemies of democracy and the murderers of our children and those of Latin America.

Ironically, the School's closing would eliminate the opportunity for Latin America soldiers to study democracy and human rights. Not only are such courses unavailable at other nations' military training facilities, they are not even offered at other U.S. Department of Defense schools. The School's critics seem to be suggesting that the best way to effect a better understanding of human rights and democracy in Latin American militaries is to close down the only facility providing Latin American soldiers and police with training in democracy and human rights. I respectfully disagree.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL NURSES WEEK, MAY 6-12

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in recognition of National Nurses Week. The 2.6 million registered nurses in the United States make up our nation's largest health care profession. Throughout our country's history, nurses have been the backbone of our health care system. The nursing profession plays a vital role in meeting the different and emerging health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings. Moreover, nurses are the human face of our health care system. As the primary care givers, nurses have the most contact with patients and play a direct role in a patient's recovery. As a nurse, I know from firsthand experience that when it comes to patient recovery, good nursing care makes a difference.

Nurses are also the future of our health care system. As our country places renewed emphasis on primary and preventive health care, we will require better utilization of all our nation's nursing resources. The cost-effective, safe and quality health care services provided by registered nurses will be an ever more important component of our health care delivery system in the future. Therefore, we must do everything we can to promote and advance the nursing profession.

I am proud to be the cosponsor of a number of bills that advance the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the economic and general welfare of nurses in the workplace and projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing. Some of the bills I proudly sponsor include H.R. 1165, the Patient Safety Act of 1997, legislation that provides whistle-blower protection for nurses

who speak out about patient care issues, and H.R. 2754 the Health Worker Protection Act, which mandates the substitution of existing needlestick products with safer needle devices that would help prevent needlestick injuries. I urge all my colleagues to support these important pieces of legislation, support our nursing professionals and advance the cause of nursing nationwide.

IN HONOR OF ANTHONY AND ANNE  
CELEBREZZE ON THEIR SIX-  
TIETH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 60th wedding anniversary of Anthony and Anne Celebrezze of Cleveland, Ohio. The couple was married May 7, 1938.

Judge Celebrezze's family moved from Anzi, Italy to the United States when he was two years old. His political career began when he was elected to the Ohio State Senate in 1950. He later became the first foreign-born Mayor of Cleveland, and the only Mayor of Cleveland ever elected to five consecutive terms. He was the first nonnative to be appointed to the Cabinet of the United States, where he served as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. And Judge Celebrezze was the first emigre to be appointed Judge of the United States Court of Appeals. In 1973, Judge Celebrezze's leadership was recognized when an Act of Congress designated the Federal Building in Cleveland, the Anthony J. Celebrezze Federal Building.

Not only is Judge Celebrezze a successful, well-known politician, he is a loving husband to Anne Celebrezze. Anne taught in the Cleveland Public School System and has been active in countless community projects helping children, the elderly, and the arts. She was involved in the Cleveland Council and the National Board of the Camp Fire Girls for many years. She served on the Board of the Child Guidance Center of Cleveland where a work room is named after her for her fundraising efforts to expand the program. Anne has also been engaged in the Women's City Club of Cleveland for over thirty years. She was appointed to the National Committee for Education of the Handicapped by President Johnson where she worked to help children with learning disabilities qualify for a public school education.

Together, Anthony and Anne have three children and 10 grandchildren to whom they have passed on their values, leadership skills, involvement in community service, and love. My fellow colleagues, please join me in wishing a happy 60th anniversary to Anthony and Anne Celebrezze. May they have many more happy and healthy years together.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE HONORING  
JULIA PETERS, LEGRAND SMITH  
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

**HON. NICK SMITH**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Julia Peters, winner of the 1998 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Julia is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Julia Peters is an exceptional student at Tecumseh High School and possesses an impressive high school record. President of the National Honor Society, Julia is also the secretary for her school's S.A.D.D. program. She was student of the month 19 times throughout high school. Outside of school, Julia was involved with the Student County Congress and various other community activities.

In special tribute, Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Julia Peters for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF OF POLICE  
ROY SUMISAKI FOR HIS OUT-  
STANDING SERVICE TO THE CITY  
OF GILROY, CA

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievement of Chief of Police Roy Sumisaki, who has served the city of Gilroy, California for more than 7 years.

Through trials and triumph Chief Sumisaki has distinguished himself as a devoted crime fighter in a career that has spanned 28 years.

Born in a Japanese-American internment camp during World War II, Chief Sumisaki graduated from Gilroy High School and joined the United States Army. His career, which included at tour of duty in Vietnam as an intelligence officer, spanned 32 years, 8 of which were on active duty. He retired from the Army a Lieutenant Colonel.

During his military service, Chief Sumisaki was awarded the Purple Heart, two Bronze Stars, and Air Medal, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the Vietnamese Honor Medal.

Soon after resigning from active duty military service, Chief Sumisaki pursued a career

in law enforcement. He holds a master's degree in police administration from Golden Gate University and attended the Pacifica Police Department in 1974, and later transferred to the Marina Police Department, rising to the rank of Commander.

While later serving with the Chico Police Department, he rose to the rank of Captain. In 1990 he returned home to Gilroy to become the first Asian-American police chief in the continental U.S.

During his tenure Chief Sumisaki worked tirelessly to make Gilroy a safer place to live and work. A testament to his high level of professionalism, Chief Sumisaki was awarded the National Police Commendation Medal.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Chief Roy Sumisaki upon his retirement from the Gilroy Police Department.

SPEAKER GINGRICH FALSELY  
CLAIMS WHITE HOUSE COORDI-  
NATION BEHIND CRITICISM OF  
CHAIRMAN BURTON

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, it seems obvious to me that not every criticism of the Clinton Administration is part of a "right-wing conspiracy," but it should be equally clear that not every objection to the tactics of a Clinton critic is the product of a White House conspiracy. This week, Speaker GINGRICH unfairly attacked the congressional criticisms of Chairman BURTON even though he knew those criticisms were justified.

This Tuesday, in response to widespread criticism of Chairman BURTON for releasing misleading and distorted excerpts of private conversations of Mr. Hubbell with his wife and his attorney, Speaker GINGRICH spoke out to accuse the Democrats in Congress of acting at the behest of the White House. Rather than honestly dealing with the serious violations of privacy and fairness worked by Chairman BURTON, Speaker GINGRICH changed the subject by claiming "There has been a routine process by this White House to avoid the truth \* \* \* by attacking the person who is seeking the truth."

Remarkably, one day later, Speaker GINGRICH, during a closed Republican conference meeting, scolded Chairman BURTON for his actions, saying "I'm embarrassed for you, I'm embarrassed for myself, and I'm embarrassed for the [Republican] conference at the circus that went on at your committee."

Clearly, Speaker GINGRICH recognizes both that Chairman BURTON's actions were wrong and that congressional criticisms of him were genuine expressions of outrage and not some "spin" strategy organized by the White House.

This institution is not well-served by the cynical partisanship of the Speaker's attacks on those who were offended by Chairman BURTON's conduct. With each such outburst, it becomes increasingly unlikely that the important investigative work of Chairman BURTON's committee, or of any other committee which is called on to inquire into allegations of wrongdoing at the White House, will lead to any