

Community Table. This effort resulted in a place where diverse individuals and groups could meet together to collaboratively plan and respond to health and human service needs. Her efforts are responsible for better communication among service providers which serve those in need.

Dr. Craven used her influence and considerable powers of communication to effectively communicate with public policy partners at the city, county, state, and federal levels to affect health and human services. This considerable effort resulted in a more effective social service delivery system.

Thus, it is clear that under the leadership of Dr. Judith Craven, the United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast has become a recognized and respected leader of the nonprofit community. Dr. Craven's leadership and administration should be copied by all nonprofit organizations.

Thank you Dr. Craven for your commitment and dedicated leadership in service to Texas Gulf Coast community.

CONDEMNING THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

HON. JAY KIM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce this House Resolution to condemn the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) for its recent missile test over the air space of Japan. We cannot be silent on this reprehensible action. The North Korean government has proven time and time again its utter contempt for the established norms of international diplomacy and behavior.

While many of their actions in the past could be written off as incomprehensible, or even comical, this one is of much graver concern. The new-found ability of an irrational unpredictable, and undemocratic regime to deliver weapons of mass destructions with such swiftness must at the very least draw a harsh condemnation from this body. To stay silent on this matter would be equivalent to telling the DPRK to go right ahead and test again. And that would be foolhardy and dangerous.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this timely resolution.

RECOGNIZING THE INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, as Congress considers the 1999 Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the successful international humanitarian programs of an organization based in Los Angeles.

The International Medical Corps (IMC) was founded in 1984 by a group of volunteer physicians and nurses. Its mission is to save lives, relieve suffering and improve the quality of life through health interventions in areas where few organizations dare to serve. IMC

offers medical assistance in areas at high risk, and offers medical training to rehabilitate devastated health care systems and help them become self-reliant. Since 1984, IMC has worked in Afghanistan and Pakistan, Angola, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burundi, Somalia, and the Sudan. I would like to highlight the successes of IMC's programs in Bosnia and Sudan.

In 1994, IMC responded to dangerously low child immunization levels in Bosnia—a result of the constraints of the long civil conflict. Children were unprotected against measles, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, childhood tuberculosis and polio: illnesses which account for the highest mortality rate worldwide among unvaccinated children under five years old. IMC's accelerated immunization program has resulted in the application of over one million doses of vaccine in Bosnia since 1994, and has raised the vaccination rate from 30% coverage to over 90% coverage in the program areas. The program, funded by the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), has reduced illness and saved the lives of thousands of children, and set a standard widely accepted for use in war torn areas where immunization rates need to be increased.

In a real example of helping others help themselves, IMC established an emergency medical technician training program and emergency medicine outreach projects in Bosnia. IMC helped establish the first Western-style emergency department in the country at Zenica Hospital, and provides training in emergency medicine to Bosnian physicians and nurses.

A partnership project in South Sudan between IMC and CARE is aimed at controlling and eradicating an epidemic of African trypanosomiasis, more commonly known as Sleeping Sickness, a disease which is 100% fatal unless treated. Approximately 60,000 people in Tambura and Yambio counties are at risk of infection, and as many as 9,000–12,000 are in need of immediate treatment. The project involves screening the entire populations of both counties for the parasite. 99% of the population of Ezo Payam, the village which is the epicenter of the epidemic, has already been screened, and the infected population has been treated. The project has also identified and trained 99 local health workers to perform essential services related to Sleeping Sickness, and will continue to screen and provide treatment to the remaining populations of Tambura and Yambio counties. The program is proving to be very successful in controlling the fatal disease, and its training of health professionals is rebuilding the area's indigenous health care system—giving the Sudanese the capability to respond to future outbreaks rapidly and successfully.

As this House considers funding for international humanitarian and development assistance in the foreign operations bill, remember the dedicated volunteers of the International Medical Corps, who work tirelessly to alleviate human suffering around the world.

POW/MIA RECOGNITION WEEK IN MATAGORDA COUNTY, TEXAS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, September 13 I will have the distinct pleasure of being the keynote speaker at the opening ceremonies for POW/MIA Recognition week in Matagorda County, Texas.

This event will be sponsored by Matagorda County Veterans Services as a part of POW/MIA Recognition Week. Mr. Speaker, as a United States Air Force veteran I am well aware of the sacrifices which brave young men are required to make during times of war. Perhaps no better example of these sacrifices can be found than those endured by Prisoners of War and those Missing In Action. From "Hanoi Hilton" to "Saving Private Ryan" we have seen the dramatic horrors that war brings, but behind the stories, beyond the silver screen, there are real Private Ryan's who never do make it home. And there are families broken, lives affected and communities touched, by the real sacrifices of the real heroes who fight America's wars.

I believe that no young man or woman has ever entered the military hoping to face combat, but most answer the call because they believe in the liberties which our nation was founded upon, and they see our nation as a beacon of liberty. It is to these young people that I wish to bring honor and it is to those who have become Missing, or are held Prisoner, to whom I believe this nation must pledge ongoing fealty. Specifically, I would like to memorialize U.S. Army Sergeant Joe Parks, from Matagorda County, who died while in captivity in Vietnam.

Mr. Speaker, our nation has suffered a great burden as a result of the wars of this century, in some instances it has nearly been torn apart by these wars, but none have suffered more than those who are missing, and their families, many of whom still hope against hope that they will one day return, either to resume lives or to be granted a proper burial. Our nation still has some 93,000 individuals who are unaccounted for, some of whom are believed to be POW's even now during a time of relative peace. Mr. Speaker, I believe we owe it to these men, and to their families, to get a full accounting for every person which this nation has sent abroad. I believe we owe it to our nation to bring each and every one of them home.

With the opening of archives from the former Soviet Union we have seen evidence of how young American servicemen were allowed to become political chess pieces for a totalitarian regime. It is due to the efforts of groups such as Matagorda County Veterans Services that we can honestly say "You Are Not Forgotten" to those who have sacrificed so much. And it is critical that we keep these memories forever etched in our minds so that we might also recall the mantra "never again." Never again should Americans be forced to face the brutalities of war, such as those faced in Prisoner of War camps, and never again should we allow brave Americans to go missing in action.