

registration to one such group but does allow it to continue to function. The Helsinki Commission in investigating this case has learned that, because of this church's work among the refugee population, the Azeri government continues to refuse to register the humanitarian aid arm of the church but continues to refuse registration to their religious body. Unfortunately, this appears to be a pattern the Azeri Government follows when it receives a benefit from a group it does not want to register.

In Armenia there are similar concerns. In September of 1997, a new law was enacted by parliament, designed to stifle the growth of non-Armenian Orthodox churches by tightening registration requirements for non-Apostolic religions and also by tightening funding restrictions so that foreign-based churches are not allowed to be supported by funds from headquarters outside Armenia. Despite this, however, a variety of faiths regularly hold services.

While there has been progress in the OSCE region, there remain areas where significant violations of religious liberty are occurring in Eastern and Central Europe. I commend the "OSCE Implementation Report 1998" to my colleagues as an interesting study of the progress and problems of the region.

TRIBUTE TO MARY FAT

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most inspiring citizens, Mary Fat. Mrs. Fat will be honored this evening by the Jinan-Sacramento Sister Cities Corporation. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in commemorating her remarkable contributions to the people of Sacramento.

Mary Fat was born Yee Lai Ching in Canton, China in 1908. She was the youngest of seven children in a prominent Hong Kong family. She became the bride of a young Frank Fat in 1924 in Canton. A traditionally arranged marriage, she never knew her husband before they were wed. In 1925, the couple saw the birth of a son, Wing-Kai.

Frank returned to the United States where he had worked before in 1926, without his wife and newborn son. His objective was to make enough money to repay debts and support his young family. Frank quickly found work in a restaurant in Sacramento, California.

Yee Lai Ching was not eager to join her husband in the United States. But in 1936 she and her son joined Frank in Sacramento. At this time she adopted the American name of "Mary." She found a job at a Del Monte cannery in addition to her work raising a young son. Frank and Mary eventually had six children, four sons and two daughters. Their children were educated as attorneys, a dentist, and successful businessmen and women.

In 1939, Frank bought a dilapidated restaurant on L Street in Sacramento. His hard work and Mary's assistance eventually established the restaurant as one of the best in California's capital. They forged a successful life together in both business and community activism which encouraged an awareness of Chinese culture.

Mary strongly supported Frank as the leader of the Chinese community in Sacramento.

With her help, he founded the Jinan-Sacramento Sister Cities Corporation, the Chinese American Council of Sacramento, and CAPITAL, the Council of Asian Pacific Islanders Together for Active Leadership.

Today, with the tireless work of Mary and Frank Fat, CAPITAL is Sacramento's premier Asian American Pacific Islander organization, comprising 65 groups in Northern California. Yet the Fat's family life was every bit as prolific as their civic endeavors.

Mary and Frank's children and grandchildren are following the example set by the Fats. They are positively contributing to their community and furthering awareness of the diverse Chinese culture which exists not only in Sacramento and California, but throughout the United States.

Mr. Speaker, Mary Fat has devoted her adult life to supporting the civic activism of her husband and promoting the wealth of Chinese culture which exists in my home state. As she is honored tonight, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting her seventy years of great accomplishments and community service in Sacramento.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE COMPLETION OF THE SAN LEANDRO CREEK MURAL

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform my colleagues today about the completion of an important project in my district.

The Friends of San Leandro Creek have completed work on a creek mural located in Root Park in my district. This mural spans more than 19,000 square feet and is the largest of its type in the Western United States.

Students participating in the San Leandro High School Art Program created the mural design. The students were presented with information about the history of the creek and a list of items to be included in the final design. The final mural depicts the Creek as it was in the early 18th century, filled with rainbow trout and fished by Native American tribes for food.

I would like to point out the hard work of Rick Richards. Rick put this idea together and has been a longtime local activist for environmental causes and a tireless advocate for local community development issues that may impact the San Leandro Creek. Rick is the environmental conscious of the San Leandro community. I would also like to thank Veronica Lacarra Werkmeister for her dedication to this project. She is a nationally renowned muralist and her commitment to teaching children and this project has resulted in the works we commemorate this weekend.

I am very proud to share this mural with my colleagues. The Friends of San Leandro Creek and the students at San Leandro High deserve credit for their commitment to this project and their commitment to San Leandro Creek. I look forward to visiting this mural after Congress adjourns and encourage residents of San Leandro to do the same.

CELEBRATING THE 87TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to congratulate the democratic government and the people of Taiwan, the Republic of China, on their 87th National Day which they celebrate on October 10, 1998.

Taiwan has much to celebrate this year, as it approaches the culmination of a decade marked by unparalleled economic growth, laudable political reforms, exceptional progress on human rights issues, and the general advancement of values cherished by free men and women around the world. Under the leadership of President Lee Teng-hui, Taiwan has been transformed not only into one of the world's most successful lands, but it has also been prepared to become one of the international community's foremost citizens.

Mr. Speaker, it is long past time to allow this progression to reach its overdue culmination in the form of Taiwan's full participation in international organizations, including accession to the United Nation.

It is nearly a century since the founder of the Republic of China, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, drafted the original plans for a free nation unencumbered by emperors and tyranny. The realization of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's ideals and dreams did not occur with the swiftness he likely intended, as his republic's initial years witnessed lengthy civil wars, brutal invasions, and a series of unforeseen obstacles that forced the ROC's government to relocate to Taiwan at the end of its fourth decade. Out of the ashes of this tragedy, however, came the drive and determination to advance the fortunes and welfare of the Taiwanese people, to prove by comparison that free enterprise and political freedoms work with greater efficiency and justice than Communist alternatives.

President Lee's numerous and comprehensive reforms have provided unimpeachable evidence of this fact. He has limited government authority, repealing the extraordinary powers that were provided by outdated civil war decrees, and he has focused the government's responsibilities on issues such as technological investment and environmental protection. In addition, President Lee has led the Taiwanese people in the establishment of a diverse, competitive, multi-party political system with a free press and respect for human rights. This process was capped by Taiwan's presidential election in 1996, when, for the first time in five millenniums of Chinese history, the head of state was directly elected by the people. Despite the dire warnings of those who opposed this evolution, Taiwan's economy and its people have flourished with these progressive changes.

Taiwan's enrichment has not only benefitted its island's nearly 22 million citizens; in addition, the ROC's largesse has aided developing nations and those suffering from humanitarian disasters as well. Whether operating a much-needed hospital in the strife-torn capital of the Central African Republic, contributing to the recovery of my home state of California after a devastating earthquake or, most recently, using its membership in the Asian Pacific Economic Community (APEC) to employ its vast

foreign exchange reserves to help ease the financial crisis suffered by its neighbors, Taiwan has proven its commitment to the welfare and health of the international community.

Given this reality, Mr. Speaker, it is both unfortunate and unjust that Taiwan is still denied membership in the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the World Trade Organization, and other multilateral bodies that would benefit from the Taiwan's active involvement. Regrettably, many of Taiwan's humanitarian contributions have been shunned or rejected as a consequence of this political inequity.

In 1993, for example, the ROC's Department of Health pledged to donate \$200,000 to a WHO/UNICEF program in order to provide vaccines for children of Kazakhstan and four other Central Asian republics. However, this donation was rejected because the ROC is not a member of the UN or the WHO. Mr. Speaker, it is tragic when children suffer because political obstinacy was more important than human welfare.

Not only does Taiwan's exclusion for participation in international organizations harm other nations, it violates the fundamental international right that countries that are affected by multilateral cooperation agreements should have the right to participate in the crafting of these agreements. Taiwan, according to the UN itself, is one of the six largest high-sea fishing countries in the world, yet it was denied the opportunity to join in the negotiation and adoption of an important UN fish conservation agreement in 1995.

In a similar situation, Taiwan's offer to become a signatory to the Montreal Protocol on the Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was refused, resulting in the threat of international economic sanctions against Taiwan—despite the ROC's unilateral implementation of the provisions of the Protocol. Mr. Speaker, the diplomatic anachronism of Taiwan's absolute exclusion from efforts of international cooperation must come to an end.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan's 88th year appears to hold great promise, as long-stalled talks with the People's Republic of China seem likely to continue in the near future. In addition, Taiwan's economy remains strong despite serious regional difficulties. The record of success of the Taiwanese people is unmistakably clear and strong.

On this important anniversary, Mr. Speaker, I wish the people of Taiwan a glorious National Day and I wish the government of Taiwan the voice that it deserves in the international community.

**SHIRLEY FLEISCHMANN NAMED
MICHIGAN PROFESSOR OF THE
YEAR BY CARNEGIE FOUNDATION**

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Shirley Fleischmann, an engineering professor at the Padnos School of Engineering at Grand Valley State University. As Vice-Chairman of the House Science Committee, I am extremely proud to announce that Shirley has been named by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as its 1998 Michigan Professor of the Year.

Dr. Fleischmann is the first engineering professor and the fourth woman in the state of Michigan to receive this award since it was introduced in 1985. She is also the first Grand Valley State University professor to receive this award that recognizes undergraduate instructors who excel as teachers and who influence the lives of their students. The award is based on the recipients demonstrated involvement with undergraduate students, their scholarly approach to teaching, and their service to their profession and the community in which they live. For professors the award is one of the highest honors they can receive.

Before beginning her teaching career at Grand Valley, Shirley was a professor of mechanical engineering at the United States Naval Academy from 1982–1989. She earned her Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland. She also received M.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Physics from Maryland and was awarded a B.S. in Physics as well. Shirley grew up in Holland, Michigan, where she graduated from Holland Christian High School. To this day she credits her high school teachers for giving her the tools and skills necessary to do her job so effectively.

Mr. Speaker, it is the effort and dedication of professors like Shirley Fleischmann that is so crucial to the future of science education. Professors such as Shirley can help the United States renew its interest in science and better prepare our leaders of tomorrow with the necessary tools and knowledge they need for careers in math, science, and engineering. Her excitement and willingness to go that extra mile in training future scientists and engineers is a shining example of why she was selected for this prestigious award. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Professor Shirley Fleischmann on this outstanding accomplishment.

**INTRODUCTION OF ESOP REFORM
LEGISLATION**

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing two bills to provide tax reform in order to encourage economic growth of employee-owned companies in my State of Illinois and around the country.

I have been a strong advocate of employee stock ownership plans (ESOP's). I also have the privilege of representing a significant number of employee-owners of the Nation's largest publicly-owned ESOP, United Airlines. After taking over the ownership of the company, the United employees effected a dramatic economic turnaround of the company's fortunes—making United Airlines a financial success story.

In the summer of 1997, Gerald Greenwald, Chairman and CEO of United Airlines, came to me with ideas to amend the tax rules to allow employees to better utilize their ESOP Investments. When the ESOP tax laws were written, they did not account for companies like United taking ESOP's to such a grand scale. So, as in so many cases it is time for the law to catch up to the realities of the marketplace.

I have been working on these proposals since then to prepare for an opportunity to include them in an appropriate tax vehicle. Such an opportunity has not yet presented itself. Therefore, I am introducing these proposals as stand-alone bills and to bring more attention to the need for updating the ESOP laws.

While ESOP's give the employees a stake in the company and provide a great opportunity to invest for retirement, the current tax rules restrict the ability of employees to use their investments for other important events in their life.

The first bill will expand the ability of employee owners to make qualified distributions from their ESOP's, without incurring a 10-percent penalty on early withdrawals. Similar to the expanded uses for individual retirement accounts Congress has passed, this proposal will allow ESOP distributions for first time home purchases or for college expenses. This will especially benefit middle-income level employees who find it more difficult to save the money to buy their own home or send their children to college.

The second proposal would address a conflict between 401(k) plans and ESOP's. Under current law, employer contributions to 401(k) retirement plans are limited when contributions are also being made to an ESOP. My bill will allow employers to contribute to their employees' 401(k) plans without taking into account their ESOP contributions.

I commend these bills to the attention of my colleagues and urge them to support the employee-owners at United and other ESOP's around the country by cosponsoring these measures.

**REDOUBLING EFFORTS TO APPREHEND
INDICTED WAR CRIMINALS
IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA**

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4660, authorizing the provision of rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of war criminals and those who have committed other serious violations of international humanitarian law in the former Yugoslavia.

As Co-Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I have followed the tragic developments in the former Yugoslavia and advocated decisive action to stop the senseless slaughter, first in Bosnia, and most recently in Kosovo. But decisive action is not limited to military intervention alone. The tragic chapters of genocide and cold blooded murder in the Former Yugoslavia will not be closed until those responsible for such heinous criminal acts are brought to justice.

Developments in Bosnia underscore the fact that there is a price—a high price—to be paid for allowing indicted war criminals like Karadzic and Mladic to remain at large. The unfolding carnage in Kosovo is most certainly the handiwork of the "Butcher of Belgrade," Slobodan Milosevic. I applaud the recent passage of resolutions in the House and Senate calling for the investigation and indictment of Slobodan Milosevic as a war criminal. In fact, I introduced the measure in this House. We all