

MAVIS TOSCANO

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 1999

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today I want to extend my warmest thanks, and my fondest best wishes, to Mavis Toscano, my chief of staff, who will be leaving my office at the beginning of August. We have become accustomed in Congress to staff members who come and go in a period of months or a few years, replaced in a matter of days by their successors who themselves are destined for only limited stays. Mavis Toscano was the shining exception to this rule. Mavis has been on my staff for some 15 years, dating back to when I was a member of the County Board of Supervisors in San Jose, and in my own journey from California to Washington she has been an indispensable assistant, an invaluable help, an immeasurable asset.

Over the years Mavis has handled nearly every imaginable task for a congressional staff member, sometimes all at once by herself. For the last several years she has run my district office in San Jose, creating there a smoothly functioning enterprise whose successes on behalf of the people of the 16th District of California are innumerable. Her service to our community, both during her time with me and while she worked for the California State Assembly, has been at all times both resourceful and thoughtful. At times it has seemed like Mavis knew everyone in the District by his or her first name, and was owed a debt of gratitude by nearly all of them for her service.

Yet at the same time that I will greatly miss both the services of Mavis Toscano and her decades-long friendship, I cannot but be happy for the tremendous opportunities that remain open to her for the rest of her career. Just as my desire to serve brought me from San Jose to Washington, so have Mavis's talents offered her even greater opportunities to continue the sort of work at which she has excelled for the past 15 years.

I wish Mavis Toscano great success and good fortune in her next endeavors, and I know well that, judging by her work for me over the last 15 years, she will not be short of either.

IN HONOR OF MR. NATHAN
BEDROSIAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Mr. Nathan Bedrosian, a student from Ohio's 10th district. Mr. Bedrosian has recently been announced as one of the National Security Education Program's Undergraduate Scholarship and Graduate Fellows for the 1999-2000 academic year. The National Security Education Program, which was established in 1992, was created to increase U.S. citizens' understanding of different world cultures, to increase international cooperation and security and to strengthen U.S. economic competitiveness. The National Security Education Program fel-

lows study those languages and areas of the world most critical to future U.S. national security.

Mr. Bedrosian was selected from a rigorous national-merit based competition made up of a pool of hundreds of well qualified applicants. Aside from traveling to Japan, where he will be studying. Mr. Bedrosian will participate in the National Security Education Program's Federal service requirement. All National Security Education Program award recipients have agreed to seek work in the Federal Government in an organization with national security responsibilities. In the past, the program has placed award recipients in various positions throughout the Federal sector, including: Departments of Commerce, Defense, State, and Treasury; NASA, USAID, USIA, and the Intelligence Community.

Mr. Bedrosian will no doubt be a fine addition to any one of these organizations. He should be congratulated on his accomplishment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 1999

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, due to a family commitment I was unable to cast House roll-call vote 355 on July 30, 1999, to instruct conferees on the Financial Services Modernization bill, H.R. 10. If I had been present I would have voted "aye."

This motion requires the conferees to insist on the strongest possible consumer protections for financial and medical privacy of consumers and to protect against discrimination in access to financial services, including not weakening the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA). These are essential to protect consumers and to modernize the financial services industry.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY'S
INVASION OF CYPRUS

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and my colleague from New York, Mrs. MALONEY for organizing this Special Order. This year the anniversary of the illegal Turkish invasion of Cyprus is, tragically, of particular significance. It is being called the "Black Anniversary" because 25 years—a quarter of a century—have now passed since the Turks invaded Cyprus on July 20, 1974. So while it is important to remember this date every year, this year's remembrance has added meaning.

The Turkish invasion and occupation of Cyprus is tragic for so many reasons. Innocent lives were lost. Families and friends were torn apart, and have been kept apart by an occupation force of 35,000. The human suffering that has been caused by the Turkish invasion can never be reversed, and we must always remember on this day that a great many Cyp-

riots lost their lives for no good reason. None of us here tonight can say anything that can reverse the brutality that took place. We can only honor the memory of those whose lives were prematurely cut short by Turkish aggression.

In addition to the human suffering, the Cyprus problem is tragic because the history of attempts to resolve the situation is one of missed opportunities for peace. Since the invasion, hundreds of attempts to solve this problem have been made, yet to date, the island is divided and remains one of the most militarized places on the face of the earth. Recent statements from the Turkish side, moreover, indicate their obstinance is only getting worse.

Following the leading role it played in bringing NATO's war with Serbia to an end, the Group of 8 major industrialized nations, the G8, agreed to press for a new round of United Nations negotiations on the Cyprus issue. The Secretary General of the U.N., Kofi Annan, endorsed the G8's plan and subsequently announced he was prepared to invite the Greek and Turkish Cypriots to hold comprehensive peace negotiations. The Turkish Cypriot President Rauf Denktash quickly dismissed the U.N.'s proposal for a new round of peace talks as "nonsense".

The justification the Turkish leader provided for rejecting a new round of peace negotiations is absolute garbage. Denktash said he would not attend any negotiations at which the democratically elected president of Cyprus, Glafcos Clerides, represented the Cypriot government. According to Denktash and his patrons in Ankara, the Cypriot government does not have any official jurisdiction or authority over the portion of the island that has been illegally occupied by Turkish troops for almost 25 years.

Adding to this absurdity, Denktash and Turkey claimed talks based on the bizonal, bi-communal framework that had been earlier accepted by the Turkish side and endorsed repeatedly by the international community were useless because they have to date failed to acknowledge the existence of two separate governments on the island. In other words, the Turkish side is now claiming talks are useless unless Cyprus and the entire international community accept terms that have for years been rejected as absurd.

Glafcos Clerides is recognized internationally as the President of Cyprus. Turkey is alone in its recognition of the so-called Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. No other country in the world recognizes the portion of Cyprus that the Turks have illegally occupied as an independent state. The Turkish suggestion that future peace negotiations must be between leaders of independent nations was made by Denktash for the sole purpose of killing the proposed round of negotiations before it has a chance to succeed.

The international community has reaffirmed its position on the Cyprus issue twice in the last seven months. In December of last year, the U.N. Security Council passed a number of resolutions on the Cyprus situation, including Resolution 1217, which reiterates all previous resolutions on the Cyprus problem. Those resolutions state that any solution to the Cyprus problem must be based on a State of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, in a bi-communal and bi-zonal federation, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded.