

years, Shiloh's development was insured by the dedication and care of several ministers, deacons, and members. Today, under the pastorate of Rev. Alfred M. Walker, more than 1,300 new members have joined Shiloh Baptist Church. Leading under the theme "Exalting Jesus, the Christ", Rev. Walker has adopted the main task of: "Recognizing Evil and doing something about it; and seeking to know the Truth and be willing to speak and act in its defense".

Considered to be the Mother Church in Cleveland, Shiloh Baptist Church has been responsible for the organization of many other churches in the surrounding area. Through Shiloh's maternal link with the Cleveland community the congregation has continued to grow. Shiloh Baptist Church has managed to nourish and nurture the community for 150 years through its various organizations and activities. This great church offers the people of the community a chance to work together with the church in grand synopsis form which has produced men and women who have made many significant contributions to the economic and social development of the city and the state.

I am pleased to congratulate Shiloh Baptist Church on the 150th anniversary in addition to its being designated a historical landmark by the Heritage Society of Cleveland and the Cleveland Restoration Society. It is an honour to recognize the Shiloh Baptist Church on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF FRANK GARRISON

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a good friend of mine, Michigan State AFL-CIO President Frank Garrison upon his retirement. Frank Garrison has been standing up for working men and women for over 40 years—beginning with his membership in Saginaw Steering Gear Plant UAW Local 699, and ending as the Michigan State AFL-CIO's second longest serving president. Every day during that forty years, the working families in Michigan have had a champion in Frank Garrison. The legislative and political battles Frank has fought in Lansing have had a direct impact on the standard of living for the working people in our state.

Upon returning from two years in the U.S. Army in 1955, he immediately became active in his local. He held posts ranging from alternate committeeman to financial secretary before being appointed in 1972 as the UAW international representative assigned to the Education Department and the Michigan CAP program. In January 1976, he joined the UAW-CAP legislative office as a lobbyist. Less than a year later, he became the Legislative Director for the UAW in Lansing.

In 1982, Frank was appointed Executive Director of the Michigan UAW-CAP for four years, until being elected president of the AFL-CIO on December 12, 1986. Since his election Frank has been active in the Democratic Party as a member of the Democratic National Committee Executive Board, and President Clinton's National Commission for

Employment Policy. He has served on several Governor's Councils and, in 1993, received an honorary Doctorate of Law degree from Michigan State University. Frank sits on more boards and councils than the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD has room to list.

Frank Garrison has dedicated his life to the betterment of the working men and women of the state of Michigan. I don't know anyone who has earned the right to a little time off and a few more Michigan State University football games as much as Frank Garrison. We all know, however, that Frank's passion for politics and his dedication to working families will not let retirement take him from the causes he believes in and has fought for all his life.

Please join me in honoring the career of one of Michigan's working heroes as Frank Garrison completes his final term as Michigan State AFL-CIO President. Frank, we wish you all the best.

TRIBUTE TO THE 1999 RETIREES OF THE STERLING HEIGHTS FIRE FIGHTERS UNION

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Battalion Chief Dennis Foster and Battalion Chief Dale Monnier who will be honored on their retirement from the Sterling Heights Fire Fighters Union at their Annual Dinner/Dance on September 24, 1999.

It is my privilege to recognize these two firefighters for their outstanding contributions to public service. Beginning their service in 1974, Battalion Chiefs Foster and Monnier continually sought to further their knowledge and experience in the field of public safety, always committed to providing their community with the best service.

Their participation in community events have made these gentlemen an integral part of their city, and their acts of heroism have made Sterling Heights a safer and better place to live.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me, the citizens of Sterling Heights and the Fire Department in recognizing these outstanding firefighters for the dedication and accomplishments they have provided to the people's welfare in Sterling Heights. I wish them good health and happiness in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BENJAMIN BARNES GRAVES OF HUNTSVILLE, AL

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an intellectual treasure of my district, Dr. Benjamin Graves of Huntsville, AL. Dr. Graves has excelled in all facets of academia. As a student, he cultivated a love of learning through his time at the University of Mississippi, Harvard University, University of

Chicago and Louisiana State University. His 50-year career in industry and education includes professorships at Louisiana State University, University of Virginia, University of Mississippi, Pennsylvania State University, University of Alabama at Huntsville and University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He served as president of Millsaps College from 1964-1969 and the University of Alabama at Huntsville from 1969-1978. His distinguished reputation as an academian is supported by the presentation of approximately 300 of Dr. Graves' papers to various audiences over 15 states in the course of the last 20 years.

In honor of Dr. Graves' extraordinary service to the Huntsville community, he will be awarded the 1999 James Record Humanitarian Award by the Arthritis Foundation on September 21st. The description of the award "given to a citizen devoted to promotion of human welfare as well as the advancement of social and cultural reform" illustrates the essence of this man.

Dr. Graves served his country in the U.S. Navy first on active duty from 1942-46 and then in the reserve from 1946-1955. On active duty during World War II, he served as a supply officer aboard three naval ships in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters. I believe this CONGRESSIONAL RECORD tribute is fitting for one who has given so much for both the defense of his nation and for the betterment of countless students across the Southeast.

His love of learning is infectious. Dr. Graves carried his intimate and unparalleled knowledge of higher education to other countries when he was selected by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities to be a part of a study team to China and Taiwan. In addition to his exceptional professional contributions to our area, Dr. Graves has given of himself, establishing scholarships at both Millsaps and UAH and serving in his church, First United Methodist of Huntsville as a lecturer and administrative board member.

Throughout his life, Dr. Graves has set a great example of how one person can make a huge difference in his community. I want to congratulate him on his well-deserved honor as the 1999 James Record Humanitarian Award and I want to commend him for his tireless efforts for the students of North Alabama.

U.S. DISTRICT COURT FINDS PATERN OF RACKETEERING BY PALESTINIANS AGAINST U.S. FIRM IN GAZA

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, in 1995 the United States and the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) signed the Gaza-Jericho Agreement to encourage American investment in Gaza and the West Bank, as a follow-on to the Oslo Peace Accord between Israel and the PLO. Bucheit International Limited, a 90-year-old, family-owned business based in Youngstown, OH, agreed to be the model company for U.S. investment in Gaza under the Builders for Peace program.

After investing \$4.4 million in the area, however, Bucheit has experienced a myriad of problems, including: transportation and standards barriers, a mismanaged regulatory system, and unethical, if not illegal, activity, which

have resulted in Bucheit's default on a \$1.1 million loan from the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) loan. Furthermore, Bucheit International has experienced numerous unethical and questionable activities in its dealings with Cairo Amman Bank of Gaza. For example, Bucheit has discovered that corporate accounts were opened without proper corporate documentation; corporate checks denominated in dollars were endorsed and cashed by individuals, without first being deposited into the corporate account; canceled checks were not returned; corporate funds in excess of \$100,000 were used to guarantee an overdraft facility of a private individual, without knowledge or approval by the corporation; and a letter of guarantee was written by a bank without notifying Bucheit, in violation of Bucheit management's strict instructions. In addition, Bucheit's plant and equipment were stolen and continue to be operated illegally. Moreover, the Palestinian Authority (PA) has pocketed Bucheit's value-added-tax (VAT) reimbursement from Israel as well as kept the income tax deducted from Bucheit's payments. Without access to its funds or equipment, Bucheit is currently in default of the \$1.1 million OPIC loan.

Recently, Bucheit filed a civil RICO (Racketeering, Influence and Corrupt Organizations) complaint against the Cairo Amman Bank in Gaza for misappropriating loan proceeds advanced to Bucheit from OPIC. On August 17, 1999, U.S. District Judge Kathleen McDonald O'Malley found that the Cairo Amman Bank engaged in a pattern of racketeering activity that caused the failure of Bucheit's precast concrete plant in Gaza. Specifically, the court ruled that there existed an "enterprise" made up of the Bank, Bank employees, an influential Bank customer and other persons, and the Bank knowingly participated, directly and indirectly, in the conduct of the affairs of the "enterprise" through a pattern of wire fraud. Judge O'Malley awarded Bucheit roughly \$15 million in damages. Included in that amount is the \$1.4 million due OPIC.

I find it troubling that the House-Senate conferees on the Foreign Operations Appropriations for Fiscal Year (FY) 2000 are considering the addition of \$400 million for the Palestinian Authority, while an American investor and the United States government have been blatantly ripped off. To date, the Palestinian Authority has neither authorized an official, internal investigation into the existing "enterprise," nor has it meted out proper punishment to the individuals involved.

As a result, I have requested that the House-Senate Conferees on the Foreign Operations Appropriations for FY 2000 withhold the \$15,206,403 owed Bucheit International, which includes a \$1,436,837 loan repayment for OPIC, from the \$400 million appropriation for the Palestinian Authority.

Unpunished, the guilty parties will continue with their illegal and unethical behavior to the injury of future American investors, the U.S. government and the Palestinian people. To create jobs, growth and higher income, a nation must convince its own citizens as well as foreigners that they can safely invest: fair tax laws and fair enforcement, independent courts enforcing the law consistently and upholding contract rights, strong banks that safeguard savings, and vigilance against hidden ties between government and business interests that are inappropiate.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1059,
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I want to elaborate on the remarks I made on September 15, 1999, regarding certain provisions of S. 1059, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000.

As I noted during floor debate, I strongly support the vast majority of this bill, particularly the pay and retirement provisions. But this good bill is marred by some of the text that sets up a National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) as a semi-autonomous agency within the Department of Energy (DOE). I have reservations about the way these provisions were inserted in the bill—with little discussion among the Members of the Conference Committee—and I have reservations about the substance of some of these provisions.

I will not speak on the conference process at length, but I cannot dismiss it because I cannot remember the Congress acting on such an important matter with so little information and so little discussion among the Members of the conference committee. Neither the House nor the Senate Defense Authorization bill contained language requiring a comprehensive restructuring of the Department of Energy, yet we ended up with about 50 pages worth of text. We did have former Senator Warren Rudman testify before the committee prior to conference, but we did not take testimony from the Energy Department itself, or from the senior statesmen of the labs and nuclear weapons complex, men like Johnny Foster or Harold Agnew. The legislation that the conference committee ultimately produced was not vetted in any meaningful manner among the Members, the Administration, or outside experts. This is not a good process for an important piece of national security legislation.

My first and foremost concern on the substance of the legislation is that we have blurred the lines of accountability when it comes to preventing and ferreting out future espionage at our nuclear labs and weapons complex. I think one thing we can all agree on is that counter-intelligence requires a clear line of command and accountability. A clear chain of command was at the heart of Presidential Decision Directive (PDD) 61, which the Cox Committee unanimously recommended be implemented. This legislation contradicts PDD 61 by setting up two different counterintelligence offices with overlapping responsibilities, and no clear direction on how the offices are supposed to interface with each other. As a member of the Cox Committee, I find it disturbing and ironic that the restructuring provisions fail in what should have been its top priority: setting up clear lines of command and accountability on counterintelligence.

My second and more general concern is that the Secretary's ability to conduct oversight of the complex could be seriously hampered by this legislation. We already know that the price of no oversight is a legacy of contaminated sites that will cost hundreds of billions to clean up. Revelations about contamination of

workers at Paducah show that we cannot disregard the health and safety concerns for workers in the nuclear weapons complex and the communities that surround these sites. The history of the last few decades tells us that the nuclear weapon sites and activities of the Department of Energy require more sunshine, more scrutiny, and more oversight, not less. Any Secretary of Energy must have strong oversight authority, and I fear that this legislation detracts from rather than adding to the Secretary's oversight powers.

Having criticized these provisions, let me say that I do not think they were drafted with bad intent. But they were drafted hastily, without adequate hearings, with no vetting among outside authorities, without the benefit of constructive criticism that comes in the mark-up process, and without any discussion among members of the conference committee.

A good example of the type of confusion that arises from these hastily-drafted provisions is the work of the Energy Department's non-weapons facilities—the science labs. The science labs perform a great deal of work for almost every element designated as part of the new National Nuclear Security Administration. This is especially true for the current Offices of Non-Proliferation and National Security (NN), Fissile Materials Disposition, Naval Reactors, and the Office of Intelligence. The language of the conference report, though, raises the question of whether the current cooperation between the science labs and weapons facilities will be allowed to continue, or be prohibited by the language separating the weapons labs from the rest of the DOE complex.

For the Office of Non-Proliferation and National Security for example, the science labs provide a significant portion of the technologies and expertise for such programs as Materials, Protection, Control and Accountability (MPC&A), a program I helped establish. This is also true for the Nuclear Cities Initiative, in which a science lab (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, or PNNL) co-chairs the U.S. effort in one of the first three Russian nuclear cities selected. That arrangement is especially fruitful because PNNL is the only U.S. lab with real-life experience making the transition from a closed U.S. "nuclear city," Hanford, which produced key nuclear materials for the WWII-era nuclear weapons, to a non-weapons community in which such scientific expertise is put to more peaceful use.

The science labs play a major role in providing technical expertise and collaboration for the Initiatives to Prevent Proliferation (IPP) program, attempting to develop self-sustaining, U.S. and Russian scientific collaborations that are mutually beneficial. The science labs provide valuable technologies and expertise of the NN efforts in Safeguards and Transparency regarding Russian nuclear warheads. Science lab personnel, in fact, chair important working groups in that effort, and have developed technologies that will be used in identifying and securing Russian warhead materials.

The science labs are vital parts of all of DOE's efforts to build lab-to-lab relationships and programs that enhance U.S. national security by applying American eyes and know-how to the potentially dangerous situations in the weapons of mass destruction (WMD) complex of the former Soviet Union. The science labs also play a critical role in the NM arms control programs, providing vital technologies