

Marcovitz, founder and former owner of Chef's Catalog, Northbrook, Illinois. Each of these businesses experienced substantial revenue growth under the guidance of these outstanding leaders in the business community.

By honoring the hard work and perseverance of these creative forces we are projecting their accomplishments as examples that others can follow. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these Hall of Fame members on this achievement.

KINDERTRANSPORT—60TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF BRITISH HOSPI-
TALITY FOR CHILD VICTIMS OF
NAZI GERMANY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on December 2, 1938, two hundred children from a Jewish orphanage in Berlin arrived in Harwich, Britain. Over the next two years—between 1938 and 1940—some nine to ten thousand children arrived in Britain from Nazi Germany. These missions of mercy, which were supported by the United Kingdom, were called Kindertransport (Children's Transport). The program rescued refugee children from Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Poland. Three-quarters of that number, some 7,500, were Jewish, and the other approximately 2,500 were of other ethnic and religious backgrounds.

Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 60th anniversary of the end of the mission of mercy of the Kindertransport. I think it is appropriate that we mark that anniversary and pay tribute to the Government of the United Kingdom for their involvement with this effort in saving the lives of these ten thousand children.

The British government eased its immigration restrictions for certain categories of Jewish refugees after the Nazis staged their violent pogrom against Jews throughout Germany and Austria on November 9, 1938, called Kristallnacht ("Night of Broken Glass"). The Movement for the Care of Children in Germany coordinated the effort to assist refugee children. This organization, in cooperation with the British Committee for the Jews of Germany, worked to persuade the British Government to permit an unspecified number of children under the age of 17 to enter the country from Germany and territories that were incorporated in Germany.

Once the children arrived in Britain, private citizens and charitable groups, including Jewish organizations as well as Quakers and many other Christian denominations, guaranteed payment for each child's care, education, and eventual emigration out of Britain. In return for this guarantee, the British government agreed to permit unaccompanied refugee children to enter the country with simple travel visas. Parents and guardians could not accompany their children, and as a result, infants included in the program were tended by older children. Children with friends or relatives in Britain were generally favored, but other children were accepted if they were homeless or orphans, or if their parents were in concentration camps or otherwise no longer able to support them.

About half of the children lived with sponsors in London. Other children who did not have sponsors were taken to a summer camp in Dovercourt Bay and other facilities until individual families agreed to care for them or until hostels could be organized to care for larger groups of the children. These homes and hostels were located throughout Britain. After the war, many children from the Kindertransport program emigrated to Israel, the United States, Canada, and Australia, or became citizens of Great Britain. Most of these children never saw their parents again.

Mr. Speaker, as we mark sixty years since the conclusion of the Kindertransport program, I want to pay tribute to the British Government and the British people for providing sanctuary for these refugee children. If they had remained in Nazi Germany, it is clear that most if not all of them would have suffered tragic deaths.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express thanks to Margret Hofmann of Texas for bringing to my attention this heroic effort. She has striven to teach others, through stories like this one, about the humble heroes of the Holocaust. I would also like to thank Richard M. Graves of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum for providing me with information about the Kindertransport.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GREAT
APE CONSERVATION ACT OF 2000

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, according to Jane Goodall, one of the world's leading primatologists and renowned authority on chimpanzees, all four species of great ape in Africa are in desperate trouble. If action is not taken now, it is likely there will be no viable populations of gorillas, orangutans, bonobos and chimpanzees living in the wild within 20 years. Such an ecological tragedy cannot be allowed to pass unnoticed.

The threats to the apes stem largely from increased commercial logging that facilitates both habitat loss and a growing and largely unregulated commercial bush meat trade. Bush meat, the term used to describe wildlife used for meat consumption, includes elephants, gorillas, chimpanzees, forest antelope and a variety of other species. Once only used as a subsistence food source, the commercial bush meat trade has skyrocketed in recent years with devastating impacts on wildlife populations, many of which are threatened and endangered. Not only is this commercial trade being used to supply urban populations in Africa, international trade is also growing.

We are only now beginning to understand and appreciate the complex role of great apes in maintaining the ecological health and biodiversity of tropical and subtropical forest habitats. Recent research indicates that these primates are particularly important for seed dispersal and habitat modification. Biologists fear that the loss of all great apes could irrevocably alter forest structure and the composition of species which could exacerbate other environmental threats caused by deforestation and agriculture.

Additionally, recent information strongly suggests that the consumption of primate

bushmeat in the Congo Basin has the potential to become a devastating human health crisis. According to world expert and bushmeat Crisis Task Force member, Dr. Beatrice Hahn, research reasonably indicates that humans might acquire the immuno-deficiency syndrome (HIV) through the ingestion of primate tissue. Research also suggests that other viruses, including the Ebola virus, may be possibly linked to non-human primates and could be transmitted to humans through bush meat consumption.

A broad range of actions will be needed if there is any hope to protect and hopefully recover great ape populations in Africa. Logging companies must halt the flow of bushmeat from their operations. Long term support for protected areas, national parks, and buffer zones must be secured to protect habitat and wildlife. Law enforcement capacity to enable countries to enforce wildlife protection laws must be developed. Finally, efforts must be undertaken to help rural populations develop alternative sources of protein that will reduce the demand for bushmeat.

Today, I am introducing the Great Ape Conservation Act to address the imperiled status of Africa's large primates. Modeled after the highly successful African and Asian Elephant and Rhino Conservation Acts, the Great Ape Conservation Act would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assist in the conservation and protection of great apes by providing grants to local wildlife management authorities and other organizations and individuals involved in the conservation, management, protection and restoration of great ape populations and their habitats. These projects tend to be implemented locally, working with affected communities, in order to be most effective.

The challenges facing the conservation of great apes are immense. Unfortunately, the resources so far available from the United Nations to cope with these threats have not been commensurate to the task. This bill would establish a Great Ape Conservation Fund as a separate account in the existing multinational Species Conservation Fund in the U.S. Treasury to address this deficiency. Over five years, the bill would authorize \$5 million per year to support conservation grant activities. Scientific research and monitoring of ape populations and habitats, assistance in the development and implementation of habitat management plans, protection and acquisition of threatened habitats, enforcement of domestic laws relating to resource management, and other conservation measures would be included in the menu of eligible grant activities. Importantly, grants under this new program could also be used to support enforcement and implementation of trade prohibitions and restrictions established under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, or CITES. These grants would allow wildlife management authorities in the Congo Basin the flexibility they need to work cooperatively with affected local human populations. And only by incorporating the participation of local residents will we be able to address the many social and economic factors preventing the long-term conservation and protection of great apes.

International efforts to prevent the extinction of gorillas, orangutans, bonobos and chimpanzees will require the leadership of the United States. It will also require the United