

It was offered and rejected. An end to check points? More territory? It was offered and rejected. Not only were all attempts to genuinely settle the conflict rejected out of hand, but the Palestinians responded to them—in- stead of with counter-proposals for peace— with intifada, jihad and terror.

The current confrontation is one which Israel neither sought nor initiated, and still, there is no desire for punishment and re- venge. There is no wish to suppress or re- press anyone. What point does it serve?

Negotiation and education for peace are the only means forward, and hopefully a meaningful resumption of dialogue can begin again soon. In the meantime, the Palestinian leadership must be made to understand that terrorism and bloodshed cannot exist side by side with diplomacy.

The path of violence was supposed to have been forever abandoned on Sept. 13, 1993, when Chairman Arafat shook the hand of Israel's late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, and pledged in word and in writing to for- swear achieving his goals by the sword. Though that day over seven years ago seems so remote, it must continue to guide all sides even now.

Terror will not bring the Palestinian peo- ple what they desire. They will not be able to gain through violence what they could not gain through negotiation. Only a return to talks and moderation can bring a mutually acceptable settlement for both sides.

Rotem is consul general of Israel to the southwestern United States.

HONORING REVEREND DR. J.
ALFRED SMITH, JR.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2001

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and salute Reverend Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Jr. for his many years of service to Allen Temple Baptist Church and the City of Oakland.

As the Co-Pastor of Allen Temple Baptist Church, Reverend Smith Jr. helped lead the Allen Temple Family to new heights with its spiritual, social and economic justice agenda. He has exemplified, in a magnificent way, steady, enlightened and inspirational leader- ship.

Reverend Smith Jr. has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Services and African Amer- ican Studies from Antioch University. He has also earned his Master in Divinity from the Graduate Theological University and a Doctor of Ministry from San Francisco Theological Seminary.

While pursuing his graduate degrees, he was an instructor at San Francisco State Uni- versity, U.C. Berkeley, the Pacific School of Religion, and the Allen Temple Leadership In- stitute. Reverend Smith, Jr. has educated stu- dents about Black Religion, Black Philosophy, African American Children and Their Families, the Mission of the Church and Church Admin- istration of Social Justice.

Aside from his role as an educator, he has played a pivotal role in contributing to the bet- terment of the City of Oakland. He has served as an Urban Employment Analyst in the Office of Economic Development and Employment; he has worked with the Oakland Crime Pre- vention Unit; he has served on the advisory board for fair housing; and he has been an advocate for the homeless.

Reverend Smith Jr.'s activism is not bound- ed by the City of Oakland. He has led a study tour and has participated in peace discussions in Israel and Palestine. He has traveled to London to be a keynote speaker for the Pro- gressive Baptist Churches of the United King- dom. He has traveled to Western Africa and China on a cultural exchange mission.

Reverend Smith Jr. has received numerous awards and has received worldwide recogni- tion for his advocacy for social, political and economic justice. He has often been quoted by the media for his wisdom on particular issues.

On a personal level, I have relied on Rev- erend Smith, Jr.'s insights on the major issues confronting the human family for several dec- ades. His clarity, his wisdom and his vision have meant so much to me and my prede- cessor, Congressman Ronald V. Dellums. It is with a deep sense of gratitude and a profound sense of love and affection for Reverend Smith, Jr., his wife, Mrs. Elaine Smith, and his entire family that I wish him well, good luck and God's blessings as he embarks upon the next chapter of his life.

I proudly join Reverend Smith's family, friends and colleagues in thanking and salut- ing him for his years of service and commit- ment to improving the human condition.

Thank you Reverend Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Jr.!

HONORING ROGER P. PETERS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to pay respects to a long time pro- fessor at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colo- rado. Roger Peters passed away on May 13, 2001 from a battle with cancer. Family, friends, students and faculty will truly miss one of Ft. Lewis College's best professors.

Roger was born on October 29, 1943, in Washington, DC. He graduated from the Uni- versity of Chicago in 1965 with a bachelors degree in political science. After graduation, he volunteered for the Peace Corps and served as a science teacher in Liberia. "He loved his life. He was a really happy person," said Arden Peters, his daughter. "He taught everyone he knew so much. He was a re- markable friend and the best father."

For more than a quarter of a century Roger was a psychology professor at Ft. Lewis Col- lege. Roger was an enthusiastic teacher who would light his students up with excitement "Students would be infected with his enthu- siasm," said Alane Brown, and associate pro- fessor of psychology. According to Byron Dare, a friend and fellow professor, Roger was the epitome of a professional and was a multi- dimensional person with numerous interests.

Roger Peters will be missed by everyone that knew him. He made an impact on his family, friends, and his students. Mr. Speaker, I would like Congress to join me honoring Roger for all he has done for students at Fort Lewis College and his family.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ACT TO
LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2001

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit to my col- leagues in the House the Act to Leave No Child Behind. Today I am joined by the gentle- woman from Connecticut, Ms. DELAURO, and the Gentleman from California, Mr. STARK, in announcing its introduction.

An Act to Leave No Child Behind has ambi- tious but achievable goals: to eliminate child poverty, end child hunger, prepare children to enter school ready to learn, and provide chil- dren with health insurance and other vital services necessary for the successful develop- ment of America's children. Our bill is a road map for the safe and healthy development of America's children.

America must make a choice when it comes to the future of our neediest children. We must choose whether we will invest in the healthy development of our children or in the richest one percent of taxpayers in this country. We cannot do both. This bill represents a vision and a commitment toward a future where all children have a chance to succeed.

An Act to Leave No Child Behind, combines several pieces of legislation that could be acted upon separately at the appropriate time. Taken together, however, this bill moves us forward on the path where all children have quality health care, educational opportunity, quality child care and safe communities. This legislation provides every child and their par- ents with health insurance, lifts every child from poverty through tax credits, work sup- ports, and a new minimum wage, and ends child hunger through the expansion of food programs. This bill makes sure every child is ready for school by fully funding quality early learning programs, and offers significant re- forms for our system of public education that increases accountability, reduces classroom size, and guarantees that all children will be taught by qualified teachers in modern and safe classrooms. This legislation also address- es the issue of affordable housing and safe communities through sensible environmental protections, gun safety laws, and programs to reduce children's exposure to neglect, abuse, and violence.

I am so proud to have working with me on this legislation, my friend Senator CHRIS- TOPHER DODD (D-CT) and the Children's De- fense Fund. Despite President Bush's use of the term, it was in fact the Children's Defense Fund that trademarked the phrase "Leave No Child Behind" in 1994. And it has been justi- fied in using it ever since as it has waged a relentless battle to knock America's political establishment to its senses on behalf of our neediest children. This bill is the real deal—it is the real Act to Leave No Child Behind. It addresses the most important issue facing our country—the children who have been and con- tinue to be left behind. We understand that our bill is asking for a significant commitment in federal resources to help children. But we think that is the right direction for us to take. We also strongly believe that we have the re- sources for this effort. And, perhaps most im- portant, we understand that the continued ne- glect of the real needs of children has come

at a great price and will continue to cost our society—and these children—dearly.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of the House to join me and co-sponsor the Act to Leave No Child Behind.

HONORING FORMER
CONGRESSMAN PAUL G. ROGERS

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2001

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Congressman Paul G. Rogers who will be honored on June 12th by the dedication of the Paul G. Rogers Plaza at the National Institutes of Health. This occasion is a tribute to Paul's accomplishments in the fields of health and the environment.

Paul G. Rogers was elected to Congress in 1954 where he represented South Floridians living in Palm Beach and Broward Counties for twenty-four years. Paul was a well-respected Member of Congress who was known as a man of integrity. He is recognized and has been widely honored for his sponsorship of numerous pieces of legislation in the areas of health and the environment including the National Cancer Acts of 1971 and 1977 and the Clean Air and Water Act. This legislation has saved the lives of countless Americans and improved the quality of life for all Americans.

As Chairman of the House Committee on Health and the Environment, Paul used his broad knowledge and deep understanding of health and environmental issues to build a consensus of opinion in favor of Congressional action in these areas. In fact, he is often referred to as "Mr. Health." Paul was always more interested in results than in partisan politics and therefore was able to move widely supported bipartisan legislation. His accomplishments are a legacy that demonstrates what can be done in Congress if we work together for the public good. Today I have the privilege of representing parts of Paul's district and am trying to follow the trail that he blazed in these important areas.

The Paul G. Rogers Plaza at the National Institutes of Health honors this outstanding American, and my friend, Paul Rogers. I hope that the work done at this Plaza will be worthy of the name it has been given.

SOJOURNER TRUTH

HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2001

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, on May 29, we will celebrate the legacy of the famed abolitionist and feminist, Sojourner Truth. She was born Isabella Baumfree, as a slave. She escaped slavery and adopted the name Sojourner Truth when she began preaching across the nation.

It was in Akron, Ohio, at the Second Annual Women of Ohio Convention on May 29, 1851, that she delivered her powerful "Ain't I a

Woman?" speech. It is appropriate to honor her work and her legacy on the 150th anniversary of that remarkable speech. It is especially appropriate to do so in the city where she delivered it.

A friend of mine, the late Faye H. Dambrot, a leading advocate of rights for women, equality, and justice, wrote a testimonial to Sojourner Truth and her famous speech, which I am honored to submit for the RECORD.

Born the slave Isabella Baumfree in 1797 in Ulster County, New York, this articulate woman with her commanding voice and imposing stature began her career by preaching and lecturing against slavery after the New York emancipation laws of 1827 were passed. Deeply religious and mystical, she chose the name Sojourner Truth to reflect her commitment to travel widely and spread the truth to her audiences. During her extensive journeys through the North and Midwest, she spoke of having been beaten, raped, and forcibly separated from her children and other loved ones under slavery.

In addition to her ministry and ardent abolitionism, Sojourner soon embraced the cause of women's rights, knowing well the double yoke of racism and sexism which bound black women. She worked to raise money for the North during the Civil War, helped emancipated blacks find jobs and housing in Washington, D.C., and even struggled against segregation by her insistence on riding public street cars.

She supported herself through the sale of her autobiography, *My Narrative*, and counted Abraham Lincoln, Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass among her friends. Sojourner Truth continued her life of struggle and agitation until ill health forced her retirement. She died near Battle Creek, Michigan on November 26, 1883.

Sojourner was not a welcome speaker at Akron's Women of Ohio Convention, many women present feared the cause of abolitionism would be detrimentally linked to the suffrage struggle and urged the chairwoman, Frances Gage, to prevent her addressing the crowd. The assembled local clergymen were swaying those present with their declarations about the natural superiority of man, Eve's "original sin," the manhood of Christ, and the deference and privilege.

She intoned, "Well children, where there is so much racket there must be something out of kilter . . . But what's all this here talking about?"

"That man over there say that women needs to be helped into carriages, and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody ever helps me into carriages, or over mud-puddles, or gives me any best place!"

She drew herself up to her full height, and with a voice like rolling thunder continued. "And ain't I a women? Look at me! Look at my arm! . . . I have ploughed, and planted and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman? I could work as much and eat as much as a man—when I could get it—and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman? I have borne 13 children, and seen them most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus hear me! And ain't I a woman . . . ?"

"That little man in black there, he say women can't have as much rights as men, be-

cause Christ wasn't a woman! Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman! Man had nothing to do with Him.

"If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again! . . ."

Frances Gage tells her recollection of the crowd's reaction. She says, "Amid roars of applause, she returned to her corner, leaving more than one of us with streaming eyes, and hearts beating with gratitude. She had taken us up in her strong arms and carried us safely over the slough of difficulty, turning the whole tide in our favor. I have never in my life seen anything like the magical influence that subdued the mobbish spirit of the day, and turned the sneers and jeers of an excited crowd into notes of respect and admiration. Hundreds rushed up to shake hands with her, and bid her Godspeed on her mission of testifying again concerning the wickedness of this here people."

Mr. Speaker, in standing up for her beliefs, Sojourner Truth became a role model for all Americans, not just women or people of color. Sojourner Truth was the living embodiment of the basic American tenet that each and every individual has intrinsic worth.

As historian David McCullough reminds us, history didn't have to happen the way it did. History is created by the actions of far-sighted men and women like Sojourner Truth.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2001

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, May is the month our nation honors Asian Pacific American Heritage. As the Representative of a very ethnically diverse community, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize those in my Congressional district who come from Asian descent.

About 11 million Americans come from Asian or Pacific Island descent. Many Asian immigrants came to this country as laborers in the agriculture and transportation industries. First enduring harsh working conditions in the earlier part of the nineteenth century, many Asian Pacific Americans have now become successful entrepreneurs, teachers, entertainers, and technological professionals. In fact, our U.S. Congress has been home to 32 elected Members of Asian ancestry since 1903.

I would like to acknowledge the achievements of a specific young woman in my district who has made a great contribution to the United States Air Force, the City of Baldwin Park, and the Filipino community. Lieutenant Venus C. Rivera is the first person from Baldwin Park with Filipino American parents to graduate from the United States Air Force Academy. This Dean's List honor student will be trained as a jet pilot upon her graduation this month. I know she will continue to serve as an inspiration to all young Asian Americans in the United States.