

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SARA DARNELL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sara Darnell on earning the prestigious Fulbright Award, which will allow her to teach and study in the United Kingdom during the upcoming academic year.

Established by Congress in 1946, the Fulbright Award program is the oldest U.S. Government sponsored academic exchange program. Recipients of Fulbright Awards are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement as well as leadership potential in one's respective field. In receiving this award, Ms. Darnell was one of only 200 teachers out of 750 applicants to earn the Fulbright Award.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Sara Darnell for her continued devotion to excellence in education and congratulate her for receiving the Fulbright Award.

PROCLAMATION FOR ROBERT GREGORY EISNER

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young men, Robert Eisner. The Boy Scouts of his troop will honor him as they recognize his achievements by giving him the Eagle Scout honor on Friday, October 12.

Since the beginning of this century, the Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of boys and young men each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

This award is presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless

others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Mr. Eisner, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young man on his day of recognition. Congratulations to Robert and his family.

TRIBUTE TO WALESKA MARTINEZ

HON. DAN MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my following statement be entered into the RECORD. It is with great sadness that I inform my colleagues of the loss of a committed public servant, Waleska Martinez. Waleska was a passenger on the United Airlines Flight 93 that was hijacked on September 11, 2001, and crashed outside Pittsburgh, PA.

Waleska Martinez's career with the Census Bureau spanned 13 years during which she worked with strong commitments to excellence and innovation on all major Regional Office automation operations in support of the Current Survey programs, the Decennial Census, and Census Tests.

She began her career in 1988 as a clerk in the New York Regional Census Center. Within a matter of months she was promoted to an Assistant Manager for Administration position and then to an Administrative Specialist position. During the 1990 Census, Ms. Martinez provided exemplary payroll/personnel support and other administrative support and guidance to all areas of the Regional Census Center and the District Offices. In addition, she developed specialized automation reports and spreadsheets that provided managers with valuable, easy-to-use information on the status of critical administrative activities.

In 1991, upon the successful completion of her 1990 Census Administrative Specialist duties and responsibilities, Ms. Martinez was transferred to the New York Regional Office as a Special Survey Technician. On the basis of her considerable academic and technical background and experience in the areas of computer science and management information systems, Ms. Martinez was called upon to serve as the Regional Office Computer Specialist in early 1993. During the following years of major expansion in Regional Office automation and the introduction of Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing for the major Current Survey programs, Ms. Martinez kept the New York Regional Office in the forefront of automation support, training, and performance.

In 1998, Ms. Martinez was selected to serve as the Census 2000 Automation Supervisor for the New York Region and was given full technical, operational and managerial responsibility for the entire range of automation hardware, software, and support including a complex telecommunications network for the Regional Census Center and the 39 Census 2000 Local Census Offices.

During her career with the Census Bureau, Ms. Martinez was the frequent recipient of performance awards and special act awards in recognition of her outstanding technical and managerial skills and innovative contributions in all areas of automation. She received the Bronze Medal Award, the highest honorary award granted by the Census Bureau in 1998.

THE 41ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, October 1, 2001, marks the 41st anniversary of the Independence of Republic of Cyprus. It was on this date in 1960 that Cyprus became an independent republic after decades of British colonial rule. Cyprus and the United States have much in common. Both countries achieved their independence from Britain, and commemorate the anniversary of that independence as their national holiday. Moreover, both the United States and Cyprus maintain close relations with Britain today.

Cyprus and the United States also share a deep and abiding commitment to democracy, human rights, free markets, and the ideal and practice of equal justice under law. This year, the people of Cyprus and the Cypriot-American community mark Cyprus Independence Day with a heavy heart, as the shock and grief over the September 11 terrorist attacks continues to be felt. The leaders and the people of Cyprus have expressed strong condemnation for the terrorists and those who support them, while voicing their solidarity with the American people. The Cyprus government has pledged to cooperate with the U.S. Government and all the other governments engaged in the battle against terrorism. Messages from Cypriot officials and religious leaders, including Cyprus President Glafcos Clerides, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus, the Ambassador of Cyprus to the United States Erato Kozakou Marcoullis, and the Primate of the Cyprus Church, Archbishop Chrysostomos, expressed shock and horror at these devastating attacks and a commitment of support and friendship in a time of need.

Within hours of the terrorist attacks, Cyprus President Glafcos Clerides—who was on his way to New York at the time for meetings at the U.N.—strongly denounced the terrorist attacks. In a message to President Bush the day after the attacks, the Cyprus President strongly condemned, “in the most unequivocal manner, these cowardly, horrific acts against the American people and extend to the families of the victims my heartfelt condolences on behalf of the government and the people of Cyprus.” In its September 12 statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus noted that, “The terrorist attacks were attacks not

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

against the United States and its people but against the international legal order, democracy, freedom and the most fundamental of all human rights, that of the right to life. Yesterday, terrorists attacked humanity and human dignity." The statement continued, "Yesterday's events underline that the members of the international community, both individually and collectively, must redouble their efforts in a more systematic and coordinated manner to fight terrorism and its sponsorship."

The Cyprus Government, adopting a decision by the European Union, declared September 14 a Day of Mourning for the victims. Flags were flown at half-mast, while high-ranking officials and ordinary people signed a book of condolences at the U.S. Embassy in the capital of Nicosia. Many Cypriots laid flowers at the Embassy.

Overseas Cypriots have also denounced the terrorist attacks against the US, describing them as "barbaric acts against humanity." The International Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus (PSEKA), the World Federation of Overseas Cypriots (POMAK) and all their member organizations worldwide, said they were devastated by the terrorist attacks against thousands of people in the U.S. and that "these barbaric acts against humanity prove nothing but the apathy and sickness of those committing them. Our prayers are for the families and with those missing and unaccounted for, and we praise those individuals who have given themselves selflessly, helping to the best of their abilities."

Sadly, at least one American of Cypriot descent was killed in the attacks. Michael Tarrou, 38, an air steward, and his fiancée Amy King, were aboard United Airlines flight 175, which crashed into one of the World Trade Center towers. United States Ambassador to Cyprus Donald Bandler expressed gratitude for the sympathy and support received from the Cyprus government and people and expressed his condolences "to Cypriots who have lost members of their family and friends in this tragic and senseless attack."

Unfortunately, the commemoration of Cyprus's Independence Day is also clouded by the fact that 37 percent of the Mediterranean island nation's territory continues to be occupied by a hostile foreign power, as it has been for more than a quarter of a century. On July 20, 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus, and to this day continues to maintain an estimated 35,000 heavily armed troops. Nearly 200,000 Greek Cypriots, who fell victim to a policy of ethnic cleansing, were forcibly evicted from their homes and became refugees in their own country. 1,493 Greek Cypriots, including four Americans of Cypriot descent, have been missing since 1974; the remains of another Cypriot American were found and identified in 1997, following an investigation mandated by the United States Congress.

In 1983, in flagrant violation of international law and the treaties establishing the Republic of Cyprus and guaranteeing its independence and territorial integrity, Ankara promoted a "unilateral declaration of independence" in the area under its military occupation. The U.S. Government and the U.N. Security Council condemned the declaration and attempted secession. To date, no other country in the world except Turkey recognized the so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus."

In a landmark May 10, 2001 decision, the European Court of Human Rights found Tur-

key responsible for continuing violations of human rights, emphasizing that the Republic of Cyprus is the sole legitimate Government of Cyprus and pointing out that Turkey is engaged in the policies and actions of the illegal occupation regime.

Since 1974, the U.N. has adopted numerous resolutions on Cyprus that call for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the island, the return of the refugees to their homes in safety and respect for the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and unity of the Republic of Cyprus. The Security Council stated in 1999 that, "a Cyprus settlement must be based on a State of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded and comprising two political equal communities as described in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in a bicomunal and bi-zonal federation and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or in part with any other country or any form of partition or secession." These parameters were reiterated by the Security Council on June 11, 2001.

The Government of the Republic of Cyprus accepts these parameters as the basis for negotiations leading to the reunification of the island. However, Rauf Denktaş, the leader of the Turkish-Cypriot side, backed by Ankara, withdrew from the peace talks last November and earlier this month rejected U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan's invitation to resume the talks on September 12, claiming the ground had not been prepared for talks and insisting on his demand for recognition of his self-styled regime in Turkish occupied Cyprus.

On September 26, 2001, the U.N. Security Council expressed disappointment over the "unjustified decision" of the Turkish side to decline an invitation by the U.N. Secretary General to resume the search for a comprehensive settlement in Cyprus in New York in September. The Council stressed that "progress can only be made at the negotiating table" and urged all those concerned to cooperate with Kofi Annan and his Special Adviser Alvaro de Soto to help move the peace process forward. Council members encouraged the Secretary General and his Special Adviser to "continue their efforts using the guidelines in Security Council resolutions 1250, namely that there should be no preconditions, that all issues are on the table, that both sides should make a commitment in good faith to negotiate until a settlement is reached and that there should be a full consideration of relevant U.N. resolutions and treaties." They also gave their "full support to the Secretary General's efforts to achieve a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem."

Despite the hardships and trauma caused by the ongoing Turkish occupation, Cyprus has registered remarkable economic growth, and the people living in the Government-controlled areas enjoy one of the world's highest standards of living. Sadly, the people living in the occupied area continue to be mired in poverty. Today, Cyprus is one of the leading candidate nations to join the European Union in the next round of expansion, in 3 to 4 years. On June 19, 2001, a concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 164) was introduced, "expressing the sense of Congress that security, reconciliation, and prosperity for all Cypriots can be best achieved within the context of membership in the European Union that will provide

significant rights and obligations for all Cypriots." The measure has 60 co-sponsors.

On September 15, 2001, U.S. State Department Special Coordinator for Cyprus Thomas Weston reiterated Washington's "unwavering support" for U.N. efforts to find a negotiated settlement in Cyprus and said that the Republic's European Union accession process offers "an incentive" towards achieving this objective. He also said that Turkey, through its engagement with the EU for membership, can and should contribute towards a Cyprus solution. "U.S. policy is very clear on Cyprus" EU accession: we support Cyprus' accession and we believe the accession process offers an incentive and it is helpful to achieve a settlement in Cyprus," Mr. Weston said, noting that Washington continues to back the EU Helsinki conclusions which say a political settlement in Cyprus would facilitate accession but it is not a precondition for EU membership. He added, "we believe that Turkey, through its political dialogue with the EU and the national program it has put forward, can and should contribute towards a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus question."

The relationship between Cyprus and the United States is strong and enduring. The people of Cyprus stand with the American people at this time of tragedy in the United States, and share in the firm resolve to uphold the ideals of freedom, justice and democracy threatened by the evil hand of terrorism. For our part, on this important day, we continue to stand with the people of Cyprus in the continuing wish for a bizonal, bicomunal and federal Cyprus, created on the basis of the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. ANNA VAYDA

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a great woman who passed away last month. Mrs. Anna Vayda was 91 years old and a vibrant woman all her life. She was instrumental in the chartering of the American Veterans and American Veterans Auxiliary. In 1946, she came to Washington, D.C. to lobby Congress on providing a national charter for the organization. Through her many trips and tireless efforts, she met the likes of former Speakers John McCormac, Frances Roberts and Tip O'Neill. In addition to lobbying for the national charter, she played a central role in gaining women veterans full membership in the American Veterans and not just the Auxiliary.

Mrs. Vayda is survived by a son, Joseph Vayda; her brother, Walter Zupkofska; nine grandchildren, including my good friend Eva Geoppo; twenty great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren. They are a testament to Mrs. Vayda's long and successful life. She will be greatly missed and our thoughts and prayers go out to all those who mourn her loss.