

Nobel Peace Prize recipient, Aung San Suu Kyi, and her struggle for freedom in Burma.

Over the past 2 weeks, Burma's military regime has again launched a brutal crackdown against dissent. When 900 Buddhist monks marched on the streets of Mandalay, the country's second largest city, the regime reacted violently, opening fire on the crowd and killing at least one monk and placing several more in intensive care.

At the same time, this regime instigated violence against the country's Muslim population, resulting in the torching of several homes and the murder of innocent civilians.

I am concerned that the international community has remained too silent. We need to take a serious look at the efforts of the United Nations Secretary General's special envoy to Burma, Razali Ismael. Are his efforts hampering or helping the struggle for freedom in Burma? Burma's exports of narcotics and refugees, ongoing human rights abuses present a serious threat to regional security yet this has never been addressed by the United Nations Security Council. Maybe it is time that a new envoy and a new approach by the United Nations will breathe new life into a failed process.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS J. SCHWARZ ON HIS INAUGURATION AS PRESIDENT OF PURCHASE COLLEGE

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 2003

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Thomas J. Schwarz, who will be sworn in on November 12 as the fifth President of Purchase College State University of New York.

Founded in 1967, Purchase College combines professional conservatory programs in the performing and visual arts with rigorous studies in liberal arts and science. Its 4,100 students are drawn from 47 States and 67 countries.

Graduates of Purchase College have excelled in the arts. Alumni include winners of the Oscar, Emmy, and Tony Awards, as well as the Pulitzer Prize, just to name a few.

Purchase College graduates have also contributed a great deal to a variety of academic fields. According to a recent National Science Survey, Purchase College ranks second in the nation in the production of Ph.Ds as a percentage of all students.

From its founding, Purchase College has opened its campus to the community. The Performing Arts Center, one of the finest of its kind on the East Coast, presents more than 100 performances, and hundreds of other public events, annually.

Prior to coming to Purchase, Thomas Schwarz had a distinguished career as a partner at the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, where he was the founding partner of the firm's Committee on Diversity.

He also worked in public service, as mayor of Ocean Beach, NY, and as Special Counsel to the New York State Commission on Government Integrity, among other positions.

As a member of the American Bar Association, Mr. Schwarz served on the Election Law Committee and was a special advisor on election reform. In addition, the Legal Aid Society presented him with its Pro Bono Award in 1998.

Mr. Schwarz has also served on the Board of Trustees of his alma mater, Hamilton College. As chairman of the Hamilton Planning Committee, he oversaw the completion of the first long-term plan in the college's 200-year history. This record of accomplishment paved his way to becoming Acting President of Hamilton in 1999.

Since coming to Purchase College as interim President in January of 2002, Mr. Schwarz has worked tirelessly to increase the academic excellence and selectivity of the school, as well as to improve administrative leadership and attract new resources to the institution.

I am confident that Mr. Schwarz will continue to excel in his new role, adding to the proud tradition of higher learning and academic achievement at Purchase.

IN RECOGNITION OF RUDY VARGAS, TALENTED ARTIST

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 2003

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues, I rise today to recognize the contributions of a local artist, Rudy Vargas, to the community of the great Central Valley of California.

Mr. Vargas was born in 1959 to Rudy and Mary Vargas and was raised on the south side of Hanford, California. His talent as an artist was recognized at a very early age by his second grade teacher, Mrs. Gump.

Through his school years, he was encouraged by many to enter various art competitions. Twice his artwork even made it to the state capitol to be displayed for a length of time.

Mr. Vargas graduated from high school at the age of 17. He then enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. In just 2 short years he was promoted to the rank of sergeant. While in the military, he continued to paint in his spare time.

When his tour with the Corps was over, he moved back home and began taking art and history classes at College of the Sequoias in Visalia, California. There, he met his wife, Diana.

In 1984, because of Mr. Vargas' training in the military, he decided to pursue a career with the police department. He promised his wife that at the age of 40, he'd turn in his badge and begin painting again, his real passion in life.

Staying true to his promise, in 1999 he quit working as a police officer for the Visalia Police Department. After 15½ years of being a cop, he went back to art.

His artwork is displayed all over the United States in many military, police, and fire department offices and buildings.

Today, I am paying tribute to Rudy Vargas for his many years of beautiful artwork. On

this Veterans' Day in 2003, we are honoring Mr. Vargas for his beautiful mural that he painted in Visalia, California.

Please join me in extending congratulations to Mr. Vargas.

HONORING BAKER, MANOCK & JENSEN FOR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Baker, Manock & Jensen for a century of practicing law. The celebration of this event took place on October 23, 2003, in Fresno, California.

In 1903, Henry E. Barbour and William A. Sutherland established two separate law practices in Fresno, starting a 100-year tradition. The two practices formed into a partnership in 1906 and split off seven years later into two branches: the Barbour branch and the Sutherland branch. Mr. Barbour served seven terms as Congressman for the 7th District of California while he maintained his practice. He passed away in 1945 from illness but the Barbour branch sustained with partners William C. Meux and John J. Gallagher. The Sutherland branch remained active until 1920 when Mr. Sutherland entered the banking business. His break from law didn't last long since he resumed his practice with a new partner, Milton M. Dearing, in 1926. Four years later, the firm added another name to its title when Gilbert H. Jertberg joined. Mr. Sutherland died in 1935, but the branch continued and eventually became Jertberg & Avery.

The firm's continuity, despite changes in partnership, was unshakable. In 1955, Mr. Jertberg started a 20-year career in the federal courts. He was nominated to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth District in 1958. After Mr. Dearing went into semiretirement, Mr. Avery, of the Sutherland branch, invited Meux & Gallagher—the Barbour branch—to partner with him on the sixth floor of the Security Bank Building. The Sutherland and Barbour lines were brought together again. In the mid 1970s, John H. Baker, Kendall L. Manock, and Douglas B. Jensen were partnered. The three names have comprised the firm's title since. The strength of the firm can be attributed to the many influential lawyers, as well as former and current shareholders that have been dedicated to the adherence to our laws.

Today, the firm is one of the largest law firms in Central California and utilizes 38 full-time lawyers and 10 paralegals to meet the needs of its clients. Until the 1960s, lawyers usually practiced general law, but now they have become much more specialized. Baker, Manock & Jensen has attorneys recognized for their expertise in areas such as reclamation law, environmental law, employment law, and medical malpractice defense.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Baker, Manock & Jensen for 100 years of law practice. Recognizing the importance and uniqueness of our constitution and court system, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending Baker, Manock & Jensen for its dedication to its clientele and the law.