

IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL'S  
SECURITY FENCE

**HON. TOM FEENEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 2004*

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Israel's security fence.

In yet another example of political manipulation of a U.N. body, Palestinians and their supporters have convinced the International Court of Justice to take up the issue of Israel's security fence.

On December 8, 2003, the General Assembly of the United Nations, sitting as an Emergency Special Session, adopted resolution ES/10/14 requesting the ICJ to render an advisory opinion on the legal consequences of Israel's security fence. This recent action by the Arab nations is an indignation both in relation to the jurisdiction of the Court to address such an issue, and the propriety of such a proceeding.

The International Court of Justice was set up in 1945 under the Charter of the United Nations to be the principal judicial organ of the Organization. The blatant use of the ICJ to further a political agenda is not only an outrage but an obvious conflict with the original purpose of the Court.

Article 36 of the Court's Statute states that contentious issues may only be brought before the Court with the consent of all parties. In this case, not only is the issue at hand clearly contentious, but the parties have already agreed on appropriate mechanisms for resolving such issues between themselves. Israel has voiced their deep reservations about the Arab initiative to involve the ICJ in complex political issues that should be resolved through negotiation and the abuse of the U.N. and the ICJ as part of a narrow political campaign.

A significant group of states, including the United States, Switzerland, Uganda and Italy stated in the General Assembly that they oppose the request for an advisory opinion because it goes directly against the Road Map and the wishes of the Security Council, which unanimously endorsed the Road Map in Resolution 1515 of November 19, 2003 and which has repeatedly called for resolution of the conflict via direct negotiations in accordance with Resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973).

The Government of Israel has recently reiterated its commitment to the Road Map. It believes that those who support the efforts of the Quartet and the international community in bringing the sides together should stress to the ICJ the importance of not prejudicing that process and emphasize that the Court should refuse to respond to the question at hand.

The U.N. General Assembly has been a hotbed of anti-Israel activity, passing more resolutions against Israel than on any other subject—more than 400 since 1964. In contrast, the body has never investigated the Palestinian terror campaign against Israel, nor has it investigated abuse, torture and other human rights violations by non-democratic states in the Arab world.

On a host of issues, the U.N. and its agents, in this case the ICJ, have become not only irrelevant to the cause of furthering classically liberal democracies and peace, but actually hostile to our efforts to promote basic freedoms.

I urge the International Court of Justice to uphold the integrity of its Statute and recog-

nize Israel's security fence as a necessary measure to protect their people from those who believe that the path to salvation is paved by killing Jewish women and children. Otherwise, once again a U.N. entity will end up on the wrong side of peace, security, freedom and democracy.

COMMEMORATING LOYD E.  
WILLIAMS

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 2004*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I, Ms. LOFGREN, and Ms. ESHOO rise today to commemorate the life and many accomplishments of Mr. Loyd Williams, who passed away on Sunday, December 28, 2003. Mr. Williams will long be remembered for his integrity and dedication to the welfare of all people in his community, and for his advocacy and hard work on behalf of the members of the United Association (UA) of Plumbers, Steamfitters, and Refrigeration Fitters Local 393 and the entire labor movement.

Loyd Williams was born in El Morro, NM on April 15, 1941. At the age of 2, he and his family moved to San Jose, CA, where he attended Cambrian Elementary School and then Camden High School. Mr. Williams had his first experiences with the labor movement and its concerns while in his early school years, working as a prune harvester and later becoming a harvest contractor. During which, Loyd fired his own brother for poor job performance. Consequently, he learned a valuable lifelong lesson when Loyd's father later advised him that his brother was not properly trained. Instilled with his father's wisdom and insight, Loyd became one of the most respected labor leaders by modeling and teaching what he expected of others. After graduating from high school in 1959, Mr. Williams became an apprentice plumber and was elected president of his apprenticeship class. In 1964, he became a journeyman plumber and was active for 8 years in UA Local 393. Loyd Williams was elected business agent in 1973 and served continuously until he became business manager in 1992.

Loyd's 43-year dedication to UA Local 393 was not merely confined to his role as a business manager. He gladly took on many other responsibilities within the union and the community. Recently, Loyd Williams chaired the UA Local 393's Centennial Committee, organizing the Union's 100th Anniversary Celebration on January 24, 2004. He also chaired the Board of Trustees for the UA Local 393 Pension Fund, served as Secretary-Treasurer of the Western States Pipe Council, and acted as delegate to the Santa Clara/San Benito Trades Council, the South Bay Labor Council, the California State Pipe Trade Council, and the UA National Convention. Mr. Williams' co-workers fondly remember his outspokenness and willingness to fight for labor rights. Members of the community recall his many other contributions that included helping to establish the South Bay Children's Urgent Care Center and participating in the Christmas in April program.

Loyd Williams was characterized by his fervent advocacy on behalf of laborers and his continuous belief in the inherent goodness of

people. His own life not only had taught him the values of hard work and perseverance, but also the need for cooperation in order to achieve common goals. Mr. Williams will always be remembered as one of the most dedicated and successful business managers of the UA Local 393. His life constitutes a wonderful example for many young people today who wish to engage in the labor rights movement and who want to actively support their communities.

Mr. Williams is survived by his wife, Carolyn, of 37 years and his son, Jonathan. Also, he is fondly remembered by his siblings Oren, Bill, and Linda Fanelli. The entire community of Santa Clara County gives thanks and commemorates the life and many accomplishments of Mr. Loyd Williams.

Mr. Speaker, we extend our deepest condolences to Mr. Williams' family and friends. Please join us in honoring Mr. Loyd Williams, a truly exceptional individual who dedicated his life to the service of others.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF VAN MILLER, THE VOICE OF  
THE BUFFALO BILLS

**HON. JACK QUINN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 2004*

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, all good things must come to an end, and it is with both sadness and great respect that we acknowledge the end of Van Miller's remarkable career as the announcer for the Buffalo Bills. At 76 years of age, Mr. Miller has been the most devoted and longest-tenured broadcaster in the history of the National Football League. He began his distinguished career with the Bills on July 30, 1960, commenting for an exhibition game against the Boston Patriots. For the following 37 years, Mr. Miller lent his voice to the Buffalo Bills and their loyal fans, creating a steadfast following with the phenomenon known as Vandemonium.

As the play-by-play announcer for the Bills, Mr. Miller articulated their decades of both triumphs and defeats, displaying his love for the game and the team through good times and bad. He is renowned not only for his professionalism in the booth, but also for his enthusiastic announcing. The excitement of the fans matched his own exhilaration at watching his favorite team play.

The lead commentator for Super Bowl XXV between the Bills and the New York Giants, Mr. Miller was the voice of professionalism in announcing the Giants' victory over his beloved Bills. Though a devastating moment for the team, Mr. Miller made the call with poise and calm, ably performing his announcing duties while displaying the utmost respect for both teams. It is this dedication to his job and team that explains why Buffalo may be the only city in the world where football fans turn down the volume on their televisions and turn up their radios when a Bills game is on.

Van Miller is more than a voice, however. As beloved as he is for his football commentary, his friendly presence and genuine care for the team and fans touches the entire Buffalo community. When Bills fans tuned in to Mr. Miller, they felt as though they were listening to a good friend. As John Murphy says of