

Darfur Peace Agreement and the will of the U.N. Security Council, your government has recently deployed approximately 26,000 troops and attack helicopters to the Darfur region. Your actions have directly resulted in an increase of attacks on civilians and humanitarian aid workers.

Mr. President, we call on you to apologize for and retract your dangerous and fictitious accusations directed towards the Jewish community. We also demand that you work to uphold the Darfur Peace Agreement, and actively and immediately strive to end the genocide within your borders. Finally, we encourage you to work closely with Special Presidential Envoy Andrew Natsios who is ready to aid your nation to achieve a final peace. Rather than fanning the flames of conflict, we hope you will act to save lives.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
REPORTS MILESTONE

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**  
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2006*

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker in an amazing demonstration of the strength of the American economy, the Treasury Department reported the largest single gross receipt of quarterly corporate taxes in our Nation's history last Friday. Without question, this milestone demonstrates the effectiveness of the pro-growth tax and fiscal policies advanced by this Congress. This news also proves that despite our obligations to protect our national security, fight the War on Terror abroad and cover the increasing costs of entitlement programs at home, the American economy will continue to grow and benefit the American people.

These historic tax receipts are not an isolated event. Last Friday's announcement is the result of back-to-back quarters of economic growth throughout America. According to the Treasury Department, last year's tax receipts were also a record high, having grown \$275 billion, or 14.6 percent, from the previous year.

Let's not forget about jobs. Increased corporate tax receipts are the result of greater corporate activity, which leads to job creation. Our economy has now added jobs for 36 straight months. The policies this Congress has set in motion have created the framework for an economy that has created more than 1.7 million jobs over the past 12 months and more than 5.7 million jobs since August 2003.

I and my colleagues are dedicated to continuing this trend by promoting legislation to roll back red tape, lower taxes on America's families and set the stage for a brighter future for all Americans.

15TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMENIA'S  
INDEPENDENCE

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2006*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 15th anniversary of Armenia's independence. I would like to congratulate the Armenian Government, its people and the entire extended Armenian community on this momen-

tous occasion. Over the last 15 years, the Armenian people have made tremendous progress toward a modern, open and free democracy that should serve as an inspiration to other nations.

Following the collapse of the U.S.S.R., Armenia was among the first of the former Soviet republics to embrace the path of democratic change in pursuit of freedom and self-determination. However, the road to independence was not easy. Centuries of foreign domination, genocide against its people in the early 20th century and seven decades of totalitarian dictatorship did not discourage the Armenian people.

Since its independence, Armenia has emerged as a viable, vibrant society playing an important role in stabilizing the South Caucasus region. Armenia continues to be a trusted partner of the United States in a strategically important area of the world, a regional leader in political and economic reform, and a nation committed to the principles of democracy and the rule of law.

Armenia has joined the global war on terror by engaging in a strategic relationship with the United States and other coalition members. Armenia's armed forces also participated in NATO's stabilization force in Kosovo, in addition to maintaining and developing a robust program of individual partnership with the North Atlantic Alliance through its Euro-Atlantic Partnership framework.

Armenia also has made tremendous progress in building up a free-market economy. It is one of only a handful of countries to have qualified for the Millennium Challenge Account, is a member of the World Trade Organization and has been granted Permanent Normal Trade Relations status by the United States.

Mr. Speaker, Armenia has overcome a brutal legacy of Ottoman persecution, Soviet oppression, Azerbaijani aggression against Nagorno Karabagh, and the ongoing dual blockades by Turkey and its allies in Baku in its path to independence. I urge my colleagues to join me in expressing congratulations to Armenia as well as extend my sincere support and encouragement to flourish as a strong democracy for years to come.

DEDICATED TO PEACE IN SRI  
LANKA

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2006*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my growing concern about the situation in Sri Lanka. I have followed the state of affairs in Sri Lanka for a long time, and it is clear to me that the current level of violence threatens to return the country to open civil war.

The renewed violence and rising death toll in Sri Lanka is troubling to me and many residents of my congressional district. They shared with me their apprehension about the growing levels of violence and I share their commitment to establishing a lasting peace in Sri Lanka.

That is why today I wrote to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice asking her to appoint a special envoy for Sri Lanka. I attach that let-

ter. The appointment of a high level official with the ear of President Bush will ensure that our government is focused on doing everything in its power to bring a lasting peace to the people of Sri Lanka. Further, naming a special envoy will ensure that there is a U.S. government official solely dedicated to fostering cooperation between the two parties and working to establish a mutually agreed peace. This envoy also must have a clear mandate to monitor human rights violations on the ground and ensure that international humanitarian laws are observed by all parties.

It is my hope and prayer that the violence will end and that the parties in Sri Lanka will return to the peace negotiations. America must remain committed to fostering peace in Sri Lanka and working with the international community to bring an end to the current conflict. The people have endured civil war for too long. Our Nation must do everything it can to foster a lasting peace in Sri Lanka.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

*Washington, DC, September 21, 2006.*

Hon. CONDOLEEZZA RICE,  
*Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR SECRETARY RICE: I am writing to urge you to appoint a special envoy for Sri Lanka because I am deeply troubled by the situation on the ground there. This summer brought an end to the negotiated permanent ceasefire, which had been generally observed since 2002. The renewed violence and rising death toll in Sri Lanka are a grave risk to the fragile peace process and threaten a return to open civil war.

News reports indicate that recent heavy fighting has resulted in hundreds of deaths and the displacement of more than 200,000 people in Sri Lanka. Parties to the conflict are not the only ones suffering. As you know, The Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission (SLMM) recently investigated the murder of 17 aid workers, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made clear just this week that "there is an urgent need for the international community to monitor the unfolding human rights situation."

Naming a special envoy for Sri Lanka would further emphasize our government's commitment to creating a lasting peace. It is essential that the U.S. envoy be a high-level official with the ear of President Bush and you. The envoy's mandate should be clear and must include efforts to increase monitoring of human rights violations.

The citizens of Sri Lanka have endured civil war for too long. We must do everything we can to foster a lasting peace for the country. Again, I request that you appoint a special envoy for Sri Lanka to help bring peace to the country.

Sincerely,

RUSH HOLT,  
*Member of Congress.*

IN HONOR OF SGT. GERMAINE  
DEBRO

**HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2006*

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, "It's hard to be sad when I'm so proud. You are my hero." These were the words Alvin Debroy, Jr., used to bid his brother, Sgt. Germaine Debroy, a final goodbye.

Sgt. Debroy was killed near Balad, Iraq, on September 4 when his Humvee hit a roadside bomb.