

talk to each of you about things we have seen and kinships we have shared in the tough and heartless crucible of war.

Some day we will all join those who are serving so gallantly now and have preceded us on battlefields from Gettysburg to Wanat. We will gather inside a firebase to open a case of C rations with every box peaches and pound cake. We will join with a band of brothers to recount the experience of serving something greater than ourselves. I believe in my very soul that the almightily reserves a corner of heaven, probably around a perpetual lager where some day we can meet and embrace . . . all of the band of brothers throughout the ages to tell our stories while envious standers-by watch and wonder how horrific and incendiary the crucible of violence must have been to bring such a disparate assemblage so close to the hand of God.

Until we meet there thank you for your service, thank you for your sacrifice, God bless you all and God bless this great nation. . . .

#### EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR THE CITIZENS OF THE PHILIPPINES DEALING WITH TROPICAL STORM KATSANA AND TYPHOON PARMA

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 14, 2009*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this important resolution. Tropical Storm Katsana caused horrible suffering to the people of the Philippines and wreaked havoc on their communities. Just six days later, Typhoon Parma brought additional death and destruction to the region.

I extend my deepest sympathies to those who have lost friends and loved ones in these natural disasters. My thoughts and prayers are with them.

On October 2nd I sent a letter to President Obama regarding the devastation in the Philippines caused by Katsana. I urged swift action to provide aid to the already devastated region especially in light of the proximity of Typhoon Parma.

I would like to submit this letter for the record, as well as a letter from the UN General Assembly in response to my request.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
*Washington, DC, October 2, 2009.*

Hon. BARACK OBAMA,  
*President of the United States,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I write to request your immediate assistance and intervention in speeding humanitarian aid to the people of the Philippines who are suffering from the effects of Tropical Storm Katsana. As you know, Tropical Storm Katsana hit Manila and rest of the Philippines on September 26, 2009, causing a disaster.

I have just spoken by teleconference with an Akron, Ohio businessman, Mathew Freeman, who is currently in Manila. Mr. Freeman, through the cooperation of Channel 5 in Cleveland, has shared with me a gripping personal account of the situation on the ground in Manila: there is no evidence of any aid reaching the people. Survivors are without shelter, food and water as another series of storms are quickly approaching.

I understand that the Department of Defense is providing assistance with logistics in the region and that today a relief flight delivered aid for 20,000 affected individuals. I further understand that the U.S. has committed an additional \$1 million of aid money to the region, which I applaud. Nevertheless, first hand accounts indicate that additional efforts to expedite humanitarian aid must be made and made immediately. The situation is desperate and countless lives are at risk. As such, I urge you to accelerate delivery of additional humanitarian aid to the region.

I appreciate your attention to this urgent matter and look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

DENNIS J. KUCINICH,  
*Member of Congress.*

THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
*October 12, 2009.*

Hon. DENNIS J. KUCINICH,  
*Member of Congress of the United States, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE KUCINICH: I am writing to thank you for showing urgent concern for the victims of the tropical storm Katsana in the Philippines. I value your efforts to alleviate the suffering of the two and a half million people affected by the storm and to raise awareness of the situation in the Philippines.

As you know, the United Nations has launched a flash appeal to support the Government of the Philippines in responding to the effects of the storm. The flash appeal is seeking \$74,021,809 and involves the international humanitarian community, including NGOs, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and United Nations agencies. So far the flash appeal has received \$11 million in funding and an additional \$433,119 in pledges.

I am pleased to note that the United States have contributed \$650,000 to the United Nations flash appeal, in addition to other funding for relief operations. I am convinced that your valuable efforts on behalf of the victims of Katsana, have contributed to the timely and generous support from the United States.

Sincerely,

ALI ABDUSSALAM TREKI.

#### A TRIBUTE TO BERNHEIM FOREST

**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 2009*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bernheim Forest and their recent recognition from the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Bernheim Forest Arboretum Visitors Center in Clermont, Kentucky won two of EPA's Lifecycle Building Challenge awards for a professional building and for a building with the best greenhouse gas reduction.

EPA's Lifecycle Building Challenge recognizes innovative green building ideas that reduce environmental and energy impacts. Reusing building materials assists the building industry in reducing more than 88 million tons of building-related construction and demolition debris that are typically sent to landfills in the United States each year.

The Bernheim Forest Arboretum Visitors Center incorporates the surrounding forest into the building's design. The staff and board at

the Bernheim Forest are committed to our natural environment and this visitor's center is a solid example of that commitment.

Construction of the center emphasized safe materials made of biological nutrients, which break down to safely return to forest soil, as well as technical nutrients, which can be re-manufactured into new objects.

I congratulate the work of the individuals who made this building a reality and honor the staff and board at Bernheim Forest, whose passion for the environment make it possible for Kentuckians to connect with nature.

#### TRIBUTE TO BRIAN BURKE

**HON. JOHN CAMPBELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 2009*

Mr. CAMPBELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Brian Burke, Executive Vice President and General Manager of the Anaheim Ducks Professional Hockey Team from 2005 to 2008. Mr. Burke is one of Orange County's most dedicated, distinguished, and honorable citizens. Born in Providence, Rhode Island, and raised in Edina, Minnesota, Brian resides with his wife Jennifer and has six children: Katie, Patrick, Brendan, Molly, Mairin and Gracie.

In 2007, Mr. Burke guided the Anaheim Ducks to the first Stanley Cup Championship in California history, and in 2008 he received two outstanding honors: On June 6th, he was chosen by USA Hockey as General Manager of the 2010 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team, and on August 7th he was named a recipient of the 2008 Lester Patrick Award for outstanding service to hockey in the United States. Burke is also the General Manager of the 2009 USA World Championships Team.

Madam Speaker, Brian Burke is an American citizen with a passion for supporting the United States military. Mr. Burke organized a first-of-its-kind two-day event to support the families of active duty military personnel at the Honda Center in 2008. The event, which included Ducks' players and their families, welcomed "Operation Homefront"—a non-profit organization that provides emergency assistance and morale to our troops, the families they leave behind, and injured soldiers upon their return home. Brian also supported the "Wounded Warriors Project," a non-profit organization that assists severely wounded soldiers to transition back into life when they suffer from serious and traumatic injuries. To recognize our Wounded Warriors and the United States Marines, Brian Burke and the Anaheim Ducks delivered the Stanley Cup for its first ever visit to Camp Pendleton in 2007.

Mr. Burke has also been very involved in Orange County charities. He has served as a Board Member on the Board of Directors for the Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) as well as supported and donated to the Orangewood Children's Foundation, Share Ourselves and the Children's Bureau. Brian also promoted cancer awareness in the Orange County community by launching "Hockey Fights Cancer" nights at Ducks' games.

I know Mr. Burke's family is extremely proud of his accomplishments, as am I. He has worked tirelessly to improve his community and his efforts should be emulated by future community leaders.