

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## THE HOLOCAUST

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2012*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on Yom Ha'Shoah to honor the memory of the victims of the Holocaust. In the 1940's, the Nazi regime murdered six million innocent human beings in an attempt to wipe out the entire Jewish community.

It is of the utmost importance that we continue to reflect upon this tragedy and teach our children about this horrific event, so that we fully understand the importance of embracing our common humanity, so that we recognize the universality of human dignity, and so that we prevent genocide from ever occurring again.

In the first few years of the Nazi regime, Jews were harassed and humiliated in every imaginable way to tear away at their basic human dignity.

This denial of their human dignity and humanity culminated in the death camps, where mass murder was accomplished with a factory-like efficiency that shocks the soul.

Facing a totalitarian state intent on genocide and war, several Jewish underground organizations found the strength to create resistance movements. In the Warsaw Ghetto, these groups launched an uprising that lasted over a month against the entrenched Nazi war machine. The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising inspired other uprisings across Europe, including in the Bialystok and Minsk ghettos and in the Treblinka and Sobibor death camps.

The indomitable resilience of the human spirit was also demonstrated in the aftermath of the Holocaust when Jews recreated their lives, rebuilt their families and their culture. This rebirth is epitomized by the creation of the first independent Jewish state in our modern era—the state of Israel.

In Israel, Yom Ha'Shoah is marked by the sound of a siren, which calls for two minutes of silence. Two minutes when an entire country stands in silent reflection.

I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in observing the lives that have been lost, in honoring the survivors, and in recommitting ourselves to ensuring that such a tragedy is never repeated again.

### HONORING ALVIN AURELIANO DAVIS

### HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2012*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Alvin Aureliano Davis, who was recently named the 2012 Macy's Florida Department of Education

State Teacher of the Year. With this honor, Mr. Davis will serve as the Christa McAuliffe Ambassador for education, touring Florida as an education advocate. Mr. Davis is the band teacher at Miramar High School and has been a music educator for the past 11 years. By actively encouraging his students and keeping them engaged on obtainable goals, his students find success both in and out of the classroom. For the past three years, every student who was a regular participating member of the Miramar High band program has gone on to college under his guidance and leadership.

Alvin Davis graduated from Florida A&M University with a Bachelor of Science degree in, Music Education. He began his professional career as the band instructor at Crystal Lake Middle School, teaching the fundamentals of band to 6th thru 8th graders. As the director of the Miramar High School band, Mr. Davis has continuously constructed his music program and performances with the philosophy of developing an award winning, academic-focused music program on the cutting edge of creativity and band pageantry.

Mr. Davis has a genuine and vested interest in his students. Passing on the legacy of music appreciation is only part of his greater mission of instilling academics and discipline. He requires his students to receive one-on-one counseling with a member of the band staff, and he personally reviews students' report cards and interim reports. Every school band rehearsal includes a one-hour study hall where students are tutored. He has implemented guidelines that high school seniors can perform only if they have registered to take the ACT or SAT college entrance exams, and must prove they have applied for admission to a college or university.

Over the years he has developed a reputation as an educator with a heart as big as the moon as he is wholeheartedly dedicated to the entire educational welfare of students.

Alvin Davis is the husband of Tiffani Davis and the proud father of his daughter, Caitlyn. I proudly acknowledge his achievement as the 2012 Macy's Florida Department of Education State Teacher of the Year and appreciate his commitment to the many students whose lives he has positively impacted.

### HONORING MRS. LOURDES LOZANO

### HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2012*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Lourdes Lozano, a remarkable leader in the South Florida community.

Mrs. Lozano was born in Las Villas, Cuba and attended the Escuela Normal de Maestros in preparation for her teaching profession. After graduation she received a post graduate degree from the University of Martha Abreu, in Santa Clara. Once arriving in Miami, she re-

ceived her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from St. Thomas University.

Mrs. Lozano began her professional career working at ARSCO International, a company in the paint roller industry. While working for this company she became the first woman in the industry to hold the position of Plant Manager. She later went on to become Vice President and General Manager of the company. Mrs. Lozano has also worked as a realtor for the past 28 years and as a supervisor for twelve social workers and one specialist for 22 years. In the past she has been appointed to serve the community as a Commissioner for Hialeah's Housing Authority, and is currently serving as a Council Member for the City of Hialeah.

Mrs. Lozano's work does not stop there, as she has been a volunteer for Liga Contra el Cancer and for the Muscular Dystrophy Association for over 30 years. Along with her husband Richard Irizarry, Mrs. Lozano has made tremendous contributions to our community and both are highly admired for their hard work. In 2004 she was recognized as one of the eight public service employees in Miami-Dade who perform their professional duties with excellence. She has also received the "Most Humanitarian Award" from the Department of Children and Families. She has also been recognized by the Mayor of the City of Hialeah, for her leadership on a number of projects which help alleviate some of the burdens of needy families in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute my dear friend Mrs. Lourdes Lozano for her continued service to the South Florida community. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual and wish her continued success.

### TRIBUTE HONORING ISRAEL'S SIXTY-FOURTH INDEPENDENCE DAY

### HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2012*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Israel's sixty-fourth Independence Day. Today is a cause for true celebration.

On May 14, 1948, Mr. David Ben-Gurion declared the independence of the State of Israel. It is with this in mind that families and friends across the globe come together to celebrate on this very special occasion.

The United States' strong solidarity to the Israeli people is continually fortified. Since Israel's independence, the ties of democracy between Israel and the United States have been unwavering.

The United States was one of the first nations to recognize the nation of Israel, just minutes after Prime Minister Ben-Gurion declared the independence of the State of Israel.

As the only democracy in the Middle East, Israel has been one of the United States' most

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