

cars. He is also still learning to golf. It is unknown if more time on the greens will actually improve his game.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in recognizing Jerry L. Gladden for his decades of dedicated service and in wishing him and his family Godspeed in his retirement. His dedication to recreational opportunities will be difficult for the Park District to replace.

JUDICIAL CORRUPTION IN ARGENTINA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following testimony of Dr. Federico Westerkamp, founder of the Center for Legal and Social Studies.

JULY 22, 1999.

To the members of Congress: Rep. TOM LANTOS, Rep. ERIC FALEOMAVAEGA, Rep. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

First of all, thank you very much for inviting me, as a founding member of the Center for Legal and Social Studies (CELS) of Buenos Aires, to act as a witness in this Members Briefing on Judicial Corruption in Argentina.

In my view, the judiciary of my country is in a delicate state. Charges of corruption have proliferated in the last years. Several judges are under legal processes although they move with the certain slowness. Various judges are currently under close scrutiny. Some of them are being submitted to the so called impeachment under the old system where the House of Representatives makes the accusation and the Senate decides if removal is fitting or not.

With few exceptions, mainly for ethical corruption, the system of impeachment failed and the new 1995 constitution replaced with the Council of the Magistracy, a method which just recently started. Many hopes have been placed on the new system, which in its first cases will show whether or not it will fulfill the hopes of the citizenry.

There are some courts which have been charged of prevarication, abuse of authority, bad fulfillment of the public functions and ideological falsehood. These are the most common charges against the bad judges, and we hope that the Council of Magistracies proceeds with decision and courage so that the new institution does not fail.

In the last decade one case has precisely demonstrated the three categories already mentioned and I do not hesitate signaling that it is the case of the three judges: Mariano Bergers, Roberto Murature and Julio Caesar Corvalan de la Colina, who have all acted as lower court judges in the case of the Buenos Aires Yoga School (BAYS). The case was initiated in December 1993 under the command of the first judge named above, storming the school headquarters and also various private properties of their members, and putting two distinguished ladies in prison without any proof of having committed any crime; on the contrary, all charges against the yoga school were unproved and all the noisy campaign of the court, full of false accusations and with lavishness of false information, created a sense of hysteria in the population of the country, which incredulous, did not know whether to believe or

disbelieve the information from the judge, his secretary and various employees and chaperones.

The authorities of the Yoga School were threatened with imprisonment. Former judge Berges pronounced serious anti-Semitic expressions against the president of BAYS Dr. Percowicz, and several of his advisors wrote similar expressions on the walls during the searches.

As time passed and the facts appeared in the real image, many people—myself among them—realized that everything was a bluff, probably due to the ideological background of the court, and as the truth began to be revealed, the public began to disbelieve the charges against the whole Yoga school, including its students. Judge Berges opted for giving up the case, as he knew that the House Impeachment Committee was going to accuse him before the Senate, in order to remove him.

A new lower court judge, Roberto Murature took over; the campaign against the Yoga school was still promoted, but at this time it was obvious that the process was weakening, so the second judge was relieved of the case by a suspicious division in the court, and a the third judge took over.

The process has revealed that the charges against the Yoga school were promoted by three families whose daughters were suffering bad treatment before entering the Yoga school, from their mothers and fathers. (In the first case the woman was charged by her stepfather of showing strange behavior, that he ascribed to the Yoga School and its alleged "brain washing" by members of the school).

The stepfather, with his so called "expert" in cults Mr. Silletta started a virulent campaign against the Yoga School, through the media. Last March, the third judge started the second process against the yoga school (double jeopardy, "non bis in idem"), victimizing three women, Veronica Cane, Valeria Llamas, and Carla Paparella and under petition of their parent declared them mentally "incapable" without taking into consideration their psychiatric reports compulsorily ordered by the first judge Berges. The three women, hopeless, came to my home in order to ask me, as a well known human rights defender, for help.

That is the reason why I am here. I have tried to speak with Judge Corvalan de la Colina, and with the Secretary of the court, but it was useless, the judge never received myself nor the three women. It seems he is accustomed to ignoring the arguments of anyone who knows what is happening in his court.

This is why I have decided to present my testimony as a witness at this briefing, in order to protect the above mentioned women, and to carry over my experiences as a member and founder of human rights NGO's, such as the Assembly of Human Rights, The Center for Legal and Social Studies, and the Movement for Life and Peace.

Thank you very much Honorable Representatives.

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN LOUIS "DEAK" CHILDRESS

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Captain Louis

"Deak" Childress, who is leaving his post this month as the Commanding Officer of Naval Air Station Lemoore, in Lemoore, California. For the past three years, Captain Childress has dedicated himself to improving the quality of life of the Lemoore community and expanding the base's military capabilities.

Captain Childress began his Naval career in 1973. He has held numerous assignments, including flying the F-4 Phantom from the decks of the USS *Nimitz* and USS *Forrestal* in Oceana, Virginia, serving as an instructor pilot at NAS Miramar in San Diego, and serving in the Persian Gulf as Senior Naval Representative to COMUSNAVCENT's contingency planning cell in Dharhran, Saudi Arabia.

In March of 1995, he was promoted to his current rank of Captain, and reported as the Commanding Officer of Naval Air Station, Lemoore in July of 1996. While serving as Commanding Officer of the base, Childress has played a vital role in improving the facilities and quality of life at NAS Lemoore. Responding to the concerns of his sailors and pilots regarding living conditions on the base, Captain Childress facilitated visits to the base by members of the defense committees in Congress and high-level Navy officials. He has led efforts to build the base's infrastructure, which resulted in the 1998 announcement that five squadrons of the new F/A-18E/F Super Hornet Fighter aircraft will be based at Lemoore, bringing an additional 6,000 personnel to the base.

Captain Childress' continued efforts to improve conditions at the base is exemplified by the changes that have been made over the last three years under his leadership. Some of these accomplishments include his implementation of the innovative Regionalization Business Analysis, facility renovations in anticipation of the new F/A-18E/F program, and brand new housing facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Captain Childress for his devoted service to the Navy and the Lemoore community. He has distinguished himself as an innovative leader and dedicated Navy Captain. We wish him the best as he leaves Lemoore to continue his service to the Navy.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE MARRIAGE OF DAVID GOODWIN AND KERRY JANAS

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas David Goodwin and Kerry Janas were united in marriage on Saturday, August 7, 1999 in Cleveland, Ohio;

Whereas, David and Kerry declared their love before God, family and friends;

Whereas, David and Kerry may be blessed with all the happiness and love that two can share and may their love grow with each passing year;

Whereas, from this day forward, David and Kerry will always remember the reason they