

HONORING THE NAVAL SURFACE  
WARFARE CENTER—INDIAN  
HEAD DIVISION

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 1999*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head Division, for their large contribution to the Combined Federal Campaign. In particular, I want to thank Captain John Walsh, Commander Michael Donch and Chris Adams for their leadership, enthusiasm, dedication and ingenuity. The Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head Division, raised over \$116,000, a 31-percent increase over last year. They were also able to motivate 1,120 people to participate in the campaign.

Your contribution to enriching the Navy's culture of giving by planning and implementing a highly successful plan of action is most appreciated. Individuals will have better health, quality of life, education or a safety net because you took the time to care. Thousands will benefit due to your hard work. Your efforts are a positive reflection on yourself, the Navy and the Department of Defense. You demonstrate the military not only serves and protects but also is a positive force in the community, the Nation and the world. Congratulations on your fine success.

IN HONOR OF THE FIFTIETH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE MARTYRDOM  
OF MAHATMA GANDHI

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 1999*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi, one of the most influential political, religious and cultural leaders of the Twentieth Century.

In my district a service will be held at the Mahatma Gandhi Elementary School in Jersey City, which may be the first school in the United States renamed in his honor. I thank Mr. Hardyal Singh, President of the International Mahatma Gandhi Association, for putting together this important event.

Politically, Mr. Gandhi was of tremendous importance in India's struggle for independence from Great Britain. After practicing law and becoming an advocate for Indian rights in South Africa, Gandhi returned to India to become a leader in the nationalist movement. Once there he perfected the use of passive resistance to gain political power. He suffered through many periods of imprisonment and through many fasts with the sole purpose of gaining independence for his people. Due in no small part to his efforts, India finally gained independence from British rule in 1947.

Beyond his tremendous contributions to Indian politics, Gandhi was also a dominant religious and cultural figure. He asserted the unity of all people under one God and preached Christian and Muslim ethics along with Hindu.

Gandhi also led the fight to rid the country of the caste system and defend the rights of the untouchables. Once independence was gained, Gandhi focused his energies on spreading his message of religious tolerance. His hunger strikes and prayer vigils were no longer in protest of colonial rule, but in protest of violence between Hindus and Muslims. He was on one such vigil in New Delhi when he was fatally shot by an extremist who objected to Gandhi's message of tolerance.

In conclusion, I would like to say that we all owe a great debt to Mahatma Gandhi and his teachings, and I hope that by taking this day to remember his contributions and his struggles we can again benefit from his wisdom.

HONORING BISHOP THEODORE  
BROOKS FOR OUTSTANDING  
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 1999*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, February 21, Bishop Theodore Brooks celebrated the Confirmation of his Doctrine of Ministry. As pastor of Beulah Heights First Pentecostal Church, Bishop Brooks has proven an outstanding member of the New Haven Community, as he and his congregation have unflinchingly worked to resolve social problems faced by residents of the Greater New Haven area. His commitment to social justice and his leadership in these communities has never wavered.

Bishop Brooks' work on behalf of numerous New Haven community organizations has earned him our respect and admiration. His efforts have contributed tremendously to the city and its residents. As Chief Executive Officer of the Beulah Land Development Corporation since 1990, Bishop Brooks successfully pursued the renovation and rehabilitation of the Orchard Street Town Homes, a project that will enhance our community with new, affordable family housing. This project would not have become a reality without the hard work and leadership of Bishop Brooks.

As a member of several Boards and Committees in various community-based organizations, Bishop Brooks has worked tirelessly to strengthen families and help residents in the community develop a more positive self-image. His work reflects his dedication to helping society's least privileged develop the cognitive skills they need to remain productive members of the community.

Among his many accolades, Bishop Brooks was recognized by the White House for his leadership in building community empowerment zones.

Bishop Brooks' work embodies the spirit and vitality of the New Haven Community he so tirelessly represents. I look forward to working with him in the future as we have in the past, to further advance social justice and promote sound economic growth.

It gives me great pleasure to join his many friends and family in thanking him for his leadership over the years. I congratulate Bishop Theodore L. Brooks on yet another great

achievement—the Confirmation of his Doctrine of Ministry.

THE FEDERAL PROTECTIVE  
SERVICE REFORM ACT

**HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 1999*

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Federal Protective Service Reform Act of 1999." This legislation makes much needed reforms to the Federal Protective Service (FPS). These reforms will allow FPS to better meet the growing threat posed by terrorism to federal buildings and the people who work in and visit federal buildings. The legislation is similar to legislation I introduced in the last Congress.

On April 19, 1995, a truck bomb destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah federal building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. That tragic and despicable act killed 168 people and wounded hundreds of others. The Oklahoma City bombing served as a sober reminder that the United States is not immune to acts of terror. The bombing also revealed that we were woefully unprepared for such an act.

I was deeply disturbed to learn that there was only one contract security guard on duty in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995. That contract guard was responsible for providing security at the Murrah building and two other federal buildings in Oklahoma City. There is evidence that those responsible for bombing the Murrah building cased the building in the days and weeks leading up to the bombing. The fact that the Murrah building in the days and weeks leading up to the bombing. The fact that the Murrah building was, for the most part, unprotected, could have played a role in the decision of the terrorists to bomb that building.

In the wake of the Oklahoma City bombing, the Public Building Service (PBS) of the General Services Administration (GSA) has made great strides in improving the physical security of the 8,300 federal buildings under its control. But, at hearings held last year by the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Economic Development revealed, the security upgrade program initiated in the wake of the Oklahoma City bombing has been hindered by mismanagement and a reduction in staffing. In addition, structural and personal problems within the Federal Protective Service are also hindering GSA's ability to upgrade and improve security.

At the present time the FPS is a unit within PBS. The head of FPS reports to the PBS commissioner. The PBS commissioner does not have a law enforcement background and his main responsibility is real estate management—not law enforcement. While we do have a very able and talented PBS commissioner, I do not believe that security is best served by having FPS as a sub-entity within PBS.

While I recognize that the use of contract guards is necessary, I am concerned that the use of contract guards may not be appropriate at certain federal buildings. I am also concerned over the fact that contract guards do