

In 1932, the Soviets increased the grain procurement quota for Ukraine by 44%. They were aware this extraordinarily high quota would result in a grain shortage, therefore resulting in the inability of the Ukrainian peasants to feed themselves. Soviet law was quite clear. No grain could be given to feed the peasants until the quota was met. The famine broke the peasants will to resist collectivization and left Ukraine politically, socially, and psychologically traumatized.

Although the world press reported the truth about the famine in Ukraine, regrettably, Western industrialists and businessmen proceeded to do business with the U.S.S.R.—especially by buying Ukrainian wheat at cheap prices, heedless of the fact that millions of Ukrainians had perished from hunger because Moscow had confiscated this wheat in order to sell it for profit abroad.

This Saturday, Ukrainian-Americans will be afforded an opportunity to observe this tragic chapter in Ukraine's history on November 21, 1999 with a special requiem service in New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral. This day has been designated as "Ukrainian Famine Day of Remembrance" in hopes that, in remembering this tragic event, the world community recognizes that the only safeguard to prevent future atrocities of this nature is to maintain and ensure support for an independent Ukrainian state.

RECOGNIZING TORNADO CLEANUP WORKERS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the Congress' attention the work of the following 39 young men who spent two weeks assisting the people of Little Rock, Arkansas in clean-up efforts in the aftermath of a tornado that struck the city in January 1999. These men served under the direction of Mayor Jim Dailey to clear fallen trees and debris for property-owners. They should be commended for their hard work and dedication to helping others in a time of great need.

Robert Adamis, CA; Nathan Allen, OH; Ryan Anders, MI; Timothy Anderson, WY; Luke Borchers, MO; Jeff Bramhill, Ontario; Nathan Bryant, GA; Donald Burzynski, FL; Benjamin Caffee, AL; Brian Cahill, TX;

Curtis Eaton, TN; Timothy Ferry, NJ; Joshua Fox, CA; Jonathan Gunter, IN; Christopher Hanson, WI; Luke Hodges, OK; Thomas Hogarty, VA; Stephen Hough, IN; Riley Irwin, Alberta; Jeremy Jansen, KS;

Jeffery Jestes, OK; Seth Johnson, NE; Nathan Lord, GA; Jonathan McKeithen, FL; Nathan Nazario, PR; Timothy Noland, MA; Elisha Odgaard, MN; Andrew Papillon, MN; Stephen Parrish, TN; Daniel Petersen, GA;

Misha Randolph, TX; John Saucier, AL; Frank Shao, NJ; John Tanner, MI; Justin Tanner, MI; John Thornton IV, TN; Matthew Whitaker, NY; Vincent Williams, OK; David Winsinger, FL.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PROTECTING THE FUTURE OF SOCIAL SECURITY

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about securing the future of Social Security.

Today, nearly 44.4 million Americans receive Social Security benefits. More than 4 million of these live in my home State of California. Seniors all over America rely on it as a major source of retirement income. However, Social Security is not just a retirement program. It also provides badly needed survivor and disability benefits to America's working men and women.

Unfortunately, the future of Social Security is not secure. Today, more young people believe in UFOs than believe Social Security will be there for them. We must work to strengthen Social Security and protect our nation's retirement system.

A simple first step is for politicians to stop raiding the Social Security Trust Fund to pay for more government spending. Every senior—and every future senior—that I talk with agrees with me on this.

In 1969, the Democrats were in control of Congress. They looked far and wide for money to pay for their new social welfare programs. That was the year they broke the people's trust. Every year since then, a portion of the Social Security Trust Fund surplus has been spent on other government spending. Americans have endured 30 years of this, turning our Social Security Trust Fund into a "slush fund."

For the seventh consecutive year, President Clinton proposed spending billions of the Social Security surplus on government programs. We Republicans in Congress would have none of it. For the first time in over a generation, we are not spending Social Security funds on anything other than Social Security benefits.

In addition, this spring, the House passed the Social Security and Medicare Safe Deposit Act of 1999 (H.R. 1259) and moved one step closer to protecting the future of Social Security. This bipartisan measure won a vote of 416-12, with all but one of the "nay" votes coming from members of the President's party—the same party that raided Social Security for thirty long years. Our Social Security lockbox legislation will change the way the budget is prepared so Social Security funds cannot be used for other purposes. It helps every American guard against politicians' attempts to raid the Social Security surpluses for more government spending. I call on my colleagues in the Senate to pass this bill and help us keep 100 percent of Social Security funds for Social Security.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are tired of politicians who say nice things about Social Security one day, then raid it for new government spending the next. The Republican Congress can and will protect 100 percent of the Social Security Trust Fund and stop the raid on Social Security this year. We will restore trust to the Social Security Trust Fund. And

November 17, 1999

we will not go back. That is my plan, and I hope that my colleagues will join me in this important effort.

HONORING JACK WOOLF, AGRICULTURIST OF THE YEAR

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jack L. Woolf, chairman of Woolf Enterprises and the Woolf Farming Company, for being named the 1999 Agriculturist of the Year by the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Woolf is being honored on November 17, 1999 at the Ag Fresno Farm Equipment Exposition luncheon.

Jack Woolf is well known throughout the Central Valley agricultural community. In addition to Woolf Farming, Woolf Enterprises holds a major interest in Los Gatos Tomato Products; Harris-Woolf California Almond Processing; Cal-West Rain and Aliso Ranch, Madera County. Woolf is also president of Woolf Farming of Arizona.

Woolf currently serves on the Board of Directors for Valley Public Television and recently received the Public Television Development Leadership Award for 1999. He also serves on the Fresno Historical Society Board.

Jack Woolf began his agricultural career by joining Russell Giffen, Inc. in 1946 where he served as general manager for more than 28 years. Woolf also served as chairman of the Kingsburg Cotton Oil Co., president of the California Tomato Growers Association and as a member of the Board of Regents for Santa Clara University.

He is a past member of the board of directors for Westlands Water District, California Valley Bank and San Joaquin College of Law.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Jack Woolf for being named Agriculturist of the Year for 1999. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Jack many more years of continued success.

HONORING THE APPOINTMENT OF ALPHONSO "AL" MALDON, JR., TO THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FORCE MANAGEMENT POLICY, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Mr. Alphonso "Al" Maldon, Jr., for his confirmation as the Assistant Secretary for Force Management Policy at the Department of Defense. Many of us here in the House of Representatives know Al Maldon for his tireless dedication to the United States Government in his capacity as Deputy Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs and White House Congressional Liaison to the Senate and House of Representatives.

In this capacity, he provides policy making and strategic advice to the President. Although Mr. Maldon is indirectly involved with a myriad of legislative issues, he is directly responsible for those issues in both the House and Senate involving Trade, Defense, International Affairs, Intelligence and Veterans Affairs.

In March 1993, Mr. Maldon was appointed as a Special Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs. He subsequently served as the first African-American to be appointed as Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Military Office. In this capacity he managed and directed a large staff of over 1,900 personnel—providing operational, logistical, and state-of-the-art communications support to the President.

Prior to joining the Administration, Mr. Maldon enjoyed an outstanding military career. He entered active duty service as a commissioned officer in the United States Army in August of 1972. His assignments included tours in Europe, Korea, and various posts throughout the United States. Some of his highly visible positions included assignments as the Executive Officer, Armed Forces Staff College; and as Admissions and Public Liaison Officer at the United States Military Academy, West Point, NY. His career progressed through increasingly responsible positions as a Field Artillery and Adjutant General Corps Officer. He completed his military career as a Colonel with an assignment to the United States House of Representatives as the Deputy Director for Army Legislative Affairs in February 1993.

Mr. Maldon holds a Master of Arts Degree from the University of Oklahoma in Human Relations and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Florida A&M University. He also graduated from various military schools and colleges, including the Command and General Staff College, the Armed Forces Staff College, and the Army's Organizational Effectiveness Management Consultant School in Monterey, CA. He is the recipient of numerous military decorations including the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (with two oak leaf clusters), the Army Commendation Medal and the U.S. Army Staff Badge. In addition, Mr. Maldon is a recipient of the United States Congressional Award for Leadership and Patriotism, and he is listed in Who's Who in America.

He has been blessed with a loving and caring family including his wife Carolyn and their daughter Kiamesha Racha'el. The family resides in Fairfax Station, VA.

As Assistant Secretary for Force and Management Policy, Mr. Maldon will be responsible for policies, plans and programs for military and civilian personnel management, including recruitment, education, career development, equal opportunity, compensation, recognition, discipline, and separation of all Department of Defense personnel, both military and civilian.

Mr. Speaker, Al Maldon's dedication to public service, both as a civilian and as a member of the United States Army serves as a model to us all. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him the very best in his new assignment and his continued service to the citizens of the United States. I am proud to count him as a friend.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF BONITA SPRINGS, FLORIDA

HON. PORTER J. GOSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the creation of the ninth city in the Fourteenth District of Florida, the City of Bonita Springs. After many months of debate and discussion, the people of Bonita Springs cast their ballots in favor of incorporation as the fifth city in Lee County, FL on November 2, 1999.

As a new Millennium begins, so the citizens of Bonita Springs will embark on a new challenge, the challenge of creating a new city from residents' ideas of what their community ought to be. It comes as no surprise that there are those willing to do the hard work involved with new cityhood. I'm sure they will find the rewards great and surprising, as I discovered in my experience when the City of Sanibel was born 25 years ago.

Now that the incorporation debate is over, I know the people of Bonita Springs will come together, roll up their sleeves and begin the business of fashioning a city that they can be proud of. Beginnings are marvelous, because the imagination is the only limitation. Of course, not everything can be accomplished immediately, but the ideas that come forth now can certainly become part of long-range goals.

Again, my congratulations to the people of Bonita Springs. I stand ready to help them make their city the best it can be.

PRESIDENT ALIEV RECOMMITS AZERBAIJAN TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring to the attention of my colleagues recent positive developments on religious freedom in Azerbaijan. Members of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which I chair, raised last week our concern over the raids of the Baptist and Lutheran churches in Baku, the threatened deportation of foreigners associated with these churches, and the firing of a number of Jehovah's Witnesses from their jobs because of their religious affiliation. In a letter to President Haidar Aliev on November 3, referencing Azerbaijan's OSCE commitments to religious liberty, we raised the recent incidents that violate religious liberty and asked Azerbaijan to register religious groups that have not been able to gain legal status.

On Monday, November 8, in a meeting with U.S. Ambassador Stanley Escudero, President Aliev publicly reaffirmed Azerbaijan's commitment to religious freedom, pledged to redress recent problems faced by minority religious groups, and gave assurances there would be no further religious liberty violations in Azer-

bajan. In a statement that was carried by the government-controlled media, President Aliev said, "I have vigorously warned administrative bodies of the fact that arbitrariness on such issues is inconceivable. One cannot restrict freedom of conscience and creed." Our Embassy in Baku reports that the courts have set aside the deportation orders for the foreign Christians, and the Garadag Gas Plant has reinstated the jobs of the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Ambassador Stanley Escudero for persistently raising these issues with Azeri authorities. I also commend the work of Political Officer Michael Speckhard who has been a tireless advocate for religious freedom.

I am hopeful that President Aliev's remarks signal a new dawn in Azerbaijan and that his country will become the region's beacon for religious freedom. The prompt response of President Aliev to these recent events is encouraging, and I am hopeful that religious group that previously have not been able to obtain legal status will now be registered and will be free to practice their faith.

RECOGNIZING TORNADO RELIEF WORKERS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to give recognition to a group of 21 young folks who traveled to the cities of Jackson and Clarksville, Tennessee at the request of city officials to provide assistance in clean-up efforts, following a tornado in January 1999. These outstanding young men were noted for their teamwork, enthusiasm and diligence in all they did to serve the people of Jackson and Clarksville. They are to be commended for their selfless service.

Jeff Bramhill, Ontario; Jason Brown, AL; Donald Burzynski, FL; Brian Cahill, TX; Brian Drozdov, WA; Christopher Ekstrom, OR; Paul Ellis, MS; Cory Finch, MO; Joshua Fox, CA; Christopher Hanson, WI;

John Hill, IA; Seth Johnson, NE; Jonathan Lancaster, MI; Joshua Meals, TN; Samuel Mills, TX; Daniel Petersen, GA; Lance Stoney, British Columbia; John Tanner, MI; John Thornton IV, TN; Mark Wahl, OR; Andrew Whitaker, NY.

NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST TRANSCRIPT INDUCTION

HON. STEVE LARGENT

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. LARGENT. Mr. Speaker, since the early 1950's, Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives prayer groups have hosted an annual gathering in our Nation's Capital known as the National Prayer Breakfast. The Breakfast has afforded the opportunity for both the House and Senate to come together, in a nonpartisan alliance, whether in times of peace or times of war, in times of