

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 1999

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Republic of China on Taiwan and its people on the progress they have made since that time. Taiwan has established itself as a stable political presence in Asia, an important economic power, and proof that democracy can work in Asia. At the time of its enactment, there were some who believed that this new foundation for relations between our countries would not work, that our friendship would dissipate, and that Taiwan would be weakened.

But that has not been the case. If anything, I believe our friendship and understanding has strengthened since that time. Taiwan's determination not just to set its own course, but to develop and mature as a nation has grown. Its economic achievements in that time are especially impressive: no other Asian nation was as successful in withstanding the recent economic crisis on that continent. But I continue to believe that its most impressive achievement has been the development of a multiparty democracy, and its readiness to share power among its democratic parties.

I wish to extend my congratulations to President Lee Teng-hu—who once resided in my congressional district—on his achievements in office, and also to Representative Stephen S. F. Chen on the capable job he has done as Taiwan's representative here under the Taiwan Relations Act.

TRIBUTE TO THE CHURCH OF SAINT ROSE OF LIMA

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to pay tribute to the Church of Saint Rose of Lima on the occasion of its Eighth Annual Dinner Dance.

The members of the Church of Saint Rose of Lima have long been known for their commitment to community service and to enhancing the quality of life for all New York residents.

This year's Dinner Dance is not only a festive happening, it is a chance for all of us to celebrate and pay tribute to a group of individuals who have dedicated their lives to helping others. This year's honorees truly represent the best of what our community has to offer.

Mario Russo and his wife, Diana, met in the Rockaways and were married at Saint Rose of

Lima Church on November 30, 1941, by Rev. James Galvin. A carpenter by trade, Mario has worked on many of the Rockaway projects such as Hammels Houses, Arvene, Nordeck, Dayton and Surfside. Mario Russo has routinely worked on improving the quality of life of his friends and neighbors in the Rockaways. He has served as the head of the Somerville-Arvene Civic Association, President of the Arvene Civic Council and been a member of Community Board 14 for the last thirty years. In addition, Mario Russo, has been an active member of the American Legion, the Rockaway Civic Association, and his local Chamber of Commerce. For the last thirty-five years, Mario Russo has conducted a yearly campaign for Earth Day and Plant Up for Trees.

Jo Ann Francis Celeste Mullaney Shapiro, has been an active member of the Rockaway community for over fifteen years. Her involvement spans from graffiti removal projects, increasing our police protection, improving our children's education, to fighting for our senior citizens. Jo Ann Shapiro is the Past President of the Rockaway Kiwanis Club and an active member of the Rockaway Beach Civic Association. She is a founding member of the Far Rockaway High School based Health Clinic and past Chairperson of its advisory board. She is an active member of the Business and Professional Women Club and the Peninsula Regular Democratic Club. Jo Ann has worked for the New York City Board of Education in Community School District 27 and served as her school's U.F.T. Chapter Chairperson. She is an active member of the Saint Rose of Lima Parish and serves as Assemblywoman Audrey I. Pheffer's Chief of Staff where she makes Rockaway's issues, her issues.

Each of today's honorees has long been known as innovators and beacons of good will to all those with whom they come into contact. Through their dedicated efforts, they have each helped to improve my constituents' quality of life. In recognition of their many accomplishments on behalf of my constituents, I offer my congratulations on their being honored by the Church of Saint Rose of Lima.

RECOGNITION OF OSSABAW ISLAND FOUNDATION AND IMPORTANCE OF WORKING TO PRESERVE NATURAL HABITATS

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 1999

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ossabaw Island Foundation and the Georgia Commissioner of Natural Resources for their efforts to preserve Ossabaw Island, Georgia's first Heritage Preserve.

Georgia's high rate of population and economic growth have created statewide expan-

sion into previously uninhabited areas. Efforts to preserve and protect endangered natural areas is vital to the well-being of Georgia's environment.

Ossabaw Island is one of the few remaining barrier islands on the Atlantic Coast to remain in an undeveloped state. The fragile ecosystems of the island should be preserved so that natural areas along the coast will work to protect estuaries, wildlife, marshes, and coastal shorelines. If Ossabaw Island remains in its natural state, it will provide needed protection for the mainland from Atlantic storms, permit the functioning of marshes which provide water and air purification essential to habitation of Georgia's mainland, and provide conditions not tainted by human intervention for environmental research.

I would like to commend the Ossabaw Island Foundation, a public/private partner with the State of Georgia's Department of Natural Resources, for diligently serving as a voice for the preservation of the island. The Foundation has worked to incorporate educational and cultural programs in the island's historical buildings and to provide appropriate access and utilization of the Ossabaw Heritage Preserve.

Through the efforts of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation, Ossabaw Island was included on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Eleven Most Endangered Properties List of 1995. The island was also listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Department of the Interior in 1996.

The importance of preserving natural habitats is a common belief among the members of the House of Representatives. We must not allow the natural beauty and resourcefulness of our nation to be sacrificed for lesser purposes. The benefits of protecting and preserving areas of natural habitat range from aesthetic to practical and must not be ignored.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in recognizing the partnership and hard work of the Georgia Commissioner of Natural Resources and the Board of Trustees of the Ossabaw Island Foundation. Their combined efforts have protected and will continue to protect and ensure a healthy environment on Georgia's Ossabaw Island for many years to come.

A TRIBUTE TO CALVIN BELLAMY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend one of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished citizens, Mr. Calvin Bellamy, of Munster, Indiana. On May 23, 1999, Mr. Bellamy will be honored for his exemplary and dedicated service to Northwest

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Indiana. His praiseworthy efforts will be recognized at Purdue University Calumet's Commencement Exercise as he will be receiving an honorary doctor of humane letters degree.

Calvin Bellamy, a longtime resident of Northwest Indiana, has dedicated his life to public service. In 1964, Mr. Bellamy graduated from Indiana University and continued his education at the University of Michigan where he received his Juris Doctor cum laude and Order of the Coif in 1967. He has continued his scholarly work in law and has been nationally recognized for his writing on constitutional questions. Mr. Bellamy currently serves as the chairman and chief executive office of Bank Calumet, with which he began his affiliation in 1975.

While Calvin Bellamy has dedicated considerable time and energy to his work at the bank, he has always made an extra effort to give to the community. Some of the organizations for which he serves as the director of include: the Lake County Community Development Committee, the Northwest Indiana World Trade Council, and the Northwest Indiana Local Initiatives Support Corporation. Additionally, he has served as president and director of the Hammond Public Library, Lake Area United Way, and the Legal Aid Society of Greater Hammond. He has also been active with the Hammond Historical Society, the Lake County Bar Association, Northern Indiana Arts Association, and the Indiana Bankers Association.

Although his work and community service put extraordinary demands on his time, Calvin Bellamy has never limited the time he gives to his most important interest, his family, especially his lovely wife, Cathy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Calvin Bellamy for his lifetime of dedication, service, and leadership in Northwest Indiana. His large circle of family and friends can be proud of the significant contributions this prominent individual has made. Our community has certainly been rewarded by the true service and uncompromising dedication displayed by Mr. Calvin Bellamy.

93RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the pleasure of attending a forum on "The Upsurge of Anti-Semitism in Russia" sponsored by the American Jewish Committee at its 93rd annual meeting. This forum was attended by several Members of Congress and provided a useful opportunity for representatives of the AJC and Members of Congress to exchange their thoughts on the rise of anti-Semitism in Russia and the response of Congress.

In this connection, I distributed a statement regarding the March 23 passage of H. Con. Res. 37, a resolution that condemned the anti-

Semitic statements made by certain members of the Russian State Duma, as well as commending fair-minded members of the Duma for their efforts to condemn such statements. This resolution passed the House of Representatives unanimously. As Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I was proud to have introduced this resolution in the House, along with every member of the Helsinki Commission. A companion resolution in the Senate, S. Con. Res. 19, has been introduced by Commission Co-chairman Senator BEN NIGHORSE CAMPBELL and Ranking Commissioner Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I submit this statement for the RECORD.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER
H. SMITH

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. It's a pleasure to meet with you today, at this 93rd annual meeting of the American Jewish Committee and the forum on "Confronting the New Upsurge of Anti-Semitism in Russia."

With the fall of the Soviet Union, many of the "hidden" ills of that society that had been "frozen" by a totalitarian regime devoted to superficial "order" re-emerged. One of these was open anti-Semitism. Freedom of the press has given rise to countless anti-Semitic publications and leaflets. As you know, two suspicious explosions took place in Moscow recently near the Maria Roshcha and Chorale synagogues. These are only the most recent instances of arson or suspected arson against these two synagogues. Other synagogues and Jewish cemeteries in the former Soviet Union and Russia have been hit as well.

In post-Soviet Russia, the residue of official anti-Semitic propaganda of the Soviet era—disguised by Moscow as "anti-Zionism"—was bound to find a certain reception among certain less-discriminating elements. These attitudes, freed from the constraints of the Iron Curtain and now aided by the Internet and an unrestrained press, and then reinforced and cross-pollinated by neo-Nazis and racists throughout the world. In their fervent anti-communism, some extreme nationalists have attempted to present a distorted picture of Jews as allies of communists destroying Russia during the Soviet period. In Russia today the communists blame Jews for being allies of capitalists destroying Russia. Finally, the economic malaise experienced in Russia has engendered hatred intolerance against not only Jews, but toward many ethnic minorities, especially the so-called "dark people" from the Caucasus.

It is deplorable when vandals and hate-mongers attempt to spread bigotry in any society, but we must admit that such unfortunate incidents do not take place only in Russia. And, I have yet to meet any member of the Russian Jewish community who wants to return to the Soviet period. But I—and I know I can speak for other Members of the House of Representatives—have been outraged by the antics and attitudes that have been exhibited by some members of the Russian Duma, especially in the ranks of the Communist Party.

In December of last year, Mr. Viktor Ilyukhin, a Communist Party member and chairman of the Duma security committee, stated that Yeltsin's "Jewish entourage" is responsible for alleged genocide against the

Russian people. Another Communist Party member, retired General Albert Makashov, speaking at public rallies, referred to "the Yids" and other "reformers and democrats" as responsible for Russia's problems and threatened to make up a list of targets and "send them to the other world."

Incidentally, I have seen films of Mr. Makashov's performance. It is quite sobering. I can only say, "Heaven help the Russian people and the world," if he and his ilk ever do triumph.

In fairness to the many conscientious Russians inside and outside of the government, these anti-Semitic statements were widely condemned in Russia. In response to the public outcry, both in Russia and abroad, Communist Party chairman Zyuganov explained that the Party had nothing against "Jews," just "Zionism." When fair-minded members of the Duma attempted to pass a resolution condemning Makashov's statement, it was voted down by the communist majority.

The U.S. Congress, though, has reacted much differently. On March 23 of this year, the House of Representatives passed unanimously, 421-0, House Concurrent Resolution 37, condemning anti-Semitic statements made by members of the Russian Duma and commending actions taken by fair-minded members of the Duma to censure the purveyors of anti-Semitism within their ranks. I was proud to have introduced this resolution in the House, along with every member of the Helsinki Commission as original co-sponsors. A companion resolution in the Senate, Senate Concurrent Resolution 19, has been introduced by Commission Co-Chairman Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell and Ranking Commissioner Senator Frank Lautenberg.

In addition, several members of the Helsinki Commission and I have written to Mr. Zyuganov to express our dismay at his role and the role of his party in tolerating anti-Semitism in a participating State of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. In that letter, among other points, we urged Zyuganov to take every appropriate step to disassociate the Communist Party from racist and anti-Semitic positions and to reject individuals who hold those positions.

I would add that our Embassy and the State Department have performed commendably in expressing to Russian officials our deep concern about the rise of anti-Semitism in Russia.

I am informed by the State Department that in recent days at least, there have been no more anti-Semitic statements emanating from Duma members. However, as Elena Bonner remarked earlier this year at Helsinki Commission hearings, the parliamentary elections in December of this year will be an important indicator of Russia's direction for the future. Will Russia return to the democratic path of the early 1990s or will it turn backward in reaction? We hope that the lesson of ethnic intolerance, taken to its extreme conclusion now in the Balkans, should be clear.

In any event, let me assure you that as Chairman of the Helsinki Commission and as Chairman of the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights of the House International Relations Committee, I will use every appropriate opportunity to combat anti-Semitism and intolerance in Russia.