

City Naval Air Station until his second honorable discharge on February 5, 1952.

Near the end of his military career, Chuck married Laurel Kelley on January 25, 1951. Upon his discharge, they moved to Barberton, Ohio—known as the “Magic City.” Chuck and Laurel have three adult children, Cathy, Linda and Jack, and have been blessed with nine grandchildren.

Chuck’s commitment and dedication to his country and community did not end with his military career. During his years in Barberton, Chuck coached Little League and in 1959 joined the Barberton All Sports Boosters—on which he served as an officer for ten years and as president for three. Chuck also served as president of the Barberton Chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes for five years and was the founder of the Barberton Sports Hall of Fame in 1979. Chuck was elected the first president of that organization and still serves in that position.

In 1980, Chuck was nominated for the Distinguished Service Award by the Barberton Jaycees for his sports activities in the community. He continued his strong commitment to youth and sports by organizing the Barberton Reunion Basketball game to honor the Barberton State Champs of 1976. The sold-out game raised money for the Barberton Little League, Crippled Children Circus Fund and the Barberton All Sports Boosters. Chuck also organized student dances at Barberton High and started the All Sports Banquets.

Among Chuck’s many community service awards for these and other activities, he received the “Andy Palich Outstanding Athletic Service Award” from the Summit County Sports Hall of Fame, of which he is now a board member.

Chuck is now retired from Seiberling Rubber and from his employment as the Outside Bailiff for the Barberton Municipal Court. But he is not retired from his community. Chuck continues to dedicate even more of his time and boundless energy to promote sports among the youth of Barberton.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Chuck Ebner on his 75th birthday for his lifelong dedication and commitment not only to his country, but to his family and the youth of his community. He is a true role model for our young people. I wish him continued success and good health in the years to come.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. IRVING
LITTMAN

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Irving Littman, who will celebrate his 80th birthday on July 27, 1999. Mr. Littman served with the First Field General Hospital in the invasion of North Africa in World War II. As a sergeant at that time, it was his duty to give anesthesia in the operating room to soldiers wounded in combat. Mr. Littman was awarded many citations and medals for his four years of gallant military service to his country.

Upon return to the United States after the war, Mr. Littman became one of the youngest Lincoln-Mercury dealers in our nation. He retired to Florida. He campaigned for elected officials, and was the secretary/treasurer for the Milton Littman Scholarship Foundation, which to date has presented 236 one-thousand-dollar scholarships to worthy young students from four different high schools in Dade County.

Mr. Littman is married to his beloved wife, Mavis, and they have a loving daughter, Francine. It is a privilege to pay tribute to such a compassionate American citizen as Mr. Irving Littman on the occasion of his upcoming birthday, and I wish him many more years of health and success in the service of his community.

KOSOVO REFUGEES

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am submitting today for the RECORD the enclosed article written by Mr. Leonard Cole of Ridgewood, New Jersey. Mr. Cole, who serves as the distinguished chairman of the Communal Unity Committee of United Jewish Appeal Federation of Bergen County and North Hudson and as vice chair of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, recently returned from refugee camps in Tirana, Albania. In his article, Mr. Cole eloquently illustrates the remarkable humanitarian efforts being made by the Jewish Agency for Israel, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, in association with the United Jewish Communities, to assist refugees displaced as a result of the conflict in Kosovo. I am confident that all of our colleagues will find much food for thought in this well written article.

[From the Jewish Standard, May 14, 1999]

FINDING KINDNESS AMID CHAOS

(By Leonard A. Cole)

Nearly 15 years ago, on a two-day mission to Israel, I witnessed lines of bedraggled Ethiopian Jews emerge from an El Al airplane. They had suddenly been transported from a 14th-century existence in Ethiopia to a 20th-century life in Israel. Last week, during another two-day mission, I witnessed a sad obverse. In the company of Israeli and American Jews, I visited refugees in a camp in Tirana, Albania, whose lives have been reduced to primitive survival. Among the 800,000 ethnic Albanians booted out of Kosovo, 5,000 were crowded into this Tirana camp. Living eight and nine to a tent, able to bathe once a week, they are uncertain where or if they have a future. The only heartening similarity between the experiences of the Ethiopian Jews and Kosovar Muslims has been the rapid humanitarian response by Jews and other caring people around the world. And none have shown more caring than the people of Israel.

For seven weeks, out of noble intention, NATO has been pounding Yugoslav targets with bombs and missiles. The attacks were intended to stop Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic’s policy of murder and deportation of ethnic Albanians from his country’s province of Kosovo. Milosevic’s penchant for “ethnic cleansing” is too remi-

niscent of Hitler’s war against the Jews for the Jewish people not to support intervention. But diplomatic and military miscalculations have become painfully apparent: the failure of NATO’s firepower quickly to stop Milosevic’s actions; the depressing likelihood that the bombing actually accelerated the deportations; the destruction of unintended targets, including the Chinese embassy, a hospital complex, and convoys of refugees. The unanticipated calculus was underscored for me by the sight of scores of U.S. helicopters sitting idly in Albania’s major airport. Although touted as especially effective against ground targets, none has yet been used, apparently in fear that Serbian firepower was still too threatening to these low-flying craft. Exactly how the military and political issues will be resolved remains uncertain. What is clear, however, is that the victims of the conflict need immediate attention.

In the early hours of May 5, our plane, chartered by the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), was preparing to take off from Ben-Gurion airport. We were beginning a two-day whirlwind of visits to Albania, Hungary, and back to Israel. We would be traveling through a thicket of suffering, but also witnessing efforts to alleviate that suffering. Under the auspices of the newly constituted United Jewish Communities (UJC), some two dozen representatives from North American federations had come to bear witness. Described by the UJC as a “rescue mission,” our venture really was more a search—a search for information, for meaning, and ultimately for ways to help.

“Leave the last 12 rows empty,” the stewardess instructed. Along with other bleary-eyed passengers, I squeezed into the forward section. Our weight was needed as a balance for the supplies that had been loaded into the rear cargo area. Like 23 previous flights from Israel, eight of them chartered by JAFI, the main purpose was to deliver supplies obtained from contributions by Israelis and Jews throughout the world.

At the refugee camp, we watched as carton after carton was unloaded from trucks that had transported them from the plane. In orderly fashion the boxes were opened and the contents were distributed by representatives of various humanitarian groups, including JAFI, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), and Latet, an Organization of Israeli volunteers.

And it is well to remember that JAFI, JDC, and other helping agencies, in association with the UJC, are truly the point organizations for the rest of us. The money and supplies have come from federations and from individual Jews around the world. Israeli citizens alone have contributed more than \$1 million in food, blankets, towels, diapers, soap, toys, and more. The Israelis built and staffed the first field hospital in a refugee camp.

Delivering supplies to the Albanian Muslims was only part of the humanitarian effort we witnessed in that part of the world. We next flew to Hungary, where we met dozens of Jews from Serbia who fled the bombings and were now guests of the Hungarian Jewish community in Budapest. On the second day of the war. Asa Zinger, head of the Jewish community in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, phoned his counterpart in Budapest, Gustav Zoltai. When told of the distress among the 3,000 Jews of Serbia, Zoltai quickly arranged for his community to receive as many of them as possible. Both leaders, now in their 70s, are Holocaust survivors. “For us,” said Zoltai, “it would be difficult to know of such