Mr. Speaker, the beautiful St. John’s Church is a landmark in Larksville due to the labors of the church’s dedicated parish leader. His church and parish have always remained his top priority. On July 10, 1990, Father John was rewarded for his dedication with his designation as Monsignor Masakowski.

I have always considered Monsignor Masakowski to be a close family friend and have appreciated the warm welcome I always receive when visiting. Father John’s extraordinary sensitivity was demonstrated to me when he offered me great comfort by participating in my mother’s funeral mass. I will always be grateful for the warmth and kindness of that gesture.

As St. John the Baptist Church celebrates its Centennial Celebration this year, I am pleased and proud to join with all of my friends at the parish in congratulating Monsignor Masakowski on his milestone anniversary. I send my very best wishes to this beloved and respected man.

IN RECOGNITION OF C. WILLIAM HOWLAND
HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of C. William Howland, Principal of Rice Elementary & Chaffins Elementary Schools in Holden, Massachusetts.

Mr. Howland has served the parents and children of Holden from 1961 until today. He will be enjoying a well-deserved retirement upon the completion of this school year. The career of this talented and respected teacher and administrator began with graduation from North Brookfield High School in 1957. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Education upon the completion of this school year. The children of Holden from 1961 until today. He will be enjoying a well-deserved retirement upon the completion of this school year. The career of this talented and respected teacher and administrator began with graduation from North Brookfield High School in 1957. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Education.

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part of Rev. Jesse Jackson's delegation that freed the three American soldiers who were captured and imprisoned by the Serbs. Mr. Bolling predicts that Slobodan Milosevic will be prepared to accept a peace settlement that is quite close to the central demands. He also emphasizes the critical importance of the refugees being able to return to their homes.

PRESENTATION BY LANDRUM BOLLING OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY'S CONFLICT MANAGEMENT GROUP

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Friends, I am very pleased to be invited to be here with you and to share some thoughts about our present situation in Kosovo and the outcomes of it. Most of the provocative comments that have been made by Ambassador Swartz are things that I very much agree with. We'd quarrel a bit about whether a Bosnian nation does, can or could even exist. But he is absolutely right. We've got to make up our minds whether we're going to win this war. If so, it has to be done quickly, or it will be an absolute disaster.

We've got to make up our minds whether the Serbian people and for the state of Yugoslavia, which will be destroyed, but we've also had a great many losses ourselves, and we will be made a kind of moral pariah country in the world. We cannot sustain this level of violence against people, many of whom are totally opposed to Milosevic, many of whom have no support whatsoever for the things the Milosevic government had done. But they're paying the price and we are not protecting any of the Kosovars who we said we were launching this campaign to protect.

Now, I think the central issue is this one, that the Ambassador has put forth very clearly: Where do we go from here? What next? I think from the general feel of things, the atmosphere that I found in Belgrade, the sort of sotto voce conversations I had with various people from the American embassy, and when I wrote it up in the New York Times and the Washington Post this morning, something is happening, something is about to happen. You won't have any trouble finding people who are talking about something coming out of it. What it will be is yet to be seen.

Our talks in Belgrade, beyond those of just getting the soldiers released, were a worthy mission in itself, though some people criticized us very severely for trying and told us quite confidently that we'd never succeed. Well, we did succeed. They told us it was risky and our lives would be in danger, the U.S. government could do nothing to protect us. OK, we said "fine." We went there, we came back. But we had the opportunity to explore ideas among people within the leadership of this Milosevic government. We sampled public opinion from talking to a variety of people. And we arrived at what we thought was something coming out of it. What it will be is yet to be seen.

One of the things that bothers me is the fear that a lot of the American public, the American Congress in both parties, will be amused with this kind of posturing of power as a hollow, hollow thing. It will not be made to seem like fools manipulated by this evil man. We are in danger of taking counsel of our fears instead of mounting courage of our convictions and our hopes for a better world and for a solution.

I think that a solution that we could accept is possible. It will take hard bargaining, it will take tremendous attention to details, and here's one thing I want to say finally, Mr. Chairman. I think we need to give much more attention to the issue of the process by which we accomplish these things. We have an illusion that somehow if you get the top leaders together around the table facing each other, they can produce the document that will solve the problem.

That's one of the troubles with the Dayton agreement. We got the people together, we got a document that looks like it, but it's not the one that will solve the problem. But despite this stellar professional record, it is Mr. Kovner's extra-professional accomplishments in which his character and dedication are most apparent. He has been instrumental in advancing the cause of Middle-east peace and justice through a senior position with the law firm of Davis Wright Tremaine, Mr. Kovner is widely respected for his legal experience and skill, qualities evident during his service as Corporation Counsel of the City of New York, and in a wide range of other important positions such as Chair of the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct, as well as Chair of the New York City Bar Association's Committee on the Judiciary and Communications & Media Law.

But despite this stellar professional record, it is Mr. Kovner's extra-professional accomplishments in which his character and dedication are most apparent. He has been instrumental in advancing the cause of Middle-east peace as a member of the board of Americans for Peace Now and as a leader with the Israel Policy Forum.

In the United States, Mr. Kovner has been a tireless advocate for social justice and progress. He helped found the Black-Jewish Policy Forum, the law firm of Davis Wright Tremaine, and the Black-Jewish Peace Now and as a leader with the Israel Policy Forum.

In short, Victor Kovner is a man of national and international stature, whose vision and