

A TRIBUTE TO THE RED ARROW
CLUB

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the Red Arrow Club of Milwaukee. October 15th, 2000 marks the 60th anniversary of the U.S. Army's 32d Infantry Division's call to active duty prior to World War II, and also the 39th anniversary of the October 15th, 1961 call to active duty for the Berlin Crisis. This is a very important day for the club, for those who have worn the "Red Arrow" in war, as well as peacetime.

Comprised of troops from Michigan and Wisconsin, these soldiers were inducted into federal service at Lansing, Michigan on October 15th, 1940. The "Red Arrow" arrived in Australia on May 14, 1942 and participated in a number of heroic WWII campaigns, seeing action in Papua, New Guinea, Leyte, and Luzon, and later in Japan they often withstood bitter hand-to-hand combat, and fought bravely and honorably for their country. During their tour of duty in World War II, the members of the 32d Division laid their lives on the line for their country, asking nothing in return. And once again on October 15th, 1961 the "Red Arrow" answered the call of their country to protect our vital interests overseas, this time for the Berlin Crisis.

For their bravery, members of the 32d have received a total of ten Congressional Medals of Honor and fourteen Distinguished Unit Citations. In addition, the unit has received several decorations including the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation.

This special day serves to honor the many veterans who answered the call to duty to serve their country in this distinguished division, a number of whom made the ultimate sacrifice and never returned home to family and friends. To the veterans, as well as those on active duty, my sincere congratulations on this very special milestone in the 32d Division's history. It is an honor that is well deserved.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
DAN GLICKMAN PAYS TRIBUTE
TO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INSPECTORS TOM QUADROS,
JEANNIE HILLERY AND BILL SHALINE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my deepest condolences to the families of Tom Quadros, Jeannie Hillery, and Bill Shaline—the three United States Department of Agriculture inspectors who were brutally and senselessly murdered during an inspection visit to a sausage factory in Oakland, California, in June.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to condemn publicly their brutal murder. What has our nation

come to, when unarmed USDA compliance officers are brutally shot while inspecting the food we eat? Anyone familiar with the novel "The Jungle" by Upton Sinclair is aware of the potential for hazards that come with unsanitary meat packaging or processing plants. The USDA, with the help of loyal and diligent inspectors like Tom Quadros, Jeannie Hillery, and Bill Shaline, has worked hard to ensure that our nation's meat plants provide clean and sanitary food for the American public.

Mr. Speaker, these three individuals represent the finest example of public service. The men and women who serve their fellow Americans in government positions assure safe food, safe travel, public safety and security, and a better life for all of us. All Americans owe a huge debt of gratitude to the federal employees who serve us. Sometimes this service is performed at great personal risk, as was the case in this tragedy in Oakland. I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to these fallen federal employees and to all federal employees who serve our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place in the RECORD the heartfelt words of condolence that Secretary of Agriculture Glickman delivered at the memorial service for Jean Hillery, Tom Quadros, and Bill Shaline on June 30th of this year in Oakland, California.

STATEMENT OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
DAN GLICKMAN

On behalf of the entire U.S. Department of Agriculture, I want to offer my condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of Jean Hillery, Tom Quadros and Bill Shaline. USDA and the California Department of Food and Agriculture are better off for the time that they gave to us. Many people have come up to me and expressed their sadness at this loss. Just the other day, I received a letter from the members of the Safe Food Coalition asking that we pass along their condolences as well.

Food safety compliance officers perform one of the most important functions in public service, protecting the American people where they are largely powerless to protect themselves. Jean Hillery, Tom Quadros and Bill Shaline did the people's work. And over this holiday weekend, as we grill our steaks, chicken and burgers, I hope we'll all remember that it's the efforts of these three people and the thousands of others like them that ensures the safety of the food we serve to our families. And while their work is absolutely critical, rarely do we think of it as dangerous and life-threatening. Which makes last week's tragedy all the more shocking and unsettling. It's cruelly ironic that, in the process of protecting the lives of the American people, their own lives were taken from them violently and needlessly.

All of them led lives of purpose and dedication, not just at their jobs but within their families and their communities. Whether it was Jean Hillery going to college and beginning a new career after raising three daughters, or Tom Quadros' work with the Special Olympics, it's clear that these were more than distinguished public servants . . . they were extraordinary people as well. Yesterday, back at USDA headquarters, I gave a speech about civil rights at our Department. And although I talked some about programs and procedures, the message I really tried to convey was that civil rights and human rights begin with people simply treating each other with respect and common courtesy. This tragedy is not about race or civil

rights in any way, but I think it can still teach a lesson about civility and decency, about open communication and the importance of resolving disputes peacefully and sensibly. Jean Hillery, Tom Quadros and Bill Shaline lived those values, but they died because some people still do not.

I want to close with a message to their children. Last December, I lost both of my parents, within just a few weeks of each other. They were old, and they were sick. But I'm immensely grateful that they lived into their 80's and that I was able to enjoy them for 55 years of my life. I can't imagine the pain you must feel at losing parents in the prime of their lives. But I hope that you measure their time in terms of quality rather than quantity . . . always remembering that their lives, though short, were ones of both accomplishment and integrity. Thank you.

IN HONOR OF KYM SELLERS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kym Sellers, a woman whose story is about everything that is good about America. Growing up as an athlete, Kym learned the value of hard work. Kym would participate in her high school's women's basketball team, shower, and then cheerlead for the men's team. Outside of sporting events, she would run with her father, practicing for the quarter-mile she would run for the track team. It is this incredible effort and persistence that has made Mrs. Sellers an example for all.

Unfortunately, the athlete in Kym can no longer play basketball, cheer, or run. At age 25, she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, and the impairing nervous system disease sidelined her from the athletic arena. However, with her determination of steel, and spirit of confidence, Kym has most certainly not been sidelined from experiencing her life.

Now 32, Mrs. Sellers is the mother of two young daughters, wife of a professional European basketball player, and works six days a week. She continues to exercise daily, but now she must also take care of her children, and run a radio show from Cleveland's urban contemporary radio station. As if these efforts wouldn't be exhausting enough, Kym continues to make a difference in her community by establishing the Kym Sellers Foundation, a non-profit organization to help African-Americans with multiple sclerosis.

With an overwhelming amount of responsibility and activity in her life, Kym continues to strive for excellence in everything she does. She has not allowed her condition to distract her from living life to the fullest.

I greatly respect the hardworking and devoted spirit of Kym Sellers. Her attitude is one to be admired by all. My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring this dynamic woman.