

October 25, 2000

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

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use of violence and joining with the Prime Minister Barak of Israel in a true search for peace.

Two weeks ago, Mr. Speaker, I rose with a heavy heart, after learning about the latest violence in Israel. News reports at that time told us that two Israeli reserve soldiers had been killed in the West Bank town of Ramallah. The Israeli soldiers were detained by the Palestinian police after they inadvertently made a wrong turn down a street, and were taken to a police station. Apparently a mob of Palestinians broke into the police station, slaughtered the Israeli soldiers, and paraded their bodies through the streets.

This horrendous incident followed on the heels of days of violence by the Palestinian people. The tragedy of the return to street violence was aggravated by the refusal of the Palestinian leadership, and Yasser Arafat in particular, to move aggressively to restore order to the troubled region. Rather than exercise its law enforcement responsibilities, the Palestinian leadership actually encouraged the violence.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us today rightly condemns the Palestinian leadership for encouraging the violence and doing so little for so long to stop it, resulting in the senseless loss of life. Mr. Arafat must call upon the Palestinian leadership to refrain from any exhortations to public incitement, and Mr. Arafat must use his security forces to act immediately to stop all violence, to show respect for all holy sites, and to settle all grievances through negotiations. His total failure to take such actions necessitates our action today on this resolution.

I call on Mr. Arafat to live up to his obligations under the Oslo Accords, and to maintain public order and calm in the West Bank through a vigorous use of the Palestinian police force. Let us remember that the Palestinians now fully control over 40 percent of the West Bank and Gaza, with over 95% of the Palestinian population under the civil administration of the Palestinian Authority. As the Palestinians gain greater authority and control over their domestic affairs, they also must shoulder the additional security responsibilities that come hand-in-hand with territorial control. The Palestinians must ensure the safety of both Israelis and Palestinians within their areas of control.

Mr. Arafat has personally assumed responsibility over all PLO elements and personnel in order to assure the maintenance of peace, law, and order in the West Bank. Just two weeks ago Mr. Arafat allowed a Palestinian mob to destroy Joseph's Tomb, a Jewish holy site in the West Bank, just hours after Israeli troops withdrew and allowed the Palestinian police to take control. Mr. Arafat has again violated his obligations under the Oslo Accords to "ensure free, unimpeded and secure access to the relevant Jewish holy site[s]" and to "ensure the peaceful use of such site[s]", to prevent any potential instances of disorder, and to respond to any incident."

The statements attributed to Mr. Arafat following the recent Arab League summit only exacerbate the problem of his failure to be a leader for peace. Upon his return to Gaza on October 22, 2000, Mr. Arafat stated: "We will continue on to Jerusalem, the capital of the

independent Palestinian state. If Barak wants to, he will accept it. And if he doesn't accept it, he can go to hell." Those are not the words of one seeking to put the peace process back on track.

Moreover, it is very troubling to see that Arab leaders legitimized the use of violence by the Palestinians as a negotiating tactic while Mr. Arafat praised those involved in violent attacks against Israelis. The Arab League also called for a downgrading of existing ties with Israel and for a halt in the establishment of any new relations with the Jewish state.

Mr. Speaker, each of us prays for peace in the Middle East. The only way to achieve peace is for the Palestinian leaders not only to condemn terrorism, but to take steps to stop it. We must also unequivocally state to Mr. Arafat, and to the countries of the Arab League, that Israel will only yield territory as the result of negotiations through a legitimate peace process, and that the United States stands firmly against the continued promotion of violence and terrorism by the Palestinian leadership, and specifically Mr. Arafat.

TRIBUTE TO ANN MARIE  
COMISKEY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ann Marie Comiskey who will be named Troy's Distinguished Citizen of the Year by Leadership Troy at their annual community awards banquet on Wednesday, October 25, 2000.

Ann was nominated for this prestigious award by the Troy Women's Association. She has been involved with this group for the past 23 years where she has served in numerous capacities, including President, Chaplain, Historian, Membership Chair, Parliamentarian and several other positions on the Board of Directors. Ann has also served on multiple committees to organize many of the Association's events.

Ann Comiskey's dedication to her community extends beyond the Troy Women's Association. She is currently a member of St. Anastasia Church where she serves on the Missions Committee and has served as a Eucharistic Minister and a teacher of Catechism. Ann has shared her knowledge in education and counseling on the Advisory Committee to the Troy Adult and Community Education Department, President of the Wayne Monroe Adult and Community Education Association, and is a member of the Michigan Adult and Community Education Association. She is currently one of the Vice Presidents of the Boys and Girls Club of Troy where she has devoted her time to the Taste of Troy Committee and is also the Chair of the 50/50 Raffle and Sustaining Membership Committees.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a remarkable woman for her energy and enthusiasm during her years of dedication and devotion to the people of her community. Ann Comiskey is, indeed, a distinguished citizen.

A TRIBUTE IN THE MEMORY OF  
DR. MARVIN WEINREB

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a great sense of loss as I pay tribute to Dr. Marvin Weinreb, a prominent East Bay community leader, friend and humanitarian, who left us on October 14, 2000, at the age of 74.

Dr. Weinreb donated his time and efforts to areas throughout the world in need of his medical expertise. He both piloted planes and gave medical assistance for the organization Los Medicos Voladores ("The Flying Doctors"), which provides volunteer medical aid to people in Central America. A dedicated doctor, Dr. Weinreb took time to help educate other doctors and train and encourage people interested in the medical profession.

Dr. Weinreb demonstrated a lifelong devotion to the Jewish, East Bay and International Communities. He was a former president of Temple Beth Shalom in San Leandro, the Jewish Federation of the Greater East Bay, and the Judah L. Magnus Jewish Museum in Berkeley, as well as a former chair of the Southern Alameda County campaign for the United Jewish Welfare Fund. He also served as a school board trustee in Hayward from 1965 to 1977.

Dr. Weinreb graduated from Lehigh University in Pennsylvania, and attended medical school at the University of Chicago. He then practiced dermatology in the Bay Area, and held the post of clinical professor of dermatology at the University of California, San Francisco, Medical School.

Dr. Weinreb and five members of The Flying Doctors were en route to a conference when their plane went down near Ensenada, taking the lives of all the passengers.

Services were held for Dr. Weinreb at Temple Beth Shalom, in San Leandro, California, on October 19, 2000. The community has lost a great person and dedicated humanitarian. My thoughts and prayers are with all of these families at this difficult time.

PROVIDING FOR CONCURRENCE BY  
HOUSE WITH AMENDMENT IN  
SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R.  
4886, TARIFF SUSPENSION AND  
TRADE ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4868, the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act. This legislation is of great importance and its passage must be concluded rapidly in order to be voted on by the 106th Congress.

This legislation contains vital provisions from H.R. 1622, the Dog and Cat Protection Act, a bill which bans the import, export, and sale of products containing dog and cat fur. This

issue is of the highest moral imperative. An estimated 2 million dogs and cats are killed each year for their fur as part of the international fur trade. These animals are kept in deplorable conditions, subjected to unbearable treatment and face brutal deaths including clubbing and skinning alive. This abuse of animal rights must be stopped.

There is strong support for this legislation in Congress. The Dog and Cat Protection Act has broad bipartisan backing and 93 cosponsors. The Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act was approved unanimously by both the House and the Senate. The concern for animal welfare is also shared by the American people. Over 65 million households have a dog or cat. In my own district of Cleveland, Ohio a local Television report by Dick Goddard succeeded in raising public awareness on this issue. His commendable work encouraged thousands of Cleveland residents to express their opposition to this abusive treatment of animals.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge Congress to finish the Conference Report on H.R. 4868, and allow a vote on this vital piece of legislation. I believe that every effort should be made to ensure that the 106th Congress is allowed to vote on this issue. Americans deserve to be protected from unknowingly participating in this brutal trade.

#### NATIONAL SCIENCE EDUCATION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2000*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject the National Science Act (H.R. 4271), which violates the limits on congressional power found in Article 1, section 8 and the 10th amendment to the Constitution by using tax monies unjustly taken from the American people to promote the educational objectives favored by a few federal politicians and bureaucrats. As an OB-GYN, I certainly recognize the importance of increasing the quality of science education as well as undertaking efforts to interest children in the sciences. However, while I share the goals of the drafters of this legislation, I recognize that Congress has no constitutional authority to single out any one academic discipline as deserving special emphasis. Instead, the decision about which subjects to emphasize should be made by local officials, educators and parents.

H.R. 4271 not only singles out science for special emphasis, certain positions of the bill will lead to a national science curriculum. For instance, the bill calls for the Department of Education and the National Science Foundation to coordinate and disseminate information on "standard" math and science curricula as well as licensing requirements for teachers of math, science, engineering or technology. While local school districts are not forced to adopt these standards, local schools will be pressured to adopt these standards because they are the ones favored by their DC-based

overlords. I would also ask the drafters of this bill what purpose is served by spending taxpayer moneys to create and disseminate a model curriculum at the federal level if their intent is not to have local schools adopt the federally-approved model?

I also object to the provision of this bill providing special assistance to science teachers for training and professional development as well as grants for so-called "Master Teachers." Of course, I recognize that, like other citizens, teachers are underpaid because they are overtaxed. This is why I have introduced the Teacher Tax Cut Act (H.R. 937) which provides all teachers with a \$1,000 tax credit. H.R. 937 effectively raises teacher salaries by lowering their taxes. In contrast H.R. 4271 raises the salaries of certain congressionally-favored educators by effectively cutting the pay of engineers, doctors, truck drivers, waiters, and even their fellow educators. Mr. Speaker, I cannot find any constitutional nor moral justification for Congress to redistribute money to any favorite class of professionals.

If the steady decline of America's education system over the past thirty years has shown us anything, it is that centralizing control leads to a declining education system. In fact, according to a recent Manhattan Institute study of the effects of state policies promoting parental control over education, a minimal increase in parental control boosts students' average SAT verbal score by 21 points and students' SAT math score by 22 points! The Manhattan Institute study also found that increasing parental control of education is the best way to improve student performance on the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) tests. Clearly, the drafters of the Constitution knew what they were doing when they forbade the Federal Government from meddling in education.

In order to put education resources back into the hands of the American people I have introduced the Family Education Freedom Act (H.R. 935). This act provides a \$3,000 per child tax credit for parents to help cover K-12 education expenses. I have also introduced the Education Improvement Tax Cut Act (H.R. 936), which provides a \$3,000 tax deduction for contributions to K-12 education scholarships as well as for cash or in-kind donations to private or public schools. HRs 935 and 936 move control of education resources back into the hands of the American people and help ensure parents can provide their children an excellent education. In fact, since the tax credits contained in H.R. 935 and H.R. 936 may be used to help finance the purchase of items necessary for a science education, such as labs equipment and computers, these bills will particularly benefit those citizens who wish to improve science education. I therefore urge my colleagues to reject the failed, unconstitutional command-and-control approach of H.R. 4271 and instead embrace my legislation to return control of education resources to the American people.

SUPPORTING THOSE WHO REAFFIRM THE OCCURRENCE OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2000*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in to express my disappointment that the House of Representatives chose not to consider H. Res. 596 last Thursday. This was the second time this resolution had been pulled from consideration, despite pledges by the leadership that the US would go on record to affirm their support for the Armenian genocide. It now appears that the House will not have such an opportunity before we adjourn the 106th Congress.

This resolution recognized the suffering of nearly two million Armenians from 1915 through 1923, as the Ottoman Empire strove to wipe out an entire race of men, women, and children. Those who were not murdered were effectively removed from their homes of 2,500 years in what is now modern day Turkey.

It called upon the President of the United States to do three things. Ensure that US foreign policy reflects consideration and sensitivity for human rights, ethnic cleansing, and genocide documented in US records relating to the Armenian Genocide and the consequences of the Turkish court's failure to enforce judgments against those responsible for committing genocide; recognize, during his annual commemoration of the Armenian Genocide on April 24th, that this was a systematic and deliberate annihilation of 1,500,000 people, and reflect upon the United States' effort to intervene on behalf of Armenians during the genocide; and finally, in his annual commemoration of the Armenian Genocide, emphasize that the modern day Republic of Turkey did not conduct the Armenian Genocide, which was perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire.

It was eighty-five years ago that Ottoman leaders used the guise of war as an opportunity to eliminate the Armenian population from the Empire. What began as confiscation of Armenian property in order to "support" the war effort, ended with the murder of 1.5 million people and the deportation of 500,000 others.

In May 1915, the Allied Powers of World War I charged the Ottoman Empire with a "crime against humanity" and vowed to hold responsible those involved in committing genocide. Despite commitments by the Allied Powers and indictments by the post-war Turkish government of the top leaders involved in perpetrating the Armenian genocide and the destruction of Armenian property, justice has not been served to those responsible for the atrocities against Armenians.

It is a shame that America does not have the courage to support the 2 million Armenians that suffered through a genocide. We should look more towards our friends in the international community who have not been deterred in their recognition of the annihilation of Armenians for what it really was—a genocide. The European Parliament and the United Nations have recognized and reaffirmed the Armenian genocide as historical fact, as have