

For the past century, the Ohio PTA has been actively fighting for our children. When the Ohio PTA first convened on May 21, 1901, during the National Congress of Mothers, it recognized the importance of our children, and their need to be educated and raised in a healthy manner. The PTA made it their mission to act and speak on behalf of our young people throughout the community as well as before government agencies.

In the 1920's, the PTA worked to ratify the National Child Labor Amendment as well as advocated the need of special classes for developmentally handicapped children. During the 1940's, the PTA assisted the war effort by working with the Red Cross and other agencies to help abroad. Meanwhile, the PTA also established the Memorial Scholarship Program to train teachers to better educate our children at home. During the 1980's, the PTA launched its "Come Back to School" project to improve parent involvement as well as increase participation in the larger cities. Most recently, the PTA has been instrumental in increasing parent involvement, advocating legislation on behalf of the youth, as well as leading the Citizens Against Vouchers coalition.

The Ohio PTA recognizes the role of parents as primary educators in partnership with the schools with whom we entrust our children. The Ohio PTA acknowledges that we are all parents as long as we carry significant responsibilities for a child's development. Presently, there are 150,000 PTA members in 800 local units throughout the state.

The Ohio PTA plays an important role in striving to maintain the safety, welfare, and education of all of our children in the state of Ohio. Please join me in honoring the Ohio PTA on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary.

MARGARET MARKET A NOVAK

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to commend my constituent Margaret Marketa Novak for her dedicated contributions to Holocaust education and remembrance, and acknowledge the recent completion of her autobiography *One Left, Just One*.

For over 30 years, Ms. Novak has been active in Holocaust issues, as a speaker, an author, and a member of Holocaust survivor support organizations. Her volunteerism and commitment exemplify the belief she notes in her book that "Surviving is not enough, it's what we do with our lives that counts."

As the only survivor in a family of nine that perished in the Holocaust, Ms. Novak has lived a challenging life, as so many others who, like Ms. Novak, relied upon faith, fear and courage to survive the ghetto, Auschwitz, the DP camps, and the uncertain trip to settle in the United States.

Although nothing can vindicate the murders of the innocent six million who perished, or reclaim the lost childhood she documents in her book, Ms. Novak's resolve to share this history is a testament to the determination of all of the survivors who struggled to reclaim their lives

after the war and put them on record for future generations.

Our community is grateful to Ms. Novak for her devoted service. I extend her my best wishes for the future.

AMBASSADOR DAVID IVRY DISCUSSES ISRAEL'S RESTRAINT IN DEALING WITH THE CURRENT MIDDLE EAST VIOLENCE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, the Washington Post published an excellent article by His Excellency David Ivry, ambassador of Israel to the United States. Ambassador Ivry has served as commander of the Israeli Air Force and Deputy Chief of the General Staff. For the past year he has represented Israel in the United States. I want to commend Ambassador Ivry's article to my colleagues in the Congress.

Mr. Speaker, all of us regret the tragic deaths which have resulted from the violence in the Middle East. It is a great tragedy that this turmoil has turned the focus from efforts to resolve the conflict peacefully to dealing with a new wave of disorder that undermines the basis for peace between Israelis and Palestinians. The violence is unacceptable, and it is undermining the very basis for peace—the notion that Palestinians and Israelis can live together.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the evening newscasts are giving a false image of the true dimensions and nature of this violence. The carefully orchestrated turmoil and the cynical and tragic use of little children should stand condemned by all of us. It is important that we understand the full significance of what is happening as this disorder continues to threaten stability and the progress that has already been achieved.

Ambassador Ivry has laid out in particularly clear and incisive terms the Israeli interest in achieving a peaceful reconciliation with the Palestinians. He also explains the position and policy of the Israeli government in its effort to deal with the unacceptable levels of Palestinian-orchestrated violence that now threatens to undermine the progress that has been achieved over the past seven years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Ambassador Ivry's article be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to give it the careful and thoughtful attention that it deserves.

ISRAEL'S RESTRAINT

By David Ivry The Washington Post, Oct. 27, 2000

The current wave of violence in the Middle East has left more than 100 Palestinians dead, while the number of Israeli fatalities has been relatively small. This uneven casualty ratio has raised questions by some as to whether the Israeli forces are too eager to pull their triggers in response to Palestinian violence. The answer to such concerns is clear: Israel has shown the greatest restraint possible in the face of continued violent provocations, and Israel's forces have made a maximum effort to avoid Palestinian fatalities.

Israel has no interest in the continuation of violence, and our tactical response has been to avoid actions that could lead to escalation. Every Israeli soldier on the ground receives strict orders as to the rules of engagement, which state clearly when it is permissible to use live fire. An Israeli soldier may respond only when shot at first or in a life-threatening situation. In either case his response must be directed at the source of the fire.

On Oct. 12, the day the two Israeli soldiers were brutally lynched in Ramallah, Israel responded by sending helicopters into action in Ramallah and Gaza. Not only were our pilots under strict instructions to surgically strike designated points but Israel also warned the Palestinians to evacuate the specified targets. It was no accident that there were no Palestinian fatalities in the Israeli counterstrike.

Israel's operational procedures for dealing with violent crowds involve the use of tear-gas and rubber bullets. Palestinians are propagating the fallacy that Israeli troops meet street demonstrators with live fire. Unfortunately, we have witnessed many incidents in which armed Palestinians have opened fire on Israelis from street demonstrations—using their fellow Palestinians as human shields. The Palestinian leadership has gone as far as closing the schools and busing children to points of friction, knowingly putting youngsters in harm's way. International treaties clearly condemn the enlisting of children to participate in hostilities. The international community should speak out against this reprehensible exploitation of children for political purposes.

Today's violence is quite different from that of the intifada in the 1980s. Israel then controlled the entire West Bank and Gaza Strip, and Israeli soldiers were stationed inside Palestinian cities.

Today, as a result of the Oslo accords, 40 percent of the territories, including all the population centers, are under Palestinian control with more than 95 percent of Palestinians living directly under the rule of the Palestinian Authority. Our forces sit outside the population centers at points agreed to in the Israeli-Palestinian interim agreements. For violent incidents to erupt, Palestinians must seek out those forces or Israeli civilian targets.

During the intifada, our forces had to deal primarily with violent demonstrations. Currently, Israeli soldiers face armed Palestinian forces, either the official Palestinian security or the Tanzim militia (which, according to the interim agreements, should not have weapons at all). Palestinian gunmen have opened fire on Israelis in hundreds of incidents. Pictures of Palestinian boys with slingshots do not accurately reflect this new reality on the ground.

The ultimate irony of the current situation is that Prime Minister Ehud Barak has shown unprecedented flexibility in the peace process. The Palestinians, rather than opting to negotiate, chose to revert to violence. It was the Palestinian side that reneged on the cease-fire brokered by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in Paris, and it was the Palestinian side that failed to implement the deal brokered by President Clinton at Sharm el-Sheikh. Israel did not want, seek or encourage this round of fighting. The questions must be asked: Which side has acted to contain and to end the violence, and which side has not?

The truth about the ratio of Palestinian to Israeli deaths is that Israelis have been actively seeking to limit fatal casualties in

this conflict while, unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the Palestinian side. As retired Gen. Wesley K. Clark wrote recently: "for the Palestinians, every casualty, even their own, can be a strategic gain." As long as the Palestinian leadership acts on the assumption that there is a net political advantage in bloodshed, surely they, and those in the Arab world who encourage this violent strategy, should be held accountable for the appalling and unnecessary loss of life over the past four weeks.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, October 29, 2000 I was unavoidably detained from presence in the House. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall 574, Approval of the Journal—Yes.

Rollcall 575, One Day Continuing Resolution—Yes.

Rollcall 576, Pallone Motion to Instruct Labor-HHS Appropriations Conferees—Yes.

HONORING THE INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I commend the Inland Empire Utilities Agency of California, as they celebrate 50 years of excellence in water resources and quality management.

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency plays an integral part in distributing water, providing wastewater collection, and other utility services for nearly 700,000 people that reside within a 242-square-mile area of Western San Bernardino County. They have eight agency facilities within their jurisdiction that are designed to meet the specific needs of their regional community. Additionally, they have a five member Board of Directors that represents each division.

One of the critical aspects to the success of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency has been their ability to keep the lines of communication open. They have done an outstanding job working closely with local, State, and Federal legislators to ensure that California's water needs are being met.

Inland Empire Utilities Agency, a quality company that has taken a pro-active role in addressing water issues, is poised to meet the demands of the future. I ask that this 106th congress join me in congratulating the Inland Empire Utilities Agency as they celebrate 50 years of excellence in water resources and quality management.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRANSPORTATION RECALL ENHANCEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY AND DOCUMENTATION ACT

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, the House of Representatives passed by voice vote the Transportation Recall Enhancement, Accountability and Documentation Act.

The quick passage of this bill was a direct result of the public's concern over the safety of automobile tires. This was a good and proper beginning. However, I am hopeful that next year, in the new session of Congress, we can take a more comprehensive look at all automobile safety issues. In particular, Congress should closely examine the availability of information necessary to repair vehicles.

Oftentimes, consumers and repair shops do not have access to adequate information on how to properly repair and maintain vehicles. When information concerning the proper repairs and appropriate replacement parts for automobiles is withheld or tightly controlled, motorists are put in jeopardy. This situation can lead to unsafe vehicles on the road and must be addressed.

In the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments, Congress required new vehicles include an On-Board Diagnostic System to monitor vehicle emissions. At that time, Congress also mandated that the information necessary to make emission repairs be made available to all those who repair the vehicles, including the after market.

Since this time, diagnostics have evolved to monitor most car systems such as brakes and air bags. Yet the information required to make repairs on these systems is not made available to the car owner or the local repair shop. It is time for Congress to carefully consider the benefits of extending the information sharing requirements to cover all the systems in an automobile.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 576 on October 29, 2000, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following Recorded Votes due to the death of my father. I wish the RECORD to reflect how I would have voted on the following had I been present:

October 30, 2000

Rollcall No.	Bill No.	I would have voted—
563	H.J.Res. 117: Passage of Continuing Appropriation for FY2000.	AYE
564	S. 2943: Passage of International Malaria Control Act.	AYE
565	H.R. 2498: Passage of Cardiac Arrest Survival Act.	AYE
566	H.Res. 655: Passage of consideration and Senate amendment to H.R. 1550 (authorization appropriations for the United States Fire Administration).	AYE
567	S. 2712: Passage of Reports Consolidation Act.	AYE
568	H.R. 5309: Passage of Ronald W. Reagan Post Office Bldg.	AYE
569	S. 3194: Passage of Robert Walker Post Office Bldg.	AYE
571	H.J.Res. 118: Passage of Continuing Appropriation for FY2000.	AYE
572	H.R. 4577: Passage of Motion to Instruct Conferees regarding LIHEAP funding on Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations, FY2001.	AYE
573	H.R. 4577: Passage of Motion to Instruct Conferees regarding disagreeing to Senate Amendment that deny President's request for dedicated resources to reduce class sizes on Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations, FY2001.	NO
575	H.J.Res. 119: Passage of Continuing Appropriations for FY2000.	AYE
576	H.R. 4577: Passage of Mr. Pallone's Motion to Instruct Conferees on Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations, FY2001.	NO
578	H.J.Res. 120: Passage of Continuing Appropriation for FY2000.	AYE
579	Mr. Linder's motion regarding House Meeting Hour for Tuesday, October 31, 2000.	AYE

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE APPROPRIATIONS

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, when we passed the H-1B legislation recently, it was my deep regret that Congress missed an opportunity to grant long-awaited parity to certain groups of immigrants in our country. Today I rise to speak against the measure currently before us because we're heading for another missed opportunity.

Significant portions of our Nation's population have been living, working, and raising families in the United States for many years. But they've been living in legal limbo, fearing deportation, because they were wrongly denied legal status to which they were entitled and which they qualified for in the 1980's.

Another group of immigrants has also been treated unfairly. In 1996 and 1997 Congress gave Nicaraguans and Cubans the opportunity to become permanent residents, but thousands of refugees from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Haiti were left with only temporary residency status. This group deserves the same opportunity to obtain American citizenship.

The remedy for these problems, the Latino Fairness and Immigration Act, has been kept out of the Commerce, Justice and State appropriations bill. The Act is based on our country's basic tenet that people in similar situations should be treated equitably. It would keep immigrant families united through restoration of Section 245(i) of the INS Code. It would reward them for their hard work and recognize that they've paid their taxes and made other contributions to this country. It would also establish legal parity for all refugees who fled political turmoil in the 1990s.