

three two-officer concept offices, total delivery of State Police services to fifteen counties of the U.P.

Captain McGhee has always looked out for the citizens of Michigan by his service as a trooper, his guidance of his fellow officers, and his leadership and initiative. He began his service with his enlistment in recruit school in May of 1966, and his start as a trooper in Bridgeport and Lansing. Of course, not one to sit on the sidelines, a year later he received a Lifesaving Award when he jumped off the Zilwaukee Bridge to aid another officer, risking his own life to save that of another.

Captain McGhee has published both nationally and internationally, and been instrumental in bringing law enforcement communities to work together on timely issues. His innovative traffic safety initiative, "Let's Buckle (the) U.P.", drew together all law enforcement agencies for the first time in a united effort to promote safety on Michigan's streets. Most recently, in 1998 and 1999 he coordinated law enforcement between Michigan and Wisconsin by putting together the Wisconsin/Michigan Law Enforcement Summit where officials and government leaders from both states met to discuss issues common across the border.

Captain McGhee has done so much, so well, for so long, that I can only recall one occasion that his judgment may be called into question: letting me graduate from recruit school while he was Recruit School Commander! In all seriousness, I thank him for his help and advice that he gave me and other recruits that went on to serve in his tradition. As former Post-Commander in Reed City, Assistant District Commander in the Eight and Seventh Districts, and as the current Eighth District Commander, Captain McGhee has ensured that the men and women under his watch perform to their highest possible levels, to the best advantage of the citizens of the U.P. and Michigan.

Captain McGhee, you will be missed, but your accomplishments and guidance have left their mark, making law enforcement in the U.P. and Michigan something we can all be proud of! I also congratulate Suzanne McGhee on her retirement, and wish the best to the entire McGhee family.

ACKNOWLEDGING MANUEL
ESQUEDA

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to honor and recognize the outstanding contributions of Manuel Esqueda, a man who has devoted much of his life serving the community of Orange County.

A survivor of the USS Princeton, he returned a Second World War veteran to his home in Santa Ana. An employee of Bank of America since 1946, he served the institution for 32 years, while retiring as bank manager in 1978.

Manuel is a perfect example of how one man can make a difference. He has taken the initiative to provide 1,078 students with schol-

arship awards under the banners of the Gemini Club, Time and Time Again, and Serafines de Orange County/California Angels. Mr. Esqueda is a positive role model for the surrounding community and a mentor of our youth. He has brought experience, dedication and a passion to comfort those who are so much in need.

The contributions and the lasting legacy that he will leave behind is a testament of his hard work of which we are all so proud of. I urge my colleagues to please join with me today as we honor Mr. Manuel Esqueda, a caring man who is committed to his profession and to the betterment of our community.

HELSINKI COMMISSION HEARING
ON: "KOSOVO'S DISPLACED AND
IMPRISONED"

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, this week the Helsinki Commission held a hearing to review the current situation in Kosovo and the prospects for addressing outstanding human rights issues there. More specifically, the hearing focused on the more than 200,000 displaced of Kosovo, mostly Serb and Roma, as well as those Albanians—numbering at least 1,600 and perhaps much more—imprisoned in Serbia. Witnesses included Ambassador John Menzies, Deputy Special Advisor to the President and Secretary of State for Kosovo Implementation; Bill Frelick, Director for Policy at the U.S. Committee for Refugees; His Grace, Bishop Artemije of the Serbian Orthodox Church; Andrzej Mirga, an expert on Roma issues for the Project on Ethnic Relations and the Council of Europe; Susan Blaustein, a senior consultant at the International Crisis Group; and, finally, Ylber Bajraktari, a student from Kosovo.

The situation for the displaced, Mr. Speaker, is truly horrible. In Serbia, most collective centers are grim, lacking privacy and adequate facilities. While most displaced Serbs have found private accommodations, they still confront a horrible economic situation worsened by the high degree of corruption, courtesy of the Milosevic regime. The squalor in which the Roma population from Kosovo lives is much worse, and they face the added burdens of discrimination, not only in Serbia but in Montenegro and Macedonia as well. There is little chance right now for any of them to go back to Kosovo, given the strength of Albanian extremists there. Indeed, since KFOR entered Kosovo eight months ago, it was asserted, more than 80 Orthodox Churches have been damaged or destroyed in Kosovo, more than 600 Serbs have been abducted and more than 400 Serbs have been killed. The situation for those Serbs and Roma remaining in Kosovo is precarious.

Other groups—including Muslim Slavs, those who refused to serve in the Yugoslav military, and ethnic Albanians outside Kosovo—face severe problems as well, but their plights are too often overlooked.

Meanwhile, the Milosevic regime continues to hold Albanians from Kosovo in Serbian pris-

ons, in many cases without charges. While an agreement to release these individuals was left out of the agreement ending NATO's military campaign against Yugoslav and Serbian forces, with the Clinton Administration's acquiescence, by international law these people should have been released. At a minimum, the prisoners are mistreated; more accurately, many are tortured. Some prominent cases were highlighted: 24-year-old Albin Kurti, a former leader of the non-violent student movement; Flora Brovina, a prominent pediatrician and human rights activist; Ukshin Hoti, a Harvard graduate considered by some to be a possible future leader of Kosovo; and, Bardhyl Caushi, Dean of the School of Law, University of Pristina. Clearly, the resolution of these cases is critical to any real effort at reconciliation in Kosovo.

This human suffering, Mr. Speaker, must not be allowed to continue. Action must be taken by the United States and the international community as a whole. Among the suggestions made, which I would like to share with my colleagues, are the following:

First, get rid of Milosevic. Little if anything can be done in Kosovo or in the Balkans as a whole until there is democratic change in Serbia;

Second, bring greater attention to the imprisoned Albanians in Serbia, and keep the pressure on the Milosevic regime to release them immediately and without condition;

Third, rein in extremists on both sides—Albanian and Serb—in Kosovo with a more robust international presence, including the deployment of the additional international police as requested by the UN Administrator;

Fourth, find alternative networks for improved distribution of assistance to the displaced in Serbia;

Fifth, consider additional third-country settlement in the United States and elsewhere for those groups most vulnerable and unable to return to their homes, like the Roma and those who evaded military service as urged by NATO.

Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I intend to pursue some of these suggestions with specific legislative initiatives, or through contacts with the Department of State. I hope to find support from my fellow Commissioners and other colleagues. Having heard of the suffering of so many people, we cannot neglect to take appropriate action to help, especially in a place like Kosovo where the United States has invested so much and holds considerable influence as a result.

THE NEED FOR A NATIONAL
DIALOGUE IN KAZAKHSTAN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, last December President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan visited Washington for the annual meeting of the U.S.-Kazakhstan Joint Commission. The purpose of these meetings, which are alternately held in the United States and Kazakhstan, is to promote economic and

political cooperation between our two countries. Among other things, the U.S. side regularly presses the government of Kazakhstan to improve its human rights record and undertake economic and political reforms.

I understand that U.S. officials pressed the Kazakh side especially hard this year, because of international criticism of parliamentary elections that were held last October, heightened corruption, and an acceleration of abusive action taken against opponents of President Nazarbayev's government. In an apparent move to blunt the severity of U.S. pressure as the Joint Commission meeting approached, President Nazarbayev reportedly issued a statement on November 4th, 1999 saying that he was ready to cooperate with the opposition in Kazakhstan and that he would welcome the return of former Prime Minister Akhezan Kazhegeldin, the exiled leader of the main opposition party.

On November 19th, Mr. Kazhegeldin responded to President Nazarbayev by calling for a "national dialogue" to examine ways to advance democracy, economic development and national reconciliation in Kazakhstan. Mr. Kazhegeldin pointed out that convening a national dialogue would be an ideal way to initiate cooperation between the opposition and the government.

President Nazarbayev, however, has reacted with silence to Mr. Kazhegeldin's proposal and a court reportedly convicted an opposition leader for having the temerity to criticize Nazarbayev's government. Finally, investment disputes with foreign companies that have lost millions of dollars because the government failed to honor its commitments remain unresolved and an investigation and trial seem to have failed to find anyone to blame for the delivery last year of 40 MiG fighter aircraft from Kazakhstan to North Korea.

Mr. Speaker, the cause of freedom and democracy in Kazakhstan appears to be in jeopardy. Our government should consider supporting a national dialogue along the lines proposed by former Prime Minister Kazhegeldin. At the very least, the government of Kazakhstan should make an hour of state-controlled television available every week for the use by the opposition. For its part the U.S. should also assist the democratic opposition by providing printing presses to replace those that have been confiscated by the government. It is time to stand up for democracy in Kazakhstan.

HONORING THE RECIPIENT OF THE
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD, BILL PETTY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce has named the recipient of the 1999 Lifetime Achievement Award, Bill Petty.

Bill is a respected business leader who has had a substantial positive impact on the overall quality of life in Grand Junction, Colorado. He has focused time, energy and resources

by serving on business organizations such as the Chamber Board, Downtown Development Authority Board and most recently the Western Colorado Business Development Corporation. Bill has also served on the St. Mary's Foundation Board and the St. Mary's Hospital Board since 1996. Bill became President of Norwest Banks, Grand Junction in 1992. He has also had a commitment to the arts by serving on the Western Colorado Center for the Arts Board, the Avalon Board of Directors and the Colorado Public Radio.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute to a valued member of the Grand Junction community and a close personal friend, Bill Petty. He is committed to making his community a better place to live.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF CHIEF HELENA ASHBY

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the March 31st retirement of Chief Helena Ashby, the first female Division Chief in the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Chief Ashby began her work with the Sheriff's Department in 1964 absent a role model; 36 years later, she is herself a role model for women and African Americans. Her leadership and dedication will be missed.

During her tenure with the Sheriff's Department, Ms. Ashby has also commanded the Detective Division, as well as the Court Services Division. She spent five years as a Commander within Field Operations Region II and the Detective Division and has served as Captain of the Juvenile Investigations Bureau, Court Services West, Sybil Brand Institute for Women, and Personnel Bureau of the Administrative Division.

Chief Ashby holds degrees from the University of Southern California and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy and the National Interagency Counterdrug Institute.

The demands of her work in the Sheriff's Department have not precluded Ms. Ashby from establishing herself as a leader in the Los Angeles community. She sits on the Board of Directors of the Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County, the Coro Foundation, and the Association of Independent Colleges of Southern California. Her contributions to the community have been recognized by the Soroptimist Club, the YWCA, and the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives.

Chief Ashby has said of the Sheriff's Department that "Most of us leave here a better person than when we arrived." In Helena Ashby's case, her positive influence will also leave the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department a better place than when she arrived.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, February 29, 2000 I had to delay my return to the Capitol in order to attend to personal business in my district. During my absence, I missed rollcall vote 26.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the Indian Tribal Economic Development and Contract Encouragement Act (S. 613).

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
RONALD L. GUTSHALL AS CHIEF
OF THE RESCUE FIRE COMPANY
NO. 1 IN HARRISBURG, PA

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Ronald L. Gutshall on the announcement of his retirement as Chief of the Rescue Fire Company No. 1 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Gutshall has been an esteemed member of the Rescue Fire Company No. 1 since 1960. Since then, he has continually, selflessly, and honorably served and protected the citizens of Susquehanna Township in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. At the start of Mr. Gutshall's career, he immediately began proving his leadership qualities, commanding skills, expertise, and willingness to ascend professionally. By 1964 he successfully attained the rank of Lieutenant and Assistant Chief. A year later, the Rescue Fire Company No. 1 elected Mr. Gutshall to his first term as Fire Chief, a truly remarkable accomplishment in such a short period of time. Mr. Gutshall remained as Chief from 1970 until the announcement of his retirement on January 18, 2000.

Throughout his career, Mr. Gutshall has not only served and protected the citizens of Susquehanna Township from the disastrous forces of nature, but also served administratively in the Rescue Fire Company's office. Since 1962, Mr. Gutshall has served as Treasurer, in efforts to maintain and ensure the future financial security and prosperity of the Rescue Fire Company. Mr. Gutshall was also instrumental in the acquisition of the Township Fire Tax which helped provide all the Township Fire Companies with state of the art fire equipment to sustain and assure the protection and safety of the employees.

Mr. Gutshall has led his career and company with compassion. He upholds and preserves the tradition of volunteer service and commitment, a vital part of community functions. He instructs and educates members in the highest moral and ethical values which is proven in their discipline and attitudes. My Gutshall has been a tremendous mentor too all those who have worked beside him, a hero to those who know him, and teacher to both the fire services and county.