

IN HONOR OF DEBORAH KAPLAN, ESQ., ON THE OCCASION OF HER INAUGURATION AS PRESIDENT OF THE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2000*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I pay special tribute to Deborah Kaplan, Esq. Ms. Kaplan is a dedicated lawyer who has worked tirelessly for a more just and humane society and an improved quality of life for countless New Yorkers.

Ms. Kaplan contributes greatly to the New York justice system in her current position as a Principal Court Attorney in the office of the Honorable Juanita Bing Newton, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives. Ms. Kaplan has also guided many litigants toward fair and just resolutions of grievances as an arbitrator for the Small Claims Court of the City of New York.

As a Senior Trial Attorney for the Criminal Defense Division of The Legal Aid Society, Ms. Kaplan is committed to helping those with the greatest need for knowledgeable legal representation. As a former president of the Brooklyn Women's Bar Association and a committee member for the First Department Committee on Character and Fitness of Applicants for Admission to the Bar, Ms. Kaplan has further dedicated herself to enhancing the quality and character of the legal profession.

Ms. Kaplan consistently displays a deep concern for the New York community. She serves as vice chair of the Community Advisory Council at Beth Israel Medical Center, serves as chair of the Health, Human Services Committee of Community Planning Board Six, and participates with the New York City Board of Education as a Statewide Mock Trial Coach.

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to the New York community and to the legal profession, Ms. Kaplan has received, among many, the Orion S. Maraden Award and the Honorable Sybil Hart Keeper Award. On May 5-7, 2000, Ms. Kaplan will be installed as the President of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the life and work of Ms. Deborah Kaplan, Esq., and I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in recognizing her contribution to the legal profession and the New York community.

**HONG VETERANS'  
NATURALIZATION ACT OF 2000**

**HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2000*

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday the House passed H.R. 371, the Hmong Veterans' Naturalization Act of 2000. As a cosponsor of this legislation, I was pleased to support its passage. Many of these brave men have set-

led in Rhode Island where they make great contributions to their communities. It is time that we recognize the contribution of the Hmong and pass this legislation.

From 1961 to 1975, the Hmong were a significant factor in the U.S. war efforts in Laos and Vietnam. Throughout the conflict in Vietnam the United States recruited the Hmong to fight alongside U.S. soldiers, gather data, conduct reconnaissance, and participate in clandestine missions. During that time, tens of thousands of Hmong were killed or wounded fighting for American interests.

As part of the agreement between the U.S. and the Hmong soldiers, certain promises were made. Among those was the possibility of U.S. citizenship for those who served on behalf of the U.S. However, because they did not have a written language, it is nearly impossible for many of these Hmong to pass the language section of Immigration test. This bill provides the necessary relief for these courageous men.

The time has come to recognize the Hmong and honor our commitment to them.

**TRIBUTE TO ZENY C. CUSTODIO**

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2000*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the island of Guam bids farewell to an esteemed community leader. Zeny C. Custodio, a colleague in the field of public administration, was recently called to her eternal rest.

Born on April 18, 1938, in the Republic of the Philippines, Zeny eventually raised her family in Guam and made the island her home. She attended, the oldest pontifical university in the Philippines, the University of Santa Tomas, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Laws degree. In addition, she took special courses on International Banking laws at the University of the Philippines and the Institute of Finance and Management at Ateneo de Manila University.

Although a lawyer by profession, Zeny's legacy lies in the field of community and public service. Aside from being the first woman to be appointed as director of the Guam Department of Labor, Zeny also served the Government of Guam in a variety of capacities and positions. On separate occasions worked as a special assistant to the Chief of Customs and to former Guam Senator Elizabeth Arriola. She also served as executive director for the State Advisory Council on Vocational Education and as Segundo Suruhano at the Guam Suruhano's office. She was a board member for the Guam Visitor's Bureau and, until her retirement in 1998, the executive director of the Bureau of Women's Affairs.

Her civic activities and affiliation include leadership and membership posts with the Guam Lytico and Bodig Association, the Soptimist International of Guam, the Guam Women's Club, the Filipino Ladies Association of Guam, the Guam Council of Women's Club, the Filipino Community of Guam, the Federation of Asian Women, the Metro Manila Asso-

ciation of Guam, the UST Alumni Association, the International Women's Club, the Women's Lawyer Association of the Philippines, the Kundirana Association of the Philippines, the Cavite Association of Guam, the Batangas Association of Guam, and Beauty World Guam Limited. For her efforts on behalf of the community, she has garnered a host of honors and awards—the most prestigious of which are the Banaog Award presented other by former Philippine President Fidel Ramos and the Ancient Order of the Chamorri presented to her by the lieutenant governor of Guam, Madeleine Z. Bordallo.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I join her husband, Narcisco, and her children, Roland, Yvonne, Raymond, and Maria in celebrating her life and mourning the loss of a wife, mother, community leader, and fellow public servant. Adios, Zeny.

**TRIBUTE TO THE RETIREMENT OF  
STANLEY SMITH AS SECRETARY-  
TREASURER OF THE SAN FRAN-  
CISCO BUILDING AND CONSTRUC-  
TION TRADES COUNCIL**

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2000*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Stan Smith who is retiring after twenty-five years of distinguished service as Secretary-Treasurer of the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council.

Stan was elected president of Glaziers Union Local #718 in 1958 after only five years in the glazing trade. He was then elected Field Representative of Local #718 in 1965. In 1975, his peers elected him to his current post as Secretary-Treasurer. In this position, he has overseen all of the construction unions in San Francisco for the past quarter century and has done so with a skill that belies the complexity of the task. In addition, Stan has been an active member of the community and has served on countless boards and committees whose collective theme has been to give less fortunate members of the community new opportunities in life through the construction trades.

Stan Smith is a fighter for America's working families. Throughout his tenure with the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council he has made a significant contribution to organized labor and to the greater San Francisco community. I commend him for his outstanding leadership and wish him all the best in his retirement.

**TRIAL OF IRANIAN JEWS**

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2000*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to denounce the treatment of the 13 Iranian Jews who have been charged with espionage on behalf of Israel and the United