

Two-thirds of all those diagnosed with the AIDS virus in the Caribbean are dead within two years. What is even more outrageous is that AIDS is the leading cause of death in the Caribbean for those aged 15 to 45 and the numbers are growing.

About one in every 50 people in the Caribbean, or 2% of the population has AIDS or is infected with HIV, the virus which causes AIDS; more than 4% in the Bahamas, and 13% among urban adults in Haiti.

The UN estimates that there were 9,600 children infected in the Caribbean. Further, the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre (CAREC) as well estimates that the overall child mortality rate will increase 60% by 2010 if treatment is not improved.

Clearly, there is a need not only for the United States government's assistance but also for those major private foundations that provide AIDS money for Africa to also develop programs that will come to the aid of those in the Caribbean.

I proudly commend Congresswoman DONNA CHRISTENSEN and her efforts to raise awareness in the community, as this disease is kept silent. I also commend the government of the Bahamas as being the only country in the region that has offered universal antiretroviral treatment over the last several years.

While we simply take medical services and treatment for granted in this country, as the number of AIDS cases decreases per year in North America and increases in the Caribbean; it is our obligation to help provide assistance to these governments in order for them to provide a simple service to their people, enabling them to live prosperous and healthy lives.

TRIBUTE TO THE IDAHO AVIATION CAREER EDUCATION PROGRAM

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Idaho Aviation Education (ACE) program, jointly sponsored by the Idaho Transportation Department Division of Aeronautics and the Idaho Aviation Hall of Fame. Last week, two dozen young people from across Idaho were able to take part in the ACE program and learn about the opportunities and excitement available in the aviation industry. These high school students learned about air traffic control, flight maintenance, Idaho's illustrious flying heritage, and the pride that comes from a job well done. Students were even given the opportunity to navigate light aircraft through the Boise foothills, demonstrating the real life uses of geography and mathematics skills acquired in school.

I would like to thank all of the people who work to make the ACE program a reality, especially Pam Franco at the Idaho Division of Aeronautics. I would also like to thank the families in the Boise area who took the ACE students into their homes as guests. I am proud of all of the ACE students and encourage them to pursue their dreams into the Idaho skies.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained by a delayed flight and was unable to be present last night for floor votes. If I had been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on H.R. 2137, H.R. 1892, and S. 468.

SUPPORT FOR THE ARMENIAN TECHNOLOGY GROUP

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the Armenian Technology Group's efforts to assist the development of rural private enterprise in the Caucasus and Central Asia regions of the former Soviet Union.

Both as a farmer and as one of this body's Representatives from the world's most prolific agricultural regions, the San Joaquin Valley, I appreciate ATG's work around the world. Just last week, ATG announced the results of its seed multiplication efforts in Armenia. ATG did not merely double the production of wheat in Armenia—the organization was responsible for creating a net four hundred and thirty percent increase in wheat yield.

This, Mr. Speaker, is one of the great success stories in America's foreign assistance history. It is why I am pushing for ATG to receive the resources necessary to replicate its work along the legendary Silk Road in Central Asia. The Central Asia region has not witnessed the type of market-driven successes that we had hoped for at the time of the dismantling of the Soviet Union. I am confident, however, that ATG can help these countries move on the path to economic and market reform and eventual prosperity.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and our colleagues in this distinguished House to learn more about ATG and the amazing work it has done. May the organization continue to be allowed to prosper in Armenia and elsewhere—it is truly one of America's treasures that we can share with the rest of the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 257, Criminal Law Technical Amendments Act of 2001. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 258, Family Sponsor Immigration Act of 2001. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 259, the James C. Corman Federal Building

July 24, 2001

Designation Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, last night, while the House of Representatives was voting, I was unavoidably detained from participating due to adverse weather conditions that kept me from arriving at the Capitol on time. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on the following bills: H.R. 2137—Criminal Law Technical Amendments Act of 2001; H.R. 1892—Family Sponsor Immigration Act of 2001; and, S. 468—James C. Corman Federal Building Designation Act.

HONORING HENRY L. "HANK" LACAYO

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Henry L. "Hank" Lacayo, an outstanding community leader from California, on the occasion of his 70th birthday. I want to recognize Hank's lifetime of service he has provided the Nation through his dedication to leadership and social activism.

After graduating from John C. Fremont High School in 1949, Hank served in the U.S. Air Force and was later hired at the North American Aviation's Los Angeles Division in 1953. He then embarked on a career in organized labor starting with his election in 1962 to serve as President of the United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 887.

Until 1972, Hank represented 30,000 workers at North American Aviation, later known as Rockwell International in Los Angeles. Appointed as an Administrative Assistant to then-UAW President Leonard Woodcock, Hank moved to Detroit, Michigan in 1974. There Hank was appointed National Director of the UAW's political and legislative department. For the successive three UAW's Presidents, Leonard Woodcock, Douglas Fraser, and Owen Bieber, Hank served as administrative assistant.

During the administration of President John F. Kennedy, Hank served as an advisor to the U.S. Department of Labor. He has since been a trusted advisor to several U.S. Presidents. Hank was named a National Director of the UAW Community Action Program, the UAW's political and legislative arm, in 1976.

Hank's total devotion to his community is evidenced by the many organizations that he has chaired worldwide. Hank is a founding member of Destino 2000, the Hispanic Legacy fund, Co-Founder and Past Chairman of the Board of the U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute and currently serves on the Community Advisory Board of the California State University Channel Islands.