

November 15, 2001

HONORING A DAY OF
UNDERSTANDING

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to acknowledge Sunday, November 18, 2001 as a Day of Understanding. In a society where so many diverse ethnicities and beliefs coincide with each other every day it is important that we take the time to realize and appreciate all the different cultures that are represented throughout the United States.

The County of San Luis Obispo in California has resolved that November 18th be recognized as a Day of Understanding, in order to promote understanding among many different faiths. As a nation, we need to take this opportunity to listen and learn about one another's faiths, and attempt to understand different cultures and practices.

Religious intolerance and lack of understanding has long contributed to wars between different groups throughout the history of mankind. It is time to recognize and appreciate cultural differences instead of condemn and remain ignorant about them. In a free society, peoples of divergent faiths should endeavor to understand and respect one another's different religious and spiritual heritages, beliefs, hopes and dreams, and it is my hope that by acknowledging the Day of Understanding we are taking the first step in making this possible.

I encourage you to pause this Sunday, November 18, and take the time to ask a neighbor, friend, or co-worker about his or her culture or religion that may be different than yours. We should all attempt to learn more about and appreciate the multitude of cultures that surround us every day, and I am so pleased that the citizens of San Luis Obispo County have taken the initiative in creating this wonderful Day of Understanding.

RECOGNIZING TEDD RICHARDSON
FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important member of the El Paso community.

Mr. Tedd Richardson, an El Paso businessman, is well known around the city for his gracious contributions to the under-served. He conducts an annual Christmas dinner to serve the less fortunate and he has currently expanded his Christmas tradition to my home community of Canutillo. Mr. Richardson recently toured the Bill Childress Elementary School in Canutillo. He was so impressed by the progress of their school grounds improvement project that he made a generous donation to help fund and further the progression of the project.

Mr. Richardson also vowed to help raise the \$19,000 necessary to complete the project, and in addition has challenged other local

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businesses and individuals to match his contributions. This project is empowering students and is teaching a life lesson in the importance of civic responsibility. Mr. Richardson has promised to continue working hand-in-hand with the Bill Childress Elementary School.

Mr. Tedd Richardson is an exemplary citizen. He believes in helping people to help themselves. I believe that Tedd Richardson is a model citizen who insists that his contribution to his community be more than average. His dedication to education and establishing a future for El Paso children has not only made him an individual of distinction, but has also earned him a special place in the minds of families and schools all over the city. I am proud to recognize Mr. Richardson, and hope the model of his citizenship reflects in all people around El Paso.

HONORING WAYNE BEMIS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Wayne Bemis on the occasion of his retirement as Forestry Instructor at Reedley College.

Mr. Bemis was born in New Hampshire. At the age of eight, he and his family moved to San Diego, California. In 1953, he graduated from Grossmont High School. After completing a two-year forestry program at Lassen Junior College, he enrolled at California State University, San Diego. He interrupted his college education for two years when he joined the Army, where he served at Fort Bliss, Texas. After proudly serving his country in the U.S. Army, Bemis continued his college education and graduated in 1963. He then enrolled at California State University, Humboldt, where he earned a Masters Degree in Forest Management.

After completing his formal education, Mr. Bemis served the U.S. Forest Service for 12 years as a firefighter, professional forester, and silviculturalist. His 12 years with the U.S. Forest Service provided Wayne with a variety of valuable on-the-ground experiences that he went on to share with students at Reedley College. During his teaching career at Reedley College, he developed an outdoor laboratory at Sequoia Lake, where thousands of forestry students have received their first practical experience in the woods. The program he developed uses Reedley College Forestry students to manage the forest resource for the YMCA.

Wayne and his wife, Pat, have one son, Scott.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to pay tribute to Wayne Bemis for his dedicated public service and distinguished teaching career over the past 38 years. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Wayne Bemis a pleasant retirement and many more years of continued happiness.

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TRIBUTE TO DR. LEE HARTWELL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Lee Hartwell, president and director of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Washington and professor of genetics and medicine at the University of Washington, on his outstanding research on yeast genetics which earned him the prestigious Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine for 2001.

It is with great pride that I extend my congratulations to Dr. Hartwell whose dedication and hard work in the area of genetic research has not only enabled many lives to be saved, but has provided the groundwork for many others to go on and make countless advances of their own.

Though I don't pretend to be an expert on cell division in eukaryotic (nucleated) organisms, I am well aware that Dr. Hartwell's dedication and innovative study, beginning over 25 years ago, has made an enormous difference in our understanding of how cells divide and the vast medical advances we can derive from such knowledge. Dr. Hartwell's research was the first to harness the tools of genetics to study how cells function, thus determining which genes cause cells to divide—without his efforts, this critical information could very well remain a mystery.

His hard work and persistence is to be commended, and I am pleased that the Nobel Assembly in Sweden has selected Dr. Hartwell for this honor, which is so richly deserved.

Congratulations, Dr. Hartwell, and thank you for your dedication and contribution not only to the biotechnology and health fields, but ultimately to people both here and throughout the world who will so greatly benefit from your discoveries.

FOOD RATIONS, CLUSTER BOMBS
AND NATION BUILDING IN
AFGHANISTAN

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, today we have been bombing Afghanistan for one month. During that time, we have also dropped about 1.1 million humanitarian daily rations. I find it unfortunate that, from the entire spectrum of colors, both the cluster bomblets and the food rations we are dropping are bright yellow. Though recent reports from the Pentagon stated that the food rations would be changed to blue packages, apparently this color will not work either. Radio broadcasts from our psychological operations planes that are trying to explain the color discrepancy because many Afghans neither hear the broadcast nor trust them, will not solve this problem. I can only hope that the Pentagon will soon find a solution, before innocent Afghan children try to pry open a cluster bomb,

hoping to cure their hunger but killing them instead.

There are many problems associated with this war, and they go far beyond the similar color of food rations and cluster bombs.

Six years ago, the use of cluster bombs was prohibited during the 1995 bombing campaign in Bosnia by Air Force Major General Michael Ryan, then-commander of Allied Air Forces Southern Europe and of NATO's air campaign in Bosnia. The logic behind this decision was simple. General Ryan recognized the inherent danger from cluster bombs to Bosnian civilians, the very people whom we were supposedly fighting to protect. He knew that cluster bombs landed in villages and near hospitals, that dud cluster bombs were picked up and played with by children and that innocent Bosnians were being killed. An Air Force study on cluster bombs stated "the problem was that the fragmentation pattern was too large to sufficiently limit collateral damage and there was also the further problem of potential unexploded ordnance."

Despite General Ryan's wise action, cluster bombs were again used in Kosovo and now again in Afghanistan. Nonetheless, little has changed, and the array of problems and dangers with cluster bombs continues to exist. In Kosovo, the first casualties to peacekeeping forces occurred when two British soldiers attempted to disarm an unexploded cluster bomb. The International Committee of the Red Cross found that, in one year's time, there were over 150 civilian casualties in Kosovo from cluster bombs. In 1999, the Pentagon admitted that more than 11,000 unexploded cluster bombs remain in Kosovo. In Afghanistan, the United Nations has reported that villagers near the City of Herat fear leaving their home because little yellow cluster bomblets litter the ground. Or perhaps they're yellow food rations, who knows . . .

Cluster bombs are neither safe, nor are they humane. They can be dropped from nearly any Marine, Navy or Air Force plane. Once released, cluster bombs open up and release 200 to 2000 bomblets, which fall to the ground and cover football field size areas. As many as 10% of these bomblets don't explode, and end up scattered across the ground, waiting for a farmer to plow it, a child to play with it, or an unknowing hungry mother to pick it up. As a United Nations mine clearance expert noted "it is highly likely that many in Afghanistan will not know the difference between aeri- ally delivered food aid and aeri- ally delivered munitions."

But, Mr. Speaker, the situation in Afghanistan only gets worse. It is estimated that 724 million square meters of land in Afghanistan are tainted with landmines. Unexploded cluster bomblets will only expand this area, undoubtedly to include farms, villages and holy sites. Further, winter is coming soon in Afghanistan, and as snow falls in the mountains, cluster bomblets will become buried and frozen, silently waiting for an unexpected civilian or allied soldier to walk by.

It is no surprise that Human Rights Watch has called for a global moratorium on the use of cluster bombs. They realize that unexploded cluster bombs become in effect landmines. A recent report by the group finds

that cluster bombs "have proven to be a serious and long-lasting threat to civilians, soldiers, peacekeepers, and even clearance experts, because of the high initial failure rate of the bomblets, because of the large number typically dispersed over large areas, and because of the difficulty in precisely targeting the bomblets." For these same reasons, many believe that the use of cluster bombs is a violation of the Geneva Convention's prohibition against weapons that cause superfluous injury and suffering. If we can't guarantee that only military targets will be hit, and if we can't guarantee that all cluster bomblets will explode, then we simply should not use them. I have written President Bush to urge him to end the use of cluster bombs, and I anticipate his response.

Our use of cluster bombs leaves much to be considered for when the bombing in Afghanistan ends. Will the United States work to cleanse the landscape of cluster bomblets as it tries to build a new government in Afghanistan? I have no doubt that landmines and cluster bombs will be cleared from the areas that Unocal wants to build its pipeline. The oil giant's consultant, Dr. Henry Kissinger, may well use his vast influence to protect Unocal's interest, to have cluster bomblets removed from a swath through southern Afghanistan leading from Turkmenistan to Pakistan. But I wonder about their opinions of cluster bomblets elsewhere. Will Unocal and Kissinger see cluster bomblets as a buffer, insulating their interests from the threat of angry, antiAmerican Afghans? Will it serve the oil company's interest to have a maimed population and to restrict the Afghan government? Time will only tell. . .

What ever the case may be, the need for the U.S. to take the lead in ending its use of cluster bombs has never been more apparent. We need to protect the Afghan citizenry and instill trust with the people; we need to protect the Afghan land and insure a viable economic future; and we need to assist in developing a government for Afghanistan that will serve peace in the region, not profits abroad. Cluster bombs only serve a short-term goal of death, and have no role in the long-term strategy of peace.

HONORING THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the important energy and environmental research and achievements of the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), located in Snowmass, Colorado.

Over the last two decades, RMI has compiled an outstanding record of achievement—and it is poised to make even greater contributions now, as we address the interrelated problems and opportunities of energy policy, environmental protection and national security.

Resource analysts Hunter and Amory Lovins, who still lead it, established the RMI in 1982. It began as a small group of colleagues

focusing on energy policy, and has grown into a broadbased institution with more than 45 full-time staff, an annual budget of nearly \$7 million, and a global reach.

RMI focuses on a wide range of pressing and important issues—such as energy efficiency, resource productivity, market-oriented solutions to resource problems, and unlocking the positive power of corporate structures. But its principal focus is on what it calls a "whole-systems approach." Instead of viewing resource problems as merely symptoms (reduced supplies) or as discrete, isolated components (oil, gas, water, etc.), RMI looks at the root causes of scarcity (wasteful, counter-productive activities) and devises cost-effective, profit-generating responses that result in greater efficiencies, fewer environmental impacts, and greater economic and national security.

In short, RMI and its team of researchers ask more probing questions that in turn lead to the creation of exciting new techniques for more profitable and sustainable living, while also increasing awareness and understanding of the impacts of bad habits and practices.

The creation of RMI came in response to a well-remembered energy crisis—the oil embargo of 1973—a time of challenges in some ways similar to those we face today. At that time of high gas prices, long lines at the gas station and a war in the Middle East, most of the country was focused on how we could become more energy independent by increasing our traditional energy supplies.

Amory Lovins was also thinking about this problem, but he came at it from a different perspective. Instead of trying to find solutions to feed our existing consumption, he was asking more bedrock questions, such as—What are the activities for which we need energy? Can we find other energy sources to supply these needs? What are the cheapest ways to supply that energy? From this thinking arose a whole new era of looking at energy issues from the end-use/least-cost approach—the core focus of RMI. Since then, Amory and his team of researchers, which includes his wife Hunter Lovins, have examined the whole range of energy consumption, supply and delivery systems and considered ways to achieve the same social goals at lower costs and lower environmental impact.

They have been the leaders in promoting the more effective use of buildings (over 30 percent of America's total energy usage is tied to buildings; as RMI notes, weatherizing homes, using energy-efficient appliances and harnessing the natural heating and cooling effects of the sun and earth can lead to dramatic reductions while also resulting in increased productivity and enhanced living environments). They have been leaders in the promotion of high-efficiency light-bulbs (about 20 percent of our electricity generation goes for lighting; as RMI notes, if the country fully utilized the now commercially available efficient light bulbs, we could displace 120 Chernobyl-sized power plants).

And, they have been leaders in the development of new transportation technologies to reduce oil consumption (transportation needs comprise nearly two-thirds of our oil consumption, and RMI notes that if we increased the average fuel efficiency of vehicles by just 10