

Confidence Elementary has been selected as one of the top 50 schools of West Virginia. "Exemplary" status is based on Stanford Achievement Test results, attendance, drop out rates, and writing exam scores.

I commend the leadership and faculty on their dedication to the children that walk through their doors each day. They have set an incredible example for the other 817 schools in West Virginia.

I equally commend the students and parents of Confidence Elementary for their commitment to a quality education and a bright future.

Efforts to bring superior education to all of West Virginia and America are among our top priorities. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Confidence Elementary.

**BILL OF RIGHTS CANNOT BE THE
NEXT VICTIM OF TERRORISM**

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Mr. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, the terrorist attacks on September 11 struck fear in the heart of every American. Today, we continue to fight a war against terrorism on two fronts—in the mountains of Afghanistan and on the main streets of the United States. The first is a more traditional war against soldiers and war machinery; the second, a war against domestic terrorism.

Within days of the attacks, Congress passed a Homeland Security Bill that included the so-called "Patriot Act." The Patriot Act allows the government to increase its use of wiretaps and surveillance, and enhances its ability to trace e-mail and Internet usage. I voted against the Patriot Act because it intrudes unnecessarily on our civil liberties. We had adequate police and intelligence systems available to prevent 9/11, but they were not used effectively. The inadequate use of these resources is no reason to trample our freedoms.

The Bill of Rights, civil rights and civil liberties must not be the "other victim" of terrorism. As the domestic war against terrorism continues, my concern is that "increased police power" will encroach on our liberties.

In the past month, Attorney General John Ashcroft issued rules to allow the FBI to eavesdrop on communications between attorneys and their clients who are suspected terrorists, ordered prosecutors to interview over 5,000 young, mostly Middle Eastern men in the United States, and supported a system of secret military tribunals that could be used to try alleged accomplices in the September 11 attacks.

Members of Congress and eight former high-ranking FBI officials have questioned the effectiveness of Attorney General Ashcroft's plan to fight terrorism. The tactics that he is proposing are not new. By interviewing over 5,000 mostly Middle Eastern men to gather information about terrorists, he is merely recycling the same "preventive" intelligence-gathering techniques that were rejected in the late 1970s because they did not prevent terrorism and in fact, led to abuses of civil liberties.

In the 1950's and 1960's, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover used "Red Squads" to collect massive amounts of "preventive" intelligence to deter terrorist attacks. The "Squads" were criticized for abusing civil liberties and they were seldom effective. Because the majority of preventive intelligence investigations did not lead to criminal cases, most terrorist activities went unsolved and most of the terrorists were not apprehended. There is no reason to return to a system that didn't work and has a track record of failure and abuse.

Attorney General Ashcroft wants terrorist suspects to be tried by secret military tribunals. Conducting the tribunals in secret with the possibility of imposing capital punishment by a mere two-thirds vote, is an infringement of our civil liberties. It also undermines our system of checks and balances. Our Democracy retains its integrity in large part because no single branch of government overwhelms another. The military tribunals circumvent the role of oversight control granted to Congress in the Constitution, and allow too much power to the Executive branch.

The strength of the United States does not rest entirely on our overwhelming military superiority. Our country's strength lies in its moral authority, its reliance on the rule of law, and its belief in democracy. The ideals stated in our Constitution and Bill of Rights resonate throughout the world. It is our strength as a just, fair and transparent society that has made us a superpower, and these are the ideals that will ensure our world preeminence in the future.

Just as we cannot win the battle against terrorism in Afghanistan with purely military options, we cannot improve homeland security by infringing on our freedoms. The Bill of Rights cannot be the next victim of terrorism. We will eventually win the military intervention against terrorism, but we cannot lose our national character in the meantime. Fear should not guide our decisions or cloud our judgment. Fear must not muffle the voice of freedom.

**THIS WEEK WE COMMEMORATE
HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK**

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, this week, we commemorate Human Rights Week. On December 10, 1945, haunted by the cruelties uncovered throughout the Second World War, a group of U.N. delegates, including first lady Eleanor Roosevelt, joined together in San Francisco to write what has become the internationally recognized standard for the protection of human rights, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The opening paragraph of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights refers to the "inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family as the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world." These words are a reminder to us all that when one people suffer, we all suffer. When one group is oppressed, it erodes the fabric of humanity and, thus, endangers

the freedom and liberty of all. These words are a call for vigilance and action.

The struggle for the protection of universal freedoms has always been an arduous one and this year has presented new challenges and hardships, but also opportunities, for those of us in the human rights community, which have only served to strengthen our resolve.

A truly disappointing turn of events was the exclusion of the United States from the United Nations Commission on Human Rights aggravated by the participation of such abominable human rights violators as China, Sudan, Libya, Cuba, and Vietnam. This increased concerns that the continual imprisonment of human rights defenders would go unnoticed despite international pressure for their release.

In the aftermath of the September 11th attacks, as the U.S.'s values of liberty and democracy came under attack, the world once again recognized the need to focus on the plight of oppressed people everywhere. It is my hope that we are ushering in a new era in the human rights struggle marked by a renewed commitment and understanding.

Noting the overwhelming support given to the Afghan people in their battle to free themselves from the shackles the Taliban imposed on them, I am filled with hope and optimism about the future.

As a refugee from an oppressive regime, the struggle for freedom is central to my commitment to human rights. I stand today during Human Rights Week, in admiration and gratitude of those who have perished and currently languish in suffering because they choose to fight for the values of freedom and democracy in their own country. Today we honor them. For them we celebrate Human Rights Week.

**HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF DENIS P. GALVIN TO OUR NA-
TIONAL PARKS**

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the end of a 38-year career in government service for National Park Service Deputy Director Denis Galvin.

For many people, both within and outside of the National Park Service (NPS), Denny is "Mr. Park Service." The breadth and scope of his knowledge of national park issues is tremendous as evidenced by the wide range of NPS leadership positions with which Denny has been entrusted. Beginning as a civil engineer at Sequoia National Park in 1963, Denny rose through the ranks of the National Park Service to hold such positions as Deputy Regional Director, Manager of the Denver Service Center, and Associate Director for Planning and Development. At two different points in his career, Denny has served as Deputy Director of the National Park Service and on a number of occasions he has been the Acting NPS Director.

Denis is well known as a strong advocate for the National Park Service, defending both NPS employees and the work of the agency