

MARCH 22, 2001.

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,  
*President, the United States of America, the  
White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue,  
NW, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: It is my understanding that you are meeting with Chinese Vice Premier Qian Qichen and other top Chinese officials at the White House today. I would respectfully suggest that during these meetings, it is imperative that you send a clear message to the government of China that the United States will continue to strengthen our nation's longstanding relationship and commitment to the safety and well-being of the people and government of Taiwan.

As you know, deeply strained relations between China and Taiwan greatly threaten stability and U.S. interests in East Asia. The United States should support the continuation of cross-strait dialogue with the government of China which I believe will help reduce tensions in the region. I was heartened by the bold decision of Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian to open shipping, transportation, and communication links between two offshore islands, Quemoy and Matsu and mainland China. The Chinese government has signaled that it will support this decision by Taiwan. This confidence building measure is important to a successful cross-strait dialogue, because it signals that the Chinese government, albeit reluctantly, is willing to compromise.

Unfortunately other recent statements released by the Chinese government are contrary to the message of peaceful dialogue and potential cooperation in the Taiwan Strait. For example, a white paper issued by China on October 16, 2000, titled "China's National Defense 2000," stated that "if Taiwan continues to refuse to negotiate on reunification with China, the Chinese government will have no choice but to adopt all drastic measures possible, including the use of force, of force, to safeguard China's sovereignty . . ." China's failure to renounce the use of military force against Taiwan if prolonged negotiations to reunify the two entities are not successful is unacceptable and should be condemned by the United States and the inter-national community.

Taiwan should not be bullied into accepting China's "one country, two systems" formulation. As you are aware, the 1979 U.S. Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) reads: "It is the policy of the United States to consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means of grave concern to the United States." As you discuss cross strait relations with Vice Premier Qian Qichen, I urge you to reject any formulation that presupposes the final results of any negotiations between Taipei and Beijing and is not in accordance with the will of the Taiwanese people.

As you know, the United States has a long history of providing Taiwan with weapons and equipment to enhance its defensive capabilities. In a 1997 trip to Taiwan, according to news reports, you expressed a commitment to the U.S. sale of defensive arms to Taiwan. I hope you keep that commitment and urge you to bolster Taiwan's self-defense capabilities which have not kept up quantitatively or qualitatively with the growing military might of China. Taiwan urgently needs defensive equipment to counterbalance the threat of hundred of missiles deployed along the coast of China across the Taiwan Strait.

The significant gap between China and Taiwan was acknowledged in a recent report to

Congress by the U.S. Pacific Command, Department of Defense, which states "The United States takes its obligation to assist Taiwan in maintaining a self-defense capability very seriously . . . not only because it is mandated by U.S. law in the Taiwan Relations Act but also because it is in our own national interest. As long as Taiwan has a capable defense, the environment will be more conducive to peaceful dialogue, and thus the whole region will be more stable."

In the context of strengthening relations with Taiwan, I believe that the new Administration should advocate Taiwan's inclusion in international organizations, including the World Health Organization, World Trade Organization, and the International Monetary Fund. It is unconscionable that twenty-three million people living in Taiwan do not have access to the medical resources of the WHO. At a minimum, Taiwan should be allowed to participate in the activities of the WHO as an observer.

Mr. President, during your campaign you spoke positively about our nation's strong relationship and commitment to Taiwan. It would be a mistake for the United States to engage China at the expense of our relationship with Taiwan. I believe that this important bi-lateral relationship should be strengthened as it has been over the past several decades with a common commitment to the ideals of freedom and democracy that we as Americans hold sacrosanct.

I look forward to working with you to promote U.S. interests in Asia by further strengthening our relationship with a free, democratic, and prosperous Taiwan.

ROBERT WEXLER.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, due to an event I was hosting with Leader GEPHARDT, yesterday I missed roll call vote #53. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

THE INAUGURAL TOUR OF THE  
SCHOONER SULTANA—1768  
SCHOOLSHIP OF THE CHESA-  
PEAKE

HON. WAYNE T. GILCHREST

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the people of Chestertown, Maryland, who will celebrate the launch of the Schooner Sultana on its inaugural tour on Saturday, March 24, 2001.

Built by the people of Chestertown, Maryland, with thousands of volunteer hours, the Schooner Sultana is a reproduction of an 18th Century sailing ship used by the British to enforce the tea taxes against American colonists. The new Sultana's mission is to celebrate and preserve the character and environment of the Chesapeake Bay through education, instilling an appreciation for our history and culture and the irreplaceable natural ecology of the Bay and its watershed.

With its home in the smallest county in the State, with the smallest population, Kent County continues to preserve the colonial legacy of Maryland—and the Schooner Sultana represents its proud heritage. Generations of students, as they sail on the decks of the Sultana, will learn to become good stewards of the Bay and treasure the resources with which we have all been blessed.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate all the people of Chestertown, Maryland, and those across our state who helped make the Sultana a reality and wish them Godspeed on this momentous occasion.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SUR-  
FACE CREEK REPUBLICAN WOM-  
EN'S CLUB

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor a group of women who, for 50 years have been supporting the conservative concept of government, while educating their members on the importance of being an informed voter.

In November of 1951, some 51 charter members formed the Surface Creek Republican Women in Delta, Colorado. At the time they were considered the "last frontier" in Western Colorado. The original members were inspired by Republican women who secured the women's right to vote. During election years, candidates running for state, county and local officials speak to the club. They also spend time working on fundraisers for activities and to support campaign efforts.

Surface Creek Republican Women, since the organization's inception have supported the U.S. Constitution by always staying in touch with their elected officials in Congress. The Surface Creek Republican Women's Platform has always been to "Join our State and National Party in their commitment to equal opportunity for all human beings without discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color or sex." They also believe that the proper role of Government is to protect equal rights—not provide equal rights. They have received many awards for the efforts of its members and many have held positions with the Colorado Federation of Republican Women as well as positions through out the state.

Mr. Speaker, the Surface Creek Republican Women's club continues to be a prominent influence in the community. They have helped numerous candidates, informing Coloradans about issues and candidates for the last five decades. This group of women is very patriotic and has done a lot for the citizens of western Colorado. That is why I would like to take a moment and wish them a happy 50th anniversary and good luck in the future.

HONORING THE LATE DR. LEO  
LEONARDI

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 22, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I want to pause for a moment and have this body pay respect to a pillar of the Salida, Colorado community. Dr. Leo Leonardi was killed in a plane crash in Illinois on March 10. He was on his way to see patients after he flew his wife to Oklahoma to be with her ill father. He was 77 years old. For more than 50 years, Dr. Leonardi dedicated his life to serving his patients and his community. To many he was more than a doctor, he was a beloved member of the family.

In front of 800 people, Dr. Leonardi's daughter, Michelle said that the MD meant "My Daddy" . . . Being his daughter has always meant sharing him with the community."

During Dr. Leonardi's 52 years of service, he delivered more than 3,000 babies, and tended to the medical needs of three generations of many Chaffee County families. He played a crucial role at Salida's hospital, where he served as a director on the governing board, holding a seat for 30 years. He provided some of the down payment on the Denver and Rio Grande Hospital to keep the facility in the community. He played a key role in establishing Columbine Manor, Salida's only nursing home. Dr. Leonardi provided money to St. Joseph Credit Union so it could start lending funds to customers. He served on the school district board, and was a member of the Salida Elks Lodge 808 for 51 years. "I can't believe this. I dearly loved that man. He was our family doctor since we came to town," said Elsie Curtis, a resident of Columbine Manor.

"He was a wonderful doctor, but he could also give you hell when he wanted to."

"I entered with Dr. Leonardi in 1953," said Dr. William Mehos. "It was obviously a good relationship. Not many doctors stay together 48 years. Not only were we partners we were best friends. My wife and I will miss him very much."

Mr. Speaker, this is a sad time for the community of Salida, Colorado. Dr. Leonardi was a member of everyone's family. He is one of the few doctors that still makes house calls. In 1998 he celebrated 50 years in medicine. With his passing, a great man has left us. One of the thousand points of light has gone out, but his memory lives on in those who knew him.

TRIBUTE TO HARLAN STEINLE,  
VICE PRESIDENT—FORT LEWIS  
COLLEGE

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 22, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Harlan Steinle of Durango, Colorado and wish him good luck in future years. Harlan will retire on July 1, 2001

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

after 32 years at Fort Lewis College, where he serves as the vice president of admissions.

Harlan spent four years as a student at Fort Lewis College, before moving to New Mexico, to teach and coach at Gallup High School. He then went on to Northern Arizona University to get his masters and then to the University of Oregon to earn his Doctorate. Then in 1974, Harlan went back to Fort Lewis College where he has spent the last 28 years.

Colleagues say Harlan was key in boosting enrollment numbers. "It's going to be a real loss," said Sherri Rochford, the colleges dean of alumni and development. "He has probably one of the best networks with high school counselors in the state, which he has used to build the reputation of FLC. You just don't build something like that overnight. It takes a while to cultivate."

Under Harlan's tenure at FLC, the schools enrollment doubled from 2,000 to 4,000. "I don't think FLC would have had the student enrollment growth it has enjoyed in the 28 years he has been here," Deborah Uroda, FLC's director of marketing and publications said.

During his time at FLC, Harlan has been active in several groups, including the Colorado Council for High School and College Relations where the 54 year old Harlan was inducted into the first Hall of Fame in 1992. He is part of the National Association of College Admission Counselors, and the Rocky Mountain Association of College Administrative Counseling as its treasurer. "The length of time and the success Harlan has had working with a number of FLC presidents exemplifies that he has been a long term, successful employee," Don Ricedorff, said.

Mr. Speaker, Harlan Steinle has done a lot in his lifetime for Fort Lewis College, and deserves the thanks and praise of this body.

THE RIGHTEOUS OF SWITZER-  
LAND, HEROES OF THE HOLO-  
CAUST

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 22, 2001*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, over the years, much attention and praise has been rightfully lavished upon the "Righteous Gentiles" of the countries which were occupied by the Nazis during World War II, who risked their lives to save their Jewish countrymen. Monuments have been erected around the world in their honor, and their stories have been repeated for younger generations to learn from the actions of these honorable people. From the Avenue of the Righteous in Israel's Yad Vashem, to the cinematic jewel Schindler's List, the brave men and women who stood up to the Nazi's persecution of the Jewish people rightly deserve all the accolades they have received.

Mr. Speaker, because I believe that all tales of the righteous men and women who risked much to save the lives of their Jewish countrymen deserve to be told, I would like to call attention to an excellent piece of research by Swiss businessman, Meir Wagner, that was recently published. In his book, *The Righteous*

of Switzerland: Heroes of the Holocaust, Mr. Wagner shares with his readers more than forty tales of heroism and strong moral fortitude that took place during one of the world's darkest periods of history. His book tells the little-known stories of brave Swiss citizens who saved thousands of Jewish lives during World War Two. These Swiss gentiles risked opposition, hardship, danger and death in aiding their fellow countrymen, a sharp contrast to the official neutrality that their government pursued.

Mr. Speaker, I want to applaud Meir Wagner for the diligent effort he put forth in researching this important book. It required him to comb painstakingly through years of archival material and to conduct numerous interviews with participants and observers. While this was an arduous task, it allowed Mr. Wagner to weave a rich tale by drawing directly from the testimonials of both those saved, as well as eyewitnesses to the events.

Mr. Speaker, this book, *The Righteous of Switzerland: Heroes of the Holocaust* shares with us the diplomats, Red Cross delegates, clergymen, nuns, and others of Switzerland whose examples of courage and bravery were moral beacons at a time of unparalleled darkness. I urge my colleagues to read this outstanding book.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN W. ANTHONY

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 22, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to pause a moment in remembrance of a great man, and a great friend. John W. Anthony passed away on March 9, at the age of 81. John has been associated with one type of ranch or another since the time of his birth. For 30 years John owned a ranch in West Creek, Colorado. Then in 1950, his family purchased a ranch on Divide Creek near Rifle, Colorado.

John belonged to the Manitou Park Grange and the Divide Creek Grange. He also took time to be involved with the Masonic Lodge and took an active part in the Teller Co., Growers Organization. He was also a member of the Cattleman's Association on the Western Slope of Colorado.

After he retired from ranching, John enjoyed helping the area sheep men in protecting their sheep from predators and joined the Colorado Trappers Association.

John is survived by his wife, Emma Jean, their four children, Jean Ann, Kenneth, Susan, and Mike, 10 grandchildren, and four great-grand children, and a sister Mary Jane Hunter.

Mr. Speaker, Western Colorado has lost a great husband, father, grand father, friend and neighbor. That is why I would like this body to take a moment and recognize John W. Anthony.