EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

LET'S APPLY THE GORE-MCCAIN ACT TO RUSSIA AND CHINA

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert for the record an article by Bill Gertz of the Washington Times which reveals Russian efforts to sell missiles to the rogue nation of Iran. This follows on the heels of a previous Russian deal to supply Iran with nuclear reactor technology, as well as recent Communist Chinese sales of anti-ship missiles and other weaponry to Tehran.

The Clinton administration's nonresponse to these developments is astonishing, especially in light of the fact that while a Senator, Vice-President GORE authored the 1992 Iran-Iraq Non-Proliferation Act, otherwise known as the Gore-McCain Act. The law requires sanctions against nations which knowingly supply Iran or Iraq with advanced conventional weaponry or technology that could contribute to their acquisition of weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. Speaker, nothing could be clearer than the applicability of this law to Russia's and China's arming of Iran. We should apply the law, now.

[From the Washington Times, Apr. 23, 1997]

RUSSIA SELLS MISSILES TO IRAN TERRORISTS TO GET LATEST ARMS

(By Bill Gertz)

Russia is selling advanced air-defense systems to Iran, including the latest version of a hand-held anti-aircraft missile that Tehran intends to provide to Hezbollah terrorists, The Washington Times has learned.

Such transactions would violate a pledge Russian President Boris Yeltsin made during the 1994 summit with President Clinton to block all new conventional arms sales to Iran.

The missile sales talks took place in February and last month between Iranian intelligence agents and Russian arms brokers in Moscow, who offered S-300 series anti-aircraft missiles for sale at discount prices, Pentagon intelligence officials said.

The talks included the proposed sale by Moscow arms dealers of up to 500 advanced "Igla" anti-aircraft missiles worth more than $50,000 each, according to U.S. intelligence information. The officials identified the missiles as SA-18s.

Other arms deals involve proposed sales of T-72 tanks and Mi-17 helicopters. They are said to include one of Russia's intelligence services. The deals are being made outside the official Russian government arms sales agency.

The Pentagon officials said Iran's Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics is involved in buying the shoulder-fired Iglas, and plans to supply some of them to Hezbollah, the pro-Iranian group based in Lebanon that has been blamed for many international terrorist attacks.

The officials said a scientific and technical arm of the Iranian intelligence service that acquires foreign technology for Iran's weapons programs is involved in some of the weapons purchases. This indicates the weapons may be used by Tehran as models for local production.

It could not be learned whether the U.S. government has tried to halt the missile sales.

Vincent Cannistraro, a former CIA counterterrorism official, said the Iglas would give Hezbollah more effective capabilities for attacking Israeli helicopters and jets over southern Lebanon.

"It vastly increases the risk and danger to Israeli aircraft, and because they are transportable, they could be smuggled into Israel," he said.

Hezbollah also could use the Iglas for attacks on civilian airliners, although less-capable shoulder-fired missiles already are in the hands of terrorists, Mr. Cannistraro said.

There are few reported cases of civil aircraft being shot down by shoulder-fired missiles.

Most Israeli military operations in southern Lebanon involve helicopter gunships, troop transports or U.S.-made warplanes.

The Pentagon officials said two S-300 systems with 96 missiles that were manufactured near Moscow this year are being offered to Iran for $180 million—$20 million less than the price charged by Russia's state arms exporter, Rosvooruzheniye.

The systems are either advanced SA-10s or the newer SA-12, both part of the S-300 series—weapons that are very effective against warplanes and have some capabilities for shooting down short-range missiles.

The S-300s would be delivered in two shipments within a year of signing a contract, the officials said.

The February talks between Iranian officials and Russian arms brokers involved the sale of three older SA-10 systems and 36 missiles worth about $90 million.

That deal, for SA-10s from components in Russia, Croatia and Kazakhstan, fell through but is now being brokered by a colonel in the Kazakh army, the Pentagon officials said.

The SAMs would vastly improve Iran's air defenses, which now include U.S.-made Hawks and older Russian and Chinese SA-2 and SA-5 systems.

Iran is in the process of building up a nationwide air defense system and recently purchased several advanced air defense radars from China capable of tracking up to 100 targets simultaneously.

According to the publication "Russia's Arms Catalogue," produced by the Russian Defense Ministry, the advanced S-300 has a range of three to 92 miles; the Igla has a range of 30 feet to about 10,500 feet.

Iranian intelligence agents also are trying to buy tanks and helicopters from unofficial Russian arms brokers. The Pentagon officials said the tanks probably are T-72s and the helicopters are Mi-17 transports.

Disclosure of the secret Iran-Russia arms deals comes as Iranian government officials are visiting Russia.

Mr. Yeltsin met Friday in Moscow with Iranian parliamentary speaker Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri and said cooperation between the two countries was "good, positive and with a tendency toward growth."

The speaker, a possible presidential candidate in upcoming elections, signed several industrial, cultural and scientific agreements, including a pact to coproduce Tupulev jetliners.

Russia is Iran's largest arms supplier and has sold three Kilo-class submarines, several squadrons of MiG-29 fighter-bombers and related missiles.

Russian officials say Iranian military contracts with Rosvooruzheniye are worth about $1 billion a year; they noted that in 1995 Moscow and Tehran signed an $800 million deal for nuclear reactors to be built in Iran.

The United States has tried in vain to stop Moscow from selling the reactors.

In February, Vice President Al Gore complained to Russian officials about the country's transfer of SS-4 medium-range missile technology to Iran. Russian Prime Minister Victor Chernomydrin reportedly denied any SS-4 technology had been sold to Iran, because it would have violated Mr. Yeltsin's pledge not to conclude new arms deals with Tehran.

JOHN FORTHMAN: A COMMUNITY HERO

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary citizen who has given much to his community. Mr. John Forthman, who resides in Lilbourn, MO, in my congressional district, is an exceptional individual and a role model to every American.

Mr. Forthman has worked with the New Madrid County Civil Defense for 9 years. His services have included storm spotting, emergency organization, and disaster relief. In 1992, he obtained his EMT license in order to better respond to medical emergencies within the community. Since then, he has been working with the New Madrid County ambulance service and attending continuing education classes in emergency medicine. He has also been a volunteer firefighter for the city of Lilbourn for over 8 years. For the last 2 years, he has filled the position of fire chief, playing an integral role in building a much-needed fire station for his hometown of Lilbourn.

Mr. Forthman's service to the community doesn't stop there; he is also a reserve deputy for the New Madrid County Sheriff's Department. He is a commissioned deputy and works to assist the full-time officers to prevent crime in the area.

It would seem that with these numerous activities, Mr. Forthman would have time for nothing else. Yet, he is involved in the area Little League and various high school athletics and works full time for the Electric Cooperative

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION GPO

New Madrid Powerplant, where he has been for the last 20 years. He also spends much time with his wife and two children.

Citizens such as Mr. Forthman are unfortunately few and far between. The people of Lilbourn are lucky to know John Forthman, and I am proud to recognize him for his many achievements.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. CLEMENT CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 75th anniversary of St. Clement Church of Lakewood, OH.

St. Clement Church was founded by Bishop Joseph Schrembs on April 27, 1922. The church was built by a local construction company with a lot of help from parishioners. The church officially opened its doors Easter Sunday, 1923. The church opened its school the next year, and the Cleveland Sisters of St. Joseph staffed it. By 1931, the parish had tripled in size from the original 314 families. A new sanctuary was added. In 1947, a convent for 18 sisters was built. St. Clement continued to grow, and in 1958, a new school building was built, with further expansion in 1965.

St. Clement has grown with the times. St. Clement School is now staffed by lay teachers and a lay principal. The convent was converted to Freedom House, a program which helps women who are making strides toward recovery. An entrance for the disabled was added in 1982.

St. Clement has matured through the generosity of its parishioners. A new restoration is being financed through the pledges of the 1,300 families who worship at the church under the direction of the Reverend Alfred Winters.

St. Clement Church has been an integral institution in the city of Lakewood from its very beginnings. We are honored to have known it for so long, and we look forward to the many great contributions to the community St. Clement Church will make into the next millenium.

WESSELL'S CELEBRATE 50 YEARS IN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHING

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, at an early age Dick and Mary Jane Wessell arrived at the same conclusion: both wanted to write for newspapers. When they finally met while studying together in the early 1940's at Lake Forest College, Dick was the editor of the college newspaper, and Mary Jane wrote feature stores. A bond of mutual friendship and love was formed.

Today, the Wessell family celebrates 50 years of service to the northwest suburbs. It was in early 1947 that Dick and Mary Jane, the college sweethearts who married shortly after graduation, scraped together moneys saved from Dick's navy service in World War II and Mary Jane's employment with the U.S. Government, and purchased the Des Plaines Journal. What the Wessells purchased was a single weekly newspaper. During the course of the next 50 years, the Wessells, with help from their 6 children and 13 grandchildren, expanded the business to 17 prize-winning newspapers serving 28 suburban communities.

Dick started his career, in neighboring Park Ridge in June 1935, as a reporter for Pickwick Newspapers. A political science major in college, Dick has never lost his interest and respect for the political process. He served 2 years in 1968–70 in Washington with then-Senator Birch Bayh of Indiana; and he worked on the campaigns of former Gov. William Stratton, the late Senator Paul Douglas and Lt. Gov. John W. Chapman.

Mary Jane earned her degree in English and wrote a travel column for Journal & Topics Newspapers for 35 years in addition to her vital duties as an equal partner in the family business.

I extend to the entire Wessell family my heartiest of congratulations on this very special anniversary.

HARD WORK AND DETERMINATION PAY OFF

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, everybody in Tennessee is proud of our national champions, the Lady Vols basketball team. But, I am also proud of another basketball team in my district, the McMinn Central Chargerettes. The Chargerettes were the runner-up in the State girls basketball tournament. These young ladies are to be commended for their performance, hard work, and enthusiasm. The following is an article that appeared in the Daily Post-Athenian which I would like to share with my fellow colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

[From the Daily Post-Athenian, Mar. 12, 1997]

CHARGERETTES WON THROUGH HARD WORK

High fives and hearty congratulations are in order for the McMinn Central Chargerettes for their valiant effort in the state girls basketball tournament.

It had been 25 years since the Central girls team had made it into the playoffs and the 1997 Chargerettes made the most of their history-making performance, coming in as the runner-up in one of the toughest divisions in girls basketball play in Tennessee.

Coach Johnny Morgan's team started out the year with the goal of simply playing one game at a time and striving to improve with every contest. That simple philosophy worked as the Chargerettes seemed to just get better each week as they worked on the fundamentals of the game and never let ambition cloud their vision.

One by one their opponents learned the Chargerettes were a team to be wary of because they were able to make the most of each player's abilities. It was a team approach to the game that got them where they wanted to be. It was the players' unselfish attitude that made the Chargerettes a formidable team other schools couldn't contend with when the chips were on the line.

They worked hard, winning didn't just happen for the Chargerettes. The glory came at the end of the games when they were ahead on the scoreboard but it all began with the long hours of practice filled with hours of learning the game and their own strengths and weaknesses. They worked to make the most of their strengths and to overcome their weaknesses and that's what made them winners.

The Chargerettes deserve the praise and accolades heaped upon them when they returned home from the hard-fought battles in state tournament. They earned the right to be proud of their accomplishments.

But the praise that meant the most came from Coach Morgan, who knows more than anyone else how much these young women worked over the course of the season.

"I do know this is probably the best overall team I've had in my 19 years as a head coach," he said. "Especially in taking each game one at a time and I know how hard they work to make themselves better—how much they want to be successful."

The goods news for the Chargerettes is bad news for the teams they'll face next year as the team will return basically intact when the season opens. We know they'll continue to work hard to maintain the winning tradition they've established.

Our congratulations echo those of the community. We're proud of your devotion to excellence and sportsmanship.

HONORING THE U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS INC., THE NAVAL SUBMARINE LEAGUE, AND THE SUBMARINE VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of our men and women who tirelessly serve our country in the Armed Forces, please join me in offering tribute to the Navy's silent warriors, those who have qualified to serve for over 200 years as Navy submariners. In honor of the U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc., the Naval Submarine League, and the Submarine Veterans of World War II, let us be reminded just how much we owe our submariners.

As early as the Revolutionary War, America's ports were guarded by naval submarines. In their earliest inception, a young inventor named David Bushnell designed America's first operational submarine. During the War for Independence, Bushnell piloted his craft toward the destruction of British men-of-war. This early work of a patriotic pioneer paved the way toward an innovative and potentially lethal form of naval warfare.

As the Navy grew into the 20th century, the role of the submarine became only more vital. By the late 1800's, the U.S. Navy adopted its first official submersible vessel, the *Holland.* As the world grew closer to entering World

War I, submarine technology was further improved.

By the dawn of the Great War, the Navy had 34 submarines in the fleet. One of the Submarine Services' earliest standouts was a young officer named Chester Nimitz. The future admiral would gain fame by commanding the U.S. Pacific Fleet in the Pacific during World War II.

On the morning of December 7, 1941, all of America was awakened by the shock waves reverberating from the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. While the surface fleet was largely destroyed, the submarine fleet remained safely at sea, and soon would render a brutal counterattack on Japanese-flagged vessels.

As the industrial machine in the States steadily labored toward repairing our battered surface fleet, America's submarines set out like a phalanx to destroy Japanese naval operations. Admiral Nimitz defiantly proclaimed:

It was the great submarine force that I looked to carry the load until our great industrial activity could produce the weapons we so sorely needed to carry the war to the enemy. It is to the everlasting honor and glory of our submarine personnel that they never failed us in our days of great peril.

By the end of World War II, American submariners had decimated the Japanese fleet. Over 1,000 Japanese ships were destroyed in the Pacific theater alone. However, destruction was not the only role submariners would play during the war. Ships assigned to the submarine lifeguard league rescued hundreds of downed Navy and Army Air Corps flyers from the sea. In all, over 500 flyers owed their rescue to the Navy's submariners, prompting one sailor to proclaim, "* * * they never failed us in our days of great peril, and we as a nation are forever grateful."

As World War II drew to a close, and the cold war dawned, the role of the submarines and their crews became only more invaluable. With the introduction of the nuclear powered fleet, submariners would be pushed to even greater extremes as men and ships were sent on extended missions well beyond what was imaginable only 10 years prior.

Nuclear subs carried the most lethal deterrent known to mankind—nuclear missiles. With their ability to launch from indeterminable locations without warning, the United States proved its preeminence as a naval power and maintained peace and relative stability around the world.

Triumph was not without tragedy and early nuclear submariners paid the ultimate price. In 1963, the submarine *Thresher* sank with nearly 130 crewmen aboard. Again in 1968 the *Scorpion* went down with 99 crewmen aboard. These tragic losses, however proved to open new doors for American submariners. The deep submergence rescue vehicle program was born out of tragedy and now sailors of all nations can be quickly rescued in the event of tragedy. The tragic losses are sad but gallant extensions of the traditions of duty, professional competence, and self-sacrifice which has always been the hallmark of submariners.

As we enter a new millennia and an era of changing world order, we must be ever mindful of the sacrifices made by our men and women who silently served as submariners. Throughout our history, the role of submariners and their crews have time and time again been put of the test and performed flawlessly. Each day we remember troops, airmen, and sailors—men and women alike—who paid the ultimate price for our continuing freedom. As we look back, let us not forget our submariners, active crews and veterans alike. Let us not forget the sacrifices paid by our submariners. In tribute to their valor, we offer our admiration, respect, and praise.

EARTH DAY

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting my Washington Report for Wednesday, April 23, 1997, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

EARTH DAY 1997: THE FUTURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

On April 22 we celebrated the 27th Earth Day. We can take great pride in the advances that have been made in environmental protection. We have succeeded in reducing the levels of lead and other dangerous pollutants from the air. Lakes and rivers, once so contaminated they could catch on fire, now support large fish populations. Forests are rebounding. Endangered species, like the eagle, have been saved from extinction and are now thriving.

Hoosiers strongly support cleaning up our air, water, and land, and want to leave the environment safe and clean for the next generation. They overwhelmingly support sensible, targeted and moderate laws necessary to keep the environment clean. They also support the view that states and localities have a greater role to play in the environment, and that environmental laws should be based on sound science and a careful balancing of costs, benefits and risks. I agree with their common sense beliefs.

As we celebrate the 27th Earth Day, it is helpful to see how our approach to environmental protection has changed over the last two decades, and how we can best meet the environmental challenges of the 21st Century.

THE FEDERAL SYSTEM

Much debate has focused in recent years on the various roles that federal, state and local governments should play in environmental and other areas of regulation. There has been a strong push to devolve more responsibilities to the state and local level, where officials are closer to problems and can respond in a more flexible, cost-effective way. I support that general trend.

The federal government, however, is still the dominant player in the environmental field. There are two primary reasons for this arrangement. First, many environmental problems are national in scope. Air pollution, for example, generated in Louisville or Cincinnati can affect air quality in southern Indiana. Likewise, an oil spill in Pittsburgh will affect water quality throughout the Ohio River system. States, acting alone, cannot effectively respond to environmental problems which cross state boundaries.

Second, the federal government has the resources and expertise to determine what levels of pollution are safe for public health. The federal government first set national standards for air quality in the 1960s and has since adopted similar standards for water quality, hazardous waste disposal and the like. This regulation has come at a cost to industry and local communities—and often the federal government has failed to provide adequate financial resources to help state and local governments meet federal standards—but, in general, federal leadership has resulted in dramatic benefits for public health and overall environmental quality.

REGULATORY APPROACH

The federal approach to environmental regulation has changed over the last two decades. The first approach was characterized by "command and control." The government set the rules and expected state and local governments as well as industry to obey them. Under this approach, a factory would be required to install a specific pollution control device.

"Command and control" has worked, at some cost, in terms of controlling large point sources of pollution, such as industrial facilities, but has been less successful in reducing pollution created by numerous smaller sources. For example, storm runoff can wash pollutants from farms, highways and city streets into the water system. Such diffuse pollution sources are difficult to control.

The federal government is now taking a more cooperative approach in addressing environmental problems. Today, the federal government takes the lead in setting standards for the country, and assumes a substantial share of the resources, but works closely with the states and the regulated community to implement the laws and find cost-effective solutions which aim to strike a balance between environmental protection and economic growth. Many farmers, for example, have switched to low-till or even no-till farming practices. Such methods not only reduce soil erosion and help prevent water contamination, but also improve overall efficiency of the farm operation.

THE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Environmental problems can be global. Scientists concluded that use of CFCs (a group of chemicals commonly used in aerosol spray cans and automobile air conditioners) was depleting the ozone layer. Ozone in the upper levels of the atmosphere acts as a shield against harmful ultraviolet radiation from the sun. In response, the U.S. joined other countries in approving a phaesout of CFCs, and U.S. companies are now leading the way in developing safer substitutes.

The U.S. is working with other countries on a host of international environmental problems, such as maintaining fish and other wildlife in our oceans and improving environmental quality along our borders with Mexico and Canada. The U.S. can and should participate in these efforts because it is in our national interest to do so. If we take a leading role, we can insist that other countries abide by similar environmental standards.

CONCLUSION

When I was first elected to Congress in 1964, there was little or no discussion about the environment. That has, of course, changed. Environmental protection now ranks as one of the most important concerns of the American public, and progress has certainly been made: substantial reductions in most air and water pollution; international efforts to phase out CFCs; reductions in children's blood lead levels; improved industrial

management practices to reduce emissions; and, more broadly, a strengthened stewardship ethic to minimize environmental damage.

The challenge for the next century is building upon our successes in more flexible, cost-effective ways. New approaches will entail using innovative technologies, increasing community participation, placing more emphasis on prevention, streamlining government regulations, providing economic incentives to business and industry, and urging cooperation at all levels. As long as the population, economy, and per capita income grow the pressure on the environment will grow. Our challenge is finding the right balance between environmental protection and economic growth.

JEROME WARNER, NEBRASKA'S PREEMINENT CITIZEN LEGISLATOR

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this week Nebraskans bade farewell to an extraordinary man. State Senator Jerome Warner, a family man, a farmer, a fine and honorable gentleman, and a preeminent citizen legislator, died at the age of 69, after 35 years of service to our State in its unicameral legislature.

The extraordinary qualities and abilities of the gentleman from Waverly, NE, have long been recognized across our State. In recent weeks and months Nebraskans have praised him with such words as "integrity, courage, dignity, honest, genuine, outstanding legislator, a force of nature, friendly, All-American, trustworthy, unpretentious, fair, builder, modest, consummately ethical, revered, bred for public service, the Dean, captain of the ship, and progressive."

Jerry was only 9 years old when his father was elected speaker of the first session of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, and the senior Warner served nearly 40 years as a Nebraska legislator, including 23 years as speaker. In his 35 years as a State senator, Jerry Warner served as speaker, too, three times, as chairman of practically all of the important committees, including the appropriations, revenue and education committees, and in many other formal and informal leadership roles.

In his early years in the legislature, Jerry worked successfully to provide State aid so that schools could be less dependent on property taxes. Thirty years later, he continued that effort to provide even more State aid for education. Jerry was chairman of the appropriations committee for 13 years. During the farm crisis in the 1980's, when the revenues from sales and income taxes fell, Jerry found ways to cut State spending. Throughout his service on the appropriations committee, when a shortfall loomed, Jerry produced a plan to pull the State through its fiscal difficulties.

In addition, throughout his life, Jerry farmed on the same family farm where he was born in 1927, and he bred registered Hereford cattle. He finally leased out the farm land 3 years ago and sold the last of his cattle last month.

Some Nebraskans have wondered why Jerry never ran for higher office. I think I know. For him there was no higher office than serving one's fellow citizens in our unicameral legislature—as a "citizen legislator."

I served with Jerry Warner for only 4 years, but that was a wonderful and significant time for me. When he first moved to the appropriations committee and became its chairman in 1977, I was new to the vice chairman role. Together, as we worked alone, night after night, we poured over the budget until midnight hours. We made some big changes in direction. But more importantly, during these nights I learned about the depth of this man's commitment to Nebraska's welfare and about the unrivalled depth of his knowledge of the State. Thereafter, I always knew my first and best source of information—practical and historical—about Nebraska State government was Jerry Warner. Up close I learned about the intellect and rationality behind that very special twinkle in Jerry's eye.

I am so very appreciative that I had the privilege of knowing him and working with him, of his good counsel, and of all that he did to make Nebraska a much better place to live. Jerry Warner made a big, big difference for the better here on earth. What better legacy can one leave?

Jerome Warner of Waverly, NE, a giant in his accomplishments, has walked modestly among us, but none before him or probably none after him will ever match his legislative achievements in Nebraska.

[From the Lincoln (NE) Journal Star, Apr. 22, 1997]

FROM LIFE TO LEGACY: WARNER'S LONG SEASON OF SELFLESS SERVICE

Toward the end, people who knew him well were at special pains to pay tribute to Jerome Warner. The energy to speak in admiration and in gratitude bubbled up at about the same rate that Warner's own energies wore down.

It is a measure of this man's quiet, simple greatness that even those who did not know him well could know how fine, how decent a man he was.

Like a cold wind, the thought rushes in upon us now that we were somehow vastly unprepared for his death Sunday.

Our search for warmth and for solace leads us to simple truths that passed from the seat of state government to the farthest corners of this state over a 35-year career. Jerome Warner is a man of his word. Jerome Warner defines what it means to be a public servant. Jerome Warner is the kind of leader who cares more about what he gets done than how he describes it.

The Revenue Committee puts its sense of urgency about failing health into action as calendars turned to April 1997. Sens. David Landis of Lincoln and George Coordsen of Hebron were among those to take some time to praise Warner for his leadership, for his selflessness, for his ability to see out ahead to new problems and new solutions. Never one for spectacle or smooth speeches, the chairman took it all in from behind those glasses that gave his eyes such owl-like hugeness and suggested the committee adjourn.

As applause rolled across the room, he declared, "I guess we're done."

Now at least in the most immediate sense, we citizens of Nebraska are done with the life of Jerome Warner. Thankfully, his legacy is just beginning.

As was so typical of him, he gave almost all of his remaining energy to the legislative task. He did not check into Tabitha's hospice program in Lincoln until a few days before his death.

The tributes that began back when cancer had so clearly gained the upper hand continue in a torrent. But the words now are words we pass among ourselves. We comfort each other, we try to reassure each other, and we look anxiously for others half so willing, half so able to help us find our way.

The Warner legislative legacy includes establishing state aid to education. It includes an end to pork-barrel politics in use of highway funds and stout defense of using highway money for highway purposes. It includes hard and unfinished work in the 1997 session in trying to salvage quality education from property tax relief.

In earlier sessions of his life, Warner spent his days in the Legislature and his nights on the tractor. It is a fitting way, in this last session, to remember a citizen-senator who did so much to bring together the interests of rural Nebraska and the interests of all of Nebraska. It is a fitting, sunset vision of ambitions that were so characteristically focused first on his state, rather than on himself.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, April 22, 1997]

SENATOR WARNER DIGNIFIED OFFICE

Jerome Warner died too young. At age 69, his mind was still sharp. His judgment was still good. He still displayed a desire to serve his fellow Nebraskans.

Until he checked himself into a nursing home two weeks ago, in pain and frail from his battle with cancer, he had been in the thick of the legislative debate over property-tax lids and projected treasury surpluses. Members of the Legislature and people outside the Legislature were still looking to Warner for guidance on how to manage the tangle of tax issues.

It was logical that they were turning to the Waverly senator. Nebraska has benefited substantially from the wisdom and balance he displayed during his 34 years as a state senator. His passing leaves a void in state government.

Warner served in the Legislature longer than any other person. He held all the top leadership positions and three of the most powerful committee chairmanships—Appropriations, Revenue and Education.

Many of his achievements came in the area of providing essential services with a fair system of taxation. He was the father of Nebraska's roads classification system, which took politics out of highway planning. He planned the Postsecondary Education Coordinating Commission to eliminate unnecessary duplication in higher education. He was instrumental in bringing Kearney State College into the University of Nebraska system.

Warner got Nebraska's variable gasoline tax through the Legislature. He wasn't the kind of politician who would promise good roads and leave the financing to someone else. He knew that the highway program needed more money. He came up with what he thought was the fairest system of obtaining more.

Warner had personal qualities that made him effective as a politician and likable as a human being. His integrity was unimpeachable. He was always pleasant and polite to those around him, whether they were high-powered officials or the college students who

work as legislative pages. He respected ordinary people. He was a "bottomless pit of patience," a former legislative colleague once said.

Some politicians gain dignity when they are elected to public office. With Jerry Warner, it was the other way around. The way he conducted his 34-year career as a state senator enhanced the honor and dignity of the office. Few Nebraskans ever came closer to being the model public official.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PORTAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT, PORTAGE, MICHIGAN

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th anniversary of the Portage School District in southwest Michigan. Much has changed since the school doors opened in 1922, but throughout the years the Portage schools have consistently succeeded in providing a high quality education and outstanding services for students.

Formed in 1922 as the Portage Agricultural School District, the district then had five teachers. Today, 550 professionals educate nearly 9,000 students who fill 8 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, and 2 high schools. The school district boasts student achievement scores that are 15 percent to 20 percent higher than State averages with 83 percent of their students going on to higher education.

The strength and excellence of the school district's curriculum and programs prepares youths for the challenges they will face following graduation. It is with great pleasure that I am able to represent the Portage schools and witness their remarkable growth. I consider their comprehensive programs to be a model of success, and I have the utmost confidence in their ability to continue serving students for another 75 years with the same excellence they have achieved.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the people of Portage have always stood behind their schools, just like the school district stands behind its students and staff. As their Representative in Congress, it is a great honor for me to rise today in recognition of their accomplishments and wish them many more years of prosperity.

WAYNE COUNTY HEALTH CENTER FIGHTS HUNGER

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the creative and innovative work of the Wayne County Health Center, a hospital located in the 8th District of Missouri. Wayne County Health Center was recently presented with the American Star, an award given to 100 civic organizations each year by the America The Beautiful Fund of Washington, DC.

I would especially like to extend my congratulations to Mrs. Velma Osborne, who has played an instrumental role in the success of Wayne County Health Center's extraordinary citizen service.

Wayne County Health Center established a program that assists over 400 low-income families in the area grow their own fresh food. The families involved in the project are learning the importance of good nutrition, as well as how to grow their own fresh fruits and vegetables.

This program has taken a giant step in helping to fight hunger in Wayne County. It will continue to benefit the families involved as children grow up with the knowledge of good nutrition and the skills to grow their own healthy food.

The Wayne County Health Center is certainly deserving of an award as prestigious as the America The Beautiful American Star. The accomplishments of Velma Osborne and the many others who have worked for the success of this program should serve as a reminder of the spirit that founded this country and the role that each and every one of us play in keeping that spirit alive.

LEGISLATION TO RECOGNIZE THE UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce legislation that will grant a Federal charter to the veterans organization known as Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc. This legislation recognizes and honors the thousands of Ukrainian-Americans who have fought for the ideals and principles that our great country represents.

Through the years, Ukrainian-American veterans have proven their determination and dedication by bravely fighting in the defense of the United States.

Ukrainian-American veterans have served in the United States armed services, and have aided in the destruction of the tyrants and oppressors that have confronted our great Nation. Based on their distinguished military service, Ukrainian-American veterans deserve recognition.

By providing our Ukrainian-American veterans with a Federal charter, our Nation will recognize this special group of American heroes. This measure will protect and preserve the foundations that our Nation was founded upon. And will promote patriotism and respect by commemorating the military actions, wars and campaigns of the United States in which they were involved.

I am pleased to introduce this legislation and I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting the courageous military service of Ukrainian-American veterans. We truly believe that this legislation demonstrates a commitment to democracy and liberty. Providing a Federal charter to the Ukrainian-American veterans is a symbolic tribute of respect for our veterans as our Nation continues to promote freedom throughout the world.

IN RECOGNITION OF A HIGH ACHIEVING JOHN MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL AMERICAN HISTORY CLASS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the high intellectual achievement of a John Marshall High School American history class. This class of high school juniors and seniors has demonstrated a superlative command of the facts and a critical understanding of the meaning of American history. They are first among their peers, having won that distinction when they took first place in the State of Ohio finals of the We the People competition.

The We the People competition does not involve mere rote learning and short answers, but requires detailed research and study on specific areas of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Students testify before a panel of judges, most of whom are judges and lawyers, as if they were testifying at a congressional hearing. The class is divided into six groups and each group is required to give a 4 minute prepared answer to one of three extremely complex questions. Each group must then answer extemporaneously 6 minutes of followup questions posed by the judges. Through this trying ordeal, the students must demonstrate their understanding and ability to articulate in-depth analysis of complex constitutional issues. All students must respond, not just the stars of the class.

The entire class, then, has earned a coveted honor as the State representative at the national competition. Under the tutelage of their teacher, George Klepacz, the following students are commended by Congress for their work and achievement: Brigitte Beale, Alicia Bebee, Raenala Brown, David Bucchioni, Tyessa Howard, Kasey King, Deanna Lamb, James Lazarus, Kim Noeum, Ryann O'Bryant, Brad Schaefer, Tiwanna Scott, Matt Stevens, and Kim Chau Vo.

AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR A STUDY OF BREAST CANCER

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, joined by a bipartisan group of my colleagues, to introduce legislation critical to the State of New Jersey.

This bill will authorize funding for a study focusing on the link between environmental factors and genetic susceptibilities toward breast cancer. The study will be conducted by the New Jersey University of the Health Sciences in consultation with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services.

Breast cancer is an epidemic in our country. It is reported that every 3 minutes, a woman is diagnosed with the disease and every 11 minutes a woman dies from it. In this year

alone, more than 44,000 women will from breast cancer—these women, who are our mothers, spouses, siblings, children, or friends.

These numbers are especially alarming in the State of New Jersey, which has the second highest breast cancer mortality rate of any State in the country. The American Cancer Society estimates 6,400 new cases of breast cancer in New Jersey in 1997 and 1,800 estimated deaths.

While we have made some strides in raising awareness about the need for early detection and some strides in research, we still do not have a cure nor do we know what causes the devastating disease. That is why I am introducing this legislation, to direct more funding to study the disease and potential causes of it.

Because of its dense population, the State of New Jersey has many unique environmental concerns that may have some link to our high incidents of breast cancer. The State's University of Health Sciences is one of only seven joint centers in the United States that house a National Cancer Institute designated research center and a National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences research center. The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services also oversees a statewide cancer registry and is advanced in its cancer research programs.

While this potential study is critical to women and families in New Jersey, the results of the study are equally important to the 1 in 8 women that will be diagnosed nationally with breast cancer each year, to their children and families. Consequently, I urge the support of my colleagues for swift passage of this bill.

LETTER CARRIERS FOOD DRIVE WILL BE MAY 10TH

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, hunger has no calender. Hunger doesn't know if it's spring, summer, winter, or fall. Hunger doesn't know the days of the week, or the months of the year. During the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season, our thoughts and our hearts turn to the less fortunate in our own communities. But, sadly, hunger is a year round concern and food pantries can be dangerously depleted during the spring and summertime.

That's why it is so important that all Americans are aware that on May 10, the National Association of Letter Carriers [NALC], in conjunction with the U.S. Postal Service, the AFL–CIO, and the United Way, will be collecting nonperishable food items for distribution to local food pantries. Postal customers simply place the food items by their mailboxes on the 10th, and the letter carriers pick up the items when they make their rounds. This is the largest 1 day food drive in the Nation, and proudly, I might add, my hometown, Milwaukee, ranked third in the Nation last year by collecting over 1 million pounds of food for distribution.

Let's all spread the news, far and wide, to the cities, suburbs, towns, and rural areas, as hunger affects many of our neighborhoods and hometowns. When doing the weekly grocery shopping for the second week of May, please join my wife and I by adding to the shopping cart a few extra cans of soup, vegetables and fruit, for distribution via the Letter Carrier food drive May 10.

A TRIBUTE TO THE PIERSON HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM OF SAG HARBOR, LONG ISLAND FOR ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS COMPETITION

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 30 students and 4 teachers who comprise the Pierson High School robotics team, of Sag Harbor, Long Island, for their showing at the National High School Robotics competition, held between April 9–13 at the Epcot Center at Walt Disney World, Orlando, FL.

Competing against 115 teams from across America, including several magnet high schools that specialize in science and technology, Pierson High School finished 15th at the national competition in Orlando. The competition's sponsor—U.S. For Inspiration, Recognition, Science and Technology [FIRST]—provided each of the 115 schools with the same materials and parts list and asked each to accomplish the same task: to construct a robot that would pick up a number of inner tubes and place them inside a hexagonal goal. Using radio transmitters and receivers, the students were scored on the number of inner tubes they safely maneuvered from a remote location into the goal.

What makes the accomplishments of the Pierson High School team so remarkable is that they constructed a robot that outperformed machines built by teams from schools with much larger enrollments, many of whom enjoyed corporate sponsorship and assistance. To raise the $6,000 entry fee, travel, and lodging costs, the students from Pierson High School held garage sales, raised funds from local businesses, and were helped by their schools PTA, who held a fundraising brunch. Symbol Technologies, of Bohemia, Long Island, helped Pierson's with a small grant. Many of the students also came up with some of their own money to pay their way to Orlando, and to the regional competition at New Jersey's Rutgers University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in saluting the 30 students on the Pierson High School Robotics team, for their performance at the national robotics competition. As America enters the new millennium, an era that will be dominated by microchips and robots, it is these young scientists who will create the new technologies that we can now only imagine. By their talent, hard work and ingenuity, America will remain the greatest force in the global marketplace. Congratulations, Pierson High School.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WESLEY GAINS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to praise the Wesley Gains Elementary School in the Paramount Unified School District. It is being recognized by the California Department of Education as a California title I achieving school. Wesley Gains is also a candidate for the competitive Title I National Recognition Schools Award.

This award is sponsored by the National Association of State Coordinators of Compensatory Education. The Association's goal is to focus the Nation's attention on programs in high poverty areas where disadvantaged students demonstrate unusual success in raising their achievement levels in basic and more advanced skills.

Paramount School Superintendent Michele Lawrence and Wesley Gains Principal Susan Lance have worked hard to develop and maintain the Gains community, which is not just physical buildings, but a philosophy that underscores the importance of education as a joint venture between the home, the school, and the community. The goal of the Gains community is to prepare students to become responsible citizens and productive members of the society. To achieve this, students need to be proficient in reading, writing, mathematics, and have a positive character behavior—which includes good work habits, teamwork, perseverance, honesty, self-reliance, and consideration for others.

Through several key features, the Gains community has been able to achieve these goals. The primary component has been a balanced literacy program, utilizing title I funds. All existing and incoming teachers receive training in specific, researched-based reading and writing strategies, including theory, program expectations, and implementation expectations. Additionally, Wesley Gains has five reading recovery teachers who work with targeted at risk first graders and provides assistance to staff, as well as a site literacy teacher, who acts as a partner-teacher to all staff.

Parent involvement is a critical part of the effort, and programs for parent-training help to support students' reading efforts at home. Program examples are "I Have A Parent Who Reads To Me" for kindergarten and first grades; "WOW! I Can Read" for second grades; and "Book Bridges" for off-track students. A parent task force is very active with the site-based decision-making model and coordinates support activities, such as a minimum of three parent visitation days and Family Nights each year. One example of this program's success is the parent attendance rate at parent conferences: more than 97 percent of Wesley Gains parents attend their parent-teacher conferences.

The overall success has been achieved and maintained regardless of some district wide changes: extension of the school day; implementation of a four-track, year-round schedule, adding grades 6 to 8 to Wesley Gains' K–

5 campus, redefining each school's attendance boundaries, which at Wesley Gains led to an increase of 850 new students; and implementing a new school uniform policy.

It is obvious that Wesley Gains deserves this honor. The students, teachers, and staff have worked hard and it has paid off. They recognized where their focus needed to be, devised a plan that efficiently used their resources, implemented their plan, and continue to reevaluate and reassess the quality of work they do, making changes as they go. And I am pleased to see that they recruited the best support group possible: parents. The level of commitment Wesley Gains parents show has been, without a doubt, a key to their success. I would wish that all schools could have as much parental support as Wesley Gains does. After all, it will take the entire community to educate and prepare our children for the 21st century.

I congratulate Superintendent Lawrence, Principal Lance, the entire staff, faculty, parents and students of the Gains community. I wish them many more years of success.

"WE THE PEOPLE" PROGRAM

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, on April 26–28, 1997, more than 1,200 students from 50 States and the District of Columbia will be in Washington, DC, to compete in the national finals of the We The People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution Program. I am proud to announce that the class from West Warwick High School from West Warwick will represent the Second Congressional District of Rhode Island. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals by winning local competitions in their home State.

The distinguished members of the team representing Rhode Island are: Jamie Amaral, Mary Asselin, Jonathan Bassi, Justin Broz, John Caressimo, Brian Carr, Andrew Costanza, Krystle Couto, Bethany DeBlois, Candice Felske, John Johnson, Jonathan Juneau, Jamie Kullberg, Kristin Larocque, Gina Musto, Meghan O'Brien, Ryan O'Grady, Stephanie Paquet, Erica Ricci, Hillary Sisson, Derek Tevyaw, Kevin Willette, Kristen Wolslegel, Man Yu, and Debra Zenofsky.

I also would like to recognize their teacher, Michael Trofi, who deserves much of the credit for the success of the team. The district coordinator, Carlo Gamba, and the State coordinator, Henry Cote, also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help the team reach the national finals.

The We The People . . . The Citizen and Constitution Program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The 3-day national competition simulates a congressional hearing in which students' oral presentations are judged on the basis of their knowledge of constitutional principles and their ability to apply them to historical and contemporary issues.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We The People program, now in its 10th academic year, has reached more than 75,000 teachers, and 24 million students nationwide at the upper elementary, middle, and high school levels. Members of Congress and their staff enhance the program by discussing current constitutional issues with students and teachers.

The We the People program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective on the significance of the U.S. Constitution and its place in our history and lives. I wish these students the best of luck in the national finals and look forward to their continued success in the years ahead.

HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT OVERCHARGES: WHY WE NEED TO REFORM MEDICARE'S PAYMENT SYSTEM

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the President's budget proposes to reform a major defect in Medicare—the ability of hospital outpatient departments [HOPDs] to overcharge beneficiaries. Due to the way the law is worded, patients today pay—on average—about 45 percent of the allowable cost of a hospital outpatient procedure. They should be paying 20 percent. Unless fixed, the problem will just get worse and worse, with seniors and the disabled paying more and more. Simply put, the problem arises because Medicare pays the hospital on the basis of reasonable cost, while the beneficiary is stuck with 20 percent of charges—and charges can be anything the hospital wants to say they are.

On February 4, Representative COYNE and myself introduced a bill, H.R. 582, to provide for an immediate correction of this serious Medicare beneficiary problem. I urge the Budget Committee, as it considers the size of the Medicare budget cuts, to make an allowance for the fixing of this problems.

In the meantime, the public should be advised to shop around for a better price than the HOPDs offer. Of the roughly 7,000 procedures that are done in HOPDs, 2,700 are also done safely and competently in ambulatory surgical centers [ASCs], where the price is usually much lower—and where the beneficiaries copay is limited to 20 percent.

Following are some examples of the difference to a patient in using an ASC instead of an HOPD. Newspapers, the electronic media, and consumer groups could do a great service to the Nation's seniors and disabled by checking on these prices in their local market and advertising the difference to seniors. Caveat emptor—big time.

COMPARISON OF HOSPITAL AND ASC FEES

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE NO. 1

Description:
Procedure: Inguinal Hernia Repair.
Location: Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
CPT Code: 49505.
Date: June 18, 1996.

	Comparative payments—	
	ASC	Local hospital
Retail Charge	$1,816	$3,171
HCFA Approved	.....	3,171
HCFA Payment	587	2,537
Patient Co-payment	117	634

COMPARISON OF HOSPITAL AND ASC FEES

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE NO. 2

Description:
Procedure: Breast Biopsy.
Location: Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
CPT Code: 19120.
Date: July 29, 1996.

	Comparative payments—	
	ASC	Local hospital
Retail Charge	$899	$1,237
HCFA Approved	.....	1,237
HCFA Payment	473	989
Patient Co-payment	95	247

COMPARISON OF HOSPITAL AND ASC FEES

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE NO. 3

Description:
Procedure: Cataract w/IOL.
Location: Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
CPT Code: 66984.
Date: August 15, 1996.

	Comparative payments—	
	ASC	Local hospital
Retail Charge	$1,419	$4,417
HCFA Approved	.....	1,617
HCFA Payment	914	1,294
Patient Co-payment	183	323

COMPARISON OF HOSPITAL AND ASC FEES

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE NO. 4

Description:
Procedure: Colonoscopy w/Tumor Removal.
Location: Pasadena, California.
CPT Code: 45385.
Date: January 23, 1996.

	Comparative payments—	
	ASC	Local hospital
Retail Charge	.....	$1,583
HCFA Approved	.....	1,186
HCFA Payment	$442	1,186
Patient Co-payment	88	396

TWO YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING—APRIL 21, 1997

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the second anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing. On April 19, 1995, a car bomb exploded outside the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, OK, killing 169 people and injuring hundreds more. This act of cowardice was an attack on innocent children and defenseless citizens, and struck at the very heart of our democracy.

This act of terrorism, the worst in the Nation's history on American soil, shocked, frightened, angered and saddened the citizens of Oklahoma and the United States. But throughout this time of hardship, the acts of courage, compassion, and professionalism by the citizens of Oklahoma and countless volunteers that descended upon the Murrah building are indelibly etched in the memories of people all over the world. These heroes, which included law enforcement officers, firefighters, search and rescue professionals, doctors, nurses, and volunteers throughout the country, gave selflessly in providing comfort and compassion to the victims of the attack and their families.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress who hails from New York City, the site of the World Trade Center Bombing 4 years ago, I know the fear and loss which these cowardly acts can have on a community. While the devastation which occurred in Oklahoma City is far greater than that which New York sustained, I know the people of New York have a special affinity for the suffering experienced by the families and friends of the victims of the Oklahoma tragedy.

I think all Americans agree that this victimization of innocent people is a trend which we cannot allow to continue. That is why I introduced and urge my colleagues to join me in co-sponsoring H.R. 538, the Explosives Fingerprinting Act, which would require explosive manufacturers to use high technology additives—taggants—in their explosives. These taggants would serve as identifying signatures which show where and when a particular explosive material was made. This legislation, which I originally offered during the 103d Congress in response to the World Trade Center bombing, is supported by major law enforcement agencies, including the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to give our law enforcement officials a valuable new tool in their arsenal. I would encourage my colleagues to join me as cosponsors of this important legislation, thereby taking a small step toward making sure another terrorist act like the bombing in Oklahoma City does not occur again.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to again express my deepest sympathies to the families and friends of the victims of Oklahoma City on this the second anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing.

INS AND CITIZENSHIP

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue which disturbs me greatly. Just 3 months ago the Justice Department reported that the Immigration and Naturalization Service allowed some 180,000 people to become citizens without fully completing the required criminal background checks.

INS Commissioner Doris Meissner promised that appropriate steps would be taken to correct the obvious problems. Mr. Speaker, last week the verdict came in.

In a 140-page report issued by the Peat Marwick Accounting Firm, our worst fears were realized. The report found that of the 23 INS offices around the country, only 8 were complying with the new procedures for screening out criminal aliens. In fact, the report said that it could not with any assurance state that INS was not continuing to incorrectly naturalize aliens with disqualifying conditions.

Mr. Speaker, it is bad enough when a government agency is inefficient and squanders taxpayer money. But what can possibly be said about an agency that is fouling up the most important honor our Nation can give—the honor of citizenship.

There is nothing that should be viewed with more respect than the process by which we bestow citizenship on new Americans. We simply must improve the integrity of the naturalization process or we risk cheapening a privilege that so many have given their lives to protect.

NAFCU MARKS 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. FLOYD H. FLAKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, for the past 30 years an organization known as the National Association of Federal Credit Unions [NAFCU] has distinguished itself by playing a key role in guiding and shaping the growth of America's Federal credit union community.

This week NAFCU marks the 30th anniversary of its incorporation. During that time it has rapidly grown so that today NAFCU represents credit unions that account for well over a majority of all Federal credit union members from across the land, and nearly three-quarters of the assets of all Federal credit unions in the country.

NAFCU and its representatives on Capitol Hill have served America's credit unions well. I invite our colleagues to join in extending warm wishes on the occasion of NAFCU's 30th anniversary.

SUPPORT FOR THE JONES ACT

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and the chairman of the Rules Committee, Mr. SOLOMON, and a bipartisan group of our colleagues, I have introduced today a resolution that strongly reaffirms the Congress' support for the Jones Act, section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, one of the cornerstones of U.S. maritime policy. With origins dating back more than 200 years, the Jones Act requires that vessels used to transport cargo between U.S. ports be built in the United States, owned by U.S. citizens and crewed by U.S. citizen mariners.

The U.S. domestic Jones Act fleet plays a critical role in safeguarding U.S. economic and military security by ensuring U.S. control of essential transportation assets and our maritime infrastructure. It is not surprising that there are over 40 other nations that have similar laws that limit access to their domestic commerce to their national flag vessels in order to better enhance and support their own economic and military security.

Domestic trade has always been the core of our maritime industry. This trade, which consists of seaborne commerce between our States and territories and coastwise, Great Lakes and river commerce, has insured the survival of our maritime industry. The Jones Act has fostered the growth of a highly productive and diverse fleet of large, technologically advanced, fuel efficient vessels. These vessels transport all types of U.S. domestic commerce in a timely, economically, and responsive manner. This fleet is better equipped than ever to serve America's economy. Today's fleet consists of more than twice as many large vessels as it did in 1965. These vessels are not only larger but faster and much more productive in terms of their cargo carrying and delivery capability. As a result, a single American mariner working aboard one of today's technologically advanced vessels is able to deliver as much as 17 times the amount of cargo as 30 years ago. The Jones Act, along with the comparable requirements applicable to America's aviation, rail, and trucking industries, plays a vital role in ensuring that America's shippers and consumers continue to have a reliable, efficient, and competitively balanced domestic transportation system. America's shippers and consumers benefit greatly by using equipment built to U.S. standards and operated by trained U.S. citizen workers.

Vessels comprising the U.S. domestic Jones Act fleet does not receive any operating or construction subsidies from the U.S. Government, but rather are supported entirely through private capital investment by U.S. maritime companies. To date, these private investments have totaled approximately $26 billion. This investment pumps nearly $15 billion into the national economy, including more than $4 billion in direct wages to U.S. citizens. This economic impact is multiplied by thousands of additional jobs which Jones Act industries support in downstream industries and local communities in which Jones Act-related income is spent. In fact, the U.S.-flag domestic fleet provides direct employment for 124,000 Americans, including 80,000 merchant sailors and 44,000 shipyard and other shoreside workers. Their livelihoods are directly tied to the construction, repair, maintenance, supply, and operation of the 44,000 vessels and barges in the Jones Act fleet.

Not only do American citizens, our constituents, benefit from the Jones Act but so do Federal and State treasuries. The construction and operation of the privately owned U.S.-flag domestic fleet generates approximately $300 million annually in corporate tax revenues for the Federal Treasury and another $55 million annually in State tax revenues. Americans working aboard U.S.-flag domestic vessels and in related domestic industries pay approximately $1 billion $100 million annually in Federal income taxes and another $272 million in State income taxes. These revenues will be lost to our Federal and State governments if foreign vessels and foreign crews are allowed to enter America's domestic trades.

The Jones Act provides many significant and cost-effective national security benefits. In times of international crisis, the Jones Act fleet keeps goods flowing reliably and securely between U.S. ports, supporting the domestic economic base needed to sustain military action overseas. It also serves as an efficient and cost-effective adjunct to government-owned and other commercial sealift defense resources. The same U.S. merchant mariners who crew these Jones Act vessels in peacetime can be mobilized, as they have in the past, to crew surge and sustainment vessels for the Department of Defense.

Despite the claims made by foreign shipping interests and their spokespersons, without the Jones Act, foreign flag vessels—free of virtually all U.S. laws, taxes, and obligations—would be able to complete unfairly, not only against U.S.-flag vessels but also against America's trucking, rail, and pipeline industries. Americans will not benefit if the Jones Act was weakened or repealed. Americans will not benefit when their fellow citizen maritime workers lose their jobs. Americans will not benefit when Federal and State taxing authorities lose desperately needed revenues. Foreign shipping interests must not be given our domestic shipping market, the world's most lucrative domestic shipping market, into which they could dump their foreign built, foreign crewed vessels and capture our trades.

It is important to remember that if we, as Members of Congress, choose to not support the Jones Act, we will instead have chosen to eliminate an American industry. By doing so we will be turning over its functions and responsibilities to foreign owned and controlled vessels crewed by foreign nationals. It means that we will have chosen to wipe out the billions of dollars in private investments made in an all-American industry. We will have done so in order to give heavily subsidized, largely unregulated foreign shipping interests the right to control the movement of America's domestic commerce, to dictate the terms and conditions of such shipments. We will have allowed foreign shippers to export freight revenues., taxes and jobs outside of the United States. It means that we will open our market to foreign shipping interests that do not pay U.S. taxes, do not comply with America's safety, environmental and worker protection laws, and do not employ American workers. It means we will have given foreign shipping interests the ability and the right to compete unfairly against U.S. vessels, pipelines, railroads, and trucks.

Common sense dictates that our economic and military security requires an American owned, built and crewed domestic fleet and this common sense has prevailed for over 200 years. I ask that you join Mr. SOLOMON, our colleagues and me in supporting our bipartisan resolution that strongly reaffirms the Congress' support for the Jones Act.

H. CON. RES. —

Whereas a privately owned United States-flag merchant fleet and maritime industry are vital to the economic, military, and international political security of the United States;

Whereas it is essential for the Congress to reaffirm its support for those programs and policies that have successfully developed and maintained a strong, competitive, and economically viable United States-flag merchant marine, including section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 App. U.S.C. 883), popularly known as the Jones Act, which reserves the carriage of America's waterborne domestic commerce to privately owned United States-flag commercial vessels that are built and repaired in United States shipyards and owned and crewed by United States citizens, and similar statutes pertaining to the domestic dredging, fishing, salvage, and towing industries;

Whereas these statutes have fostered the growth of a highly productive and diverse fleet of large, technologically advanced, and fuel-efficient vessels, that is capable of transporting in a timely, economical, and responsive manner all types of United States domestic commerce and that carries approximately 21 percent of the freight moved in the domestic transportation market while accounting for less than 2 percent of domestic expenditures for freight transportation;

Whereas the United States-flag domestic merchant fleet has more than twice the number of large vessels than in 1965 and productivity of the fleet over the past 30 years has more than tripled the fleet's ability to serve American shippers and consumers;

Whereas this increased growth and gains in productivity are due largely to the increased capital investments by private industry in the fleet and to the cooperative relationship that exists between American vessel operators and their American citizen crews;

Whereas more than 40 of America's trading partners have comparable laws and restrictions to limit access to their domestic commerce to their national flag vessels in order to better enhance and support their own economic and military security;

Whereas the Jones Act and related statutes are necessary to prevent America's domestic economy from being dominated and controlled by foreign shipping interests which today operate in international commerce outside the scope of United States Government laws and regulations, including tax obligations, that apply to all types of United States-flag vessels and their crews, to the entire domestic transportation infrastructure, and to all other industries located in the United States;

Whereas the Jones Act and related statutes, along with the comparable requirements applicable to America's aviation, rail, and trucking industries, play a vital role in ensuring that America's shippers and consumers continue to have a reliable, efficient, and competitively balanced domestic transportation system that uses equipment built to American standards and operated by trained American citizen workers;

Whereas allowing foreign flag vessels and foreign crews to operate in America's domestic trades will threaten the economic viability of America's transportation system, which operates in compliance with all United States Government laws and regulations, including tax obligations;

Whereas the Jones Act and related statutes and the construction and operation of the privately owned United States-flag domestic fleet contribute significantly to the national economy, generating approximately $300,000,000 annually in corporate tax revenues for the Federal Treasury, and another $55,000,000 annually in State tax revenues, all of which would be lost if foreign vessels were allowed to enter America's domestic trades;

Whereas Americans working aboard United States-flag domestic vessels and in related domestic industries pay $1,100,000,000 annually in Federal income taxes and another $272,000,000 in State income taxes, revenue which will be lost if foreign vessels and foreign crews are allowed to enter America's domestic trades;

Whereas the domestic maritime industry provides a significant source of employment to maintain a cadre of well trained, loyal American citizen merchant mariners ready and able to respond, as always, to our Nation's call in time of war or other emergency; and

Whereas the Jones Act and related statutes are necessary because the construction and repair of the United States-flag domestic merchant fleet provides the primary source of commercial shipbuilding opportunities for American shipyards and their workforce, helping to maintain the shipyard mobilization base necessary to America's national security: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 App. U.S.C. 883), popularly known as the Jones Act, and related statutes are critically important components of our Nation's economic and military security and should be fully and strongly supported.

HOOSIER HERO—INDIANA STATE POLICE'S PENDLETON POST

HON. DAVID M. McINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. McINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my report from Indiana. As my wife, Ruthie, and I travel throughout the great State of Indiana, we meet so many hard-working Hoosiers.

These people go to work every day to support themselves and their families.

However, there are those who go above and beyond the call of duty each day, to put their lives on the line for fellow Hoosiers. This commitment calls on the courage of the Indiana State Police officers.

Today, I would like to pay special attention to the hard-working men of the Indiana State Police's Pendleton Post. Their devotion, courage, and outstanding work ethic are recognized as Indiana's best State police squad.

The Pendleton Post consists of seven men. Alexander Willis, Scott Sollars, Jeff Goforth, Chris Lambert, David Preston, Shawn O'Keefe, and Chris Noone make up the squad who, in 1996, recorded over 800 criminal arrests and over 200 drunk-driving arrests, the highest in the State of Indiana. However, what makes these accomplishments so significant is the fact that there were only seven men on the squad.

Sgt. Robert Kowalski said that normally a group this size would not be able to accomplish as much as the Pendleton troopers have, but their good-old fashion hard work have put fear out of the minds of the citizens of Madison County. The work ethic of the Indiana State Police's Pentleton Post is something each of us should strive for.

Special recognition is also deserved by Troopers David Preston and Shawn O'Keefe. Trooper Preston was honored for having the most criminal arrests and the third highest drunk-driving arrests for the State of Indiana. Trooper Shawn O'Keefe was also awarded

Trooper of the Year by the "Real Stories of the Highway Patrol" television show.

Only 6 months out of the training academy, Trooper O'Keefe displayed immense courage by rescuing a 6-year-old girl from a burning car after a terrible accident claimed the lives of three people in December of 1995.

This true act of bravery was nominated as "Real Stories" TV show's Trooper of the Year segment where viewers called in and voted for one of the four finalists for the award. Trooper O'Keefe's actions captured the attention of many as he was pronounced Trooper of the Year.

Today, I would like to salute the heroic efforts displayed by Trooper O'Keefe. While the accomplishments of the Indiana State Police's Pendleton Post are significant, it is important to remember that they put their life on the line every day for people whom they never have met. It is this type of commitment that is truly commendable.

On behalf of the citizens of Madison County, we are proud to have State police officers of such high caliber. Their hard work ethic earns them further recognition as Hoosier heroes.

Mr. Speaker, that concludes my report from Indiana.

CHAIRMAN BENJAMIN A. GILMAN'S ADDRESS TO THE III WORLD PARLIAMENTARIAN CONVENTION ON TIBET

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today, here at the offices of the House of Representatives, the III World Parliamentarian Convention on Tibet was held. The keynote address for this impressive gathering of elected representatives of Parliaments was given by His Holiness, the Dalai Lama of Tibet, who is here in Washington, DC, for this conference.

One of the true highlights of this parliamentary convention was an address by our distinguished colleague and the chairman of the House International Relations Committee, Congressman BENJAMIN A. GILMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting this excellent address of our colleague in the RECORD, and I urge all of my colleagues to give his fine remarks thoughtful and careful attention.

STATEMENT BY THE HONORABLE BENJAMIN A. GILMAN, CHAIRMAN, HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, III WORLD PARLIAMENTARIAN CONVENTION ON TIBET, APRIL 23, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Good morning ladies and gentlemen, your Holiness and distinguished participants. Thank you Lodi for your kind words. It is a special honor for the House International Relations Committee and the Congress to host this third international parliamentarian convention on Tibet.

I am pleased to welcome His Holiness The Dalai Lama, Professor Rinpoche, the Chairman of the Assembly of Tibetan People's Deputies, and all the distinguished legislators, academics, participants and guests joining us today. It is fitting that this historic meeting takes place under the roof of the "House of the people" by a worldwide community of legislators, scholars and experts.

As I drove down from New York last evening after spending the last two days celebrating the Passover Holidays with my family, the significance of our meeting here today reminded me of the similarities between our two people's and indeed the similarities between righteous efforts of any people for freedom and G-d given rights.

During Passover the Jewish people celebrate their freedom from slavery and are reminded of their ancestors' wandering in the desert for forty years. The family sedar centers around recalling the persecution of the Jews by the Pharaoh, the efforts made to free the Jews, the promises made by G-d, their plight in the desert and the meaning of the sedar's different foods, drinks and rituals. But most significant of all is the family gathering recounting the story of how a powerless non violent religious nation regained its rights.

As we gather together today I strongly feel that same sense of family * * * that same motivation for coming together. Some of you have traveled very long distances and are sacrificing precious time and money to help the Tibetan people. Others are volunteering your services so that this can happen. But most significant of all is the selflessness of the deed and the joy of doing what is right.

Today, we are a family gathering together to learn from the past, to enjoy good company and to help our Tibetan and Chinese brothers and sisters regain the freedom that is rightfully theirs. The result of our deliberations which will be delivered to the Secretary General of the United Nations and various governments are intended to bring those leaders into the family to give them the opportunity to strengthen and to be a part of our unity of effort.

Most of you know the statistics: The Chinese destruction of over 6,000 monasteries, the death of 1.2 million Tibetans (a third of the population), the tight control of religion by a foreign atheist government, the public humiliation of monks and nuns. The Tibetans have lost everything, their great teachers, their lands and monasteries, and now due to a diabolical "final solution"—a population transfer program of massive numbers of Chinese into Tibet—many Tibetans are very rapidly losing their identity, language and self respect.

The Romans destroyed the Temple in Jerusalem some two thousand years ago, and sent the Jews into exile from their holy land. The Chinese destruction and current occupation of Tibet is every bit as cruel and brutal to the Tibetans. The very strict control of Tibet's religious institutions by atheist communist officials is not only unimaginable blasphemy to Tibetans but to all of the world's great religious traditions.

The extent to which China's past and present leaders are personally responsible for these policies is very distressing. For example it was Deng Xiaoping who directed the People's Liberation Army into Tibet and oversaw its destruction. Just three years ago it was reported that at an internal Central Communist Party meeting, President Jiang Zemin asserted that, religion is one of the biggest threats to Communist Party rule in China and Tibet. Subsequently, Premier Li Peng signed decrees number 144 and 145 which restrict worship, religious education, distribution of Bibles and other religious literature, as well as restricting contact with foreign coreligionists.

The totalitarian Chinese government has created official religious organizations that control all religious worship, activity, and association in China and Tibet and supplant the independent authority of the Roman Catholic Church, independent Protestant churches, and independent Buddhist, Taoist, and Islamic associations. Indeed, the Bureau of Religious Affairs is headed by a rigid communist who is hostile to all religion.

The Bureau is controlled by the United Front Work Department of the Chinese Communist Party. The Party was behind the sentencing of a 76-year-old Protestant leader to 15 years in prison for distributing Bibles, the sentencing of a 65-year-old evangelical elder to an eleven-year prison term for belonging to an evangelical group outside the government-sanctioned religious organizations and the sentencing of a 60-year-old Roman Catholic priest to two years of "reeducation through labor" for unknown charges. He had previously spent 13 years in prison because of his refusal to renounce ties with the Vatican. During this past Easter, the regime arrested Peter Xu who is perhaps the most important evangelical leader of the underground Protestant church. He founded the New Birth house church networks, reportedly to have 4 million members. At this time there are four Catholic Bishops imprisoned or in detention.

The Communist Party and the Bureau of Religious Affairs are also responsible for the kidnapping of the 6-year-old Panchen Lama and his family who have been detained for almost two years, and their whereabouts are still unknown. Scores of Tibetan Buddhists who refused to participate in the Chinese sham enthronement of Beijing's "Panchen Lama" have been sent to prison and one of their spiritual leaders committed suicide rather than take part in the charade.

Mine you, these people are not spending lengthy periods of their life in horrible prison conditions for peacefully advocating political pluralism or democracy. They are being severely punished merely for pursuing their religious beliefs.

Pro dmeocracy advocates in China and Tibet are going through equally hard times. The recently released State Department's Country Report on Human Rights Practices in China and Tibet states that "in 1996 the authorities stepped up efforts to cut off expression of protest or criticism. All public dissent against the party and government was effectively silenced by initimidation, exile, the imposition of prison terms, administrative detention, or house arrest. No dissidents were known to be active at year's end." Not even the former Soviet Union managed such complete repression against the refuseniks.

The State Department Report goes on to say: "Although the Government denies that it holds political prisoners, the number of persons detained or serving sentences for 'counterrevolutionary crimes' or 'crimes against the state,' or for peaceful political or religious activities are believed to number in the thousands. Persons detained during 1996 included activists arrested for issuing petitions or open letters calling for reforms and greater democracy."

Having checkmated all resistance in Tibet and China the dictators have been successfully applying similar strategies in the international arena. Just last week, representatives of the unelected government in Beijing once again succeeded in Geneva at the U.N. Commission on Human Rights to have a no-action motion adopted on the consideration of a resolution regarding human rights violations in Tibet and China. The Beijing dictatorship elevated its international bullying to

new heights by threatening Denmark. If Denmark introduced a human rights resolution regarding China, the resolution would, according to the Chinese "become a rock that smashes on the Danish government's head."

Such statements and the shameful action by Beijing of introducing a no-action motion are insults and a disgrace to the Commission on Human Rights. No country should be able to utilize its economic or political power to attempt to block international scrutiny of its human rights record. And no civilized country on the face of the earth would permit its diplomats, spokesmen or leaders to make such pernicious remarks.

Within the past year Beijing officials have made similar public threats against Germany, New Zealand, Australia and Taiwan if they permitted His Holiness to visit their countries and if their leaders were to meet with Him. China's diplomats have been flying all over the world promising stadiums, roads, government buildings, purchases of airplanes and other forms of trade and assistance in order to bully, threaten and cajole Commission members to vote with them in Geneva.

Three years ago, leaders of many nations that are currently members of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights urged President Clinton to de-link U.S. trade with China to its human rights violations. They argued that the human rights issue ought to be considered separate and apart from trade and economic matters and last week they ignored the hypocrisy of trading their values and principles away.

Democracy is on the run and having a difficult time establishing itself throughout Asia because democracies throughout the world, including our own nation, have put short term economic gains for powerful companies ahead of the long term benefits of democracy and the rule of law. Although most western CEO's intimately understand and are usually supportive of the role that an independent judiciary has on controlling corruption, which in turns helps to maintain profitable business ventures, they are mesmerized by what George Will of the Washington Post calls the "beguiling chimera" of the China market. Almost every deal with China requires a substantial technology transfer that quickly evaporates their profitable sales.

Every year around now since 1989, members of the business community visit Capitol Hill to speak with us about the need for a Most Favored Nation trading status for China and to warn against containment versus engagement of the government in Beijing. But I submit to you that the containment versus engagement discussion is a straw man. In a healthy family, members discuss issues, come to agreements and then follow through on their words with deeds. Engagement continues even when a punishment occurs. If many important agreements are broken and a sibling never stands up for his or her rights then the other one usually turns into a bully. At which point the family and the aggrieved sibling will both be responsible if the belligerent's behavior affects the larger community.

The Tibetans and all of us here today are bearing our responsibility to the world community by calling attention to the crises of leadership in both the People's Republic of China and in any other government that fails to be alarmed, and to take strong action against the manipulation of religion and destruction of a people.

Such a people who have a particular commitment to G-d that characterizes their whole national identity, who are the victims of the most vicious oppression, who might be miraculously delivered against the odds precisely by continuing to hold to their special relationship to G-d rather than by practicing the ways of the Pharaoh, need all of our support.

We are a family. We are here to bring out the best in all of our members. Your very presence gives the Tibetans and Chinese people hope for the future.

I urge you during the next two days to chart out a program of action where together we can take a multilateral approach in helping His Holiness and the people of Tibet. Many of us in the House and Senate, Republicans and Democrats, are prepared to work with you.

Lodi, I want to convey to you and your staff at the International Campaign for Tibet and to all the volunteers here today doing the hard work of making this happen, my deepest appreciation and respect.

To the leaders in Beijing, we ask for their suggestions on how we can assist them in dealing with their past in order that they may then embrace the necessary values that will sustain their nation in the future. In this same unity of spirit we ask that they let our people go.

May their decisions and your deliberations lead to freedom and peace for the Tibetan and Chinese people.

G-d bless.

A TRIBUTE TO THE EL CAMINO REAL HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional group of individuals from my congressional district, the El Camino Real High School Academic Decathlon team. This team not only won the local and State competitions, but this last weekend competed in St. George, UT where they finished second in the national competition.

This is not the first time that El Camino Real has competed for this national honor. El Camino Real has won the California Academic Decathlon three times, and this was the school's third appearance in the national competition since 1992. This kind of continued success can only be attributed to diligence, hard work, and perseverance. Indeed, this impressive history speaks volumes about the individuals that we are honoring here today from the coaches, parents, friends, and of course students who were willing to sacrifice and give the extra effort.

Yet hard work alone does not explain their success as this group exemplifies the word teamwork. The team consists of nine students, two coaches, and seven faculty assistants compelled by the rigorous nature of this competition to study, train, and act as a cohesive unit. The manner in which points are accumulated in the Academic Decathlon competition requires every team member to make a significant contribution; indeed, the team is only as strong as its weakest link. Through their cooperation and hard work, the team has learned that self-sacrifice can lead to excellence. I believe our ability to enter and contribute to these types of relationships both as families and communities is key to our future.

Finally Mr. Speaker, I am proud to note that this track record of academic excellence is found in one of our public schools. We continuously hear about the problems facing the Nation's public education system, and although there are many obstacles and they are daunting, I believe they can be overcome. Many of the qualities that made this team successful can be used throughout our schools, such as hard work in a team atmosphere and looking to peers for support and accountability.

This team consists of nine students: Steve Chae, Michal Engelman, Robert Magee, Tamara Miller, Michael Montgomery, Jacqueline Moses, Roger Rees, Dawn Robinson, and Adi Zarchi. The faculty assistants are James Centorino, Charles Doherty, Rebecca Gessert, Jerry Hickman, Mark Johnson, Jack Liebel, Naomi McCoy, Lillian Ruben, and Shukla Sarkar; the team is led by head coaches Sharon Markenson and David Roberson. Principal Ronald Bauer's guidance and support was another critical ingredient in the team's success. I commend not only the El Camino Real team, but every individual involved in similar academic pursuits. As educator John Dewey noted, "Education is not preparation for life, education is life itself."

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to represent such outstanding young people, as they are truly the future of this great Nation.

HONORING DR. REBECCA W. STEELE

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the musical genius of Dr. Rebecca W. Steele.

On April 27, the board of directors of the Richard V. Moore Community Center, Inc., will honor Dr. Rebecca W. Steele, director of Bethune-Cookman College Concert Chorale and Young Artists group, with a musical tribute. Over a period of 50 years, Dr. Steele's expansive career has included the positions of choral music director, voice teacher, music educator, singer, and arts administrator. Family, friends, and colleagues will pay tribute to this individual who has touched the lives of hundreds of young people across the State of Florida and the Nation.

A member of the faculty of Bethune-Cookman College since 1976, Dr. Steele is currently professor of music and director of cultural affairs. She has a Ph.D. from Florida State University in humanities and music, with special emphasis in multicultural music education. She earned dual masters in music education and voice, piano, and choral conducting from Columbia University. Prior to joining the Bethune-Cookman faculty, Dr. Steele enjoyed a long teaching career at Florida A&M University, in Tallahassee, another outstanding historically Black University.

Under her direction, the concert choir at Florida A&M was recognized for its performances of such major extended choral works as

Verdi's Requiem and Bach's Magnificat. The choir's exceptional renditions of Negro spirituals also received wide-spread acclaim. The Bethune-Cookman Chorale has performed with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and Lyric Theater in a production of Porgy and Bess as well as at the Spoleta Festival in Charleston, SC.

A singer of considerable prominence, Dr. Steele remained in demand while at Florida A&M University. Her soprano solos from Mozart's Requiem, arias, and interpretations of spirituals were especially popular. Dr. Steele's ability to conduct different styles of music, while simultaneously producing beautiful tone and phrasing distinguishes her from many of her peers. Her latest production, "From Bach to Gospel" features varied styles of choral works, ensembles, and solos from numerous periods. Dr. Steele's professional affiliations add another dimension to an already committed teacher and humanitarian. She is a member of the Music Educators National Conference, the Florida State Music Teacher's Association, the Association of University Professors, the Southern Arts Federation and the Florida Professional Presenters Consortium.

Mr. Speaker, it is with enormous pride and extreme satisfaction that I join others in saluting the musical accomplishments and contributions of this exceptional Floridian. Shakespeare said, "[i]f music be the food of love, play on. . .".

To the thousands of students of Dr. Rebecca W. Steele, I say "play on."

EARTH DAY 1997

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Earth Day 1997. During this Congress it is especially crucial to emphasize the significance and purpose of this nationally recognized day. Since 1970, this country has set aside 1 day a year to highlight the importance of environmental conservation and preservation. But protecting the environment and our natural resources is not a once a year project. It is about the way we choose to live our lives.

Mr. Speaker, the nationwide recognition of this day illustrates the overwhelming public concern over how the natural and man-made world should interact. While I support efforts to relieve businesses of undue red tape, I believe it is possible to do so without also reducing protection of our air, water, and other natural resources. Although striking a balance is often difficult, it is necessary for the long term health of both the environment and the economy.

As a Member of this esteemed body, I am pleased with the role Congress has played over the last 27 years. Passage of legislation such as the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, the Endangered Species Act, among others, has been instrumental in cleaning our environment and protecting our valuable natural resources. It is our responsibility as legislators to continue to respond to the public and its priorities through enactment and renewal of these most important environmental laws.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that this day will be a reminder to Congress that the management of our resources is of vital importance. The decisions we make today will impact not only our future, but all future generations.

THE GIFT OF LIFE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL ACT OF 1997

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today our colleagues Mr. SERRANO, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. FRANK, Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. HALL (OH), Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. BERMAN Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. EHRLICH, Ms. CLAYTON, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. MOAKLEY, Mr. FROST, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. SPENCE, and I take great pride in reintroducing The Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act of 1997. The enactment of this legislation, which doesn't cost taxpayers a penny, will not only honor the individual organ donor and their loved ones, but will also heighten the awareness of the organ shortage—ultimately resulting in more organ donation.

There is a major undersupply of available and suitable organ donors.

Currently, there are 50,000 individuals waiting for an organ transplant in the United States. The number of people on the list has more than doubled since 1990 and a new name is added to the national patient waiting list approximately every 18 minutes. Despite the numerous problems that organ donation programs have faced and conquered over the years, a major problem still exists.

The demand for organs will continue to grow with the improvement of medical technologies. Without expanded efforts to increase the supply of organ donation, the supply of suitable organs will continue to lag behind the need.

For the many would-be organ recipients, the consequence of shortage is death. It is clear that expanded efforts are necessary in order to increase the number of organ donors.

According to some researchers, it may be possible to increase by 80 percent the number of organ donations in the United States through incentive programs and public education. A congressional medal recognizing donors and their families can play a very important and effective role in our efforts to encourage such donation.

Our proposed Gift of Life Medal Program will be administered by the regional organ procurement organizations [OPO's] and managed by the entity administering the organ procurement and transplantation network. Once the decision to donate an organ has been made, the donor or the family member of the donor will be asked by the regional OPO whether participation in the Gift of Life Medal Program is desired.

The OPO will give each donor or family member the option of receiving a gift of life medal, recognizing that some may not want to participate. If requested, a public presentation will be made to honor the donor. A presentation by a local official, community leader or Member of Congress would be a tremendous opportunity to increase the awareness concerning the desperate need for organ donation.

Every action has been taken to ensure that the issuance of the gift of life medals results in no net cost to the Government. In addition, I am proud to report that the legislation has the strong support of the United Network for Organ Sharing [UNOS] and the Coalition on Donation.

Any one of us, or any member of our families, could need a life saving transplant tomorrow. We would then be placed on a waiting list to await our turn—or our death.

So, I ask that our colleagues help bring an end to waiting lists and recognize the enormous faith and courage displayed by organ donors and their families. Please join us as cosponsors of The Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act of 1997. These donors offer others a second chance by providing the most precious gift imaginable—the gift of life.

The bill is as follows:

H.R.—

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act of 1997".

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL.

The Secretary of the Treasury shall design and strike a bronze medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, to commemorate organ donors and their families.

SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Any organ donor, or the family or family member of any organ donor, shall be eligible for a medal described in section 2.

(b) DOCUMENTATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall direct the entity holding the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (hereafter in this Act referred to as "OPTN") to contract to—

(1) establish an application procedure requiring the relevant organ procurement organization, as described in section 371(b)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 273(b)(1)), through which an individual or their family made an organ donation, to submit to the OPTN contractor documentation supporting the eligibility of that individual or their family to receive a medal described in section 2; and

(2) determine, through the documentation provided, and, if necessary, independent investigation, whether the individual or family is eligible to receive a medal described in section 2.

SEC. 4. PRESENTATION.

(a) DELIVERY TO THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall deliver medals struck pursuant to this Act to the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(b) DELIVERY TO ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall direct the OPTN contractor to arrange for the presentation to the relevant organ procurement organization all medals struck pursuant to this Act to individuals or families that, in accordance with section 3, the OPTN contractor has determined to be eligible to receive medals under this Act.

(c) LIMITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), only 1 medal may be presented to a family under subsection (b). Such medal shall be presented to the donating family member, or in the case of a deceased donor, to the family member who signed the consent form authorizing, or who otherwise authorized, the donation of the organ involved.

(2) EXCEPTION.—In the case of a family in which more than 1 member is an organ donor, the OPTN contractor may present an additional medal to each such organ donor or their family.

SEC. 5. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services or the OPTN contractor may provide duplicates of the medal described in section 2 to any recipient of a medal under section 4(b), under such regulations as the Secretary of Health and Human Services may issue.

(b) LIMITATION.—The price of a duplicate medal shall be sufficient to cover the cost of such duplicates.

SEC. 6. NATIONAL MEDALS.

The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of section 5111 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 7. GENERAL WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS.

No provision of law governing procurement or public contracts shall be applicable to the procurement of goods or services necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. SOLICITATION OF DONATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.— The Secretary of the Treasury may enter into an agreement with the OPTN contractor to collect funds to offset expenditures relating to the issuance of medals authorized under this Act.

(b) PAYMENT OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.— Except as provided in paragraph (2), all funds received by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network under subsection (a) shall be promptly paid by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network to the Secretary of the Treasury.

(2) LIMITATION.— Not more than 5 percent of any funds received under subsection (a) shall be used to pay administrative costs incurred by the OPTN contractor as a result of an agreement established under this section.

(c) NUMISMATIC PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FUND.— Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) all amounts received by the Secretary of the Treasury under subsection (b)(1) shall be deposited in the Numismatic Public Enterprise Fund, as described in section 5134 of title 31, United States Code; and

(2) the Secretary of the Treasury shall charge such fund with all expenditures relating to the issuance of medals authorized under this Act.

(d) START-UP COSTS.— A 1-time amount not to exceed $55,000 shall be provided to the OPTN contractor to cover initial start-up costs. The amount will be paid back in full within 3 years of the date of the enactment of this Act from funds received under subsection (a).

(e) NO NET COST TO THE GOVERNMENT.— The Secretary of the Treasury shall take all actions necessary to ensure that the issuance of medals authorized under section 2 results in no net cost to the Government.

SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act—

(1) the term "organ" means the human kidney, liver, heart, lung, pancreas, and any other human organ (other than corneas and eyes) specified by regulation of the Secretary of Health and Human Services or the OPTN contractor; and

(2) the term "Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network" means the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network established under section 372 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274).

SEC. 10. SUNSET PROVISION.

This Act shall be effective during the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

TOWARD A BETTER SYSTEM OF DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, here in our Nation's Capital, a young woman was killed in a car accident. This tragedy briefly became the subject of national news because the offending driver was a diplomat of the Republic of Georgia, and the driver was allegedly driving drunk. Thus, a horrible situation for the young woman's family became the focal point for an ad hoc rethinking of the issue of diplomatic immunity, and the reasonable expectation of most Americans that diplomats and their families should not be absolved of all personal responsibility for criminal actions.

Diplomatic immunity unquestionably plays an important role in foreign relations between nations. I firmly believe that American diplomats, their staffs and their families must be shielded from abusive prosecution abroad by strict adherence to the international rule of law upon which diplomatic immunity is based. In the United States, the same principles must apply to those associated with diplomatic missions here in Washington, at the United Nations in New York City, and at consulates in California and throughout our country.

While the concept of diplomatic immunity remains an important underpinning of peaceful diplomacy, it is time, with the exponential growth of the diplomatic corps, that we reexamine the procedures and policies implicit in the doctrine of diplomatic immunity. In short, while diplomats cannot be held hostage by foreign governments through criminal prosecution of themselves, their families or their staffs, that does not mean that civilized countries cannot agree to hold their own diplomatic personnel accountable in their own judicial systems.

I recently met with a now-retired New York City detective, a highly decorated veteran of street wars, who attempted to arrest a young man, the son of a diplomat, who is a serial rapist. I recently met with one of that young man's victims, whose life has never fully returned to normal. I recently met with representatives of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Organization for Victim's Assistance, the National Association of Crime Victims Compensation Boards, the National Black Police Association, Mothers Against Drunk Drivers, and the National Law Enforcement Council.

These officers, victims, and advocates were assembled by constituents of mine in California who are responsible for an important study of cases of diplomatic immunity abuse. In the book by veteran journalist Chuck Ashman and attorney Pamela Terracott, "Diplomatic Crime", they document that the majority of criminal acts which trigger the imposition of diplomatic immunity claims are committed not by Ambassadors or senior ministers, but by their lower ranking staff and family members. They point out that there are cases in which those accused are not only excused but remain in their duty post or are quickly reassigned to another

I commend Chuck and Pamela for their dedicated research. I thank victims and police for their determination to shed light on abuses. I appreciate the concern on the part of so many significant police and victims support groups for this issue.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned, the tragic death of a young woman at the hands of a drunk driver forced the issue of diplomatic immunity back to the front pages earlier this year. In that one case, the government of the accused has waived his immunity and allowed American procedures for justice to move ahead. What is most significant about that decision is how unique it is in the field. In fact, the knee jerk reaction of most nations, including the United States, is to recall those accused of crimes before there is any determinations as to the merits of the charges.

It is my view that the growth in the number of diplomatic personnel, along with media technology that spreads word of crimes across the country in minutes, creates the potential for public outrage that could threaten the entire system of diplomatic immunity sometime in the future. Therefore, I believe that now is the time for Congress to begin an effort to seriously investigate how to improve and protect diplomatic immunity. I recently introduced legislation, H.R. 1236, to get that process underway. I would like to thank Congressman CHRIS SMITH, the chairman of the International Relations Committee's Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights for incorporating the provisions of H.R. 1236 into H.R. 1253, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, which was reported out of the subcommittee on April 9.

This legislative effort may be of little comfort to the victims of that serial rapist or to the families of those killed by drunken drivers who have not been called to account in any nation, but I believe it is a step in the right direction. The Congress should know when and where these incidents occur. The Congress and the American people should know the disposition of cases involving American officials overseas accused of crimes. I look forward to the Congress moving forward on this issue, to study the reports we are requesting from the State Department, and to take the lead globally in exploring how to balance the needs of diplomacy and the demands of a changing society.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I commend Chuck Ashman and Pamela Terracott for their dedicated research, and thank the victims and those police who have shown such determination to shed light on abuses.

PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON SENDS GREETINGS TO THE THIRD WORLD PARLIAMENTARIANS CONVENTION ON TIBET

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today here in the Rayburn House Office Building the Third World Parliamentarians Convention on Tibet was held. Among those who spoke during this conference were His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the chairman of the House International Relations Committee, our colleague Congressman BENJAMIN A. GILMAN of New York.

President Bill Clinton sent a message of greeting to the parliamentarians of many countries who were assembled here today. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting the message of President Clinton into the RECORD. Our President's powerful affirmation of the importance of human rights is an important statement that I urge all of my colleagues to read:

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, April 17, 1997.

Warm greetings to everyone gathered in Washington, D.C., for the Third World Parliamentarians Convention on Tibet. I am pleased to welcome all the participants, and especially His Holiness the Dalai Lama, whose devotion to the Tibetan people and inspiring advocacy of nonviolence and dialogue have earned the world's lasting admiration.

All Americans cherish the rights guaranteed to us by our founders in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. We have worked to extend them not only to our own citizens, but also to people everywhere, recognizing that these freedoms are the birthright of all humankind. It is heartening that, with the growth and development of the human rights movement, there has been a greater awareness and appreciation that such rights are universal and not limited by political boundaries.

We must continue to speak out whenever human rights are threatened or denied, and I am grateful for the continuing efforts of leaders like you, who have done so much to advance democracy, human dignity, and religious freedom worldwide.

Best wishes for a successful convention.

BILL CLINTON.

PRESERVING OUR COUNTRY'S IMPORTANT NATURAL AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my deep concern that revenues deposited into the Land and Water Conservation Fund [LWCF] are not being spent as they should. Congress created this fund many years ago to pay for the purchase of critical Federal park and recreation lands, but now only spends a small portion of the fund's annual revenues for this purpose.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund was established in 1965 in order to provide a permanent annual funding source for high priority land investments that would help to conserve our Nation's natural resources and ensure our ability to meet Americans' recreational needs. At first the fund's revenues came from proceeds generated by the sales of surplus Federal real property, motorboat fuel taxes, and fees for recreational use of Federal lands. Then in 1968, Congress decided to substantially increase the LWCF's revenues by directing into the fund money yielded from Outer Continental Shelf mineral leasing receipts. As a result, Federal returns from the exploitation of one key natural resource, namely mineral products removed from the Outer Continental Shelf areas, are designated to conserve other key natural resources, namely public parks, wildlife habitats, and other recreational resources.

The LWCF presently receives $900 million each year, nearly all of which comes from OCS receipts, and until 1981 the vast majority of the fund's holdings were spent on Federal land acquisition. However, over the last decade and a half, Congress has allocated less and less LWCF money for its intended purpose and has, instead, used the fund to offset the Federal deficit. Though in fiscal year 1978 over $800 million was directed from the LWCF to buy land, in fiscal year 1997 only $149 million, or 14 percent, of the LWCF was allocated to buy park and recreational property. Since such small percentages of the fund have been used to buy land in recent years, the unspent revenues have accumulated and now total more than $11 billion.

While we wait to balance the budget, we are losing many opportunities to acquire and protect environmentally sensitive lands and areas that are critical to our present and future recreational needs. Many important lands will soon be lost to real estate development and industrial uses, and unless we purchase them now, we will never have another opportunity to preserve them.

In honor of Earth Day, I would like to call on Congress to allocate this year's LWCF revenues for their intended purpose, to preserve in public ownership our country's most important natural and recreational resources.

REMEMBERING JOHN JENSEN

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest condolences to the family, friends, and coworkers of John Jensen. An employee for 20 years at the Amtrak facility in Wilmington, DE, John Jensen lost his life in a senseless tragedy. He leaves behind his beloved wife of 16 years Bonnie, 14-year-old daughter Virginia, father Miller, and brother James.

John Jensen was a family man who found time to coach a little league girl's softball team, and took pleasure in boating and fishing. He was a solid member of his community, and well respected by his neighbors as a friend.

Mr. Speaker, as many of my colleagues who rely on Amtrak service can attest, the employees of Amtrak are in many ways a family. The long hours that these individuals spend ensuring that millions of Americans across our country have safe and efficient rail transportation results in a bond of kinship.

While there are many questions left unanswered in the wake of tragic events in Wilmington, what is certain is that the Amtrak family has lost a valued member. John Jensen was a foreman universally respected by his coworkers as a dedicated, conscientious, and well-liked member of the facility. He will be painfully missed by his colleagues for a long time to come.

John Jensen was a man of fine character, great perseverance, and true kindness. While I know no words can lessen the pain felt by the Jensen family and the Wilmington community, it is my hope that from this tragedy some good will come, it is my hope that John Jensen's memory will inspire others to live as he did—dedicated to his family, involved in his community, and committed to his work.

Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude by extending my hopes and best wishes for a speedy recovery to Jonathan Fedora and John Morrison, two dedicated Amtrak employees who were needlessly wounded during this tragic event. Hopefully, both Mr. Fedora and Mr. Morrison will be returning to work in the very near future.

HONORING JACK CROGHAN FOR FORTY-TWO YEARS OF OUTSTANDING AND CONTINUED SERVICE AS AN EDUCATOR

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to join Mr. Jack Croghan's family, friends, coworkers, and students in recognizing his 42 years of outstanding and continuous service to our community. We congratulate Mr. Croghan for his contributions as an educator, a role model, and a mentor who has helped shape the lives of thousands of young people in our community.

Mr. Croghan earned his Ph.D in administration at Syracuse University. Since then, he has studied at the National Training Laboratories of Applied Behavioral Science, where he focused on educational training for consultants and applied behavioral science and social change. He has taught at all educational levels: Elementary, junior high, senior high, undergraduate, and graduate. This year will mark the 120th doctoral dissertation that Jack has chaired to successful completion at the University of Miami. Jack Croghan also distinguished himself as the chairman of the department of educational and psychological studies at the University of Maimi. He also trains supervisors and managers in the university's leadership development program.

Jack was involved in the research studies that helped develop the Florida principal competencies which are now used in all 67 Florida counties to train school principals. He played a key role as a master trainer in the assessment of competencies. His strong commitment

to improving our school system has affected the lives of fellow educators and students alike. Jack's exceptional service and commitment to enhancing education is greatly appreciated by all. In addition to his many years as an educator, he has found time to serve as a charter member of the Florida Council on Educational Management.

Jack Croghan is an excellent role model for our youth. On behalf of our entire community and as a former educator myself, I offer him my deepest thanks for his many years of dedicated service and our best wishes for continued success.

BURMA SANCTIONS AT LAST

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Clinton administration for its announcement yesterday to impose new sanctions on Burma. This is absolutely the right thing to do in the face of growing oppression of the Burmese people at the hands of Burma's State Law and Order Restoration Council.

This is an important message to other nations considering further investment in a nation with a repressive military junta illegally governing it. The imposition of sanctions will facilitate a dialog with those who are seeking democracy and will help to make 1997 a year of change. This could be the year the SLORC's power is broken.

I have written to Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to encourage her to pursue these sanctions with all due vigor, and to consider other options which may be necessary in order to restore true law and order to this beleaguered country.

In February, prodemocracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi called on the rest of the world to block investment in her country. United States sanctions are an urgently-needed step in the struggle being waged by Aung San Suu Kyi and so many others in Burma. I have had a long-time interest in this issue and I urge my colleagues to join me in advocating for democracy there.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, last Thursday, I was unavoidably absent for rollcall vote No. 85, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 400, the Twenty-First Century Patent Improvement Act. If I had been present I would have voted "no."

RESOLUTION OF WELCOME TO HIS HOLINESS, THE DALAI LAMA OF TIBET

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today, the Members of the Congress have had the honor and pleasure of meeting with His Holiness the Dalai Lama of Tibet at a reception in his honor sponsored by the Congressional Human Rights Caucus. Our distinguished colleague, Congressman JOHN EDWARD PORTER and I, as cochairmen of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, had the honor of hosting this reception, at which our colleagues had the pleasure of meeting the Dalai Lama.

I am delighted to report to our colleagues that His Holiness met today with President Clinton, and he also had the opportunity to meet today with the Speaker of the House, our colleague from Georgia, NEWT GINGRICH.

Mr. Speaker, the occasion for our reception was a historic anniversary. In 1987—10 years ago this year—His Holiness the Dalai Lama met with the members of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus. This was the Dalai Lama's first such political meeting in Washington, DC, with Members of Congress. On this important occasion 10 years ago, he presented his five-point peace plan for Tibet for the first time in public. This is an outstanding proposal for the nonviolent resolution of differences between the people of Tibet and the Government of China. This five-point peace plan for Tibet was an important proposal that was a significant element in the decision of the Norwegian parliamentary committee to award the Nobel Peace Prize to the Dalai Lama in 1989.

It is most fitting and appropriate, Mr. Speaker, that we here in the Congress mark the 10th anniversary of the Dalai Lama's important visit here 10 years ago. I regret to note that despite the excellent proposals made by His Holiness, Chinese Government authorities have adamantly refused to negotiate seriously to resolve the problems regarding Tibet. It is also tragic that the Government of China continues to carry out policies that threaten the unique and important religious and historical cultural traditions of the Tibetan people.

The tragic human rights violations in Tibet, which we highlighted 10 years ago, continue to remain a serious problem. The Tibetan people are still subject to persecution and the Chinese Government continues to repress the Tibetan people.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of the visit of His Holiness here to the Congress, with my colleague, JOHN EDWARD PORTER, I have introduced a resolution welcoming the Dalai Lama. I ask that the full text of our resolution be placed in the RECORD.

H. RES. 124

Whereas on September 21, 1987, the Dalai Lama visited the United States Congress at the invitation of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus and publicly presented his Five Point Peace Plan for Tibet for the first time;

Whereas on December 11, 1989, the Dalai Lama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of the Five Point Peace Plan for Tibet and his consistent principled resistance to the use of force or violence;

Whereas on this, the tenth anniversary of the presentation of the Dalai Lama's Five Point Peace Plan, the government of the People's Republic of China has yet to enter into serious discussions, without preconditions, with the Dalai Lama or his representatives, in spite of repeated calls from the United States and other governments to do so;

Whereas the government of the People's Republic of China continues to carry out policies that threaten the existence of Tibet's unique religious, cultural and linguistic traditions, despite urging from the United States and other governments that the People's Republic of China take measures to respect these unique traditions;

Whereas the Dalai Lama's first visit to Taiwan in March 1997 and his message of tolerance and non-violence resonated among millions of people in Taiwan; and

Whereas His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama of Tibet will be visiting Washington, D.C., in April 1997: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring) that the Congress,

(1) warmly welcomes His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama of Tibet to the United States;

(2) urges the President to meet with His Holiness the Dalai Lama during his visit to discuss substantive issues;

(3) requests the President to continue to urge the Government of the People's Republic of China to meet with the Dalai Lama or his representatives, without preconditions, to discuss a solution to the impasse in their relations; and

(4) requests His Holiness the Dalai Lama to communicate to the Tibetan people that the Congress and the American people support them in their struggle to preserve Tibetan identity and to protect and exercise their freedoms.

A TRIBUTE TO HELEN BERNSTEIN

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of a valuable member of our community, Helen Bernstein. Ms. Bernstein leaves a lifetime of work and dedication on behalf of our children's education.

Helen completed her undergraduate education at UCLA, going on to do her graduate work in psychology at California State University Northridge. She then began her career as teacher. Teaching at both the junior high and high school levels, she quickly earned a reputation among students and her colleagues as an outstanding educator. Although she thrived on the direct daily interaction with the children, her natural leadership abilities eventually led her to taking a more active role in the teaching community.

In 1990 she was elected president of United Teachers of Los Angeles [UTLA], a position she held until 1996. She led Los Angeles teachers through a tumultuous period in which they experienced efforts to break up the school system, efforts to cut funding for teachers, and internal strife. She faced these obstacles in the only way she knew how, head on.

Helen was never one to shy away from conflict or adversity, as she had a way of embracing these issues and quickly bringing the debate back to her focus—the welfare of the children. Colleagues of Helen consistently comment on both her courage of conviction and her unwavering commitment to the goal of improving schools for the children of Los Angeles.

Last year Helen stepped down as president of UTLA, but remained active in the effort to reform our schools. She became director of the Teacher Union Reform Network a multistate project designed to coordinate various school reforms and improve student achievement. In addition, Helen had recently taken a position as an education adviser to Mayor Riordan, in an effort to increase his role in school reform.

Indeed Helen Bernstein's life and work have left an indelible mark on the Los Angeles public school system. Her legacy was best stated in a recent Los Angeles Times editorial, "Bernstein stood for higher academic standards and more emphasis on discipline and student testing. She saw the teachers as the key to higher standards and would stop at nothing to make that point. . . ."

Recently Ms. Bernstein passed away, leaving our community with a great loss. Her lifelong work on behalf of our educational system will not be soon forgotten. Ms. Bernstein served as a voice of those often left voiceless, the students of Los Angeles. We will miss her greatly.

A TRIBUTE TO DAVID MORSE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. David Morse, who for 14 years has been the voice of the University of Pennsylvania in its communications with Congress and the Federal Government. During his years in Washington, Mr. Morse has become a leading expert on issues relating to the financing of higher education. In addition to his official duties for the University of Pennsylvania, Mr. Morse has utilized his knowledge of these issues to the benefit of others, chairing committees and working groups for the Consortium on Financing Higher Education, and the Association of American Universities.

Mr. Morse has long been a strong proponent of funding for university-based science and technology research. Since 1995, Morse has been one of the major forces behind the Science Coalition, a Washington-based group of more than 400 universities, scientific and engineering societies, corporations, Nobel Laureates and other prominent individuals organized in support of a strong Federal commitment to university-based research. As a result of Morse's and others vigorous advocacy, the coalition has been cited in the media as one of the most significant forces behind Congress' and the administration's renewed interest and support for basic science and technology funding.

Before coming to the University of Pennsylvania, Mr. Morse worked on Capitol Hill for over 10 years; first, as a professional staff member for higher education and cultural affairs on the staff of former Senator Robert Stafford of Vermont, then-chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Education, Arts and Humanities, and later in a similar capacity on the staff of former Senator Jacob Javits, of New York. In 1981, Mr. Morse took a leave from his Senate position to serve as Director of the President's Task Force on the Arts and Humanities, which recommended an enhanced Federal role in support of cultural activities.

Penn has begun a search for a successor to Mr. Morse, but it will not be easy for anyone to fill his shoes. Mr. Speaker, in light of Mr. Morse's career-long commitment to improving higher education and for his successful lobbying of Congress to achieve these ends, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Mr. Morse on the occasion of his departure from the University of Pennsylvania, and wishing him luck in his new position as director of public affairs at the Pew Charitable Trusts.

HONORING EILEEN GOODWIN

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Eileen Goodwin, who since 1993 has served as executive director of the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority.

The Santa Clara County Traffic Authority was established in 1984 by the voters of Santa Clara County, who approved a half-cent sales tax to bring much needed road improvements to Silicon Valley. Known as measure A, this highly successful road improvement program helped to preserve Silicon Valley's economic viability and quality of life.

The role Ms. Goodwin played in ensuring the success of this program, first as deputy director of the Traffic Authority and then as executive director, cannot be overstated. During Ms. Goodwin's tenure, the Traffic Authority built 18 miles of new freeway and improved 40 miles of existing freeway. This monumental $1.2 billion public works project was not only completed on time and within budget, but at each stage of development Ms. Goodwin went to great lengths to make sure that the public's concerns were taken into consideration and addressed.

Ms. Goodwin's skill, vision, and unsurpassed professionalism have earned her the respect of her peers in both the private and public sector. She is recognized as one of Santa Clara County's most distinguished public administrators. The replication of measure A by counties throughout California is a further testament to her outstanding leadership qualities.

Mr. Speaker, on March 31, 1997, the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority terminated its operations. Today I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Goodwin for her extraordinary service to the residents of Santa Clara County.

MARGOT CARLSON 1997 NATIONAL CRIME VICTIM SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to honor the Gang Victim Assistance Program and its executive director, Margot Carlson. This unique program from Orange County, CA started as a project of Community Service Programs, Inc. The Gang Victim Assistance Program and Ms. Carlson were honored with a Crime Victim Service Award by Attorney General Janet Reno on Friday, April 18, 1997.

Last year, the program helped more than 970 victims of gang-related violence and their families. Since the launch of the program in 1990, it has worked closely with the Orange County district attorney's gang unit by providing support to victims and witnesses through the investigation and prosecution of each case of gang-related violence. The nonprofit human service organization is comprised of eight bicultural and bilingual victim specialists, enabling it to respond to problems that Latino crime victims face when confronted by gang violence.

The program's victim specialists are continuously on call and respond to various situations which include accompanying investigating officers to the crime scene, delivering death notifications, assessing crime victims' safety and emergency needs, and providing referrals to support agencies. These situations utilize the victim specialists' training in victim support and counseling. This program has been so successful that the Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime is creating a protocol based upon gang victim assistance for other communities needing similar programs.

I would like my colleagues in Congress to join me in recognizing Ms. Margot Carlson and the Gang Victim Assistance Program of Orange County, CA. Their contributions to the Orange County community have been invaluable and inspiring. I commend the Department of Justice and Attorney General Janet Reno for honoring them with the Crime Victims Service Award.

PRESIDENT WAIVES CORRIDOR ACT YET AGAIN

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. The State Department has notified the House International Relations Committee of the President's intention to invoke the national security waiver clause of the Humanitarian Aid Corridor Act. That law bars U.S. assistance to any country which prohibits or restricts the transport or delivery of U.S. humanitarian assistance to other countries. The national security clause allows the President to waive the implementation of the law on the grounds of U.S. national security interests.

The beneficiary of the administration's munificence is Turkey, which has refused since 1993 to let United States humanitarian aid transit its territory to Armenia. Referring to Turkey's ethnic kinship to Azerbaijan, which has been locked in conflict with Armenia over Nagorno-Karabakh since 1988, and to the occupation of Azerbaijani territory by Nargorno-Karabakh Armenians, Ankara has closed all land routes to Armenia. The opening of an air corridor in 1995 has in no way mitigated the impact of this decision, which forces United States aid to transit Georgia.

Last year, President Clinton also invoked the national security waiver clause of the Humanitarian Aid Corridor Act, without bothering to inform Congress in advance. We learned of the administration's decision post facto, from Turkey's Foreign Minister, who announced it at a May 21, 1995, press conference. The waiver had actually been signed on May 16. This year, President Clinton, having learned his lesson and seeking to blunt criticism, at least gave Congress advance notification.

President Clinton's graciousness in 1997 does not, however, compensate for maintaining a bad policy. The arguments in the administration's memorandum of justification for the waiver, neither individually or collectively, can explain away turning a blind eye to Ankara's flouting of basic principles of civilized behavior in the international community. True, Turkey has ethnic ties to Azerbaijan, and is a NATO ally, and the United States cooperates with Turkey on a spectrum of issues. But as I said when I introduced the Humanitarian Aid Corridor Act in February 1995, it should be an obvious and unobjectionable principle of U.S. assistance that countries keeping U.S. humanitarian aid from reaching third countries should not receive U.S. aid. Nothing has happened in the intervening 2 years to change my view on this subject. However close Turkey may be to Azerbaijan, Turkey is not a party to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. There is simply no reason for Ankara to block the delivery of United States humanitarian aid to Armenia. Moreover, as a member of the OSCE, Turkey has certain commitments: the 1991 Moscow Document calls on participating states to "cooperate fully to enable humanitarian relief operations to be undertaken speedily and effectively; to take all necessary steps to facilitate speedy and unhindered access for such relief operations; [and to] make the necessary arrangements for those relief operations to be carried out."

The administration's memorandum of justification is a poor attempt to defend the indefensible. Turkey is impeding the delivery of our humanitarian aid to refugees. That policy is unacceptable. So is the administration's policy of refusing to confront Ankara on this fundamental issue.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 1997, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 25

9:30 a.m.
Labor and Human Resources
Public Health and Safety Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine how the United States' health care workforce must evolve to meet future needs.
SD–430

APRIL 28

10:00 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings on pending nominations.
SD–226

APRIL 29

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold oversight hearings to review a GAO evaluation of the development of the Draft Tongass Land Management Plan.
SD–366

Indian Affairs
Business meeting, to mark up S. 459, to authorize funds for and extend the Native American Programs Act of 1974; to be followed by an oversight hearing on the implementation of the San Carlos Water Rights Settlement Act of 1991 (P.L. 102–575).
SR–485

Special on Aging
To hold hearings to examine the chronic health care delivery system.
SH–216

10:00 a.m.
Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for the National Endowment for the Arts and the Humanities, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities.
SD–430

2:00 p.m.
Environment and Public Works
Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee
To resume hearings to examine ozone and particulate matter standards proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency.
SD–406

3:00 p.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings on the nomination of Joel I. Klein, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.
SD–226

APRIL 30

9:30 a.m.
Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings on equal opportunity issues in Federal construction.
SD–430

Rules and Administration
To resume hearings to discuss revisions to Title 44, relating to the operations of the Government Printing Office.
SR–301

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on the structure and modernization of the National Guard.
SD–192

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the operations of the Department of Justice.
SD–226

2:00 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the use of "Telepresence", the enabling technology for telemedicine and distance learning.
SR–253

Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings on fighting crime and violence in the District of Columbia.
SD–342

2:30 p.m.
Select on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on intelligence matters.
SH–219

MAY 1

9:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of the Interior.
SD–192

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 357, to authorize the Bureau of Land Management to manage the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.
SD–366

Labor and Human Resources
Public Health and Safety Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine biomedical research priorities.
SD–430

Small Business
To hold hearings on the Small Business Administration's finance programs.
SR–428A

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Resources.
SD–124

Armed Services
Readiness Subcommittee
To resume hearings on S. 450, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999, focusing on the Department of Defense Depot maintenance privatization initiatives.
SR–222

11:30 a.m.
Judiciary
Immigration Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the Immigration and Naturalization Services, focusing on criminal record verification process for citizenship applicants.
SH–216

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Veterans Affairs.
SD–138

Select on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on intelligence matters.
SH–219

MAY 5

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 430, to amend the Act of June 20, 1910, to protect the permanent trust funds of the State of New Mexico from erosion due to inflation and modify the basis on which distributions are made from those funds.
SD–366

MAY 6

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
SD–138

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Foreign Operations Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for foreign assistance programs, focusing on Russia and the Newly Independent States.
S–128, Capitol

MAY 7

9:15 a.m.
Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for cancer research programs of the Department of Health and Human Services.
SH–216

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense.
SD–192

Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Transportation, focusing on transportation infrastructure financing issues.
SD–124

MAY 8

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold a workshop to examine competitive change in the electric power industry, focusing on the effects of competition on fuel use and types of generation.
SH–216

MAY 14

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on environmental programs.
SD–192

MAY 21

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on Air Force programs.
SD–192

Judiciary
To hold oversight hearings on the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.
SD–226

MAY 22

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To resume a workshop to examine competitive change in the electric power industry, focusing on the financial implications of restructuring.
SH–216

JUNE 4

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense.
SD–192

JUNE 11

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense.
SD–192

JUNE 12

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To resume a workshop to examine competitive change in the electric power industry, focusing on the benefits and risks of restructuring to consumers and communities.
SH–216

CANCELLATIONS

APRIL 24

2:00 p.m.
Finance
To hold hearings on the 1997 Annual Reports on the Status of the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds.
SD–215

Select on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on intelligence matters.
SH–219

POSTPONEMENTS

APRIL 24

9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings on U.S. agricultural export issues.
SR–332