

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ASTRONOMICAL GAS PRICING

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to continue my critique of the Clinton-Gore Administration's role in the recent surge in gasoline and home-heating oil prices. Yes, Mr. Speaker, the Administration must shoulder much of the responsibility because they ignored the "two D's"—domestic production and diplomacy.

The United States imports around 55% of its petroleum requirements largely because it is so difficult to produce petroleum in this country. Mr. Speaker, the Administration imposes serious limits on exploration, drilling and refining oil through a Byzantine permitting and regulatory scheme. These regulations force many facilities to shut down when oil prices are low and make it uneconomical to reopen when prices rise.

This takes us to the second D—diplomacy. The Administration knew one year ago that these prices were coming down the pipeline. Unfortunately, Energy Secretary Richardson was preoccupied by a major spy scandal at DOE—as he himself said on February 16th, "It is obvious that the federal government was not prepared. We were caught napping. We got complacent."

The Administration was unable or unwilling to convince our friends in OPEC and other oil-producing countries to keep the spigot turned on. It is this lack of effort that brings us to where we are today—gasoline prices racing towards \$2.50 a gallon.

The only thing that saved our seniors in the Northeast from freezing recently was the arrival of warmer weather. Now those living on fixed incomes will face exorbitant prices at the gas pump. That is the legacy of Clinton-Gore.

Mr. Speaker, I give this Administration's "two D's" and an "F."

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE CALUMET THEATRE

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join other northern Michigan residents in celebrating the centennial of the Calumet Theatre, in Calumet, Michigan, on the beautiful Keweenaw Peninsula.

Despite its remoteness, this remarkable theater once provided a stage for some of the greatest actors and actresses who traveled the country shortly after the turn of the century. Like many institutions of its kind, the theater fell on hard times but was rediscovered by farsighted local residents. Now it is the bright jewel of a national project. The Calumet

Theatre, which occupies a place on the National Register of Historic Places, sits in the heart of downtown Calumet, which is also listed on the National Register. Both in turn are major features and attractions in one of the nation's newest national parks, Keweenaw National Historic Park.

The performers who appeared for local audiences included such luminaries as Lillian Russell, John Philip Sousa, Sarah Bernhardt, Douglas Fairbanks Sr., Lon Chaney Sr., Jason Robards Sr., William S. Hart, and Wallace and Noah Beery.

Also appearing was Madame Helen Modjeska, whose spirit is being resurrected in a new book by author Susan Sontag, but whose actual ghost is said to occasionally walk the boards of the stage, just as she did in real life in 1900, 1902 and 1905.

As the story is told—even as far away as Madame Modjeska's home country of Poland—an actress with a New York theatrical troupe was playing the role of Kate in *Taming of the Shrew* in 1958, when she suddenly went blank on her monologue. She was saved by the pale figure of Madame Modjeska, who fed her the lines from the balcony.

Is there really a ghost, Mr. Speaker? Ask former reporter Rick Rudden, now editor of the *Escanaba Daily Press*, who spent a ghost hunting night in a theater filled with strong raps, knocks and other inexplicable sounds.

But it is my own district, Mr. Speaker, which threatened for many years to become a ghost of its own former glory in the heyday of copper mining. The copper boom is a fixture of the distant past, but the echoes of a dying industry can still be heard. As recently as 1995 the nearby White Pine Mine closed, taking with it 1,200 good-paying jobs.

This is the context in which we celebrate the centennial of the Calumet Theatre. The community—the region—looks back a hundred years to a grand past, but it need only look at yesterday to see a time of economic struggle and uncertainty. Yet, in the midst of these very lean years, residents have worked to save such assets as the theater, not only as showpieces for visitors but as living and working community centers for the performing arts.

As the theater's Web site proudly proclaims, restoration and performances at the Calumet Theatre are organized by the Calumet Theatre Company, a member-supported volunteer based organization. The theater now serves as a venue for 60–80 events annually, including symphony performances, folk music, jazz, opera, plays, dance, dinner movies, community events, as well as public meetings and guided tours.

With this passion for preserving and continuing such cultural traditions, Mr. Speaker, it is certainly no wonder that the early home of the current chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, William Ivey, is only minutes from the Calumet Theatre.

I salute the people of Calumet for their foresight and hard work in restoring this community asset and ensuring it is included in our nation's inventory of architectural treasures. I

am pleased the theater has been designated as a "Save America's Treasures" site by the Millennium Council at the White House. I thank Bill Ivey for his tireless efforts towards this goal, and I commend the Calumet Theatre Company for undertaking the day-to-day task of preserving this facility.

IN RECOGNITION OF ALICE CARDONA'S 70TH BIRTHDAY

HON. NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alice Cardona on her 70th birthday and to take this opportunity to thank her for her life-long dedication and service in helping others in our community.

W.A. Nance once said "No person can be a great leader unless he takes genuine joy in the successes of those under him." Through her work in education advocacy and with Hispanic women, Alice's joy is evident.

Born and raised in New York City, Alice has had a long and distinguished career in public service. She was former Governor Cuomo's Assistant Director of the New York State Division for Women where she represented the Division at the Minority and Women Business Enterprise Advisory Council and various conferences, conventions and public affairs events, including serving as Ombudsperson to the Department of State. There she networked and reached out to community-based organizations and State agencies and national Latino organizations.

Alice had an equally long career in education advocacy where she was the ASPIRA of New York Director of the Parent Student Guidance Program and she served as a member of Commissioner Ambach's New York State Education Department, Bilingual Education Advisory Council for six years.

Alice has also founded several prominent organizations for Hispanic women including the Puerto Rican/Latino Education Roundtable, National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, New York City Chapter, National Latina Caucus, HACER, Inc., Hispanic Women's Center, Hispanic AIDS Forum, Women AIDS Resource Center, Queens Women's Network, the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health, the New York State Spanish Domestic Violence Hotline, New York Women's Foundation, Sister Fund, New York Women's Agenda, and she is presently Chair of the Board of Puerto Rican Association for Community Affairs.

In recognition for her community service work, Alice not surprisingly, is the recipient of numerous honors and awards.

It is especially today, on her 70th birthday, that I thank Alice for all her hard work, time and energy she has spent over the years contributing to her community and wish her a very special birthday this year and in the years to come.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING THE SAVANNAH
SHAMROCKS RUGBY CLUB

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize The Savannah Shamrocks Rugby Club, which is a non-profit, charity aiding organization in Savannah, GA. The club was founded in 1978 and now has approximately sixty members. The club is comprised of Military personnel, Teachers, Scientists, Doctors, Engineers, Sales people, and College students. The team plays 24 games per year in Savannah, facing competition from local teams such as Georgia Southern, Hilton Head, Columbia, and Augusta. Occasionally, the club is given the opportunity to compete against International teams such as the British Navy, South America, and Canada. There are two seasons per year, one is played in the Fall and the other in the Spring.

The main highlight for the club is the popular, annual St. Patrick's Day Rugby Tournament. This tournament is held every year on St. Patrick's Day weekend, which makes it feasible for the "out of town teams" to compete. The tournament's overwhelming popularity on St. Patrick's Day is the main reason The Shamrocks is the number one amateur sporting event economically in the Savannah area. Based on sheer numbers of players and supporters, who attend this great event, it is estimated that approximately \$3 million is generated to the local economy over this one weekend. During the rest of the year the club spends about \$42,000 per year locally, and approximately \$54,000 on "out of town" spending. The club also donates annually to local charities and in nine years the club has donated over \$25,000 to MDA. The Shamrocks have hosted this tournament for the past twenty one years, and would like to continue to host the tournament for many more years to come.

It is my pleasure to commend this charitable organization, which provides many benefits to the community beyond the intense, competitive game of Rugby.

TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND
RICHARD BURNS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, it does my heart good to stand here and pay tribute to Reverend Richard Burns as he retires from the pulpit after more than 30 years of service.

Reverend Burns has spent many years bringing hope and comfort to people in his community. Rev. Burns, at the young age of 91, has been preaching at New Mount Elem Missionary Baptist Church for 32 years. Rev. Burns has dedicated his life to the upliftment of the word of the Bible to the people and his family of Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Rev. Burns was born in Vicksburg, MS and has nine children, thirty-six grandchildren and fifty great-grandchildren. With an impressive

family roster as this one, Rev. Burns will be sure to have his time filled with enjoying his family. On February 19, 2000, Reverend Burns was honored for his service. He will be truly missed. However, it is pleasing to know that he will still be in the community doing his best to be a role model for many of us to follow.

TRIBUTE TO CONSTANCE AND
DELBERT LORENSEN ON THE OC-
CASION OF THEIR 50TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak briefly tonight about a married couple that have had an incredibly wonderful and positive impact on my life. I use the occasion of the golden wedding anniversary of Connie and Delbert Lorenson on February 11 to reflect on the important values I learned from them as a young man. I learned much as a friend of the family, a frequent visitor and guest at their home in Gladstone, Michigan, and as a Boy Scout under Delbert's leadership.

In 1950, so the Escanaba Daily Press reminds us, Delbert Lorenson married the former Connie Jacks of Detroit at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Stonington. 1950 was certainly a different world, as most of us know, and the tiny town in Michigan's Upper Peninsula where they were married was in some ways even more remote from today. Nowadays, it seems the expression "family values" often applies to a concept in political campaigns; in 1950 in this most rural region of the Midwest it was—and it remains—a foundation of our way of life.

Not that we thought ourselves rural or remote. Television was just about to be beamed north from Green Bay, and the Interstate Highway System was about to be born. Cars were about to become sleek and common. The world was becoming much smaller in that post World War II world for this veteran and his new bride.

In reality, however, our world would remain slower and quieter for another decade. I spent a lot of time with the Lorensens' son, Rick. Although he was one year older, we participated together in high school sports, especially in football and track and field. Perhaps most important to my ties with this family, we were also Scouts together.

Delbert was my Scoutmaster, helping Rick and me achieve the goal of becoming Eagle Scouts. So it's natural, I suppose, that when I have recalled my time with the Lorensens, the memory of working for merit badges and attending troop meetings is bound together with the memory of dinners at the Lorenson home and camping trips together.

But today, as I think of Connie and Delbert's 50 years together, the values learned in Scouting are foremost in my mind. These values aren't mere categories of accomplishment checked off as one moves up the ranks of Scouting. Scouts are taught life skills—discipline, responsibility, perseverance, teamwork, respect for others, a sense of community, sacrifice—and we were taught these skills

in the context of love, concern and a pervasive spirituality. What better skills can a couple possess to allow them to remain lovingly together for 50 years! What better skills can they teach to the next generation that might justifiably wear the label "family values!"

Rick and I have gone our separate paths, but our values were clearly formed in the same crucible. I have entered public service as a Member of Congress, and Rick has become a minister. Two other children, Tom and Pam, recently joined Rick in hosting a dinner and dance to celebrate their parents' 50 years together.

I treasure the wisdom I learned from the Lorensens. I wish them many, many more years of love, health and joy.

IN RECOGNITION OF GREEK
INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Ms. VELAZQUEZ Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize March 26th as Greek Independence Day. In honor of this day, The Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York is organizing the annual Greek Independence Day Parade in New York City.

The Federation of Hellenic-American Societies of Greater New York was established on November 22nd, 1937 and has made the Parade a City ritual for the last 61 years.

In a March 24, 1999, proclamation declaring Greek Independence Day, President Clinton said "Greek thought and the passion for truth and justice deeply influenced many of our nation's earliest and greatest leaders. Americans of Greek descent have brought their energy, grace and determination to every field of endeavor, and they have added immeasurably to the richness and diversity of our national life."

New York has seen this passion, energy and grace ever since early days of Greek settlement in the City and I am proud to say that New York is the home of the largest Greek community in the United States.

This national holiday in Greece celebrates the anniversary of the country's proclamation of independence in 1821 after four centuries of Turkish occupation. The war that followed went on until 1829 when finally the Turkish sultan recognized the independence of Greece.

I thank The Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York for all the contributions they have made to our community and in their efforts to make each year's Greek Independence Day Parade more memorable than the last.

HONORING THE LATE MOSES COX
AND JAMES RANSOME AVANT,
DISTINGUISHED VETERANS

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize two distinguished veterans from Georgia, Mr. Moses Cox and Mr. James Ransome

Avant. On March 18, 2000 these two Veterans will be honored by their families and friends as they place Military Headstones on their graves in the Avant-Cox-Pierce Cemetery in Washington County, Georgia.

Mr. Moses Cox started his illustrious military career in our Nation's fight for freedom and independence. He proudly served as a Private (Scout) in the Revolutionary War with the North Carolina Militia for over three years. He fought in the victorious Patriot Battle of Moores Creek Bridge on February 27, 1776. This battle was a decisive victory over British Loyalists at a point in time that served to dramatically raise the morale of the Patriot forces. Soon thereafter Mr. Cox was called to bear arms in the battles of Brier Creek (GA), Battle of Catawba (NC), and at Gates Defeat (SC) where he was wounded in the right forearm. He gallantly continued the Patriot fight for independence and marched from Wilmington and Fayetteville, NC to Camden, SC.

Mr. Cox married Martha Patsy Avant; blessed with a large family, came by wagon train to Washington County, GA where he settled Cox Town Road and a small community called Coxtown, later changed to Oconee. He accepted over 400 acres of Pioneer Bounty land off Coxtown Road in Oconee, cleared the land, built a house and raised his large family. He was again called to arms to serve and protect his beloved country in the War of 1812. He served as Lieutenant in the 98th District of Georgia Militia from Washington County, Georgia. A fine soldier, father, and husband he was laid to rest on December 19, 1845 with only family honors.

Mr. James Ransome Avant proudly served as a Private in Company B, 12th Battalion Georgia Light Artillery, Confederate States Army during the Civil War. Mr. James Ransome was married to Moses and Martha Cox's granddaughter Lucretia Cox. Mr. Avant died in 1876 and also received a burial with family honors.

Family, friends, and guests will be gathering at the Avant-Cox-Pierce Cemetery off Coxtown Road in Oconee, Washington County, GA and honor these two Veterans. I would like to formally recognize the bravery, honor, and selfless services with which these veterans served as the families remember these special veterans on March 18, 2000.

TRIBUTE TO COACH SHIRLEY WALKER AND THE ALCORN STATE LADY BRAVES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to stand before you and pay tribute to someone who has been a pioneer in coaching women's basketball. Coach Shirley Walker, head coach of the Alcorn State Lady Braves won her first automatic bid to the NCAA tournament this past weekend as her Lady Braves won a convincing game (83-58) against Grambling State University for the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Championship.

Although this was Coach Walker's fourth SWAC Championship, it was her first time earning an automatic invitation into the NCAA

tournament. Getting an automatic invitation to the tournament has been a goal that Coach Walker has lobbied for her entire 21 seasons at Alcorn State. Coach Walker has been credited for her efforts in developing women's basketball in the SWAC by her peers and is most deserving of this opportunity to display her talents on the highest level college basketball has to offer. Without her contributions to this cause, women's basketball in the SWAC may have never had the chance to be represented at the NCAA tournament.

Mr. Speaker, this upcoming Saturday, Coach Walker and her Lady Braves set off on a journey many dream of at the beginning of each basketball season, I ask that you join me in congratulating them and wishing them the best of luck in the "Road to the Final Four!"

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Martinez/Trafigant amendment to increase the minimum wage by \$1.00 over two years.

I have been a proponent of increasing the minimum wage since elected to Congress. I feel strongly that we need to give the working poor an increase in their wages.

Our country is in the midst of the longest period of economic growth in our history and yet the disparity between rich and poor has never been greater. An increase of a dollar over two years is a highly effective way in which we can bridge the gap of the economic disparity in our country.

Over time, as the value of purchasing power of the minimum wage has been eroded by inflation, it has become impossible to expect workers to live a dignified life when they are employed at or below the minimum wage. That is why it needs to be raised now and why it needs to be raised by a dollar over the next two years. This increase would simply catch up the wage to inflation since the last time the minimum was raised.

There are over 12 million people working for or close to the minimum wage. Some studies have indicated that of these 12 million Americans who earn between \$5.15 and \$6.15, 15 percent are African-American, 60 percent are women; and nearly two-fifths are the only earner in their families.

Increasing the minimum wage to \$6.15 an hour will not eliminate jobs or put people out of work. There is little or no evidence that illustrates job loss or the loss of opportunity since the last increase in the minimum wage.

It is imperative that the wage is increased by \$1.00 over two years. Some have argued that a \$1.00 an hour increase over 3 years is suffice for the working poor. Unfortunately, a minimum wage of \$6.15 an hour would not lift a minimum wage earner out of poverty. Therefore, we in Congress owe it to the working poor to give them a raise over the shortest period of time—2 years.

A wage increase spread over 3 years would cost a full time minimum wage earner \$1000. \$1,000 may not seem like a lot of money to most people here but for minimum wage earn-

ers in Buffalo, New York and throughout the country that \$1,000 a year may mean 6 months of rent payments, groceries on the table, or presents under the tree.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. SUSAN SOLOMON

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce that a constituent from my district, Dr. Susan Solomon, is the recipient of the 1999 National Medal of Science. Dr. Solomon is a senior scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, based in Boulder, Colorado, and is the first NOAA scientist to be awarded the medal, which is the nation's highest scientific honor. She is also the recipient of many other honors and awards that recognize her important work.

In commending her accomplishments, Secretary of Commerce William Daley called Dr. Solomon "one of the most important and influential researchers in atmospheric science during the past 15 years." I know I join all my colleagues in congratulating Dr. Solomon on this well-deserved honor.

Dr. Solomon first theorized in the 1980s that the explanation for the Antarctic ozone hole involved chemistry on clouds, not just gas molecule reactions, as was thought then. Dr. Solomon confirmed her theories with solid data observed during two National Ozone Expeditions to the Antarctic in 1986 and 1987, when she identified reactions between two different forms of chlorine on the stratospheric cloud surface. These reactions release chlorine molecules, which separate and act as catalysts in destroying ozone.

Because of Dr. Solomon's discovery, scientists were then able to conclude that the chlorine responsible for the ozone hole originates from chlorofluorocarbons and other man-made compounds.

Dr. Solomon and other leaders in her field provide important role models for today's students as they prepare to meet the demands of tomorrow's technology-based economy. But it is not only the young who can benefit from Dr. Solomon's example. She cites as the most important lesson from her research the "need to keep an open mind on environmental issues." We should all heed her very good advice.

ON THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF CAROLINE L. GUARINI: THREE CENTURIES AND TWO MILLENNIA

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the distinguished Caroline Guarini, mother of our former colleague, U.S. Congressman Frank J. Guarini, Jr., on the celebration of her 100th birthday, March 25, 2000. After 100 years, Caroline continues to be an inspiration to us all, a model wife, mother, and human being. Her everlasting dedication to those who are less fortunate, combined

with her devotion to those who surround her, stand as testament to Caroline's commitment to making this world a better place for everyone.

Born on March 25, 1900, in Niagara Falls, NY, Caroline attended the Loretta Convent School and a business academy in Ontario, Canada. After completing her studies, she worked in her family's furniture business for a time, and in 1923 married Frank J. Guarini, Sr., who was a well known and highly respected attorney in Jersey City, NJ. A lieutenant in the U.S. Army during World War I, her husband was corporation counsel in Jersey City and a prominent member of the New Jersey Legislature. Together they enjoyed a life in politics.

Caroline has been active in many charitable and civic groups including the Cleo Club, the Dante Alighieri Society, and the American Committee for Italian Migration. Concerned for the needs of the less fortunate, she has spent countless hours delivering baskets of food and toys to the poor during the holiday seasons. As a senior citizen, she served as a hospital volunteer for the sick and elderly. Caroline's talents include singing and playing the piano. She has been active in her church choir and, at 100, still plays the piano remarkably well.

The Guarinis had two children, Frank Jr. and Marie. Influenced by the spirit and example of his parents—and since the apple doesn't fall far from the tree—Frank J. Guarini, Jr., studied law and went into politics. A distinguished attorney, he was elected to two terms in the New Jersey State Senate and seven terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. He served on the Ways and Means Committee and the Budget Committee. He was majority whip at-large for the Democratic leadership. He recently served as the United States of America Representative to the General Assembly of the United Nations. During World War II, the former member of Congress saw active combat duty in the Pacific as a Navy lieutenant.

Caroline's daughter and faithful companion, Marie, married Albert Mangin and began her career at New York's Lexington School for the Deaf, later teaching elementary school in Newark. The Mangins are the parents of two children, Peter, a noted attorney who is president of the Garden State Development which is engaged in rebuilding the Hudson County Waterfront, and Carol, who holds an MBA and is a medical consultant at Meditech in Boston.

When family and friends ask what she is looking forward to in the new millennium, Caroline, in her usual warm and gracious manner, says, "The celebration of my 100th birthday!"

Through a life that has spanned three centuries and two millennia, one phrase has followed Caroline throughout, and continues to ring true today—what a lady!

IN SUPPORT OF TAIWAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, prior to Taiwan's second presidential election on March 18, the People's Republic of China increased its rhetoric and essentially gave Tai-

wan an ultimatum—to start reunification talks or risk invasion. Such hostile rhetoric from Beijing has evoked strong responses in both Taipei and Washington. The people in Taiwan are more determined than ever to disregard Beijing's dire warnings and reject Beijing's "one country, two systems" formula that governed the return of Hong Kong and Macao. The people of Taiwan would have to see a genuine Western-style democracy take hold in China before serious reunification talks could begin. In Washington, both administration officials and lawmakers have warned China that any action against Taiwan would be a matter of grave concern to the United States.

As a strong supporter of Taiwan's vibrant democracy, I believe we must do all we can to ensure that the voters in Taiwan are guaranteed the right to freely elect their president this March 18, and that China must not interfere in Taiwan's electoral process. I know that I, and many of my colleagues, become incensed when China repeatedly threatens its small and democratic neighbor—particularly during an election year. We certainly consider China's latest threats against Taiwan unwarranted, untimely, and unwise.

I am proud of the long-standing friendly relations between the United States and Taiwan, and I believe its time to show support for our friend.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS GILMARTIN

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today on the floor of this House in recognition of Mr. Thomas Gilmartin from my district, as the 2000 St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshall.

A prominent Irish-American in Western New York, Tom's community service includes work with the Knights of Columbus, the Irish-American Cultural Association, the Gaelic-American Athletic Association, the Ancient Order of the Hibernians, and the Irish Parade Committee. In fact, he has been involved with the parade committee for over twelve years. In recognition of that dedicated service and his commitment to our Proud Irish-American Heritage, Tom will serve as the Grand Marshall of the 2000 St. Patrick's Day Parade in the City of Buffalo.

Recently, I selected the Buffalo St. Patrick's Day Parade as one of New York's local legacies. This program's chief purpose is to document distinctive examples of a cultural heritage in each of the nation's fifty states, which will then serve as a record of life in America at the end of the Twentieth Century. Our parade is a fitting example of that cultural tradition, and Tom Gilmartin will make a fine Grand Marshall during this important event.

Tom and his wife, Mary (Steffan) are lifelong residents of Western New York, and attend Mass at Sts. Peter and Paul R.C. Church in Hamburg. The Gilmartins have four children and one grandchild.

In addition to his outstanding community service, Tom served the Town of Hamburg as Superintendent for Buildings and Grounds for over 20 years, where I had the privilege of working with him as Town Supervisor. Prior to his service to the Town of Hamburg, Tom

served the Village of Blasdell in the Department of Public Works. I am proud to call him my friend.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to join with the entire Gilmartin Family, the United Irish American Association, and indeed, all of Western New York in tribute to Mr. Thomas Gilmartin, a proud Irishman and Grand Marshall of our great parade.

SMALL BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3843) to reauthorize programs to assist small business concerns, and for other purposes:

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 3843, the Small Business Reauthorization Act of 2000 and urge its adoption.

This reauthorization bill authorization funding for the SBA's primary lending programs, the 7(a), 504 and microloan programs. It also includes provisions to authorize and fund disaster loan surety bond guarantees, Small Business Development Centers (SBDC's) the Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone) program, the National Women's Business Council, the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) program, and the Drug Free Workplace program.

H.R. 3843 provides record funding for these critical programs that have played a large role in creating and maintaining this country's unprecedented economic growth. The record funding levels will insure that the core SBA programs will continue to grow over the next 3 years. When enacted, H.R. 3843 will fund \$1.3 billion in additional 7(a) loans, \$3.3 million more in SBIC equity investment loans, and a doubling in Microloan technical assistance grants.

Mr. Chairman, in the Second District of Colorado, many small businesses have reaped the benefits of technology related SBA programs. In particular the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program provides the funds necessary to refine their ideas, turn them into products, and to take those products to the commercial marketplace. Although the main purpose of the program remains meeting the federal government's research and development needs, small businesses have turned SBIR-inspired research into commercial products that have improved our economy and scientific advances that have helped to improve the health of people everywhere.

Studies show that nationwide, small businesses produce twice as many technological innovations per employee, as compared with large employers. In fact, most of the significant technological innovations of the 20th century ranging from personal computers to high resolution x-ray microscopes can be traced to the small business community.

Clearly, the success stories of small business owners who have participated in SBA programs provide powerful testimony to their merits. I commend Chairman TALENT and

Ranking Member VELAZQUEZ on crafting a bipartisan piece of legislation that authorizes record funding for the SBA over the next 3 years. I intend to continue working to help our small business succeed in today's technology driven economy.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on reauthorizing these important programs.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO AFRICA:
SUPPORT AGOA TEXTILE PROVISIONS BENEFICIAL TO AFRICANS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, as we work toward final passage of the African Growth and Opportunity Act, I want to reiterate the importance of the provisions related to textile and apparel products. These provisions are paramount to the success of the legislation's primary objective—to promote the use of trade as a vehicle for sustainable development in sub-Saharan Africa.

In the March 7, 2000 edition of my hometown journal, the New York Times, Tom Friedman makes a compelling case for a commercially viable trade bill for Africa. While 85% of the garments sold in the United States are sewn outside of the United States, all 48 sub-Saharan African countries produce less than 1% of these products. Twenty-two individual countries export more clothing to the U.S. market than all of the countries in the entire sub-Saharan Africa region. Friedman rightfully points out that even "little Honduras" exports seven times more textiles and apparel to the U.S. than all 48 nations of sub-Saharan Africa combined.

It is critical that the African Growth and Opportunity Act that we pass contains provisions that allow African countries to produce duty-free textile and apparel without insurmountable hurdles and quantitative restrictions. Quantitative restrictions placed on that production are certain to discourage the investments necessary to grow industries and compete with Asian countries in the U.S. import market.

In this case, the so-called "technical details" of the final bill, though often overlooked, will mean the difference between a bill that is commercially viable for African and a symbolic bill. A symbolic bill would fail to sufficiently bolster African economies so that these countries can become better trading partners with the U.S. and better friends in the fight against transnational threats, such as illicit drug trafficking, environmental degradation, international terrorism and infectious disease.

I agree with Tom Friedman. Shame on all of us if we do not seize this historical moment to help, in a meaningful way, over 290 million people in sub-Saharan Africa living on \$1 a day. In this era of globalization we must not ignore and leave behind 10% of the world's population.

[From the New York Times, Mar. 7, 2000]

DON'T PUNISH AFRICA

(By Thomas L. Friedman)

There is a travesty brewing in Congress that, if allowed to continue, will be a source of shame for all Americans. It will certainly be an ugly stain on the U.S. labor movement,

particularly the apparel union and the A.F.L.-C.I.O.—a stain that will highlight all the unions' phony-baloney assertions in Seattle that they just want to improve worker rights around the world and help the poor.

This controversy has to do with a stalled trade bill called The African Growth and Opportunity Act. And the bottom line is this: At a time when Africa is ravaged by AIDS, at a time when 290 million Africans—more than the entire population of the U.S.—are living on a dollar a day, the main U.S. textile union, UNITE!; the main textile manufacturers' lobby, ATMI; and the lawmakers who bow to both of them are blocking a bill that would allow Africans to export clothing to America duty free—instead of with the current 17 percent import tax.

Why the opposition? Because Africa might increase its share of U.S. textile and apparel imports from its current level of 0.8 percent! Shame on the people blocking this bill. Shame on them.

Some 85 percent of the garments sold in the U.S. today are already sewn abroad. Honduras, little Honduras, already exports seven times more textiles and apparel to the U.S. than all 48 nations of sub-Saharan Africa combined. With our minimum wages, we can't produce jeans that retail for \$16 and we don't want to. North Carolina's textile industry has already become highly automated and has moved away from low-value goods to high-value, high-tech fabrics. Much of the unionized labor force sewing clothes in the U.S. is in large cities and comprises new immigrants, many not citizens, since most Americans don't want these jobs.

If Africa were given duty-free access to our market, sophisticated textile plants in North Carolina wouldn't move to Madagascar. China would be the big loser, because Africans have the same skills to knit cashmere sweaters cheaply as people in China, and if Africa were given a 17 percent import tax advantage in shipping to the U.S., manufacturers would move their production from low-wage China to low-wage Africa. Which is why a study by the U.S. International Trade Commission concluded that "the impact of quota removal [for African imports] on U.S. producers and U.S. workers would be negligible."

So why do the unions still oppose it? Sheer knee-jerk protectionism—even though the bill has tough measures to protect against any surge in imports from Africa, and restricts free-trade status to African countries moving toward democracy, economic reform and real worker protection.

No matter. Right now the only version of the bill the textile makers would permit is one that says Africa can only import duty-free into the U.S. if it first buys all the fabric, thread and yarn from U.S. factories, then ships it to Africa to be sewn, and then ships it back to the U.S. to be sold—a costly obstacle course that would prevent any new investment in African factories. The real motto of U.S. trade unions is: We're for more worker standards in Africa, not more work.

This is really bad. This bill isn't a panacea for Africa, but it's important. Throughout the history of industrialization, poor countries have started down the road of development by sewing clothes. It's the one thing that poor people can do right away. It's critical that this bill go through now because by 2005 all the quotas on textile imports into the U.S. will expire. It will be a free-for-all. Right now investors are deciding where to locate plants for 2005—whether to stick with China or branch out to Africa, Vietnam or Mexico. If Africa is shut out from these investment decisions, it will fall even further behind.

The Clintonites talk the talk of Africa and AIDS, but, sadly, they have been afraid to

get tough with the unions on this textile issue. Why is AIDS spreading so quickly among young women in Africa? One reason is that women have so few jobs they have to sell themselves to men with AIDS. Apparel jobs largely employ women. They make a difference.

But this is of no interest to the A.F.L.-C.I.O. crowd. All they care about is that Africa not sell more than 0.8 percent of garments here. Shame on them for what they are doing, and shame on us if we let them.

CONDEMNING THE RACIST AND
ANTI-SEMITIC VIEWS OF THE
REVEREND AL SHARPTON

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I offer the following for printing in the RECORD.

Whereas the Congress strongly rejects the racist and incendiary actions of the Reverend Al Sharpton;

Whereas the Reverend Al Sharpton has condoned anti-Semitic views in that protesters from the Reverend Sharpton's National Action Network have referred to members of the Jewish faith as "blood-sucking [J]ews", and "Jew bastards";

Whereas the Reverend Al Sharpton has referred to members of the Jewish faith as "white interlopers" and "diamond merchants";

Whereas the Reverend Al Sharpton was found guilty of defamation by a jury in a New York court arising from the false accusation that former Assistant District Attorney Steven Pagones, who is white, raped and assaulted a fifteen-year-old black girl;

Whereas to this day, the Reverend Al Sharpton has refused to accept responsibility and expresses no regret for defaming Mr. Pagones;

Whereas the Reverend Al Sharpton's vicious verbal anti-Semitic attacks directed at members of the Jewish faith, and in particular, a Jewish landlord, arising from a simple landlord-tenant dispute with a black tenant, incited widespread violence, riots, and the murder of five innocent people;

Whereas the Reverend Al Sharpton's fierce demagoguery incited violence, riots, and murder in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, New York, following the accidental death of a black pedestrian child hit by the motorcade of Orthodox Rabbi Menachem Schneerson;

Whereas the Reverend Al Sharpton led a protest in the Crown Heights neighborhood and marched next to a protester with a sign that read, "The White Man is the Devil";

Whereas the Reverend Al Sharpton has insulted members of the Jewish faith by challenging Jews to violence and stating to Jews to "pin down", their yarmulkes; and

Whereas the Reverend Al Sharpton has practiced the policies of racial division and made inflammatory remarks against whites by characterizing the death of Amadou Diallo as a "racially motivated police assassination": Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) condemns the practices of the Reverend Al Sharpton, which seek to divide Americans on the basis of race, ethnicity, and religion;

(2) expresses its outrage over the violence that has resulted due to the Reverend Al Sharpton's incendiary words and actions; and

(3) fervently urges elected officials and public servants, who have condoned and legitimized the Reverend Al Sharpton's incendiary words and actions, to publicly denounce and condemn such racist and anti-Semitic views.

NUNS ATTACKED IN INDIA, SAVED BY SIKH FAMILY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the wave of violence against Christians by Hindu fundamentalists continues. Since Christmas 1998, churches have been burned, priests have been murdered, nuns have been raped, and Christian schools and prayer halls have been destroyed. The government of Orissa now requires anyone who wishes to change religions to get a permit from the government. Sikhs and Muslims have previously been subjected to similar tyranny.

These attacks have been carried out by Hindu fundamentalists who belong to a branch of the RSS, an openly Fascist umbrella organization that includes the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party under its umbrella.

In the most recent incident, a gang of RSS militants attacked the Convent of Our Lady of Grace in Panipat. Previously, a priest from the same complex had been murdered. This is the fourth attack on the church in Panipat, according to *The Deccan Herald*.

Fortunately, when the militant Hindus attacked the convent, the nuns screamed and the alarm went off, attracting the attention of the Sikh family next door. They got their gun and came over to the complex, where the RSS mob attacked the rescuers using steel rods and guns. One of the attackers was captured.

Unfortunately, this incident shows us again that there is no religious freedom in India. Hindu nationalist mobs associated with the ruling party have free rein to commit these acts of violence against the religious minorities and they rarely get any punishment from the government. Instead, the government uses these incidents to try to set one religious group against the other so that they can continue their brutal, intolerant, tyrannical rule. In the murder of missionary Graham Staines, which was carried out by Hindu militants chanting "Victory to Hanuman," a Hindu god, the government arrested a man who uses the alias Dara Singh in order to blame the Sikhs.

This kind of intolerance is unacceptable. As the lone superpower and the beacon of freedom in the world, the United States must act to bring freedom to all the people of South Asia. While President Clinton visits India, it is crucial that he bring up the issues of political prisoners, religious freedom, and self-determination.

There are also things we can do here in Congress. We should stop all American aid to India until these basic human rights are respected and we should declare our support for an internationally-supervised plebiscite on independence for Punjab, Khalistan, for Kashmir, for Nagaland, and for the other nations seeking to free themselves from India's brutal, corrupt rule. We must be prepared to take re-

sponsible measures to extend freedom to all the people of the world.

[From the *Deccan Chronicle*, Mar. 14, 2000]

SIKH FAMILY SAVES NUNS FROM BAWARIA ATTACK

New Delhi: A Sikh family saved the lives of five nuns who were attacked by a group of over ten armed men in the wee hours of the morning on 11 March, in Panipat. Putting their own safety at risk the male members of the family attacked the intruders armed with guns and steel rods who had entered the church where the Franciscan nuns were staying.

Answering to the alarm call of the nuns, the Sikh men immediately came to their rescue. The incident happened in Panipat in the convent of Our Lady of Grace. The Sikh family who have been staying in the Joti Nagar area next to the convent for over a decade, hearing the cries of the nuns and the alarm calls of the chowkidar, rushed to their help.

Armed with their licensed country made gun attacked the men. In the ensuing chaos the assailants attacked the Sikhs with steel rods and fired two rounds of gun shots. One of the Sikhs managed to nab one of the men, who in his desperation to escape bit him. Meanwhile the other gang members started firing from behind the church forcing the Sikhs to shoot back and attack them.

The nabbed man has been identified as Kala and belongs to the Bawaria caste. The gang is believed to be involved in the earlier attacks on the church. This is the fourth such attack in the past three months on the church in the Sonpath-Panipat Samalkha region.

The superior of the convent, Sr Vandana said, "We are very grateful to them for helping us, even though they could have been killed in the process. We will always remember them in our prayers."

Earlier a priest living in the same compound was attacked by unknown men a few weeks ago. As a result, two police guards were posted outside the church compound which houses a church, and quarters for the priest and nuns.

The police removed the guards from duty and within two days of this the church was attacked again. Recalling the incident Sr Vandana said, "Though convent houses six nuns, one of them was not present at the time of the incident. The men scaled the compound wall, broke open the main wooden entrance of the convent and then tried to break in the door of the dormitories where the five nuns were sleeping. The shocked and panic struck nun rushed into the smaller rooms and bathroom, where they locked themselves. The men later broke open an almirah." The Sonpath-Panipat Samalkha region had reported spate of violence which included attack on a priest who narrowly escaped and threatened several nuns. The area also witnessed four cases of dacoity.

Earlier two cases of dacoity had taken place in Samalkha and Panipat within three days of each other. In Samalkha in the early hours of March 9, 2000, gang of ten men raided and looted the Ish Mata Church and made off with Rs 60,000 kept for refurbishing the church. Fr Azeem Raj of the church escaped by locking himself in the bathroom. On 1 January Fr Vikas of Panipat Church was seriously injured and his skull and limbs fractured when he was attacked by a gang of armed men. This incident took place in the same compound where the nuns were attacked.

The district collector of the Panipat, Sandeep Garag said, thanked the Sikhs for the help and has advised that the guards be posted back to the church and more arms be sanctioned.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JAMES BLISS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a long time friend and community member. James Bliss served his community well as a long time for-ester for the Department of California Forestry.

James was born in Portland, Oregon. He lived in Monterey County for over twenty-five years, during which time he attended Monterey High School and went on to study in California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. My father, former State Senator Fred Farr, helped to get him his first job as a seasonal firefighter with the California Department of Forestry. He then went on to serve for thirty-four years with the Department of Forestry, retiring as Deputy Chief for Command and Control in the Sacramento headquarters. His loyalty and integrity were recognized in an article by the *San Francisco Examiner* hailing him as "The Cool Field General Whose Enemy was Fire." His career did not end there. After his retirement he went on to work as general manager of R.C.C. Consultants Inc.

James will be forever remembered by dear family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Annette; his son, James Shelby; his daughter, Shannon Dudek; his brother, Todd Bliss; his sister, Teri Cotham; and his father, Edwin Bliss.

HONORING MR. ALFRED SZALA

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor a truly dedicated public servant, Mr. Alfred A. Szala, the registrar for the town of Dartmouth, Massachusetts.

Mr. Szala has been a member of the Dartmouth Board of Registrars for 51 years and its chairman for over 30 years. He and his wife, Cecilia, have been happily married for 55 years and are proud to call Dartmouth, Massachusetts, home.

For a half-century, Mr. Szala has honorably served the people of Dartmouth. He has witnessed many elections over the past five decades and strongly believes it is everyone's civic responsibility to vote. His life has been dedicated to community service and he is a true role model for the next generation of leaders.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I honor Mr. Szala in the United States House of Representatives. He has given so much back to his community and for this we are all very grateful. Best wishes to him and his wonderful family.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
MR. BERNAL W. COY

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Bernal W. Coy of Richland Center, WI. Mr. Coy has served as an elected official in Richland County for over 41 years. He will retire this April. I rise to congratulate him and thank him for his many years of public service.

His exceptionally distinguished career has been marked with significant achievements. Mr. Coy was first elected to public office in 1958 as Richland County Clerk. He served honorably for more than 29 years, during an additional 14 terms. In 1988, Mr. Coy was then elected to the Richland County Board of Supervisors, representing the district of Richland Township. His leadership was recognized by his colleagues, who elected him to serve as Vice-Chairman of the County Board, a position he has held continuously ever since.

During his 41 years of public service, he helped to ensure long-term economic growth and higher standards of living for Richland County through his work in establishing the University of Wisconsin at Richland. He also helped to ensure the public good with his work towards the establishment of the Pine Valley Manor, which was a much-needed replacement of the former County Home. He helped to ensure justice and public safety with his involvement in the building of a new Sheriff's office, as well as an expansion to the Richland County Courthouse.

His public service was not without the strong support of one very important person, his wife Elaine. Together they have raised seven children. During the Second World War, Mr. Coy answered the call and served his country honorably. Amazingly, Mr. Coy still found time for civic involvement. Over the years he has served as a cornerstone of the Richland community in a variety of roles including the Richland Hospital Board, the American Legion, 40 et 8, the Lions Club, the Masonic Lodge, and as a Shriner.

Mr. Coy's selfless and lifelong public contributions serve as a shining light for others to emulate. This, coupled with his extensive civic involvement, exemplifies our most long-standing national values.

I thank him for his service to Wisconsin, and extend my very best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO WASHINGTON HIGH
SCHOOL LADY CATS BASKET-
BALL TEAM

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, the Washington High School Lady Cats basketball team of Pensacola, FL, deserves special commendation for recently capping its perfect season by winning the Class 4A Florida state championship. As 1999–2000 4A State Champions, earning an impressive 31–0 record, I

proudly recognize their achievement as the only undefeated high school basketball team—boys or girls—in my State.

I grant credit for this outstanding achievement to the entire Lady Cats team. I especially congratulate Jessica Pierce, who was named Class 4A Player of the Year, as well as 4A tournament Most Valuable Player. She and Lady Cats Jeanine Albritton, Sarah Bennett, Syreeta Byrd, Tasha Cook, LaTrachia Davis, Audra Hayes, Laura Humphreys, Clenita Jones, Felecia Likely, Vicky McMillan, Ayana McWilliams, and Rebecca Rood demonstrated the necessary skill, teamwork, and dedication to achieve their success.

Coaches Ronnie Bond and Janis Bond also share in the Lady Cats success and deserve special recognition. In 25 years coaching Washington High School Lady Cats Basketball, they enjoyed 585 wins with only 113 losses. During their tenure, in fact, the Lady Cats claimed four State championships and landed four State runners up. Therefore, I regard the team's recent success as a tribute to these coaches tireless effort as well.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Washington High School Lady Cats basketball team for exemplifying the true spirit of American sportsmanship. Their success shows the value of determination and commitment, and should inspire everyone to see that hard work and sacrifice lead to attaining the highest goals.

RECOGNIZING HERMAN S.
"WOODY" DORSEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Herman S. "Woody" Dorsey on the occasion of his receiving the 2000 James E. Stewart Award from the American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE).

The American Association of blacks in Energy is the preeminent association of Black energy professionals. By virtue of training, expertise, and experience in the energy realm, AABE emerged in the energy crisis of the 1970s to create a structure by which Blacks bring their expertise, experience, and perspectives to bear on energy policymaking. AABE members provide a vital service to those of us trying to formulate the best energy policies for all the citizens of the United States. Since its establishment in 1977, AABE has continually and insightfully informed the members of the Congressional Black Caucus on considerations vital to an effective national energy policy. We are particularly indebted to AABE for their expert counsel for the past two decades.

The Stewart Award is AABE's highest level of recognition. This year's award honors Woody Dorsey's long years of local and national leadership dedicated to a AABE's growth and viability. Woody joins the ranks of 13 earlier distinguished recipients of the Stewart Award. It is bestowed only upon those who have demonstrated outstanding achievement and leadership both within the AABE and the larger African American community. Woody's career and life exemplifies both extraordinary achievement and leadership.

A member of the AABE Board of Directors since 1990, Woody rose through the officer

ranks of AABE in record time. He served as the Board's chairman for two years during which time he increased the number of chapters in the organization by 35 percent. Woody also applied his skills and enthusiasm to the High Energy Partnership (HEP) program to guide promising young engineers from college to hands-on work experience with mentors. Woody was instrumental in getting his Company, the Consolidated Edison Company of New York to adopt a New York city high school in order to extend student development. As a result, students at Woody's "adopted" high school receive mentoring from energy professionals and college scholarships for engineering majors.

Since 1978, Mr. Dorsey has served as visiting engineering professor in the Black Executive Exchange Program (BEEP) of the National Urban League. Mr. Dorsey participated in the 1997 White House Conference on global warming. Mr. Dorsey is the Plant Manager of the 59th Street electrical generating plant in New York City. He was co-chairman of the Department of Energy's workshop on district heating and cooling and has written a number of technical papers on cogeneration.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Mr. Dorsey for meriting the distinguished Stewart Award. Woody is a true leader in AABE, his company, his community, and the Nation. We owe him a debt of gratitude.

HAVEN OF REST MINISTRIES

HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, the census is the largest, broadest, and most complex peacetime civic activity this Nation conducts. The Census Bureau will hire hundreds of thousands of temporary workers to ensure timely, accurate, and complete information.

We've all heard that, and some of us have had occasion to mention those facts once or twice.

But sometimes, the big picture can seem overwhelming. I'd like to address one small part of this big picture.

For more than half a century, the Haven of Rest Ministries in my home town of Akron, OH, has worked among the poor, homeless, and spiritually destitute. Founded by the Rev. and Mr. Charles C. Thomas, Haven of Rest provides a wide range of programs and services, not duplicated by other agencies or organizations in our community. Its doors are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days of year. There is never a charge.

Haven of Rest neither seeks nor receives financial assistance from the United Way or, more remarkably, from any government agency. The overwhelming percentage of its financial support—over 80 percent—comes from individuals.

In short, Haven of Rest is intimately in touch with a part of our community and a population who are often overlooked.

And now, Haven of rest is doing its part to assist in that civic activity we call the census. Haven of Rest has become a designated census site. As important, eight members of the Haven's staff have received training as census takers. They were selected because of their

well-established relationship with the homeless, and that is where their energies will be focused—counting those hardest-to-count individuals, the wandering homeless who all too easily slip into invisibility.

That is exactly the sort of commitment, dedication, and civic partnership the census requires. This is (as we in Akron say) “where the rubber meets the road”—finding, identifying, and counting those who lack basic shelter.

For three generations, the Thomas family has guided the Haven of Rest with a deep and abiding sense of the dignity and worth of every individual. They understand and live the creed that everyone matters and every one of us counts.

I commend them for their caring, and for their inspirational demonstration of what “civic duty is really all about.

INTRODUCTION OF DILLONWOOD GIANT SEQUOIA GROVE PARK EXPANSION ACT; AND GIANT SEQUOIA GROVES PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2000

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to preserve some of America's greatest treasures—the giant sequoias of central California.

The first bill I am offering would expand the boundaries of Sequoia National Park. There is an area called Dillonwood Grove that includes one of the richest sequoia groves in the region. The private owners want this tract to become a part of our Park system and I support their right to do that. This bill would authorize the change.

The most compelling thing about Dillonwood, however, is that this private property has been actively managed for many years and it offers us living proof to the advantages of flexible forest management. While Dillonwood will enter into the Sequoia National Park, it is important to look at the management lessons from Dillonwood, as we seek to protect, restore and maintain the sequoia groves outside of the Park.

The President thinks the best way to do this by designating a 400,000-acre national monument. I disagree.

First, the giant sequoia in the Sequoia, Sierra and Tahoe Forests have been off limits to logging for over 10 years! A Mediated Settlement in 1990 set aside these groves to permanently ensure their protection. President George Bush signed a proclamation in 1992 to state the policy for management to be to protect, preserve and restore goods for giant sequoia groves in national forests. In fact, over 80% of the Sequoia National Forest is already off limits to logging.

The scientists also disagree. In 1996, the Sierra Nevada Ecosystem Project said the best way to keep the forest healthy was through active management of the groves. They did not recommend a monument. In addition, the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative has advocated a flexible and adaptive management strategy. A monument designation would undermine this kind of flexibility.

I would like to introduce a letter into the RECORD from Dr. Douglas Piirto, a Professor of Forestry and Natural Resource Management at Cal Poly, in San Luis Obispo, California. He has been working on giant sequoia health for almost thirty years and is very concerned about how monument status will undermine forest management flexibility. I would encourage my colleagues to read his thoughtful recommendations.

Unfortunately, the Administration has completely ignored all of these scientific findings. And the Forest Service has done little to implement them.

Instead, what we now see is an election campaign driving forest policy. The campaign pollsters say we should lock it up! But this is not in the best interest of these sequoia groves—it is only in the best interest of one election campaign.

This second bill would authorize a National Research Council study of the forest. They should review past studies and offer recommendations for exactly what kind of management will preserve these treasures. The National Research Council offers us some of the best independent scientific review in the world and I hope the Administration will listen to them.

This should be about the health of the forest, not the health of an election campaign.

If we really care about the future of the giant sequoia, then we will listen to the scientists. Campaign spin doctors and their polls cannot and should not try to manage a forest.

MARCH 7, 2000.

Re Antiquities Act and Giant Sequoia Groves: Giant Sequoia—a Relic of the Past or an Icon to the Future

Hon. William Clinton,
President of the United States,
White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR PRESIDENT CLINTON: I write this letter with a highest degree of urgency and respect for your office. You are about to make a decision that NBC states in their 2/16/2000 news story could impact the long-term survival of giant sequoia trees. They are right but not in the context that they say it. Deciding to create a national monument for the giant sequoia groves that occur on national forest lands will result in the creation of places where “relics” of giant sequoia are featured. To think that simply drawing a line around a giant sequoia grove and stopping all management activity is in the best interest of the long-term survival of giant sequoia is incorrect. I fully disagree with any attempt to put the national forest giant sequoia groves in national monument status. A flexible range of management is needed that cannot occur if they are designated only as national monuments or national parks. I reach out to you at this time with the greatest degree of humility I can muster. There is no scientific justification in my opinion to designate giant sequoia groves on national forest land as national monuments. Our common interest is to see that they receive the best stewardship possible. So, as much as we may differ on a variety of issues, I need to have your attention for the next few minutes as I make my case regarding the future of giant sequoia groves.

I have organized this letter into the following sections: A Win/Win Solution; My Credentials, Interest, and Role in Giant Sequoia Management; The Problem As I See It; Why the Need for a Flexible Range of Management; What the Politics and Science Tells Us; Conclusion, and Selected References from my Curriculum Vitae. The recommendations presented in the Win/Win Sec-

tion of this letter are supported and expanded upon by the information that is presented in the sections which follow it.

Please refer to the figure attached at the end of this letter before proceeding with reading the Win/Win Solution section of this letter. They say a picture tells what a 1,000 words can't do. The figure of the Confederate Group in Mariposa Grove illustrates what can happen to vegetation within a giant sequoia grove over an 80-year period. This letter makes the case that significant management flexibility is needed to respond to the dramatic changes in vegetation that can occur in giant sequoia groves.

A WIN/WIN SOLUTION

Let's first start with what I think most informed people agree on: (1) Some people might debate the meanings of the protect, preserve, and restore goals for national forest giant sequoia groves as specified in the 1992 Presidential Proclamation but most citizens would, I think, largely agree with their intent; (2) some type of management area designation featuring giant sequoias may be appropriate; (3) the subwatershed basin containing the giant sequoia grove should be the area that is specifically identified to receive a specific management area designation; (4) flexible/adaptive management, including fire surrogate methods (e.g., selective thinning to reduce risk of catastrophic fire occurrence) is needed given the many different conditions that exist in national forest giant sequoia groves; (5) Management must be tied to science; (6) Adequate funding must be provided to support management and research work; and (7) The role of the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative should be reinforced and expanded with an adequate funding mechanism to support an Executive Director, staff, office space and associated costs for managing the Cooperative. So if it follows that there is widespread agreement on these 7 main items, then I would suggest the following management actions be addressed:

1. Expand on the 1992 Presidential Proclamation by issuing a 2000 Presidential Proclamation directing the Forest Service to provide protection, preservation, and restoration work to the lands within the subwatershed basin containing the giant sequoia groves. Ask Congress for approval of your proclamation if possible to gain a broader spectrum of support. Approximately 19,345 acres exist with the tree-line areas of the 38+ giant sequoia groves that occur on the Sequoia National Forest. Increasing management attention to the subwatersheds that contain the giant sequoia groves would increase this special designation status to about 100,000 acres on the Sequoia National Forest. I recommend that the remaining 300,000 acres be released from management area special designation which would respond to concerns expressed by the local forest products industry.

2. I recommend a designation other than national monument. National monument connotes to me the idea of preserving relics rather than adaptively managing ecosystems. The Forest Service has a large number of special designations it uses for the lands under its jurisdiction. One of those designations, I think, should suffice. The important thing is that a subwatershed area is identified for each grove that will fall under the three goals of protect, preserve, and restore.

3. The goals of protect, preserve, and restore should be expanded to include the Sierra and Tahoe National Forest groves.

4. Some further refinement as to the meaning of protect, preserve, and restore might be appropriate. I know they are referred to in the 1992 proclamation but the wording of any

new proclamation must account for the current variety of conditions in the Sequoia, Sierra, and Tahoe groves. Please refer to the report titled "An Ecological Foundation for Management of National Forest Giant Sequoia Ecosystems" for further clarification.

5. The role of the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative must be further defined, reinforced, and supported with staffing and funding. This important body has begun to make a difference but its efficiency could be improved with renewed and expanded support from the President. This will insure a cross-section of scientific support for the work occurring in all giant sequoia groves whether within state or federal jurisdiction.

6. Some direction as to how to bring about management in the 38+ national forest giant sequoia groves should be included in the 2000 Presidential Proclamation. For example, it would be an overwhelming task to write an EIS document for each national forest giant sequoia grove. So, specific direction laying out the actions necessary to move to projects within national forest giant sequoia groves, I think, is needed.

7. No matter what the 2000 Presidential Proclamation specifies, very little will be achieved without adequate funding and staffing. Drawing a line around giant sequoia groves does very little for their long-term sustainability.

8. Provide funding for a 2002 giant sequoia symposium. The Forest Service along with other agencies sponsored the highly effective 1992 symposium.

9. Finally, I think some credit must be given to the Forest Service for the work they have achieved to date. We know more today about national forest giant sequoia than ever before. That is because of the work they and others have done. No organization or agency is perfect. But the morale of an organization can be severely degraded when allegations are made that are not supported by science and experience. Organizations get better with proactive leadership that builds on the strengths, skills, and abilities of the people that comprise them.

The information which follows provides support to this Win/Win solution.

MY CREDENTIALS, INTEREST, AND ROLE IN GIANT SEQUOIA MANAGEMENT

My name is Dr. Douglas D. Piirto. I am presently a Professor of Forestry and Natural Resources Management at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. I am a Registered Professional Forester and Certified Silviculturist in California. My experience with giant sequoia and coast redwood started in 1972 and continues to the present. I have dedicated my career to furthering our knowledge about these two magnificent species with a major focus on giant sequoia. My Ph.D. work at UC Berkeley was focused on "Factors Associated with Tree Failure of Giant Sequoia." I published six papers based on my Ph.D. dissertation.

My experience with giant sequoia since completion of my Ph.D. work is extensive. I have worked as a Forest Manager on lands that contained giant sequoia groves. I have developed giant sequoia grove management plans, completed over \$1,000,000 in research projects over the past 28 years focused on giant sequoia, have two major giant sequoia research projects ongoing, and have just finished a major report for the USDA Forest Service titled "An Ecological Foundation for Management of National Forest Giant Sequoia Ecosystems. I am well acquainted with almost all aspects of giant sequoia management, the public issues, and scientific information. For example, I annotated over 175 scientific articles for the recent report I just finished for the Forest Service. So, I speak with a significant amount of background regarding giant sequoia that has helped up to the peer review process.

Further, I was actively involved in the planning and execution of the 1985 shortcourse titled Management of Giant Sequoia sponsored by the USDA Forest Service and the Society of American Foresters. I served as an expert witness for the 1991 Congressional Hearing on management of national forest giant sequoia groves. I was actively involved in the planning and execution of the 1992 Giant Sequoia Symposium which occurred as a result of recommendations made at the 1991 Congressional hearing. At that same time I completed a major study for the National Park Service titled Biological and Management Implications of Fire Pathogen Interactions in the Giant Sequoia Ecosystem.

My current research, funded by Save the Redwoods League and Sierra Forest Products focuses on evaluating vegetative structure of a highly altered giant sequoia grove (e.g., Converse Basin) and the Redwood Mountain Grove, a grove which has only had prescribed burning. We are obtaining some fascinating management oriented results from this study.

I present my comments, opinions and recommendation in this letter as a Cal Poly representative to the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative, a group of managers and managers focused on linking science to management policies. The points I make in this letter are based on years of experience and interaction with many learned individuals. The comments I make should only be construed as my point of view and not that of the collective body of Cal Poly or of the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative. However, having now said that, my opinions presented here are widely supported particularly my views on the need for an adaptive, flexible management strategy that is focused on the subwatersheds containing giant sequoia groves. Please refer to the Congressional Testimony I presented in 1991 that specifically outlines my views as to the need for a flexible management policy. Also refer to the McKinley Grove Environmental Assessment that I helped prepare in 1978. In that EA, I recommended that the subwatershed be the area that is given focused attention. These documents are listed in the Selected References which appear at the end of this letter. More detailed listing of my credentials, experience and publications appear in my Curriculum Vitae which will be provided upon request.

THE PROBLEM AS I SEE IT

Considerable discussion has and is occurring as to how to best protect naturally occurring giant sequoia groves. It is my opinion that the issue should rather focus on how to manage giant sequoia groves. However, defining what constitutes "best" management is not an easy matter and is subject to interpretation by various concerned individuals and organizations. I made this statement in my testimony to the 1991 Congressional Hearing on management of giant sequoia groves.

The 1991 Congressional Hearing led to several positive outcomes: 1.) the 1992 Giant Sequoia symposium; 2.) increased USDA Forest Service funding to locate boundaries and inventory national forest giant sequoia groves; 3.) increased research activity on giant sequoia; 4.) 1992 Presidential Proclamation; 5.) development of a Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative which advises all organizations that have a responsibility for managing giant sequoia groves; and 6.) development of an ecological foundation report for management of national forest giant sequoia ecosystems. We didn't precisely know in 1990 where national forest giant sequoia groves began and ended. We do now because the 1989 Mediated Settlement followed by the 1992

Presidential Proclamation focused our attention on three objectives: protect, preserve, restore. And, increased funding led to our accurately locating the boundaries of all giant sequoia groves buffer zones, and subwatersheds. And more recently we have identified fire influence zones for several of the national forest giant sequoia groves. So to say that very little has occurred regarding national forest giant sequoia groves is a gross misstatement.

Drawing lines to exclude certain management activities is not what we as a society must focus on. Rather we must center our attention on flexible management strategies that accommodate the variety of stand conditions which exist within the proposed 400,000 acre national monument for national forest giant sequoia groves. As far as I can tell the actual acreage of national forest giant sequoia groves is something less than 19,345 acres. So, I wonder why it is necessary to reserve from use some 400,000 acres of land. Admittedly there are watershed and fire influence concerns which must be addressed but those areas outside the actual treeline areas of giant sequoia groves can be managed in such a fashion that both allows use and reduced risk of catastrophic fire or watershed events occurring within the giant sequoia groves.

And to think that one form of management is in the best interest of all the national forest giant sequoia groves fails to realize that there are significant differences in the composition and structure of the 38 national forest giant sequoia groves on the Sequoia National Forest. Converse Basin, for example when it was privately owned was extensively logged some 100 years ago. There have been two very large wildland fires that have also affected the Converse Basin grove as well. The structure and composition of the Converse Basin grove is thus much different from a grove that has not had this disturbance history. Thus it follows that our management approach for Converse Basin would by necessity be different from other less disturbed groves. Will establishing a national monument allow for this range of management flexibility? I think not. We must rise to higher level as we focus our attention on what is best management for national forest giant sequoia groves.

WHY THE NEED FOR A FLEXIBLE RANGE OF MANAGEMENT

Agencies are moving forward with management activities trying to "learn as they go" as to what works and doesn't work. For example, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection employs uneven-aged forest management practices (e.g., selective cutting) and prescribed burning to meet management objectives for the Mountain Home grove of giant sequoias. The USDI National Park Service employs prescribed burning focusing on fuel reduction. The USDA Forest Service was using both even and uneven-aged forest management followed by prescribed burning practices in several of the giant sequoia groves on the Tahoe, Sierra, and Sequoia National Forest in the 1970s and 1980s. The Forest Service has imposed a moratorium around 1988 on management projects in national forest giant sequoia groves until more is learned about them (e.g., inventories) and until a Land Management Plan Amendment can be developed and approved. The California Department of Parks and Recreation which manages Calaveras Bigtrees State Park employs primarily prescribed burning practices to meet management objectives. The Bureau of Land Management has recently launched a program to inventory attributes of the Case Mountain giant sequoia grove. But aside from custodial protection, BLM is not aggressively managing the Case Mountain

grove until it evaluates a suitable management strategy. The managers of the Tule River Indian Reservation employ uneven management of the giant sequoia lands that occur there. The range of management approaches varies from timber management followed by prescribed burning to only prescribed burning to custodial management to let's wait and inventory what we have at this time. Which approach is correct?

A few long-term studies have been done focused on management strategies for giant sequoia groves. The USDI National Park Service has done work on prescribed burning but not in comparison to its effectiveness to silvicultural management strategies. To say that prescribed burning for fuel reduction is the only safe course of action for all giant sequoia groves is inappropriate because it is an opinion based on limited research information. We really do not know if prescribed burning alone is the best course of action for the long-term survival and perpetuation of the giant sequoia species. Prescribed burning has both positive and negative effects on the giant sequoia ecosystems.

Understanding that prescribed burning is not without its negative consequences, some foresters employed a variety of silvicultural methods to achieve desired management objectives. Silvicultural manipulation (e.g., tree removal) has both positive and negative consequences as does prescribed burning. Competing whitewood trees are either partially or totally removed from small areas of the larger giant sequoia groves to reduce fuel levels, reduce competition, and create seed-bed conditions that enable giant sequoia to become established, survive, and grow. Very few young-growth stands of giant sequoia exist in California. The ones that do exist developed as a result of past site disturbances. Silvicultural manipulation of giant sequoia groves and adjacent areas can actually increase the amount of area occupied by young, healthy giant sequoia trees.

The decision as to what is the most appropriate course of action to take with reference to the management of giant sequoia is not an easy one to make given these uncertainties. However, it seems inappropriate to put all of the giant sequoia grove areas under the same form of management. Placing the 41+/- giant sequoia groves on the Sequoia, Sierra, and Tahoe National Forests into a national monument status reduces to a significant degree management flexibility. Management flexibility is needed as we learn more about effective approaches. National monument status will insure custodial protection but will this designation ultimately lead to healthy ecosystems and perpetuation of the giant sequoia species? Do we really have enough information to suggest that only national park or national monument status will result in "best" management practices for the giant sequoia ecosystem? I think not. It is not yet clear what approach will be best for the species as a whole in the long-term. As such, it seems more reasonable and prudent to continue with a range of management approaches with some restrictions as to the extent of activity that can occur.

WHAT THE POLITICS AND SCIENCE TELLS US

So who's right? What course of action should we as a nation take at this point in time? What have we learned from what research and management activities that have been undertaken? The lessons learned as I see them are:

1. There continues to be significant interest in the giant sequoia resource as there well should be. Yet this interest and concern is not supported by adequate funding to do research and carry out management in an orderly and planned manner.

2. Organizations and agencies involved with giant sequoia management have varied opinions as to what is the most appropriate course of action to follow.

3. More comparative research is needed to evaluate management approaches for giant sequoia ecosystems.

4. Significant site disturbance is needed to obtain giant sequoia seedling establishment and survival. Mineral soil conditions favor seedling establishment and canopy openings facilitate growth and survival of established seedling.

5. Thrifty young-growth stands of giant sequoia are not widespread with its native range.

6. Fire suppression over the past 90 years has resulted in significant stand density increases of associated tree species found in giant sequoia groves. These changes in stand density are also influencing pathogen and insect relationships in the grove areas.

7. Both prescribed burning and silvicultural manipulation of giant sequoia groves have positive and negative effects which are not fully understood. For example, researchers have measured lethal temperatures at significant depths beneath the bark of old-growth giant sequoia trees during prescribed burning operations.

8. Custodial protection without some form of prescribed burning and/or silvicultural manipulation is probably not in the best interest for perpetuating the species

9. Giant sequoia trees are subject to the same natural forces and man-caused influences as other tree species. Specimen giant sequoia trees have fallen within the boundaries of National Parks, State Parks, State Forests, National Forests, and on private lands. Various factors are involved. And in some cases human activities have probably contributed to premature failure in all of these governmentally protected and managed areas. It is not known whether or not the present rate of old-growth giant sequoia tree failures is higher than historic patterns.

10. Both prescribed burning and silvicultural manipulation of giant sequoia groves have received adverse public criticism. It seems that no one agency is doing a perfect job of giant sequoia management. However, Mountain Home State Forest might come closest if we were to judge performance on the amount of public criticism expressed and publicity received. But the Jury is still out as to what management approaches are most effective for perpetuation of the ecosystem and the giant sequoia species.

11. Giant sequoia groves have and are affected by a wide range of disturbance events. We understand that some proportion of a giant sequoia landscape should be comprised of early stage vegetation so that sustainability and the overall health of the grove is maintained.

CONCLUSION

Management by necessity must involve more than custodial protection. And it can't simply focus on changing jurisdictional authorities. Management must be continuous as the ecosystems within which giant sequoia occurs are dynamic. Given these three premises, I make a number of recommendations as shown in the Win/Win solution section of this letter.

Changing jurisdictional authorities is not the answer. Education and research continue to be needed on giant sequoia. Positive change will occur as we learn more about this most magnificent tree species and ecosystem. I truly believe that the giant sequoia groves are not relics of the past. They should not receive protective regulations that treat them as such. Drawing a circle around the giant sequoia groves and calling them national monuments seems to infer

"relic" status. Flexible management strategies with restrictions on the extent of management activity that can occur at any one time seems to be, in my opinion, the better approach to insure the perpetuation of the giant sequoia species and the ecosystems within which they occur. Please refer you to the Win/Win Solution section at the beginning of this letter for more specifics as to the recommendations I offer.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my opinions on giant sequoia. I list in the following section selected publications, technical reports, and invited presentations in support of my credentials to express an authoritative opinion on the pending proposal to establish a national monument for national forest giant sequoia groves.

SELECTED REFERENCES

I list only peer reviewed publications, technical reports, and papers I have delivered that are focused on giant sequoia. A complete listing of all my publications and presentations appears in my current Curriculum Vitae which is available upon request.

Peer reviewed publications

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DOUGLAS D. PIIRTO. PH.D., RPF,
Professor of Forestry and Natural Resources Management.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN CARDINAL
O'CONNOR—PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, on February 15, my colleagues honored John Cardinal O'Connor by passing H.R. 3557, a bill to award him

the Congressional Gold Medal. Unfortunately, because I had requested and been granted official leave of absence, I was unable to cast my vote in support of this measure. Please let the record show that had I been here I would have voted "yes" for H.R. 3557.

As a fellow New Yorker, I have seen firsthand the good work of the Cardinal, in particular, his tireless efforts to improve Catholic-Jewish relations. The negotiations to establish diplomatic relations between the Vatican and Israel were initiated, in large part, by Cardinal O'Connor. The Cardinal's work has truly enhanced human rights and religious tolerance around the globe.

Cardinal O'Connor has also been a leader in the effort to provide care to individuals stricken with AIDS. The Cardinal opened New York State's first AIDS-only unit at St. Clare's Hospital. This effort created a home for those in need of support and care, and supplied Cardinal O'Connor with yet another place to volunteer his time and counsel.

In addition to these remarkable accomplishments, Cardinal O'Connor has devoted his time to promoting racial equality, creating valuable educational opportunities for children, and assisting the poor, sick and disabled. It is clear that Cardinal O'Connor has touched the lives of many Americans and deserves this body's highest honor.

PRAISING GARROD HYDRAULICS

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to the employees of Garrod Hydraulics, Inc. for receiving the ISO 9002 (International Organization of Standardization) registration. I am proud to honor the only company registered in the United States for Hydraulic Cylinder Repair, especially when it has been serving York County for over 20 years. With over 35 employees, the company is certainly expanding and has distinguished itself within the industry and the other 22,399 companies with ISO 9002 registration. Garrod Hydraulics has joined the fraternity of Best in the Class, and I salute their hard work and dedication.

HONORING MAGGIE ADELE
MCCULLOCH ON HER 1ST BIRTHDAY

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mark and Molly McCulloch of Holyoke as they celebrate the birthday of their daughter Maggie Adele McCulloch who turns 1 year old today, March 16, 2000.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the McCulloch family for their commitment to Massachusetts and their community.

Over the past decade, my constituent Mr. Mark McCulloch has played a prominent role in the community as Editor of the Holyoke Sun, Westfield Evening News, and now as

Editor of the Ware River News. I am grateful for Mr. McCulloch's passion and commitment to politics and journalism.

As many of you know, a child's 1st birthday is a joyous occasion.

Therefore, it is only appropriate that I ask the House in joining me today in wishing Maggie Adele McCulloch a Happy Birthday.

HONORING MINNESOTA STAND DOWN

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the tremendous success of the Minnesota Stand Down.

Since 1993, Minnesota Stand Down has set forth an excellent example of successful collaborative efforts with the National Guard and Reserve Units, homeless shelter programs, health care providers and other members of the community in order to help combat the growing problem of homeless veterans. With the help of hundreds of volunteers from over 150 different agencies and organizations, Minnesota Stand Down is truly a magical operation.

I have had the honor of attending and participating in numerous Stand Down events in Minnesota over the years. Each event gathered over 1,000 veterans in search of medical attention, shelter, food, legal assistance, transitional housing program assistance, showers and haircuts, clothing and meals. Most importantly, these special events provide companionship, camaraderie and mutual support.

In its eighth year, Minnesota Stand Down is designed to give homeless veterans a brief respite from life on the streets. In response to this growing problem, I have sponsored H.R. 566, The Stand Down Authorization Act. This important legislation would, in conjunction with the grassroots community, expand the VA's role in providing outreach assistance to homeless veterans. H.R. 566 has the strong support of over 100 bi-partisan cosponsors, the VA, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the Disabled American Vets (DAV). Stand Downs are not a solution to the problem of homelessness among veterans, but an opportunity to create an atmosphere and policy path conducive to bring about hope and long term solutions.

I would like to share with all Members an uplifting poem written by Kathy Lindboe, the daughter of Minnesota Stand Down coordinator, Bill Lindboe. It is my hope that this enlightening message will ignite our efforts in providing more resources towards our forgotten heroes . . . homeless veterans.

A LONELY MAN WALKS IN THE NIGHT

(By Kathy Lindboe)

A lonely man walks in the night, it is cold and quiet with no end in sight.

With looks of anger, looks of disgust, the strangers pass him.

They assume he must be another bum who deserves the street, never knowing his name, never knowing his feat.

That he fought for their freedom to walk on by,

that he fought for their country, he saw his friends die.

That he fought for tomorrow, he was shot in the chest, he fought for them all, for he loved them all best.

Now he talks to himself for some company. He keeps his head down, he doesn't want them to see, his unshaven face, his frostbitten ears, the fear in his eyes from the last 30 years.

He hides from the world, existing on pride.

That for his country he lives, for this country, men died.

And his cry in the night, lingers on in his soul.

Another lonely man living, The war veterans role.

THE FED'S UNNECESSARY ASSAULT ON WAGES

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have become increasingly concerned that the relentless drive of the Federal Reserve to cut back on economic growth will lead to serious economic problems later this year. Federal Reserve officials have heretofore stressed that there is a time lag of many months between their decisions to raise interest rates and the effect those increases will have on the economy. We have recently had four Federal Reserve increases in interest rates, and by the Fed's own previous standards, only one of those could possibly have begun to have any economic impact, and that, barely so. For the Federal Reserve despite this to continue to raise interest rates threatens us with serious economic problems later in the year. I do not at this point believe that this will lead to a recession, although if the Fed continues to raise interest rates on a regular basis that will be the result. But what their actions will guarantee is a significant slow down in the growth of our economy. That is not only bad in itself, it will deprive our economy of the one factor that has served in recent years to alleviate the increasing trend towards exacerbating inequality that has accompanied overall prosperity for much of the past decade.

The justification for the Federal Reserve's action is of course that it is necessary to stave off inflation. This is a justification the Fed offers, despite what might appear to be the inconvenient fact that no inflation is in prospect. In a recent analysis, Jeff Faux of the Economic Policy Institute analyzes the Federal Reserve's argument, and delves into American economic history to show the fallacy of the Fed's approach.

Because of the importance of this topic to both the economic and social health of our country, and because of the cogency of Mr. Faux's analysis, I ask that it be printed here.

THE FED'S UNNECESSARY ASSAULT ON WAGES

(By Jeff Faux)

The Federal Reserve Board has raised its key interest rate a full percentage point since June 1999, and it has indicated that it will continue to raise rates until economic growth slows down.

It takes a while for interest rate changes to work their way through the economy. But sometime this year, the nation can expect to begin paying the costs. These costs will include: An increase in joblessness and a weak-

ening of the bargaining power of low- and middle-income families, whose wages—after being stagnant for most of the 1990s—have been rising in the last several years because of tight labor markets. Higher housing, consumer credit, and general borrowing costs. a worsening of the trade deficit, because raising interest rates will increase the near-term value of the dollar.

According to Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan, these costs are justified by the benefits of slower growth, which will: (1) prevent the current boom from "overheating," i.e., generating politically unacceptable levels of inflation that must then be brought down by engineering a deep recession, and (2) deflate the overpriced stock market, thereby preventing a future crash.

But the slowing of the economy is unnecessary. As Greenspan himself admitted in his February 17 semi-annual report to Congress, "inflation has remained largely contained." Moreover, the historical evidence for Greenspan's inflationary scenario is weak. As for an overpriced stock market, the Fed has other policy options with which to deflate it. These realities suggest that the Fed's intervention has been aimed more at preventing wage increases than at preventing inflation.

If anything, lowering, rather than raising, interest rates is a more appropriate monetary policy for the current condition of the economy.

NO INFLATION SIGNALS

There are no signs that the economy is approaching close enough to capacity to represent a serious inflationary threat. The latest data show that the January "core" inflation rate—consumer prices other than volatile energy and food prices—rose only 1.9% above the year before, compared with a 2.3% annual increase a year earlier.

Nor is there any evidence that production is threatening to outstrip capacity. The Federal Reserve's own numbers show the capacity utilization rate at 81.6%, substantially below the 85.4% reached in 1988-89, at the peak of the last business cycle.

The employment cost index—the statistic said to be most watched by the Fed economists—in the fourth quarter of 1999 was rising at an annual rate of 4.5%. But productivity was rising even faster—by 5%—leaving room in the economy for more noninflationary wage increases.

THE DISAPPEARING NAIRU

It is of course plausible that at some point spending could outgrow the economy's capacity to produce, causing prices to accelerate to unacceptable levels. Economists have labeled the unemployment rate below which this inflationary spiral would theoretically ignite as the NAIRU, or the non-accelerating-inflation rate of unemployment.

In the early 1990s, the conventional wisdom among economists, including most at the Federal Reserve, was that the unemployment rate could not go below 6% without triggering an accelerating rate of inflation. The few economists who pointed out that there was little empirical evidence to support this theory and that the economy could achieve noninflationary unemployment rates of 4% or even lower were derided by the profession and ignored by the business media. (The late William Vickery of Columbia University, a Nobel Prize winner, said in 1994 that a 2% unemployment rate was feasible.)

The unemployment rate has now been below 6% since September 1994, below 5% since June 1997, and below 4.5% since April 1998. As we have seen, core inflation has not only not accelerated, it remains dormant.

The experience has taught us that no one, not even Dr. Greenspan, can calculate the

NAIRU beforehand. Moreover, it has discredited the notion that low levels of unemployment will cause wages and prices to accelerate out of control. The NAIRU is revealed as useless as a guide to economic policy.

THE WRONG HISTORY LESSON

Still, the threat of the kind of runaway inflation that caused such economic and political havoc in the 1970s has been enough to stifle objections to the Fed's current strategy, even in an election year.

The inflationary terror with which Greenspan threatens us is a scenario in which rising demand in a peacetime economy bursts through the limits of capacity to set off a wage price spiral that feeds on itself, becomes politically unacceptable, and compels the government to bring it down by engineering a recession (reducing demand by reducing incomes). But, in fact, since 1914, when the U.S. began to measure consumer prices with a comprehensive index, a demand-driven peacetime economic boom has never generated the kind of inflation with which Greenspan frightens policy makers and the public.

A reasonable definition of "politically unacceptable" inflation is a condition in which rising consumer prices are used by the political opposition to successfully affect the outcome of elections. In this sense, price inflation was a significant national political issue on several 20th century occasions. One was the aftermath of World War I, when wartime inflation continued to increase through 1920. Prices rose 15% that year, and Republican Warren Harding, along with a GOP Congress, was elected on a platform of a "return to normalcy."

The next was 1946, when the end of World War II's price controls saw prices rise at a rate of 8.3% between 1945 and 1946. Rising meat prices were a particular sore spot with the voters, who elected a Republican Congress that November. Interestingly, prices rose at an annual rate of 11.3% over the next two years, but Democrat Harry Truman was still re-elected in 1948.

The next time that rising prices were a significant political issue was in the early 1970s. World oil prices were driven up by an oil-producing cartel, and a series of bad harvests in Russia and elsewhere caused global grain prices to rise as well. Price increases in these sectors then rippled through the U.S. economy. Between 1972 and 1980, consumer prices rose at an annual rate of 8.9%, and for three of those years the increases were in double digits. Political victims included Republican members of Congress decimated in the off-year election in 1974, President Gerald Ford in 1976, and President Jimmy Carter in 1980.

Thus, the general price increases that have reached politically troublesome levels have all involved several years of sustained inflation at rates that at some point reached double digits.

If we take a 5% increase in the consumer price index (CPI) as the point in which prices are moving toward this "politically unacceptable" range, we find that in no case since 1914 did price inflation reach even that level as a result of a peacetime economy growing beyond its capacity to produce. Every time the growth in the consumer price index reached 5%, the cause was exogenous to the domestic economy, i.e., war-related or energy and food price shocks emanating from outside U.S. borders.

Figure 4 shows the history of consumer price changes year-by-year since 1914. Working backward, the brief price spike in 1990 that put the CPI slightly over 5% was a result of a sharp, short run-up in oil prices during the Gulf War. As indicated above, the inflation of the 1970s was not a result of an overheated economy but was generated by

world oil and grain price shocks. Nor was the previous bout of inflation in the late 1960s ignited by an insufficiently vigilant Fed; the culprit was Lyndon Johnson's refusal to raise taxes to pay for the Vietnam War. The inflation episode before that was fueled by the Korean War. And, as indicated, the other two bouts of inflation were the products of the 20th century's world wars.

In other words, the memories of inflation that give political support to Greenspan's policy of raising interest rates reflect past experiences that are irrelevant to the present condition of the American economy. In fact, one cannot find in modern history the inflationary scenario from which Greenspan is presumably protecting us.

DAMPENING STOCK MARKET EXUBERANCE

Recently, the stock market has been deflating on its own. Still, given the widespread casino mentality that pervades the markets, it is not unreasonable to attempt to bring down values more in line with economic fundamentals, i.e., the growth of employment, incomes, and production.

But it is not reasonable to undercut those economic fundamentals in order to bring down a speculative bubble in the stock market. Instead, the Fed should be trying to achieve balance by contracting the stock market and letting the productive part of the economy expand, gradually substituting real for speculative value in share prices.

Much of the recent overvaluation of U.S. stock markets has been fueled by excessive credit. The share of "margin debt" to the capitalization of the stock market is now at or above the heights reached just before the 1987 market crash. The ratio of margin debt to the gross domestic product (GDP) is now double what it was at that time.

A number of market observers, including financier George Soros and Stanley Fischer, deputy director at the International Monetary Fund, have recently advocated that the Fed let air out of this credit boom by raising margin requirements. But Asian Greenspan has consistently refused. When asked about this at his confirmation hearing before the U.S. Senate Banking Committee, Greenspan said that he did not want to discriminate against individuals who were not wealthy enough to have other assets against which to borrow in order to play the stock market. Given that people who use margin leverage to buy stock are typically wealthy by any reasonable standard, this is a rather weak rationale for favoring higher interest rate policies whose costs will largely be felt by lower- and middle-income working people.

To the extent that Greenspan is concerned about irrational exuberance in the stock market, raising margin requirements should certainly be the weapon of choice.

WAGES—THE FED'S REAL TARGET

Given the absence of inflationary signals, the lack of historical precedent, and the Fed's disinclination to target the stock market bubble directly, it does not appear that preventing an outbreak of inflation—at least as most Americans would understand the term—is the root motivation behind the Fed's recent interest rate increases. Rather, it seems to be aiming at preventing wage increases.

The Fed's defenders would of course argue that that is exactly how one prevents "wage-price" spirals from taking off. But as economist Jamie Galbraith has pointed out, every episode of accelerating inflation since 1960, with the exception of the lifting of Vietnam-era price controls after Richard Nixon's reelection, were led by prices, not by wages.

The current effort to slow down the economy, therefore, appears to be targeted at weakening the bargaining position of labor vis-a-vis capital. Indeed, throughout this

economic expansion of the 1990, we have seen a shift of market incomes from wages to profits. This shift has been so pronounced that economist Jared Bernstein has calculated that, even if labor costs were to accelerate to rising 1% faster than productivity (as opposed to their current slower growth rate), it would take four years before wages and profits went back to their respective shares in the decade of the 1980s.

It is reasonable to ask the following: if the expansion of profits and the subsequent reallocation of income from labor to capital that occurred throughout the 1990s did not by itself raise inflationary concerns, why should a potential swing back to labor's favor?

The Fed is unlikely to enlighten us. But it is obvious that Federal Reserve Boards have historically considered themselves defenders of the interests of those who invest for a living as opposed to those who work for wages. This one is no exception.

Greenspan deserves some credit for not having cut off this current expansion when the unemployment rate reached what the conventional wisdom assumed were NAIRU limits. On the other hand, he has responded much faster to problems in financial markets than to problems in labor markets. Thus, he was quick to intervene in the economy in the case of the stock market crash of 1987, the Asia financial crisis of 1997, and the Long Term Capital Management debacle of 1998. But he was so slow to react to a rising unemployment rate in the early 1990s that he allowed the economy to fall into a recession.

Greenspan himself has said on several occasions that job insecurity has been a significant factor in limiting labor's earnings during the expansion and thus adding to profits and the profit expectations that have fueled the stock market. From this perspective, raising interest rates to raise the unemployment rate, as opposed to targeting margin requirements, insures that labor's share remains depressed even as the financial markets are forced to undergo a correction.

KEEPING THE EXPANSION GOING

The economic policy task now facing the United States is how to keep the current expansion alive by keeping it in balance, e.g., avoiding speculative markets, excessive debt, and high interest rates. This will require careful management by both the Federal Reserve and the administration.

First, at the very least, the Fed should not raise interest rates any further. In fact, the Fed should gradually begin lowering rates to keep probing the economy's limits and to allow the dollar to fall and to make U.S. goods more internationally competitive. If and when signs appear that the domestic economy is overheating and price inflation threatens, there will be plenty of time to raise interest rates (or taxes) to reduce the growth rate.

Second, at the same time, the Fed should use its authority to raise margin requirements. In addition, both the Fed and the Clinton Administration should move to reduce excessive stock market and consumer credit use. Bank regulators should discourage the growing issuance of unsound mortgage lending and home equity loans and impose stricter regulation of credit care companies.

Tightening credit in speculative markets while allowing the rest of the economy to grow will bring more balance to the economy. In particular, it would help to raise real incomes and at the same time help reduce consumer debt, providing more stability and staying power for the household sector that has been the sustaining force for growth over the past decade.

Third, neither the Fed nor the Administration should attempt to slow economic

growth if energy prices continue to rise. The lesson from the 1970s is that oil price cartels do not last. It helps that the U.S. economy is less energy intensive than it was in the 1970s and less vulnerable to energy price increases. The president's decision to increase subsidies to help low-income families to cope with temporarily higher heating oil prices was wise. If necessary, the Administration should use national oil reserves to counter any extraordinary short-term surge in prices that threatens to cut off economic growth.

This longest economic expansion in modern history has in the last few years finally begun to bring real income growth to low- and middle-income Americans. Maintaining that growth is essential for America's private sector to remain competitive and its public sector to have the revenues it needs to finance social investment.

The risk of jeopardizing these goals far outweighs any small risk of a sudden and historically unprecedented outbreak of demand-driven inflation.

H.R. —, THE NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION ESTABLISHMENT ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2000

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to amend and reauthorize the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act.

Since its creation in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has been very successful in establishing public and private partnerships to conserve fish, wildlife, and plants using Federal funds matched by private donations. On average, the Foundation has brought in more than two private sector dollars for every Federal dollar appropriated. With these funds, the Foundation has financed more than 3,500 on-the-ground conservation projects throughout the United States and abroad. Together with partnerships and challenge grants, the Foundation has provided \$441 million for conservation projects. Their record is impressive.

To fund these projects, the Foundation has entered into partnerships with a wide range of State and local agencies, academic institutions, conservation groups, and businesses. In a time of diverse interests and an ever increasing strain on our natural resources, the ability to forge productive and workable partnerships between all sectors of society is of paramount importance. The Foundation possesses this ability, and makes unparalleled use of it to award grants in five major categories: conservation education, wetlands and private lands protection, neotropical migratory bird conservation, fisheries conservation and management, and wildlife and habitat management.

In the past, legislation to reauthorize the Foundation generated unnecessary and misguided criticism. Such criticism has been surprising considering the noncontroversial nature and mission of the Foundation and its solid history of bipartisan support in Congress. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation represents one of Congress' finest conservation innovations, and embodies what we should

strive to achieve every day—the intelligent and economical conservation of our fish, wildlife and plants.

This legislation is very similar to legislation introduced by the late Senator JOHN CHAFEE and passed by the Senate by unanimous consent. It is strongly supported by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation as well as both the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Mr. Speaker, in the interest of time, I will submit additional comments describing the legislation and explaining the changes it makes to existing law.

In closing, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is an important element in our national effort to build partnerships to conserve our common natural heritage. I urge my friends and colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill.

OBJECTIVES OF LEGISLATION

This legislation makes several significant changes to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's (Foundation) establishment legislation. First, it expands board membership from the current number of 15 to 25. Second, the bill expands the Foundation's jurisdiction to include additional agencies within the Department of the Interior and the Department of Commerce to further the conservation and management of fish, wildlife, and plants and natural resources. Third, it authorizes annual appropriations through fiscal year 2006 to the Department of the Interior for \$30 million and to the Department of Commerce for \$10 million. The Foundation's current authorization expired on September 30, 1998.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 2 would amend the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act by providing authority for the Foundation to accept and administer private gifts of property in connection with the work of agencies within the Department of the Interior and the Department of Commerce. Under current law, the Foundation is only authorized to accept and administer private gifts of property in connection with the Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA.

Section 3 would increase the Foundation's Board of Directors from 15 to 25 members, including the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere (Administrator of NOAA).

Section 4 would authorize the Foundation to have its principal offices in the greater Washington D.C. metropolitan area. This section would also establish conditions for the Foundation to acquire and convey property (dependent upon agency approval) and invest and deposit Federal funds. Section 4 would revise provisions relating to agency approval of acquisitions of property and of conveyances and grants. It also would set forth limitations relating to the Foundation's conveyances of real property and overhead expenditures.

Section 5 would authorize appropriations of \$40 million per year to implement the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act Amendments of 2000 through fiscal year 2006 of which \$30 million would go to the Department of the Interior and \$10 million would go to the Department of Commerce. This section would also authorize the Foundation to accept funds from a Federal agency under any other Federal law to further its conservation and management activities. In addition, it would prohibit grant recipients from using Federal appropriations under this Act to engage in activities relating to lobbying or litigation.

Section 6 would clarify that nothing within this Bill authorizes the Foundation to perform activities that are within the jurisdiction of the National Park Foundation by Public Law 90-209 (16 U.S.C. 19e et seq.).

HONORING THE CORLEONE SOCIETY [UNIONE SPORTIVA CORLEONE]

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the members of the Corleone Society (Unione Sportiva Corleone) and their 25th Annual Dinner-Dance this week. I also take this opportunity to recognize Paolo Muratore and his 16 years of leadership as the President of the Corleone Society.

In 1973 a group of friends, originally from the Italian city of Corleone, met to celebrate a traditional holiday from their native town. During this event they decided to form the Corleone Society (Unione Sportiva Corleone) in order to extend their culture and traditions to the United States of America. The people of Corleone, a city of 15,000 inhabitants, have chosen a lion clutching a flaming heart as a symbol of their nobility and generosity. Since 1973 until today the members of the Corleone Society have contributed to the enrichment of our culture with the traditions and values of the city of Corleone in Sicily.

For 25 years the members of the Corleone Society have gathered together to celebrate their traditions and emphasize their commitment to noble causes. They award scholarships to support talented students in their educational endeavors. At the same time, they are dedicated to improving the health and welfare of children worldwide. The Corleone Society offers its patronage to orphanages and it sponsors sick children from abroad to receive medical treatment in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in expressing our gratitude for the indispensable services and contributions the Corleone Society has given to so many in the United States and around the world.

CENSUS DEBATE

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to express my shock and disappointment at the tenor and content of the Special Order that was coordinated by the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on the Census last night.

But before I go on please everyone in America fill out your census forms and mail them in.

For months now Republicans and Democrats have been promoting the census. No political cheap shots, no debates over sampling. But after the Democrats ambush last night, it's time to take the gloves off.

As we all know, this is the most critical time for the census and for making sure that everyone participates. But the Democrats have obviously decided that promoting the census is

secondary to promoting their own political agenda. Are the Democrats so scared of George Bush that they would inject politics into the census, the very week people are filling out their forms and mailing them in? Sadly the answer can only be yes.

Are the Democrats so afraid that we will retain the House in the upcoming election that they would risk alienating people from participating in the census? Once again, the sad answer is yes.

While it is no secret that our parties and the presidential candidates differ on the use of estimated numbers for purposes of adjustment, the fact that you could not simply promote the census during this most crucial of weeks is very disappointing.

Democrats have stated all along that they want everyone to fill out their forms to assist the Bureau in getting the best count ever. I now wonder whether this was merely a ruse you maintained to harbor another objective. The Democrat message on Wednesday to the American people was "Don't worry about filling out your form—let the government estimate where you are." The effect of these statements is to undermine a good mail-back response rate. There is a very good chance that statistical sampling will be found illegal for redistricting as it was found illegal by the Supreme Court for reapportionment. Supporters of sampling are selling people a false bill of goods.

Let's face reality for a moment—the Supreme Court ruled last January that sampling cannot be used for apportionment and that the Census Bureau must conduct a full enumeration. Therefore your attack on Presidential candidate George Bush is ludicrous. And as we both know, the National Academy of Sciences has yet to endorse the complex ACE estimation plan. In fact, at last month's NAS meeting there was much debate on both sides of the issue and it was clear that there was uncertainty. To suggest that the NAS has endorsed the specifics of ACE is to mislead the American people.

In conclusion, I think that those that participated in last night's ambush on Republicans have done far more to hurt the census efforts than you all may believe. Many Americans are concerned about the intrusiveness of the long form. Even the Bureau acknowledges that many of their phone calls and emails are complaints. All offices are fielding numerous calls from upset constituents. In fact, you could not have picked a worse day in a worse week to make your purely partisan political diatribe.

Last night, on the House floor, you had an opportunity to do one of two things: Promote the census and the importance of mailing back the forms, or use the opportunity for political grandstanding. Unfortunately, you chose the latter. To insert the debate over sampling and to take cheap shots at Governor Bush will not motivate one single person to fill out their census form and mail it in.

I can only hope that American people can see through your partisan motives and rhetoric and realize that the answer to their needs will not be met by a statistical silver bullet and that despite your obvious attempts to dissuade them, will fill out their census forms.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 376, OPEN-MARKET REORGANIZATION FOR THE BETTERMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNI- CATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I support the passage of the conference agreement on satellite communications reform. This is an important bill that will revise our laws to encourage more competition in the global satellite communication services market and deliver more choices to consumers. I strongly urge its adoption.

The conference agreement eliminates antiquated statutory barriers that have prevented the purchase of COMSAT. I am very pleased that the conferees dropped the Level IV direct access rules which would have unfairly taken value away from COMSAT shareholders. It also repeals the ownership cap on COMSAT without conditions, rather than making it contingent upon unrelated events as the House bill would have. In addition, the bill sets forth an effective roadmap for INTELSAT and Inmarsat to transition from intergovernmental organizations to truly pro-competitive, privatized entities.

I want to stress that while the bill gives the FCC authority to assess and evaluate INTELSAT's and Inmarsat's privatization efforts, nothing in this bill gives the FCC authority to control the business operations of these entities after they have attained a pro-competitive privatization. The bill will encourage the transition of INTELSAT and Inmarsat into normal, commercial entities so the global satellite market will be more competitive. Once privatization is achieved, INTELSAT and Inmarsat will be regulated by the FCC like any other business in the global satellite communications market.

Again, I am pleased that we will finally pass a bill that will truly level the playing field in the satellite communications services market, and I commend the Conferees for producing such a good, bipartisan bill.

NEW TESTS FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I recently received a copy of a letter to the editor of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel written by Mr. Steve Cywinski, one of my constituents from South Milwaukee. I submit this letter to be included in the RECORD.

NEW TESTS FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS

I was very impressed with the article in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on Sen. William Proxmire ("Proxmire honored for sharp eye on money," Dec. 8). He served from 1957-'89. His mission was to cut wasteful spending. He was credited with 168 Golden Fleece awards. My question: Is Bill Proxmire the only one of some 500 politicians in Washington, DC, who had his eyes and ears open?

I would propose hearing and eye tests for politicians before being sworn into office.

STEVE CYWINSKI,
South Milwaukee.

PROPOSED ACCOUNTING RULE CHANGES FOR TECHNOLOGY MERGERS

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, in today's rapidly growing technology and information markets, the need for maintaining an accounting system that is best suited to handle the growing trend of technology sector mergers is key. The "pooling" system of accounting has made possible some of the largest mergers of our time; without this system the unifications of Netscape/AOL, Citicorp/Travelers, NationsBank/Bank of America, and Daimler/Chrysler quite possibly would have never taken place, reducing innovation and benefits to consumers.

Current regulations allow many high-tech companies to take advantage of this "pooling" system of accounting, which allows corporations to easily merge without attaching a goodwill accounting charge. This is the amount paid in an acquisition that is added to the fair market value of a company's tangible assets. If the Financial Accounting Standards Board has its way, it would require that all mergers be viewed not as the melding of separate entities, but as a direct purchase, forcing companies to accept the purchase method of accounting. This system worked for the bricks and mortar corporations of the past, but in the age of high-tech companies whose value lies in information, the purchase method of accounting has no place.

Forcing these high-tech/high performance companies to use the direct purchase accounting system will only serve to stifle growth and limit our country's edge in this information age. We should take every opportunity to support and ensure continued innovation and expansion in this technology sector that has done so much to energize our economy. This can be accomplished if we say yes to the continuation of pooling mergers, and no to attempts to further regulate this important sector of our economy.

GREATER PITTSBURGH FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK HONOR MICHAEL TIGUE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Michael F. Tigue. This year the Greater Pittsburgh Friendly Sons of St. Patrick will honor Mr. Tigue as "Man of the Year" at their 86th annual St. Patrick's Day banquet. I am honored to have been asked to participate in this prestigious event.

Michael Tigue is a lifelong resident of Hightstown, in my District in Pennsylvania. In the early days of the coal industry, young boys

were used on the breakers to sort coal. It was backbreaking work that paid pennies a day. Michael Tigue was one of these lads while attending school. He later went on to work at the Lehigh Valley Railroad and then as a pipefitter. He is a member of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union 524, the Knights of Columbus and the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Tigue has been married to his wife Joan for 56 years. They are the proud parents of four, Thomas, Mariclaire, Michael, and Kevin. Their son, State Representative Tom Tigue, is a longtime friend and colleague of mine.

The Tiges boast 10 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren and are members of the Blessed Sacrament Parish in Hughestown.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud this year's choice for the Friendly Sons' "Man of the Year" award and send my sincere best wishes to Mr. Tigue and his family.

TAIWAN'S SECOND PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, on the eve of Taiwan's second presidential election there has been much talk about China's use of force against Taiwan. I am concerned that the voters of Taiwan may be intimidated in this election and their vote may be influenced. We should let the electoral process work itself through. The people of Taiwan deserve the right to exercise their judgment in this democratic election for one of the three candidates.

While we all agree that there is one China, reunification talks between Taiwan and Beijing should be conducted freely and the two sides should have equal footing in any negotiations. I urge all involved in this process to let the voters in Taiwan elect their new President on March 18. After all, peace and stability in the Taiwan Straits are in the best interests of everyone.

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of an increase in the minimum wage. Last year in my state of Florida, more than half a million people earned the minimum wage, a full 10% of the state's employees. Many of these workers are women, and most are adults who are trying to support a family. Don't be fooled by the claims that these workers are all teenagers. In fact, seventy-two percent of our nation's minimum wage workers are adults, and their family incomes are well below the national average. For a family of four to live above the poverty threshold, which is \$17,000 a year, the minimum wage would have to be increased to \$8.19 an hour!

Since the 1980s, real earnings for our nation's workers have declined by 12 percent,

while the wealthiest 20 percent swallowed up almost all of the increases. It's ironic that productivity, profits, executive pay and the stock market are rising, but the incomes of the poorest working families in our nation are not.

The last time we raised the minimum wage, 10 million American workers benefitted and no jobs were lost. The 1996 minimum wage increase provided a pay raise to 10 million workers, and since then the economy has continued to speed ahead, creating thousands of new jobs.

H.R. 3846 shortchanges minimum wage workers by stretching out a \$1 an hour increase over 3 years, making low wage workers wait as long as possible before receiving the full increase.

In addition, this bill is loaded down with tax breaks for big business, and by doing so it threatens Social Security and other invaluable programs! Not surprisingly, 73% of the beneficiaries of these tax breaks are the wealthiest 1% of our citizens! This is another case of Reverse Robin Hood—stealing from the poor and working people, and giving tax breaks to the wealthy.

The Joint Committee on Taxation reports that this will cost our country \$123 billion over the next ten years!

I urge my colleagues to vote for a fair minimum wage bill and support the Democratic substitute. Stand up for our country's hard working minimum wage earners and vote "no" on the Republican measures.

DALLAS STARS—1999 STANLEY CUP CHAMPIONS

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, the members of the North Texas Congressional Delegation honor today in Washington, DC, the 1999 National Hockey League Stanley Cup Champions—the Dallas Stars.

The Dallas Stars electrified all of Texas en route to winning the oldest trophy in North America and along the way these champs gave us some unforgettable performances on the ice. Whether it was the clutch play of center Mike Modano, the acrobatic saves of veteran goalie Eddie Belfour, the crushing defense of captain Derian Hatcher, the leadership of MVP Joe Nieuwendyk, or the stick handling of Brett Hull, who scored the Cup-winning goal—it seemed like every game a different Star player stepped up and inspired the team to victory.

Further, we would like to commend team owner Tom Hicks, President Jim Lites, General Manager Bob Gainey, and Coach Ken Hitchcock for giving all Texans a hockey team to be proud of and showing that hard work and perseverance do pay off. Many in this Nation scoffed when the Stars announced in 1993 that they were bringing professional hockey to Dallas, Texas. And now, just seven years later, Texas is the home to Stanley Cup Champions who have inspired many of our youth to participate in this team sport.

Again, on behalf of Congressmen DICK ARMEY, EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, SAM JOHNSON, and PETE SESSIONS, congratulations from the North Texas Congressional Delegation

and a hearty Texas thank you to the mighty Dallas Stars, 1999 Stanley Cup Champions.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. JUDITH KIRCHMAN

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, today I want to extend my warmest thanks and my most sincere best wishes to my District Director, Judith Kirchman, who will be retiring in June after 20 years of service to the citizens of the Seventh Congressional District of North Carolina.

Judith, a native of Fayetteville, NC, began work in June 1980, for my predecessor, the Honorable Charlie Rose. During the past 20 years, Judith has performed superbly in various positions and tasks. From assisting citizens in their dealings with Federal agencies to being that "point person" on natural disasters to strategic advice and counsel, Judith has been both resourceful and thoughtful.

When I think of Judith's commitment to the public good, the words "spirit, sacrifice, and service" come to mind. Judith's positive spirit has always been to do the task at hand—a spirit that inspires others to achieve. Judith's sacrifice in time and commitment has been to make southeastern North Carolina a better place to live and work—a sacrifice that meant doing the right thing and not being concerned with who gets the credit.

Pearl S. Buck once said, "To serve is beautiful, but only if it is done with joy and a whole heart and free mind." Judith, there is no question that your 20 years of service have been the epitome of this statement. Service to others has been the embodiment of your life—service that sets a path for others to follow and that we all should emulate.

As you enter this next stage of your life, I am confident that your talents and energy will continue to be of benefit to many. Through your commitment to your church, your family, and your community, a shining jewel you will continue to be.

Bart Giamatti, the former president of Yale University, said it well in 1987,

Be mindful of what we share and must share; not the least of which is that each of our hopes for a full and decent life depends upon others hoping the same and all of us sustaining each other's hopes . . . If there is no striving for the good life for any of us, there cannot be a good life for any of us.

Judith, on behalf of the citizens of the Seventh Congressional District of North Carolina, thank you so much for the good life you have given to so many. Now, you enjoy the same, and may God's strength, peace and joy be with you always.

SMALL BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 3843) to reauthorize programs to assist small business concerns and for other purposes:

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my support for the reauthorization of the Small Business Administration, which has provided essential assistance and guidance to our nation's entrepreneurs since its creation in 1953. Though the agency was originally intended as a temporary response to address the economic concerns of the postwar economy, it has grown significantly and has helped small businesses become a driving force in our nation's economy.

Small businesses play an integral role in sustaining our Nation's economic strength. Innovative, flexible, and resilient, independent businesses have had a significant impact on all sectors of industry, from service to high-technology. Enterprises with fewer than 500 workers employ 52 percent of the Nation's private sector workforce, produce 51 percent of private sector output, represent 96 percent of exporters of goods, and produce virtually all new jobs in our changing economy. The small firm embodies the American ideals of independence, innovation and adaptability, which is one reason why the small business thrives in the United States.

Not only have small businesses had a positive impact on our economy, they also undertake significant responsibilities in communities. The 1996 changes to the Nation's welfare system emphasized the transition from government assistance to the work force, and small firms have been instrumental in providing employment to former welfare recipients. By doing so, workers learn new skills in a small, manageable atmosphere and can become productive members of a business team. Furthermore, small businesses cooperate with local government, schools, and other organizations to cement the bonds of a strong community. Whether sponsoring a little league team or donating computers to an elementary school, the small business is an anchor of any town or city.

As a former small business owner, I know firsthand the challenges faced by our Nation's entrepreneurs. Embarking on a new venture is a period of excitement for entrepreneurs, though the task ahead appears daunting and formidable. Not only must a small business owner consider the financial implications of an endeavor, he or she must also master the Federal and State regulations pertaining to business owners. Luckily, the Small Business Administration is available to provide financial assistance and legal expertise to entrepreneurs. In fiscal year 1999, the SBA provided \$10.1 billion in loans to small businesses, with almost \$108 million in loans to businesses in my State of Rhode Island. Furthermore, the SBA excels at providing continued assistance to firms, sharing information about new technologies, trade and export opportunities, and pertinent federal laws and regulations. I applaud the SBA for its commitment to fostering creativity and entrepreneurship in the United States, as well as its assistance to small businesses in meeting the new challenges of our Nation's changing economy.

Today we have the opportunity to enact legislation to reauthorize the Small Business Administration and its programs through fiscal year 2003. Given all of the substantial benefits this organization has provided in its 47-year history, I strongly believe that we must give

this agency the opportunity to continue its mission for the next 3 years. I urge my colleagues to join me today in giving our nation's entrepreneurs the tools and resources needed to pursue their personal dreams. I urge them to vote in favor of SBA reauthorization.

APPLES FOR THREE MILLION TEACHERS ACT

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, last year Senator JON KYL and I introduced the K-12 Education Excellence Now (KEEN) Act to provide tax relief for all Americans, including our Nation's teachers. This year we are introducing another much-needed avenue for teacher relief: the Apples for Three Million Teachers Act. The bill will offer America's 3,107,000 public and private school educators a \$100 dollar-for-dollar tax credit for out-of-pocket classroom expenses. It also contains another provision—one included in the \$792 billion tax relief package vetoed by the President last year—that will permit educators to claim a tax deduction for expenses above \$100. I am pleased to report that the Apples for Teachers Act passed 98-0 in the Senate as an amendment offered by Senator KYL and Senator SUSAN COLLINS to the Education Savings Accounts Bill (S. 1134). The House would be wise to incorporate this amendment into the education tax incentive package currently being crafted. The President has shown his tendency to deprive parents and grandparents of a tax-free way to save for education expenses in twice vetoing legislation expanding Education Savings Accounts to elementary and secondary educational expenses. He might hesitate if faced with the prospect of denying every K-12 teacher in America partial from classroom expenses.

Education funding tends to be rigid, with money distributed on a categorical basis leaving teachers with little flexibility to direct funds. The Apples for Teachers Act is desperately needed because teachers often have to dip into their own resources to provide their students with the resources they need when, as so often is the case, the provided materials are inadequate. The National Education Association estimates that teachers spend an average of \$408 annually on out-of-pocket, non-reimbursable materials for their classrooms. A seven year veteran teacher who now serves on my staff reports that this estimate may be very low. While teaching in inner city schools, she spent \$900 to \$1,200 annually to subsidize her classroom. She believes this is below or within the norm of her colleagues.

Further, in a letter endorsing the teacher tax relief contained in my broader KEEN Act, 53,000 educators of the National Science Teachers Association and 110,000 members of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics commented that the KEEN tax credit bill "would alleviate a teacher's financial burden in getting needed materials for his or her classroom." Apples for Teachers furthers this same goal.

Certainly, one of the most important factors in the academic success of a student is teacher quality. But to achieve quality, teachers need more than praise: They need the re-

sources necessary to provide our children with the learning materials teaching requires. It's time for Congress to assist the men and women in American who not only dedicate their careers to educating our children, but continue to sacrifice financially for them as well. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Apples for Teachers Act and believe that this legislation should be included in any tax package devoted to improving K-12 education.

NELSON MANDELA

HON. LAMAR S. SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, at the suggestion of the distinguished former Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the Honorable Charles Percy, I am pleased to request that the following two part series on Nelson Mandela, recently published in The Christian Science Monitor, be submitted into the RECORD.

[From The Christian Science Monitor, Feb. 10, 2000]

MANDELA

(By John Battersby)

Ten years after Nelson Mandela walked out of prison on Robben Island, and seven months after stepping down as president of South Africa, he reflects, in an interview with the Monitor, on his legacy and the lasting influence his 27 years in prison had on him.

"Whatever my wishes may be, I cannot bind future generations to remember me in the particular way I would like," Nelson Mandela says.

Despite peace missions, a blistering schedule of overseas travel and stepped-up philanthropic activities, Mr. Mandela has begun to reflect on how he wants to be remembered both in an interview and at functions to pay tribute to him.

And despite his reluctance to be singled out and discuss his personal qualities, there is consensus in South Africa that without Mandela's personal commitment to reconciliation, his moral authority, integrity, and intense compassion, the country's transition to democracy might not have gone as smoothly.

Mandela is at pains to ensure that he is remembered as an ordinary mortal with qualities that are within the reach of ordinary people. "What always worried me in prison was [that I could acquire] the image of someone who is always 100 percent correct and can never do any wrong," he told one audience of 500. "People expect me to perform far beyond my ability."

He expanded on these reflections for the first time in a recent interview with the Monitor, which probed his philosophy of reconciliation, the origins of his moral integrity, and the experiences and influences that forged the qualities which have made him one of the heroes of the 20th century.

He also spoke about the importance of religion in his life and the crucial role of reflection and "the time to think" during his 27 years in jail.

History will remember Mandela for having the strength of conviction to risk engaging his jailers—and thereby humanizing them—from inside prison and eventually setting the stage for the ANC to negotiate them out of power. Mandela sees the success of the ANC in mobilizing both domestic and international opinion against the apartheid government as the key factor.

In the interview, Mandela insisted that he wanted to be remembered as part of a collective and not in isolation. On his release from jail 10 years ago tomorrow, he made it clear that he regarded himself as a "loyal and obedient servant" of the African National Congress (ANC), the liberation movement he headed before becoming South Africa's first democratically elected president in May 1994.

"I would like to be remembered as part of a team, and I would like my contribution to be assessed as somebody who carried out decisions taken by that collective," Mandela says, adding that even if he wanted to be remembered in a specific way that was not a realistic option.

Mandela was speaking in the living room of the house he shares with his second wife Graca Machel, whom he married in 1998. It is a doubly-story house in the plush Johannesburg neighborhood of Houghton.

"As prisoners, we used our individual and collective positions to make friends with some of our jailers. But this must be understood against the bigger picture of what was happening outside—an organized and disciplined struggle by our organization and the international community," he says.

PLEASE, NO SAINTHOOD

At the launch, late last year, of a book to commemorate him, written by South African journalist Charlene Smith (due out in the US this April, New Holland/Stuik), Mandela insisted that he not be elevated to some kind of sainthood.

The paradoxical side of the man is that he has sometimes taken on superhuman tasks such as his shuttle last October to Iran, Syria, Jordan, Israel, Gaza, and the United States in a bid to broker a comprehensive Middle East peace.

Despite what Mandela described as "positive and cordial" meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and President Ezer Weizman, Israel rejected his intervention. But Mandela was not unduly discouraged.

"There are bound to be setbacks," he says.

Mandela was greatly encouraged by the eventual outcomes of his interventions in East Timor and the handing over by Libya of those accused of the bombing of the Pan Am flight over the Scottish town of Lockerbie in 1988. He spent seven years mediating the behind-the-scenes negotiations with Saudi Arabia.

He says it is important that leaders should be presented to people with their weaknesses and all. "If you come across as a saint, people can become very discouraged," he says. "I was once a young man and I did all the things young men do," Mandela says, to drive home the point of his human fallibility.

Biographers and commentators have been intrigued by Mandela's extraordinary focus and unity of purpose during his years as a young ANC activist and later as its spiritual leader from behind bars.

"If you have an objective in life, then you want to concentrate on that and not engage in infighting with your enemies," he says in the interview. "You want to create an atmosphere where you can move everybody towards the goal you have set for yourself—as well as the collective for which you work."

"And, therefore, for all people who have found themselves in the position of being in jail and trying to transform society, forgiveness is natural because you have no time to be retaliative. . . . You want to mobilize everybody to support your cause and the aims you have set for your life," he says.

Asked about the origins of his passionate belief in reconciliation and forgiveness, Mandela goes into a lengthy explanation of how the launched he Mandela Children's

Fund after a personal encounter with homeless children in Cape Town who had come to see him to explain their plight. He was so moved that he vowed in that moment to launch the fund, which has collected more than \$25 million and has helped hundreds of children. Mandela donated a third of his presidential salary to the fund during his five years in office. Many business executives matched his example and some bettered it.

WHAT PRICE RECONCILIATION?

Mandela is sensitive to criticism from certain black leaders that he has leaned over too far toward whites in his efforts to achieve reconciliation and forgiveness. He becomes emotional when defending his impressive campaign over the past few years to get business leaders to donate funds for the building of schools and clinics in the rural areas.

"Why would anyone say that I am leaning too much towards whites? Tell me the record of any black man in this country who has done as much as that [for black people] . . . I am not aware of any other black man who has spent so much time addressing the problems of poverty, lack of education, and disease amongst our people," Mandela says, adding that he had nothing but cooperation and support from the white business community.

When it comes to his moral authority and achievement in persuading his jailers and their political bosses to negotiate with him, Mandela again stresses the moral high ground of the ANC cause.

"When you have attained the moral high ground, it is better to confront your people directly and say: Let's sit down and talk. So, it is not something that just comes from me. It is something that was worked out by the organization to which I belong."

Mandela speaks of the influence that veteran ANC leader Walter Sisulu had had on him while in prison and how he was instrumental in taking care of fellow prisoners regardless of their political background.

Mandela has in turn been praised by Eddie Daniels, a former Robben Island prisoner from a rival anti-apartheid organization, who has told how Mandela befriended him and kept his cell clean when he was ill.

TRANSFORMATION IN PRISON

Mandela says, "I can tell you that a man like Sisulu was almost like a saint in things of that nature."

"You would really admire him because he is continually thinking about other people."

"I learned a great deal from him—not only on that respect but also, politically, he was our mentor. He is a very good fellow . . . and humble. He led from behind and put others in front, but he reversed the position in situations of danger. Then he chose to be in the front line."

In "Mandela: The Authorized Biography" (Knopf), Anthony Sampson notes the remarkable transformation in the Mandela that emerged from jail compared with the impulsive activist with a quick temper he knew in the late 1950s (reviewed Sept. 30, 1999).

Mandela does not dispute Mr. Sampson's judgment and acknowledges the importance of mastering his anger while in prison. "One was angry at what was happening [in apartheid South Africa]—the humiliation, the loss of our human dignity. We tended to react in accordance with anger and our emotion rather than sitting down and thinking about things properly."

"But in jail—especially for those who stayed in single cells—you had enough opportunity to sit down and think. And you were in contact with a lot of people who had a high education and who were widely trav-

eled. When they told of their experiences, you felt humbled."

"All those influences changed one," Mandela says. Sampson quotes from a letter that Mandela wrote to his then wife, Winnie, in 1981 after she had been jailed.

Mandela noted that there were qualities "in each of us" that form the basis of our spiritual life and that we can change ourselves by observing our reactions to the unfolding of life.

He urged Winnie in the letter "to learn to know yourself . . . to search realistically and regularly the processes of your own mind and feelings."

In the interview, Mandela says that one of the most powerful forces that changed him was thinking about how he had behaved and reacted to generosity and compassion expressed toward him in the past.

"For example, when I arrived in Johannesburg [as a young man], I was poor, and many people helped me get by. But when I became a lawyer and I was in a better position [financially], I became too busy with legal affairs and forgot about people who had helped me."

"Instead of going to them and saying: Look, here's a bunch of flowers or a box of chocolates and saying thank you, I had never even thought about these things. I felt that I had behaved like a wild man . . . like an animal and I really criticized myself for the way I had behaved."

"But I was able to do this because I had time to think about it, whereas outside jail—from morning to sunset—you are moving from one meeting to the other, and there is no time to think about problems. Thinking is one of the most important weapons in dealing with problems . . . and we didn't have that outside."

Peter Ustinov, the veteran actor, author, and international citizen, met Mandela in South Africa two years ago and was struck by the importance Mandela attached to the long period of solitude in prison.

"I had a most inspiring meeting with Nelson Mandela," Ustinov told this reporter in an interview in the Swiss Alpine town of Davos. "He told me with a certain amount of irony and wickedness: 'I am grateful for the 27 years I spent in prison because it gave me the opportunity to meditate and think deeply. . . . But since I came out of prison, I haven't had the time.'"

MAKE TIME FOR REFLECTION

How has Mandela made time to think since his release from jail in 1990? He says that he has tried to emulate the practice of businessmen who take a complete break from their work over weekends. Mandela says he consciously has tried to make time for reflection.

After his separation from Winnie, Mandela used to spend long periods in retreat in the home of a wealthy Afrikaner businessman, Douw Steyn, who ran an open house for the ANC to hold meetings during the negotiations with the government. It was here that Mandela proofread the script of his autobiography: "Long Walk to Freedom" (Little Brown).

In November last year, Mandela accepted an invitation to be the guest speaker at a gala evening to mark the transformation of the house into a super-luxury guest house, retreat, and conference center.

In an impromptu speech, Mandela waxed philosophical and introspective in paying tribute to the warmth and hospitality of his Afrikaner hosts.

"It has been said that difficulties and disaster destroy some people and make others," Mandela began. It was a phrase he had last used in a letter to Winnie in 1975. "Douw Steyn is one of those who has turned disaster

into success," he said of the wealthy businessman who had formerly supported apartheid.

CHANGE YOURSELF FIRST

"One of the most difficult things is not to change society—but to change yourself," he said. "I came to stay here at some of the most difficult moments, and the way Liz and Douw treated me has left me with fond memories."

Mandela said that Douw Steyn had changed and was now part of the white business community that was sharing its resources with the poor. That gave him a feeling of fulfillment.

"It enables me to go to bed with an enriching feeling in my soul and the belief that I am changing myself [by reconciling with former adversaries]," Mandela said.

Mandela has spoken on other occasions of the importance of giving. When he received a bag of some 20,000 postcards in September from children who were invited to wish him well for his retirement, he said that there was nothing more important in life than giving. Tolerance is forged when people look beyond their own desires, he said.

Mandela said that religion had played a very important role in his life. He has tended to avoid talking about the subject in the past.

In December, Mandela addressed a gathering of religious leaders from the world's major faiths in Cape Town. He spoke publicly about his views on religion for the first time.

"I appreciate the importance of religion. You have to have been in a South African jail under apartheid where you could see the cruelty of human beings to each other in its naked form. Again, religious institutions and their leaders gave us hope that one day we would return.

Mandela said that real leaders were those who thought about the poor 24 hours a day and who knew in their hearts that poverty was the single biggest threat to society.

"We have sufficient cause to be cynical about humanity. We have seen enough injustice, strife, division, suffering, and pain, and our capacity to be massively inhuman. But this gathering counters despairing cynicism and reaffirms the nobility of the human spirit," Mandela said.

POWER OF RELIGION

Mandela went on to say, "Religion is one of the most important forces in the world. Whether you are a Christian, a Muslim, a Buddhist, a Jew, or a Hindu, religion is a great force, and it can help one have command of one's own morality, one's own behavior, and one's own attitude."

"Religion has had a tremendous influence on my own life. You must remember that during our time—right from Grade 1 up to university—our education was provided by religious institutions. I was in [Christian] missionary schools. The government [of the day] had no interest whatsoever in our education and, therefore, religion became a force which was responsible for our development," he said.

The discipline of jail also played a role in his transformation, he said.

"It was difficult, of course, to always be disciplined before one went to jail except to say that I have always liked sport. And to that extent I was disciplined in the sense that four days a week I went to the gym for at least two hours.

"Also, I was a lawyer, and I had to be disciplined to keep up with events in the legal field, and to that extent I was disciplined," he said.

But Mandela said there were many respects in which he and his colleagues were not disciplined when they went to jail.

"In prison, you had to follow a highly disciplined regime, and that, of course, influenced your behavior and your thinking," he said.

Mandela said there was also a personal discipline. "We continued to do our own exercises, and we continued with study and conversing with others to gain from their experiences."

He said that reading the biographies of the great leaders of the century also had a major impact on him. Mandela said it was through reading and biographies that he realized that problems make some people and destroy others. Mandela said that the prison experience taught him to respect even the most ordinary people. "I have been surprised a great deal sometimes when I see somebody who looks less than ordinary, but when you talk to the person and he (or she) opens his mouth, he is something completely different.

"It is possible that if I had not gone to jail and been able to read and to listen to the stories of many people . . . I might not have learned these things." (c) Copyright 2000. The Christian Science Publishing Society

[From the Christian Science Monitor, Feb. 11, 2000]

HOW WELL THEY REMEMBER THE DAY (By Corinna Schuler)

Ten years ago today, Nelson Mandela walked through the gates of Victor Verster prison and, beaming, raised his right fist in a power salute. The crowd roared.

For black South Africans, it was a moment of triumph. For many whites, it was a time of trepidation. But today, just as Americans remember the assassination of President John Kennedy, virtually everyone in this country recalls precisely the instant when the world's most famous political prisoner became a free man. It's hard to overstate the significance. Everyone has a misty-eyed story to tell—from the television cameraman who left his wedding reception to capture the event to the lawyer who represented Mandela.

"Feb. 11, 1990, was the culmination of decades of struggle against apartheid," recalls Rev. Alan Boesak, then the leader of the United Democratic Front, who spent hours trying to keep frenzied masses of well-wishers calm. "It was crazy, but it was glorious. * * * His release * * * set in motion all other events that led to our reclaiming of the country."

The public had not seen Mandela since he was shipped to Robben Island. He had spent 27 years in South African jails, all the while fighting for the end of apartheid—the system of segregating blacks from whites. He emerged triumphant and went on to become the country's first black president.

Hundreds of photographers and television cameramen raced to see the man who emerged—thin, slightly grayed, and beaming—from his prison cell. "Within 20 feet or so of the gate, the cameras started clicking, a noise that sounded like some great herd of metallic beasts," Mandela writes in his autobiography, "Long Walk to Freedom."

When a television crew thrust "a long, dark furry object" at Mandela, he feared it was a newfangled weapon developed while he was in prison. "Winnie informed me that it was a microphone."

This was the story of the decade, if not the century.

"I was at my wedding reception when I got a call, and they said: 'come to work,'" television editor Kenny Geraghty remembers. "I had to cut a piece for [CBS journalist] Dan Rather * * * I hardly saw my wife for three weeks afterward. But there was no way I would have said no. We had been waiting years for that moment."

From his home in Johannesburg, lawyer George Bizos choked back tears as he watched the scene unfold on his television set. Mr. Bizos had defended Mandela and his comrades at the famous 1964 Rivonia trial. He lost that case, and dozens more that followed, as Bizos stood up again and again in valiant yet futile efforts to defend black activists.

"I had had nightmares that Mr. Mandela would die in prison," Bizos says. "His coming out was the most joyous occasion for me."

Helen Suzman, the only member of the liberal Progressive Conservative party in parliament and the lone voice of political opposition to apartheid rulers, also watched from her television. "I knew this meant a total turn-around in the political scene," she says today. "I was exhilarated. At last we would no longer be a pariah nation."

Mandela was whisked away from the prison gates to attend a planned 3 p.m. rally at the city's Grande Parade. But the anxious crowd went wild when they saw Mandela's car—surrounding the vehicle, shaking it, even jumping on top of the hood.

"It looked as though they were going to eat up that car," says Mr. Boesak. When several dozen marshals finally cleared a path, the driver sped away from the square. "Man, where are you going?" Mandela asked.

"I don't know!" he responded. "I've never experienced anything like this before."

They ended up at the home of fellow activist Dullah Omar. But soon, Archbishop Desmond Tutu phoned: Get back to the Grande Parade, he said, or "I think there is going to be an uprising."

Among thousands who waited more than six hours to see Mandela that day was Andre Odendaal, a local history professor. "I had been playing in a cricket match, but we called it off half way when we heard the news that Mandela was going to be released * * * I think it must have been like Liberation Day in Europe at the end of World War II."

Dusk had fallen by the time Mandela was finally led to the top floor of a stately building to see the cheering supporters. He had forgotten his glasses in his hasty departure from prison and was forced to read his speech with a pair he borrowed from his wife.

Mandela's main point was to stress that he was a "loyal and disciplined member" of the African National Congress—something he has repeated again and again to argue that he is not a saint, just one of many who fought in the struggle.

But, like it or not, Mandela is a living legend. Ahmed Kathrada, a man who was imprisoned with Mandela on Robben Island in 1964, says he is never annoyed that his leader is most famed for sacrificing freedom. "Some people criticize the so-called great-man theory of history," says Mr. Kathrada. "But Mandela as an individual really did play a decisive role in the history of South Africa. We are all proud."

Mandela is now deeply involved in the Burundi peace talks, but he now gets to spend more time with his family. "I scold my grandchildren when I get tired of playing with them," he said playfully this week.

He realizes that South Africans may romanticize the day of his release. But Bizos says the warm feelings people get—both black and white—whenever they think of that historic moment deserves a purpose. "A legend like Mandela is important for building a nation. It is unifying. And that is something South Africa needs as it goes through these difficult times of transition."