

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HON. MORRIS "MO" UDALL

HON. THOMAS C. SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 1998

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week my friend and predecessor in this great body, John Seiberling, called and asked that I insert into the RECORD of our work his thoughts on his friend and colleague, Mo Udall.

To all of us who knew and worked with Mo Udall, he will always be an indelible model of all that we can be and do as lawmakers and as leaders, and as friends to one another even in the most difficult times.

I am grateful and honored that John Seiberling would ask me to share his words in this way.

December 14, 1998.

Re Hon. Morris Udall.

The death on December 12 of Morris "Mo" Udall has taken from us one of the most loved, most respected, and most accomplished Members of Congress in this generation.

Mo Udall was a BIG person, in every sense of the word. He was big not only in physical stature but also in strength of character, intellectual acumen, unfailing good humor, political vision, and understanding of the House and its constitutional role.

I first became acquainted with Mo in 1970, when he came to Akron to help me, a political underdog, in my ultimately successful campaign for election to the House. After I was elected, he helped me become one of his colleagues on the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, which he later chaired with great distinction for over a decade. There I had the privilege of working with him on some of the landmark environmental legislative efforts that he led. These produced the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, which curbed the destructive practices of coal stripmining, and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, probably the most monumental land conservation measure ever enacted.

Mo's unswerving devotion to his native Arizona, to the Congress, and to America's land and people, can and should serve as a model for generations to come. The widespread respect which Mo enjoyed resulted not only from his vision and courage but also his fairness and eagerness to seek common ground with colleagues on opposing sides of legislative issues. Above all, I shall always remember Mo as a warm and loyal friend, always considerate, humorous, and kind.

In 1980, Mo told me that his doctors had just informed him that he had Parkinson's disease. So began his valiant eighteen year struggle, during which his courage and serenity continued to inspire his friends and family. To his wife, Norma, son Mark, newly elected to the House, his brother Stewart, and the other members of Mo's family, I share your sense of loss, but also memories of his indomitable spirit and undying friendship. Truly, love endures and, in the end, prevails.

JOHN F. SEIBERLING.

TRIBUTE TO PRINCIPAL WEAVER ODOM

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 1998

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues in Congress to join me in paying tribute to an outstanding individual, Mr. Weaver Odom. Mr. Odom recently will retire after serving the Aldine Intermediate School District for 35 years, 31 of which has principal of Colonial Hills Elementary.

Weaver Odom joined Aldine ISD in 1963 and spent the first few years of his career as a fifth and sixth grade teacher. In 1968 he became temporary principal at Colonial Hills, but the temporary label was dropped. His 31 years of dedicated service will leave a legacy for students and teachers alike.

We in the Aldine ISD has been very fortunate to have benefited from Mr. Odom's dedication and loyalty. He always led by example and frequently welcomed students to school. Because he always treated others with respect and dignity, the people who work for him and attend his school consider him their friend as well as their principal.

Staff, faculty and students alike have spoken out in appreciation for Mr. Odom's work ethic and love for his students. His staff is so loyal that almost half of the school's employees have been there for more than 10 years. Many have admitted they stay simply because Principal Odom makes working at Colonial Hills fun.

In honor of Weaver Odom, the Aldine ISD recently announced it's decision to rename Colonial Hills to Odom Elementary. This honor is an appropriate way to thank Principal Odom for his dedication and leadership at the school and throughout the community.

Education is the key to our children's future and the key to our country's continued success. Principal Odom shares this belief and has worked with his faculty and staff to ensure that all students have an opportunity for quality education. The twenty-first century will bring new challenges for our young people. Principal Odom has been committed to educating them to deal with these challenges.

For years, families have known this school is run by a man dedicated to providing an environment conducive to learning. I am certain that the strength of the community would not be what it is without Mr. Odom's years of service and I am confident that his legacy will continue for years to come.

TRIBUTE TO WILDA SPALDING

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 1998

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to World Wins Corporation and its

president, Wilda Spalding. I'm convinced that if there were more people like Wilda Spalding, than such lofty goals as world peace would not seem nearly so elusive. For 25 years, Ms. Spalding, the President of World Wins Corporation, has waged a one-person campaign in support of universal human rights, peace, and justice. She has devoted an incredible amount of her own time and resources in this effort. Among her proudest accomplishments was working with the United Nations to establish the UN's Year of the Child.

I first became aware of Ms. Spalding in the summer of 1998, when World Wins Corporation issued a medal of excellence to my close friend, Blinky Rodriguez. Blinky is the architect of the Valley Peace Treaty, which during the past five years has brought about a remarkable reduction in the number of gang killings in the Northeast San Fernando Valley.

Those of us who live and work in the Northeast Valley are well aware of Blinky's work, and we were all very moved when he was recognized by Wilda Spalding and World Wins Corporation. Blinky joined 14 other winners of the Medal of Excellence in Geneva, Switzerland, where he was feted in front of an international audience of dignitaries.

I will always be grateful to Ms. Spalding for bestowing this prestigious and richly-deserved honor on Blinky.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Wilda Spalding, President of World Wins Corporation, for her dedication to making ours a better world. She is a shining example for us all.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. J. MICHAEL BISHOP FOR RECEIVING THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CELL BIOLOGY'S 1998 PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 1998

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the name of J. Michael Bishop, M.D. Dr. Bishop received the American Society for Cell Biology's 1998 Public Service Award on Sunday, December 13, 1998. On behalf of the Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus, I want to extend our deepest congratulations to Dr. Bishop for his outstanding scientific and educational accomplishments. Last year, I was pleased to receive the same Public Policy Award. I am honored that for once in my lifetime, a Nobel Laureate is actually following in my footsteps.

Nearly 10 years ago, Dr. Bishop, along with other scientists, proposed a forum where scientists could brief the Congress and its staff on the latest discoveries in biomedical research. Thus was born the Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus, which has now conducted over seventy-five briefings, provided the Congress with a first-rate science

• 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.

education, and has served to identify a bipartisan group of Members who actively support funding for medical research. The Biomedical Research Caucus has provided a forum for presentations that have made a remarkable and lasting impression on our views of what the proper role that the Congress should play in appropriating funds for the National Institutes of Health and Science Programs.

The fact that the Biomedical Research Caucus has been such a longstanding success is a tribute to Dr. Bishop's selfless and persevering dedication to provide appropriate topics and outstanding scientists to conduct these remarkable and enlightening briefings. Dr. Bishop's commitment to the caucus is deeply appreciated and we look forward to another year of caucus briefings that so effectively reveal the opportunities for scientific discovery.

I am ever so proud that a man born in York, PA, educated at Gettysburg College, and whose family resides near my home city of Harrisburg, PA, is receiving this richly deserved honor. Once again, I want Dr. Bishop to know that his passionate efforts on behalf of biomedical science have made a lasting impact on me personally as well as on the entire Congress.

HONORING THE EIGHTH GENERATION OF CASHELL'S IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 1998

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, Montgomery County, MD, the district which I am proud to represent in Congress, is perhaps one of the most transient districts in the Nation. That is why it is a distinct honor to bring to your attention a family celebrating their eighth generation of Montgomery Countians with the births of Cashell Lee Hurdle, born February 22, 1998, son of Gaines Finley Hurdle and Kenneth Lee Hurdle of Bethesda, and McLean Gerald Morgan and Sarah Louise Morgan, both born December 4, 1997, the children of David Gough "Rusty" Morgan and Karen Brown Morgan of Rockville. This new generation comes from a family lineage of distinctive Montgomery Countians. They are a direct descendant of George Cashell, born in Cashell, Ireland, 1748, who immigrated to this country and died in Montgomery County in 1802. Cashell's great-great grandfather, Francis Hazel Cashell (1872-1930) was the owner of extensive farmland in the Redland area of Montgomery County and the Cashell Motor Company in Rockville. He was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates, elected in 1917. His great-grandmother, Alice Cashell Keech, (1896-1994) was an avid fox hunter and sportswoman, and a 98-year resident of Montgomery County. Sarah and McLean's great-grandfather, Jo V. Morgan, Sr., a Bethesda resident for 44 years, was the county's first civil service commissioner and a judge of the District of Columbia Tax Court. The children's grandmother, Alice "Cissy" Grant of Potomac, has chronicled life in Montgomery County for 40 years in various newspapers and magazines.

I have always proclaimed what a wonderful place Montgomery County is to raise a family.

This family, with eight generations having made this county their home, is a living testament to its appeal. I send to all of them my warmest best wishes.

THE MAN BEHIND THE VOTES

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 1998

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, credit for the Democratic party's success in the November elections is due to our sustained commitment to the issues affecting American families. In a recent editorial in the Washington Post, Joseph A. Califano, Jr., a former aide to President Lyndon Johnson, describes the birth of many of those policies. Voting rights for minorities, a Medicare system that provides health care for the elderly and disabled, and Social Security that lifted more than 2 million seniors out of poverty are just a few of President Johnson's initiatives that Democrats have been fighting for over the past 30 years. In fact, just about every issue Democrats hold most dearly were conceptualized and implemented during the Johnson Administration. Initiatives like elementary and secondary education, protecting the environment, and clean air and water have been the cornerstones of the Democratic party since President Johnson had the wisdom to push his Great Society agenda.

Despite efforts by some Members to cut or eliminate many of these programs, Democrats have held firm in our convictions. The American people sent a clear message to their elected officials in the November elections—a message to fight for the issues that help hard-working Americans, like Medicare, Social Security, education and the environment. I for one am proud of our party's accomplishments and look forward to continuing to work toward President Johnson's goals.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the editorial by Mr. Califano for inclusion in the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, Nov. 18, 1998]

THE MAN BEHIND THE VOTES

(By Joseph A. Califano Jr.)

The president most responsible for the Democratic victories in 1998 is the stealth president whom Democrats are loath to mention: Lyndon Johnson.

In March of 1965, when racial tension was high and taking a pro-civil rights stand was sure to put the solid South (and much of the North) in political play, President Johnson addressed a joint session of Congress to propose the Voting Rights Act. Flying in the face of polls that showed his position was hurting his popularity, he said that ensuring everyone the right to vote was an act of obedience to the oath that the president and Congress take before "God to support and defend the Constitution." Looking members on the floor straight in the eye, he closed by intoning the battle hymn of the civil rights movement, "And we shall overcome." One southern congressman seated next to White House counsel Harry McPherson exclaimed in shocked surprise, "God damn!"

That summer, with Johnson hovering over it, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act. The president was so excited that he rushed over to the Capitol to have a few celebratory drinks with Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield and Republican Minority leader

Everett Dirksen. The next day LBJ pressed Martin Luther King Jr. and other black leaders to turn their energy to registering black voters.

LBJ planned every detail of the signing ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda. He wanted "a section for special people I can invite," such as Rosa Parks (the 42-year-old black seamstress who refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery) and Vivian Malone (the first black woman admitted to the University of Alabama, in 1963). He told me to get "a table so people can say, 'This is the table on which LBJ signed the Voting Rights Bill.'"

He was exuberant as he drove with me and other staffers up to Capitol Hill for the signing. Riding in the presidential limo he spoke of a new day, "If, if, if, if," he said, "the Negro leaders get their people to register and vote."

I rarely saw him happier than on that day. For years after that, he fretted that too many black leaders were more interested in a rousing speech or demonstration full of sound bites and action for the TV cameras than in marshaling the voting power of their people.

Well, if he was looking down on us on Nov. 3—and I'm sure he was up there counting votes—he saw his dream come true. Without the heavy black turnout, the Democrats would not have held their own in the Senate, picked up seats in the House and moved into more state houses. In Georgia, the black share of the total vote rose 10 points to 29 percent, helping to elect a Democratic governor and the state's first black attorney general.

In Maryland, that share rose eight points to 21 percent, saving the unpopular Gov. Parris Glendening from defeat. The black vote in South Carolina kept Fritz Hollings in his Senate seat, defeated Lauch Faircloth in North Carolina and ensured Chuck Schumer's victory over Al D'Amato in New York.

Here and there across the country, the black vote provided the margin of victory for democratic governors and congressmen—and where Republicans such as the Bush brothers attracted large percentages of Hispanic and black voters, helped roll up majorities with national implications.

The Voting Rights Act is not the only thing Democrats can thank LBJ for. Johnson captured for the Democratic Party issues that were decisively important in this election. He got Congress to pass the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which for the first time told the people they could look to the federal government for help in local school districts. It is his Medicare that Democrats promised to protect from conservative Republican sledgehammers. LBJ was the president who ratcheted up Social Security payments to lift more than 2 million Americans above the poverty line.

Together Medicare and Social Security have changed the nature of growing old in America and freed millions of baby boomers to buy homes and send their kids to college rather than spend the money to help their aging parents. The Great Society's Clean Air and Clean Water Acts, Motor Vehicle Pollution, Solid Waste Disposal and Highway Beautification acts have given Democrats a lock on environmental issues.

LBJ was also the president who created the unified budget to include Social Security, which helped produce a balanced budget in fiscal year 1969. Without that budget system, President Clinton would not be able to claim credit for producing the first balanced budget in 30 years.

As exit polls showed, the Democratic command of the terrain of education, health care, Social Security, the economy and the environment—and the growth of the minority vote—paved the road to electoral success in 1998.

With the demise of Newt Gingrich, many Republicans think it's time to mute his libelous assault on the Great Society programs he loved to hate. Isn't it also time for Democrats to come out of the closet and recognize the legacy of the president who opened the polls to minorities and established federal beachheads in education, health care and the environment. After all, it's the Democrats' promise to protect these beachheads and forge forward that accounts for much of their success this November and offers their best chance to retain the White House and recapture the House of Representatives in 2000.

TRIBUTE TO BUD MAURO

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 1998

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bud Mauro, who has just completed his term as President of the Southland Regional Association of Realtors. Bud leaves with a remarkable record. During his tenure, San Fernando Valley realtors experienced one of their most productive years in memory, as a housing slump gave way to a housing boom. I'm sure Bud's leadership was a key reason for the stellar performance of the Valley real estate industry in 1998.

Bud had both the experience and background to be a successful President. His real estate career began in 1972, the same year he became a member of the Association. Beginning in 1978, when he joined the Grievance Committee, Bud steadily rose through the ranks. He served on the Professional Standards Panel, Ethics and Arbitration Policy Committee and the Board of Directors.

Bud is a person of considerable charm and an intimate knowledge of the real estate business. Both traits served him well as President. He motivated more than 200 members of the Association to serve on various committees and task forces. I know firsthand how important such groups are in keeping politicians and community leaders informed about the Association and the condition of the real estate industry. Bud was also actively involved with the seminars and training sessions that are such an important part of the Association's function.

Bud played a big part in upgrading the technological capacity of the Association. He worked to expand and improve computer efficiency, and helped to develop the Association's own web site by establishing cooperative marketing agreements with the California Living Network and REALTOR.Com.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Bud Mauro, who compiled an outstanding record as President of the Southland Regional Association of Realtors. His leadership skills and dedication to his work are an inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER CONGRESSMAN ROMAN PUCINSKI

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Roman Pucinski, who represented the northwest side of the City of Chicago in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1959 to 1973.

From the start of his tenure in Congress, then Representative Pucinski mounted a one-man effort to require airlines to install crash-proof cockpit voice recorders in airplanes. Despite organized opposition from the major airlines, Pucinski kept the pressure on and in 1964 the Federal Aviation Administration issued an order requiring air carriers to install crash-proof cockpit voice recorders in their aircraft. Commonly referred to as the "black box", cockpit voice recorders are now a critical component of aviation safety. Black boxes provide vital information about the final minutes of airline disasters to accident investigators and have helped determine the cause of several plane crashes.

As a decorated Air Force pilot, Pucinski knew that a recording of last minute cockpit conversations would provide vital clues to the cause of airline tragedies. As an Air Force pilot, Pucinski led his bomber group in the first B-29 bombing raid over Tokyo during World War II. He flew 48 other combat missions over Japan and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with Clusters. From his own personal experience as a pilot, Pucinski understood that, in the last few minutes preceding an air tragedy, the cockpit crew are far too busy trying to save their passengers and aircraft to radio formal reports to a ground station. However, a crash-proof tape recorder operating automatically during flight preserves a record of everything said in the cockpit for accident investigators.

Because of Roman Pucinski's dedicated and courageous leadership in the establishment of crash-proof tape recorders in commercial airliners, accident investigation and aviation safety have been significantly advanced in the public interest, and outstanding results for the national aviation system have been achieved. For this reason, on December 18, 1998, former Congressman Roman Pucinski will be honored by the Federal Aviation Administration with a Silver Medal of Distinguished Service.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Roman Pucinski. His tireless advocacy of cockpit voice recorders is one of the most important contributions to airline safety in the history of aviation. Roman Pucinski has made a lasting contribution to aviation safety and he greatly deserves this special honor from the Federal Aviation Administration.

GLOBAL HUNGER AND UNITED NATIONS FOOD AND AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of our colleagues an editorial from former Senator, now Ambassador, George McGovern, concerning global hunger and United Nations Food and Agriculture Program.

George McGovern has distinguished himself through a life-long commitment of service to the United States and to addressing world hunger. As he recounts in this article, it was

his experience in the U.S. Armed Forces in Europe during World War II which first made him aware of the devastating impact of starvation on a population. Thereafter, he devoted much of his effort in the U.S. Senate to programs designed to alleviate famine. Today he is serving his country once more as Ambassador to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Program. And now he is clarifying for us many of the challenges faced by the United Nations in these efforts, and the benefits which they have brought to hundreds of millions of people around the world.

As Ambassador McGovern notes, foreign assistance programs which help the hungry and promote economic development serve the interests of both of the recipient countries and the United States. However, our leadership in this capacity is threatened today by our delinquency in paying our dues to the United Nations. United States contributions to hunger-related organizations are very positive, effective, and should remain a priority of our engagement with the world.

[From the Los Angeles Times, Nov. 23, 1998]

TOO MANY IN THE WORLD ARE LEFT OUT

(By George McGovern)

In the fall of 1944, as a 22-year-old American bomber pilot based in war-torn Italy, I saw widespread hunger for the first time: emaciated children begging for food on the streets, teenage girls selling their bodies to stay alive, young mothers scratching through the garbage dumps near our bomber base to find scraps of food. This was even worse than the hunger I witnessed during the years of the Great Depression in the 1930s, when our family, who lived in a farm community in South Dakota, fed a steady stream of out-of-work "hobos" who came to our door.

Not surprisingly, hunger became a primary issue for me when I was elected to Congress in 1956. I became director of the U.S. Food for Peace program and later was President Kennedy's designee on what came to be known as the World Food Program—the world's largest international food aid organization. Last year, the program provided food assistance for more than 52 million people in 76 countries. Through these programs I saw how much can be done when nations come together to combat hunger. In the past 25 years, for example, despite a doubling of the world's population, the percentage of chronically undernourished people in the world has been cut in half and the absolute number of chronically undernourished people has been reduced by more than 100 million.

We can take heart from these and other similar steps forward, but this does not mean the job is done. This winter, Russia will be facing acute food shortages caused by poor crop conditions and the collapse of the Russian economy. Millions of Russians will go over the edge of starvation in the absence of international food aid now. Indonesia, hurricane-struck Central America and large parts of Africa currently are sustained by international food donations.

The fact is that many of our fellow human beings are left out, living on the knife-edge of existence. As world Bank President James Wolfensohn reminded us, "In too many countries, the poorest 10% of the population has less than 1% of the income, while the richest 20% enjoys over half."

In too many countries, girls are half as likely as boys to go to school. In too many countries, children are impaired from birth because of malnutrition. And in too many countries, ethnic minorities face discrimination and fear for their lives at the hands of ethnic majorities.

In this world of plenty, of marvelous scientific advances, of growing freedoms, we cannot ignore the tragedy of millions who are excluded from the blessings we enjoy. There is a moral imperative to be concerned and to act. It is simply wrong for a child anywhere in the world to suffer the crippling effects of malnutrition. It is wrong—even outrageous—that more than 800 million people, 14% of the human race, are malnourished, many near starvation. It is wrong to accept as “unavoidable” the millions of hungry people we read about or see on TV. It is wrong to let politics and ideology interfere with helping the hungry, especially children. When criticized for helping the communist government of North Korea establish child-feeding programs in that drought-stricken country, Catherine Bertini, who is head of the World Food Program replied, “I can’t tell a hungry 5-year-old boy that we can’t feed him because we don’t like the politics of his country.”

But beyond that, it is in our self-interest to end hunger. After all, we live in one world. Rich and poor alike, we breathe the same air; we share a global economy. Killers like AIDS and environmental calamities and other threats to health don’t stop at national borders. The chaos associated with political instability rooted in poverty and desperation is rarely contained within a single country.

Earlier this year, when President Clinton asked me to be the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations food and agriculture agencies in Rome, I readily accepted because of my lifelong interest in agricultural matters and in solving the problem of hunger. At the agency, I work with such organizations as the Food and Agriculture Organization, which is headed by Senegalese agricultural authority Jacques Diouf; the World Food Program, directed by Bertini, an American, and the International Fund for Agriculture Development, under the direction of Fawzi al Sultan, a Kuwaiti banker. Our common purpose, articulated at the World Food Summit hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization in November 1996, is to reduce hunger by promoting an adequate supply and distribution of food in the world.

This plan, endorsed by all 186 nations represented at the summit, has the practical and achievable goal of reducing by half the number of hungry people in the world by 2015. Consider these facts:

Over the past 50 years, infant and child death rates in the developing world have been reduced by 50% and health conditions around the world have improved more during this period than in all previous human history.

In the past three decades, agricultural production techniques, developed through the internationally supported system of research centers, enabled a “green revolution” in many countries. Improved seed and associated break-throughs in agricultural practices resulted in the most dramatic increase in crop yields in the history of mankind, allowing nations like India and Bangladesh, which in the early 1960s and mid-1970s, respectively, were kept alive through outside food assistance, to become nearly food self-sufficient.

The United States played a leading role in alleviating hunger, especially in the period immediately following World War II, by encouraging the international community to set in place the institutions and methods to address the issue. As prosperity spread across Europe and other parts of the world, more nations have shared in the task of solving the problems of food insecurity.

The Food and Agriculture Organization is providing technical assistance in a variety of ways: establishing productivity-enhancing

technology such as user-managed, small scale irrigation schemes; eradicating and controlling pests like desert locust that threaten food security for millions of people living in a swath extending from the Red Sea to West Africa; monitoring crop conditions around the world to provide early warning of food supply difficulties and disasters; and conserving scarce food resources such as fisheries and biodiversity to protect future food security.

The World Food Program that is meeting emergency food needs in Rwanda, North Korea, Sudan and the Horn of Africa has saved hundreds of thousands of lives. Also, the program often plays a development role in nonemergency situations characterized by chronic hunger and malnutrition, using “food for work” to enable thousands of communities to build schools, improve community water systems and expand other basic infrastructure. And the International Fund for Agricultural Development, established only 20 years ago, provides development loans for addressing the basic needs of small farmers and poor rural communities. The agency was the first to provide funds to the now spectacularly successful Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, which created a model for channeling microcredit to the very poor. The agency is currently supporting similar grassroots microcredit models in West Africa.

Obviously, progress in ending world hunger can be greatly advanced by progress in other related problem areas, including better family planning to restrain excessive population growth. There must also be continuing efforts to halt the bloody and disruptive political and military conflicts in developing countries that drive multitudes of people from their homes, fields and jobs.

Reaching the goal adopted at the World Food Summit, to reduce the number of undernourished people by one-half in the next 17 years, is beyond the capacity of any single country or organization. It will require the effort of many international organizations and national governments and the help of private voluntary organizations, such as CARE, Church World Service, Lutheran World Relief, Catholic Relief Services and the United Jewish Appeal.

The target beneficiaries themselves have a key role to play, because reducing hunger and achieving security is much more than simply distributing food aid. It’s about developing concerned and capable government leadership responsive to citizens. It’s about having sound economic policies and educating people. It’s about reducing disease and improving public health. It’s about improving cultivation practices and making production tools, including rural credit, available. It’s about conserving forests, fisheries, genetic resources and biodiversity. It’s about establishing effective markets. And it’s about having essential infrastructure including farm-to-market roads.

These difficult but achievable soil motivate the U.N. food and agricultural agencies in Rome as they assist communities and nations to eliminate hunger and to establish the basis for sustained productivity. This work requires technical knowledge, cultural sensitivity, organizational development skills, a realistic appreciation for market incentives and a good measure of altruistic motivation.

During a recent trip to Egypt, I visited a rural community in the desert between Cairo and Alexandria. Here, the government has settled about 15,000 families on so-called “new lands.” To prepare these lands for production with water diverted from the Nile River, the settler families undertake the task of desalinating the soil, a repeated process of tilling, flooding and draining that typically takes more than three years. In ad-

dition, an array of basic village facilities and irrigation infrastructure has to be built. The work required of the settlers is backbreaking. But also needed are support, guidance and money, requirements being fulfilled by a collaborative effort of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, which is financing the nonlabor cost of the on-farm infrastructure; the World Food Program, which is supplementing the family diets until the fields come into production, and the Food and Agriculture Organization, which helps monitor and guide the technical aspects involved in getting the land fit for production.

This is the kind of investment activity that leads to sustained food security. This is the kind of activity that Americans and citizens in other donor countries support.

I am proud of the tradition of the people of the United States to give a helping hand to the hungry and to those in need. I am proud of the record of foreign assistance that the United States has provided to nations to undertake essential economic development initiatives; it has paid dividends to both the recipient countries and to us. Likewise, I am proud of the pivotal role that the United States has played in making the system of United Nations agencies strong and effective. It saddens me that the United States is today delinquent in paying what it owes to the U.N., including to the Food and Agriculture Organization, the family of multilateral organizations that plays such a key role in eliminating hunger.

There are no easy solutions to the problems of poverty and underdevelopment in our world. However, eliminating hunger is the place to start and should be our priority. The need is evident. The methods are known. The means can be made available.

TRIBUTE TO A GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 1998

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute two outstanding young women who have been honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award by Farthest North Girl Scout Council in Fairbanks, Alaska. They are: Erin Shaw and Rachel Shaw.

They are being honored for earning the highest achievement award in United States Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. The award can be earned by young women aged 14 through 17, or in grades 9 through 12.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., an organization serving over 2.5 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Gold Awards to Senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the Gold Award program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Girl Scout Challenge, as well as design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout volunteer.

As members of Farthest North Girl Scout Council, Erin and Rachel Shaw began working

toward the Girl Scout Gold Award in the late spring of 1998. They completed their project in the areas of leadership and community service by developing their communication skills and then working with the hearing impaired community. They used these skills to reach out to various parts of the community. They used their skills to plan and implement a deaf community carnival for people with hearing impairments and their families, as well as students who were learning sign language. I believe they should receive the public recognition due them for this significant service to their community and their country.

CPSC ON THE FAST TRACK

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 1998

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of my colleagues the outstanding work being done by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). The Commission has put into effect an innovative program, under which it works cooperatively with industry to get hazardous products off store shelves within days, instead of the weeks and months that it traditionally takes to negotiate a recall. Everyone wins under this new system—especially the consumer, who is protected from possible injury.

This Fast-Track Product Recall Program was recently honored with a 1998 Innovations in American Government Award. The CPSC

was one of three federal government winners of the \$100,000 award this year. These awards are funded by the Ford Foundation, and administered by the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in partnership with the Council for Excellence in Government.

The CPSC's award-winning program was highlighted in the December 1998 edition of Government Executive magazine, and I would like to submit this article for the RECORD.

[From Government Executive, Dec. 1998]

A FAST TRACK TO CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY—QUICK RECALL OF FAULTY PRODUCTS SERVES EVERYONE

FAST-TRACK PRODUCT RECALL PROGRAM U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

When a consumer product could hurt or even kill somebody, the traditional regulatory response is understandable: to find fault and then decide how to punish the manufacturer. But there's a new attitude at the Consumer Product Safety Commission—charged with monitoring consumer product safety nationwide: When a product has the potential to hurt or even kill somebody, the preferred course is to work with the manufacturer to get that product off the market fast. That is the aim of the Fast-Track Product Recall Program, launched as a six-month pilot in July 1995.

With 21,400 deaths and 29 million injuries annually due to faulty consumer products, the issue of unsafe products is not a small one. And the size of the problem only compounded the frustration of CPSC staff over how long it traditionally took to implement a recall—time delays exacerbated by the frequently adversarial nature of the process.

And so staff in the Commission's Office of Compliance decided to try a new tack. In dis-

cussions with companies, staff learned two things: The recall process itself—which frequently called for lengthy testing and investigations—sometimes got in the way of rapid recall. More serious, though, was that in initiating a recall, the Commission would in every case make a "preliminary determination" of a product defect in order to justify the recall. Because such "PDs," as they were called, implied guilt, companies afraid of liability suits frequently fought them as a matter of course. That, too, only served to drag out the process.

To avoid all that, the Commission and manufacturers negotiated a trade. If companies would volunteer for fast-track, the Commission would sidestep much of the process involved in initiating a recall, including the preliminary determination.

The new avenue for recalls caught on quickly. Since the program was launched (it became permanent in March 1997), nearly half of all recalls are fast-tracked. In 1996, 103 fast-track recalls were initiated within an average of 10 days; in 1997, 105 recalls were initiated within an average of 17 days. While a week may seem like a long time for some defective product to stay on the shelves, it is a vast improvement over the weeks or months that it takes to initiate a recall under the traditional system.

Not only is the new system faster, it also appears to be more effective. The percentage of products returned by consumers for repair or replacement has averaged over 60 percent for fast-track, compared with 30 percent under the traditional process. And the new system is very cost-effective. Although nearly half of all recalls are now fast-tracked, they account for only 10 percent of the Commission's \$16.5 million compliance budget.