

cause so successfully in 1948. He fought for basic, fundamental civil, human, and individual rights. He has been a successful warrior for his cause—democracy, decency, justice, and fairness. The seeds he planted all those years ago have grown into ideas whose roots are firmly planted in south Texas. Those seeds have produced today's leaders, and laid the foundation for tomorrow's leaders.

I join veterans, the national Hispanic community, and all Americans who cherish justice in thanking Dr. Garcia for his very special service—both during conflict with the enemy, and within the bureaucracy. The American GI Forum, founded by Dr. Garcia, was originally intended to guide WWI and WWII veterans through the maze of bureaucracy to obtain their educational and medical benefits. Gradually, it grew into the highly acclaimed Hispanic civil rights organization it is today.

The seeds of Dr. Garcia's inspiration and leadership have sprouted, and they will continue to grow and succeed—just as he planned four decades ago. Dr. Garcia is a tremendously gracious man, and his legacy to us has been to treat each other decently as human beings. He embodies the Golden Rule—"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the continual source of inspiration to many of us in south Texas—Dr. Hector Garcia, physician and American patriot.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 26, 1996*

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the House how I would have voted on three votes held on June 20, 1996. On that day I was in meetings and the beeper provided by the House malfunctioned and did not properly alert me to the fact votes were being taken by the full House. Had I been present on rollcall vote No. 259, on the amendment offered by Mr. PARKER I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall vote No. 260, on the amendment offered by Mr. SANDERS I would have voted "yes"; and on rollcall No. 261, on the amendment offered by Mr. SHADEGG I would have voted "no".

#### LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 26, 1996*

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce legislation which would improve the quality of the Social Security card and make it a crime to counterfeit work authorization documents. This is absolutely critical to our fight against illegal immigration. Several of my colleagues, including Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. HORN, join me in this effort.

Illegal immigrants come to the United States for one overwhelming reason: jobs. In re-

sponse to this obvious magnet for illegal immigration, the 1986 immigration bill created employer sanctions, making it illegal to knowingly hire an illegal alien. That law requires everyone seeking employment in the United States to produce evidence of eligibility to work. One of the documents that may be produced together with a driver's license to prove this eligibility is the Social Security card. The primary reason employer sanctions are not working today is the rampant fraud in the documents used to prove eligibility to work, specifically the Social Security card. H.R. 2202 would reduce the number of documents that may be produced from 29 to 6. This helps, but one of the six is still the Social Security card. As long as it can be easily counterfeited, employer sanctions will not work.

Why is it so important to make employer sanctions work? There are 4 million illegal aliens in the United States today. This number increases by 300,000 to 500,000 annually. Most illegals are non-English speaking, poorly educated, and lacking in marketable skills. Their numbers are so large in the communities and States where they are settling that they cannot be properly assimilated, and they are having a very negative social, cultural, and economic impact.

Even if the southwest border were sealed, which it can't be, it would not solve the illegal immigration problem. Nearly 50 percent of illegals are here because they entered on legal temporary visas and did not leave. The only way to stop illegals from coming, through the border or otherwise, is to eliminate the magnet of jobs. The only way to do that is to make employer sanctions work.

Mr. Speaker, the bill I am introducing today will make major strides in our efforts to make employer sanctions work. Until sanctions work, our fight against illegal immigration will be in vain.

#### PUTTING THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE IN PERSPECTIVE

HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 26, 1996*

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recommend the following article to my colleagues, authored by Rabbi Israel Zoberman from Virginia Beach on "Putting the Middle East Peace in Perspective" which appeared in the April 5, 1996 edition of the *Virginian Pilot*.

[From the *Virginian—Pilot*, 4, 5, 1996]

#### PUTTING MIDDLE EAST PEACE IN PERSPECTIVE (By Israel Zoberman)

The Middle East peace process finds itself at fateful crossroads following the recent terrorist suicide-bombings in Israel's urban centers.

The 100-years-long deadly entanglement between Arab and Jew began to be unlocked by the courageously crafted 1979 rapprochement between President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel.

The first breach in the wall separating avowed antagonists was led on the Arab side by no other than Egypt. Though Sadat became a sacrifice on the altar of correcting history's course, his act of faith, along with Begin's willing yet costly compromise, was necessary for the next break-through to fol-

low. That was not to happen without the painful 1982 Lebanon war, which highlighted the Palestinian factor and the urgency of responding creatively to its complex dimensions.

The bloody and embarrassing Intifada erupting in 1987 confirmed Israel's need to come to grips with that portion of the Camp David Peace Accords remaining open, laying to rest those spoils of the 1967 Six-Day War, which paradoxically have both allowed and forced it to negotiate peace. The PLO and Chairman Yasser Arafat received the final wake-up call in the wake of the 1991 Persian Gulf war. He bet on the wrong horse, while facing the prospect of being replaced by the even-more-militant Muslim fundamentalism of the uncompromising Hamas ilk.

The 1993 shaky handshake between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Chairman Arafat on the South Lawn of the White House, with President Clinton acting as proud officiant, changed forever the dynamics of Middle Eastern politics, facilitating Jordan's 1994 peace treaty with Israel.

Rabin, ironically the victorious architect of the glorious 1967 war of survival, fell victim to its bitter fruit and an Israeli-Jewish extremist vengefully trying to halt proceeding toward a land-for-peace solution, causing an immense trauma. The exsoldier's heroic peacemaking has already dramatically enlarged Israel's circle of diplomatic and economic connections, substantially rewarding the cooperative Arabs, including the hard-pressed Palestinians.

In January, I was among 55 rabbis on a peace mission to visit the leadership of Israel, Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. We were in Gaza on the eve of the first Palestinian elections, protected by armed guards as we entered at the Erez checkpoint, where a relative of mine, a young Israeli officer, was killed about a year ago.

We were warmly greeted by General Usuf, head of security; he impressed us with his realistic appraisal, stating that it is easier to fight than to engage in peace and that it is absolutely necessary to educate the young generation for a new reality, acknowledging that both societies are interdependent. Wise words, indeed.

We owe a great deal to President Clinton for his steadfast backing throughout this excruciating series of highs and lows, its uplifting moments and, particularly, during the devastating ordeal of assassination and terrorist explosions. He has won the heart of Israel with his reassuring presence and wide initiative, spearheading the anti-terrorism summit conference and taking concrete steps to provide aid in efforts to counter terrorism. Such steps should include cutting off financial support from sources in the United States and Europe to the sponsors of wholesale slaughter, Iran receiving no uncertain notice for its criminal involvement.

I remain confident about the potential to avoid the pitfalls of the past, though I am concerned about the May 28 Israeli elections and the possible loss of nerve after being so gravely tested. Having grown up in the Israel of the '50s and '60s and having served in its army, I appreciate the miracle of a transformed environment that we could not even dream of then. The essential agreement with Syria and Lebanon, without which there is no peace, is in the offing, mindful of the thorny Golan issue.

Even hard-nosed President Hafez el-Assad cannot long deny it; his role is vital in checking the plague of violence which he does not hesitate to unleash for his own purposes. Arafat knows that his future and that of his long-deprived people depends on standing up to foes from within who are undermining their own brethren.