

Congress. I do not enjoy standing up and saying to my Government that you are not telling the truth. But if that is what is necessary to defend truth and justice, I will do that this week.

As I said, I originally intended to go through all the details of that trip and what we felt we learned—and what our report suggests. I am going to allow that to be done by Mr. Smith and others in their remarks. What I want to do is follow-up an assignment that I received yesterday from Dr. Merritt on the airplane from Minneapolis to Eau Claire when she said: "It was essential that I give you a call to action and that I articulate specific steps which I believe that you must take and we must take in the next few days."

Many of you are aware that we will consider a U.S. State Department reorganization bill before the U.S. Congress on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, of this next week. Thanks to the Human Rights Subcommittee Chairman, Congressman Christopher Smith of New Jersey, that bill will sequester, or prevent the expenditure of, thirty million dollars in UNHCR money for Fiscal Year 1996. It then will reserve that thirty million for the admission and resettlement of Southeast Asian refugees, including the Hmong and Lao refugees.

The sequestration language prohibits the use of any of this money for repatriation unless the President certifies to the Congress: (1) that all refugees have been offered resettlement outside the country of origin, and (2) that all unscreened camp residents and non-refugees have had access to a fair screening process similar to that used by the Immigration and Naturalization Service here in the United States, or have been offered resettlement. The purpose is obvious. The purpose is to make the State Department, the UNHCR (which receives most of the money) and the host countries more accountable for actions taken with U.S. financial assistance. The purpose is also to send a clear and convincing message from the Congress that the present action of our Government is simply unacceptable. The standards which the State Department is responsible for enforcing are simply no different than those the Immigration and Naturalization Service enforces here at home.

You must know, however, that there will be opposition to this provision, and that there will be attempts to remove this provision from the legislation. Congressman Doug Bereuter, a member of the International Affairs Committee and a Congressman from Nebraska, is expected to offer an amendment on the Floor of the Congress during debate to strike this provision arguing that the State Department could use this money for other kinds of refugees. We must do what we can to defeat that amendment. This then would be my call to action for each and every one of you as suggested by Dr. Jane to me yesterday in her instructions:

First of all, each and every one of you must, between now and Tuesday, contact your Congressman and your Senators from your state (and any state you have friends or relatives in) explaining to them the urgency of their awareness, their involvement, and their support for maintaining the language in the Committee bill—and, in other words, defeating the Bereuter amendment.

Number two, it is essential that you begin immediately to create similar support and awareness in the United States Senate. Certainly, John Medinger can discuss and talk to that issue later this morning.

Fourth, and perhaps most important to our success, each and every one of you individually, and as an organization, must urgently and diligently work with the American press (some of them are here today) to publicize

the tragic, dramatic circumstances that we now face unless something is done.

The American people are a good people. But, the American people can not take action unless first they are educated as to the problem. They must know and understand the circumstances. I have no doubt when they do, they will rally with you in your cause. But, we must first get the message to the American people.

Finally, many of you have come to know that we in America, at the end of May every year, set aside a day and a time to remember those veterans who have served our country and its cause. A week from Monday, we will do this again. You use Memorial Day as your opportunity to communicate with all Americans everywhere that when we remember those veterans who served our government and its policies that we don't forget those veterans in refugee camps today who are at risk.

Thank you very much.

TRIBUTE TO HON. BILL ZELIFF

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 30, 1996

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I preferred to speak to this point on the floor last Saturday, but the late hour and the uncertain schedule precluded that. The purpose of these remarks is to advise all that the Congress of the United States will lose one of its leading members with the imminent departure of BILL ZELIFF.

I frequently refer to BILL ZELIFF as the common sense voice of reason from the "northern tier"—New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont. BILL ZELIFF speaks authoritatively for the private sector because, as an innkeeper, he, his wife, his family and his able staff personify the private sector.

Several months ago BILL called me to complain of a rumor he had heard regarding the transfer of a Coast Guard cutter from her New Hampshire port. He was upset and asked my assistance in retaining the cutter in this port. I told him my belief was that there was no move afoot, but checked with the Commandant of the Coast Guard who verified my conclusion. I then assured BILL not to worry. That was not good enough for ZELIFF. He insisted that I come to New Hampshire to meet with Coast Guard officials and assure them that the cutter would remain stationed in New Hampshire. I complied with his request and we did in fact meet with Coast Guard officials as well as interested citizens. This episode convinced me, once again, that BILL ZELIFF is Mr. Persistence. This Coast guard cutter, by the way, continues to call New Castle, NH her home port.

I could speak hours about the outstanding manner in which BILL ZELIFF represents his constituents in Congress, but it is not necessary because they know they have been represented by an outstanding Member of Congress. Literally hundreds of New Hampshire citizens: male, female, liberal, conservative, Democrat, Republican, have told me BILL ZELIFF is the most popular and most effective elected official in New Hampshire.

So long BILL—you will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO GARLAND VERNON
G.V. STEWART

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 30, 1996

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the greatest Americans who ever lived, Mr. Garland Vernon G.V. Stewart, who departed this life on September 12, 1996. I make this distinction without the slightest hesitance, for Mr. Stewart embodied all the things that good people consider great.

Though born at a time when few African-Americans were expected to, or even allowed to, seek high academic training, Mr. Stewart was an educated man, having received degrees from two of the most prominent institutions in the South, Atlanta University and Morehouse College. More significant for a man of his era and circumstances, he also received a masters degree from the University of Michigan. Thus, it can be said that Mr. Stewart was truly a learned man. But education was not what made Mr. Stewart a great man. Rather, it was how he used his education to serve others, that made him great.

For almost half a century, G.V. Stewart committed himself to the education and uplifting of his community and his race. From school teacher, to principal, to the first African-American administrator in Hillsborough County, FL, he inspired his students and those around him to seek a better life, and to make life better for others. He believed, as most great men know, that it was his responsibility to reach back for others as others had reached back for him. In this regard, he used his influence, and his own personal resources to ensure that young African-American men and women who desired a college education received one. Many of those individuals are today very successful lawyers, doctors, politicians, judges, and educators, whose debt of gratitude can never be repaid. My own debt of gratitude spans a life time. When I decided to run for the U.S. Senate in 1970, Mr. Stewart was stalwart in his support of me: When others asked, "Why?," Mr. Stewart asked, "Why not?" Not only did he encourage me to seek public office, but he backed me financially. As a Federal judge, I was often blessed with Mr. Stewart's wise council, and when I was elected to the U.S. Congress, no one was more proud than him.

To say that Mr. Stewart was a community activist is like saying that Ghandi was a philosopher. He was. And in his activism there was genuine purpose and there was great vision. The world, owing so much of its progress to men like G.V. Stewart, will miss his vision and his commitment to serving others—the way he sought to build bridges between people of different orientations. But what it will miss most is the great love that exemplified his life—bestowed not just upon his family and close friends, but those who simply came in contact with him, and many who never did. His legacy is large: the number of Florida's community leaders, educators and other professionals who were influenced by G.V. Stewart is too great to list.

The world is a better place for knowing G.V. Stewart, and heaven is a better place for welcoming him. I take pride in honoring my mentor, my friend, and a man who claimed me as