

Whereas, upon his return to Croatia, Dobroslav Paraga risks imprisonment again because of his open criticism of the Government of Croatia's human rights abuses; and

Whereas in 1998 Dobroslav Paraga called on the Government of Croatia to take the following actions: (1) to establish independent television and radio stations in Croatia; (2) to allow full freedom of the media in Croatia; (3) to allow free and fair elections to take place in Croatia; (4) to establish a judiciary and lower court system that is independent from the ruling party or any other party in Croatia; (5) to re-establish the independence of the Croatian Party of Rights (CPR) that was illegally disbanded in 1993, including the reinstatement to the Croatian Parliament of the 5 seats of the Croatian Party of Rights; and (6) to end the terror and abuse of justice perpetrated by the Government of Croatia against Dobroslav Paraga and the Croatian Party of Rights: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That is the sense of the House of Representatives that the Government of Croatia—

(1) in recognition of the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, should guarantee its citizens fundamental human rights and freedoms;

(2)(A) should establish independent television and radio stations in Croatia;

(B) should allow full freedom of the media in Croatia;

(C) should allow free and fair elections to take place in Croatia;

(D) should establish a judiciary and lower court system that is independent from the ruling party or any other party in Croatia;

(E) should re-establish the independence of the Croatian Party of Rights (CPR) that was illegally disbanded in 1993, including the reinstatement to the Croatian Parliament of the 5 seats of the Croatian Party of Rights; and

(F) should end the terror and abuse of justice perpetrated by the Government of Croatia against Dobroslav Paraga and the Croatian Party of Rights;

(3) should dismiss the charges currently pending against human rights activist Dobroslav Paraga and end all forms of harassment against him and his family; and

(4) should conduct an investigation into the death of Ernest Brajder, who, according to the Department of State, died under "mysterious circumstances", and should make its findings public.

MIKE BORDALLO'S APPOINTMENT TO THE SUPREME COURT OF GUAM

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 19, another native son of Guam will advance the course of Guam's judicial history when he is installed as a judge of the Superior Court of Guam. Although this history is relatively brief, the judicial branch of the Government of Guam coming into existence in 1950, the name of Michael J. Bordallo will join a distinguished list of Chamorro men and women who have sworn to interpret the law for the people of Guam from the bench of the Superior Court. Like his peers, Mike brings with him an inherent love and understanding

of his native language and culture, as well as practical experience defending Chamorro rights, both as a practicing attorney and as a private citizen. Whether it is enjoining the desecration of ancient burial sites or encouraging the talents of local artists and musicians, Michael Bordallo is an active proponent of Guam's cultural identity and heritage.

Michael was born on July 14, 1961 to Attorney Fred E. Bordallo and my sister, Annie Underwood Bordallo, who instilled in him a love of justice and the law and a strong sense of identity. Mike graduated from Saint Anthony School in Tamuning in 1975 and from Father Duenas Memorial High School in 1979. He then went on to the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, and earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 1983. After returning to Guam, Mike went to work in his father's law office. He also served as a legislative consultant to the Guam Legislature's Committee on Education. He later returned to Notre Dame University, attended law school, and received his Juris Doctor degree in 1987. After passing the California Bar Exam, Mike returned to Guam and went to work as an Assistant Attorney General representing Child Protective Services in the Family Court. He was sworn in as a member of the Guam Bar Association in 1988, then went into private practice with his father.

For the last six years, Mike practiced law alongside his first cousin, Michael F. Phillips, in the firm of Phillips & Bordallo, P.C. With much affection and admiration, many of the friends and family of the two attorneys often refer to them simply as "Mike and Mike." During his career, Mike Bordallo has represented and participated in numerous actions involving issues such as desecration of ancient Chamorro burial grounds, the military land takings following World War II, the implementation of the Chamorro Land Trust Act, and a Cost of Living Allowance for Government of Guam retirees. He also has represented several legislative committees since 1992, and has represented the Territorial Board of Education and the Guam Department of Education.

In 1989, when the House Interior and Insular Affairs Subcommittee Chairman Ron DeLugo conducted the first-ever hearing on the Guam Commonwealth Act in Honolulu, Hawaii, Mike Bordallo helped found the Guam Commonwealth Hearings Association, which raised funds to subsidize the travel costs of Guam residents who otherwise would not have been able to attend and submit testimonies at the hearing.

In view of his activities in a wide range of island issues, Michael J. Bordallo was appointed to the bench by the Government of Guam and unanimously confirmed by the 24th Guam Legislature earlier this year. I join his parents, Fred and Annie, his brothers and sisters, his wife Carla and their children, Joshua and Stephanie, in congratulating him and placing trust in his sense of justice to guide him on the bench.

A TRIBUTE TO JAMES A. ROONEY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. James A. Rooney of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Mr. Rooney will be designated as the "Man of the Year" by the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick at their 84th annual banquet. I am honored and pleased to have been asked to participate in this event.

The fifth of nine children of the late George J. and Catherine Horan Rooney, Jim was born in Pittston, Pennsylvania. He attended Jenkins Township High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Scranton.

A veteran of World War II, Jim was awarded two bronze stars for his service in Europe. He is a member of various veterans' organizations in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

During Jim's career, he served as a weighmaster/shipper for the Pennsylvania Coal Company, an accountant at the State Correctional Institute, and an accounting field supervisor in the Office of the Comptroller of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. At the time of his retirement, he was Chief Financial Officer at the White Haven Center.

Jim is active in his church and the community. He is a Grand Knight and the financial secretary of the Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Speaker, Jim Rooney has been a member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick for over 45 years. He is also a member of the Donegal Society and the Ancient Order of Hibernians. I join the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in honoring Jim as "Man of the Year" and send my best wishes for a successful event.

IN HONOR OF DR. HECTOR GARCIA

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Ms. SANCHEZ. Ms. Speaker, today I rise to honor the late Dr. Hector Garcia. It was on this day, March 26th, that Dr. Garcia was born. It is fitting that we should pay tribute to him on this special day of remembrance.

Born in Mexico, his family fled the country when he was only four years old. This was during the Mexican Revolution when so many sought refuge in the United States. The Garcia family settled in Texas where young Hector Garcia's life began its course. After his graduation from the University of Texas Medical School, Garcia joined the Army. He served his country overseas, in World War II, as an infantryman, combat engineer and medical corps officer. His distinguished service earned him the Bronze Star with six Battle Stars.

After the war, he began a medical practice in Corpus Christi, Texas. As a medical doctor for the Veterans Administration, he saw the need to assist the Latino veterans in their fight for benefits. There was a great deal of prejudice toward the Latinos who had fought for their country, yet were not afforded the same rights and privileges given to others. At this

moment in history an occurrence took place that would forever changed Dr. Garcia's life and thrust him into the national spotlight.

When a funeral home in Three Rivers, Texas, refused burial services for a Mexican-American Army Private Felix Longoria, who had died fighting for his country in the Philippines, Dr. Garcia organized the outraged Latino community in protest against this treatment of a fellow American and soldier. The protests were noticed by Senator Lyndon B. Johnson. The Senator's intervention brought an end to the travesty and the Army private was buried with full honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

The incident preceded the founding of the American GI Forum of the United States by Dr. Garcia. Created to assist individuals with their VA benefits, the organization soon took on a deeper meaning and a more vital cause. The American GI Forum became the rallying organization for equal rights in housing, jobs, education, and voting. It also sought to eradicate discrimination and to desegregate the schools, the churches, the theaters, and restaurants—any place that a human being should be allowed the dignity and freedom that he deserved.

Dr. Garcia's life was filled with so many noteworthy and honorable distinctions. In 1968, President Johnson made him the first Mexican American to serve on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. And, in 1984, President Ronald Reagan conferred upon him one of our country's highest and most prestigious honors—the Medal of Freedom. The Medal of Freedom is the highest civilian award given to those who have made humanitarian contributions to their fellow man and who have a deep belief in the traditional American ideals.

Today, Dr. Hector Garcia's vision lives on. The American GI Forum now has the veterans of the Vietnam War and the Gulf War carrying on the fight for human dignity. The traditions and the message that Garcia believed in are perhaps expressed best in the "Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi," the official prayer of the American GI Forum: "Lord, Make me an instrument of Thy Peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love . . ." Dr. Garcia lived this prayer. Please join me today in paying tribute to this great humanitarian.

TRIBUTE TO CROATIAN HERITAGE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I pay tribute to my Croatian heritage. On Sunday, March 15, 1998, the Duquesne University Tamburitzans performed at Merrillville High School in Merrillville, Indiana. Following this event, there was a reception at Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge #170 in Merrillville, Indiana hosted by Lodge President Mrs. Elizabeth Morgavan.

Croatian Americans have played an integral role in the development and continued success of the United States of America. Beginning in early part of this century, thousands of Croatian people emigrated to the United States to seek a better and more prosperous life. Many Croatian immigrants came to major industrial centers such as Gary, East Chicago,

Youngstown, Pittsburgh, and Detroit. The jobs that awaited them were not easy and the working conditions not always safe. Nonetheless, these brave people endured and succeeded to build better lives for themselves and their children.

I grew up in an ethnic neighborhood in Gary, Indiana. It was a neighborhood where names like Roganovich, Mudrovich, and Milosovich were more common than Smith, Baker, and Wilson. It was a well tended neighborhood where everyone knew the names of the people on their block. It was a neighborhood where hard work and mutual respect ruled the day.

On 38th and Madison, I learned the values which are so prominent in many of my Croatian brothers and sisters. I have seen first hand how faith, family, humility, determination, courage, concern, and appreciation of our shared heritage can build good character. Croatian immigrants did not have it easy in America. They had to fight to overcome language and cultural differences—but overcome they did. They made the steel that made the cars, machines, and engines that today has made America a beacon of hope to the rest of the world. For that, I am very proud. Croatian-Americans have played by the rules despite the heavy obstacles placed in front of them. For that, I am very proud. They have put God, family, and country at the top of the list. For that, I am very proud. Yes, I am proud to be a part of an ethnic group that has brought so much to the United States of America. Croatian Americans have truly lived the American dream. I will continue to fight to ensure that we continue to dream.

TRIBUTE TO MARY ESSIE UNDERWOOD

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the community of Religious Sisters of Mercy, Catholic school system in Guam, and the people of Guam, particularly the Underwood and Martinez families are in mourning today over the passing of Sister Mary Inez at the age of 91. Though she was frail in her final days, she will always be remembered for her energy and vitality with which she undertook the establishment of both a Mercy convent and a Catholic school system in Guam in 1946 and 1947, respectively.

At the request of Guam's newly-appointed American Catholic bishop, Apollinaris William Baumgartner, Sister Inez returned home to her war-ravaged island to help rebuild not only the island but also the Catholic Church in Guam. In the years prior to World War II, the predominantly Catholic population of Guam was ministered to by American Catholic priests under the direction of Bishop Miguel Olano, a Spaniard who continued the centuries old traditions of Spanish Catholicism. In rebuilding the church after the war, Bishop Baumgartner brought in many new American traditions. The bishop also wanted to formalize religious instruction and education. For this task, he called in Sister Mary Inez.

Born Mary Essie Underwood on October 25, 1906, Sister Mary Inez was the first Chamorro

woman to enter the Catholic religious life. She was accepted as a novice in Belmont, North Carolina in 1926, and until her death on March 9 of this year, she remained firmly committed to her vocation and dedicated to her calling. So much so that in 1946, she sought and secured permission to establish the Religious Sisters of Mercy Order in Guam. In addition to recruiting students for the Diocese of Agaña's new Catholic elementary school, Sister Inez also encouraged and inspired other women to join the convent. Today, the Mercy Convent in Guam is a robust community of well respected teaching professionals, most of whom are Chamorro. In the years since the opening of the original convent in Agaña, Mercy Convents are now established in Tai Mangilao, Oka Tamuning, Dededo, and Inarajan.

Sister Inez founded the Catholic Grade School and the academy of Our Lady of Guam, an all-girls school which continues to produce many of the most successful and accomplished women in Guam today. From humble beginnings in the devastation of Guam in the aftermath of World War II, these two schools were the first of what has grown into a system of seven Catholic grade schools, four nursery/child care centers, an all-male high school and a co-ed high school, attesting to the growth and success of Sister Inez's early efforts.

As a Catholic nun, Sister Inez chose a life of celibacy, and though she had no children of her own, there are thousands of children and adults on Guam who are proud inheritors of her educational legacy. Sister Inez was the daughter of James Holland and Ana Martinez Underwood. She now joins them and her brothers and sisters, Eugenia Salvano, my father John Underwood, James, Raymond, Nancy Shoffner, Rosie Duenas, and Carmen Underwood. In addition to her many convent sisters, Sister Inez leaves behind many nieces, nephews, and grandnieces and nephews who have had the loving privilege of calling her Aunt Mary. I am among them and proud to say, "Adios, Aunt Mary. Si Yu'os un benendisi."

SWINGLE AWARD GIVEN TO BRIAN F. KELLY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brian F. Kelly, a community leader from my district in Pennsylvania. The Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick will bestow the W. Francis Swingle "Irishman of the Year" award on Brian F. Kelly at their 84th annual St. Patrick's Day Banquet. I am honored and pleased to have been asked to join this tribute.

Commander Brian F. Kelly, Chaplain, United States Navy is a priest of the Diocese of Scranton, Pennsylvania. Father Kelly attended St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary and St. Pius X Seminary. He is a 1973 graduate of the University of Scranton. In 1977, he earned his Masters in Pastoral Theology from St. John's in Boston. In 1990, the U.S. Navy assigned him to post-graduate study at the University of San Diego, where he earned a masters in Marriage, Family, and Child Counseling. In