

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL ON THE ENHANCEMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN ALASKA THROUGH A FEDERAL LAND GRANT

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to provide for the continuance of higher education in the State of Alaska by conveying certain public lands in the State to the University of Alaska system.

This bill is not a new idea: it follows on and honors a commitment Congress first made in 1915 when the then-territory was promised a generous land grant for higher education, but due to circumstances outside Alaska's control, was never completed. As a result, the largest state has the second lowest Federal land grant of all land grant institutions nationwide even though Congress intended each state to acquire a large grant for its higher education needs.

The legislation I introduce today rectifies this gross oversight and puts Alaska's premier university on equal footing with other land grant institutions. This is only fair for a State with over 240 million acres of land owned by the Federal Government and most of that locked away from any development.

The history behind this issue begins in 1915 when Congress reserved about 268,000 acres of public domain for the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines (the former name of the University of Alaska). However, barely any land had been surveyed at that time, and only a fraction could be transferred. In 1958, the Alaska Statehood Act eliminated the original 1915 grant, with no clear, historical record explaining why. Alaska's university land grant today stands at only 112,000 acres in total. If the same formula for granting lands were used as in some other states, Alaska could have received five million acres.

A Federal land grant is vital to the future of higher education in Alaska. I believe its most important role is to make a top-tier educational opportunity available to those who otherwise must travel hundreds, even thousands of miles to the lower 48 States for college. I don't want to see this role compromised because the university is not on an equal footing with its competitors in the lower 48 States.

The legislation introduced today will provide to the university system a grant of 250,000 acres of Federal land, and up to 250,000 acres more on an acre-for-acre matching basis with the State. The University may not select lands in national parks, refuges, wilderness areas, wild and scenic rivers, or specific areas of the national forest system. Thus, those lands open to selection are those which Congress, as ANILCA declares, are "necessary and appropriate for more intensive use and disposition . . ."

This bill also benefits the national conservation areas in Alaska. It conditions the Federal

grant on the university's relinquishment of 13,900 acres of inholdings surrounded by national parks, refuges and wildernesses. The relinquished lands will be added to the units in which they are located.

At its core, this in an education bill. By providing a land base with which to derive resources for the future, Alaskans will continue to receive the fruits of our university system without having to travel outside the State to colleges which were granted their full land entitlements.

REPORT FROM PENNSYLVANIA

HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to deliver my Report from Pennsylvania. Today, I would like to share with my colleagues and the American people the remarkable efforts of an individual in our community.

All across the Lehigh Valley, my wife, Kris, and I meet so many wonderful people. We learn of and hear about amazing individuals who strive day and night to make our communities better places to live.

I like to call these individuals Lehigh Valley Heroes. Lehigh Valley Heroes make a difference by helping their friends and neighbors.

Today I would like to honor a man whose volunteerism makes a difference in the lives of a number of veterans in our communities. Leonard E. Shupp, a retired Army Colonel, has been giving his time and services to veterans in the Lehigh valley area for the past thirty years.

A veteran of World War II, Mr. Shupp has been decorated with a number of the nation's highest honors—the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star—along with ten other decorations.

Aside from his heroics during the war, today he is still active with a number of veterans' organizations. To name a few, he has been a volunteer chaplain of the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery Memorial Council for the last thirty years, and has been a volunteer chaplain in the retirement services office of the Tolsyhanna Army Depot for the past ten years. Also, over the past decade, he has served as a volunteer consultant to the Director of Veteran's Affairs in Lehigh County.

On top of his numerous volunteer activities in veterans' affairs, Mr. Shupp has been a licensed minister of the United Church of Christ. And has since March 1998, become a member of the Faith Lutheran Church in Whitehall as a volunteer pastor.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons I would like to recognize Mr. Leonard Shupp, of Whitehall, Pennsylvania, as a Lehigh Valley Hero. Through his activism, he has truly made a difference in the lives of members of our community, and for this I commend him.

This concludes my Report from Pennsylvania.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. TERRY A. STRAETER

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, it is a distinct honor for me to pay tribute to Dr. Terry A. Straeter, an individual who is universally recognized as one of the most talented and innovative men in the field of defense aerospace and intelligence. Dr. Straeter is retiring following an illustrious career spanning over 30 years. He does so with the gratitude and appreciation of a nation that is more secure as a result of his work. And while the Nation has been fortunate to reap the benefit of Dr. Straeter's work, I have been even more fortunate in being able to call Terry a true friend.

Dr. Straeter's personal and professional accomplishments reflect a selfish dedication to improving the national security of this country. He distinguished himself through his work in a wide range of national intelligence systems. Specifically, Dr. Straeter was instrumental in the development of digital avionics and spacecraft at NASA's Langley Research Center. In addition, he was recognized for the work he did in digital mapping, exploitation, targeting, and archiving systems. While working for the Defense Mapping Agency, Dr. Straeter led an exceptional team of engineers which developed digital production systems which have become the baseline for the evolution of our nation's imagery intelligence capabilities.

Dr. Straeter's leadership and technical expertise were key in the development of the current generation of low-observable aircraft auto-routing systems—a capability which contributed significantly to the development of stealth technology in this country. He later developed a technology which significantly improved both the speed and accuracy of image extraction that directly improved our Government's digital map production. He also developed a commercial version of this solution that is currently used by more than 50 countries around the world.

Dr. Straeter's enormous talent, his keen insight and penchant for creative thinking made him a highly desired advisor. He served as a member of the Senate Select Committee for Intelligence's Technical Advisory Group, Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Security Affairs Support Association, an active contributor to the Defense Science Board, as well as a corporate leader of the highest standing. A recipient of the Intelligence Community Seal Medallion, Dr. Straeter is a national asset who is admired and respected by all who know him.

I know I speak for a grateful nation in wishing Dr. Terry Straeter the very best as he begins a new chapter in his long, distinguished career.

• 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.

CHINA NEEDS TO JOIN THE
WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, many of us were hoping that progress could be made on a United States-China agreement for China's accession to the World Trade Organization [WTO] at the recent mini-summit meeting between President Clinton and Chinese President Jiang in Auckland, New Zealand. With the new WTO round beginning in Seattle, Washington, at the end of November, the time left to reach an agreement, and for China to join the WTO at the Seattle ministerial meeting, has almost run out. China needs to be in the WTO. And, China's accession to the WTO is in the short and long term interests of the United States and all the developed countries who are members of the WTO. Accordingly, this Member recommends the following editorial from the Wednesday, September 15, 1999, Journal of Commerce which comments on the Clinton-Jiang meeting and makes a strong case for China and Taiwan's accession to the WTO.

[From the Journal of Commerce, September 15, 1999]

CLINTON AND JIANG MEET

The rhetoric was typically overblown, but the idea that Sino-American relations are moving back to what passes for normal is a cause for some relief.

A minisummit between Presidents Clinton and Jiang "opened up a new chapter for Sino-U.S. relations," enthused one high-ranking U.S. official after their private session during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum gathering in New Zealand last weekend. "The summit is significant," proclaimed Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who had her own session with Chinese Vice Premier (and former foreign minister) Qian Qichen along with Samuel Berger, Clinton's national security adviser.

Relations between the United States and China are important, both for trade and economic reasons and for military and strategic ones. They go through regular if unhelpfully exaggerated turmoil over such things as Taiwan, intellectual property and market access and were badly bruised by the bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade.

Chinese outrage was fully understandable and its inherent suspicion of "mistakes" fueled an age-old xenophobia. Nobody benefits from that kind of inward-focused China.

Many of the strains in Sino-American relations arise from the sort of everyday differences that a more mature and confident China would brush off (but keep around as a bargaining chip at some future time, as all powers do). For a country that claims the pioneering role in the art of diplomacy thousands of years ago, its mandarins often seem strangely given to flying off the handle.

In one of the more important unresolved issues—China's membership in the World Trade Organization—both sides are at fault. The Clinton administration muffed a great opportunity during the April visit to the United States of Premier Zhu Rongji, who brought a surprisingly lengthy list of concessions and agreements designed to break the logjam. He was justifiably affronted by the rebuff.

Similarly, China did itself no good by sulking for months after the Belgrade bombing

and then playing coy, suggesting that while it would be nice to join the club China could muddle through perfectly well on the outside.

China patently needs the WTO, and the United States, European Union and the rest of the trading world need it as a member. The talks have dragged on for 13 years.

Foreign investment, the spur to China's remarkable economic growth in recent years, is declining. This is partly due to the economic typhoon that swept Asia the past two years, but also partly due to China's failure to cut red tape sufficiently and to corral provincial and even municipal bureaucracies fond of making their own rules. Investors have plenty of good places to go and will go where they feel most welcome.

China has cut its tariff levels more deeply and widely than any other big trading country, by as much as 50% in some areas; the terms it offered were more generous than those of many existing WTO members, such as India. Beijing still dawdles for spurious reasons on opening financial services fully—especially insurance—but must be given credit for what it has done.

The best way to get closer adherence to global rules is to invite China into the game. The EU, previously also firm in demanding more concessions before entry, long ago accepted that enough was in place that the nitpicking should stop.

Beyond the immediate issue lies that of Taiwan. By common if misguided agreement, the dynamic little island won't be allowed into the WTO until China gains entry. Never mind that Taiwan has gone well beyond China and many other countries in tidying up its trade behavior. Such is realpolitik, but Taiwan deservedly gets a lot of good press.

When Taiwan President Lee Ten-hui spoke of wanting relations between the island and the mainland on a state-to-state basis, he may have been injudicious and he must have known that Beijing would yelp. But the truth is that Taiwan is the world's 14th-largest trading nation, has its third-largest hard currency reserves and few people outside China swallow Beijing's fiction that Taiwan is a wayward province subject for eternity to the risk of Chinese armed intervention.

The think tanks and professors are free to debate the nuances of such things in their ivory towers for as long as it amuses them. The real world needs China and Taiwan in the WTO now. Clinton knows it, and he should make it happen.

HONORING JOHN BOLAND FOR HIS
EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE
QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET
RIVERS VALLEY NATIONAL HER-
ITAGE CORRIDOR**HON. SAM GEJDENSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Boland of Pomfret, Connecticut for his tireless and successful efforts to develop and grow the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor. As residents across eastern Connecticut mark the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Corridor, John Boland deserves much of the credit for the success we all celebrate.

John was one of the leaders of a small group of citizens from eastern Connecticut who came together in the late 1980s with an

idea to preserve and promote the natural, cultural and historic resources of the region. The group also wanted to follow an approach that would center on the major rivers in the area—the Quinebaug in the east and the Shetucket in the west—because they are intertwined with that history, with a way of life. As an avid canoeist, John also appreciated the recreational potential the rivers offered as well as the many obstacles to public access and greater enjoyment of these resources. After much research and widespread public discussion, the group embraced an innovative and largely experimental concept—the National Heritage Corridor.

In 1988, John and others formed the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers National Heritage Corridor Committee to expand public awareness about the concept and to work in support of formally designating the Corridor. I am proud to have worked with John, who served as Chairman of the Committee, and so many others across the region to develop and introduce legislation in the House to achieve this goal. In the fall of 1994, years of hard work and persistence paid off as Congress passed and the President signed the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act.

Following enactment of the bill, John continued to take a leadership role in transforming the Corridor from a concept into reality. He helped to develop the framework of the non-profit corporation—Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor, Inc.—which currently manages the Corridor. He served as first Chairman of its Board of Directors and continues to be actively involved in many Corridor projects.

Mr. Speaker, the success of the Quinebaug and Shetucket National Heritage Corridor is the result of the efforts of countless residents from across eastern Connecticut. However, like so many other successful initiatives, a few people play critical leadership roles. John Boland has been this type of leader. His vision and hard work have been crucial to making the Corridor a reality. I join citizens from across eastern Connecticut in saying—thank you John.

WILLIE MACK (1927-1999)—A LIFE
WITH INTENT**HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the death of and to celebrate the remarkable life of a personal friend and political ally, Willie Mack. For almost 40 years, "Whisper" as he was affectionately called, was by my side in the many struggles for political equity and a voice in the affairs of governance for the African-American community in St. Louis. In the early days, when I was leading the effort to build an effective political organization, Willie "Whisper" Mack was prominently present. He was my right hand, my trusted confidant in every hard fought, exciting political campaign.

Mr. Speaker, I met "Whisper" one year after my first election to the St. Louis Board of Aldermen in 1959. In 1960, I was campaign manager for Norman Seay who was seeking to be the Democratic committeeman in that

26th Ward. Seay had successfully run my campaign for Alderman the previous year. Seay's opponent had gone about the business of lining up the so-called corner boys, those who frequented the taverns, pool rooms and barber shops. One of his most effective recruits was Willie Mack. Mack owned a barber shop and had hundreds of hero worshipers who followed his lead. The story goes that the nickname was tagged on him when, as a young gang participant, he was thrown into a pool of cold water in the middle of the winter by an opposite gang faction. As a result, he temporarily lost his voice for several months.

But as those election returns bear out, speaking in subdued tones, "Whisper" knew how to work a precinct. Seay's opponent won his precinct by a margin of 2 to 1 (only one of two precincts won by him).

Much credit for "Whisper" political acumen goes to his wife, Jackie. They made the perfect political combination. He influenced the street people. She was loved by the home owners in the neighborhood.

After the election—which Seay won by 600 votes—I sought out "Whisper" and persuaded him to join our organization. From that day forward our friendship developed and expanded.

Mr. Speaker, few people lived life with the enthusiasm, determination and gusto as Willie Mack. He lived every day with the intent to do something for someone else. He lived every day with the intent to give something back to family, friends and community. He will be remembered as a giver. He gave the fullest to his fellow man. His intent was to establish, through political activism, a more perfect union between society and those citizens denied the benefits of first-class citizenship. The many people whose lives he touched and they in turn enhanced his—is a testament to his endearing respect for humanity.

Carol and I were deeply saddened by Whisper's passing. He was indeed an uncommon man with a phenomenal affect on those who graced his presence. To us, Whisper was something dear, something special, something beautiful, something precious. There were no tears for Carol and me when we heard of his departure because we were not agonizing his death but rather celebrating the privilege of having looked upon this towering, incredible individual, if only for a fleeting moment.

REPORT FROM PENNSYLVANIA

HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to share my Report from Pennsylvania for my colleagues and the American people.

All across Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District there are some amazing people who do good things to make our communities a better place. These are individuals of all ages who truly make a difference and help others.

I like to call these individuals Lehigh Valley Heroes for their good deeds and efforts.

Today I would like to recognize Mr. Harold Seibert, a retired fireman who's respect and dedication to his job led him to compile a 175-year anniversary book for the Allentown Fire Department, an invaluable document for future firemen of the community.

Harold Seibert is a commendable member of our community—not only for his documentary, but also for his heroism—having been decorated five times for saving lives during his 24 years as a firefighter.

Today, I would like to recognize Mr. Seibert, of Allentown, PA, for his hard work and dedication. He is creating a legacy for the Allentown community and I commend him on his efforts.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SHARK CONSERVATION AND FINNING PROHIBITION RESOLUTION

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, it is time for the United States to ban the wasteful, unsportsmanlike and destructive practice of shark finning.

Shark finning is the removal of a shark's fins, which represent just one to five percent of its body weight, and discarding its carcass into the sea. The waste associated with this practice is horrific. The public outcry to halt it was an important factor in the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) decision to ban shark finning in federal waters of the U.S. Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean. I had thought that NMFS had prohibited this practice in all waters of the United States.

To my surprise and dismay, it was recently brought to my attention that shark finning is occurring in the U.S. Pacific, and increasing at an alarming rate. Between 1991 and 1998, there was a 20-fold increase in shark finning by U.S. longline vessels in the Central and Western Pacific. There are no regulations in place to stem further growth of this terrible practice.

According to NMFS, in the Central and Western Pacific fishery, the number of sharks finned rose from 2,289 in 1991 to 60,857 in 1998. The most troubling fact about this increase in the number of sharks killed is that 98.7%, or 60,085 of the 60,857, of the sharks taken in 1998 were killed just for their fins.

The NMFS has gone on record with the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WestPac) expressing its view that finning is wasteful and must be stopped. Unfortunately, WestPac has balked and NMFS has failed to step forward and stop this terrible practice. It is my belief, and those of any responsible outdoorsman, that the waste associated with discarding 95 to 99% of 60,000 animals annually is intolerable.

With the support of my colleague, Fisheries Subcommittee Chairman JIM SEXTON, and the conservation and sportfishing communities, I am introducing two pieces of legislation to remedy this situation.

Today, I am sponsoring a resolution expressing the sense of Congress that we disagree with the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council's and NMFS failure to halt shark finning, while urging that Council to prohibit the practice immediately.

Later this year, I will be introducing legislation to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Act by adding the practice of shark finning to the list of actions prohibited in all waters of the United States.

I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join me by cosponsoring this important resolution. For the record, I have attached a letter of support from the Ocean Wildlife Campaign, a coalition that includes the Center for Marine Conservation, National Audubon Society, National Coalition for Marine Conservation, Natural Resources Defense Council, Wildlife Conservation Society, and the World Wildlife Fund. In addition, I have attached separate letters of support from the American Sportfishing Association and the Center for Marine Conservation. Our prompt action is critical to ensure that we will halt the rampant waste resulting from shark finning.

AMERICAN SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION,

Alexandria, VA, September 23, 1999.

Hon. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM,

U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN CUNNINGHAM: On behalf of the nearly 500 members of the American Sportfishing Association, I wish to express my strong support for your resolution to ban the wasteful practice of shark finning. I commend your initiative in tackling this important, yet easily dismissed issue.

For far too long, we have neglected to take action to stop this most unsportsmanlike fishing activity. We now know that the best shark is not a dead shark; that these oft maligned fish play critical roles in preserving balance in the marine ecosystem. Healthy shark populations help maintain robust fisheries. Your effort to ban finning will not only benefit depressed shark populations, but many other species of commercially and recreationally important fish.

Thank you for your leadership in this area.

Sincerely,

MIKE HAYDEN,

President/CEO.

OCEAN WILDLIFE CAMPAIGN,

Washington, DC, September 22, 1999.

Hon. RANDY CUNNINGHAM,

U.S. House of Representatives,

Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE CUNNINGHAM: We are writing to express serious concern regarding the management and health of shark populations in U.S. Pacific waters, specifically in areas under the jurisdiction of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WESPAC). Driven by the international demand for shark fin soup, the practice of shark finning—cutting of a shark's fins and discarding its carcass back into the ocean—is a rapidly growing problem that is directly responsible for huge increases in the number of sharks killed annually and appalling waste of this nation's living marine resources. The National Marine Fisheries Service has prohibited shark finning in the U.S. Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean. It is time to ban finning in the Pacific.

Between 1991 and 1998, the number of sharks "retained" by the Hawaii-based swordfish and tuna longline fleet jumped from 2,289 to 60,857 annually. In 1998, over 98 percent of these sharks were killed for their fins to meet the demand for shark fin soup. Because shark fins typically comprise only one to five percent of a shark's bodyweight, 95 to 99 percent of the shark is going to waste: Sharks are particularly vulnerable to overfishing because of their "life history characteristics"—slow growth, late sexual maturity, and the production of few young. Once depleted, a population may take decades to recover.

The National Marine Fisheries Service, conservationists, fishermen, scientists, and the public have pressured WESPAC to end the practice of shark finning. Nevertheless,

WESPAC and the State of Hawaii recently failed to take action to end or control finning.

This issue of shark finning is characterized by a dangerous lack of management, rampant waste, and egregious inconsistencies with U.S. domestic and international policy stances. It is the most visible symptom of a larger problem: a lack of comprehensive management for sharks in U.S. Pacific waters. The history of poorly or unmanaged shark fisheries around the world is unequivocal: rapid decline followed by collapse. Sharks are not managed in U.S. Central and Western Pacific waters, and with increased fishing pressure there may be rapidly growing problems.

We urge your office to take whatever action is necessary to immediately end the destructive practice of shark finning in U.S. waters and encourage WESPAC to develop a comprehensive fishery management plan for sharks that will, among other things: 1. Immediately prohibit the finning of sharks; 2. Immediately reduce shark mortality levels by requiring the live release of all bycatch or "incidentally caught" animals brought to the boat alive; 3. Immediately reduce the bycatch of sharks; 4. Prevent overfishing by quickly establishing precautionary commercial and recreational quotas for sharks until a final comprehensive management plan is adopted that ensures the future health of the population. Given the dramatic increase in the number of sharks killed in the Hawaiian longline fishery, WESPAC should cap shark mortality at 1994 levels as a minimum interim action, pending the outcome of new population assessments.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

DAVID WILMOT, Ph.D.,
Ocean Wildlife Campaign.

CARL SAFINA, Ph.D.,
National Audubon Society.

LISA SPEER,
Natural Resources Defense Council.

TOM GRASSO,
World Wildlife Fund.

SONJA FORDHAM,
Center for Marine Conservation.

KEN HINMAN,
National Coalition for Marine Conservation.

ELLEN PIKITCH, Ph.D.,
Wildlife Conservation Society.

CENTER FOR MARINE CONSERVATION,
Washington, DC, September 22, 1999.

Hon. RANDY CUNNINGHAM,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE CUNNINGHAM: On behalf of the Center for Marine Conservation (CMC), I am writing to express our grave concern for Pacific sharks, specifically those under the jurisdiction of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WESPAC). High demand for shark fin soup has driven a dramatic surge in shark finning (the practice of slicing off a shark's valuable fins and discarding the body at sea) by the Hawaiian longline fleet. This appalling waste of America's public marine resources is tied to alarming yet unrestricted increases in mortality of some of the ocean's most biologically vulnerable fish.

Shark conservation has long been a key element of CMC's fisheries program due in large part to the life history characteristics that leave sharks exceptionally susceptible

to overfishing. In general, sharks grow slowly, mature late and produce a small number of young. Once depleted, shark populations often require decades to recover. In the U.S. Atlantic, for example, several overfished shark stocks will require four decades to rebuild to healthy levels, even with strict fishing controls. Indeed, nearly every large scale shark fishery this century has ended in collapse.

Off Hawaii, the number of sharks killed and brought to the dock (landed) has increased by more than 2500 percent, skyrocketing from just 2,289 sharks in 1991 to 60,857 sharks in 1998. In 1998, over 98 percent of these sharks were killed solely for their fins. Considering that shark fins typically comprise only one to five percent of a shark's bodyweight, 95 to 99 percent of the shark is going to waste.

CMC has been calling upon Western Pacific fishery managers to restrict shark fisheries and ban finning for more than five years. More recently, similar demands have been made by many other national conservation organizations as well as local Hawaiian environmental and fishing groups, international scientific societies, concerned citizens, and several Department of Commerce high-ranking officials. A recent poll by Seaweb found that finning was among the ocean issues most disturbing to the American public. Nevertheless, WESPAC and the State of Hawaii have yet to take action to control finning or limit shark mortality.

Shark finning in particular runs counter not only to the will of the American public, to which these resources belong, but also to U.S. domestic and international policy as expressed in: The Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA); the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Sharks of the Atlantic Ocean; the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries; and the FAO International Plan of Action for Sharks.

In addition, as you are likely aware, California is just one of many coastal states to ban finning within their waters.

In the U.S. Atlantic, the lucrative market for shark fins drove an intense fishery that led to severe depletion of several shark populations within less than ten years. Citing "universal and strong support" for a ban on finning on behalf of the non-fishing American public, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) banned the practice in U.S. Atlantic in 1993, stating that:

NMFS believes that finning is wasteful of valuable shark resources and poses a threat to attaining the conservation objectives of fishery management under the Magnuson Act.

This year, NMFS expanded the existing finning ban from the 39 regulated species to all sharks in the Atlantic while Department of Commerce officials have repeatedly, yet unsuccessfully, called upon WESPAC to halt finning.

In recent years, the United States has emerged as a world leader in crafting and promoting landmark, international agreements pertaining to sharks and continues to lead efforts to raise global awareness of their plight and special management needs. Yet, our inability to address an egregious finning problem within our own waters threatens to undermine the U.S. role in these important, international initiatives.

CMC asks for your assistance in ensuring an immediate end to the wasteful practice of finning, accompanied by a requirement that all incidentally-caught sharks brought to the boat alive be released alive. In addition, a comprehensive Pacific shark management plan that prevents overfishing and reduces bycatch is absolutely crucial to safeguarding these especially vulnerable animals; pre-

cautionary catch limits in the Western Pacific (no higher than 1994 mortality levels) are needed until such a plan is complete.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

SONJA V. FORDHAM,
Fisheries Project Manager.

IN HONOR OF RETIRING MAYOR
OF EASTPOINTE, HARVEY CURLEY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor one of my district's most beloved mayors, retiring City of Eastpointe Mayor Harvey Curley. Harvey is retiring after 23 years of holding elected office in Eastpointe.

Born in the small town of Minonok, Illinois, Harvey was first introduced to the public as the host of the Air Force Radio show "Music to Dawn". Upon his return from the military, he married Carole and settled in East Detroit, just as my family did, in the 1960's. A salesman by profession, Harvey was elected to the East Detroit School Board which became the foundation for his career at City Hall.

Harvey went on from his school board position to a brief two years on the East Detroit City Council, before being elected mayor in 1987. Harvey oversaw the city's name transition from East Detroit to Eastpointe. Balancing the city's old community roots with the younger generation's vision of the city's future proved no easy tasks. Under Harvey's guidance, the name change transition went smoothly and the city has gained a new sense of identity.

I have always looked forward to seeing Harvey at every event and civic function I have attended in Eastpointe, and plan on seeing him at many more. Though he may be retiring from office, Harvey will not be retiring from public life. While he will be missed at City Hall, he will continue to be an active part of the community he loves. He will surely remain active in his Baptist Church planning pancake breakfasts and working with the choir. Harvey will remain a friend of the city, either through the youth sports program at the new City Recreation Center or at the Eastpointe Senior Center, both of which he helped create.

Harvey Curley's tenure as mayor has seen Eastpointe through the decade of the 90's and he leaves the city well prepared for the coming century. Please join me in wishing Harvey and his lovely wife, Carole, a relaxing and enjoyable retirement.

TRIBUTE TO TEMPLE B'NAI
SHOLOM IN HUNTSVILLE, AL

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an institution in my district that has contributed substantially to the cultural, intellectual and religious enrichment of North Alabama, Temple B'nai Sholom. On November 12, the Congregation B'nai Sholom will

commemorate the 100th anniversary of the dedication of its historic synagogue with a special Shabbat (Sabbath) service.

Thirty-two families came together in 1876 in Huntsville to form the Congregation and mobilized, dedicating their synagogue in 1899. I am proud to relay that Temple B'nai Sholom is the oldest synagogue in Alabama in continuous use. The Temple is also the only congregation affiliated with the Reform Movement in North Alabama and South Central Tennessee.

B'nai Sholom ("Sons of Peace"), the chosen name of the Temple, communicates the congregation's commitment to harmony and reconciliation. Temple B'nai Sholom has given to their community in countless ways. As members of the Interfaith Mission Service, the Temple contributes to the cause of religious tolerance in North Alabama. The Sisterhood of Temple B'nai Sholom should be commended for their efforts to raise money for breast cancer awareness and health initiatives through their design and sale of the L'Chaim pins. The Sisterhood designed the L'Chaim pin to symbolize Jewish support for breast cancer victims and survivors.

For a century, the Temple B'nai Sholom's commitment to the reform tradition has bolstered the religious community of North Alabama. Their established presence in downtown Huntsville is a testament to their perseverance and good will. I congratulate the Temple B'nai Sholom, and wish the Congregation a special centennial commemoration.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND ROBERT
NELSON, JR.

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who during his 19 years, has made many outstanding contributions to his community, Reverend Robert Nelson, Jr. Reverend Nelson, Jr. has served as pastor of Bethel A.M.E. Church West Memphis, Arkansas for 19 years. Through his ministry at Bethel, he has been able to establish the Bethel Christian Outreach Center which aides the people of the community with substance abuse problems. He also administers the Bethel Learning Academy, a childcare facility setup to target high school drop outs, low to moderate income families and children with special needs.

Along with his work for the church and the community, Reverend Nelson, Jr. also served his country. He is a three year army veteran who courageously fought in the Vietnam War. When he returned home from his service in Vietnam, he helped establish the Crosstown Fellowship in Crittenden County which holds services in the community every second Sunday. This ministry has helped several hundred families with housing and utilities expenses.

Reverend Robert Nelson, Jr. is the recipient of several awards such as the Arkansas Certificate of Merit for his outstanding service to the people of Arkansas while serving on the Governor's Arkansas Highway Safety Advisory Council. He has received several awards of appreciation from President Bill Clinton, Mayor Al Boals of West Memphis, the General Assembly, former Governor Guy Tucker, the NAACP and others.

Reverend Nelson is also a family man, who cherishes his family including his wife Mrs. Rita Wilson; four children, Marty Green, Ryan Nelson, Rashunda Nelson and Rachel Nelson; and two granddaughters, Renea Nelson and Raylyn Nelson.

When I think of someone we all should strive to be like, I think of Reverend Nelson. Through all his hard work for his country and his community and all the awards he has received, Reverend Nelson continues to be a wonderful, down to earth man who takes pride in his love of people and his love of God.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD J.
RUBENSTEIN ON THE 45TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF RUBENSTEIN ASSO-
CIATES

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the extraordinary talents and contributions of Howard J. Rubenstein. This evening, some two thousand government, civic, and corporate leaders will celebrate the 45th anniversary of Mr. Rubenstein's firm, Rubenstein Associates, Inc.

Howard Rubenstein has been dubbed by Newsweek Magazine as the "Dean of Damage Control", one of America's foremost public relations consultants. His clients constitute a cross section of influential individuals and organizations, from Disney/ABC to novelist Danielle Steel, from the New York Yankees to the Duchess of York. Rubenstein's brilliance, insights, and innovative strategies have earned him great respect in the United States and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, my profound admiration for Howard Rubenstein is a consequence not of his public relations skills, but rather of his passionate commitment to using his talents for the benefit of his community and his country. His public service has affected a sweeping range of civic and cultural priorities. Mr. Rubenstein is currently an advisor to the New York City Commission on the Status of Women, and he is a member of the City University of New York Business Advisory Board, the board of directors of the Center for Democracy, and the Inner-City Scholarship Fund of the Archdiocese of New York.

Howard has also served on the Mayor's Committee on Business & Economic Development for New York Mayors Abraham Beame, David Dinkins, and Rudolph Giuliani, and he is currently a trustee of the Alliance for the Arts, the March of Dimes New York Chapter, the Central Park Conservancy, and the Police Athletic League. In an era when business leaders all too often fail to demonstrate a devotion to the needs of our society, Howard Rubenstein's contributions stand as a model for all others.

Mr. Speaker, one particular episode stands out in my reflection upon Howard Rubenstein's service to his community. In 1991, the Brooklyn community of Crown Heights exploded in a chain reaction of violence, riots, and ever-mounting divisions between the area's African-American and Hasidic Jewish populations. These disputes divided the city and received national attention, emphasizing the difficulties of racial reconciliation. Responding to a re-

quest for his assistance from Mayor David Dinkins and other city leaders, Rubenstein undertook the difficult task of diffusing the tensions between African-Americans and Jews.

He organized a "Peace Conference" in Crown Heights, and then planned a special "Neighbor to Neighbor" event at the Apollo Theater in Harlem. More than 1,300 people—both Jews and African-Americans—viewed a showing of "The Liberators," a film which depicts the liberation of Nazi concentration camps by African-American soldiers. The screening was broadcast live on New York television, while simultaneously 500 "Neighbor to Neighbor" meetings were held in homes and community centers around New York City to discuss race relations. Rubenstein's efforts were critical to restoring civility and understanding in Crown Heights, and I believe that they speak volumes about the character and commitment of this outstanding man.

Howard Rubenstein has come a long way since 1954, when he founded Rubenstein Associates, Inc., working on the kitchen table at his parents' home. In honor of the 45th anniversary of this event and in recognition of the outstanding contributions that he has made to his community and our country, I urge my colleagues to join me in extending warmest congratulations and our most sincere appreciation to Howard J. Rubenstein.

TRIBUTE TO STAPELEY IN
GERMANTOWN

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Stapeley in Germantown, a Quaker sponsored retirement community, as it celebrates 95 years of service and commitment to the community. Founded in 1904 by Philadelphia philanthropist Anna T. Jeanes, its mission today reflects the vision of its founder, to create an "abiding place, a refuge, a home".

Stapeley is a full-service, accredited continuing care retirement community that welcomes residents and staff of all faiths, races, and cultural backgrounds.

In an atmosphere of harmony, equality, simplicity, integrity, and concern for community, Stapeley serves over 200 older persons and includes 42 independent living apartments and a 120-bed skilled nursing facility.

Stapeley continues to attract new residents because of its reputation as a tolerant, diverse, and affordable provider of quality care for seniors. In keeping with its mission to provide high quality, moderately priced care to its residents, the Stapeley Healthcare Center maintains a Medical Assistance census that is 76 percent. Among the community of Quaker retirement facilities, it is recognized for its commitment to individuals who have exhausted their personal assets.

In recognition of its years of service to one of the most vulnerable segments of our community, I join the New Stapeley as it celebrates its anniversary and the completion of renovations to one of its original and historic buildings.

TRIBUTE TO BRAD CURREY, JR.

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, the strength of our republic lies in the participation of all people, exercising their individual liberty by making their voices heard. One person can make a difference that can benefit us all.

Congress is, and should be composed of 535 laymen. We each have expertise in something, but on the wide array of issues with which we deal, we need a lot more information, a lot of educating—or we can make some mistakes. The two concepts—one person making a difference, and Congress needing solid information on a wide variety of topics—are combined in the career of a man named Brad Currey, Jr.

Brad Currey retires at the end of this year as Chairman, President, and CEO of the Rock-Tenn Company in Norcross, Georgia. Brad always says that Rock-Tenn's value is based on the unique competence of its people; with those people, he built one of the country's largest manufacturers and converters of 100 percent recycled paperboard. Their products are all around us, but we rarely recognize them: cereal boxes, bookcovers, overnight express mail envelopes, and countless other items.

During his career with Rock-Tenn, Brad demonstrated why a "special interest group" is not necessarily a bad thing. He has helped Congress refine an important part of environmental policy, especially in the area of recycling. In doing so, he and his colleagues in the 100 percent paper recycling industry helped remind us of the broad power Congress has to affect the way business is done.

A few years back, we grappled with what was referred to at the time as the "solid waste crisis." Legislation was introduced and considered in the Commerce Committee to help spur the recycling markets. We certainly did not know all that we needed to know about recycling, and few people in environmental organizations or the lobbying community had an expert background in it, either. Brad Currey recognized that the future of his paper recycling industry was about to be decided in Congress. He called on his industry colleagues, many of whom were owners and operators of small family-run recycled paper companies, and convinced them of the need to make their voice heard in the debate on solid waste and recycled issues. From that point, the story takes on a more "inside Washington" character: they chose a name for themselves, the Paper Recycling Coalition (PRC), and hired a consulting firm to guide them through the legislative and regulatory process.

Thanks to Brad and his colleagues, I have learned more about the recycled paper industry and its presence in Ohio and around the country. I have also learned more about the issues that affect them, and recognized that their collective voice was valuable in crafting the nation's recycling policies. They created a more visible identity for the recycled paper industry, and they did it without arm-twisting or crass tactics. They did it with information.

From what I have heard from his friends, inserting the paper recycling industry in the policymaking process is just one of many Brad

Currey accomplishments. As Brad gets ready to retire, I want to thank him for his guidance and assure him that he has made a difference—he has had a positive impact on the policy process. Like Brad, I hope others will see that they too can make a difference. One willing, dedicated person can have a positive influence on policies that benefit the nation as a whole. Operating forthrightly and with integrity, they can inform us, and help to make our policies sounder. That is an important contribution, and, perhaps, the most vital lesson Brad leaves behind: it is about the people. People like Brad Currey.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 24, 1999, I was not present for rollcall votes Nos. 444, 445, 446, and 447. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 444, "aye" on rollcall vote 445, "no" on rollcall vote 446, and "aye" on rollcall vote 447.

TRIBUTE TO ALLEN FUNT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who with boundless energy and enthusiasm spread laughter throughout the nation with his long-running TV show "Candid Camera." Allen Funt died at his home in Pebble Beach on September 5, 1999 at the age of 84.

Born on September 16, 1914 in New York, Allen attended Cornell University graduating with a bachelor of arts degree in fine arts. As an undergraduate student, Allen was a scholar of human nature and conducted psychology experiments which began his interest in people's reactions. Mr. Funt also worked as an assistant for an Eleanor Roosevelt radio show from which he began to engender ideas about combining spontaneous reactions of people with radio. During World War II, Allen was enlisted in the Army and served in the Army Signal Corps where he continued to study his idea about combining spontaneous reactions and radio as he experimented with location recording and concealment techniques. After leaving the Army, Allen founded "Candid Microphone" on ABC in 1948. In 1960, CBS picked up the show for a 7-year run and for the year 1960–1961 it was the seventh-best rated show in the nation. CBS now airs "Candid Camera" with Allen's son, Peter Funt, as the host.

For half a century Allen Funt loved to make people smile. He was a visionary who pioneered what has become an entire programming genre, but who also genuinely cared about people and appreciated the healing power of laughter. In the late 1960's, Allen donated his entire Candid Camera film library to the psychology department of his alma mater, Cornell University, in order to share his in-

sights into the human psyche and his work with the students. After settling in the Monterey peninsula in 1978, Allen held fundraisers to support Carmel schools in the 1980's and donated "Candid Camera" tapes to hospitals and the homes of the terminally ill as well as started the "Laughter Therapy Foundation."

Allen Funt was truly a remarkable man who will be fondly remembered for his ingenuity and enthusiasm. His appreciation of laughter's power to heal provided for 52 years of good comedy for the entire nation. Allen will be missed by the countless numbers of people he touched both personally and through his "Candid Camera" show around the world.

DR. TERRY STRAETER: A
COMMUNITY SERVANT

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to express my admiration and thanks to a leader in San Diego. Dr. Terry Straeter has been a part of our community and given of himself for many years. I am honored to have been invited to participate in an important event to be held this week at the National Air and Space Museum to pay tribute to this innovative and dedicated man.

Dr. Straeter got his start at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration during the 1970s, a time when our missions to the moon were coming to an end and NASA was once again looking to "push the envelope" in space exploration. Serving at the Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia, Terry was performing much of the important research that would lead to more and more innovation.

But then, San Diego got lucky. Terry went into the private sector, holding several posts with General Dynamics, eventually coming to beautiful San Diego to lead a group of tremendously dedicated men and women serving at Marconi Information Systems and Marconi Integrated Systems. And quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, our community has not been the same since Terry and his lovely wife Jinny arrived.

Terry is a strong supporter of our United Way campaign. He takes precious moments of his day to work with kids and help them to understand how important our free market economy is by participating in Junior Achievement. He has reached out to those children whose lives are affected by the daily challenges of diabetes by serving as the Corporate Recruitment Chairman of the 1998 Juvenile Diabetes Foundation's "Walk to Cure Diabetes." And all the while running one of the most successful and innovative high technology companies in our city, the State of California, and indeed, within our nation.

I am proud to offer my congratulations to Dr. Terry Straeter on this important occasion when we will honor him in a glowing tribute at the National Air and Space Museum. Terry, we appreciate you and we thank you for your service.

TRIBUTE TO BARRIE AND
MICHAEL GROBSTEIN

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Barrie and Michael Grobstein, who will be honored this year with the Circle of Life Award, given annually for service on behalf of the Jewish Home for the Aging, the largest continuing residential care facility in Southern California. Barrie and Michael are truly worthy of this distinguished award.

Through their involvement with The Executives, a group of business leaders from the San Fernando Valley formed to support this critically-needed facility, the Grobsteins have been instrumental in ensuring that the Jewish Home for the Aging has the financial support it needs to continue to provide seniors with the highest level of care. With the help of Barrie and Michael, The Executives has become one of the Los Angeles area's most distinguished and successful charitable organizations.

Michael has served as a founding member, executive committee member, and as president for three years of The Executives and its predecessor, The Valley Jewish Business Leaders Association.

The Jewish Home for the Aging is a truly unique facility. The average age of its 750 residents is 90 years. Each of its two campuses has a full-service medical clinic with state-of-the-art equipment and is staffed by on-site physicians, nurses, and medical and rehabilitation therapists. The Home's medical department is affiliated with UCLA's Division of Geriatric Medicine, and has developed a national reputation for its research in aging, long-term care, and Alzheimer's disease.

Barrie and Michael have been instrumental in making all this possible.

In addition to his work on behalf of the Jewish Home for the Aging, with Barrie's support Michael has served on the board of many other charitable organizations, including the Institute for Arteriosclerosis Research, Temple Valley Beth Shalom, International College, Ryokan College, the Pacific Association of Schools and Colleges, two organizations supporting the premier cancer research charity City of Hope, the West Coast Father's Day Council for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, Sherman Oaks Hospital, and many others. Barrie also has been active in education on the danger of cults, serving as a Speaker for the Jewish's Federation's Anti-Cult Movement. She is also a long-term member of Valley Beth Shalom's Sisterhood.

The Grobstein's efforts on behalf of these charities and community groups have been paralleled by success in the business world. With Barrie's help, Michael's accounting practice grew from a one room office in 1967 to almost two floors in the same office building today and in one of the largest regional CPA firms in Los Angeles.

Mr. Speaker, Michael and Barrie Grobstein, who this year celebrated their 36th wedding anniversary, are two of the San Fernando Valley's finest community leaders. I urge you and all my colleagues to join me today in honor of their achievements. They have truly served their community with distinction.

IN MEMORY OF KEITH D. OGLESBY

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a bill to honor Keith D. Oglesby, the late Postmaster General of the Greenville, South Carolina Post Office. I am joined by the entire South Carolina delegation in this request to honor Keith Oglesby by renaming the Orchard Park Station of the Greenville Post Office as the Keith D. Oglesby Station.

Mr. Oglesby was a tireless worker, community activist, and beloved boss. His involvement with charitable organizations aided those in the Greenville community, the state of South Carolina, and the nation as a whole. Mr. Oglesby was the chairperson for Greenville County's Combined Federal Campaign, hosted the First-Day of Issue ceremonies for the Organ & Tissue Donation Stamp, filled Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army, coordinated postal blood drives, participated in March of Dimes WalkAmerica and the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Additionally, he received the Greenville Family Partnership's Volunteer of the Year Award in 1997.

As a supervisor, Mr. Oglesby always told his workers to "Do the right thing," and this motto permeated his actions and expectations. Local postal customers, employees of the Greenville Post Office, and higher management of the United States Postal Service recognize the contributions of Keith Oglesby to his community and his faithful service to this nation. He was honored posthumously with his second Benjamin Award—the Postal Service's top public relations honor given to recognize community outreach accomplishments.

The unexpected death of Mr. Oglesby shocked and saddened the community of Greenville, South Carolina. As we grieve his loss, we would like to pay tribute to Mr. Oglesby by renaming a facility in his honor. The Keith D. Oglesby Station would be a permanent memorial of his steadfast service to our community and the United States Postal Service.

EXTRADITE PINOCHET TO SPAIN
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS CRIMES IN
CHILE

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today, Monday, September 27, 1999, almost a year after his arrest in Britain for human rights abuses during his 17-year rule in Chile, an extradition hearing for former Chilean dictator General Augusto Pinochet has begun. Over the next five days, Magistrate Ronald Bartle of the Magistrates' Court will consider evidence for and against the extradition request for General Pinochet to face charges in Spain.

On Sunday, September 26, family, friends, and colleagues of two victims of Pinochet's murderous regime were remembered here in Washington, DC. Former Chilean Ambassador and Cabinet Minister Orlando Letelier and

United States citizen Ronni Karpen Moffitt were assassinated on September 21, 1976, by Chilean agents on the streets of Washington when Letelier's car exploded from a car bomb. Should Spain's request to extradite Pinochet to face charges of torture and murder be granted, then I hope the Letelier and Moffitt murders might be included in that trial, or that the United States government would also request extradition to try Pinochet in the United States for these two murders and the murders of other Americans in Chile.

I call upon the United States government to release all documents regarding human rights violations and the actions of the Chilean military, police, intelligence, and security agencies during the Pinochet regime, including documents regarding the role of United States agencies prior to and during the 1973 coup and during the 17-year rule of General Pinochet. I submit for the RECORD, my statement at Sunday's memorial event at Sheridan Circle commemorating the 23rd anniversary of the murders of Orlando Letelier and Ronni Moffitt.

IN MEMORY OF ORLANDO LETELIER AND RONNI
KARPEN MOFFITT

Twenty-three years ago, international terrorism exploded on the streets of our nation's capital with the brutal assassination of Orlando Letelier and Ronni Moffitt, and it changed our world forever.

As my former boss, mentor and dearest friend Senator George McGovern said from the pulpit at the funeral for Orlando and Ronni: "If Orlando Letelier must die at the age of forty-four and dear Ronni Moffitt must die at the age of twenty-five because of the unbridled power of madmen, then there is no security for any of us."

I won't try to speak as to how the world changed for the Letelier, Moffitt and Karpen families, or for the friends and colleagues of Orlando and Ronni. Their personal grief and journeys during the past two decades are private. But their public lives and advocacy have been an inspiration to all of us, including myself.

They have been tenacious in their search for the whole truth about how this heinous act took place and who was responsible.

They have lent their support and personal resources to the search for truth about other human rights crimes carried out by the Pinochet regime in Chile.

And they have enshrined the memories of Orlando Letelier and Ronni Moffitt by annually recognizing individuals and groups in the United States and throughout the world who continue the struggle for basic human rights, human dignity and social justice.

We are now at a historic moment in the search for truth and justice for the people of Chile. The effort to hold General Augusto Pinochet accountable for the crimes against humanity committee by his government and by his orders is important for the people of Chile and for those everywhere who suffer under repression. I support and salute the individuals, lawyers and jurists in Chile, Spain and the United Kingdom whose efforts have brought about the arrest, and hopefully the extradition, of General Pinochet. Human rights law and advocacy have all been strengthened by their singular dedication.

At this moment in history, when Chileans are attempting to confront and address their own past and seek justice, it is time—indeed it is past time—for the United States to open all its files on Chile. In particular, the CIA must stop blocking the declassification of Chile files and support the President's effort to release all documents.

It has been more than a quarter century since the violent military coup overthrew

the democratically elected government of Chile. Open the files, release the documents, let the light finally shine on this dark and shameful period. It will set us all free.

HINDUS ABDUCT, ABUSE NUN IN
INDIA

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I was distressed to read an article from the Indian Express of September 24 which reported that a nun was abducted in the Indian state of Bihar. This is the state where a priest was beheaded last year. Will the religious violence in India never stop?

I thank Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, for bringing this terrible event to my attention.

Sister Ruby of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary was abducted September 20 after being forced into a rickshaw in the village of Chapra. The kidnapers threatened to rape her. The two men accused Sister Ruby of trying to convert Hindus and they threatened to "teach all Christians a lesson."

This is unfortunately typical. Christians were subjected to a wave of church burnings, as well as attacks on prayer halls and schools earlier this year. Another priest was murdered last week. Missionary Graham Staines and his two sons, ages 8 and 10, were burned to death while they slept in their Jeep by a Hindu fundamentalist mob. Last year four nuns were raped and four priests were murdered. In 1997, police broke up a Christian festival with gunfire.

These incidents are related to religious conversions by members of the lower castes. To the Hindu militants, all conversions are forced conversions.

But it is not just the Christians who have suffered from this kind of religious persecution. Many of my colleagues and I have detailed the religious repression of Sikhs and Muslims by the Indian government and its agents and allies. Sikhs continue to be murdered for their religion and their Golden Temple remains under surveillance by plainclothes police officers fifteen years after the Indian government's attack on the Sikh Nation's holiest shrine. Muslims have seen their most revered mosque in India destroyed and many of their adherents killed.

We should support the right of the minority peoples of Khalistan, Kashmir, and Nagaland to a free and fair vote on independence from India.

Mr. Speaker, I insert the Indian Express report on the abduction of Sister Ruby into the RECORD.

[From the Indian Express, Sept. 24, 1999]

NUN KIDNAPPED, STRIPPED IN BIHAR; BISHOPS
PROTEST

(By Arun Srivastava)

PATNA.—A nun was kidnapped, tied up and strapped in Chapra on September 20.

The nun, belonging to the congregation of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart (better known as Pondicherry Blue Sisters), was forcefully taken in an autorickshaw by two unidentified men on Monday morning to a

secluded spot. Her hands were tied behind her back, she was stripped and was forced to drink their urine.

The nun, who hails from Pondicherry, came to Bihar recently and does not know the dialect. She is an inmate of the St. Joseph's Convent in Khalpura Inchapra which is involved in working with the poorest of the poor.

She had left her convent around 9 in the morning for Gandhi Chowk from where she took an autorickshaw for the local post office. There were two men in the autorickshaw.

When she realised that she was being taken through an unfamiliar route, she asked to be dropped off. They did not stop the vehicle and one of them took out a knife, threatened to kill her and accused her of converting people.

He asked her why she and others were still in Chapra and why they have not left for south India. He told her that Christians would be taught a lesson once the elections were over.

According to the Bishop of Bettiah, who in a statement narrated the whole incident, the nun was dragged out of the vehicle, her hands tied and then she was stripped. The two men urinated in a bottle and threatened to rape her when she refused to drink.

Later she was given back her clothes and warned not to contact anyone on the phone. One of the attackers followed to make sure that she did as told. Director General of Police A R Jacob said: "I have been briefed by the Bishop of Patna about the incident." He added: "Right now, I am unable to say anything about the incident. But I am seriously looking into it. I can assure that no one will be spared."

Jacob has assigned IG A K Gupta and the SP of Chapra to "personally investigate the matter." He has also sent to Chapra a senior woman officer who knows Tamil to investigate the incident.

The DGP said the FIR was filed only today as the local police station refused to register the case yesterday because the petition was in English. He is also looking into the delay in registering the case. The Bishop of Bettiah, Rev Victor Henry Thakur, visited the convent. The Archbishop Benedict J Osta and the Bishop of Bettiah have strongly condemned the outrageous attack and have demanded a thorough probe.

They stated that the Christians will not be frightened by such threats and will continue to serve the poor and the distressed more zealously.

Allen R Johannes, press secretary of the Diocese of Bettiah, said the ugly and inhuman act has shocked the entire Christian community in North Bihar and is creating an atmosphere of fear and panic among the Christian minority as the news spreads over the state.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, September 22, 1999, I was unavoidably detained and was not present during rollcall vote 430. Had I been present I would have voted "no."

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES
ON H.R. 1501, JUVENILE JUSTICE
REFORM ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, in the five months since the shooting of 16 innocent high-school children at Columbine High School in a suburb of Denver, Colorado, over 500 American citizens have died as a result of gun violence. What has the Republican leadership in Congress done to address this problem? Absolutely nothing. What is worse, the motion offered by Congressman JOHN DOOLITTLE does even less. This motion, which says that anything during the conference of the Juvenile Justice bill that could possibly harm the Second Amendment to the Constitution should be rejected, is a terrible motion. It is terrible because Congress should protect our neighborhoods, our police departments, and the American people. This motion does protect one group of individuals—the gun lobby. I make no apologies for standing up for our neighborhoods, our police departments, or the citizens of the 15th Congressional District of Michigan.

This motion does not protect our neighborhoods. Several Members of Congress, Republicans and Democrats alike, have offered reasonable, sane, and safe recommendations regarding gun control. The issue of guns is one that cuts across the whole of America's fabric, but it especially harms minorities and urban areas—similar to the area which I am honored to serve. By limiting the options of Members to posit real and reasonable constitutional limits to control the glut of guns in our nation, this motion makes our neighborhoods unsafe. All we are asking is that gun dealers perform background checks, that child safety locks be sold on handguns, and that former criminals be prevented from buying guns.

This motion does not protect our police departments. The Fraternal Order of Police Officers and the International Association of Police Chiefs have endorsed measures similar to the Brady law. These same organizations have both supported measures that would get rid of "cop killer bullets", assault weapons and high-powered rifles. This motion would, incredibly, not allow these measures to be considered by the conferees.

This motion does not protect the Constitution. We have all sworn to protect and defend the Constitution. It is Congress' job to make laws; it is the job of the women and men of the Supreme Court to interpret the Constitution. We do not need to establish the precedent of "pre-interpreting" the Constitution for the sake of a sound bite or political folly. This motion removes the option of interpreting the Constitution from the Judicial branch, presupposing that Members of Congress know what is best for the Constitution.

I will continue to fight for our Constitution. I will continue to protect our children, our senior citizens, our neighborhoods, our police officers. I say no to the glut of guns on our streets and to the gun lobby. I urge my colleagues to say no to the Doolittle motion.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 28, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 29

- 9 a.m.
Small Business
Business meeting to markup S. 791, to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the women's business center program. SR-428A
- 9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 1508, to provide technical and legal assistance for tribal justice systems and members of Indian tribes. SR-485
- Environment and Public Works
Business meeting to markup pending calendar business. SD-406
- Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings on biotechnology issues. SH-216
- Judiciary
Business meeting to consider pending nominations. SD-226
- Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 1501, to improve motor carrier safety. SR-253
- 2 p.m.
Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters. SH-219
- 2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the practices of the Bureau of Reclamation regarding operations and maintenance costs and contract renewals. SD-366

SEPTEMBER 30

- 9 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to review the Administration's agriculture agenda for the upcoming World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle. SR-328A
- 9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Consumer Affairs, Foreign Commerce, and Tourism Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 1130, to amend title 49, United States Code, with respect to liability of motor vehicle rental or leasing companies for the negligent operation of rented or leased motor vehicles. SR-253
- Year 2000 Technology Problem
To hold hearings to examine the global impact of Y2K technology on the transportation system. SD-192
- 10 a.m.
Judiciary
Business meeting to mark up S.J. Res. 3, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to protect the rights of crime victims. SD-226
- 10:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine issues on corruption in Russia. SD-419
- 2 p.m.
Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters. SH-219
- 2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 1457, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to assess opportunities to increase carbon storage on national forests derived from the public domain and to facilitate voluntary and accurate reporting of forest projects that reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations. SD-366
- OCTOBER 5
- 9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the Environmental Protection Agency's Blue Ribbon Panel findings on methyl tertiary-butyl ether. SD-406
- 2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 1608, to provide annual payments to the States and counties from National Forest System lands managed by the Forest Service, and the revested Oregon and California Railroad and reconveyed Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands managed predominantly by the Bureau of Land Management, for use by the counties in

which the lands are situated for the benefit of the public schools, roads, emergency and other public purposes; to encourage and provide new mechanism for cooperation between counties and the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to make necessary investments in federal lands, and reaffirm the positive connection between Federal Lands counties and Federal Lands; and for other purposes. SD-366

OCTOBER 6

- 9 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to review public policy related to biotechnology, focusing on domestic approval process, benefits of biotechnology and an emphasis on challenges facing farmers to segregation of product. SR-328A
- 9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SR-485

OCTOBER 7

- 9 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to review public policy related to biotechnology, focusing on domestic approval process, benefits of biotechnology and an emphasis on challenges facing farmers to segregation of product. SR-328A

OCTOBER 13

- 9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
SeaPower Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the force structure impacts on fleet and strategic lift operations. SR-222
- 2:30 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on numerous tax treaties and protocols. SD-419

CANCELLATIONS

SEPTEMBER 29

- 9:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-430

POSTPONEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 29

- 2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine national technical information services issues. SR-253