

Turkey. I have been encouraged by the willingness of some public leaders, such as parliamentarian Emre Kocaoglu, to acknowledge the breadth and depth of the problem. Acknowledging the existence of torture must surely be part of any effort to eradicate this abuse in Turkey.

I was therefore deeply disappointed by reports that 18 women, who at a conference last year publicly described the rape and other forms of torture meted out by police, are now facing charges of "insulting and raising suspicions about Turkish security forces." This is, of course, more than just a question of the right to free speech—a right clearly violated by these criminal charges. As one conference participant said, "I am being victimized a second time." Turkey cannot make the problem of torture go away by bringing charges against the victims of torture, by persecuting the doctors who treat torture victims, or by trying to silence the journalists, human rights activists, and even members of Turkey's own parliament who seek to shed light on this dark corner. The charges against these 18 women undermine the credibility of the Turkish Government's assertion that it is truly seeking to end the practice of torture and hope these charges will be dropped.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw attention to the case of Abner Louima in New York, whose case has come to light again in recent weeks. In 1997, Abner Louima was brutally, and horrifically tortured by police officials; he will suffer permanent injuries for the rest of his life because of the damage inflicted in a single evening. Eventually, New York City police officer Justin Volpe pleaded guilty and is serving a 30-year sentence for his crimes. Another officer was also found guilty of participating in the assault and four other officers were convicted of lying to authorities about what happened. On July 12, Abner Louima settled the civil suit he had brought against New York City and its police union.

There has been no shortage of ink to describe the \$7.125 million that New York City will pay to Mr. Louima and the unprecedented settlement by the police union, which agreed to pay an additional \$1.625 million. What is perhaps most remarkable in this case is that Mr. Louima had reached agreement on the financial terms of this settlement months ago. He spent the last 8 months of his settlement negotiations seeking changes in the procedures followed when allegations of police abuse are made.

As the Louima case illustrated, there is no OSCE participating State, even one with long democratic traditions and many safeguards in place, that is completely free from police abuse. Of course, I certainly don't want to leave the impression that the problems of all OSCE countries are more or less alike—they are not. The magnitude of the use of torture in Turkey and the use of torture as a means of political repression in Uzbekistan unfortunately distinguish those countries from others. But every OSCE participating State has an obligation to prevent and punish torture and other forms of police abuse and I believe every OSCE country should do more.

IN HONOR OF THE LAKE CITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'S 125TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the Lake City Presbyterian Church. The Lake City Presbyterian Church celebrated its 125th anniversary last month, making it the oldest church in Colorado that still utilizes its original building.

Lake City's Community Presbyterian Church, originally called Lake City's First Presbyterian Church, was started in 1876 with an organizational meeting in Del Norte, Colorado. Reverend Alexander Darley had scoured the area months before looking for Presbyterians and related religious groups to justify his idea to make Lake City the home to the first Presbyterian Church on the Western Slope of the Continental Divide. According to the church's historical record, Rev. Darley went to every house and tent within six miles of Lake City to acquire names for his petition. After the meeting in June of 1876, a piece of land was secured for the 24'x40' frame where the church was to be built. Construction began in August, and by the end of October the church was completed. The estimated cost of the church was \$2,100.

Rev. Darling was officially ordained as the minister in 1877, and served Lake City for three years before taking leave. Throughout the years, many ministers have taken the pulpit, including a tape recorder for the winter months of the 1940's and 1950's that filled in the gaps between the summer student ministers that traveled to Lake City. The membership has also fluctuated reaching a high in 1889 of 132 members to its current membership of 84. Many stories accompany the well-kept historical records of the church, and on June 24, 2001 many community members gathered to reminisce about the beautiful old church.

One hundred and twenty-five years is a milestone, and that is why Mr. Speaker, I ask Congress to recognize the oldest church in the state of Colorado. It is an honor to have that distinction, and I salute the members of the Lake City Community Presbyterian Church for continuing its lasting tradition.

THE RIM OF THE VALLEY CORRIDOR STUDY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 2715, the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act, directing the Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility of expanding the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the mountains and canyons in Southern California that are part of the Rim of the Valley Corridor designated by the State of California.

For many families, the mountains above our communities are a nearby haven to enjoy nature, a refuge from the noise and commotion

of Los Angeles. The National Park Service oversees the highly successful Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, the world's largest urban park, spanning from the mountains to the sea and protected in perpetuity by Congress in 1978. In the Santa Monica Mountains, Park Service rangers work with state and local authorities and community groups on conservation and recreation projects.

I am introducing the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act in an effort to bring back federal resources and expertise to the mountains above the San Fernando, La Crescenta, Santa Clarita, Simi and Conejo valleys as well as the famed Arroyo Seco canyon, home of Pasadena's Rose Bowl. Our mountains can and should be places where city-dwellers can easily go to enjoy such activities as hiking, camping, mountain biking, horseback riding, observing wildlife or even just to admire nature's scenic beauty, up close or afar from our communities.

The Secretary of the Interior would complete the study within one to three years, consulting an advisory committee of representatives of the Los Angeles Mayor, Los Angeles County Supervisors, Ventura County Supervisors, and City Councils of Thousand Oaks, Agoura Hills, Westlake Village, Malibu, Calabasas, Burbank, Glendale, La Canada Flintridge, Pasadena, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Santa Clarita, Moorpark, as well as others. It would then be necessary for Congress to enact subsequent legislation to implement the recommendations of the study.

I am pleased to report that this legislation has bipartisan support. With Reps. HOWARD BERMAN, DAVID DREIER, ELTON GALLEGLY, HOWARD "BUCK" MCKEON, BRAD SHERMAN and HILDA SOLIS as principal cosponsors of the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act, every Member of Congress whose district includes portions of the Rim of the Valley Corridor is supporting the legislation. It is my hope that the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act will result in an initiative creating a lasting legacy of nearby natural open space for our children—and their children—to enjoy.

WILLIAM E. LEONARD TRIBUTE—
INTERCHANGE NAMED IN HIS
HONOR

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a most exceptional California Inland Empire community leader, friend and great American—William E. Leonard—who will be recognized for his work in transportation with the upcoming dedication and grand-opening of the interchange between the 210 freeway and the 15 interstate highway.

Calvin Coolidge, America's 13th President, once said, "No person was ever honored for what he received; honor has been the reward for what he gave." And Bill Leonard has given much during his years of public and community service.

A member of the California State Highway Commission from 1973 to 1977 and the California Transportation Commission from 1985 to 1993, Bill Leonard has made a great impact