

stayed with them for a short time until her death and Alfred and his mother came to the United States. He is currently is a physician specializing in diseases of the lung and is Director of the Pulmonary Medicine Department at Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park, Maryland. He is also a past president of the American Lung Association.

Little is known about Tole Madna and Mima's religious beliefs. Madna adopted Catholicism very late in life and Mima probably was Muslim. Neither had an advanced education. Neither had any great material wealth. But both had the ability to hear and answer a human need.

They exemplified the meaning of righteousness. They were unwilling to ignore the cry of a nine month-old child.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the memory of Tole Madna and Mima Saina, two true heroes of the Holocaust. Their story is a testament to the very best in human values.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with Jews across this nation and around the world to pay tribute to those who perished at the hands of the Nazis during the Holocaust. Today in the nation's Capital, we gather to pay our respects with our Days of Remembrance ceremony. My district, the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, is home to perhaps the largest concentration of survivors in the country and certainly in the state, and this day holds deep meaning for those individuals and the entire community.

Recent events in the Middle East and around the world underscore the importance of this day. Anti-Semitic and anti-Israel rhetoric and demonstrations continue in numerous countries. And while we respect the right of every person to be heard, the hateful displays throughout the world that are directed at the Jewish people remind us that "Never Again" is not a guarantee, but a promise that we must uphold through education, dialogue, and determination. It also reminds us that we must continue to strengthen the U.S. commitment to the security of Israel. Moreover, we must redouble our efforts to bring lasting peace to the Middle East.

"Never Again" means that we must combat hate wherever it exists. We must never turn a blind eye to terror or discrimination. We must demand that our government hold those who carry out acts of needless brutality accountable.

While we must honor those who were lost during the Holocaust by carrying on and living honorable and productive lives, we must also honor them by carrying out measures to bring to justice those who were implicated and who profited from their suffering. And we must do everything within our power to provide the utmost measure of restitution for those who survived the Nazi's evil plan.

The Holocaust was the most horrific human atrocity the world saw during the last century and perhaps in the history of the planet. Millions of Jews and others were brutalized, raped, beaten, dehumanized, enslaved,

robbed, and murdered. While it is hard to grasp how terrible those events must have been, what all of our children, and us must do is to listen to the stories of those few remaining survivors of the Holocaust and ensure that their stories and their suffering are a permanent part of history.

The Holocaust was not only the worst murder case in history, but it was also the biggest exploitation and theft. Jews and others were enslaved-worked literally to death for various companies. The Nazis liquidated millions of insurance policies with the assistance of insurance companies, and millions of bank accounts were seized. I am sad to say that, to this date, there has been no restitution for the bulk of those crimes. Every year we observe Yom Ha-shoah, we are also reminded of those survivors of the Holocaust who have passed away during the previous year.

Negotiations to repay stolen assets are ongoing. But, unfortunately, the process is slow and many have been deprived of at least some measure of justice after enduring so much. Real and overdue progress on this front requires the complete cooperation of foreign governments and multinational corporations, who have yet to own up to their role in the crime of the last century. The fact that some still deny responsibility or refuse full compliance with negotiations only adds to the suffering and prolongs the justice those survivors deserve.

As members of Congress, a critical responsibility we have this year is to closely evaluate the status of efforts to gain restitution for insurance policies that were sold to victims and survivors of the Holocaust but were never paid.

There are still some 10, 000 survivors in Illinois and roughly 1 100 of them have filed claims for insurance. To my knowledge, only a handful, 14 have received offers for payments.

This is an issue that is beyond urgency. There are serious problems that need to be resolved and Congress has a responsibility to make sure that is done so that those who have lived to recall the Holocaust may also have some measure of justice and dignity paid to them while they are still alive.

We can not even attempt to repay them for the suffering and the loss. What we can do is honor holocaust victims and survivors first, by never allowing our children and future generations to forget what happened and by denouncing in the strongest of terms, rhetoric and behavior that are tainted with the reminiscence of the Nazi era.

Today we honor and mourn those who perished. We vow to live our lives in a way that pays tribute to their memory and ensures others will not suffer their fate.

MURLI DEORA ELECTED TO RAJA SABHA

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, one of the newest members Raja Sabha, the Upper House of India's national parliament is Murlı Deora, who has been one of the United States' strongest advocates and closest friends for many years. Murlı's election to the

Raja Sabha is a well deserved honor which some might say is long overdue.

Murlı has enjoyed a distinguished career as a public servant in India and throughout the world. A former mayor of Mumbai, India's largest city, Murlı served for many years in India's Lower House, the Lok Sabha, where he rose to prominence in a number of areas, including India-U.S. relations. Murlı worked tirelessly to bring the world's oldest democracy closer to the world's largest democracy. Murlı carried on this effort even when relations between our two countries grew distant during the Cold War. Because of Murlı's foresight, countless politicians and business leaders in the United States have long sought his counsel and advice on matters in India.

Mr. Speaker, as a former Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, as well as a former Co-Chairman of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans, I can attest to the generous time and energy Murlı has given to fostering ties between our two countries. I have also had the privilege of working with Murlı when he served as International President of Parliamentarians for Global Action, a worldwide inter-parliamentary organization focusing on many critical issues facing the world today. I also have watched with great interest and much pride as Murlı built a series of computer training centers in many Indian cities to provide underprivileged children with free computer education.

Mr. Speaker, for the last several years Murlı has immersed himself in the activities of the Red Cross in India, where he has served as Vice-Chairman. A legendary fund raiser, Murlı secured critical funds to bring much needed relief for the victims of the devastating earthquake which rocked Gujarat last year. His important work in India earned Murlı the second highest position at the Red Cross's international headquarters in Geneva.

Mr. Speaker, Murlı Deora's uncontested election to the Raja Sabha is a crowning achievement for a long and distinguished career in Indian politics. I am certain that all of our colleagues who are active in promoting stronger ties between the United States and India join me in extending congratulations and best wishes to Murlı and his family. I am confident that, as Murlı ascends to this important legislative body, that the citizens of India will once again benefit from his longstanding advocacy for democracy, economic development, social welfare and secularism.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO VERNIE E. ENSTROM

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to a matriarch and true friend of the Grand Junction, Colorado community. Vernie E. Enstrom recently passed away at the age of 97, and as her family mourns the loss, I would like to take this moment to bring forth her good deeds and accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation. Vernie was a remarkable woman and I am honored to tell her story.

To many Coloradans, Vernie E. Enstrom will forever be remembered as the co-founder of