

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JESUS E. GARCIA

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell the story of a very special veteran—Jesus E. Garcia who resides in Las Animas, Colorado. He served his country with great honor and courage.

Jesus E. Garcia enlisted in the United States Army in July 26, 1961. He took his basic training in Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri. He then spent some time in Germany before being assigned to Ft. Benning. Once in Georgia, he became part of the newly formed First Cavalry Airmobile Division.

Jesus was trained as an infantryman. In July 1965, his division was transferred to Vietnam. Jesus became a member of the First Cavalry Division, 3rd Brigade, 2/7 Battalion, A Company, Weapons Platoon. His Company was sent into the Ia Drang Valley on November 16, 1965, to assist with the Pleiku Campaign. A fierce battle lasting several days had been fought at the LZ Xray site. His company assisted with rescuing and wrapping up the battle, as well as the gruesome cleanup the following day. Most troops were flown out of LZ Xray. All of the 2/7th Battalion had to march to LZ Albany to be airlifted out. Jesus and his platoon were among those that marched. On November 17, 1965 the bloodiest battle of the Vietnam War was fought at LZ Albany. This intense fight cost the lives of over 200 Americans. Two days of brutal combat were then followed by two more days of an unforgettable cleanup and aftermath. The Americans had suffered heavy losses, but not as heavy as the North Vietnamese Army.

In January of 1966, his Battalion was sent to participate in Operation Masher, part of the Bong Son I Campaign. Jesus was to leave by plane with his company to arrive at their destination for the battle. At the last minute, he was taken off the plane as he had been chosen to temporarily fill in as the forward observer with another company. Jesus was requested for this assignment due to his expertise. Therefore, his commanding officer gave him the option of accepting this assignment as it was much more risky than his original orders for this battle. He chose to take the temporary assignment. He was taken off the plane and marched with this company through the jungle to their designated position. Upon his arrival, he learned the plane he was scheduled to ride in had crashed, and everyone on board was killed.

On January 29, 1977, during the battle of Bong Son I, Jesus Garcia's A Company was trying to route the NVA from a fortified trench around a small village. About 100 yards of open rice paddy separated the two lines. It was pouring rain. Repeated attempts to attack and take the position under sniper and ma-

chine gun fire had already cost several lives. As the A Company forward observer, Jesus was ahead of his fellow soldiers as they made another attempt to breach the enemy fortifications. As he advanced, he was shot in the leg; he suffered from a jagged hole in his leg and thigh. Medics were able to retrieve him and drag him back for protection. It was the next day before medical evacuation helicopters were able to retrieve him. His injury was severe and the doctors feared he might not ever walk again. After recovering from his injury in hospitals in Japan and Fitzsimons Army Hospital in Aurora, amazingly, he returned to active duty at Ft. Benning, Georgia in July 1966.

In May 1968, Jesus returned to duty in Vietnam with the 44th Medical Brigade in headquarters Company. He worked in the message center brigade headquarters. He served in this capacity until May 1969, when he returned to the United States to an assignment at Fitzsimons Army Hospital where he remained until 1972, as the Chief Clerk for a medical holding company. In 1972, he was again sent overseas to Germany to work in the Brigade Classified Section of the Headquarters Company at Stuttgart. He left Germany in 1974 and returned back to duty at Fitzsimons. In 1977, again he went overseas to serve in Korea. He was stationed in Taegue in the headquarters mailroom for one year. He returned stateside in 1978 to Ft. Carson, Colorado. He was commander of the Ft. Carson Mounted Color Guard until his retirement in December 1981, in which he received five honorable discharges.

During his military career he received the following awards and decoration: Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star; (5) Good Conduct Medals, (2) Presidential Unit Citations, National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, (2) Overseas Service Ribbons; Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon with 60 Device, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Air Medal, and Expert Rifleman Badge.

Two books have been written that deal specifically with the cavalry groups Jesus served with and the battles they fought. "Baptism" by Larry Gwinn details the author's year in Vietnam. Gwinn was Garcia's Executive Officer. The second book is entitled "We Were Soldiers Once and Young" and was written by Lt. Gen. Harold Moore and Joseph Galloway. The book is a very graphical and detailed account of LZ Xray and LZ Albany battles and is the basis for a motion picture starring Mel Gibson and Sam Elliott.

Jesus is a life-long resident of Las Animas, Colorado where he still lives with his wife Irene, of 41 years. Together they raised three sons. While providing for his family through his military career, he sacrificed a lot for his country—something he doesn't regret. He gave up his own youth, time with his family and friends, and some peace of mind.

I am proud to honor such a courageous American, husband, and father.

A TRIBUTE TO SPECIAL AGENT
JAMES F. LINDNER

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a lifetime commitment to patriotism and law and order in the United States. On November 1, 2002, Mr. James F. Lindner will retire as a Special Agent with the United States Naval Criminal Investigative Service, ending some 21 years of federal law enforcement service.

Mr. Lindner began his service to country in 1972 in the United States Army where he was assigned in the Military Police Corps. In 1981, following a brief career as a special investigator with Chase Manhattan Bank, Mr. Lindner was appointed as a Special Agent with the Naval Investigative Service, now known as the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. He embarked on a career that spanned the globe in locations such as Virginia, London, Bahrain, Puerto Rico, Germany, Rhode Island and Washington, DC.

Among his many achievements with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Special Agent Lindner will long be remembered for his contributions to its Counterintelligence (CI) Program. Under his capable leadership, Mr. Lindner negotiated the Department of the Navy CI policy dealing with Force Protection Response Groups, CI Support to Combatant Commands, CI organization within the DoN and other pivotal policy issues facing the United States Marine Corps and Director of Naval Intelligence.

While employed as a Special Agent, Mr. Lindner was selected for two significant liaison positions. He shared the wisdom of his experience as Chief, Counterintelligence Activities, European Operations, On-Site Inspection Agency (today consolidated with the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)). Mr. Lindner also held the distinction as a Naval War College appointee where he completed a Masters degree program in National Security and Strategic Studies and earned the prestigious Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff Distinguished Essay Award. While assigned to the War College, Mr. Lindner earned Honorable Mention in the B. Franklin Reinauer Defense Economics Competition.

Mr. President, in closing I wish to commend James F. Lindner for his many accomplished years of outstanding service to our country, and in particular, to the members of the Armed Services. I wish him continued success in his future endeavors and Godspeed in his retirement.

• 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.

CONGRATULATING CALIFORNIA
CITRUS MUTUAL ON THEIR 25TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate California Citrus Mutual as they celebrate their 25th anniversary.

In 1977, California Citrus Mutual, a nonprofit grower-based trade association, was envisioned by a group of citrus growers in order to form an organization for the expressed purpose of providing information, education, and advocacy to enhance per acre revenues for industry producers. Over the last quarter century, California Citrus Mutual has grown to become a respected voice within the citrus industry and a persuasive advocate for growers on local, state, and federal issues.

Their advocacy in state and federal government is second to none in the citrus industry and ranks with larger organizations in the fresh fruit and vegetable industry around the state and country. Successful issue management has become the cornerstone for California Citrus Mutual's continued growth.

Under the innovative leadership of President Joel Nelsen, California Citrus Mutual has overcome such challenges as catastrophic freezes, trade issues, pest exclusion activities, US-EPA directives, and Crop Insurance concerns.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate California Citrus Mutual on their 25th Anniversary. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing them many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING DON AND SHARON
WIEDEMAN

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Don Wiedeman and his wife, Sharon, Johnstown of Weld County, Colorado.

Mr. Wiedeman was a farmer who only wanted to raise the best corn in the country. He never thought about owning a radio station until he and his family went on vacation and decided to attend Church services in Phoenix, Arizona. He was following along in his Bible as the pastor was reading Isaiah 40. The words "go up on a high mountain" seemed to speak out him and call him to action. At the same time as this was happening, one of the pastors of the Church pointed to him and said "God just told me he has something special for you in radio." Mr. Wiedeman pondered and prayed about this unusual event and talked to some acquaintances of his who had radio knowledge. After several years of work he started a radio station in Colorado.

Wiedeman's dream is now a conservative Christian (with Hebrew roots), pro-Constitution, pro-individual rights station with many different program hosts. It is a station heard "around the world," on satellite and internet. The station has a large family of listeners who depend on it to be their "watchman on the wall," in all ways. Their program hosts report the news, not their interpretation of it. This radio station

is based on "faith, truth and freedom," according to Wiedeman.

In November, 1997, a fire silenced the station for several weeks causing their family of listeners to go into mourning. The "watchman on the wall" was no longer available for all their faithful listeners. It was a deadly silence! When the station returned to the air in January, 1998, their family of listeners rejoiced. Their "watchman" was back.

Mr. Wiedeman is a humble, Christian man who has a spiritual program to start the day for his listeners. He teaches God's word to all who will hear it.

Mrs. Wiedeman is a humble, Christian woman who is dedicated to this family of listeners, too. It is a family of listeners because everyone who gets to know others at events sponsored by the station truly become friends. Mrs. Wiedeman also hosts a radio show on Fridays.

We are thankful for Mr. Wiedeman and for all that he does for the radio station to get the message out, and Mrs. Wiedeman for her spiritual input and knowledge. The Wiedeman's have long, outstretched arms that embrace a vast number of people. Coloradans hope they are able to continue in their work for many years to come.

I ask the House to join me in commending and thanking the Wiedemans for their service to the community and to the country they love.

RECOGNIZING 20TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE HONDA MARYSVILLE
PLANT AND THE FIRST AMERICAN
PRODUCED HONDA ACCORD

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 20th anniversary of a momentous event in the history of Central Ohio and specifically, in the town of Marysville, Ohio, which is in my Congressional district.

In October of 1982, Honda auto company opened its first automobile assembly plant in the United States in the town of Marysville in Union County. Soon after, the first Honda Accord rolled off the assembly line and began a new chapter in the manufacturing history of Ohio. The construction of the extensive assembly facilities in Marysville followed the company's long-standing policy of producing products in the markets where they are sold.

For 20 years now, Honda has demonstrated its commitment to Marysville, to Ohio and to the country. In 1988, Honda produced its first car for export to Japan. By 1994, Honda produced 100,000 cars for export. In 1995, Honda was the recipient of the Ohio Governor's Exporter of the Year Award. In two years, Honda will produce more vehicles in North America than in Japan.

In 1982, Honda's 400 Marysville associates assembled 968 Accords. By the next year, 55,337 Accords came off the plant's assembly line. In 2001, an astounding 456,348 Accords and Acura TL's were shipped from Marysville. Given the \$2.3 billion investment in the Marysville facility, it is no surprise that Marysville is now the company's largest automobile plant in the United States.

This year, Honda launched the seventh-generation Accord, which has become one of the

best-selling cars in America. This coincided with the introduction of a new and more efficient manufacturing system at the Marysville plant to improve efficiency and worker safety.

Put simply, the Honda assembly plant in Marysville has become a cornerstone of Ohio's manufacturing base. In addition to providing employment for thousands of Ohioans, the Marysville plant has consistently been on the cutting edge of automobile innovation and Honda has been an outstanding corporate citizen.

As Ohio's Seventh District Representative to the Congress of the United States, I take this opportunity to publicly recognize the associates at the Marysville Honda assembly plant for reaching this important milestone, and honor the company's 20 years of commercial investment in Marysville.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DAVID C. FORDHAM
OF BARABOO, WISCONSIN

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. David C. Fordham of Baraboo, Wisconsin, who is just concluding his career of more than 37 years of federal service.

Mr. Fordham has served as Commander's Representative at the Badger Army Ammunition Plant near Baraboo since 1976, with more than 31 years of service at Badger. His early positions at Badger included supervisory chemical engineer and contracting officer's representative. His achievements and awards have been numerous, including recognition annually for nearly the last decade with the Exceptional Performance Award and his award this year of the Superior Civilian Service Award.

Prior to the closure of the Badger plant, Mr. Fordham worked tirelessly to ensure that Army industrial installation at Badger was modernized and fully prepared to meet its role as the Army's only backup source for munitions propellant and smokeless powder.

However, Mr. Fordham's impact at the Badger plant over his many years of service has gone far beyond his critical role in ensuring the plant's readiness. He also ensured numerous energy conservation improvements, significant improvements in plant safety, and the resolution of numerous complex environmental remediation issues.

In more recent years, with the Army's declaration of the Badger plant as excess, Mr. Fordham has worked closely with federal, state, and local officials, community organizations, and concerned citizens, voluntarily attending countless public meetings—often until late into the night—in an advisory capacity on issues regarding reuse and cleanup of the plant.

Mr. Fordham's deep personal relationship with the plant, its employees past and present, its history, and his concern for its future has been clearly evident as my staff and I have worked closely with him on issues regarding Badger. Shortly after I was sworn into federal office, I had the pleasure of an in-depth tour of the Badger plant led by Mr. Fordham, who shared from this unparalleled knowledge of

the plant. Again this year, despite his ill health, Mr. Fordham made it a point to brief my entire staff and me during our visit to Badger, as he highlighted issues of critical importance regarding the plant.

Since our first meeting, I have been deeply impressed by Mr. Fordham's continually increasing willingness to be of assistance that has far exceeded the requirements of his official duties, including his work to identify and prepare for the remediation of numerous sites on the Badger plant.

Dave Fordham has played multiple crucial roles at Badger and in the surrounding community, and his impact will be left for generations to come.

It has been an honor and a privilege to work with Dave Fordham. On behalf of a grateful nation, I offer him our gratitude for his accomplishments, his service, and his unwavering commitment to duty and community.

I appreciate the opportunity to recognize and commend Mr. David Fordham here today.

TRIBUTE TO MOTHER TERESA

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mother Teresa whose blessed soul entered Heaven September 5, 1997, at the age of 87. She had been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor just a few months earlier, blessing these hallowed halls with her presence.

Mother Teresa's death is a loss to those she worked with and cared for, the leaders who met her, all who were inspired by the humble nun so full of love. Her life however, was the greater inspiration and the reason she will be celebrated in perpetuity. She was light, hope, strength, and courage, possessing a full heart endowed by God which transcended the temporal world.

Mother Teresa was born into an Albanian, Roman Catholic family in the Macedonian city of Skopje as Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu on August 27, 1910.

At age 18 she joined the Iris order of the Sisters of Loretto. A year later, Mother Teresa was sent by the Sisters of Loretto to Calcutta, India to teach geography at St. Mary's High School. In 1946, on a train to Darjeeling, Mother Teresa received a calling from God to leave the covenant walls and go into the streets, helping the poor while living amongst them.

Heeding the call, Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity in 1950, an order emphasizing strict personal austerity and dedicated to the service of the poor. Today, this ministry extends to 120 countries with 568 houses dedicated to the unwanted, the unclothed, and the unfed. In Calcutta alone, she and her sisters have provided for the successful adoption of 8,000 children.

Mother Teresa was selected as a recipient of the first Pope John XXIII Peace Prize in 1971. In 1979, Mother Teresa accepted the Nobel Peace Prize in the name of the poor, using the award to build more hospices. She was awarded the prestigious Congressional Gold Medal in June 1997. Her only request of Congress was for prayer; "that we continue God's work with beautiful and with great love."

Mother Teresa is now destined to sainthood. In 1999, the Pope waived the five-year waiting period for opening the process toward her final canonization. This testifies to the Vatican's certainty of the holiness Mother Teresa embodied as Jesus Christ's disciple and servant, and her obedience to the Blessed Mother. In September of 2002, the Vatican Congregation for the Causes of Saints approved her "heroic virtues." The Vatican also recognizes a 1998 miracle in October of 2002. After one more approved miracle, Mother Teresa will have reached canonization, the final stage of sainthood where two distinctly different miracles must be attested to and proved. It is then Mother Teresa's soul will be officially declared to be among the angels in heaven.

Mother Teresa lived a life of service, one her admirers can only hope to emulate and we should strive to follow. I consider it an honor to have met this incredible saint and witnessed her works. Her humility and love were true gifts of God.

HONORING DR. EDWARD J. HANSBERRY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the memory of a truly great educator, Dr. Edward J. Hansberry. Dr. Hansberry passed away on October 26th. He left behind a legacy of outstanding contributions to the field of education.

Edward Hansberry devoted his life to brining knowledge to students. He took the command given in Psalm 78: "He gave his decrees to Jacob, and established a law for Israel, which he commanded them to teach their children;" and put those words into action. He was committed to the ideal that all students could achieve their goals with the right encouragement and direction. From his beginning experience as a teacher in 1963 at the Rock Island Elementary School in Broward County Florida, Edward Hansberry worked tirelessly to inspire young minds with a desire to learn. He was zealous throughout his career as a teacher and administrator. I valued his wisdom and was privileged to have had Dr. Hansberry testify before my Early Childhood Subcommittee regarding Title I. He shared with us his expertise and insight.

The awards and recognition Dr. Hansberry received during his life were numerous. He authored several articles and publications on the educational system. He was seeking solutions to the problems faced by children in the early grades when he was struck down by illness. As a former educator, I know first hand the challenging and the joy of watching a struggling student understand an idea. It is an achievement unparalleled and Dr. Hansberry was a witness to that joy during his lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, our country has lost a valuable, vital voice with his passing. He was a kind, thoughtful man, always considerate of others, charitable to individuals and respectful of their ideas. I admired his determination to provide the best for the students in his care.

SPECIAL JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I rise to introduce statements delivered in connection with the Special Joint Session of Congress convened in New York City on September 6, 2002.

In commemoration of the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, a Special Joint Session of the Congress convened at Federal Hall in the City of New York—the location of the first meeting of Congress in 1789.

At the conclusion of this historic session, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg hosted a luncheon for members of Congress and many other national and community leaders, as a gesture of thanks from the City of New York for all of the help that it received in recovering from the attacks.

I believe that the nature and occasion of the event necessitates its inclusion in this commemorative document so that, along with the events at the Special Joint Session, it can be recorded for posterity.

The attendees heard from the Mayor, the Governor of New York, George Pataki, Senate Majority Leader, TOM DASCHLE, Minority Leader, TRENT LOTT, Speaker of the House, DENNIS HASTERT, House Minority Leader GEPHARDT, and Mrs. Susan Magazine, Assistant Commissioner of the Family Assistance Unit of the Fire Department of New York City. As the Dean of the New York State Delegation, I also addressed those in attendance.

Mayor Bloomberg: Ladies and gentlemen, I'm Mike Bloomberg, and I'm pleased to be the mayor of the city of New York. Thank you.

There is an expression that you will hear in New York frequently at this time of the year that you may or may not be familiar with. It sounds like "chana tova," which means "happy new year." And for those of you that care, happy new year. (Applause)

Speaker Hastert, Majority Leader Daschle, Minority Leader Gephardt, Minority Leader Lott, distinguished members of Congress, including the dean of New York state's delegation, the Honorable Charles Rangel . . . (Applause) . . . and our two great members of the upper chamber, Senators Schumer and Clinton . . . (Applause) . . . good afternoon. I am delighted to welcome you to New York for this truly historic occasion.

Today, we hearken back to the early days of our republic, when the first Congress convened in New York and George Washington was inaugurated as our president. Many of our founding fathers lived in New York in those days, including Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, John Hancock and others. So many others, in fact, that the painter of "The Declaration of Independence," the famous canvas that hangs in the Capitol Rotunda, had to move to New York to finish his work.

It's often been pointed out that the decision Congress made to move the capital from New York to a new site on the banks of the Potomac, in effect, gave the U.S. two capitals. We now have one capital in Washington, DC, for the government, and one here, for business and culture. Rather than feel slighted, New York has always embraced its role.

Today's joint session, for however briefly, made New York the nation's capital once again. But now we'll just have to revert to our regular status: as capital of the free world. (Applause)

I would like to acknowledge an institution, first, without which this day just would not have been possible, the Annenberg Foundation.

The foundation generously donated \$1 million to cover all the travel, food and security expenses associated with today's wonderful show of support for freedom. (Applause)

We are blessed to have with us today, from Pennsylvania and from California, Lee Annenberg.

Would you please stand and let us say thank you? (Applause)

Congress's decision to return to New York symbolically closes a circle at a crucial time in our history. It brings Congress back to its first home, if only for one day, to send a message to the nation and the entire world: The spirit of this city and the spirit of this country remains unshaken. (applause)

We are as united today as we were when the first congress met in Lower Manhattan more than 200 years ago, because our commitment to freedom has never been stronger. (Applause) As a nation, and as a city, we've learned a lot about ourselves on September 11th, when the unimaginable became a reality. What happened down the street from here wasn't just an assault on New York, it was an attack on our nation and on all freedom-loving people around the world.

That day, as the world watched, our rescue teams battled the smoke and the chaos. It didn't matter whether you came from Astoria or Atlanta or Australia, from Queens or Kansas or Kenya, New York was everybody's home town that day.

The stakes for our nation were raised. Someone placed a big bet that they could destroy New York, a city that has contributed immeasurably to building the greatest democracy on Earth. This city has responded. This nation has responded. America is a nation founded on a particular set of ideas: the right to express yourself as you see fit, the right to worship God in your own way, the right to live without fear.

What happened on September 11th was not only an attack on our people, but on those freedoms and our basic way of life. And all Americans understand that.

New Yorkers recognize that we would not have made it through the darkest days in our city's history without our nation's help. It poured in from around the country in the form of food, equipment and volunteers, and through emotional and moral support beyond value. And I want all Americans to understand that we know you were there for us when we needed you and we will be there for you if you ever need us. (Applause)

Congress has also stood with us. More than we ever had a right to expect, you helped and are continuing to help New York to rebuild and recover. And on behalf of all New Yorkers, it is my honor to say, "Thank you." (Applause)

As you know, our work is not done yet, not by any means. But the recovery that began on 9/11 and the work we've done since simply could not have happened without your support. And let me also convey our appreciation to President Bush for his courageous leadership in a time of crisis, for coming to New York to share our grief and to share our determination to not just endure the tragedy visited upon us, but to emerge stronger from the events of September 11th. (applause)

I am pleased to report that, with your help, we have made triumphant progress since that day. Because of remarkable bipartisan cooperation among all levels of government, labor and the private sector, we finished the

recovery work at the World Trade Center site ahead of schedule, under budget, and with no additional loss of life. (Applause)

This while the search for the remains of our loved ones went forward with dignity and honor. We created a temporary memorial in Battery Park, where the Sphere sculpture from the World Trade Center Plaza now sits. Next Wednesday, during the one-year commemoration of that fateful day, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan and our secretary of state, Colin Powell, along with the heads of state from around the world, will join a ceremony there. At that observance, an eternal flame will be lighted near the base of the sphere in honor of those we lost, and to show that democracy and freedom will always endure. (Applause) We also honor those we lost by building a better city for the future. With Congress's help, we are doing just that.

Largely due to an economic incentive program which you have funded, many companies that were displaced plan to rejoin those, such as American Express, Merrill Lynch and Dow Jones, that have already moved back and made long-term commitments to staying in Lower Manhattan.

Because of a residential incentive program you have funded and because Lower Manhattan is a great place to live, more than 90 percent of the housing in Lower Manhattan is currently occupied. And the federally funded liberty bonds program will spur billions of dollars in construction in Lower Manhattan for new commercial spaces and housing.

The federal, state and local governments have forged a genuine partnership to revive Lower Manhattan and to rebuild our essential transportation, telecommunications and energy structures. Just last month, FEMA granted us unprecedented flexibility to spend federal funds to create a transportation center for the 21st century that will make Lower Manhattan more accessible than ever.

The future of Lower Manhattan is promising, as is the future of all New York City and indeed of the entire country. Here, our city continues to be the safest large city in the nation.

We have committed increased resources to combat the new threats we now face from enemies foreign and domestic. We've strengthened our counterterrorism and intelligence operations. And as they take on new burdens, our police department continues to drive crime down.

New York has no intention of relinquishing its title of capital of the free world. (Applause) New York is a city of big ideas, big projects and big events, and that will never change. For example, in the year since the September 11th attack, New York City has been host to a World Series, the New York City Marathon, the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, New Year's Eve celebration in Times Square, where I was inaugurated, the World Economic Forum, a new international film festival, the Fourth of July fireworks spectacular telecast nationally, the U.S. Tennis Open currently going on, and last night's Times Square kick-off of the NFL season, where I met Jon Bon Jovi. (Laughter) (Applause) We even held a world-class grand prix bicycle race right here on Wall Street this summer.

Since we're not the type to rest on our laurels, we are trying to convince both the Republican and Democratic National Committees to hold both conventions here in the year 2004. (Applause)

As a matter of fact, this joint session is a perfect opportunity to go after both at the same time. How bipartisan can you be? (Laughter)

We are also pursuing a Super Bowl and the 2012 Summer Olympics. (Applause) I see Nancy Pelosi is here from our fellow Olympic

finalist San Francisco: Do you want me to arm-wrestle for it, Nancy? (Laughter)

I better start training though. After all, Nancy, you are the minority whip, so. But that's just the kind of ambition you'd expect of this city. And, if anything, 9/11 has made us even more committed to demonstrating the energy and vibrant cultural life of our city. We will create a memorial on the site of the World Trade Center that everyone can be proud of; a memorial that not only honors those that were taken, but reaffirms the values that triumphed on that day and the days after.

In our actions, in our passion, we can do great things and show that we not allow our lives to be ruled by fear, and be guided by the very principles of democracy which you the Congress represent and which the terrorists found so threatening.

When you look at New York today, when you look at the city where people from all parts of the world live next to each other, where more than 120 different languages are spoken and where virtually every religion in the world is practiced, you realize what makes America and what makes New York great. We thrive because of our diversity, because of our respect for one another and because a free society is a strong society.

In conclusion, let me recall what our president said about that September morning. He described it as a battle between fear and freedom.

By convening in our city, you, the U.S. Congress, have demonstrated to all New Yorkers and all the world that fear can never prevail as long as freedom is strong.

Thank you very much. (Applause) Thank you. Thank you. Please be seated.

One of our founding fathers, an eminent New Yorker, Alexander Hamilton, wrote in "The Federalist Papers" that quote, "Energy in the executive is a leading character in the definition of good government."

New York state is fortunate to have an energetic chief executive, who has wisely and skillfully guided our city and state through the crisis created by the attack of 9/11.

Our next speaker is the great governor of the wonderful state of New York, the Honorable George E. Pataki. (Applause)

Governor Pataki: Thank you very much, Mayor Bloomberg. And thank you for those inspiring words on behalf of the people of New York City.

To Speaker Hastert, Leader Daschle, Leader Gephardt, Leader Lott, ladies and gentlemen of the 107th Congress, welcome to the greatest city in the world. (Applause)

It's been 212 years since Congress last gathered here, only blocks away from where we're assembled right now. It was here that America's first Congress met, here that George Washington took the oath of office and here that the Bill of Rights was ratified, protecting the freedoms of American citizens. So it is altogether fitting that you, the men and women of the 107th Congress, have returned here to affirm once more our nation's commitment to preserving those freedoms from those who would seek to destroy them.

We meet nearly one year after the worst terrorist attack ever launched against the United States. Our nation is 226 years old, but the vigilance needed to preserve our liberty and to protect our democracy must be eternal.

It was in this spirit, fueled by our love for America and our reverence for freedom, that New Yorkers responded in the early morning hours of September 11th. And in times of crisis, there are no stronger people than the people of New York. Police officers, firefighters, court officers, port authority officers, EMTs, construction workers, volunteers and citizens from all backgrounds

rushed to the scene in a demonstration of extraordinary courage and sacrifice. We met adversity with resolve. We answered terror with strength. We responded to evil with good. We defeated hatred with tolerance.

Your assembling here today sends a powerful message to the people of the world, to our allies and to our enemies. Inspired by the strength, perseverance and compassion of our heroes and the people across America, our unity and our resolve has only grown stronger. We will remember. We will rebuild. And we will move forward with the unity and confidence of a free people.

Our sadness from the images of destruction and our memories of those we lost on September 11th will forever be embedded in our minds. Yet when we look back on that fateful day, we will look back not just in sadness, but also with pride, in the actions of New Yorkers and of Americans across this great land, who stepped forward in our cities in our nation's hour of adversity.

And to President Bush, and to this united Congress, you stepped forward for New York and for America, helping families and helping this city to recover, to rebuild and to reclaim its destiny.

You came to ground zero. You saw the destruction. And like so many other Americans, you responded and did your part. On behalf of all New Yorkers, I'd like to say thank you. (Applause)

Freedom is our legacy and our inalienable right as citizens of this great nation. It is our heritage. It is our birthright that was established here by the first Congress 212 years ago, and then reaffirmed today by this Congress 212 years later. Your presence here today means a great deal to all Americans, but especially to New Yorkers. It shows we have not forgotten, nor will future generations of America forget.

A century from now, they will know that the terrorists failed. They will know that in the face of destruction—we faced destruction with determination. We turned despair into hope. And we turned tragedy into triumph. We are united in our fight against terror. And in our defense of freedom, we are vigilant, we are strong, we are New Yorkers, we are Americans. Thank you. God bless New York. And God bless the United States of America. Thank you. (Applause)

Mayor Bloomberg: Fourteen days after September 11th, New York's newspaper, The Daily News, first proposed New York's hosting of a joint congressional session. It wrote that such a session would be a symbol, quote, "of unity, strength and resolve such as the world has never seen." Now I would like to introduce the earliest governmental champion of that idea, the dean of New York's congressional delegation, Charlie Rangel. (Applause)

CONGRATULATING THE ARCADIA,
CALIFORNIA ROTARY CLUB ON
ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure and pride that I call upon my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in extending congratulations to the Arcadia, California Rotary Club on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary. The members of the club have truly lived up to their motto, "Service Above Self." and I am proud to have this opportunity to express appreciation for

myself and the residents of the 28th Congressional District of California for the many benefits that our community has derived from their good works. Indeed, the members of the Arcadia Rotary Club have been a model of excellence as to what a few can do for the benefit of all.

The members of the Arcadia Rotary Club go about their volunteer activities quietly, without fanfare, and their accomplishments are oftentimes not given the full recognition that they so richly deserve. I am, therefore, happy to make these remarks a part of the public record.

Chartered on October 27, 1927, the Arcadia Rotary Club began their first organized effort in the community by working with crippled children. They later pioneered the establishment of Arcadia Methodist Hospital of Southern California and remain strong supporters of this hospital today. The Club sponsored a Boy Scout Troop in 1929 and formed a student loan fund for needy students who wanted to complete their education. Many students needed help to stay in school during the Depression. They also established a scholarship fund to encourage high school students to complete their education. Members constructed Youth Huts on the playgrounds of several local schools—donating both dollars and labor.

While I cannot list all the ways in which the members of the Arcadia Rotary Club have served others over the years, I can list a few: The Club has helped build an orphanage in Mexico, and constructed many buildings at Camp Trask, the Boy Scout facility in the mountains above Monrovia, California. They have donated money for a water well in Africa. The Club honors outstanding middle school and high school students in the Arcadia Unified School District. The Arcadia Rotary Club donated money to rebuild a school in France shortly after World War II. They have run a Junior Achievement program at the Alternative High School in Arcadia that was named the outstanding Junior Achievement Program in Southern California for the year 1995. Each year, the Arcadia Rotary Club sponsors and serves a luncheon for the senior citizens of Arcadia. Over the years, they have planted trees and shrubbery at the L.A. County Arboretum. The Club has been a generous contributor to Rotary International's program to eradicate polio throughout the world.

Arcadia Rotary Club will continue to serve the community in many of the same ways and look for new opportunities to be of service to others for decades to come.

TRIBUTE TO TATYANA
VELIKANOVA

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, there are certain times in our lives when we do well to pause, reflect upon, and honor those outstanding persons who have fought, at great personal sacrifice, to make a real difference in the never-ending struggle around the world for basic human rights. Now is one of those special times for sure.

On September 21 of this year one of the greatest heroines in the long fight against the

horrible human terrors of the Soviet Union died in Moscow after a battle with cancer at age seventy. Tatyana Velikanova was a leading champion of the Soviet-era dissident movement. She was described by Andrei Sakharov, the 1975 Noble Peace Prize winner, as an "embodiment of the . . . purity and strength of the Soviet human rights movement."

Andrei Sakharov lauded Ms. Velikanova in a statement written during his own banishment from Moscow for her dedication to the cause of the oppressed, regardless of whether she agreed with their views. "Her only consideration was whether someone had suffered injustice," he wrote.

"She was a symbol of the human rights movement," said Sergei Kovalyov in an Associated Press story about her death. Kovalyov, a prominent dissident who worked alongside Ms. Velikanova, described her as "absolutely reliable, a crystalline honest person." Kovalyov regards Andrei Sakharov and Tatyana Velikanova as the brightest representatives of the Soviet human rights movement.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the amazing life of Tatyana Velikanova. Freedom-loving people everywhere join us in honoring her life, her commitment, her courage, her dedication and her long struggle to tell the world the truth about the unbelievable human rights abuses perpetrated throughout the Soviet Union for so many long years including those in the country of my heritage, Ukraine.

Marjorie Farquharson, a writer on human rights issues, wrote in a recent article published by Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. "The death on 21 September this year of Tatyana Velikanova, the editor of 'Khronika tekushchykh sobytiy' ('A Chronicle of Current Events'), draws a line under the most remarkable publishing venture of the Soviet era."

Tatyana Velikanova was arrested in 1979 on charges of "anti-Soviet propaganda," and received a nine-year sentence, serving four years in prison camp before being exiled to a desolate part of Kazakhstan.

Mr. Speaker, according to Mr. E. Morgan William, a personal friend of mine and an expert on Eastern European affairs, "all those around the world today who love and support the cause of human rights and basic human freedom owe a debt to Tatyana Velikanova. Her life and the cause she fought for must not be forgotten." Mr. Williams' personal appreciation of Velikanova has motivated him to articulate the magnitude of her legacy on a mass scale. In fact, these very remarks are inspired by his passion for liberty and his devotion to Velikanova's cause for human dignity.

Williams is right to suggest the conflict is ongoing and the champions of freedom continue where Velikanova's efforts have ended. "The fight for basic human rights still goes on today," Williams told me. "We must step up the long struggle against those who crush the human spirit and deny people their basic human rights."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me now in offering the prayers and supplications of a thankful nation to the Almighty God of our country for life and works of His servant, Tatyana Velikanova. May her soul and all souls of the faithfully departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in eternal peace.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for the RECORD, three published accounts of Tatyana Velikanova's life. This submission is particularly important because of the constrained

press that still exist throughout the former Soviet Union. Even today, those whose freedom was advanced by the sacrifice of Velikanova are least likely to be exposed to stories like these that document her courage.

[From the New York Times, Oct. 17, 2002]

TATYANA VELIKANOVA, SOVIET HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST, DIES AT AGE 70

(By Sophia Kishkovksy)

MOSCOW, Oct. 14.—Tatyana M. Velikanova, a Soviet human rights activist who was a leading editor of the most important samizdat journal of human rights abuses and spent nearly nine years in prison camp and exile, died of cancer on Sept. 19. She was 70 and lived in Moscow.

Ms. Velikanova, a mathematician by profession, became a dissident in 1968, when she went to Red Square with her husband, Konstantin Babitsky, who was one of only seven people to demonstrate openly against the Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia that crushed the Prague Spring reforms.

Mr. Babitsky was arrested and banished for several years to the far north of Russia. The next year, Ms. Velikanova helped found the Initiative Group for the Defense of Human Rights in the U.S.S.R., and became the backbone of the Chronicle of Current Events, a samizdat news bulletin, after the arrest of its founder, Natalya Gorbanevskaya. The chronicle was the main uncensored source of information about the dissident movement around the Soviet Union during the rule of Leonid I. Brezhnev.

At a time when photocopying machines were rare and kept literally under lock and key in Soviet offices, the compilers of the chronicle gathered information and then produced multiple copies by typing through layers of carbon paper.

The chronicle was written in a dry, telegraphic style, and defended all repressed groups, from Pentecostal believers to Jewish refuseniks, Russian Orthodox priests, Georgian nationalists, deported Crimean Tatars, and intellectuals and religious believers in the Baltic republics.

Ms. Velikanova herself was an observant Orthodox Christian.

She was arrested in 1979 on charges of "anti-Soviet propaganda," and a report in the Chronicle around that time detailed official questioning of her sister about her ties to the West, as well as the interrogator's relaying his prisoner's request for a Bible and photographs of her grandchildren.

Ms. Velikanova received a nine-year sentence, serving four years in prison camp and then being exiled to a desolate part of Kazakhstan.

In a statement written during his own banishment from Moscow to the city of Gor'kiy (now Nizhny Novgorod), Andrei D. Sakharov lauded Ms. Velikanova for her dedication to the cause of the oppressed, regardless of whether she agreed with their views. "Her only consideration was whether someone had suffered injustice," he wrote.

During the reforms of Mikhail S. Gorbachev, Ms. Velikanova was allowed to return to Moscow before her nine-year term was fully served. In her final years, she lived out of the public eye, teaching math and Russian language and literature at a Moscow school until just months before her death.

She is survived by three children, Natalie Babitsky of France, Fyodor Babitsky of Moscow and Yulia Keidan of Italy; 13 grandchildren; two brothers, Andrew Velihan of Northport, N.Y., and Kirill Velikanov of Moscow; and two sisters, Yekaterina Velikanova of Moscow and Mary Velihan Grigorenko of New York City.

[From the Boston Globe, Oct. 18, 2002]

TATYANA VELIKANOVA, LEADING SOVIET-ERA DISSIDENT, DIES AT AGE 70

MOSCOW.—Tatyana Velikanova, a leading member of the Soviet-era dissident movement who was arrested and jailed for chronicling human rights abuses by the authorities, has died in Moscow of cancer. She was 70.

"She was a symbol of the human rights movement," Sergei Kovalyov, a prominent dissident also persecuted by the authorities, said yesterday. Ms. Velikanova, a mathematician, first defied the authorities in 1968, when she appeared in Red Square with her husband and six other people to protest the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. After her husband, Konstantin Babitsky, was arrested, Ms. Velikanova became an active participant in the dissident movement.

In 1969, Ms. Velikanova helped found the Initiative Group for the Defense of Human Rights and later played a leading role in publishing the Chronicle of Current Events, a samizdat, or self-published bulletin reporting human rights abuses by the authorities and news about the dissident movement. The Chronicle was the cornerstone of the dissident movement for many years.

"She was absolutely reliable, a crystalline honest person," said Kovalyov, who worked on the Chronicle alongside Ms. Velikanova until his arrest in 1974. "For me, [Andrei] Sakharov and Velikanova were the brightest representatives of the Soviet human rights movement."

Sakharov, who won the 1975 Nobel Peace Prize for his human rights activities, once hailed Ms. Velikanova as an "embodiment of the . . . purity and strength of the Soviet Union's human rights movement."

Following years of harassment by the authorities, Ms. Velikanova was arrested in 1979 and sentenced to four years in a prison camp and five years of exile in the steppes of western Kazakhstan. She was pardoned by the government in 1987 as part of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms, but she refused to return to Moscow for another half-year.

For the past decade, Ms. Velikanova taught in Moscow.

[From Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Oct. 16, 2002]

HONORING A SAMIZDAT PIONEER—THE AMAZING LIFE OF TATYANA VELIKANOVA

(By Marjorie Farquharson)

The death on 21 September this year of Tatyana Velikanova, the editor of "Khronika tekushchikh sobytii" ("A Chronicle of Current Events"), draws a line under the most remarkable publishing venture of the Soviet era.

Although it concentrated on reporting the here-and-now, "Khronika" actually reached far into the future. Some of the issues it highlighted have not been resolved even today.

"Khronika" gave an uncensored account of what was going on in the Soviet Union, and thus prefigured the events of the late 1980s that so surprised the world in a way that "Izvestiya" never could. Before then-Communist Party General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev launched his policy of "glasnost" in the late 1980s, you could scour the official press in vain for indications of nationalism in Georgia or Ukraine. By contrast, the pages of "Khronika" traced the lives of some individuals who later became the first to head their republics as independent states, and others who became Nobel laureates or members of the new Russian government.

"Khronika" was the only samizdat journal devoted to human rights issues (Article 19 of

the UN civil rights covenant was its masthead) throughout the Soviet Union and it ran for 14 years—longer than almost any other. It began as a brief record of what happened to the seven people who demonstrated in Red Square against the invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968, among them Velikanova's husband Konstantin Babitskii. By the time the authorities finally suppressed the publication in 1983, it had regular rubrics on emigration, religion, nationalities, psychiatry, prisoners, and the media.

Compared with the websites available now, the legal fragments in "Khronika" look like shards of ancient pottery. In the chronicle's day through, Soviet readers had no right to see the laws that governed them, and what was not expressly permitted was wisest assumed forbidden. "Khronika" published whatever secret decrees came its way, some with enormous implications for human rights—such as instructions of forcible psychiatric confinement from 1972, residency restrictions on ex-offenders, and rules on prison punishments. It was not until the USSR had collapsed that the new 1991 Russian Constitution included the idea that laws must be accessible to the public if they are to be legal.

Journalists in democracies have a duty to impart information, not merely the right to do so, according to international standards accepted by Russia in 1998 and by those other ex-Soviet republics that have been accepted into the Council of Europe. "Khronika" chose to write in that same spirit 34 years ago, but under the constraints of Soviet censorship. An early issue advises: "Our journal is by no means illegal, but the peculiar notion of freedom of information that has been bred over many years in Soviet institutions prevents us from putting a return address on the back page. If you want the public to know what is going on in the country, give you information to the person who gave you 'Khronika,' and they will pass it on to the person who gave it to them. Only don't try to follow the trail to the end or people will take you for an informer."

In 1979 that trail led to Velikanova and her arrest, but by then it had evidently become a long and intricate one. (Soon afterward a Pentecostalist living 11 time zones away in the Pacific town of Nakhodka was questioned about Velikanova's case.) Well-versed in political trials, Velikanova took no part in the investigation of her own case, refused a defense lawyer, and did not appeal against her nine-year sentence in 1980 for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda"—her only response to the verdict being "The farce is over." She served four years in a Mordovian labor camp, then was exiled to a camel station in Kazakhstan where she worked as a bookkeeper. The first information about women political prisoners and their conditions emerged when she was in Mordovia.

"Khronika" did not anticipate the explosion in information technology that has ripped through the world since 1990, carrying the Russian Federation with it. The chroniclers were caught in an era when Soviet typewriters were identifiable by their registration numbers, photocopiers did not exist, and no one had dreamt of a fax or electronic mail. Velikanova took enormous risks as editor of "Khronika." Apart from the constant danger of arrest, there were the problems of protecting sources, distributing material to trusted people and guarding against fake information supplied by the KGB to discredit the journal. Contributors too took risks. How did they know the journal would represent them fairly? And protect their identity when needed?

The continual growth in the chronicle's depth and scope is a counterpoint to Velikanova's own integrity and skill. From

the first issue to the last, the same neutral and unassuming voice speaks through its pages—a voice that must have been very close to her own.

“Khronika” foreshadowed many changes, but two causes it espoused have not been resolved. The Meskhetians and the Crimean Tartars, who were expelled from their homes by Stalin during World War II still struggle for full civil rights. The Tartars feature in the chronicle’s earliest issues. Their leader,

Mustafa Dzhemilev, was a member of the Initiative Group for the Defense of Human Rights set up by Velikanova and her fellow “Khronika” founder Sergei Kovalev and Tatyana Khodorovich in 1969.

Until she was sacked from the Academy of Sciences in 1977 and began work as a cleaner in a children’s hospital, Velikanova engaged in mathematical research. After her release in 1987, she united her two great loves and became a mathematics teacher in a Moscow

school, where she still worked at the time of her death at 71. She was shy in public, and in the 1990s never became known as a magnet for the foreign media and financiers. A complete set of her edited works survives her, however. “A Chronicle of Current Events” is available in Russian on the website of the human rights group Memorial (<http://www.memo.ru>) and in English from Amnesty International.