

witness, the chair of Tel Aviv University's Jewish history department, to contest some of our commission's findings and the plaintiffs' more sensational allegations.

Even if the Hungarian Gold Train case is questionable on legal grounds, and even though some of the facts remain contested, the moral claim by the survivors that their assets were not returned is solid. What, then, should be done now?

For starters, the mindset of the Bush administration's Justice Department must change. We must hold ourselves to the same rigorous moral and historical accountability to which we have held foreign governments and their corporations. This was the basic argument made by a bipartisan group of 17 senators, including Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York and Trent Lott of Mississippi, in a recent letter to Attorney General John Ashcroft.

As reported in these pages two weeks ago, U.S. Federal Judge Patricia Seitz granted part of the Justice Department's motion to dismiss the Hungarian Gold Train case, but denied other parts and has ordered the United States to submit to mediation. The Justice Department should now take the opportunity to allow the mediator to review all the records and documents and to weigh the contested facts, including the amount of Hungarian Jewish assets that was actually on the Gold Train.

Of course, it will be almost impossible for survivors to identify individual items that were confiscated from them and to determine which items made their way onto the Gold Train. That is why the Bush administration should apply the same "rough justice" concepts we used in negotiating with the Germans, Austrians, Swiss and French—this time, for the benefit of Hungarian Jewish survivors in the United States, Israel and Hungary.

After all, it was no easier for slave and forced laborers of German and Austrian companies to identify their employers. Yet German and Austrian corporations and their respective governments met their responsibility and paid billions of dollars to survivors, Jews and non-Jews alike. The French government likewise faced its moral responsibility to those victimized by Vichy France.

Justice would be served if the mediator appointed by Seitz was permitted to make a recommendation to the parties, Congress held a hearing on the mediator's findings and on competing allegations, and President Bush asked Congress for a reasonable lump sum payment to be allocated on a per capita basis to living Hungarian Holocaust survivors who file an affidavit identifying their moveable property that was taken in April 1944 by the pro-Nazi regime.

Obviously, the American government is only responsible for what it seized on the Gold Train and failed to return. And the amount should reflect that some of the assets were sold for the benefit of Holocaust survivors in the United States, a small number of whom were Hungarian Jews. The amount, however, is less important than establishing the principle that the United States will hold itself to the same standard to which we have held others.

And importantly, a simple, straightforward apology should accompany the payments for what was likely a singular deviation from the otherwise sterling conduct of the American military after World War II. The United States will then be in a stronger position to continue to urge other countries to meet their responsibilities—and we will have proved that when the shoe is on our foot, we can wear it.

TRIBUTE TO SENIORS DAY

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the first annual Tribute to Seniors Day to be hosted by the Waldo County YMCA in the City of Belfast, Maine.

The focus of this important day is to honor the seniors of Waldo County and their dedication to their community and their families. This event will give important recognition to our seniors, and will include a health fair and other events and activities that will provide useful social services information.

Tribute to Seniors Day will be a fitting salute to a group that over the years has persevered and seen our country through hard and trying times, including those of the Greatest Generation who lived through the Great Depression and a World War. They were forged in the toughest trials of this century, and they remain community leaders to this day.

While the struggles this generation has faced over the years have changed, today the important fight is for affordable health care and prescription drugs, and our seniors are leading the charge. There is no greater gift of gratitude that we can give to our seniors than to join them in this fight and improve Medicare in order to make prescription drugs affordable for all.

I am certain that this event will be a resounding success for years to come and will provide other areas with a model through which to recognize the lifelong dedication and service provided by local seniors. I encourage everyone in Waldo County to attend this important event and lend their support for their friends and family as we celebrate Tribute to Seniors Day.

To our seniors who have lived through and experienced so much, and who still remain pillars of our community, I salute you.

MEMORIALIZING ROBERT MASAHIRO YOSHIKAWA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and contributions of Mr. Robert Masahiro Yoshikawa who recently passed away. He was a pillar of the community and a personal friend of mine. Mr. Yoshikawa made an immeasurable impact on all those around him through his career, his volunteer work, and his devotion to family. His tireless efforts improved the lives of countless people in his community.

I met Robert Yoshikawa many years ago when we were both students at San Jose State University. From that moment on, he continually amazed me with his unwavering selflessness and his extraordinary dedication to the community. Throughout his life, he consistently put others before himself through volunteering and his active involvement with his

church, his family activities, and his neighborhood.

For those who are unfamiliar with Mr. Yoshikawa's life, I would like to take a moment to highlight some of his extraordinary contributions. In addition to serving as President of the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, Bob served on the board of directors of both the SJBC and Fuji Towers and played an integral part on many committees. Mr. Yoshikawa served as past chairman of the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin Ministerial Affairs and Obon Committees, as well as being a charter member and current president of the Young Japanese Adults. In 2002, Robert was presented with the Volunteer Recognition Award by the Junior League of San Jose.

In addition to his extensive volunteer work, Mr. Yoshikawa was a wonderful husband to his wife Phyllis and father to his sons, Mark and Scott. He served as an ideal role model for his sons, teaching them right from wrong, imparting to them a spirit of service, and making time to involve himself in their lives and activities. He could often be seen videotaping his sons' football games or driving them to various Boy Scouts, sporting or church activities in his Chevy Suburban. He would constantly guide his sons with sage advice from his experience and the experiences of his own father. He was a man of strong conviction, who stood behind his decisions without wavering.

Robert Yoshikawa, a second generation American, was born in Newcastle, California in 1940. Upon graduating from high school, he attended Sierra Junior College before matriculating on to San Jose State where he received a degree in mechanical engineering and met his future wife, Phyllis Osaki. The couple first lived in an apartment in Sunnyvale, but spent the past 37 years in the house in San Jose that they watched being built. It was there they raised their two boys. Robert worked at Lockheed Martin until his retirement in 2003. At Lockheed, Robert's robust engineering skills and attention to detail were instrumental in the success of several important projects. He was praised for being accurate and efficient, and his remarkable patience and experience made him a valuable mentor to the younger engineers at Lockheed.

Upon retiring from his job at Lockheed Martin after 40 years, Mr. Yoshikawa embarked on yet another chapter in his full life. Though he and Phyllis had already traveled the globe, he had even more trips planned and was enjoying his return to improving his golf game with other retired friends. Always wanting to be useful, he also agreed to volunteer at the Japanese American Museum of San Jose as just one more in his myriad of community services. It was on March 24, while volunteering at the museum, that Mr. Yoshikawa died of a heart attack. Since he was in apparent excellent health, his passing came as quite a shock to all who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of a friend and a role model. I knew Robert for 40 years and he was as inspirational to me the last time I saw him, as he was when we first met. I know that the people of the Bay Area appreciate everything that this wonderful man has done for them and I feel privileged for having known him.

TRIBUTE TO KELLER HAYES

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the notable accomplishments of a remarkable woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize Keller Hayes for her impressive record of business and civic leadership as well as her invaluable service to our state and community.

Keller Hayes has used her time, skill and energy to make Colorado a better place. She came to our community from a small ranch in rural Nebraska and graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln with a degree in Journalism and Women's Studies. She worked for various publishing houses, including a trade publication in Minnesota and for Monterey Life in California before joining the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce.

For Keller, the economic empowerment of women has meaning. Whether advocating for passage of a pay-equity resolution at the statehouse or developing a Women's Business Certification program to allow women-owned companies to gain greater access to corporate and government contracts, Keller has been a champion for social and economic empowerment. She believes in the mission of the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce and during her tenure as President, she gave its mission new life and helped build a dynamic organization. When Keller took up the job, she and a part-time person were the only staff the chamber had. Today, the organization has eight staff people, boasts 1,700 members and has become the largest women's chamber in the country. Under Keller's leadership, the Women's Chamber created a structure that promotes the economic advancement of its members and provides meaningful leadership for women in business. Keller has opened doors and garnered respect for the women's business community. She has brought other women along and helped get them a seat at the table. Keller has fought for recognition of both the immeasurable contribution of women to our economy and the full value of women's abilities. As a result of her leadership, business women have become a more powerful force in our city and our state.

For her efforts, Keller was chosen the 2001 Outstanding Woman in Business Nonprofit by the Denver Business Journal and 2002 Women in Business Advocate of the Year in Region VIII for the Small Business Administration. But it takes a special person to reach a high level of professional accomplishment and still find the time and energy to give back to the community. Over the past six years, Keller has volunteered for the Rape/Spouse Abuse Crisis Center as an on-line counselor, volunteer trainer, speaker and public relations volunteer. Not only has Keller used her skills and talents to promote the economic empowerment of women, she has done much to advance the well-being of our people.

While I believe many of us are saddened Keller has left the Women's Chamber, I am confident that her leadership, skill and experience will be of great benefit to all of us in her new venture and we look forward to her continued involvement in our civic life.

Please join me commending Keller Hayes for her professional achievement, community service and active involvement in helping women attain professional excellence and a dynamic voice in public life. It is the strong leadership she exhibits on a daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all Americans.

HONORING BILL LYNCH AS DEPUTY MANAGER FOR KERRY-EDWARDS CAMPAIGN
HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the appointment of William (Bill) Lynch Jr. as Deputy Campaign Manager for the Kerry-Edwards Presidential Campaign.

A Harlem native and former Deputy Mayor of the City of New York, Bill Lynch has more than 30 years experience in local and national politics, government operations and public policy. In 1997, former President William J. Clinton nominated Mr. Lynch for the position of Vice Chair to the Democratic National Committee.

Prior to Mr. Lynch's appointment as the Deputy Mayor for Intergovernmental Affairs in 1989, he served as Campaign Manager for David Dinkins '89 and as Chief of Staff to the then Manhattan Borough President. Bill Lynch has been a social and political activist for the past twenty-five years, serving as Director of Legislation and Political Action for District Council 1701 of the American Federation of State and Municipal Employees (AFL-CIO), as well as Campaign Manager for Congressman MAJOR OWENS and Assemblyman William Frank Boyland both of Brooklyn, New York.

Mr. Lynch will lead a national effort to motivate and deliver key Democratic Party constituent groups, particularly African Americans and Latinos that have been marginalized in the past. I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. William Lynch on his recent appointment as the Deputy Campaign Manager for the Kerry-Edwards Presidential Campaign and wish him all the success.

I commend to my colleagues the following article, which appeared in the New York Daily News on July 20, 2004.

[From the Daily News, July 20, 2004]

DEMS' NEW CAPTAIN

(By Errol Louis)

On a quiet, isolated farm in Tennessee, a few hundred political leaders gathered Sunday to honor two New Yorkers—Len Riggio, the Brooklyn-born chairman of Barnes & Noble, and former Deputy Mayor Bill Lynch—in a ceremony that symbolizes a pivotal moment in the race for President. Newly named to the post of deputy manager of the Kerry-Edwards campaign, Lynch will help lead a national effort to fire up and deliver many of the Democratic Party's key constituent groups. That includes women, gays, young adults, blacks, Latinos and union members, especially in the swing states—all in the 104-day sprint between now and Election Day.

Should Lynch succeed, the ticket stands a good chance of winning. But if he comes up even a little bit short in key states like Ohio, Pennsylvania or Florida, it could cost the Democrats the election.

Given the importance of his mission, it's fitting that Lynch was back at the Haley Farm Freedom School, a 157-acre spread outside Knoxville, over the weekend. There he joined a cross section of the Democratic Party's elite, including David Dinkins and Elizabeth Edwards, the wife of the vice presidential candidate, at the dedication of the Riggio-Lynch Chapel, a building paid for by the bookstore magnate and designed by renowned architect Maya Lin (of Vietnam memorial fame).

The farm, formerly owned by the writer Alex Haley, was acquired a decade ago by the Children's Defense Fund and transformed into a thriving conference and training center for veterans of the civil rights movement and their younger, modern successors. Over the last 10 years, more than 6,000 young people have passed through the Haley farm for retreat-like workshops on everything from writing policy papers to studying how civil disobedience works.

College-age activists, many with dreadlocks and tattoos, regularly sit and swap stories with movement veterans who put their bodies on the line in places like Selma, Birmingham and the Mississippi Delta. The same kids are the secret weapon that could carry the election.

Lynch, a former union organizer who did his share of sit-ins before turning to electoral politics, is expected to tap into this army of well-trained young activists and bring their farm-stoked energy into the Kerry-Edwards campaign.

The challenge for Lynch will be to persuade party bigwigs that in many communities, no amount of expensive advertising, fancy Internet networking or televised debating can replace doorknocking, phone-banking and other kinds of grass-roots organizing.

It's a debate that goes on in every Democratic campaign. All too often, fancy media strategists win the debate and grab most of the campaign funds—and then lose the election.

It doesn't have to turn out that way. The troops who could win the fall election have been training quietly for more than a decade on that quiet farm outside Knoxville. If Lynch succeeds at bringing them into a Democratic win, it will look like a 100-day electoral miracle.

INTRODUCTION OF BILL TO ESTABLISH A BORDER PATROL UNIT FOR THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS
HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish at least one Border Patrol unit for the U.S. Virgin Islands.

With over 175 miles of unprotected and open borders, the Virgin Islands are the gateway to the U.S. and our nation's southernmost border. And, it would appear, Mr. Speaker that the U.S. Virgin Islands is today the gateway of choice for human smugglers.

Since 1998 more than 500 Chinese nationals have entered the territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Those dropping the aliens ashore have identified the Virgin Islands as an area from which illegals can try to travel undetected to the U.S. mainland. While most of these