CONGRATULATING THE LOS ANGELES LAKERS

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 20, 2000

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Los Angeles Lakers on winning the National Basketball Association Championship. As a native of Los Angeles, I could not be more proud of our team’s achievement. The Los Angeles Lakers have a history of phenomenal success and great basketball. Yesterday’s win was their sixth championship in two decades. The Lakers are stars, and they have dominated the game of basketball. They have made us proud.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JENNIFER DUNN
OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 20, 2000

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I was not recorded on rollover votes 292 and 293 on Monday, June 19, 2000, because I was present on Monday, June 19, 2000, I would have voted “aye” on rollover vote 292, a motion to raise offered by Representative WAXMAN. I would have voted “aye” on rollover vote 293, an amendment offered by Representative WAXMAN, to H.R. 4365, the Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations bill.

I have consistently voted to eliminate government funding for tobacco programs and increase government efforts to reduce the use of tobacco in our society. I will continue to support efforts to keep tobacco companies accountable for the health care costs associated with tobacco related illnesses. In particular, we must continue to educate our children on the hazards of tobacco use and enforce laws that curb underage smoking.

TRIBUTE TO PANORAMA AND ALEXANDER POLOVETS

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 20, 2000

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Mr. BENNEN, and I wish to pay tribute to a remarkable man and his equally remarkable newspaper. In July of this year, “Panorama.” The Russian-language newspaper which is the brainchild of Alexander Polovets, will celebrate its 20th anniversary, its 1,000th edition and the immigrant community.

His numerous community activities include serving as president of the Columbia-Montour Boy Scouts Council and on the boards of the Penn Mountains Boy Scouts Council, United Way of the Wyoming Valley, Greater Wilkes- Barre Partnership, Family Service Association of the Wyoming Valley and Bucknell and Wilkes Universities.

Panorama’s goal is to provide a forum for original materials of authors, thinkers and public figures in the United States and abroad. Equally important, it serves the needs of the growing Russian-speaking community in the United States. Panorama offers a unique opportunity to share information about life in the United States, helping to acclimate recent immigrants and to offer a focal point for cooperation within the Russian community.

Panorama has published the works of some of the best known contemporary authors from the former Soviet Union, promoted U.S. concerts, and raised important social issues such as welfare reform, immigration, crime and housing. It has featured interviews with prominent national and international figures and most recently it was instrumental in making the 2000 Census campaign a success in the immigrant community.

The publication is used as reference material by hundreds of universities, libraries and social agencies. Its subscribers are worldwide, as is its staff of reporters. It is no surprise that in 1999 Alexander Polovets was named one of the “100 Most Influential Jews in Los Angeles” by the authoritative “Jewish Journal.” Panorama is the resource for anyone wishing to reach the Russian-speaking community.

We ask our colleagues to join us in congratulating Alexander and Polovets for enhancing our community for twenty wonderful years. Happy 65th Birthday to Alexander and best wishes for continued success.

DR. STUART HEYDT HONORED FOR SERVICE TO GEISINGER

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 20, 2000

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Stuart Heydt, who will retire June 30 after 10 years as president and chief executive officer of the Geisinger Health system, which is based in Danville, Pennsylvania. He will be honored at a dinner on June 22.

Dr. Heydt has led the health system during an eventful decade for both Geisinger and health care nationwide. We are all familiar with the changes in health care, such as the rise of managed care and new technologies and treatments. Geisinger itself has undergone tremendous change during this time and appears to be well-positioned for a bright future.

In all my dealings with Stu, I have found him to be a man of the highest integrity, who always made the welfare of his patients his top priority. I consider him to be a friend and a great asset to Pennsylvania.

Dr. Heydt is a maxillofacial surgeon and 27-year employee of Geisinger. He is a native of New Jersey who served active duty in the Navy from 1965 to 1967, followed by five years in the active reserves and an honorable discharge. He received his education at Dartmouth College, Fairleigh Dickinson University and the University of Nebraska. Geisinger hired him in 1973 as director of oral and maxillofacial surgery and since that time, he rose through the ranks to lead this institution that provides quality health care to people in 31 Pennsylvania counties.

His numerous community activities include serving as president of the Columbia-Montour

PUBLIC EXPLANATION

IN HONOR OF ROBERT SCHEER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 20, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I call to your attention the article written in today’s Los Angeles Times by Robert Scheer. It answers the call of those countless generations of Americans who have ceaselessly sung in unison the hymn, “All We Are Saying Is Give Peace a Chance.” As John Lennon might say, “Imagine . . .”

FIGHT ON

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

June 20, 2000

Tuesday, June 20, 2000

FROM THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, JUNE 20, 2000

`GIVE PEACE A CHANCE’—WHILE THE FOOLS FIGHT ON

(By Robert Scheer)

When it comes to world politics, the best Beatle was right. Last week as the news came in from Pyongyang, I couldn’t get the image out of my mind of him at some long ago peace rally singing, “All we are saying is give peace a chance.” Not that it didn’t seem at times corny and futile trying to keep those little candles from blowing out, but at last, seem to be the happening thing.

What further evidence do we need than that picture of the two Kims from Korea, North and South, holding hands and singing a song of peaceful reunification? Yoko Ono could’ve written the script. Mark the moment; it represents the triumph of Lennonism. J ohn that is, not Vladimir.

The specter of communism, the threat of vengeful worldwide revolution that Kim to Kim photo, and along with it the Cold War obsessions that have made the world crazy these past 56 years. If the two Koreas, divided by the most heavily fortified military barrier left in the world, can come to terms, what warring parties can’t? The message is clear. The threat from this and other “rogue nations” can be met far more cheaply with talk, trade and aid than with a $60-billion missile defense systems and other war fantasies.

It is time to pay homage to that much maligned arm of pacifists like Dorothy Day, A.J. Muste, David Dellinger, Bertrand Russell, Benjamin Spock, Linus Pauling and Martin Luther King, Jr. Merely for insisting that we have a common humanity that can redeem our enemies, they were scorned as dopes and even reviled as traitors.

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Some hard-liners thought that as well of Richard M. Nixon when he journeyed to Red
China to make peace with the devil that he had done so much to define. Then came Gorbachev and Reagan burying the hatchet that their military advisors preferred be honed. Today, a former prisoner of war, sits as the U.S. ambassador in Hanoi, where the prison in which he was held has been turned into a tourist hotel. Soon, we may even have the courage to recognize that the "threat" from Cuba has never been more than a cruel joke.

But the lesson that peace is practical has been extended to conflicts beyond the Cold War. The mayhem inspired by those drunk on the potency of their purifying religious, ethnic and nationalistic visions continues, but they cannot win of their own defeat. The fools fight on in places like Sierra Leone, but the smartest among the world's militant revolutionaries have already abandoned violence for peace.

The PLO and IRA are now partners in peace with their sworn enemies, for which another president—Bill Clinton—deserves much credit. Iran has elected a majority of moderates to run its government; Syria will have a modern new leader who may at last respond positively to the risks that it has taken for peace, many quite obscure, as those who established the world's one superpower movement as a common assertion of humanity. But whose example in life had been so strong that it lasted beyond their deaths. So, too, the example of John Lennon, who died at the hands of their own people but whose memory has been extended to conflicts beyond the Cold War. The mayhem inspired by those drunk on the potency of their purifying religious, ethnic and nationalistic visions continues, but they cannot win of their own defeat. The fools fight on in places like Sierra Leone, but the smartest among the world's militant revolutionaries have already abandoned violence for peace.

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