

An old historian once noted that, "Great men are not often good men." Well, Floyd Spence was certainly both. Those of us who have had the great opportunity to know him are far better for the privilege.

TRIBUTE TO SISTER MIRIAM
THOMAS, S.C.

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to pay tribute to Sister Miriam Thomas, S.C., a phenomenal individual who has devoted her life to enhancing the lives of others. After her 50 years of ceaseless work to educate and counsel others, and improve the communities she lives in, I take great pride in honoring Sister Thomas's 50th anniversary of service to God and humanity with this congressional tribute.

Sister Thomas was born and received her early education in South Brooklyn. Upon graduation from high school, Sister Thomas answered the calling to devote her life to God. At age 18 she entered Sisters of Charity where she received an invaluable theological education as well as a degree from Mount Saint Vincent College in the Bronx. Once she professed her vows, Sister Thomas brought her newly-honed ministry skills to Ascension Grammar School in Manhattan, where she remained for 8 years. She then relocated to Ponce, Puerto Rico where her education was enriched at Catholic University. At this point, with more years of training and instruction, she was ready to take on the South Bronx. There, she was assigned to St. Athanasius Parish where she has shared her gift of easing souls and invoking smiles for the past 39 years.

Mr. Speaker, in 1972, Sister Thomas, along with her neighbors, heard that a woman who served as the administrator of Simpson Street Development Association was murdered while on the job. Courage and an unfaltering sense of devotion allowed Sister Thomas to stand up and fill this important position. There, with a tireless and supportive staff, Sister Thomas works miracles daily by providing social services and emotional guidance to people in need. Beyond these commitments, Sister Thomas also sits on the South Bronx Community Board 2 as chairperson. Her involvements in other community-based organizations are too numerous to mention. She says that her ceaseless community involvement was inspired by Father Louis Gigante, a visionary and dear friend.

Sister Thomas's ability to take the Gospel and translate it into language that speaks to the hearts and souls of nearly every St. Athanasius parishioner, has made her a priceless component of many people's spiritual and earthly lives. I am not the first to recognize her contributions, of course. Of the many rewards Sister Thomas has received throughout her years of service to the Church and humanity in general, she most treasures being named a Sister of Charity and her acceptance as a resident in the Hunts Point Community of the South Bronx.

Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege of representing the 16th district of New York where

Sister Thomas practices her faith each and every day and I am truly delighted to acknowledge her today. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable woman.

TAIWAN AND THE UNITED
NATIONS

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, as the United Nations General Assembly prepares to convene on September 11, I believe it is appropriate to recognize the achievements of Taiwan. Over the past several years, Taiwan has established itself as a world economic power and a stable political presence in Asia. Since the passage of the Taiwan Relations Act in 1979, the United States and Taiwan have developed a strong friendship and understanding of each other.

Most importantly, Taiwan is a thriving, multi-party democracy. Its leaders have successfully confronted the most difficult moment emerging democracies face: turning over offices to others when their own party loses. They have allowed open competition for office, and encouraged public discussion on the full range of issues that face Taiwan. It is clear that the people of Taiwan have the right to determine their nation's future.

Unfortunately, at a time when Taiwan's example and its assistance could be most beneficial to the world community, it continues to be isolated from that community. Restoration of its membership to the United Nations would end that isolation. As new democracies emerge, I am convinced that the world could greatly benefit from the counsel of a nation that has recently transformed itself into a democracy.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, when the Defense Production Act was enacted in 1950, considerable damage was done. Some of the worst damage occurred as a result of wage and price controls and the improper delegation of economic powers to the President (much of which economic power even Congress itself didn't have).

This bill's entire existence rests on the presumption that its supporters have absolutely no confidence whatsoever in either freedom or the market process. In a time of crisis, you don't need an "industrial policy" and you don't need some fascist or corporatist variety of socialism. What one needs more than ever in a time of crisis is the market—deviation from the market process is the worst thing an economy can do. Oftentimes, it's the "industrial policy" which is the very cause of the economic crisis one hopes to remedy with yet another round of "industrial policy" intervention.

We have an energy crisis in California created by the bureaucrats and the politicians. As prices skyrocket and a crisis is declared, it is

later said that prices are now down and there's less of a shortage or crisis. But it's the market process that worked because the prices skyrocketed rather than skyrocketing prices becoming the justification for abandoning the market process.

Of course, if one likes socialism and rejects the notion that freedom works, this type of an Act and improper delegating and centralizing such powers is ideal. But why accept the notions of socialism when you really need an economy to provide products and services in the nation's time of most dire need? This whole notion that the powers in this bill should be illegitimately granted to a President and then turned over to the head of FEMA is potentially one of the most dangerous things this body will ever do (or continue doing).

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the members of this body to begin thinking about the amount of false hope they place in the centralization of power in the hands of a central-planners and reconsider their apparent lack of confidence in the market process and a free society. I encourage a strict adherence to market principles and strongly oppose H.R. 2510.

THE HISTORY MUSEUM OF
SPRINGFIELD AND GREENE
COUNTY

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an institution which for a quarter of a century has served an invaluable role in preserving and remembering our Southwest Missouri history and heritage.

Twenty-five years ago The History Museum of Springfield and Greene County was created in honor of the Bicentennial of our great nation. The citizens of Springfield and Greene County established the museum to educate others about the area's culture and open a new window on the history of day-to-day life in the region. A key local education resource was born.

Teachers and other educators in Southwest Missouri have been blessed to have such a historical museum readily available. Over the years it has become a favorite field trip destination, permitting thousands of young minds to experience some of the culture that nurtured their parents and grandparents as well as other generations before them. Many educational trips have been hosted by The History Museum for Springfield and Greene County. The Museum, founded and guided in its early years by Springfieldian Kitty Lipscomb, is also a place of remembering and learning for adults too.

The museum is a storehouse of knowledge about past experiences which helped shape our families, neighborhoods and communities and are still molding us as a society today. It reveals the common threads that bound neighborhoods and communities together in past generations. Capitalism, Democracy, Liberty and Faith were the core values that stirred our imagination and gave birth to America's work ethic, innovation, and self betterment through a commitment to education, and personal independence. Each of these qualities is on display at the History Museum for Springfield