

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO JOHN FEEHERY, PETE JEFFRIES AND PAIGE RALSTON

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish farewell to three members of my press office who are moving on to other careers after distinguished service on Capitol Hill. My press secretary John Feehery, communications director Pete Jeffries, and deputy press secretary Paige Ralston have been the core of my press team for my entire tenure as Speaker, and I would like to take this moment to recognize their contributions to my office.

As my chief spokesman, John helped me articulate the positive effects of important reforms we passed concerning Medicare, tax policy, and the organization of intelligence community, just to name a few. I depended on John for advice on how best to get my message across on a wide range of issues and the events of the day.

Pete crafted a strategy for communicating our goals and accomplishments to other Members and to the rest of America. He could take a step back and tie broader themes together to create an overall message with which Americans could identify. Pete worked with other press secretaries to coordinate our message to make it more powerful, and as a result the Republican majority has had great success in recent years.

A good message is only useful if people are listening, and that's where Paige came in. As my point person for arranging interviews with the press, she helped me reach out to different audiences in different ways to effectively explain our agenda. She has a keen sense for connecting the particular message I wanted to convey with the best venue for conveying it.

I have learned that in this legislative body, effective communication is crucial for turning good ideas into good policy. For the past 6 years, John, Pete and Paige formed a team of advisors who helped me convey our hopeful message to the rest of America. Though they will be missed greatly, I wish them all the best in the next stage of their lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of March 15, I was delayed and missed rollcall vote 72.

I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position on rollcall vote 72.

It was my intention to vote "yea" on rollcall 72.

I supported a similar amendment by Congressman OBEY in the full committee mark-up

of the bill that would have established a select committee to investigate the awarding of contracts to conduct activities in Iraq and Afghanistan.

STANDING WITH CUBAN POLITICAL PRISONERS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues to send a strong message to the Cuban government that the United States will not forget those people who are languishing in Cuban prisons for the so-called crime of speaking out against the injustices perpetrated by the Castro regime. We cannot ignore Castro and we cannot relieve the pressure on the regime. We owe it to the thousands of Cubans languishing in jails to further open the eyes of the world community to the true evils of the Castro regime.

I rise to bring to light the injustices against a 61-year old scholar, intellectual, and decent free-thinking man—Héctor Palacios Ruiz. Director of the unofficial Centro de Estudios Sociales, Center of Social Studies, and secretary of the reporting committee of the "Todos Unidos," "All United," coalition, Héctor Palacios was detained on March 20, 2003 and subsequently tried in Havana. He was convicted under Castro's barbaric Penal Code and sentenced to 25 years in prison.

And what were Héctor Palacios' crimes? He was accused, among other activities, of having in his home an independent library containing books the Cuban government claims are "subversive and counterrevolutionary."

Héctor Palacios's wife, Gisela, was refused permission to visit him in May and threatened with imprisonment if she participated in public demonstrations on his behalf.

Before the crackdown in 2003, Héctor Palacios was arrested in 1994, 1997 and 1999 for his activism and his courage to speak out against the crimes and injustices of the Castro regime. The persecution of this brave Cuban man is an outrage. Thrown behind bars, Héctor Palacios and other political activists are feared by the Castro regime which outlaws freedom and truth. The brutality must stop. Freedom for Cuba's political prisoners must be our goal.

WESTPORT HARBOR'S NEEDS TO GO UNMET?

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I recently had to be the bearer of bad news to the Town of Westport, Massachusetts. West-

port is a wonderful place to live, in substantial part because of its natural environment, and the great care that the people of the town take to preserve the great gift which that environment is. Recently, I met with the selectmen of the town to discuss their very reasonable proposal for a dredging project, to cost between \$500,000 and \$600,000. I told them at the time that we would have trouble because of what has been, in my judgment, excessive tax-cutting leaving us unable to meet basic needs of our society in many ways. Not even the most ardent advocates of tax cuts have claimed that they are in any way capable of dredging a harbor.

Subsequently, after sharing with the selectmen the fact that this would be tough, I received a copy of a letter from the Army Corps of Engineers, making clear that it would be even tougher because of cutbacks in their already inadequate funds imposed upon them by the Bush Administration.

The newspaper Westport Shorelines initially editorialized in a very eloquent way about this very regrettable decision, and I ask that the Westport Shorelines' excellent analysis be printed here so that Members can get a fuller understanding of the implications of some of the budget cuts that are being imposed.

[From Westport Shorelines, March 10, 2005]

OUR LITTLE HARBOR DOESN'T FIT INTO FEDS' BIG PICTURE

Al Qaeda doesn't much care about Westport Harbor so neither do we.

That is the gist of the federal message to Westport this week. In a brief note out of the blue, the feds notified Westport that they won't help dredge the harbor channel after all.

Federal money, the note states, is "now being allocated to those ports and harbors of greatest national significance . . . Future funding for small harbors such as Westport is unlikely at this time."

In those few words, the Army Corps of Engineers cedes victory to the sand. Without dredging soon, the main channel will inevitably choke with sand—in places that has already happened. The fate of the fishermen, boatyard and ecosystems that rely on a free-flowing river rank low on the federal priority list.

Don't blame the Army Corps for this one—the decision comes from much higher places. The Army Corps recognized the need and was an enthusiastic participant in the \$600,000 project, assisting with expertise, studies and the lion's share of the funding. After years of effort by the Army Corps and Westport dredge committee, the long awaited job was about to happen. The feasibility study was complete (the project passed with flying colors), and final permitting was nearly set.

Stopping it now amounts to much more than inconvenience and delay. All those costly studies have short shelf lives. If allowed to expire, they must be done anew from scratch.

It really amounts to one more instance of a fiscal federal priority system overwhelmed by Iraq, tax cuts and all things anti-terrorism. Although the Iraq/terror link remains murky, the war continues to cost by some estimates \$177 million a day, \$7.4 million per hour (the Westport dredge project

• 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.

equals about five minutes on the Iraq clock), leaving precious little for much else.

And while there is no denying the need to keep the homeland secure, throwing money at terrorists won't make them go away. Lawmakers trip over themselves to obtain "anti-terror" grants by the boatload for local police and fire departments, never mind that the "terror" link can be sketchy (last week it was \$90,000 to the Portsmouth Fire Department for sprinklers). If we allow our nation terror obsession to drive this nation to financial ruin, the terrorists win anyway.

We already pay dearly, and loss of this dredge project is but one small example. The Westport Harbor channel may not be of "great national significance" but it is no less than a lifeline for people here.

RECOGNIZING DELTA M. JACKSON
DORSCH EDUCATOR, VIRGIN ISLANDS
TRADITION BEARER ON
ATTAINING HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ms. Delta M. Dorsch on attaining her ninetieth birthday. Ms. Dorsch is one of the outstanding educators of the Virgin Islands educational system, and a "Tradition Bearer" of our oral cultural "Anansi" stories, which is a continuation of the African oral tradition.

Ms. Dorsch was born and raised on the island of St. Croix, where she received her elementary and secondary education in the local public school system. Ms. Dorsch traveled to the U.S. mainland to further her education and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and Education at Central Michigan University. Before returning home she received her graduate and post graduate degrees at New York University and Columbia Universities respectively, with an emphasis in Supervision and Administration of Schools, and also studied International Education at the University of London in England and at the University of Heidelberg in Germany.

Delta Dorsch served for more than thirty-eight (38) years as a teacher in the Virgin Islands school system and in a supervisory capacity as Deputy Commissioner for Curriculum and Instruction. She was also an Instructor of Elementary Education in both undergraduate and graduate programs at the University of the Virgin Islands; and was Chairman of the Board of Directors for the St. Dunstan's Episcopal School. In addition to addressing educational components in her various positions, she also used them to stress the importance of preserving our traditional values and cultural heritage to parents, teachers and students.

This dedication to duty and approach to life combined in having Ms. Dorsch as the recipient of numerous service awards from civic and community organizations. The most noteworthy to her was having the Elena Christian Junior High School's Honor Society named in her honor.

The Anansi stories, part of the African oral tradition, have been an integral part of Virgin Islands culture and tradition for centuries. These stories were told around campfires in slave quarters and later on, in yards and villages, by giving insects and animals human

qualities to weave an interesting story that always had a moral ending. The stories have always been enjoyed by our youngsters, the moral lessons staying with them throughout their lives, and unfolding as morals tend to do, when we experience the lessons of life. This was an aspect of our folk tale culture and tradition that was on the verge of extinction. The fact that they are still a vibrant part of our culture today is due to the efforts of Delta Dorsch in keeping them alive.

In recognition for preserving this part of our culture and tradition, Delta Dorsch was among the Tradition Bearers from the Virgin Islands that participated in the Smithsonian Institution's Senegal Folk Life Festival that was held here on the Mall in Washington, D.C. in 1990. This event enabled her to proudly communicate our tradition and culture to many visitors from around the world that attended the Festival. Ms. Dorsch's recent contribution to Virgin Islands History was authoring the book "The Role of the Storyteller in the Preservation of Virgin Islands Culture" and its accompanying video.

There is an old adage that behind every great man there stands a woman. This was proven true in the marriage between Delta and Frederick D. Dorsch. Mr. Dorsch served and enriched our Virgin Islands community in many capacities: Humanist, Educator, Dramatist, Civic Enthusiast, School Superintendent of the Virgin Islands, and as Chairman and Member of the Virgin Islands Municipal Council.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I salute Delta M. Jackson Dorsch on attaining her ninetieth birthday, for her dedicated service to the United States Virgin Islands as an Educator and Preservationist of our Tradition and Culture.

HONORING WATHAGENE BAILEY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Wathagene Bailey of Groveland, CA. She will be honored for her years of service to her community at the Tuolumne County Republican Women Federated Meeting on Monday, March 28th.

As a child, Wathagene moved from Galena, Kansas to Fullerton, CA. While in southern California, she met Elmer Bailey on a blind date and the two married on November 23rd, 1963. Shortly after their marriage, Wathagene opened up a foster/day care in Mountain View, CA. Later, she worked for Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co., eventually attaining the position of Supervisor. Lastly, Wathagene worked in the Insurance Billing Department for the Los Gatos Community Hospital, where she retired at age 60 to move with her husband Elmer to Pine Mountain Lake in California's Tuolumne County.

Wathagene Bailey has been known to be extremely involved in her community. She was a Girl Scout Leader and helped many girls earn their merit badges. She is a member of the Tuolumne County Central Committee. She served as President of Tuolumne County Republican Women Federated and Director, First President, Second Vice President, and Parliamentarian of the California Federation of Republican Woman—Central Division.

Wathagene has two daughters, Devora and Cheryl, and three grandchildren, Aaron, Heather and Naomi.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Wathagene Bailey for her years of service to her community. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Wathagene many more years of continued success.

HONORING SPALDING G. WATHEN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor posthumously Mr. Spalding Wathen of Fresno, CA. Mr. Wathen was one of the most respected people throughout California's entire Central Valley for his success in the building industry and for his sincere humanity.

Spalding Wathen was born in Fresno, CA on March 1, 1925. Mr. Wathen dutifully served his country as a U.S. Navy pilot in World War II. He graduated from Roosevelt High School and then University of California, Berkeley in 1949, with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He was a member of the Chi Epsilon and Tau Beta Pi Engineering Scholastic Fraternities and graduated in the top of his class. For almost 60 years, he built over 10,000 homes and apartments, and has developed more than 60 subdivisions throughout the Central Valley.

Mr. Wathen he obtained his general contractor's license in 1950 and his real estate broker's license in 1953. He was Chief Executive Officer of Wathen Brothers, Headliner Homes and Mansionette Homes. In addition, Spalding Wathen was a four-time President of the Building Industry Association, was inducted in the West Coast Builders Association Hall of Fame in 1996, and was one of a select few builders who received the Oscar Spano Award for Lifetime Achievement.

His numerous donations include the Fresno State University Tennis Center, land on which St. Agnes Medical Center was built, the ten-acre site for Holy Spirit Catholic Church, and site for St. Patrick's Church in Merced. He was a founding member of the Board of Directors for the Bank of Fresno and was a lifetime member of the Central California Bowling Hall of Fame.

Mr. Wathen is survived by his wife, Della Ann Wathen, five daughters, six grandchildren, two brothers and two sisters.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize posthumously Mr. Spalding G. Wathen for his extraordinary impact on his community. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of Spalding Wathen.

COMMENDING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE FOR ANALYSIS AND PRODUCTION, MARK M. LOWENTHAL UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM FEDERAL SERVICE

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Mark M. Lowenthal, Assistant Director of Central Intelligence for Analysis and Production, who will soon retire from government service for a second time. His first career with the government saw service in both the congressional and executive branches. He began his career with the Congressional Research Service (CRS) after earning a Ph.D. in history from Harvard University. His intelligence, quick wit and ability to work easily with Members of Congress, their staffs, and colleagues in the Foreign Affairs and National Defense Division at CRS led to his steady advancement in that organization.

As a result of his work as a foreign affairs specialist during this period, Mark was asked to accept a position in the executive branch, at the Department of State. There, he served in the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research, as both an office director and a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State. He became one of former Secretary of State George Shultz's close advisors during a time of great change in US-Soviet relations, during the era of Glasnost.

After Secretary Shultz returned to private life, Mark returned to the legislative branch. He became one of a select group at the Library of Congress and attained the position of Senior Specialist in U.S. Foreign Policy. This helped prepare him for his next assignment when he was asked to accept the appointment as staff director of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence in the 104th Congress (1995–1997). It was during this time that he directed the staff of the committee in their study of the future of the Intelligence Community, IC21: The Intelligence Community in the 21st Century.

Soon after the study was completed, Mark retired from government. Over the next five years he spent time in the private sector as a consultant to government and industry on intelligence issues. Once again, as a result of his work and deep knowledge of intelligence issues, Mark was asked to accept another position in the executive branch, this time on the staff of the Director of Central Intelligence. He initially served as Counselor to the Director and then in June 2002 began his service as the Assistant Director of Central Intelligence for Analysis and Production as well as Vice Chairman for Evaluation on the National Intelligence Council.

In truth, three years is simply not enough time to make fundamental changes in government. However, Dr. Lowenthal has made a good start, initiating a variety of projects that have the potential to improve the practice of analysis by the Intelligence Community. In collaboration with the principal members of the National Security Council, Mark provided the leadership required to have the Intelligence Community adopt the National Intelligence Priorities Framework. The framework provides

guidance on the priorities of the most senior national policymakers for collection requirements, analysis and production and the allocation of resources to include acquisition decisions affecting all members of the Intelligence Community. He then instituted a comprehensive evaluation to assess the Community's performance. Along the way, Mark found time to write a novel, to win a championship on the game show Jeopardy!, and to teach university courses.

The American public is fortunate to have individuals with experience, energy and intelligence willing to serve our country in these critical times. I thank Mark for his service to our country and wish him, his lovely wife Cynthia, and their children, Sarah and Adam, all the best as he embarks upon this second retirement.

THE UNITED STATES-LIBYA
RELATIONS ACT OF 2005

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I introduced the United States-Libya Relations Act of 2005. I am proud to have authored this bill, which I believe will fortify a historic change in Libyan policies and will strengthen relations between the United States and Libya.

In December 2003, Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi made a path breaking decision. He decided to dismantle Libya's weapons of mass destruction and turn them over to his longtime nemesis, the United States, and to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). With that decision, Col. Qadhafi fundamentally changed the regional security situation, his nation's diplomatic standing, and the economic outlook for the Libyan people.

And, most important, he established a model for other rogue nations around the world to follow. While the Libya breakthrough is significant in its own right, it has much broader implications. If the United States can convince other nations to follow Libya's example, we can fundamentally improve our own national security, strengthen international security and improve the daily lives of millions.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to see the Administration take full strategic advantage of this historic opportunity.

When Libya announced that it was renouncing WMD, President Bush said, "Leaders who abandon the pursuit of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons, and the means to deliver them, will find an open path to better relations with the United States and other free nations."

Now we need to do a better job of implementing the President's pledge. We need to promote the "Libya model" as an example for U.S. relations with proliferator states such as North Korea and Iran.

Proliferators must understand that a definitive end to their efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction will bring a new era of positive relations with the United States. And the whole world must see that the United States keeps its word to improve relations and work with those states who abandon their illegal weapons programs. It is my sincere belief that other nations can be encouraged to follow the

Libya example, but we must be certain that Libya's experience is positive and that its dramatic reversal in policy is rewarded.

While we have taken some actions that respond positively to Libya's gesture, but we have not done as much as is warranted by the magnitude and historic nature of this opportunity.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I have introduced the "United States-Libya Relations Act of 2005." This legislation is intended to: reinforce U.S. and Libyan commitments to one another; strengthen bilateral relations; facilitate the integration of Libya into the international community; and encourage positive change in Libyan society.

This bill fully implements the President's promise that countries that relinquish weapons of mass destruction will find an "open path" to better relations with the United States. The legislation foresees a variety of benefits for Libya—support for U.S. investment and trade with Libya, increased educational exchanges and other forms of people-to-people contacts, and an end to the political and economic isolation of Libya.

This legislation puts the U.S. Congress squarely on record as supporting the President's policy, affirming that Libya's decision to abandon weapons of mass destruction "marks an unprecedented step" that "suggests a model approach for other countries" that abandon their pursuit of weapons of mass destruction.

There are two types of regime change. A regime can be changed by others through the use of force. On the other hand, a regime can change its policies without changing its leadership. Rogue states need to know that both options are on the table. I want this bill to serve as a beacon for rogue nations that want to come in from the cold—that want to end their isolation and impoverishment, as Colonel Qadhafi did.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that this bill may raise questions in two—regards terrorism and human rights. First, as we all know, Libya remains on the State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism. But it is my understanding, based on conversations with numerous U.S. government officials and a statement made yesterday by Undersecretary of State William Burns before the International Relations Committee, that since at least December 2003 Libya has not supported international terrorist groups, and, in fact, that it has been very helpful to us in fighting the global war on terrorism. Let me make clear that my bill does not call on the Administration to remove Libya from the terrorism list before it is warranted by the facts and ongoing discussions between our government and officials of the Libyan government.

Second, as my colleagues in the Congress know, I have a lifelong commitment to human rights, and my legislation emphasizes the importance of supporting human rights and democratic values in Libya both through dialogue and through deed. This legislation is unwavering in its commitment to American values of human rights and democracy, but, in the interest of promoting the Libyan model and enhancing international security, we should not put bilateral relations on ice until respect for human rights and democracy have been fully achieved.

Mr. Speaker, it is right and appropriate for the United States to offer proliferators an opportunity to change their policies and benefit

from doing what is in their and our best interest. Now we must make sure we follow through on President Bush's pledge that countries which relinquish weapons of mass destruction will find an "open path" to better relations with the United States. That is the spirit that motivated his response to Libyan renunciation of weapons of mass destruction in December 2003, and that is exactly the spirit that motivates the US-Libya Relations Act which I am introducing today.

IN MEMORY OF AL COOK

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, funeral services will be held Monday to recognize the late Al Cook, a gentleman widely admired in South Carolina and a greatly appreciated legislative expert in Washington. Al

Cook holds the distinction of being the only person to ever serve as chairman of the House Democratic and Republican Chief of Staff Organizations reflecting the extraordinary political evolution of Southern politics from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party.

The following obituary was published on March 20, 2005, in The Beaufort Gazette of Beaufort, South Carolina.

WILLIAM COOK

William Alpheus "Al" Cook, 79, of Beaufort, husband of Wanda Edwards Cook, died Friday, March 18, 2005, in Beaufort Memorial Hospital.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at Carteret Street United Methodist Church for a burial with military honors in Beaufort National Cemetery.

Mr. Cook was born Nov. 23, 1925, in Patrick, a son of John Edward Cook and Mary Emily Cox Cook.

He was a graduate of the University of South Carolina and received his degree from the University of South Carolina Law School in 1950. While at USC, he was president of Omicron Delta Kappa and a member of the Wig and Robe.

He served in the U.S. Army's 42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division in Europe during World War II and continued with the U.S. Army Reserve, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. He began his professional career on the staff of the Legislative Council for the S.C. General Assembly, and in 1953 he joined the staff of U.S. Rep. John J. Riley. He later worked as an administrative assistant and chief-of-staff for U.S. Rep. Albert W. Watson and U.S. Rep. Floyd D. Spence, all congressmen representing the second congressional district of South Carolina. After moving to Beaufort, he practiced law and was involved in the guardian ad litem program. He was a member of the Republican Party.

Survivors include his wife of Harbor Island; two sons, William A. Cook, Jr., of Beaufort and John Kendrick Cook of Panama City, Fla.; two sisters, Sue Cook of Hampton and Betty Gaddy of Fork; and two granddaughters.

Memorials may be made to Carteret Street United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 788, Beaufort, SC 29901.

Copeland Funeral Home is in charge.