

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

R. J. WEBER, RURAL PASTOR

HON. J. J. PICKLE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 1972

Mr. PICKLE. Mr. Speaker, some people gain fame with a great splash and a roar of the crowd; some gain fame more gradually, over long years of steady service.

One of the best of the latter category is the Reverend R. J. Weber, pastor of the Zion Lutheran Church of Zionsville, near Brenham, Tex.

Brother Weber's 745-member church is a "monument to this great preacher's influence," in the words of a Federal agriculture expert.

In a time of movement to the cities, Brother Weber has urged a movement to rural areas and has shown through his own efforts that rural life can work.

Besides being a spiritual bulwark to the Brenham area, Brother Weber has been a leader in farm-to-market road programs, 4-H programs, radio ministry, the nursing home industry, and in general, rural community development.

Recently the residents of Texas took time to honor Reverend Weber as the Texas Rural Minister of the Year. He is 71 years young now and still growing.

As the master of ceremonies noted:

Through the years, we've had many nominations for Rural Minister of the Year, but Brother Weber is the greatest one that we've had the privilege to honor.

I would like at this time to place in the RECORD a newspaper article concerning Reverend Weber:

BRENNHAM PASTOR NAMED RURAL MINISTER OF YEAR

The 71-year-old pastor of the Zion Lutheran Church of Zionsville near Brenham—R. J. Weber—has been named Texas Rural Minister of the Year.

Announcement was made Thursday (Sept. 14) by Reagan Brown, Agricultural Extension Service sociologist at Texas A&M University and coordinator of the yearly Town and Country Church Conference.

The minister will be honored during the 27th annual Town and Country Church Conference Oct. 12-13 at A&M, and he will receive an engraved silver tray from "The Progressive Farmer" magazine.

Brown said the Rev. Weber has served the Zionsville church for more than 25 years and has been a leader in agricultural development.

"The record of his ministry is an outstanding one. While serving this one church, he has baptized more than 300 children, performed 155 weddings and conducted 205 funerals. He has missed attending the Town and Country Church Conference only one time in its 27-year history," the sociologist pointed out.

The minister has been a leader in farm-to-market road programs, 4-H, radio ministry, nursing home ministry, Lake Somerville ministry, rural community development, and has encouraged people to move back to rural areas.

Brown said the 745 members of his church are a "monument to this great preacher's influence."

"Through the years, we've had many nominations for Rural Minister of the Year, but Brother Weber is the greatest one that we've had the privilege to honor," Brown said.

Ministers who were runners-up in the selection were the Rev. Bruce Alexander Will II of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Harris Chapel, Panola County; the Rev. Charles Jagers, Central Christian Church, Frisco, Eastland County; the Rev. Joe Aalbue (ck), Faith Lutheran Church, Sagerton, near Denton; and the Rev. Peter Suk (a Korean), First Christian Church of Mt. Pleasant.

"There are hundreds of ministers serving rural communities, and this honor is made to recognize all of them. I am sure that all Texans will receive inspiration from this great dedication and service that a man like the Rev. Weber has performed," Brown said.

MICKI KING

HON. WILLIAM S. BROOMFIELD

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 1972

Mr. BROOMFIELD. Mr. Speaker, during the past Olympiad held in Munich, Capt. Micki King of the U.S. Air Force gave the rest of the world a lesson in 3-meter springboard diving as she dove toward and captured the Olympic gold medal.

Micki is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard King of Pontiac, Mich., and I am therefore proud to rise today to offer my congratulations to Micki for her greatest victory yet in a star-studded career.

The people of Pontiac have long recognized Micki's unique and special skills. We watched and marveled at her progress through local swim clubs, at the University of Michigan and most recently in the Olympics, the greatest victory that any amateur athlete can achieve.

Fittingly, her many loyal supporters have organized a day-long civic celebration in her honor to take place October 5 in her hometown.

Mr. Speaker, Micki's victory in Munich represented a great personal triumph over adversity and against odds that seemed insurmountable. Four years ago in Mexico City the gold medal was all but hers when a freak accident near the end of the competition broke her wrist and dashed her medal hopes.

Despite this crushing disappointment, Micki persevered and rebounded to win the medal that only fate had deprived her of earlier. Her strength and determination to continue in international competition after the mishap is an illustration of the character and personal resolve that made Micki the true champion that she is.

Mr. Speaker, Capt. Micki King has proven once again that the measure of one's potential is only limited by the strength and depth of your personal resolve and determination. In her young life, she has already achieved a lifetime's worth of success. Nevertheless, I am sure that we have not heard the last from

Micki because she will be a success at anything to which she applies her enormous talents.

INDIANA CENTRAL AIMS TO SERVE,  
AND IT DOES

HON. WILLIAM G. BRAY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 1972

Mr. BRAY. Mr. Speaker, there is a great reservoir of academic strength and growth in the smaller colleges in America. One of the best of these is found in Indianapolis, with Indiana Central College. The following article from the September 24, 1972, Indianapolis Star tells why:

INDIANA CENTRAL AIMS TO SERVE, AND IT DOES  
(By Harley R. Bierce)

Can a small, church-connected college on the outskirts of a growing metropolis survive in the urban crunch which is spurring the growth of a major, public urban university?

The answer is an emphatic yes, according to Dr. Gene E. Sease, president of Indiana Central College, which has had an image of operating out of a cow pasture adjacent to a church cemetery.

The next question is, will success spoil Indiana Central?

Sease holds the solution, whichever way it happens to be answered.

For a college president, he's young (41) and he bolls with optimism and controlled energy.

"Indiana Central is a far cry from what it was in 1942, '52 or even '62," he says. "We've tried to swing with the times and there is a lot more here than has met the eye."

Growth in and around Indianapolis has been north and east, generally, Sease points out, focusing attention away from the Southeast where ICC is located. In addition, the burgeoning growth of public institutions of higher learning has directed public money and academic energy into urban universities such as Indiana-Purdue University, Indianapolis.

Without anybody fully realizing it, Indiana Central started shedding provincial garb about 1958 when it started on a building program.

In 1959, the school introduced the first two-year degree-granting nursing program in the state, starting with nursing classrooms in the basement of a dormitory.

In 1969, ICC wanted to do something for women, before many had become so publicly conscious of their bondage, and "Mi-Lady's Day on Campus" was started.

That program offered daytime classes in art, music, cultural services and even one labeled "Stocks, Bonds and Investments."

"We expected a few women to be interested," Sease says, "but the reaction has been phenomenal." At any rate, it represented a pioneer effort by the school in finding a way better to serve its surrounding community.

In 1970, "still looking for ways to serve," ICC noted that many bank employees were taking American Institute of Banking courses without receiving college credit.

Sease met with Indianapolis bankers, telling them he was in the education business

and believed ICC could provide the courses for credit.

Today more than 350 Indianapolis bankers are studying in what was the first college-level program established for the institute. Colleges across the nation have followed it.

Last year, after discussion with Marion County Sheriff Lee R. Eads and Indianapolis Police Chief Winston L. Churchill, ICC set up a criminal justice program which now has more than 75 sheriff's deputies and policemen enrolled.

"Our future is in responding to the felt needs of the community," Sease declares. "We are very sensitive to community needs and a school our size can do things quicker than anybody else because of our flexibility and autonomy."

The United Methodist-affiliated school has a day enrollment of about 1,200 and a night-school enrollment of about 1,300. These represent a limited but steady enrollment growth over the last decade.

"And we plan to stay small," Sease quickly adds.

Interestingly enough, the school has reversed its ratio of resident-to-computer enrollment in day school during the last decade. Students living in campus dormitories account for 76 per cent of the student body today.

The young president, who has degrees in theology, history and philosophy, said the misconception that Indiana Central is strictly a commuter college is fading fast, along with the impression it's an easy school to get into.

Pulling several sheets of legal paper out of a pile on his desk, he cited statistics showing 73.5 per cent of this year's entering freshmen rank in the upper third of their graduating classes.

Twenty-five per cent rank in the upper 10 per cent and 22 freshmen either were valedictorians or salutatorians in their high schools.

With obvious pride, Sease points out that the statistics include those students admitted on a contingency basis—high-risk students he feels every school should accept.

"We are flexible, versatile and ready to change. The median age of our administrative staff is 32 and the average age of our teaching-faculty is 42," Sease says.

Sease is in the forefront of college administrators who believe colleges should be institutions for teaching, not research. "We're not in the research business, but we require new professors possess a Ph.D., or be in the final stage of getting it."

That department chairman teach introductory courses and each student gets to meet and know full professors are major strengths of Indiana Central, according to Sease.

Last year, the school finished \$10,000 on top of its \$4 million budget. That's rare, particularly in private schools where red ink has become a standard budget item.

"We are going to stay healthy because we won't turn the first spadeful of dirt on a new building without having cash or pledges to cover it. In fact, I think the day of deficit spending in education is gone forever," he declares.

Sease doesn't feel threatened by the woe being expressed by many in private education because:

1. The school doesn't depend on government money.
2. It is located in an urban center, close to the interests of young people.
3. It has flexible, versatile programs that meet ends.
4. It doesn't spend money it doesn't have.
5. Student tuition and fees have been kept moderate.

Finally, Sease believes the church affiliation is a strength. "The anything-goes days are gone. Young people want a school that is committed to basic principles. We are."

## POSTAL SERVICE GETS HIGH MARKS

### HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 1972

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the St. Petersburg, Fla., Times recently gave the U.S. Postal Service high marks for delivering the mail and meeting its announced service standards.

The Times sent out 73 letters to 25 cities around the country with instructions to the recipients to mail back the enclosed self-addressed envelope. According to the Times, the Postal Service is meeting its announced service standards for all classes of mail better than 95 percent of the time.

The article also points out some of the problems confronting the Postal Service—transportation schedules, workforce turnover, and observation of collection schedules.

I include the Times article as a part of my remarks:

MAIL SERVICE MATCHES CLAIMS—BUT TEST SHOWS A LOT DEPENDS ON TRANSPORTATION AT SENDING AND RECEIVING LOCATIONS

(By Peggy Peterman)

Despite grumblings you keep hearing from women at the beauty parlor or men at the barber shop and even over your own complaints . . . all in all, the U.S. Postal Service is doing a good job of getting letters to the public in speedy fashion. At least that's what an investigation by The Times shows.

Seventy-three letters were sent to 25 cities around the country—as far away as Anchorage, Alaska, and as close as Clearwater—to managing editors of 25 newspapers. The editors were asked to mail the three self-addressed envelopes (special deliveries, air mails, 8 cent and letters with no stamps) back to the addressee. All complied. The letters were marked on the back for the city and state. The date sent and received was recorded.

Out of 25 special deliveries sent, 16 came back in one day, eight returned in two days and one from Peoria, Ill., took three days.

The sixteen cities were Bradenton, Clearwater, Atlanta, Ga., Newark, N.J., Nashville, Tenn., Boston, Mass., Little Rock, Ark., Birmingham, Ala., Columbia, S.C., Montgomery, Ala., Houston, Tex., Chicago, Ill., Denver, Col., Hartford, Conn., Gary, Ind., Charlotte, N.C.

The eight that returned in two days were New Orleans, La., Los Angeles, Calif., Hopkinsville, Ky., Phoenix, Ariz., Boise, Idaho; Anchorage, Alaska; Honolulu, Hawaii; Philadelphia, Pa.

Since coming into being some 14 months ago, the U.S. Postal Service has bragged there will be next day delivery of air mail letters to cities within a 600-mile radius and delivery within two days to cities beyond 600 miles.

Twenty-three air mail letters were sent and 15 came back in two days, seven in one day and one from Peoria, Ill., in three days. Bradenton and Clearwater were not included in the air mail test.

Twenty-five eight cent first class letters were sent, two came back in three days, 19 in two days and two in four days, from Anchorage, Alaska and Honolulu, Hawaii. It took three days for eight cent letters from Peoria, Ill., and Philadelphia.

J. A. Gonzalez, postmaster and sectional center manager in Tampa for 138 post offices, has been in the post office business for 46

years and said there are many reasons for mail from relatively short distances getting back at the same time as mail from thousands of miles away.

"It depends on where and when the letter was deposited and what the air transportation situation was in that area. When you transfer mail at an airport and the arrival flight is late, it might miss that connection and this begins to create a log jam. And then there's human error. An employee might put the letter in for distribution to the Miami or Jacksonville district instead of the Tampa district. This would be human error. But I can say, human error is very small in this business."

"The other problem is turnover. In the past, many employees were with the post office until they retired, but now employees come and go continually. Our society is more affluent and people move around," Gonzalez said.

Asked about the slowness of the letters from Peoria, Ill., Gonzalez said he's certain it involved available flight transportation. There are no flight schedules between Tampa and Peoria and he doubted if there were many regular flights out of Peoria. It might be that mail is shipped to Chicago or another close city and then down to Florida.

Gonzalez said the U.S. Postal Service is still in an organizational stage but the main thrust is to maintain the present level of service and reduce the delays and errors.

Concerning the boast by the U.S. Postal Service that air mail from cities within a 600-mile radius will reach the public in next day delivery and beyond 600 miles in two days, he said, "Distance is insignificant. What is important is available transportation. It's possible because of available air transportation to get something to Los Angeles faster than you can to Macon, Ga."

Many people do not observe collection schedules, Gonzalez said. It's very important to see when the mail will be picked up at mailboxes. You might be putting a letter in a box at a time when it will stay all night. Another misconception is that first class mail will arrive at the same time as air mail. Some people refuse to spend the extra three cents because of this misconception.

"All mail going any distance goes by air, but air mail is kept separate and goes out all day on the first available flight. First class mail is held until space is available," Gonzalez said.

The St. Petersburg Main Office processes its own mail, but mail is routed into Tampa from small towns and cities that do a limited amount of distributing in St. Petersburg. The letter is then redistributed in Tampa, thus taking more time to arrive in St. Petersburg.

## STUDENT GOVERNMENT DAY

### HON. NICK BEGICH

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 1972

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of the fundamental importance played by student governments in helping young Americans gain valuable experience in the process of decision-making, Gov. William A. Egan has proclaimed September 26, 1972, as Student Government Day in Alaska.

All educational institutions, academic, vocational, and nonacademic are encouraged to join in appropriate activities to encourage wider participation in student government on this day.

I enclose for the attention of my col-



leagues the recent proclamation of Alaska Gov. William A. Egan:

**PROCLAMATION—STUDENT GOVERNMENT DAY**

Students want and deserve an appropriate voice in their own affairs, and education can be better when they have a voice.

More than 60 million Americans are now enrolled as students at all levels of education. They are entitled to participate in the educational decision-making which affects their lives today and their opportunities for many years to come. Administrators and faculty, parents, and taxpayers all should continue to exercise their proper authority; but students too have a legitimate interest in sharing in the process of school governance.

Student councils can offer young people early and vital experience in exercising a voice in matters of common concern, reconciling diverse interests, and selecting leaders to express representative views. Equally important, active and responsible student governments can exert a constructive influence in shaping our educational communities.

Most students in most schools are accepting their new opportunities with the kind of responsibility which will ensure a vital and enlightened role for student government in the Seventies. Our hopes and our efforts must be directed to their doing so, for the quality of our future in some degree depends on it.

Therefore, I, William A. Egan, Governor of Alaska, hereby proclaim September 26, 1972, as Student Government Day in Alaska, and encourage all educational institutions, academic, vocational and non-academic, to join in appropriate activities to highlight, revitalize, and to encourage wider participation in student government.

I also urge all students to acquaint themselves fully with the activities and programs of their student government, and to take a full and constructive part in that government.

Dated this 12th day of September, 1972.

WILLIAM A. EGAN, Governor.

**GUN CONTROL**

**HON. JOSEPH M. GAYDOS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 1972

Mr. GAYDOS. Mr. Speaker, it appears that once again Congress will be considering gun control legislation. One of the bills already proposed is S. 2507, which would prohibit any American, except law officers, from purchasing a handgun unless first receiving permission from the U.S. Secretary of Treasury.

This bill has aroused considerable interest among the sportsmen in my 20th Congressional District of Pennsylvania. One of the leading figures in this group has written me a letter expressing the views of his organization on S. 2507, and gun control legislation in general. The writer is Mr. Don Hoffman, president of the McKeesport Sportsmen's Association, which has a membership of more than 500 active sportsmen and shooting enthusiasts.

They, along with thousands more of my constituents, believe this type of legislation is letting the nose of the camel get inside of the tent. They know what will follow. I have consistently opposed gun control legislation in the past. I believe in the constitutional right of Americans to own firearms and I have no in-

tention of changing that position when S. 2507 comes to the floor of the House for a vote.

Mr. Speaker, I believe my colleagues will be interested in Mr. Hoffman's opinions and I am inserting a copy of his letter into the RECORD for their information and consideration:

McKEESPORT SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION,

Allegheny County, Pa., August 21, 1972.

DEAR SIR: The McKeesport Sportsmen's Association represents a group of over 500 active sportsmen and shooting enthusiasts. It has been in operation in its present location since 1934 serving a Metropolitan area in Allegheny and Westmoreland Counties of over 265,000 population within an 8 mile radius of the club grounds. Club facilities provide for Trap and Skeet shooting, Indoor and outdoor ranges for Pistol and Small bore rifle, Outdoor Big Bore Rifle shooting, and for Archery shooting. The aim of the club is to provide more sport, outdoor recreation, and education of youth in the shooting sports and conservation. We have provided Marksmanship and Hunter Safety Training for more than 2500 area young people. Area Police Departments and military organizations use our ranges for weapons training. Our facilities have been used by Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups and also by the Area Community College. More than 750 competitive shooters use our various ranges and they represent area sportsmen's clubs totaling better than 6000 memberships. With this background in mind, the officers and members of the McKeesport Sportsmen's Association wish to respectfully present the following thoughts and desires concerning pending firearm legislation.

The tragic shooting of Governor Wallace has precipitated another wave of hysteria for more and better gun control laws. One of the more sinister of these bills is Senator Birch Bayh's S2507, a bill that could make it illegal for anyone but law-enforcement officials to purchase handguns unless first receiving permission from the Secretary of Treasury.

We find it quite disturbing when elected officials propose and/or support such measures. Actions of this nature make it quite evident that these elected officials are not aware of their American heritage and the rights guaranteed its citizenry by the Constitution of the United States. This letter is submitted on behalf of all Americans who cherish the blessed freedoms which our Founding Fathers guaranteed to we, the people, when they drafted our Constitution, the document that established the finest form of government the world has ever known.

When our Founding Fathers wrote the Declaration of Independence, they were an Oligarchy. The government was in the hands of a small influential group. They could have done whatever they pleased. Some people even came to George Washington and asked him to be king, but he and the others did something unique in history. They divested themselves of the power that they already had and recommended a Republic... the limitation of government.

During the Constitutional Convention, great care was taken to specifically limit government. These men knew their history. They knew that the essence of freedom is the limitation of government. And so, that is what they gave us. They built into it diffusion of powers, checks and balances. They wisely made sure that no government bureau could become so large that it would be oppressive.

Even though they had done their work well, there were some people at the Convention who were still not satisfied. George Mason of Virginia, for example, refused to sign the Constitution. And it was largely through his efforts that the Bill of Rights was added,

the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution. The Bill of Rights is nothing more than the further guarantee of the limitation of government. Limitation was not placed on the people. Limitation was placed on the government!

With respect to the Bill of Rights, it is our contention that these rights cannot be abridged or circumvented legally, and that any attempt to do so by those who are paid, and whose duty it is to protect, uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America, violates their oath of office.

There appears to be much misunderstanding about the 2nd Amendment. The Second Amendment does not say the militia has the right to keep and bear arms; it says the people's right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. Now that is pretty plain in both language and intent, and has been for 175 years of our history. This amendment denies the federal government the power to interfere with the citizenry ownership and use of weapons for lawful purposes.

An American citizenry which is well armed with personal firearms, and possesses the knowledge to use them effectively and properly, would provide more defense against invasion by an enemy (or against any internal attempt to seize power) than the federal government's annual multi-billion-dollar National Defense expenditures now provide.

The early history of our nation bears out this assertion, and the example in Switzerland confirms it. Switzerland (which has not been involved in war since 1515) bases its national defense on a militia system in which all boys between ages seventeen and nineteen take voluntary rifle training. At age nineteen, all boys take tests for military service. Those not qualified are given firearms training and are re-examined periodically. All members of the militia keep their guns, ammunition and other fighting equipment at home; they wear sidearms when going to the polls to vote—not to intimidate anyone, but to demonstrate pride in readiness to defend their nation against all enemies, domestic or foreign. In a crisis, Switzerland could instantly mobilize 850,000 men, armed and trained, out of a total population of 5,500,000. This represents, on a per-capita basis, the biggest national defense army in the world; yet Switzerland has practically no standing army to drain the public treasury for its upkeep.

In 1939 and 1940, Finland, with a population of only 4 million (but with an unusually large number of trained riflemen) was able to resist and humiliate the mammoth armies of the Soviet Union, whose population then totaled 170 million.

Requiring national registration of personally owned firearms can be quite as disastrous to freedom as total disarmament of the citizenry. France had a national gun registration law before World War II. Nazis confiscated the records and the guns, making effective resistance impossible. It was a firearms registration and control law which enabled Communists to disarm the Czechoslovakians, thus leaving them helpless when the Communists moved to take total control.

Many Americans remember the impassioned pleas of the British for personal firearms to defend their homes and families in 1940, when a Nazi invasion of England seemed imminent. The British had been disarmed by their own government, with severe firearms control regulations.

In conclusion, we wish to remind you that the illegal use—not the ownership—of a firearm is the proper object of legislative concern. Therefore, we ask you to uphold your oath of office and oppose any and all forms of legislation pertaining to registration and/or confiscation of firearms.

Sincerely,

DONALD L. HOFFMAN,  
President, McKeesport Sportsmen's Association.

## BAIL REDUCED FOR FORT WORTH FIVE

## HON. SILVIO O. CONTE

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 1972

Mr. CONTE. Mr. Speaker, I have been closely following the situation in Northern Ireland, and particularly the recent case involving the incarceration in Fort Worth, Tex., of five members of the Irish community from New York.

I am pleased that bail has finally been granted to these five men. As you may know, last week, at the order of Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, these men were given the opportunity to post bail. Unfortunately, this bail was set by the courts at the exorbitant amount of \$100,000. This past weekend the bail was reduced to the more reasonable amount of \$5,000 to \$15,000 per person and I have been advised that all have returned to their homes.

Much of this case still remains a mystery, despite repeated requests for information from Members of Congress to the Department of Justice. At least this latest action will allow these men to remain with their families for the time being while attempts are made to resolve the legal uncertainties surrounding their case.

Regrettably there is nothing hopeful to report on the situation in the six counties of Ulster. The violence perpetrated on the minority by denying them their basic human rights has been answered by violence, and on both sides it is escalating.

I do not condone violence of any kind and, to my mind, ignoring or refusing to do anything about the causes of such violence is tantamount to approval. Something must be done to relieve these suffering people.

Early this year I said that the fact that the United States remained silent throughout this tragedy was, in itself, a tragedy. I called for immediate steps to be taken to insure full civil rights for all the people in Northern Ireland; an immediate end to the policy of internment without trial, with the simultaneous release of all persons detained thereunder; and the replacement of British troops with a U.N. peacekeeping force. I also urged that arrangements be made for consultations with all parties involved, to bring about a cessation of the conflict.

This has not been done. In the ensuing months hundreds of people have been killed, countless families driven from their homes, and a whole generation of children has experienced the real violence of death and the subtle, but nearly as devastating, violence of discrimination and hatred.

America must not sit silently by in the face of this tragedy. Irish men and women have contributed greatly to this country. It is only fitting that we offer to them our support in their search for a just and lasting peace.

Mr. Speaker, I again call upon our Government to use its offices to assist in bringing about this peace.

## SHABBAT SHUVAH: A RETURN TO SANITY

## HON. CHARLES W. WHALEN, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 1972

Mr. WHALEN. Mr. Speaker, a distinguished rabbi in my district articulated his reflections on the U.S. involvement in Indochina before his Temple Israel congregation on September 15, 1972 in Dayton, Ohio.

Rabbi Howard R. Greenstein's exposition was among the most eloquent and dispassionate of any I have seen or heard on the critical subject of the Vietnam war.

So well thought out is his presentation, Mr. Speaker, that I will not attempt to describe it. Instead, I insert it at this point in the Record and urge every Member of Congress to read what this most thoughtful man of God had to say:

## SHABBAT SHUVAH: A RETURN TO SANITY

The Central Conference of American Rabbis recently proposed a specific course of action to all Reform colleagues in which they might wish to invite their congregants to join them. The proposal, offered by the Committee on Justice and Peace, declared that "The continuation of the war in Vietnam is a painful burden for each of us. As responsible citizens, we cannot evade our own share of guilt because our nation is carrying on a war which we find unconscionable. As serious Jews we must try to expiate our guilt."

The resolution then urged each congregational rabbi, if he so chooses as an individual, to announce on Rosh Hashanah his intention to fast for a particular period specifically in repentance for the devastation of Vietnam and to persuade as many congregants as he can to join him in that fast.

The CCAR proposal clearly stated that the purpose of such action was not a public demonstration or protest. The proposal was aimed solely as a quiet but meaningful way of acknowledging personal guilt for our collective participation in the War.

I must confess to you that I fully intended to participate in that action and to designate one day this past week at which time all those who shared this revulsion for the Vietnam war could meet together at Temple as part of a special day of fasting and prayer. I cancelled those plans only because the magnitude of the tragedy in Munich simply obliterated any priority which the Vietnam War would ordinarily deserve.

The Munich disaster, however, in no way diminishes the enormity of the shameful record which this nation has produced in Southeast Asia. It has generated a contempt for the integrity of our beloved America which shall defile our social climate long after the smoke has cleared in the jungles of Vietnam. Undoubtedly, members of Temple Israel or any other congregation will resent the intrusion of religion on matters of political consequence. That objection would be wholly valid, if these were only matters of political consequence. But they are not. They are also matters of grave moral consequence. What is at stake is nothing less than the credibility of a nation founded on principles which originate in the dictates of human conscience. The requirements of conscience are very much the domain of religion, and especially Judaism.

This war in Indochina has long become a moral abomination. Within the past ten years more than one-and-a-half million people have been killed and millions more injured. Nearly one-third of the population of Indo-

China have been driven from their homes. Over three times the amount of explosives employed in World War II have saturated an area roughly the size of New England. One seventh of Vietnam's forest land has been totally burned out and thousands of acres more of farm land have been totally devastated, creating severe food shortage in several communities. Over 20 million bomb craters puncture the countryside of Indochina, and several hundred thousand unexploded bombs remain a deadly danger to life and property.

In the last six years alone, the War has produced more than 6 million refugees—one-third of the entire population. At least half a million soldiers have died, 325,000 civilians have been killed and hundreds of thousands more wounded. The devastation has spawned 284,000 orphans, 131,000 war widows, 156,000 persons physically disabled.

I do not recite these statistics to exaggerate the reality. What words could possibly exaggerate such misery and suffering? I cite these facts, and they may be found in such sources as The Congressional Record, because I tremble for all that this country stands for. I tremble as did Thomas Jefferson when I reflect with him that "God is just and that His justice cannot sleep forever." I quote these appalling figures, because I find it almost impossible to believe that the nation responsible for them is the same nation which is dedicated to the proposition that "all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these rights are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

How much life, liberty and happiness we have brought to Southeast Asia each of us may judge for himself from the reports of Vietnamese victims. A 30 year-old woman refugee states that "Our lives became like those of animals desperately trying to escape their hunters . . . Human beings, whose parents brought them into the world and carefully raised them with overflowing love despite so many difficulties, these human beings would die from a single blast as explosions burst, lying still without moving again at all. And who then thinks of the blood, flesh, sweat and strength of their parents, and who will have charity and pity for them? . . . In reality, whatever happens, it is only the innocent who suffer. And as for other men, do they know all the unimaginable things happening in this war?"

A young boy of only thirteen recalls the fire of destruction which destroyed everything he ever knew and loved. "My village," he writes, stood on the edge of the road from Xieng Khouang to the Plain of Jars. There were ricefields next to the road. At first, the airplanes bombed the road, but not my village.

"At that time my life was filled with great happiness, for the mountains and forests were beautiful; land, water and climate were suitable for us. And there were many homes in our little village."

"But that did not last long, because the airplanes came bombing my ricefield until the bomb craters made farming impossible. And the village was hit and burned. And some relatives working in the fields came running out to the road to return to the village, but the airplanes saw them and shot them—killing these farmers in a most heart-rending manner. We heard their screams but could not go to help them. When the airplanes left, we went out to help them, but they were already dead." This is the testimony of a thirteen year-old boy.

The innocent farmers and children are not the only victims of this war. The victims also include the American pilots who fly these bombing missions. They may escape physically unharmed, but spiritually this "modern warfare" has inflicted mortal wounds on them from which they may never recover. This warfare from a distance" has transformed the brutality of wholesale vio-



lence into a mechanical operation. Sophisticated weapons enable a man to slaughter thousands without even seeing the results of his devastation. Consequently, conscience ceases to be a deterrent to murder. "I'll be frank," said one pilot, "I'm trained to kill people. I don't like it particularly—but when the time comes, I'm prepared to do it. It's just like your experts in the political or economic field are allowed to do their specialties. When it's in the military phase, I feel I should be allowed to employ my expertise. I mean, I guess you could say I want to be allowed to employ my expertise just like Eichmann or something."

These are not the words of a barbarian. These are the statements of a loyal, responsible American military man. The massacre in which he participates is not a crime for him, because he is never at the scene. He plots bombing raids on coordinates, not villages. He pulls a lever from 5000 feet up, not a trigger at human forms 100 yards away. His photographs reveal bomb craters and destroyed "enemy structures", not mutilated children or napalmed grandmothers. This is where the Indochina War has brought him; and this is where by our financial and political support, it has brought all of us.

Why then do we continue to wage this campaign of insanity? It is hard to find out. Is it in defense of a sovereign nation? The Geneva Accords presume the existence of only one Vietnam not two.

Is it to contain Chinese expansion? That rationale collapses in light of American efforts this past year to seek accommodation with China.

Is it treaty commitments? The SEATO treaty has never applied, the Tonkin Gulf resolution has been repealed, and the U.S. has never had a defense treaty with Vietnam, Laos or Cambodia.

Is it to prevent a bloodbath following the end of hostilities? In the past six years, American and allied armed forces have killed more civilians every six months than the other side has in 16 years. What bloodbath could possibly exceed that magnitude?

Is it in defense of American honor? Many Americans, including Congressional leaders of both parties, are convinced that the spectacle of the world's most destructive military machine relentlessly pounding a nation of simple peasants has defiled American honor as never before in our history.

Is it to protect our troops and gain the release of our prisoners? No enemy in the world has ever released all its prisoners prior to the end of all hostilities.

Reasons may exist which none of us can know. That possibility, however, is entirely extraneous. No conceivable reason on God's earth could justify this path of insanity which we continue to follow with increasing immunity to all its horror.

This is Shabbat Shuvah—the Sabbath of Repentance. The observations I share with you are not a matter of political maneuvers.

It is not important whether this is Nixon's War or Johnson's War or anybody else's war. This is a filthy, cruel and needless war, and by every measure of human conscience, it must stop! It is a travesty to all that is sacred and meaningful in human life. Whatever range of alternatives may exist in Judaism on the subject of war and peace, it cannot condone the living hell which Vietnam has become.

I do not ask for resolutions of protest from this congregation. I do not ask for demonstrations or public condemnations, though they may be long overdue. I only ask that you honestly search your own heart and soul and determine whether as a Jew you can tolerate this mad venture any longer and whether it is possible for any American to ignore some degree of responsibility for what has happened.

If you agree with me that this war has become a mark of Cain for all of us, then this Sabbath of Repentance will be a moment of serious spiritual inventory. In two days we will worship together on the holiest day of our calendar. This senseless slaughter which continues every day will add at least for me a new dimension to the confession, "Chatati—I have sinned. I have sinned, I have transgressed, I have acted perversely."

I shall pray that God may grant me the strength and the courage to support every worthy effort to end this nightmare. I shall pray that, God willing, it may not be too late to salvage a portion of our conscience. Amen.

#### TELEPHONE PRIVACY—XXXIX

### HON. LES ASPIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 1972

Mr. ASPIN. Mr. Speaker, I reintroduced the telephone privacy bill on May 10, 1972, with a total of 48 cosponsors.

This bill would give individuals the right to indicate to the telephone company if they do not wish to be commercially solicited over the telephone. Commercial firms wanting to solicit business over the phone would then be required to obtain from the phone company a list of customers who opted for the commercial prohibition. The FCC would also be given the option of requiring the phone company, instead of supplying a list, to put an asterisk by the name of those individuals in the phone book who have chosen to invoke the commercial solicitation ban.

Those not covered by the legislation would be charities and other nonprofit

groups, political candidates or organizations, and opinion polltakers. Also not covered would be debt collection agencies or any other individual or companies with whom the individual has an existing contract or debt.

I have received an enormous amount of correspondence on this legislation from all over the country. Today, I am placing a 37th sampling of these letters into the RECORD, since they describe far more vividly than I possibly could, the need for this legislation.

The letters follow:

HON. LES ASPIN,  
House Office Building,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I understand you have introduced H.R. 14884 to keep nuisance calls off phones.

I do hope something will be passed through Congress because the last few years we receive land development calls trying every gimmick to get us to meetings and dinners, cash gifts, vacations, etc. We get plagued by contractors, newspapers, rug and furniture companies, fund raising organizations. You name it, we get them. We are aged and could ill-afford any of these luxuries and we feel they are real intruders on our right to privacy. Calls inconvenience the aged, disabled, busy mothers and frankly are just a nuisance I'm severely crippled so it is an effort to get to phone.

Recently we were told there is a racket going people make these offers for free dinner and movies and when you are out of house your place is robbed. Therefore, any pressure than can be used to have people's right of privacy protected via phone service would be a blessing to many people. It is long overdue.

Sincerely yours,

#### MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN— HOW LONG?

### HON. WILLIAM J. SCHERLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 1972

Mr. SCHERLE. Mr. Speaker, a child asks: "Where is daddy?" A mother asks: "How is my son?" A wife asks: "Is my husband alive or dead?"

Communist North Vietnam is sadistically practicing spiritual and mental genocide on over 1,757 American prisoners of war and their families.

How long?