

I would like to congratulate and commend Mr. Beard for his outstanding service to the Nation. His achievements are worthy of high praise and appreciation and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

**SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL FUND
FOR IRELAND AND MACBRIDE
PRINCIPLES**

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Friends of Ireland, I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the International Fund for Ireland and the MacBride Principles.

The time is right. The current peace process in the North provides a context in which our assistance will be most valued. And our willingness to reward nonviolent problem solving could not be shown more clearly.

Our historical tie to Ireland is a lifeline—not for victory in armed struggle, but for economic success in peacetime.

We have a humanitarian interest at stake, and an economic interest. Because Ireland has a highly skilled, educated work force. It is a gateway to Europe, and a potential market for American companies.

Regarding the MacBride Principles, I personally believe that despite the cease-fire and despite advances in the peace process, systemic prejudice still exists in the North. The MacBride Principles will guarantee that U.S. tax dollars are targeted at unemployment in the areas that will bring the best peace dividend.

Our economic assistance has helped Ireland get this far in its struggle for peace, and will continue to help create an infrastructure of hope.

I urge support for this measure.

**IN RECOGNITION OF AMCORE
BANK AND THE ZION DEVELOP-
MENT CORPORATION**

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to recognize the accomplishments of the partnership between AMCORE Bank and the Zion Development Corporation. These two organizations, acting in unison, have stabilized and redeveloped a major portion of the Rockford community. Their commendable efforts were justifiably included by the Social Compact in their 1995 Outstanding Community Investment Awards program.

AMCORE Bank and the Zion Development Corporations have a long history of working together. AMCORE Bank, a major financial institution in Rockford, had been located for nearly 100 years on Seventh Street, directly across from the church that founded the Zion Development Corporation [ZDC]. The ZDC, established in 1982, has acted as an instrument to revitalize storefront and residential property in an urban neighborhood. Its mission

is to provide affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families of every background, as well as to train the residents of Rockford for worthwhile employment opportunities.

Neither AMCORE, nor the ZDC could have succeeded in creating safe, thriving areas within their neighborhood without the help of the other. Acting as a model for other businesses around the Nation, AMCORE granted generous and flexible loans to the ZDC, often financing close to 100 percent of the cost of the properties acquired by the ZDC. AMCORE went on to donate money directly to its partner, to establish a banking service for the residents of the new properties, and to help form the Seventh Street Area Development Council. The ZDC is, like AMCORE, a model itself. It is a nonprofit institution designed to positively impact citizens' lives directly. It has targeted and purchased the properties around Seventh Street which, in the past, have been infamous because of the prostitution and drug dealing that occurred there.

These two organizations have earned admiration and respect because of their service. They have been deservedly noted by the Social Compact and provide inspiration to the rest of Rockford, as well as the country, to never concede a neighborhood as lost to crime.

**BISHOP STUDENT EXCELS IN
NATIONAL HISTORY DAY**

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention today the fine achievement of Will Baylies and the leadership of his teacher, Mrs. Irene Sorenson, from Home Street Middle School in Bishop, CA. Recently, this remarkable student joined other students from across the country at the University of Maryland to compete in National History Day sponsored by the Constitutional Rights Foundation. The theme for this year's competition was conflict and compromise in history.

Will qualified for the national competition by first winning at the local, regional, and State levels. Will placed first in California for his research paper titled, "A Philosophical Conflict on Civil Rights, Integration or Separatism? Correspondence Between Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X." Will took the original approach of creating a series of letters between these two men that express an understanding of their philosophies. In reality, King and Malcolm X did not correspond so the content of the letters reflect the research done as well as critical analysis by Will.

This outstanding student and Mrs. Sorenson are a tribute to our public school system which remains the finest in the world. Although this student lives in a community of less than 5,000 people located 200 miles from a major library or university, he completed extensive research in his subject area and was highly competitive with students from the large metropolitan areas including Los Angeles County, San Bernardino County, and Riverside County. It is also remarkable that under the guidance of Mrs. Sorenson, a total of 16 students

made it all the way to the final State competition and exhibited their knowledge in 7 of the possible 8 categories.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, and friends in recognizing the fine achievement of these individuals. Their work is a reflection of education at its best. It is fitting and appropriate that the House of Representatives pay tribute to them today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAT WILLIAMS

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, family difficulties kept me from being here for the vote on the Kasich-Dellums amendment on deleting money from the authorization for additional B-2's.

Had I been in attendance I would have voted "aye".

**TRIBUTE TO DELORES BOHANNON-
WILKINS**

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege and honor for me to rise today and pay tribute to one of Reston, VA's most beloved teachers and community leaders, Delores Bohannon-Wilkins who passed away last month after a long, prolonged battle with cancer. On June 15, 1995 the school where Mrs. Wilkins taught, Langston Hughes Middle School, will dedicate a hall in her memory.

At Langston Hughes Middle School Delores Bohannon-Wilkins served as a middle school mathematics teacher in Reston, VA. She was actively involved in professional educational pursuits. She originated and directed community mentor programs for children-at-risk in Fairfax County. Mrs. Wilkins served as a leader and presenter at professional educational conferences, seminars, and workshops. She also provided counselling for youths and their families in the Reston community.

Among her honors were the Golden Eagle award for outstanding educational contributions and being named Lady Fairfax for the Hunter Mill Magisterial District in Fairfax County [VA], at the Fairfax County Fair in recognition of her leadership contributions to the community. She was a member of several professional and civic organizations. Among these were the Reston Chapter of National Jack and Jill the National Council of Negro Women where she served as president.

Delores graduated from St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, VA. She pursued additional graduate studies at the University of Maryland, University of the District of Columbia, and the University of Virginia. She was married to Dr. Thomas A. Wilkins and was the mother of three children; Lisa, Thomas, and Mark.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring Delores Bohannon-Wilkins, a woman who served as a role model, mentor, and leader in Reston. She was a woman whose leadership in her community made it a

much better place to live than she found it. She will be missed by those who knew her, but her example of commitment and concern will remain a part of her legacy.

AMERICAN OVERSEAS INTERESTS
ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1561), to consolidate the foreign affairs agencies of the United States; to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal years 1996 and 1997; to responsibly reduce the authorizations of appropriations for United States foreign assistance programs for fiscal years 1996 and 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Chairman, I want to express my strongest opposition to the amendment proposed by my distinguished friend from New Jersey [Mr. SMITH]. I have the highest regard for my colleague, Mr. SMITH. He and I have worked together on many issues on human rights, and I fully share his abhorrence of coerced abortions that have been carried out in China. I have joined him on many occasions to protest in the strongest terms this egregious violation of human rights. While we have worked closely together on a large number of human rights issues, including coercive population control programs, and I look forward to working with him on a number of other issues in the future, I disagree in the strongest terms with this amendment that he has offered to the bill H.R. 1561.

I support the reasoned alternative that has been presented by our distinguished colleague from Maryland, Mrs. MORELLA, which is the same provision that Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas presented during full committee markup, and which was approved by a significant margin during that markup by the entire International Relations Committee.

Mr. Chairman, unchecked population growth in developing countries poses a serious and a growing threat to United States national interests throughout the world. It has serious implications for our international policy in areas of trade, security, environment and international migration.

To reduce the whole range of U.S. population assistance to the issue of abortion—which is what the amendment of our colleague from New Jersey does—does a great injustice to our pioneering work in the field of population planning, where the United States is a recognized leader and innovator.

U.S. population assistance addresses a broad range of critical needs—maternal health; child survival; primary health care, including the prevention of death due to pregnancy-related causes; and the prevention of the spread of sexually transmitted diseases; and contraception.

The aim of a family planning organization is not to promote abortion, but quite to the contrary—to prevent unwanted pregnancies and abortion, which is the leading cause of maternal mortality. The principal objectives of the Agency for International Development's Popu-

lation Program are to enable couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, to improve individual health, and to reduce population growth rates to levels that are consistent with sustainable development.

U.S. population assistance is very much in our Nation's interest and—dollar for dollar—probably offers the best return on investment of any of our foreign assistance programs.

If effective action is not taken with this decade as today's 1.6 billion children in the developing world under the age of 15 reach their childbearing years, then the Earth's population could nearly quadruple to over 19 billion people by the end of the next century.

Such an unchecked explosion in population threatens the international community just as much as the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction or the increase in international crime, because the alarming rate of population growth underlies virtually every developmental, environmental, and national security problem facing the world today. In Algeria, Brazil, and India—to name but a few examples—we are seeing how growing populations hinder economic development, foster serious environmental degradation, and exacerbate political instability.

Experts estimate, Mr. Chairman, that 125 million people in developing countries want to delay or avoid childbirth, but they are not using contraception because they do not have access to means of birth control.

Population growth is outstripping the capacity of many nations to make even modest gains in economic development, leading to growing political instability in many countries. At best, this undermines the ability of these countries to be reliable members of the international community or good trading partners of the United States. At worst, it can contribute to massive unrest and violence, as we have witnessed in Rwanda.

The impact of exponential population growth is also evident in the mounting signs of depletion and overuse of the world's natural resources. We have only to see what is happening throughout the continent of Africa, in South Asia, and in many areas of South America to realize the serious and, I fear, irreversible environmental consequences of unchecked population growth.

At the International Conference on Population in 1984 in Mexico City, the Officials of the Reagan administration speaking for the United States Government announced a new policy of denying United States foreign aid funds to any foreign nongovernmental organization that provided abortion counseling, referral, or services. Initially called the Mexico City Policy, because it was announced at the U.N. conference in that city, it came to be known as the International Gag Rule.

While the ostensible purpose of that policy was to prevent abortion, the evidence has shown that restrictions did nothing to reduce reliance on abortion. In fact, the only impact of the restrictions was to interfere with the delivery of effective family planning services and appropriate medical care.

Current law and the explicit text of the Morella/Meyers language make it very clear that no United States funds can be used now or in the future to perform abortions abroad except in cases of rape, incest, or endangerment of the mother's life. No United States funds may be used to lobby for or

against abortion, and no United States funds will be spent by the U.N. Family Planning Agency in China.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to reject this effort to return us to the era of the International Gag Rule. The counter-productive and self-defeating Mexico City Policy was appropriately and rightfully rejected by the American people, and it was repudiated in the past by the Congress as well. It is necessary for us to reject this effort to turn back the clock. The Smith amendment is contrary to American national interests, and it is a policy that is contrary to the interest of stability and economic development in the Third World. It is time for us to move forward and face realistically and meaningfully the very serious population problems that we face in the world.

PROTECTING THE FLAG

HON. TOBY ROTH

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, today Americans across the Nation will unfurl Old Glory to celebrate Flag Day. Last Saturday, June 10, Appleton, WI held the Nation's largest Flag Day parade to honor our veterans who won World War II 50 years ago.

Fifty years ago, the U.S. Marine Corps invaded the rocky island of Iwo Jima. The month-long assault marked the beginning of the United States forces freeing the South Pacific from Japanese occupation. This epic battle was won at the staggering cost of 6,821 American lives.

One of the veterans of this battle was John H. Bradley, a native of Antigo, WI. When he died last year, Mr. Bradley was the last survivor of the six American servicemen who raised the U.S. flag on Iwo Jima. Their valor was captured in the unforgettable 1945 Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph by Joe Rosenthal.

Across the Potomac River from the Capitol, that flag-raising scene is brought to life in the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial. Day and night, American citizens and visitors from around the world come to pay homage to the six Americans who struggled to raise the flag on Mount Suribachi, the highest point on Iwo Jima.

The raising of the flag brought tears to the valiant Americans who were still struggling to vanquish the nearly impregnable Japanese defenses. The rippling red, white, and blue of Old Glory overhead instilled hope and courage to these weary marines.

To Americans, the flag is a symbol to revere, respect, and honor. At the 45th annual Appleton Flag Day parade, I saw rugged World War II veterans, as well as little boys and girls, snap to attention when the flag passed by.

For many years, Federal law and 48 State laws protected the flag from physical desecration. While Americans have always defended political dissent, we draw the line at burning our national symbol.

But in 1989, the U.S. Supreme Court nullified these laws with a nonsensical interpretation of the first amendment protection of freedom of speech.