

African governments provided safe water and adequate sanitation to an additional 120 million people during the 1980's and now over 80 percent of the children living in urban areas have access to safe water and adequate sanitation.

African girls face many obstacles in obtaining an education but now approximately 69 percent of African girls are enrolled in primary school, up from 44 percent in the 1970's.

While there has been progress over the last three decades, there were several setbacks in the 1980's, such as a falling off of school enrollment by 7 percent.

This setback has been largely caused by the increasing civil wars with Africa. Armed conflict continues to afflict sub-Saharan Africa where fighting persists in Sudan, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. The potential for renewed outbreaks in Rwanda, Burundi, and Somalia is high, and other countries like Zaire and Nigeria, are at risk. Most of the nations where these wars occur have been victims of our former cold war policy.

The condition that these countries find themselves in today is largely due to our policy of containment of communism in the cold war days. As proper as that may have been during that period, the truth is these countries are suffering today because of the divisions this policy created in their societies.

Children of Africa have suffered due to this policy and this should concern the American people so that we strive harder to right these wrongs.

It is important that this year's Day of the African Child campaign will explore the theme of children in armed conflict. A study commissioned by UNICEF found that 75 percent of the children interviewed in Rwanda had seen mass killings in many areas. Moreover, in several African countries, boys as young as 11 years old have been recruited into military training.

The recent war in Rwanda is only one example of the atrocities committed where children have been the greatest victims. Thousands have been killed in the most brutal way by hacking away arms and limbs. On June 14 of last year, militia members of the majority Hutu tribe abducted up to 40 children of the minority Tutsis from a church complex in the government-held part of the Rwandan capital. The militia headed them off to almost certain death.

Enormous strides have been made in providing basic services for children caught in conflict. I was proud of the pharmaceutical industries in the New Jersey and New York area that responded to my call to help the children of Somalia through providing quality drugs through UNICEF.

On this now fifth annual Day of the African Child, please think of the children in each of the 56 countries of Africa and help in your own personal way to continue this good work.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

TRIBUTE TO ROLLING MEADOWS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 1994 HONOREES

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor five very special business leaders in my district who were recognized and honored on May 11, 1995 by the Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce for their contributions to the community.

David Hill, Jr., chairman and president of Kimball Hill, Inc., was honored as the 1994 Business Leader of the Year. Having grown to become one of the 50 largest homebuilders in the United States, Kimball Hill Homes collectively delivered over 1,000 homes in 1994 alone. In addition, Mr. Hill has been involved in national housing policy efforts and has testified before Congress on housing finance issues. Moreover, he has been an extremely active participant in a number of local and regional planning, affordable housing, and charitable organizations.

Dr. Arvind Goyal, of Family Doctor, Inc., was honored as the 1994 Community Leader of the Year. Aside from having served residents for 16 years as a family doctor, Dr. Goyal has belonged to a wide range of local, State, and national organizations, such as the American Medical Association and the American Cancer Society. Other activities that have benefited the community include his public presentations and testimonials on health and other issues before a number of community institutions. Finally, Dr. Goyal has actively lobbied State and Federal legislators on such issues as smoking restrictions in business places, prevention of domestic violence, and health care reform.

Helene Curtis Industries, Inc., was honored with the 1994 Business Beautification Award. This respected Fortune 500 company which has been headquartered in Chicago for years completely renovated their building at 3100 Golf Road. The Rolling Meadows Chamber has obviously taken note of the marked improvement in appearance.

McMinn & Troutman was honored as Small Business of the Year. Having moonlighted as my campaign treasurer for the past 25 years, I am pleased to see Billy McMinn recognized for all the dedicated time and effort that he and his partner, Larry Troutman, have put into their business. Aside from their exceptional skills within the office, McMinn and Troutman have been longtime civic volunteers, as each are also active members of the Rolling Meadows Rotary Club, their respective churches, and many other civic institutions within the community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate these five business leaders of Rolling Meadows for their hard work and dedication.

Rolling Meadows and the Eighth Congressional District of Illinois is a better place to live because of them.

THE FLAT TAX AND CRIMINALS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, advocates of sales taxes and value added taxes say that their proposals will eliminate the underground economy and tax avoidance by the criminal element and pretty much make the IRS unnecessary.

Personally, I've been very skeptical of this argument, but the following letter, received by members of the Ways and Means Committee, indicates that the Republican tax revolution may indeed bring a revolution to criminal thinking.

ROBIN, GYPUM, & STEEL, P.C.,
Springfield, VA, June 7, 1995.

Chairman BILL ARCHER,
*Committee on Ways and Means, 1102 Longworth
HOB, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: We serve as legal representatives of the United Drug Dealers of America and the Organized Families Mutual Benefit Association. On behalf of our clients, we were pleased and excited to hear your opening statement of June 5, 1995, detailing how the United States of America might abolish the IRS and move to a transaction or sales tax system. As you indicated, this would abolish the problem of the underground economy and the problem of non-compliance with the nation's tax laws.

On behalf of our clients, we heartily endorse this move. Our clients are patriotic Americans who want to contribute to the nation's tax base.

We do have, however, a number of technical questions as to how the sales tax system would work, and we hope you can provide guidance to the entrepreneurs we represent.

1. To reduce the paperwork associated with millions of dollars worth of marijuana, heroin, cocaine, LSD, etc., sales, can we pay the tax just once at the point of entry? If so, can we pay to an authority other than the U.S. Customs Service (whose personnel seem to have an unprofessional "attitude" problem toward our clients)? Or could you abolish the Customs Service, too?

2. Many of our clients build a customer base near centers of education by the use of free samples. Later, much later, the customer pays. Can the cost of free samples be netted against the profits of later sales?

3. Sometimes a client/customer will make an offer that can't be refused, and a refund for a below par product is in order. If our client has already paid the sales tax, whom do they apply to for a refund?

4. In the execution of our business, a contract is frequently let for disposing of a family of problems. Half the payment is made at the time of the contract, half on the completed contract method of accounting. If, however, the contractor is himself/herself indisposed before half the job is completed, can we receive a refund for a business loss?

5. Because of the high rate of disease and disability in our clients' professions, we are very interested in qualifying for Social Security disability payments as soon as possible. Will we be able to qualify after six quarters of employment in the event of hostile fire? If there is no IRS, who will keep track of our Social Security and Medicare payments? Or would you recommend that we advise our clients to switch to State Workmen's Compensation programs?

6. It is reported you might exempt medical expenses from the sales tax. Client customers who use drugs for stress-reducing

purposes—can they be exempt? We have a number of clients who provide dysfunctional sexual counseling services. Will that be an exempt medical expense?

7. Lastly, for our interstate gambling clients, will there be a source tax? For example, if a bettor in Virginia wins at a New York track, will his bookie have to withhold for New York State taxes?

Thank you for your help and guidance on these questions. Like other Americans, we will probably have more as we think through your proposal.

Sincerely,

DEWEY CHEATEM, Esq.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, Wednesday, I missed several rollcall votes in order to attend my son's graduation ceremony in Buffalo. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on Roll Calls 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, and 377, and "no" on Roll Calls 378 and 379.

SUPPORT EFFORTS FOR A JUST PEACE IN GUATEMALA

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to urge the administration and my colleagues in Congress to support important efforts which are underway to establish a just peace in the friendly Central American Republic of Guatemala. This country has suffered through 34 years of a prolonged terrorist campaign, conducted by elements of the communist URNG, which has provoked violent military responses to its attacks and assassinations. Approximately 100,000 Guatemalans have been killed by both sides during this period. Even a former U.S. Ambassador, Gordon Mein, and a number of United States and other foreign embassy personnel have been assassinated by terrorists groups.

The disappearance of the U.S.S.R., the electoral demise of the Sandinistas and the impoverishment of Castro have left the guerrillas with little financial support other than Norway and a lame cause which has never commanded a popular following in Guatemala. The URNG has agreed to negotiations with the Government following its signing of a Comprehensive Human Rights Accord in 1994. Considerable progress has been made, and Guatemala's respected former Human Rights Ombudsman, Ramiro Leon Carpio, has become the nation's President, with a strong commitment to peace. He has sustained the peace talks and signed six agreements with the URNG since January 1994. These have included agreements on the protection of human rights, the establishment of a historical clarification commission to address past human rights abuses by both sides once the peace has been finalized, as well as agreements to protect Guatemala's Indian people, refugees and other displaced persons who have been victims of this bloody and protracted conflict.

To prove good faith, the Guatemalan Government has implemented its Human Rights Agreement and has agreed to the presence of a United Nations Peace Mission to Guatemala. I know of no other nation which has been so forthcoming about improving its human rights situation absent a peace agreement and in the face of on-going URNG provocation—police assassinated, numerous kidnappings.

As a society, Guatemala still suffers from residual violence and societal problems which prolonged conflict and unequitable wealth distribution have sustained since colonial times. Nevertheless, as a country, I believe that Guatemala has come farther, from a semi-feudal, conflict-torn and institutionally violent land, ruled by the military in the 1970's and 1980's, to a strong sustained effort toward democratic status. Against all expectations, Guatemala has sustained two democratic elections, which included transfers of power between political parties in 1986 and 1990, and elections of a fully empowered, multiparty legislative branch.

The largest remaining and unresolved Guatemalan problem remains the need for a better legal and police system. Impunity or corruption of the legal branch and untrained and susceptible police, has restrained the advancement of complete democratic process in Guatemala. Yet, in spite of the progress which I have only been to sketch out for you here, Guatemala now faces substantial threats including one from the United States.

The source of this extraordinary problem is an American woman who has become the public affairs front for the URNG. Jennifer Harbury, the widow of URNG Commandante Bamaca, has blitzed the United States for the URNG against Guatemala and has pilloried it in the court of media opinion, over the torture and death of her spouse who appears to have been killed in 1992. Now Harbury and a growing chorus of former supporters of the Sandinistas, and the El Salvadorean FMLN, are clamoring for a cut off of United States aid. What makes this implausible situation even worse is the fact that the terrorist URNG controls no territory, has fewer than 500 men under arms, and lives on war taxes extorted from kidnappings and intercepting local farmers and persons on busses going to market. Harbury has so focussed world opinion on past violent measures used by the Guatemalan armed forces in the face of terrorist assault, that the URNG has continued on its violent course today, with apparent impunity.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that you will join me in calling for the United States to refrain from the short-sighted actions called for by those seeking to cut off assistance to Guatemala at this pivotal time in its history. They would have us break with the Guatemalan armed forces, thereby aligning ourselves with the terrorist URNG in the peace process. The United States must assist Guatemala in the development of civilian controlled and staffed alternatives to the armed forces for law enforcement, and in the reform of a residually corrupt and discredited legal system. These are small items in the balance of a 34 year struggle, and of the Guatemalan people's wish for democracy and freedom from violence.

The United States can offer Guatemala invaluable and inexpensive assistance and constructive criticism, but the media driven opposition to needed democratization-related aid, and demonization of the country and of its

government are driven by Harbury's effective campaign. The fact speak for themselves and loudly in favor of the peace process and the restraint of Guatemala's government. I hope the special treatment accorded to Harbury can be postponed until the peace accord has been signed, and all of the victims or casualties of this horrible episode can be accounted for.

We must do what can to encourage a just and lasting peace in Guatemala. This will enable that government to complete its remarkable transition to full democracy, implementing needed internal reforms necessary to create a system of justice that will bring criminals to justice.

TRIBUTE TO IRWIN WEINBERG

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, this summer Irwin Weinberg of Wilkes-Barre, PA, an internationally known stamp collector and dealer, is celebrating 50 years in philately. At one point in his splendid career he owned the most expensive stamp in the world, the British Guiana one-cent magenta of 1856. He toured the world to exhibit this stamp and later sold it for a record setting sum. Christies in New York regularly asks him to provide stamps for consignment to enhance certain of their auctions. This is a man who has reached the highest level of success in his field.

But it is not his unparalleled success in philately that I as his Congressman and friend would like to celebrate today. It is the philosophy of this man that I commend you, the philosophy of this constituent who with his wife, Jean, lives in Kingston, PA, a town neighboring mine.

In this day when to call oneself a liberal is to be under attack from many sides, when even the term itself is used as an epithet, Irwin Weinberg is proud to call himself a constitutional liberal. Since childhood he has been interested in liberal causes, especially civil rights. I had the honor of taking him as my guest to the White House to meet Nelson Mandela, the great liberator of South Africa, a man whom Irwin counts along with Martin Luther King and Ghandi, as his hero.

As Irwin describes himself, being a constitutional liberal means coupling the defense of human rights as understood by President John Kennedy with the conservative strictures of the Ten Commandments, the Sermon on the Mount, and the American Constitution. And not just understanding and loving these precepts, but living by the truths and codes of conduct they demand of us.

To deal in stamps is to traffic in history. Each stamp is a distillation of a single, significant moment, a freezing of time to mark it for mankind. Irwin Weinberg has collected stamps since he was 12 years old. When he was 18 he issued his first weekly price list which he still publishes the same way, on an old mimeograph machine. He is a sole practitioner, handling each transaction without the aid of a computer, a copier, a fax machine or even a secretary. In this business he is respected throughout the world. Not unlike the delicate stamps themselves, Irwin Weinberg has maintained the integrity of the moment. It is an honor for me to celebrate him.