

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF ALBANIA AT THE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this is a deserving, befitting occasion for Albania and the friends of Albania everywhere. Today we have rectified an unintentional omission of Albania from the scroll of the "Righteous Among Nations" here at the Holocaust Memorial Museum. This omission resulted from the fact that for more than 50 years Albania had been sealed behind a wall that was erected by one of the most repressive governments in this century. Its citizens were forbidden from any contact with the rest of the world, and its history was a forbidden topic of discussion among the Albanian population. One of the most noble chapters in that history is the contributions that the people of Albania made in shielding its Jewish population, as well as many Jews who fled to Albania, from the ravages of the Holocaust.

The evidence of this considerable contribution came to light when my good friends and colleagues, former Congressman Joseph DioGuardi, and Congressman TOM LANTOS visited Albania shortly after the fall of the Communist dictatorship there in 1990. They discovered there was hard evidence that during the dark days of the Second World War in this mostly Moslem country, people of conscience risked their lives to protect their fellow men, women, and children from the monstrously inhumane period we now call the Holocaust.

Former Congressman Joe DioGuardi brought back this rudimentary evidence and commenced the painstaking task of identifying the names of individuals and linking them to the heroic actions which we recognize today. Joe's research was then turned over to the experts in this country and to those associated with Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem, who after some period of time were able to verify the names of the Albanians which are now unveiled on the wall of the Righteous Gentiles—names which now are engraved in stone so that history will not once again be able to overlook them.

I salute Joe DioGuardi and TOM LANTOS for their excellent work in helping to add to our collective consciousness of the fact that out of even the most horrible evil, good can surface. In Albania, as in everywhere else in Europe that was subjected to the boot of the Nazis, people resisted, and attempted, at risk to their lives and those of their families, to protect the innocent people who were slated for extermination simply by virtue of their adherence to the Jewish faith.

To our Albanian friends joining us today, it is hoped the examples of your forebears whose names are now inscribed in this memorial will serve as an inspiration as we again face new conflicts fueled by ethnic hatred in the Balkans. May you preserve and keep alive

their dedication, their spirit of toleration, and reverence for life.

UNFUNDED MANDATE REFORM ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5) to curb the practice of imposing unfunded Federal mandates on States and local governments, to ensure that the Federal Government pays the costs incurred by those governments in complying with certain requirements under Federal statutes and regulations, and to provide information on the cost of Federal mandates on the private sector, and for other purposes.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Jackson-Lee/Clay amendment to H.R. 5 which will help ensure that the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act will not apply to, among other things, laws and regulations necessary to protect American children against the tragedy of hunger and homelessness.

In cities and rural areas throughout our Nation, millions of American men, women, and children go to sleep on our streets cold and hungry and without hope. It is estimated that twelve million children under age 18—one in five—go hungry each day. On any given night in Los Angeles County, there are up to 84,000 homeless people and, more tragically, 9,000 are children.

Chronic hunger and homelessness are among the greatest threats facing our Nation's children. At a time when they are in greatest need of adequate nutrition and shelter, hungry and homeless children are likely to have their physical and emotional growth and educational development permanently limited. If we doom the chance of American children to become productive workers by failing to invest in them and protect them now, we forge a dubious future for this Nation.

Since the 1970's, the Federal Government has recognized that it must play a major role in addressing homelessness and hunger for families and their children. We have recognized that we have a moral obligation of the highest order as the greatest democracy in the world to protect the most vulnerable members of our society—our children. Existing programs to supplement the nutritional needs of children are critically important to maintaining a safety net for children and their families.

At a time when we should be mounting an unrelenting attack on poverty in America, H.R. 5 threatens a massive retreat from the war on hunger and homelessness. The conditions of hunger and homelessness, and its resultant human suffering, are growing and pervasive problems that will only be exacerbated by the

procedural barriers imposed by H.R. 5 and other provisions of the Republican contract with America.

Those who argue that the problem can be addressed through charitable groups are turning a deaf ear to the warnings of organizations such as Catholic Charities, one of the largest in the country, that clearly state they cannot shoulder this responsibility on their own.

We must not be so short sighted in our efforts to bring the Federal deficit under control to abandon our children and leave them without adequate nutrition or housing.

While the road to a total solution for hunger and homelessness is a long and difficult one, our responsibility as Members of Congress is clear: We must continue to protect American children from hunger and homelessness. The Jackson-Lee/Clay amendment is an important step in that direction.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD HIDALGO

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to pay tribute to a former Secretary of the Navy, Edward Hidalgo, who recently passed away. Hidalgo, who served the Navy as the Secretary from 1979 to 1981 was also a lawyer in Washington who specialized in international corporate law.

Hidalgo, born in Mexico City, came to the United States in 1918 and grew up in New York. He graduated magna cum laude from Holy Cross College in 1933 and in 1936 he graduated from Columbia University Law School. He received another law degree in civil law from the University of Mexico Law School. He practiced law in New York before his service in the Navy.

He began his service in the Navy in 1942, during World War II, during which time he was assigned to the State Department where he was a legal advisor in 1942 and 1943. He was later assigned to the Pacific as an air combat intelligence officer aboard the carrier *Enterprise*. Hidalgo received the Bronze Star for his service.

Following World War II, in 1945, he worked on the Eberstadt Committee on the unification of the Armed Services. He was special assistant to Navy Secretary James Forrestal in 1945 and 1946. After which he continued to practice international law in Mexico and then Paris.

Hidalgo became the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for manpower, reserve affairs, and logistics in 1977. In October 1979, he became the Secretary of the Navy.

Edward Hidalgo not only faithfully served this country throughout his lifetime, but lived his life to the fullest in all that he partook. I urge my colleagues to join me in sending sympathy to the members of his family that he leaves. Survivors include his wife, Belinda, four children, and six grandchildren.

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