

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

S.T.O.P.

## HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 10, 1995*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, on February 2, 1995, I was pleased to be included in a critically important briefing. I was proud to help cosponsor a Safe Tables Our Priority [S.T.O.P.]—Safe Food Coalition briefing on foodborne illness.

Last Thursday's briefing marked the second anniversary of the 1993 west coast E. coli outbreak. Fortunately, a forum was created to allow the individuals and families who have suffered from the E. coli illnesses to visit Washington, DC, to examine the ongoing epidemic and discuss plans for preventing future outbreaks of foodborne illness.

The tragic events of 2 years ago are still fresh in my mind. While the incident still upsets me, I can only imagine the constant pain endured by the families who lost a child or who experienced the serious illness due to the contamination of ground beef with E. coli 0157:H7 bacteria. That is why I will always be grateful for the organizations, such as S.T.O.P., that seek to change the system in order to right a wrong. When it comes to a life and death situation, every endeavor to correct the system is welcome.

Until the tragedies were highlighted a few years ago, I do not believe that people were aware of the inherent dangers associated with the consumption of raw meat products. It is unfortunate that a number of deaths occurred before significant changes were made to the current food handling processes. Therefore, we must ensure systematic, science-based prevention of harmful contamination into the operation of every meat and poultry plant. Industries must be held accountable for meeting its food safety obligations. I believe that positive steps can be taken by animal producers to processors to retailers to consumers in order to reduce the risk of illness.

The only benefit of this issue is that significant policy changes are being made and will continue to be made as additional information and technology become available. Serious attempts have been made of late to preserve the quality of meat consumption in both our homes and restaurants. I am encouraged that the Department of Agriculture has established the principle that any contamination of raw ground beef with E. coli 0157:H7 is unacceptable. The Department has strictly enforced zero tolerance for visible signs of contamination of beef and poultry carcasses. It is now mandatory to apply safe handling and cooking labels on every package of raw meat and poultry. Antimicrobial rinses and hot water treatments will also be allowed without prior approval of the Food Safety and Inspection Services. After carcasses have passed inspection and prior to their reaching the coolers, last minute rinses and water treatments will further

reduce the chance of reducing levels of E. coli 0157:H7.

I urge my colleagues to support organizations such as S.T.O.P., dedicated to the prevention of foodborne illness. We cannot rest until everything is being done to protect the safety of our food, and ultimately provide for the well-being of our loved ones.

## VIOLENT CRIMINAL INCARCERATION ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

## HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 9, 1995*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 667) to control crime by incarcerating violent criminals.

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to legislation before the House of Representatives today, the Violent Criminal Incarceration Act. This measure is one of six crime bills that the House will consider to chart the Nation's course to fight crime.

Although I oppose the overall measure, I support many of the provisions in this legislation. For example, I support the bill's provision to increase the incentives in last year's bill for the States to curtail early parole for violent criminals.

It is about time that we encourage the States to require the courts to put criminals away for the full term of their sentence. Truth-in-sentencing is long overdue.

This legislation employs another well needed and long overdue measure. That is, to stop abusive prisoner law suits. Specifically, title II of H.R. 667 places certain restrictions on the ability of detained persons to challenge the constitutionality of their confinement. I strongly support that provision as well.

Nevertheless, I oppose this legislation. The Violent Crime Incarceration Act boosts the State prison grants from \$8 billion to \$10.5 billion over 5 years at the expense of prevention measures like community policing.

As written, therefore, H.R. 667 unravels the balance of the funding for police, prisons, and prevention, which I fought so hard for during the implementation of the Omnibus Crime Control Act of 1994.

Last year's Crime Act clearly shows that community policing works. The communities throughout western New York asked for it and now there are 53 more policemen on the streets because of it.

Furthermore, I supported the Scott amendment to reduce the bill's prison grants by \$2.5 billion, back to last year's funding level of \$8 billion.

TRIBUTE TO JUANITA LOCHNER

## HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 10, 1995*

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Juanita Lochner is a resident of East Greenbush, Rensselaer County, NY. She is currently serving as president of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New York, and as a member of the Gerald O'Neil Unit No. 1683.

As a member of the largest women's patriotic organization in the world, assisting veterans has always been her priority. Her project this year is called Special Touches.

Because of budgetary cutbacks, the hospitalized veterans at VA Hospitals are unable to receive those extra comfort items that were previously provided. Her request to the Auxiliary members throughout the State is that we give veterans our help. "They were there when we needed them, and now it's our turn to help them," she says.

Through her efforts, funds are being collected to benefit each VA Hospital in New York State.

Travelling throughout the 62 counties in the State, Mrs. Lochner also emphasizes strongly the support needed for passage of a constitutional amendment to protect our flag from desecration.

The American flag has long exemplified the spirit of those who lost their lives, as well as those who fought and survived. Our flag is a symbol that unites us, and I am proud to be a cosponsor of House Joint Resolution 14.

I am also honored to represent Juanita Lochner—a dedicated and patriotic American.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN T. McDONOUGH

## HON. WILLIAM P. LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 10, 1995*

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, January 23, the State of Minnesota and the city of Stillwater lost one of our great public servants. The Honorable John T. McDonough passed away at the age of 72 after a full life of dedication to his community. Judge McDonough was born in Stillwater and lived the rest of his life there as a citizen, patriot, legal scholar, and philanthropist.

The Judge was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War. His commitment to our country later led him into public service.

At the age of 26, Judge McDonough was the endorsed candidate for Lieutenant Governor in the State of Minnesota on the 1948 DFL ticket headed by Hubert H. Humphrey. Later, he was appointed Probate-Justice Judge for Washington County by Gov. Orville Freeman in 1956 and served as a judge

• 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.

in Washington County until 1974. He served on the Minnesota Parole Board with distinction for 7 years and was appointed to the Minnesota State Social Services Committee. Judge McDonough was appointed Special Adviser to President John F. Kennedy's Commission on Crime and Delinquency by the late Attorney General of the United States, Robert F. Kennedy.

The Judge was a true philanthropist. He founded the Father Francis J. Miller Memorial Foundation to build a nondenominational chapel at the Minnesota State Prison. He was also a forerunner in the 1960's in recognizing alcohol/drug abuse as a prime contributing factor to crime delinquency, family violence, and divorce.

Since 1980, McDonough served as chief legal counsel to Hubbard Broadcasting, Inc.

The Honorable John T. McDonough was more than an author, veteran, judge, philanthropist, and legal counsel. His neighbors and coworkers will remember him best as a great character. The Judge's combination of enthusiasm and commitment will be greatly missed by the country, State, city, and people he served.

#### CONCRETE SUPPORT FOR THE WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 10, 1995*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, next week the United Nations begins another review of the budget needs for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. This tribunal has already faced numerous obstacles to its establishment and considerable bureaucratic and political barriers to its staffing; worse still, it continues to face opposition from those who would rather negotiate with war criminals than see them in jail. In spite of numerous political and procedural roadblocks, the tribunal issued its first indictment in early November, is proceeding with investigations, and is expected to bring cases to trial later this year.

This progress by no means guarantees long-term success, Mr. Speaker. In fact, in an article published in the Washington Post, Tom Warrick, an attorney who assisted the head of the United Nations War Crimes Commission, points out that the results of a relatively obscure U.N. committee may determine "whether those ultimately responsible for ethnic cleansing are ever to be brought to justice." And, as those who oppose this tribunal have learned, what they can't defeat openly through the political process, they may be able to gut in the United Nations closed-door budget negotiations.

Nongovernmental experts have already suggested that the \$28 million sought by tribunal officials may be too low, given the costs of gathering testimony from the thousands of victims of the extensive list of deplorable war crimes and in light of the on-site investigations that the effective prosecution of war criminals will require. Nevertheless, it appears that securing even these funds may be an uphill battle with the U.N. bureaucracy.

Accordingly, I have written to the President, along with the Cochairman of the Helsinki

Commission, Senator D'AMATO, and Representative STENY HOYER, the former chairman of and now ranking House minority member on the Commission, urging the President to instruct the U.S. delegation to the United Nations to press vigorously at these upcoming budget meetings to ensure adequate funding for the tribunal. The establishment of this body, against so many odds, is a credit to strong U.S. leadership. But, without proper funding, Mr. Speaker, the tribunal will never be able to execute the historic tasks that have been set for it. We have also indicated our support for an additional voluntary contribution to the tribunal by the United States of an amount not less than the \$3 million cash contribution provided last year.

Mr. Speaker, as the Bosnian Prime Minister, Haris Silajdzic, stated at the Helsinki Commission's hearing just 2 weeks ago, war crimes and genocide continue in Bosnia even now, during the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. I cannot overstate my conviction that holding war criminals accountable for the heinous crimes they have committed in this conflict will be an essential element for any long-term resolution of this tragedy. If the United States, at this juncture, inexplicably reduces the level of financial support it has provided to the tribunal, it might send a regrettable signal of weakening U.S. resolve to see war criminals held truly accountable. We must not let that happen.

#### ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO VISITORS CENTER

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 1995*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 50) to designate the visitors center at the Channel Islands National Park, CA, as the "Robert J. Lagomarsino Visitors Center."

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the legislation brought forth by Chairman GALLEGLY to designate the visitor's center at the Channel Islands National Park after a distinguished former member of this body, Mr. Robert J. Lagomarsino. I congratulate the chairman for recognizing Mr. Lagomarsino's many accomplishments.

Mr. Lagomarsino has been honored numerous times by various citizen groups, environmental organizations, and most importantly his constituents. His successes as a Member of Congress were eclipsed by his championing the protection of the Channel Islands, but also include many other valuable achievements for his constituency and the country. As ranking member of what was then the International and Insular Affairs Subcommittee, Mr. Lagomarsino was a friend to the territories and is still an advocate for our respective agendas.

I believe Mr. Lagomarsino's tireless work for his district, the territories, and for the Channel Islands National Park to be indicative of his desire to legislate responsibly and fairly for all people as well as for the environment. I think this legislation is a fitting tribute to the man whom Chairman GALLEGLY has called the father of the Channel Islands National Park.

TRIBUTE TO NAOMI FISHER

**HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 10, 1995*

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Naomi Fisher of Mill Hall, PA, who has been selected as Blind Worker of the Year. I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize this great accomplishment.

Ms. Fisher was nominated for this award by her coworkers at North Central Sight Services, Inc. I am sure this is quite an honor for Naomi to be recognized by her fellow employees. Her coworkers, however, are not just ordinary colleagues. These individuals have experienced, and will continue to experience, many of the same trials and tribulations that Naomi does. Although every employee in this workplace deserves credit for rising above their physical challenges, Naomi is being recognized for her certitude in accepting diversity. Her ability to inspire and help those who are in a similar situation is a true testimony to her character.

This award, sponsored by the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program, appropriately reflects the goals of this organization. The JWOD Program is designed to provide employment opportunities and services for thousands of blind Americans throughout the United States. Each year the National Industries for the Blind, the central nonprofit agency for industries participating in the program, selects one outstanding worker for this well-deserved award. The significance of this award is only realized when you consider how many people are worthy of consideration.

Ms. Fisher was selected as the Blind Worker of the Year not only for her outstanding job performance, but also for her activities off the job. She stays very busy at her family farm and also at the local church. As we all can see, she deserves this award for her many accomplishments. I applaud the hard work she has performed both in the work place and in our community. Her determination and dedication is an inspiration to us all.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Naomi Fisher for receiving this prestigious award. Once again, I congratulate her and offer my best wishes for continued success.

#### VIOLENT CRIMINAL INCARCERATION ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 9, 1995*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 667) to control crime by incarcerating violent criminals.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, as it stands now, current law defines overcrowding in prisons as a form of cruel and