

Regardless of one's view of the outcome, Israel's election was a shining example of democracy at work. I applaud the Israeli people on this peaceful election of leadership—the only truly democratic election in the region.

Maintaining a strong Israel is vital to the preservation of peace and security in an area of the world characterized by violence and discord. I urge my colleagues to support Israel, support peace, and support this bill.

THANKS TO THE STUDENTS OF
DECATUR'S EISENHOWER HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 1996

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about our youth and the promise that tomorrow holds for them. We hear a great deal about how these are tough times to be growing up. There are pressures on children today that did not exist in the past, and with the pace of technological and social change, the world is a much less predictable place. But at the same time these new realities present daunting challenges, there are equal opportunities to meet these obstacles and accomplish great things. When seen in this light, it truly is an exciting time to be alive and young.

Recently a small group from Eisenhower High School in Decatur, IL, visited me here in Washington. Mike Frahlman, Ryan Snyder, Nick Phipps, Brian Stolz, and Corey York, accompanied by their teacher Hugh Good, embodied this spirit of infinite possibility. I was struck by their desire for knowledge, the intelligence of their questions, and their intuitive sense of the possibilities for accomplishment that await them. Our brave new world needs such enterprising young minds to take on the questions that the 21st century holds. Not only did I enjoy our conversion, but I felt even more at ease about our future as a country because of the experience.

Mr. Speaker, far too often we hear about the failures of our young people rather than the positive contributions they provide to all of us on a daily basis. I want the record to reflect that I have great confidence in the youth of the United States of America. I would like to thank the fine students of Decatur Eisenhower High School for reaffirming my faith, and for the excellent example they provide their peers. It is an honor to represent them in the U.S. Congress.

DR. DAVID MILLICAN RETIRES
FROM SOUTH McCOMB BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. MIKE PARKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 1996

Mr. PARKER. Mr. Speaker, today I stand in the Halls of Congress to ask you to join me in paying tribute to Dr. David Alan Millican, pastor of South McComb Baptist Church, author and hospital chaplain. Dr. Millican will be retiring in July after 33 years of service at the church.

Born in 1934 in Hamilton, AL, David Millican entered the ministry at the age of 19 and was ordained into the ministry at Shadowlawn Baptist Church in Prichard, AL, in 1954. He attended William Carey College in Hattiesburg, MS, where he graduated in 1958, and married Marion Doris Powe of Waynesboro, MS. He received his masters of divinity degree at the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1964 and his doctor of ministry in 1983 from Luther Rice Seminary.

From 1954 to 1963, Dr. Millican served at Myers Memorial Baptist Church as missions pastor and Smithtown Baptist Church as pastor, both located in Eight Mile, AL, as well as pastoring Pecan Grove Baptist Church in Ellisville, MS, and First Baptist Church in Stonewall, MS. He became pastor at South McComb Baptist Church in 1963.

When the Bible speaks of serving others and serving Jesus Christ, it is not difficult to think of David Millican. Dr. Millican has an extensive record of denominational work, having served on numerous committees and boards including the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the Board of Ministerial Education. His service is not limited, however, to church activities. He has served terms on the advisory committees of the McComb City Board and the McComb Public Schools. He is a member of the McComb Exchange Club, of which he served a term as its president and was chosen to be its Man of the Year. His civic activities also have included serving as chairman of the board of the Pike County Chapter of the American Cancer Society and as a member of the board of directors of the State chapter of the American Cancer Society.

But his first love has always been sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. In McComb alone, Dr. Millican has baptized 591 people. Over the 42 years he has been a pastor, he has officiated at 1,100 funerals and married 452 couples. He has published a book entitled "Bible Readings and a Thought for a Day" and has written many articles for Southern Baptist publications. He also started a hospital visitation ministry with between 30 and 40 area volunteers, which he intends to continue even in retirement. He has conducted 235 revivals across America in addition to evangelistic crusades in the Philippines, Korea, and Argentina. Wherever he goes, Dr. Millican's message is the same: "Win people to Christ. That's the only hope."

People such as David Millican inspire hope. He has given his life toward serving others here and abroad and sharing with them faith and friendship. He has invested his life in the people of McComb and has shared in their times of sorrow and their times of joy. In July, Dr. Millican will retire. Maybe he will write another book or maybe he will carry out his joke about watching Mrs. Doris work in the yard while he relaxes with a soft drink. But most likely, Dr. Millican will continue to preach the word of God, minister to the sick and pray for the men, women and children who have become nearly as much a part of his family as his own three children.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I ask you to join me in thanking Dr. and Mrs. David Millican for sharing their life and faith and in wishing them the best in the years to come. Dr. Millican, may God bless your life as richly as you have blessed those whom you have served. Thank you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 1996

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 6, I was unavoidably absent for rollcall vote No. 222, the vote on H.R. 3364. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO THE CADETS OF THE
TEXAS 945TH CADET WING

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 1996

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the cadets of the Texas 945th Cadet Wing, an Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp [JROTC] unit at North Shore High School in my congressional district. They recently were selected as an Air Force JROTC meritorious unit for the 1995–96 school year. This distinction is reserved for only a select group of Air Force JROTC schools. This is an especially impressive accomplishment because North Shore's JROTC program is only 2 years old.

The regional commander of the JROTC in Houston chose to honor North Shore's AFJROTC unit based on its outstanding performance and its commitment to the Air Force's core values of integrity, service before self, and excellence. Other criteria included the cadet corps briefing, drill ability, adherence to dress and grooming standards.

The North Shore unit's remarkable success is the result of a total community commitment. The administrators, staff, faculty, and instructors have provided vision and leadership and the cadets have provided the uncommon commitment necessary to achieve this goal. North Shore has more than 300 cadets enrolled and the district, school, community, and parents are all involved. This is truly an exceptional educational program.

I want to recognize the superior program management by Col. Thomas McCay, the senior military science instructor at North Shore High School, and his dedicated and knowledgeable assistant instructors, Major Pfeifer and Master Sergeant Murphy. They have received excellent support from faculty and staff at North Shore. The principal of North Shore High School, Mr. Malcolm Dennis, also deserves special recognition. Mr. Dennis fought hard to get this JROTC unit started at North Shore over 3 years ago. His efforts are now paying great dividends.

Last, but unquestionably, the most important factor in this unit's selection as a meritorious unit is the outstanding performance of the cadets throughout the year and particularly on the day of the annual inspection. The unit has demonstrated that it has taken the core Air Force values to heart. Its record reflects a commitment to learning, a commitment to leadership, and especially a commitment to service, whether presenting the colors at community functions, cleaning up our neighborhoods, or delivering Christmas baskets to veterans at the VA Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, it is not surprising that this unit has received such an honorable distinction as

a meritorious unit. During its first year of existence, over 2 years ago, North Shore's JROTC unit was recognized as the best first-year unit in the Houston area. For that recognition alone, the unit deserves our special congratulations.

Many people view JROTC as only a military training program. It is much more than that. It is an educational and citizenship program that brings out the best in all. The cadets participating in Air Force JROTC program have started on the road of lifetime service and excellence. I honor them for showing that they have the will and the character to work hard and accomplish great things. I know that under the leadership of Col. Thomas McCay, and his staff, the unit will continue to put their knowledge, skills, and experience to work, not just for themselves, but for their community and country as well.

My congratulations to all the cadets and the entire North Shore community.

COMMEMORATING DIA DE
PORTUGAL

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, today is celebrated throughout the world as the Dia de Portugal.

Every year on June 10, people of Portuguese descent around the world honor their heritage on Dia de Portugal ("Day of Portugal"). This is a time for all friends of Portugal to pause and consider the many achievements of that great nation over the centuries and to celebrate the cultural traditions, practices, and customs of Portugal.

June 10 is the date of birth of Portugal's greatest poet, Luis de Camoens, who lived from 1524 to 1580.

He is the author of the Portuguese national epic, "The Lusiads," published in 1572. In this grand poem, Camoens did for the Portuguese language what Chaucer did for English and what Dante did for Italian.

As well, he gave eloquent expression to the deepest and highest aspirations of the Portuguese people.

Millions of Americans are proud of their Portuguese heritage, and millions more are enriched by living in neighborhoods and communities which are defined by the dynamic presence of Portuguese-Americans.

My State of Rhode Island has one of the largest Portuguese-American populations in our country. The ties between Rhode Island

and Portugal go back to the very origins of our State, and the contributions made by the Portuguese can be seen every day.

Portuguese explorers dared to cross the oceans in search of new frontiers, and thanks to that courage, our Nation is enriched by traditions brought by the sons and daughters of Portugal.

Whether it was from Dighton Rock in 1502, the Touro Synagogue in 1658, or by whaling ships in the 1830's, the Portuguese undoubtedly were among the very first immigrants to settle on our shores.

Unfortunately, anti-immigrant fervor brought Portuguese immigration down to a trickle after 1921.

But there was an exception made in 1958, when President Eisenhower signed legislation introduced by then-Senator John F. Kennedy that allowed families affected by the volcanic eruption in the Azores to come to America.

In 1965, President Johnson fulfilled President Kennedy's dream and signed legislation lifting the discriminatory Quota Act. Once again, New England could open its arms to the Portuguese. Lifting the quota allowed many families to reunite, and bring together many generations.

At a time when the family is under great strain, and too often breaking under that strain, the example of family unity set by the Portuguese is a profound lesson for all of us.

Everywhere Rhode Islanders turn, the Portuguese presence is seen. It is seen in the dozens of social clubs throughout our State. It is felt in the excitement of the Feshta and the dignity of the religious procession. It is represented here today by community leaders who are from all walks of life.

This contribution is felt in many other States and hundreds of communities across this Nation.

Portugal is a close and valued ally.

Trade between our two nations is active and will surely grow. The recently completed Agreement on Cooperation and Defense provides for continued access to the Lajes Air Base in the Azores, as well as cooperation in nonmilitary matters. This base was critical to supporting our troops in Operation Desert Storm and Operation Restore Hope in Somalia.

Portugal's economy is making tremendous progress, and soon the world will see the growth that has taken place in recent years. In 1998, Portugal will host the World Expo. The topic for Expo 1998 is: "The Oceans: A Heritage for Our Future."

Expo 1998 will provide an ideal opportunity for Portugal to showcase its thriving industry while at the same time celebrating its uniquely rich heritage in ocean exploration. I am

pleased that the United States will be participating in this event, and I congratulate the House for having earlier voted in favor of this participation.

Today is a day for us to celebrate the contributions made to the United States by the Portuguese community. It is a time for us to celebrate the ties between the United States and Portugal. This is a relationship with a great history, and promising future.

BILL SICKLICK REMEMBERED AT
GOUVERNEUR HOSPITAL

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a beloved constituent, Bill Sicklick. Today, the Gouverneur Hospital Nursing Facility Diagnostic and Treatment Center in my district is dedicating a new conference area to be named the William "Bill" Sicklick Conference Room. This room could not be dedicated to a more worthy person.

Bill Sicklick died on April 25, 1995, and his passing affected the Grand Street Cooperative Village immensely. During the years he lived among us, he was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, son-in-law, neighbor, and friend. He walked our streets looking out for his neighbors as an auxiliary policeman, and he rose to become an officer of this group, earning the respect and admiration of the New York Police Department and fellow auxiliary members. Bill also served on community planning board three for almost 25 years where he was elected as both vice chair and secretary.

Despite all of his other community service positions, Bill's fondest service was the 20 years he served as a member and chairperson of the skilled nursing facility committee of the Gouverneur Community Advisory Board. He loved the patients, and they loved him. He served them well—taking them for walks in their wheelchairs, dropping by to chat, and keeping an eye out to see that all was well in the SNF unit.

Bill Sicklick was well known for his dedication and commitment to Gouverneur Hospital, its patients, and the Lower East Side community. It is only fitting that a room in this hospital should bear his name. I respectfully urge my colleagues to take a moment today to remember Bill Sicklick—a man who represented everything that is noble about community service.