

State veterans nursing homes. Many States have been desperately trying to get a grant under this program to assist in the construction of State veterans nursing homes. However, despite documented need, they have been unable to get the Federal funding necessary to move forward.

Because of the overall inequity of the system that the VA uses to rank State applications, I have decided to introduce legislation that will ensure that States with the greatest veteran need receive priority funding.

The current system that the VA uses to rank State applications gives priority to States that have never received a similar grant in the past. While on the surface this may seem logical, the practical effect is that States with the highest veteran's need are often neglected because they received a grant sometime in the past. As a matter of fairness, I believe applications should be ranked solely on the needs of veterans.

The legislation I am introducing will correct this inequity by ensuring that States with the highest need receive priority. The Department of Veterans Affairs has determined that there should be four nursing home beds for every 1000 veterans in a State. Using this determination, my bill would have applications based on a formula where veteran need is defined as the number of veterans in the State multiplied by four and divided by 1000—need = veterans population * 4 / 1000.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important piece of legislation for our Nation's veterans. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in working for its enactment.

THE DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the event which led to our honoring June 16 as the Day of the African Child. On this day in 1976, approximately 600 young people were massacred in Soweto, South Africa. We honor June 16, 1976, as a day marking our sorrow and our pledge to these murdered children, their families, and their cause, that such horrors should not happen again. This year's commemoration focuses on the issue of war and its effects on children across the African continent.

We bow our heads in memory of the tragic occurrence of June 16, 1976. We celebrate the victory of the effort, the dedication, the enormous drive, and the energy whereby the people of the African National Congress, and their leader, President Nelson Mandela, were able to overcome the race hatred of the Afrikaners, to emerge victorious without a major war, to create a nation committed to equality, and to end official racial hatred and violence.

The Republic of South Africa is a beacon, a reality, which many of us hold as the embodiment of a government dedicated to peace and racial equality, created out of social violence and repeated acts of violence by an armed government against an unarmed people. We hold, with the new republic in mind, that the children of besieged countries in Africa deserve a similar stake in the future as the children of the Republic of South Africa are now able to hold.

The killings of children and adults—in Rwanda, Burundi, and now Liberia—go beyond our worst imaginings. The killing fields of Cambodia and Bosnia are now joined by these in Africa. Whether massive killings are the result of tribal or national war, these events are inconceivable to most of us.

In a war, people are displaced from their normal daily lives and are forced to face the unimaginable horrors of death and destruction. War creates a generation of angered individuals forced to deal with a country in ruins, homes in shambles, and families in anguish. In the midst of all this tragic adversity, the children of a warring nation undergo the greatest ordeal of all. These children, who are caught in the turmoil and chaos of armed conflict, face the emotional and physical wounds of war as well as the instability of their country's future.

Rwanda provides evidence of the devastating impact that war has on children. The genocidal massacres in Rwanda have claimed a million lives, 300,000 of which have been children. According to a UNICEF survey of children in one part of the country, 47 percent of those interviewed saw children killing or injuring other children, 66 percent of the children saw massacres, 20 percent witnessed rape and sexual abuse, and 56 percent saw family members being killed. The destruction of homes, health centers, and educational facilities has also left children with little hope of leading future normal lives.

Burundi is another example of how violent conflicts can have a devastating impact on young children. Years of fighting fed by deep political and ethnic animosities have claimed hundreds of thousands of lives and have left numerous others maimed. A whole generation of children have been made orphans. Hostilities have caused famine and turned children into beggars. The armed conflict has also resulted in collapse of the legal and social systems, creating a lack of law enforcement, lack of medical care, and lack of education.

The calls of the children—and the adults upon whom they depend—of Burundi, Rwanda, Liberia, and other warring countries in Africa, reach out to us, but we are mostly silent. The United States, a wealthy nation, has turned away from the people of war torn nations. Where it once was a leader in aiding other countries out of poverty and ruin, today, the United States spends less than 1 percent of its national budget on foreign aid programs. This is a very disappointing figure compared to those countries such as Japan and Denmark, which contribute 2.8 and 4.7 percent of their budget to foreign aid. We need to have our hearts touched and consider responses which will support efforts to stop hostilities and help these countries move towards recovery. It is only when these nations have fully recovered that the children of the future can lead better and more secure lives.

BOMBING AT KING ABDUL AZIZ AIR BASE IN DHAHRAN, SAUDI ARABIA

HON. RANDY TATE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mr. TATE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise both in great anger and in deep sorrow. Yesterday a

truck bomb was exploded at a military compound in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia where United States troops belonging to the Joint Task Force Southwest Asia were housed.

Twenty-three American service personnel were killed and more than 100 were seriously injured. Twenty-two service personnel from McChord Air Force Base in Tacoma, WA, currently stationed at the base in Dhahran, mercifully survived.

The terrorist bomb was so powerful that the front of an apartment tower 35 yards away was decimated and a crater 85 feet wide and 35 feet deep was left in its wake. Inside the apartment tower were 2,500 U.S. troops.

Everyday in this country, mothers and fathers take great pride in the dedication of their sons and daughters serving in the U.S. military. Years of nurturing, love, sacrifice, and commitment have gone into producing men and women possessed of such a love for their country that they would volunteer to protect it.

These brave men and women are not forced to serve—they ask to serve. They are not forced to stand guard against enemy forces—they ask to stand guard. They risk their lives in order to ensure that those of us here, in the comfort and safety of our own beloved country, may live free.

Mr. Speaker, the greatness of our Nation is magnificently reflected in the greatness of our servicemen and women. Today, we stand firm with the families who have suffered an immeasurable loss and our Nation mourns with them.

Let there be no doubt—the great and mighty force of the United States will descend upon those terrorists who dared to target our American service personnel. We will answer the families that cry out for justice and we will deliver to them those responsible for this vulgar act of cowardice.

Let the terrorists who committed this cowardly act of murder tremble in fear for they will be hunted, they will be found, and they will be punished.

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING ACT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, in an effort to support women in our changing economy, I am introducing the Commission on the advancement of Women in the Science and Engineering Workforce Act.

Although the percentage of women earning science and engineering degrees has risen in recent years, women Ph.D.'s are still grossly underrepresented in many technical fields. One reason for this is that less than 24 percent of those people receiving doctorates in the physical sciences, earth sciences, and mathematics and computer sciences are women. In engineering, the lion's share of advanced degrees going to women are in environmental health and biomedical engineering. This is, however, merely one-quarter of all doctorate degrees conferred. In petroleum engineering, women receive only 2 percent of the awarded doctorates.

Another reason for the scarcity of women in technical fields is the continued barriers they

face in recruitment, retention, and advancement. For example, though women account for 34 percent of medical school graduates, only 17 percent of practicing physicians are women. Less than 14 percent of the top positions at NIH are held by women, and at many of our Nation's most prestigious universities, the number of tenured women in the sciences can be counted on one hand.

Why are fewer women entering and staying in science and engineering careers? According to the National Research Council Report, the trend is directly linked to the hostile workplace environment. Few policies, however, have been implemented to combat the problems women face in these traditionally male-dominated occupations.

My bill would study the barriers that women face in these fields. It would identify the recruitment, retention, and advancement policies and practices of employers toward women scientists and engineers. The commission would then issue recommendations to Government, academia, and private industry.

The Advancement of Women in the Sciences and Engineering Act will be a useful and needed step in countering the roadblocks for women in science and engineering. It will help to bring our Nation closer to creating a highly effective work force, thereby promoting economic prosperity and higher standards of living.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall vote numbers 272 and 273, taken earlier today. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on both rollcall 272 and rollcall 273.

IN HONOR OF BISHOP ROY E. BROWN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the contribution of Archbishop Roy E. Brown and his longstanding commitment to the Brooklyn community.

Over the past 31 years Bishop Brown has dedicated a great part of his ministry to the renovating of numerous abandoned buildings into productive and viable churches. Bishop Brown is currently the presiding bishop and chief prelate of the Pilgrim Assemblies International, Inc.

Bishop Brown is the senior pastor of Pilgrim Church in Brooklyn. As a chief prelate of Pilgrim Assemblies, Bishop Brown extends his visions of revitalizing communities worldwide that include churches in South Africa, West Africa, Trinidad, Barbados, to name a few.

Born on February 28, 1943 in Birmingham, AL, Bishop Brown acknowledged his call to ministry at the age of 17. Accordingly, he accepted his first pastorate in 1965 at the age of 22; becoming pastor of the Pilgrim Church in

1966. Bishop Brown was consecrated as bishop, July 18, 1990 and established the Pilgrim Assemblies International, Inc. on that same day.

Frequently cited and honored by my fellow political and civic leaders in New York, Bishop Brown continues to tirelessly serve the greater Brooklyn community.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Bishop Brown on receiving this impressive honor and extend to him my best wishes for continued success.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CAROL S. NORTH

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to acknowledge an exceptional physician, professor, and constituent, Dr. Carol S. North. I commend her story of dedication and commitment to community to our colleagues.

In 1993, Dr. North provided pro bono mental health services to victims of the great flood of that year and led other community actions that provided additional relief for the victims and their families. She developed a disaster program and trained mental health professionals in disaster relief. Her heroic efforts earned her the Braceland Public Service Award and the 1996 Bruno Lima Award.

Dr. North currently serves as an assistant professor of psychiatry at Washington University in St. Louis MO, where she earned her medical degree and completed her residency in psychiatry and a fellowship in psychiatric epidemiology at the National Institutes of Health. She has contributed extensively to academic literature. Among her publications are 16 peer-reviewed articles on homelessness and 10 on psychosocial consequences of disasters.

Since 1987, Dr. North has provided services to homeless and indigent people at the Grace Hill Neighborhood Health Center and at Adapt in St. Louis. She also serves as a national spokesperson for the mentally ill, has lectured to audiences of more than 140,000 people, and has spoken to millions through the broadcast media.

Dr. Carol North is well-deserving of the honors bestowed upon her. She has not only been an outstanding psychiatrist and professor, she has been a model citizen. She took her own experience with mental illness and used it to the benefit of others. She often attributes her dedication to community work to the kindness she received from others during her illness. She views her efforts as a way to give back. Dr. North's selfless and caring spirit has earned her high regards in the medical community, and recognition today in the House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF REV. RICHARD J. LAWSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to take this opportunity to congratulate and recognize the

distinguished career of Rev. Richard J. Lawson. A graduate of Boys Vocational and Technical High School, Reverend Lawson joined the Tabernacle Baptist Church at an early age. Upon graduating from high school, Reverend Lawson was inducted into the U.S. Army. For the next 6 years he continued to serve his country faithfully, and was honorably discharged in 1964.

Later, Reverend Lawson joined the Pentecostal House of Prayer, where his father was the pastor. He began his preparation for the ministry by enrolling in the Manhattan Bible Institute, where he excelled. Upon graduating from Manhattan Bible Institute, Reverend Lawson would serve as vice president of the Manhattan Bible Institute Alumni Association.

Led by his strong conviction to serve, Reverend Lawson joined the New Canaan Baptist Church, serving as an associate minister. Subsequently, Reverend Lawson would be recommended and ordained to be a licensed Baptist preacher by the New Canaan Baptist Church Deacon Board and members. In March of 1989, Reverend Lawson was called as pastor of the New Canaan Baptist Church.

Reverend Lawson is married and is the father of four children: Richard Jr., Craig, Donna, and Tresslyn. He resides in Roosevelt, NY, with his lovely wife, Ann.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored to highlight Reverend Lawson's achievements and contribution to the greater New York area. I extend to him my best wishes for continued success in the New York area.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HECTOR GARCIA

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi will dedicate the Dr. Hector P. Garcia Plaza in honor of my hero and one of the most important American leaders of our time. I want my colleagues to know more about this living legend, Dr. Hector Garcia.

Dr. Garcia is a different breed of patriot and citizen. Long before the issue of civil rights was on the national radar screen, he recognized the need for equal rights for the citizens of south Texas and the United States. Rather than make the larger elements of society uncomfortable with a direct public assault on the status quo, Dr. Garcia began making quiet inroads into the system.

Dr. Garcia encouraged all of us to become involved. In the 1950's he articulated clearly the necessity for Hispanics to show an interest in the workings of our city, our community, and our country. He underscored the basic fundamentals of democracy by preaching his message about the strength of numbers, the necessity of registering to vote, and the power of voting.

Today, Dr. Garcia's message is the political gospel to which we all adhere. While others fought the system, often unsuccessfully, he worked within the system to open it up for everyone to participate. He has amazed us all with his wisdom, foresight, and longevity.

While the Nation began to understand civil rights in the 1960's, they never quite recognized the fact that Dr. Garcia founded the