

Dominicans with a forum to educate them and to strengthen their sense of identity. In addition, its associated nonprofit institution offers English classes and other services to immigrants.

The Dominican Republic has a long and distinguished history. Christopher Columbus visited in 1492, and named the island Hispaniola. Among other important legacies, Santo Domingo, the nation's capital, is the oldest settlement by Europeans and the location of the most ancient cathedral in the Americas.

Dominicans are proud of their country's history, rich culture, natural resources, agriculture, and other industries. The Great Dominican Parade and Carnival of the Bronx has adopted as its symbol the map of the Dominican Republic containing in its center a portrait of Juan Pablo Duarte, the Dominican flag, and a depiction of the oldest cathedral and the highest mountain in the nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the members and friends of the Great Dominican Parade and Carnival of the Bronx for their 6 years of bringing joy and of strengthening the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HERBERT H. BATEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently missed rollcall vote 308 on July 11, 1996. I would like to note for the record that I would have voted "nay."

TRIBUTE TO LYLE AND MARY MAPLES

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to Lyle and Mary Maples of Lenoir City, TN, upon the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary on July 27, 1996. In this day and age where family values are much discussed, I can think of no greater testament to life, love, honor, and family values than the commitment of a 50 year marriage.

Lyle and Mary worked until retirement in Oak Ridge, TN. Lyle worked at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Mary worked for the Atomic Energy Commission. Their contributions to the "golden days" of Oak Ridge on projects of immense significance are appreciated by all Americans.

Along the way, they built a home and raised a family. They have three children, Mary Ann, Jim and Bob. Mary Ann is a master educator at Lenoir City High School; Jim is a district manager at Goody's Corp. in Knoxville and Bob is a lobbyist in Washington, DC. Lyle and Mary are equally as proud of their grandchildren; three boys—Clay Stewart, Jesse and Joe Maples and two granddaughters—Mary Lee Stewart and Becca Maples. A family raised in Tennessee and working to better their community, State and Nation.

Lyle and Mary are active members of their community and their church, Central United

Methodist. Their good deeds and works are appreciated by civic leaders, friends, and neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, I join Lyle and Mary's family, friends, and the Lenoir City community in recognizing this milestone and wish them many more years of life and love.

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EQUITY ACT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as a cochair of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, I am pleased to introduce the Women's Economic Equity Act [EEA]. This package of legislation is designed to increase economic opportunities for American women.

The Economic Equity Act is a comprehensive, forward-looking agenda for improving the economic well-being of American women in the workplace and at home. This legislative package has been introduced by the Women's Caucus in every Congress since 1981.

This year's EEA continues its traditional focus on such issues as pay equity and pension reform, but places new emphasis on the economic impact of domestic violence. The bills included in the EEA would expand professional opportunities for women in science and engineering and expand job benefits for part-time and temporary workers, most of whom are women. One provision would extend IRA deductions to women who choose to stay at home.

Although women are and continue to be the majority of new entrants into the workplace, they continue to be clustered in low-skilled, low-paying jobs. By improving the economic condition of women, we will be helping our Nation face the economic challenges of the 21st century.

Each of the individual provisions included in the EEA have been or will be introduced as separate bills. By bringing each of these 36 bills under a single bill number, the caucus hopes to set out a broad agenda for addressing important women's economic issues.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, yesterday on Rollcall 325, granting most-favored-nation status to Romania I was incorrectly recorded as voting "yes." I request that the record reflect my opposition to this bill and that I intended to vote "no."

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. WAYNE ALLARD

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute several outstanding young

women who have been honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award by Girl Scouts-Mountain Prairie Council in Colorado. They are Christine Myers of Troop 61; Tiffany Beck and Denise Johnson of Troop 320; Molly Phelan of Troop 642; and Stephanie Rabourn. They were honored recently for earning the highest achievement award in U.S. Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. The award can be earned by girls aged 14–17, or in grades 9–12.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., an organization serving over 2.5 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Gold Awards to senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, as well as design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout volunteer.

As members of Girl Scouts-Mountain Prairie Council, these young women began working toward the Girl Scout Gold Award in 1995. Christine completed her project in areas of organizing a book drive, Tiffany and Denise completed their projects in areas of planning and running a day camp, Molly completed her project in areas of drinking and driving, and Stephanie completed her project in areas of setting up a program that helps Hispanic children who are having difficulties with their schoolwork. I believe that these young women should receive public recognition due them for their significant service to the community and the country.

PRESIDENT CLINTON IGNORES VICE PRESIDENT GORE'S OWN LEGISLATION

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I insert for the record a Reuter's report from July 15 in which the U.S. Commander of the Fifth Fleet, Adm. John Scott Redd, has once again reported that Iran has acquired more C-802 antiship missiles from Communist China.

According to Admiral Redd, these missiles add a new dimension in the regional naval threat. Further, he reports that Iran has tripled the number of missiles deployed on its coast and is fitting up to 20 Huodong patrol boats, also acquired from Communist China, with these missiles.

Mr. Speaker, these weapons transfers should be a sanctionable activity under the law. Indeed, they should be sanctionable under a law written by none other than the Vice-President of the United States, ALBERT GORE. In 1992, then-Senator GORE authored the Iran-Iraq Arms Non Proliferation Act, which was successfully amended to the fiscal year 1993 Defense authorization bill.

Section 1605 of the act calls for mandatory sanctions against any foreign country if the President determines that the country transfers goods or technology so as to contribute

knowingly and materially to the efforts by Iran or Iraq to acquire destabilizing numbers and types of advanced conventional weapons. The mandatory sanctions include a suspension of U.S. bilateral assistance, a requirement that the United States oppose multilateral loans to that country, a suspension of codevelopment or coproduction agreements, a suspension of military and dual-use technical exchange agreements, and a ban on exports of products on the U.S. munitions list, all for a period of one year. The legislation does contain a Presidential national security waiver, Mr. Speaker, but the outrageous thing is that the President has not even bothered to issue the waiver. He is simply ignoring the law. So apparently, is the author of the law.

Worse, this administration is ignoring the threat. And the threat comes not only from the rogue nation of Iran, but from its rogue supplier, Communist China. The instances of weapons and dangerous technology transfers by this outlaw nation are too numerous to list, and so is the number of times that the Clinton administration has responded with outright capitulation. This will only beget more of the same Mr. Speaker.

The travesty is that one day young American men and women may find themselves in a fight with any number of nations that have been armed and supplied by Communist China, and we will then have to ask ourselves why we didn't try to stop these dangerous transfers sooner.

IRAN TRIPLES GULF DEPLOYED MISSILES— U.S. NAVY

(By Diana Abdallah)

DUBAI, July 15.—Iran has in the past two years tripled the number of missiles deployed on its Gulf coast and is fitting Chinese-built cruise missiles on up to 20 of its naval boats, a senior U.S. navy commander said on Monday.

Vice Admiral John Scott Redd, Commander of the U.S. Fifth Fleet and Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Central Command, said Iran's acquisition of Chinese-built radar guided C-802 anti-ship missiles was "a new dimension" in the regional naval threat.

He told Reuters from his headquarters in Bahrain that Iraq and Iran continued to pose a threat to security in the region which produces a third of the world's oil supply.

Redd said there were no indications of threats against U.S. naval forces following two bombs that killed 24 Americans in Saudi Arabia in the past year, but that the navy had taken "prudent measures." He did not elaborate.

"Iraq is the major land threat in the region . . . Because it still has the most capable and largest ground force in the region, while Iran is more of a naval threat," said Redd, who ends his assignment on Wednesday to return to Washington.

He said Iran was expected to have up to 20 patrol boats fitted with anti-ship Chinese-built C-802 cruise missiles.

It already has two Russian Kilo submarines "and they have another one coming we think before the year is out," he said.

"There has been a tripling of shore-based missiles both that shoot at ships and those that are surface-to-air missiles," he said. "The number they have deployed on the Gulf coast and in the Strait (of Hormuz) roughly tripled."

"The newest dimension is that they have Chinese-built C-802 missiles against ships . . . The Houdong patrol craft they got from China came fitted to fire the C-802s and they have now received all 10 of them. Some arrived in the last couple of months."

"They are also taking some of the other patrol craft and modifying them to carry the missiles and the work is in progress. We could be looking at 20 or more patrol ships at sea capable of carrying those surface-to-surface missiles," he said.

Officials in the United States, which accuses Iran of sponsoring terrorism and has imposed sanctions on it, have expressed concern since the 1991 Gulf War about what they say is Iran's growing military capability and aims in the region.

Iran has rejected all these charges.

Redd said U.S. forces were capable of dealing with any Iranian military threat.

Navy spokesman Commander T. McCreary said 34 U.S. vessels, including an aircraft carrier group, cruisers, destroyers—some capable of firing TOMAHAWK cruise missiles—frigates and submarines, were currently deployed in Central Command area, most of them in Gulf waters.

Up to 15,000 sailors and marines are stationed in the area.

LEONARD AND RUBY BASSETT CELEBRATE GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to commemorate Leonard and Ruby Bassett on their golden wedding anniversary. The Bassetts' children, Leonard Jr., Dennis, Leatha, and Oddette, are hosting a joyous celebration honoring their parents' 50 years of love, friendship and devotion. This event will be held this Saturday, July 20, 1996, at the Genesis Convention Center in Gary, IN.

While in their early twenties Leonard Bassett and Ruby Holman met in the spring of 1946 at a dance hall located across from Froebel High School in Gary. Mr. Bassett had just returned from 28 months of service in the U.S. Navy and resolved to attend a dance that was being held for young adults. It was there that they first met. The two knew of each other during their years at Roosevelt High School, but they did not formally meet until this magical night at the dance.

After courting for a couple of months, the two discovered that they shared the same dreams of settling down and starting a family. After a short period of dating, Leonard and Ruby knew that they had found true love and that they were destined to be partners in life. Shortly thereafter, Leonard and Ruby were joined in holy matrimony on July 21, 1946.

During the Bassetts' 50 years of marriage they had 4 children: Leonard, Jr., Dennis, Leatha, and Oddette. The Bassetts are thankful that, following graduation from Roosevelt High School, all four of their children were able to continue on to higher education and establish themselves in their respective careers.

In 1983, Leonard retired from U.S. Steel after devoting 37 years of his life to the steel industry. Leonard retired as a production foreman. When Ruby retired, she was head cook of the Gary Community School Corp. Currently, she is a part-time employee with the Lake County government. Ruby is also a precinct committee person and co-captain of the fifth precinct in Gary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other colleagues to join me in congratulating the

Bassetts as they celebrate 50 years of marriage. In today's world, it is refreshing to see two people who have devoted their lives to creating a successful marriage and happy family. May the Bassetts be a positive role model for today's young couples who are starting families. They are proof that a little dedication and a lot of love can make marriage one of life's most magnificent experiences.

DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT— PERSONAL EXPLANATION

SPEECH OF

HON. CARLISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3396) to define and protect the institution of marriage:

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, on July 12, 1996, there was a vote for final passage of H.R. 3396, the Defense of Marriage Act. On rollcall vote No. 316, as you can see from my statement on this issue, which is attached, I intended to vote against that bill, but in my haste to get to the airport so that I could get my plane to Chicago and my district, I inadvertently pushed the green button and was, therefore, recorded as having voted for the bill.

I want my constituents to know I intended to vote against that bill:

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the gentleman from Massachusetts' amendment that suspends the definition of marriage for any State that adopts a different definition through its normal democratic process.

Mr. Chairman, the so-called Defense of Marriage Act should really be called the Republican Offense on People Who are Different Act because it is nothing more than blatant homophobic gay-bashing.

The conservative elements of our American society have often discriminated against and tried to prevent whatever they didn't like or didn't understand, it hasn't been so long ago that blacks and whites weren't allowed to marry in any State. So, devoted couples pledged their commitment to caring for each other in private ceremonies, their children were considered illegitimate, and the spouses were not legally entitled to inherit from their partners, nor share in any public benefits.

And, not so long ago, 50 States and the District of Columbia had very different laws about who could marry, the age the partners had to be, the length of the waiting period between applying for a marriage license and the ceremony—and they still do. Even now there are different laws about divorce, about residency requirements to obtain a divorce, about the kind of alimony or support one spouse has to pay to another, and many other differences. The Federal Government sorts out who is eligible to benefit from public support from these spouses and former spouses, even as people move from one State to another; and the Federal Government can and will continue to sort these issues out as they become timely, which this Offense on Marriage Act is not.

The issue of who should marry within a State are the proper jurisdiction of the individual States. My grandmother probably couldn't envision a time when interracial marriages would be legal in America, but