

TRIBUTE TO U.S. AIR FORCE CAPT.
CHRISTOPHER ADAMS

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents who gave his life in defense of our Nation. U.S. Air Force Capt. Christopher Adams of Massapequa, NY, tragically lost his life in the brutal terrorist attack on the United States military installation in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

A decorated officer who flew dangerous missions following the conclusion of the gulf war, and more recently over Bosnia, Captain Adams, in the words of the President, "represented the best in America and gave America his best." He did indeed.

The Korean War Memorial—one of the newest and most visually striking and emotionally moving monuments in Washington, DC—bears the words: "Freedom is not free." The terrorist attack on Dhahran drove home the meaning of those words.

Throughout our Nation's history, brave men and women like Capt. Christopher Adams have understood that freedom is not free and put their lives on the line in defense of our liberty. In a world that remains a very dangerous place, we have great need of such individuals.

Capt. Christopher Adams died in the service of his country and gave his life in the name of all for which America stands. It would be a great dishonor to his memory if, as some have suggested, the United States withdraw from the Middle East and other international flashpoints, and generally turn inward, away from the rest of the world. To do so would only play into the hands of terrorist murderers responsible for the Dhahran bombing. The United States of America must continue to play its vital role on the world stage.

I extend my most heartfelt condolences to the family and loved ones of Captain Adams. They will be in my prayers, as will all those courageous and dedicated men and women in uniform who protect our freedom and defend our interests, both here and overseas.

ORANGE AND ROCKLAND
UTILITIES, PEARL RIVER, NY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the Orange and Rockland Utilities Co., Pearl River, NY, upon receipt of the Edison Electric Institutes' Common Goals Special Distinction Award for outstanding achievements in the field of environmental partnerships.

O&R teamed up with the Rockland County Association for Retarded Citizens to initiate a highly successful recycling investment recovery program, recycling more than 2,200 tons of materials and in the process saving more than 480,000 cubic feet of precious landfill. The program was not only self-sustaining; it turned a profit.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Orange and Rockland for their commitment and dedication to

the community. I am grateful for their continuous efforts to conserve the precious environment that we live in. It is refreshing to know that there are such companies realizing the importance of placing equal emphasis on the need to preserve the environment while turning a profit. I am pleased to take this opportunity to praise the employees of Orange and Rockland who helped to implement this recovery program.

SCANA CORP. RECEIVES THE
COMMON GOALS AWARD

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the SCANA Corp., which serves the Second Congressional District of South Carolina, for receiving the Common Goals Award from the Edison Electric Institute [EEI] last week in Washington. The award, which was given for outstanding achievement in the field of educational partnerships, was bestowed on the SCANA Corp. for its sponsorship of "The Coach," a computer equipped traveling classroom. "The Coach," which is staffed with State adult literacy specialists, travels throughout South Carolina to offer free training to employers for the development of adult literacy programs for their employees. In presenting the award, EEI President Tom Kuhn noted that, "by helping people improve themselves, SCANA opens the way to a more highly skilled workforce, a more competitive economy, and a better quality of life."

Mr. Speaker, the SCANA Corp. is to be commended on the contributions that "The Coach" has made to increasing adult literacy in South Carolina. As it celebrates its 150th anniversary, the SCANA Corp. can take great pride in its history of service to the people of the Palmetto State.

HONORING RAYMOND TORRES

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Raymond Torres is a banker with long experience in the city of Yonkers and more importantly, a man who has given his experience and talent to the YWCA and many other community organizations. He has instilled a keen sensitivity to the community into his corporate activities, giving both expertise and financial assistance to organizations who need it. His contributions have enhanced the abilities of nonprofit organizations to provide critical services and programs for the people of Yonkers.

By his work he has helped to stabilize the southwest segment of the city and strengthen the city's economic base. His community activities also include serving as vice chairman of the community school board. Mr. Torres, branch manager of the Hudson Valley Bank, and his wife Aurelia have two daughters. He is a YWCA Man of the Year and Yonkers is fortunate to have among its citizens the likes of Raymond Torres.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANDREA H. SEASTRAND

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 366, 367, 368, and 369, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on all four votes.

HONORING LOUIS VLAHOPOULOS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, a community is most fortunate when it has among its citizens, those who make things happen. Louis Vlahopoulos is such a person.

He emigrated from Greece in 1970 and since his arrival operated a wholesale ice cream distributorship, a parking and garage repair shop and, finally, a restaurant—the Galaxy restaurant in Getty Square, Yonkers downtown heart. The restaurant has grown over the years so that five extra people are now employed to serve all those to come to enjoy their food and to catch up on the news of the day.

Mr. Vlahopoulos has deeply involved himself in community projects such as the Downtown Yonkers Management Association. He has worked diligently with the city to get more police in the area and to clean the streets. His support of the YWCA has earned him the title of Man of the Year. He and his wife have three children. He makes Yonkers a better place to live and work.

HONORING THE WHITTIER-RIO
HONDO AIDS PROJECT

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Whittier-Rio Hondo AIDS Project [WRHAP], a benevolent undertaking with a noble cause.

WRHAP, established in 1991, is dedicated to assisting adults and children who are living with HIV in southeastern Los Angeles County. Its founder and current executive director is Doris Wahl, whose son died of AIDS in August of 1989. Since then, she has selflessly dedicated enormous amounts of time and energy in providing services for individuals with HIV and AIDS.

As much as a support group was necessary to help those with HIV, Doris and her staff realized that this was not enough. The members of the support group were in need of comprehensive HIV services, including case management, legal and psychological counseling. Prior to these efforts, services did not exist in the Whittier-Rio Hondo area.

In 1992, WRHAP formalized as a task force allowing it to operate as a nonprofit organization, and in 1993 it became a nonprofit California corporation allowing it to be eligible for

grant funding to provide necessary services for clients. Currently, WRHAP provides intensive case management, resource referrals and crisis intervention to 50 individual and 20 family clients. Twenty-five percent of WRHAP's clientele are Spanish speakers, and all services are provided on Spanish, English, and sign language.

The majority of WRHAP's support programs are staffed with volunteers. They provide respite care for the primary care givers of patients, form supportive friendships with the patients, or work with the staff in the office. Mental health care is provided on site once a week for clients and their families.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I rise to recognize the Whittier-Rio Hondo AIDS Project for its ceaseless efforts to assist those with HIV and educate the community on the realities of AIDS. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Doris Wahl and WRHAP for their invaluable contributions to our community.

NATIONAL RAIL STRIKE AVERTED

HON. SUSAN MOLINARI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Ms. MOLINARI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that rail labor and management have resolved their disputes through collective bargaining and have pledged that they will not engage in strikes or lockouts during the August recess while these agreements are being ratified.

This announcement is the culmination of almost 2 years of negotiations between the unions and railroads. The negotiations have followed Railway Labor Act procedures and have involved mediation before the National Mediation Board and ultimately appointment by President Clinton of three Presidential emergency boards. I am gratified that the collective bargaining process has worked and that the parties have been able to reach agreement without congressional intervention.

This result would not have been possible without the bipartisan support of House and Senate Members, including Chairman BUD SHUSTER, ranking committee member Mr. OBERSTAR, and ranking subcommittee member, Mr. WISE and Senators KASSEBAUM and KENNEDY. I also want to recognize the valuable input and coordination we have had from the White House and the Department of Transportation in this effort. Finally, I want to thank the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee staff, who worked many hours and over the weekend in an effort to resolve these issues—especially Jack Schenendorf, Bob Bergman, Glenn Scammel, Alice Davis, and Susan Lent. This was truly a team effort and we should congratulate ourselves on the fact that we avoided congressional intervention because of our success in persuading the parties to reach a voluntary agreement.

Given the devastating impact of a national rail strike on the Nation's economy, it was critical that Congress receive assurances from the parties that they would not engage in strikes or lock-outs during the August recess. Overall, some \$2.7 billion of goods move by rail every day. Many industries rely heavily on rail transportation, including automobile manufacturing,

paper, chemicals, and coal. Because many industries rely heavily on just-in-time manufacturing processes, a strike of even a few days would have a serious impact. A strike also would stop service on many Amtrak and commuter rail lines, which not only would impact railroads financially, but would strand passengers.

In closing, I want to express my optimism that the parties to all of the open disputes will be able to ratify their agreements. However, in the event that these agreements are not ratified, I will not hesitate to bring legislation to the floor that will bring closure to these disputes. In fashioning this legislation, I would not foreclose consideration of last-best-offer arbitration, which Congress imposed on the parties to settle the 1992 rail labor dispute. I hope that this will not be necessary and that the union members will ratify their agreements, providing closure to this process.

IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 191

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, the Filipino veterans of World War II hold a special place in the hearts of the American people. Many stood shoulder to shoulder with American forces on Bataan, Corregidor, and Luzon. We remember their brave sacrifices—in battle and out of battle—on behalf of freedom. Their actions will forever stand as a model of courage, bravery, and total commitment.

The Second World War was a tragic time for the world. Only through the patience and bravery of those who fought for freedom did we achieve victory. The Filipino veterans of World War II were strong participants in that fight. May we always remember their sacrifices made to preserve democracy and freedom.

It was a fitting tribute to those wonderful supporters of freedom that yesterday this House unanimously passed House Concurrent Resolution 191.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, because of my husband's major surgery last Monday, I missed eight votes. For the benefit of my constituents, I ask that the RECORD reflect that I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 332, D.C. Appropriations, Norton amendment, "yea"; rollcall No. 333, D.C. Appropriations, Gutknecht amendment, "no"; rollcall 334, D.C. Appropriations, final passage, "yea"; rollcall 335, Child Pilots, "yea"; rollcall 336, Pilot Hiring, "yea"; rollcall 337, National Transportation Safety Board authorization, "yea"; rollcall 346, Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations, Goss amendment, "no"; rollcall 347, Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations, Allard amendment, "no."

LEAH BREMER, HAWAII STATE INSTITUTE OF PEACE ESSAY WINNER

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to salute an outstanding young woman from the State of Hawaii, Ms. Leah Bremer. I recently met Leah during her visit to Washington, DC, in June when she represented Hawaii as the State winner for the U.S. Institute of Peace national essay contest. Leah will be a senior at Punahou School on Oahu and is planning to attend college in California after she graduates.

Leah's essay is entitled, "Promoting Peace After the Cold War" and I am pleased to share with you her award-winning entry.

PROMOTING PEACE AFTER THE COLD WAR (By Leah Bremer)

During the cold war the United States' national security interests focused on the direct military threat posed by the Soviet Union and on preventing the spread of communism. During the last decade, the Soviet Union has crumbled and the United States has become the world's dominant military power. Our government must now redefine and re-focus its national security interests to assure regional, global, and domestic stability in this new world. The United States should move toward a long-term policy emphasizing diplomatic rather than military intervention. As the political crisis in Haiti has demonstrated, the diplomatic process can serve as an effective way to resolve a conflict.

A key factor determining national security interests is the stability of neighboring nations. A crisis occurring nearby could cause instability in the United States. The United States supports harmony and democracy in its own region because, "As Haiti and Cuba, have shown, stability in the Caribbean doesn't stay there—it washes up, dead or alive, on the Florida shore." Unrest rarely remains with a nation's borders; one country's crisis can rapidly spread to a neighboring country.

While fifty years ago, such concern focused mainly on the countries nearest our own, advances in technology, and international trade have created a global system in which countries that once had no effect on one another are now related. Moreover, the dismantling of the Soviet empire has created an underground market in which relatively small powers can purchase nuclear weapons. Because of these factors, turmoil in a seemingly remote region of the world such as Somalia could have important consequences for the United States' national security interests.

In addition to maintaining global stability, the United States government must be sensitive to the interests of the American people. It is an important part of the democratic process to ensure that the people have a say in their government's actions. The crisis in Haiti created two major issues for the American public. On one hand, groups such as the Black Caucus pushed for the restoration of democratic rule in Haiti. At the same time, the political crisis brought many Haitian refugees to the United States. Many American citizens opposed this immigration, and domestic pressure pushed the government to take action. President Clinton responded by sending refugee boats back to Haiti, but as