

served on the Banking and Financial Services and Small Business committees.

His record reflects a dedication of addressing the needs of his district while balancing those with the needs of the Nation. His hard work and legislative ability have earned him the respect of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Representative MFUME's outspoken support of civil rights and other traditional minority concerns lead to his election as Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus in 1992, where he elevated the level of influence for the caucus to a new level.

I wish Congressman MFUME good luck as he assumes his new responsibilities as chief executive officer of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, where he will have a new platform to fight for the causes he believes in. This is an exciting opportunity for him and I know I am joined by my colleagues in wishing him continued success.

### LET'S REEXAMINE THE CUBAN EMBARGO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 1, 1996*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues a recent event in California.

On Wednesday, a caravan of 30 vehicles was stopped at the United States-Mexico border by United States Customs officers. The caravan was carrying approximately 300 used personal computers and modems for medical and educational purposes in Cuba.

Why was the delivery stopped? Because the United States imposes a comprehensive trade and travel embargo against Cuba.

Mr. Speaker, the equipment these people were trying to deliver to Cuba was not high technology. It was not a threat to our national security. The equipment—outdated 286 personal computers and used modems—was for schools and hospitals in Cuba.

This recent event demonstrates the problems with our embargo against Cuba. How could the Cuban Government oppress the Cuban people with obsolete computers? How could these computers be used to threaten the security of the United States, a country where many individuals have personal computers that are many times more powerful?

We need to face the fact that the best way to help the Cuban people is to work with Cuba, not against it. How better could we bring our values to Cuba than help improve the health and welfare of the Cuban people? How better could we help Cubans learn about American philanthropy and goodwill than support private donations by Americans?

Mr. Speaker, we need to reexamine our approach to Cuba. We are the only nation left that imposes such severe restrictions on trade with Cuba. Let us help the Cuban people by letting Americans help Cubans.

### TRIBUTE TO SYLVIA E. THOMAS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 1, 1996*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, February 10, a retirement ceremony for a remarkable woman will be held. On that date, at the Fort Monmouth Officers Club, the friends and colleagues of Sylvia E. Thomas will pay tribute to Ms. Thomas' 35-year career as an educator, school administrator and a perfectionist who has always strived to give the most for her students.

A resident of Neptune Township, NJ, Ms. Thomas retired on January 1 as the principal of Neptune Middle School. The career that Sylvia Thomas is now concluding is not only a great testimony to her own talent, courage and determination, but it is a true indication of what public education in this country is all about: dedicated professionals, often working under adverse conditions, without lavish salaries, to shape future generations. Sylvia Thomas, like so many unsung heroes working in public education, has earned the respect and gratitude of her former students, their parents and our entire community.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Thomas was born in Georgia and raised in Alabama, the daughter of educators Royal and Lilian Hope Dunham. She earned her bachelor of science degree in secondary education from Tuskegee University in Alabama in 1958, and received her masters degree from Columbia University in New York in 1959. She earned her principal's and supervisor's certificates from Monmouth College—now University—in West Long Branch, NJ, between 1974 and 1976.

Ms. Thomas began her career as a ninth grade teacher in Augusta, GA., in 1959. She taught math and science throughout the country wherever her husband, Govan, a former Army serviceman, was stationed at the time. She has also taught GI's. In 1973, the Thomases settled in Neptune, on the Jersey Shore. She taught math to eighth graders at Asbury Park Middle School, in the neighboring community. From 1978 to 1981, she served as coordinator of the math program and the compensatory education program. For the next three years, she chaired the math/science department for kindergarten through eighth grade in Asbury Park. In 1984, Ms. Thomas moved into the administrative side, becoming principal of Green Grove Elementary School in Neptune. She was transferred to the Middle School as vice principal, and subsequently became principal six years ago. During her tenure at Neptune Middle School, the school increased its emphasis on math and science, acquired additional computer equipment and made many capital improvements.

In a recent profile of Ms. Thomas by staff writer Travis R. Moore in *The Asbury Park Press*, one of the major newspapers in our area, Mr. Michael T. Lake, superintendent of Neptune public schools, who has worked with Ms. Thomas for the past 11 years, described her as "a consummate professional." Ms. Peola Smith-Smith, chairperson of the counseling/guidance department at Neptune High School, said Ms. Thomas has been an "inspiration" and an "exemplary administrator." In the article, Ms. Thomas herself described the key to success for the men and women who

run our public schools. While she stressed her reluctance to compromise on her high expectations, she nonetheless recognized the need for flexibility: "You do whatever has to be done to get the job done."

In addition to her distinguished career as a teacher and administrator, Ms. Thomas has been a leader in numerous community organizations, including the Central Jersey Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, the National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Asbury Park, and Lambda Omega Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She has also maintained a long-time association with Drifters, Inc., a nonprofit civic organization of black women with 30 chapters nationwide dedicated to serving the community and enhancing the universal image of womanhood. Ms. Thomas served as national president of Drifters from 1989 to 1993, is a charter member of the Ocean Chapter of Drifters, and has also coordinated public relations and edited the organization's newsletter. She was the recipient of the 1993 Now Black Woman Award given by the national Drifters, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor and privilege for me to join the friends and colleagues of Sylvia Thomas in saluting a great educator and community leader.

### REMOVAL OF RUSSIAN MILITARY FORCES FROM MOLDOVA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 1, 1996*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, in October 1994 the Prime Minister of Russia and the Prime Minister of Moldova signed an agreement according to which Russian military forces would leave Moldovan territory by October 1997. Last April, the Russian Duma approved a resolution opposing the 3-year withdrawal agreement.

The Russian Government has stated its intention to live up to the agreement but little progress has been made. At present about 4,000–4,500 Russian troops stationed in as many as eight garrisons in eastern Moldova, known as Transnistria. These are the vestiges of the former Soviet 14th Army which once had troops stationed throughout Moldova and the Odessa Military Region in Ukraine. The Russian Army has essentially maintained its force strength in the region, and troops have even been sent to Moldova to replace those that have been demobilized. Mr. Speaker, Moldova is the only former Soviet Republic upon which Russian troops are still stationed without permission of the host government, and Moldovan officials have raised this issue at several international meetings.

Mr. Speaker, I would note that the administration has consistently supported the withdrawal of Russian forces from Moldova. During his meeting with Moldovan President Snegur last year, President Clinton made clear that the United States expects the 1994 agreement to be implemented on time.

With respect to the international community, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations have passed resolutions calling for the removal of

the Russian military forces. As part of the recent vote of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly that recommended Russian accession to the Council of Europe, an amendment was included that Russia should ratify the October 1994 agreement within 6 months.

In view of this situation, I—along with Mr. WOLF, Mr. SOLOMON, Mr. HOVER, and Mr. DURBIN—am introducing a resolution calling upon the Government of the Russian Federation to adhere to the provisions of the withdrawal agreement signed on October 21, 1994. The resolution further urges the Secretary of State to use every appropriate opportunity and means, including multilateral and bilateral diplomacy, to secure removal of Russian military forces from Moldova.

In addition, this resolution calls upon Moldova's neighbors to recognize its territorial integrity and notes the efforts of the OSCE and the Government of Ukraine to assist in resolving issues that have arisen in Transdnistria, including the withdrawal of the Russian forces.

Mr. Speaker, I would stress that this resolution does not ask the Russian Government to do anything to which it has not already agreed. It merely underscores the concern of Congress and the American people for the implementation of international law and for the easing of potential conflict in Europe.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

TRIBUTE TO HON. DONALD P.  
McCULLUM

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS  
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, February 1, 1996*

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues the tremendous contributions of a highly esteemed constituent, Judge Donald P. McCullum. Judge McCullum was born in Little Rock, AR, to Charles and Irene McCullum, and was the fourth of six children.

Influenced by NAACP lawyer Thurgood Marshall's court victories, Justice McCullum attended Talladega College in Alabama. After attending and graduating with honors from Boston University, School of Law in 1951, he was then sworn in as a member of the Massachusetts Bar in 1953. A highly decorated Naval Officer during the Korean War, he separated from the service and settled in Oakland, CA in 1955.

As a civil rights attorney and NAACP activist, he championed the causes of the disenfranchised, the politically under-represented, the non-represented and poor youth. He then led his contemporary colleagues in the fight for civil rights during the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's and received recognition as a civil rights leader. He served as Deputy District Attorney of Alameda County, and was the first Black City Attorney of Berkeley, and serviced as a California State Inheritance Tax Referee. In 1977, Justice McCullum was appointed to the Alameda County Superior Court bench by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr., and was then elected Presiding Judge for two terms. In 1982, McCullum was appointed Associate Justice of the State Court of Appeals, and in 1984, was appointed Associate Justice of the California Supreme Court.

His organizational affiliations include Sigma Pi Phi and Alpha Phi Alpha fraternities, the American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, the California Association of Black Lawyers, Director of the National Urban Coalition in Washington, DC, lifetime member of both the National Council of Negro Woman and the NAACP and Director of the New Oakland Committee. Justice McCullum has also been characterized by the San Francisco Examiner's Image Magazine, as "one of three great contributors to Bay Area Social Justice in the past 100 years."

Judge Donald P. McCullum is survived by his wife of 25 years, Peggy, a son, Donald Anthony, two daughters, Peggy Lisa and Erica, one brother, Charles and two sisters, Laura and Ernize. He will forever shine bright in the hearts of those he touched, and will be remembered for years and years to come.

Judge McCullum's philosophy for life is reflected in the following statement by him, "The measure of performance and the value of an endeavor is directly related to the obstacles surmounted, the adversity overcome and the sacrifices made by a person."

SALUTE TO THE TOWN OF  
SOMERSET, MD

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA  
OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, February 1, 1996*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the town of Somerset, MD, which celebrates its 90th birthday this year.

Somerset is a very special place. One of the oldest suburbs of Washington, DC, Somerset was originally settled in 1890 by five Department of Agriculture scientists who paid a total of \$19,000 for their 50-acre "suburban colony." One of the town's distinguished founders, Dr. Harvey Wiley, was the father of the Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906.

By 1905, 35 families called Somerset "home" and it was soon apparent that if the "colony" were to succeed it needed to organize to provide for the common good. In 1906 the "colony" received a charter from the State of Maryland and it became a town. Soon, taxes were levied for water, sewers, roads, schools, and the public safety.

Women played an important role in the development and history of Somerset and, indeed, in the civic life of Montgomery County throughout this century. In 1902, Somerset women organized themselves into the Wednesday Club, where over tea and the week's mending they discussed the town's problems and later the larger issues of child labor, their right to vote, and the war in Europe in each other's parlors. By 1916, the Wednesday Club became the Women's Club of Somerset and eventually joined with the Montgomery County Federation of Women's Clubs.

The town of Somerset has a mayor-council form of government. Current officials elected by residents of Somerset are Mayor Walter J. Behr, Council members George Snow, Nat Finkelstein, Judy Frankel, Peter Gubser, and Richard Kessler.

As the town celebrates its history this year, there will be a special tour highlighting Somerset's private gardens that contribute so much

to the natural beauty of the area. And in July, the town will come together as it has traditionally done over the years for a glorious July 4th celebration.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing the town and people of Somerset, MD, a most happy 90th birthday.

IN PRAISE OF WEST VIRGINIANS  
DURING RECENT FLOOD DISASTER

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 1, 1996*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to know where to begin in praise of the people of West Virginia in their concerted and unselfish efforts to help start cleaning up and digging out after recent disastrous floods throughout 6 of the 16 counties I have the high honor to represent in the House. The counties which are scheduled to receive both Federal and State assistance were: Mercer, Greenbrier, Pocahontas, Webster, Summers, and Monroe Counties.

Let me begin by saying that the West Virginia Legislature acted promptly and with compassion without politics in expeditiously approving the State's matching share of \$7.5 million to begin to assist southern West Virginia to clean up and dig out after the devastation of the flood waters. The Salvation Army, who is ever present at disasters of all kinds, was there in force to help southern West Virginia. The West Virginia National Guard provided cleaning supplies, shovels, and helped set up the shelter at the elementary school in Talcott, Summers County, for families and children whose homes were washed away or who had to be evacuated from their homes. Our National Guard was super.

The State Department of Highways and county emergency services directors took immediate action to make heavy equipment available and provided other debris-removal and salvage assistance. Directors of emergency services made local relief available immediately. Local businesses are to be commended highly for their free donation of necessary supplies of immediate necessity to families in the community at large in dealing with all aspects of the flooding.

Deserving of highest praise were the local fire departments, city mayors, county commissioners, and concerned individuals and families who took it upon themselves to stand by night and day to provide food and beverages for the workers, and shelter, blankets, space heaters, and clothing for families.

I would like to specifically mention many of—but not all—those individuals and agencies by name, who were strong and steadfast in getting assistance to those who needed special food for those on medically required diets, many who needed warm clothing for themselves and children who lost homes and escaped with only the clothes on their backs. There were those in need of special medications left behind when home evacuations were necessary, and transportation was provided for those in need of a physician's care or for shopping for other of life's necessities for people finding themselves suddenly homeless. And those who wanted cleaning supplies and brooms, shovels, and water hoses to start getting rid of the mud and muck in their homes,