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TRIBUTE TO THE NOME CULT  
"TRAIL OF TEARS"

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 133d anniversary of the Nome Cult "Trail of Tears."

Not long ago, native Americans from Chico were forced to relocate across what is now the Mendocino National Forest to Round Valley.

In September 1863, 461 Indians were marched under guard from Chico to the Nome Cult Reservation, nearly 100 miles across the Sacramento Valley and rugged north coast ranges. Most of those removed from Chico were Maidu from the north Sacramento Valley and adjacent foothills, but members of other tribes were also relocated. Only 277 Indians completed the journey to Nome Cult Reservation.

Although the path has disappeared, we now call this route the Nome Cult Trail. Currently, U.S. Forest Service signs mark the route where the Indians and their military escorts camped along the most grueling part of the trail in the Mendocino National Forest.

Today, I wish to acknowledge this tragedy but also to celebrate in full recognition of our past. While the Nome Cult Trail is a tragic chapter in my State's history, it is also a story about the resilience and strength of California Indians. It is an important legacy for their descendants and for all Californians.

TRIBUTE TO GEN. WITOLD  
URBANOWICZ AND JAN NOWAK-  
JEZIORANSKI

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Polish Heritage Week, and to remind my colleagues of the contributions made to our society by Polish-Americans.

First, I would like to pay special tribute to Gen. Witold Urbanowicz. I was saddened to hear of his death on August 18, 1996. General Urbanowicz was a true hero to the Allied forces during World War II, serving as a fighter pilot in the Battle of Britain and in China with the Flying Tigers of Gen. Claire L. Chennault. For his distinguished service, General Urbanowicz received Poland's highest decoration for valor, the Order of Virtuti Militari. He was also awarded the British Order of Merit and the Distinguished Flying Cross. Last year, he received a formal promotion to general in the Polish Forces from Polish President Lech Walesa. His brave service will not be forgotten.

Additionally, I would like to honor Jan Nowak-Jezioranski. On September 20, 1996, Nowak was awarded the highest civilian honor in the United States, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The award honored his service during World War II, in which he risked his life to

bring vital information from Poland to the Allies. Later, he directed Radio Free Europe's Polish Service, and was a voice of hope to millions of his fellow Poles.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor these two great men, and to celebrate the contributions of all Polish-Americans during this very special week.

V.F.W. POST 5267 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 5267 of Hanover Township, Pennsylvania. The post is celebrating its 50th anniversary and I am pleased to have been asked to participate in this milestone event.

On November 5, 1945 thirty veterans returning from overseas duty in World War II accepted the invitation of the late Edward Dozyk, a WWI veteran, to formulate initial plans for a V.F.W. post in Hanover Township. Application for a charter was sent to the National Headquarters and the charter was granted in 1946.

The first group of officers were founder of the post Commander Edward Dozyk, Senior Vice Commander Nelson Gray and Adjutant and third year Commander Michael Juls.

During the next few years the post spent time moving from one location to another. In 1967 the post purchased its current home.

Mr. Speaker, since its beginning in 1946 the post has grown from 30 members to over 700. The post provides valuable community services to the active veterans community in the Wyoming Valley. During its history members of the post have participated in over 2100 military funerals as well as numerous Veterans Day Celebrations.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor these dedicated men and to join the Hanover Township Board of Commissioners and Commission President Pat Aregood in proclaiming the week of September 22nd as V.F.W. Post 5267 week in Hanover. I send my best wishes on their 50th anniversary.

DOSE OF REALISM NEEDED IN  
DEALING WITH RUSSIA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, in a major policy speech delivered in Stuttgart, Germany, Secretary of State Christopher presented his vision for the future of a "New Atlantic Community" and called for the elaboration of a formal charter between NATO and Russia as an integral aspect of the alliance's process of enlargement. The headstrong determination of the Clinton administration to forge ahead with some form of formal partnership between Russia and NATO should give cause for concern.

I am not convinced that such an initiative—which is fraught with risks—is warranted.

In his address, Secretary Christopher boldly proclaimed that "a Democratic Russia can

participate in the construction of an integrated, Democratic Europe." Frankly, Mr. Speaker, Russia's Democratic credentials are not yet firmly established. One need look no further than the killing fields of Chechnya to see the limits of the Kremlin's commitment to genuine democracy. Let us not forget that President Yeltsin signed the decrees, later made public, that launched the large-scale Russian military operations which laid waste to Grozny, leveled scores of towns and villages, led to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Russian and Chechen civilians, and resulted in tens of thousands of deaths.

As Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I am particularly disturbed by Secretary Christopher's attempts to gloss over Moscow's campaign of death and destruction in Chechnya. "Though their [the Russian people's] struggle is far from complete," Christopher acknowledged, "as the 20-month assault on Chechnya demonstrated, the Russian people have rejected a return to the past and vindicated our confidence in democracy." In keeping with the tendency of the Clinton administration to turn a blind eye toward Chechnya, the Secretary's remark papers over the Chechnya's negative consequences for democracy in Russia.

Instead of heeding the Kremlin's brutality in Chechnya as a wakeup call of the threat to Russia's fledgling democracy, Secretary Christopher and others in the administration seemed content to push the snooze button and roll over while thousands of innocent men, women, and children were killed and those truly committed to Democratic principles increasingly came under fire for their opposition to Yeltsin's Chechen policy.

Russia must consolidate democracy, human rights, and rule of law at home, Mr. Speaker, before she can ever be considered a credible partner in constructing an integrated, Democratic Europe, envisioned by Mr. Christopher. Welcoming the Russians as full partners in building a new Europe that is free of tyranny, division, and war, as the Secretary has done, is premature at best. A fundamentally new relationship with Russia can only be built on a firm foundation of trust and confidence based on concrete deeds.

Secretary Christopher's smug assertion that no power in Europe now poses a threat to any other belies the fact that Russian missiles, once targeted at the United States, can be re-programmed within a matter of minutes. His claim is also easier made in Stuttgart than in places like Tallinn, Riga, Vilnius, or for that matter, Kiev.

While the United States should continue to encourage cooperation among countries in the Baltic region, Mr. Speaker, it is important to keep in mind that such cooperation cannot substitute for NATO membership.

We cannot ignore that historical relationship between Russia and her neighbors, many of whom have understandable concerns for their sovereignty and independence, given decades of brutal domination and suppression by Moscow. Such apprehension can only be heightened by the current leadership crisis in the Kremlin and by the fact that some Russians yearn for the recreation of their empire. All the while, Russia's neighbors continue to seek normal relations with the Russian Federation based on mutual respect and sovereign equality.

I would remind Mr. Christopher that Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov, who earlier headed the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service, has been one of the chief proponents of the reestablishment of a Russian sphere of influence in the newly independent States of the former Soviet Union, the so-called "near abroad."

Should the United States decide to pursue a formal charter between NATO and Russia several key issues must be addressed. First, the Russian Federation must not be given a veto, or implied veto, over the timing or conditions for the admission of new members into the alliance. Second, such an accord must firmly oppose any moves by Moscow to establish "spheres of influence" in East Central Europe. Third, the charter must in no way impede the development of enhanced relations between NATO and nonmembers, such as Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, let us now lose sight of the fact that an essential element of any partnership is, and must be, trust. The reality is that much time is needed to heal the wounds inflicted by the war in Chechnya and establish Moscow's credentials as a trustworthy partner. In the meantime, the single greatest contribution Russia can make to the construction of an integrated and Democratic Europe would be to consolidate democracy, human rights, and rule of law at home.

IN HONOR OF PRABHAKAR  
SHUKLA: AN EXEMPLARY INDIVIDUAL

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very distinguished and outstanding individual from my district. Prabhakar R. Shukla has been a devoted father and an extraordinary individual who has inspired many of his fellow community members.

Mr. Shukla was born in the small village of Saras in Gujarat, India. He grew up in Saras working on his family farm while receiving his education. At the age of 12, he was sent to boarding school to pursue further studies and earned a bachelors degree in physics and chemistry, a law degree and an education degree. He also received a Vishard, an advanced degree in Hindi and Sanskrit from Beneras Hindu University. In 1958, he married a wonderful woman, Hasumati, and had one son. In 1962, he left India to work as a principal at a high school in Africa for 4 years and then worked in England as a teacher for 6 years. In 1970, he came to the United States with his family working as a substitute teacher, salesman, and insurance agent. Through hard work and dedication, he became a full time teacher. For the past 16 years, he has taught physics and chemistry at East Orange High School, has been chairman of the science department, and has been recognized as an outstanding teacher.

As an active member of his community, Mr. Shukla has sought to contribute to the vitality of Hudson County and its residents. He is a member of the North Bergen Planning Board, the Hudson County Commissioner of Human Relations and a member of the Hudson Coun-

ty Vicarage Advisory Committee. He is a founder and life member of the Hindu Cultural Society, India Cultural Society, Hindu Mandir and Bharat Cultural Society. In addition, he serves as the chairman of the board of trustees for the Bharat Cultural Society and the Brahmin Samaj.

Prabhakar Shukla is well respected by his friends, students, and neighbors. He has distinguished himself with his contributions to the citizens of New Jersey. His success is proof that America is a land of opportunity for all those willing to seize it. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this outstanding individual.

HONORING AMBASSADOR WILLIAM  
COLBY

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, General Vang Pao, the Vietnam war hero and Colonel Wangyee Vang, the National President of the Lao Veterans of America, organized a major event earlier this year to commemorate the sacrifices of the Hmong and Lao combat veterans. Tragically, Ambassador William Colby, former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency [CIA], who was slated to speak at this special event, passed away just prior to it.

In honor of Ambassador Colby, and the Hmong and Lao veterans who staunchly fought as allies of the United States to defend freedom from Southeast Asia, I request to include the following article from the Washington Times in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Washington Times, May 8, 1996]

REFUGEES FROM LAOS MOURN A FRIEND,  
COLBY

(By Gary Scheets)

Chia Kue was born on the CIA base of Long Chieng 24 years ago. She remembers eluding Laotian communist insurgents with her family as they followed a trail of refugees out of Laos and into Thailand, where squalid camps harbored them until, and if, they were lucky enough to get to the United States.

At that same base, William Colby, who would later direct the Central Intelligence Agency, staged operations using recruited Hmong soldiers to guard America installations and fight the North Vietnamese along the Ho Chi Minh Trail during the Vietnam War.

Miss Kue's father was a Hmong soldier fighting under Maj. Gen. Vang Pao, commander of the Royal Lao Army Region Two, who took his direction from Mr. Colby.

This Saturday and Sunday, thousands of Hmong combat veterans and refugee families will gather in Fresno, Calif., to pay tribute to Mr. Colby. At the event, originally designed as a ceremony to honor the actions of Hmong soldiers, Mr. Colby was scheduled to attend and present commendations and citations.

Instead, Hmong tribal and military honors will be staged in remembrance of Mr. Colby, whose body was found Monday along the banks of the Wicomico River. Authorities believe Mr. Colby drowned after his canoe capsized nine days earlier.

The Maryland State Medical Examiner's Office won't have autopsy results until the end of the week.

Miss Kue, of Arlington, is a first-grade teacher at the Fairfax Brewster School, a

private school in Baileys Crossroads. She and her family spent four years in Nong Chai, a refugee camp in Thailand that was closed when the Thai government began repatriation of the Laotian refugees.

She first met Mr. Colby in April 1994 at congressional hearings on the plight of Hmong refugees in the camps and their forced repatriation to Laos to face persecution and possible death for their collaboration with the CIA.

Miss Kue and Mr. Colby kept in contact on the refugee issue, meeting and talking several times.

Miss Kue said the death of Mr. Colby will be a significant loss to the Hmong community because he was one of the few in official Washington openly championing their cause.

"He was so important to the Hmong because he knew so much of what they did," Miss Kue said. "He was one of their greatest allies."

The Hmong most likely will never have someone of Mr. Colby's stature advocating their cause again, she said.

Miss Kue said Mr. Colby struck her as an honorable man who was not afraid to fight for what he believed in.

"He was someone who was willing to stand up for the truth, for what he knows and what he believes in," Miss Kue said.

Gen. Pao, who worked side-by-side with Mr. Colby in Laos during the Vietnam War, called him "a good friend to the Hmong people."

Speaking in a telephone interview from Fresno, where he is preparing for this weekend's program, Gen. Pao said Mr. Colby will be sorely missed by the people he fought for:

"Bill Colby's death is a great loss not only for all freedom-loving people," Gen. Pao said. "We are hoping that someone will step forward and fill his shoes."

During the war, the two men got to know each other quite well. "I told him in great respect," Gen. Pao said.

Philip Smith, a Washington representative for the Lao Veterans of American, said Mr. Colby was an integral part of the effort to have the wartime work of the Hmong recognized.

"Because Laos is such an obscure country, Bill Colby was so important and why no one will be able to replace him," Mr. Smith said.

Mr. Smith said Mr. Colby understood the contribution of the Hmong and how it fitted into the geostrategic picture of the Cold War.

Mr. Smith, who will attend the Fresno ceremonies this weekend, had planned to fly to California with Mr. Colby.

Now, he said, the seat next to him on the plane will be empty.

SOCIAL SECURITY

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced legislation, H.R. 4215, to help put the Social Security system on a better financial footing while providing future Americans with the peace of mind that comes with their own retirement account which is their personal property.

My bill will establish a retirement account for each newborn American citizen, initially worth \$1,000. The money for the initial \$1,000 is to come from the sale of Government assets. This amount is to be invested in the same manner, and with the same choices, as the