

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## CASTRO'S HEINOUS ACT

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to decry the actions of Fidel Castro over the weekend and extend my condolences to the family members of the four victims.

Clearly, the shooting down of unarmed U.S. civilian aircraft is the heinous and unforgivable act of a rogue regime that ignores international law. Cuba's action is inexcusable and is, as Ambassador Albright said, "cowardice".

Brothers to the Rescue is a private group engaged in the humanitarian mission of plucking Cuban rafters out of the shark infested waters of the Florida Straits. The Brothers were on another such humanitarian mission last Saturday, in international airspace, when the Cuban Government scrambled two MiG fighters to intercept the three Cessnas. With only the vaguest of warnings, the fighters locked onto the small planes and blasted them from the sky leaving only oil slicks on the water below.

Mr. Speaker, such wanton disregard for international law cannot go unanswered, so the response to this appalling attack has been swift. The U.N. Security Council has condemned the Cuban actions, as has the European Union, the President has suspended charter air travel and will ask Congress to use some of the \$100 million in frozen Cuban assets to compensate the families of the victims. In addition, the conferees yesterday reached agreement on H.R. 927, the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act. These steps, taken together, will dramatically increase the pressure on the Castro regime.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in condemning the shooting down of civilian planes and to continue our work for a free and democratic Cuba.

## TRIBUTE TO JACQUELINE CHARITY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Jacqueline Charity, who serves as deputy director for access and compliance with the New York City Board of Education, for her years of service. Ms. Charity has amassed an impressive resume of selfless service in the cause of educating young people. She has been directly responsible for programs targeted at talented and gifted students, in addition to her outstanding supervision of the College Bound Program. Recognizing that it is essential for students to be competitive in math and sciences, Ms. Charity undertook the challenge to establish a math-science program at Stuyvesant High School.

Jacqueline attended primary and secondary school in Brooklyn, and received her undergraduate degree from Brooklyn College, and her masters degree from New York University.

A devoted mother and wife, Jackie finds the time to provide extensive community service in her church and for numerous civic organizations. Among her numerous awards is recognition from the Jack and Jill organization and the YWCA. Jacqueline maintains her spiritual center by serving as a eucharistic minister/lay reader at St. Phillips Episcopal Church. I am pleased to be able to bring the accomplishment of this noted Brooklyn educator to the attention of my colleagues.

## B'NAI B'RITH TO HONOR PAULINE FRIEDMAN

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the accomplishments of Ms. Pauline Friedman who will receive the Seligman J. Strauss Lodge's highest honor, the Community Service Award. Ms. Friedman will be honored at the Lodge's 52d Annual Lincoln Day Dinner.

The Community Service Award is presented each year to one outstanding citizen who, by his or her leadership and dedication on behalf of humanity, has made a valuable contribution to the betterment of community living. Pauly Friedman, with her many accomplishments, certainly meets the criteria for this award. She serves on the boards of the Family Service Association of Wyoming Valley, the Ethics Institute of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Interfaith Council of Penn State University Wilkes-Barre Campus, and St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen. In addition, Pauly serves the Jewish Community Center of the Wyoming Valley, the Joint Committee of the Scranton Catholic Diocese, and the Jewish Community to Advance Jewish-Catholic Dialogue as a board member. She is also a member of the Wilkes University Council and the King's College Council.

Ms. Friedman founded the League of Home Health Services and the Friends of Family Services. She also served as the president of many leading community service organizations including the Visiting Nurses Association of Greater Pittston, Home Health Services of Luzerne County, Family Services Association of the Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania Council of Family Service Agencies, Home Care Management of Luzerne County, and the Art Gallery of College Misericordia.

Pauly has served on the board of trustees of Temple Israel and on the boards of the Junior Leadership of Wilkes-Barre, Jewish Home of Eastern Pennsylvania, Salvation Army of Greater Pittston, and the Broadway Theater of Northeastern Pennsylvania. She was a member of the Penn State University Alumni Council and served as the vice president of the

United Way of Wyoming Valley and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic. She also chaired the women's division of the United Jewish Appeal Campaign and was secretary of the Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Mental Health Care organization.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Pauly on her most recent project—her effort to bring better health care to the children of Eastern Europe. Ms. Friedman organized physicians who took their knowledge and medical supplies to Eastern Europe to help the young people of the region. Pauly then founded a nonprofit foundation to continue this noble work.

Mr. Speaker, we do not often get the chance to honor someone with such strong experience in volunteerism. Her spirit of commitment to her community is legendary in the Wyoming Valley.

Pauly Friedman has a deep understanding of the values that have made our country the greatest nation in the world. It is obvious to all who know her that she believes giving of oneself is the greatest gift of all. We in northeastern Pennsylvania extend our deepest appreciation to Pauline Friedman for a lifetime of commitment to improving the quality of life of the citizens of her community.

## A TRIBUTE TO BERKELEY-CARROLL SCHOOL

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Berkeley-Carroll School of Park Slope for their achievement in receiving the U.S. Department of Education's Blue Ribbon award. Berkeley-Carroll is well known throughout Brooklyn and New York State for its high standard of academic excellence coupled with a strong parent-teacher-student community that nurtures the individual strengths of each student. I am inspired by the unique curriculum of Berkeley-Carroll and congratulate them as they provide a national model of educational achievement.

What I find particularly noteworthy about the curriculum at Berkeley-Carroll is their commitment to civic duty and community activism. Each student is required to fulfill a minimum of 50 hours of community service, however, most students do more. This spirit of giving back to the community as part of one's course work, especially in an era where most have turned inward, is truly remarkable. Such an innovative component to a student's intellectual development as a problem solver provides the groundwork for future leadership skills.

I have always admired the teachers and parents of Berkeley-Carroll for encouraging their students to become active participants in their communities. In addition to completing their public service requirement, students are

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

immersed in a rigorous academic program that provides a solid foundation in math, reading, writing, and analytical reasoning. It is hardly surprising that Berkeley-Carroll was awarded the Federal Blue Ribbon Award for their sincere commitment to academic strength and civic leadership.

As a resident of Park Slope, I have witnessed the positive contributions made by Berkeley-Carroll to the neighborhoods throughout Brooklyn. Students are given a special experience that will stay with them their entire lives. I rise to honor this landmark institution and urge all of my colleagues to recognize this Brooklyn-based school as a national leader in education.

#### TRIBUTE TO LOIS McDANIEL

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 29, 1996*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker Lois McDaniel is a native of Batesburg, SC and embodies the philosophy that hard work pays big dividends. Lois attended South Carolina State College and Pace University's evening program. She currently serves as the calendar information officer for the department of city planning and secretary to the New York City Planning Commission for land use and zoning matters. In her capacity she conducts televised public hearings at city hall for the New York City Planning Commission.

Prior to joining the department of city planning, Ms. McDaniel served as executive secretary to the president of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Corp. A homeowner in East New York since 1969, Lois has been involved in numerous civic activities within the Community Board 5 area. Her efforts have supported senior citizens, block associations, the Democratic Club of East New York, and Union 1180.

Ms. McDaniel is actively involved in food drives for City Harvest's food distribution program for the homeless, and is also involved in numerous other charitable efforts. I am proud to acknowledge her efforts to serve the people of Brooklyn.

#### CELEBRATING THE CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS OF LT.C. AARON A. CRAYCROFT

#### HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 29, 1996*

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to relate a very inspiring story. It is not an unfamiliar plot, but one that always reassures my faith in the American dream and the work ethic that has made this country the greatest in the world. Aaron A. Craycroft of Macon County, IL, the northernmost county of Illinois' 19th district, has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant commander in the Navy Air Corps, and I salute his ascension to this position.

Military service in the United States has always been a position of honor for those who have served, and often represents the oppor-

tunity for personal betterment that is inherent in the idea of the United States. This has proved to be the case for Aaron. He enlisted in the Navy in 1974 without a college degree. Since then he has devoted his life to serving our country to the best of his ability, and his dedication has provided much in return. Aaron has traveled the world via aircraft carrier, learned the highly specialized skill of aviation electronics, and after putting that training to use repairing A-6 fighters, he is now the administrator of the school where he learned the craft. From humble origins, Lieutenant Commander Craycroft has achieved success through 20 years of hard work. His example is a model for the youth of today, for there are no easy answers, no quick fixes, and no substitute for giving your all. The path to opportunity and fulfillment exists if you are willing to give of yourself.

Mr. Speaker, Aaron's story is especially meaningful to me, because at 17, I also entered the armed services without having been to college, and I will never forget what that opportunity has meant to my life. I would like to thank Lieutenant Commander Craycroft for his devotion to his country's security. I am honored to represent him and his family in the U.S. Congress.

#### SAINT PATRICK'S DAY 1996

#### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 29, 1996*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the promotion of peace and justice, along with long term and shared economic development on the beloved Emerald Isle, are important items of concern to millions of Americans of Irish descent, particularly at this time of year as we all join again in celebrating yet another glorious St. Patrick's Day.

These important issues of peace and justice also concern all of Ireland's many friends here and around the globe, especially now once again with the misguided return to violence by some few frustrated with the pace of the peace process and needed change on the ground in the north of Ireland today.

Ireland and its warm, generous people have long had a fond affection for America, as President Clinton learned when he triumphantly toured the whole island late last year. There we all witnessed first hand, the genuine warmth and love of the Irish people for America, and the respect for the President's outstanding leadership in promoting peace on the island.

The President has done much through his effort at promoting peace in Ireland to in some small way, pay back that nation that has also given America so much. With the current breakdown in the progress toward lasting peace, it is time for the President to take the next step, and appoint that promised peace envoy, which many believe is needed to get the process back on track.

Former Senator George Mitchell, who served so well as head of the International Body dealing with the arms issue, would be an ideal candidate for the position, in my opinion. I urge the President to make such an appointment of a peace envoy at this critical time in Irish history.

The tragic and misguided returned to violence recently by some who mistakenly believe that justice can be obtained through terrorism, death, and destruction, must end. The IRA cease fire must be restored, the bombings ended, and peaceful means and dialog resumed immediately, or the nationalist cause will suffer even greater damage in world opinion.

As we once again examine at this particular time of year, the impact the Irish have had on America, and why the U.S. has a responsibility to remain engaged in the efforts to bring about lasting peace and justice in Ireland, it is worth remembering their many sacrifices and contributions to our great Nation.

President Clinton addressing a joint session of the Irish parliament in Dublin on his trip last year, mentioned the 200,000 Irish who bravely fought for the Union cause in our civil war. Many Irish officers and soldiers also distinguished themselves in ending British rule over the colonies, during the earlier American revolution.

Once here in this great land, and taking full advantage of the American dream, the Irish fought and died for this Nation, and excelled in every way and walk of American life. Few from the World War II generation can forget, a young Irish lad named Audie Murphy who on the battlefields of eastern France, became one of the Nation's most decorated veterans. He received the Medal of Honor and 27 other decorations, including the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Croix de Guerre with Palm.

In fact, since Congress established the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1863, there have been a remarkable 250 or more Irish who have earned this Nation's highest honor. No other nationality, even comes close to that astonishing record of valor and courage in service of this great Nation.

The sons and daughters of Ireland, their families and many friends here in America, are all grateful for our Government and its leaders' efforts, from both parties, to help pay back those remarkable sacrifices. The President has worked hard to bring peace and justice to their ancestral homeland, which every Irishman holds near and dear to his or her heart. We must all continue to work to keep peace in Ireland on the top of America's foreign policy agenda today, as I and others will do here in the Congress.

While helping make America great, the Irish have never forgotten, from whence they proudly came, as anyone who has marched in, or witnessed the grand Saint Patrick's Day parade down 5th Avenue in New York City each year. Today, more than 40 million Americans have ancestral links to Ireland, many as a result of the large immigration that followed the great famine, as well as the years before and after, that terrible and destructive human tragedy.

This year's Saint Patrick's parade Grand Marshal is William Flynn the CEO of Mutual of America in New York City. He is a great man, duly deserving of this high honor, who has dedicated himself to peace in Ireland, and has worked tirelessly to bring about lasting peace and justice, as have so many of his fellow Irish Americans.

The Irish in America, and their many friends have long played a role in assuring that our Government and elected leaders have not forgotten that the problems of Ireland did not end