

programs serving the needs of our most underserved and disadvantaged children. In addition, the conference report contains vital resources to combat drugs and violence in our schools through the safe and drug free schools initiative. This is another program the GOP sought to decimate.

Also added back due to the pressure of the American public, the White House, and the Democratic leadership is \$625 million to provide for positive job alternatives for our youth with the Summer Jobs Program. Again, the Republicans would have rather left these kids standing on a street corner with nothing to do than give them a chance to gain the skills, confidence, and guidance necessary to succeed and build a brighter future for themselves.

From a \$1.3 billion restoration of LIHEAP dollars for heating and cooling assistance for low-income families and seniors to \$1.4 billion injection of funds to fully phase in President Clinton's important 100,000 cops on the beat in our local communities, this bill mirrors the foremost needs, and desires spoken by my hard-working constituents in the Chicago metropolitan area and not those of the monied interests so familiar to my friends on the other side of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I will vote for this legislation because it protects the Democratic Party's principles and priorities and reflects a more rational and humanistic approach to bringing our Federal fiscal situation under control. I hope, with the final version of this bill serving as a prime example, the GOP finally takes notice of the fact that their so-called Contract With America has been declared null and void by the American people and the court of public opinion.

THE 1996 NATIONAL FINALS

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 1996

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, from April 27 to April 29, 1996, more than 1,300 students from 50 States and the District of Columbia competed in the national finals of the We the People * * * The Citizen and the Constitution Program. I am proud to announce that a class from Nogales High School represented Arizona's Second Congressional District. These young scholars worked diligently to reach the national finals by winning the State competition in Arizona.

The distinguished members of the team representing Arizona are: Veneranda Aguirre, Victor Ahumada, Gerritt Bake, Melinda Bejarano, Hector Ceballos, Karina Celaya, Chris Chapman, Micheal Cooper, Lily Courtland, Odette Felix, Tadeo Garcia, Carlos Gonzalez, Dino Hainline, Jacob Kory, Aishah Levine, Melissa Leyva, Marco Lopez, Danny Mandel, Hector Martinez, Miguel Montiel, Loren Pruzin, Daniel Rodriguez, Peter South, Isreal Valenzuela, Alberto Vega, Sarah Wright, and Priscilla Yubeta.

I would also like to mention their teacher, Mr. George Thomson, who deserves much of the credit for the success of the team. The State coordinator, Ms. Lynda Rando also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help Nogales High School reach the national finals.

The We the People * * * The Citizen and the Constitution Program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The 3-day national competition simulates a congressional hearing in which students' oral presentations are judged on the basis of their knowledge of constitutional principles and their ability to apply them to historical and contemporary issues.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People * * * Program now in its ninth academic year, has reached more than 70,400 teachers and 22,600 students nationwide at the upper elementary, middle, and high school levels. Members of Congress and their staff enhance the program by discussing current constitutional issues with students and teachers.

The We the People * * * Program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective on the significance of the U.S. Constitution and its place in our history and our lives. I am proud that the students from Nogales High School were able to take part in the national finals, and look forward to their continued success in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH H. POTTER

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 1996

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of an accomplished businessman and civic activist. After 38 years of leadership at the Washington Trust Co. of Westerly, RI, Mr. Potter has chosen to retire. I would like to recognize him for his dedicated service and commend him as a model businessman: Dedicated to company, community, and family.

Joe joined the "home-town bank" of South County in 1958 and has presided over the bank's tremendous growth and profitability. While tending to the heavy demands of a successfully growing business, Joe also found the time to become active in both the business community and as a civic leader.

Joe has served as executive vice president and president of The Rhode Island Bankers Association, as well having served as a member of the board of directors of Washington Bancorp, Inc. The Westerly community also benefited greatly from his generous contributions.

In a town proud of its Italian heritage, Joe currently serves as the president of the Permanent Columbus Day Committee, working diligently to make the Columbus Day Parade Westerly's finest processional each year. Additionally, Joe serves as a member of the Board of Governors of Rhode Island Junior Achievement and the Board of Governors for Community Health of Westerly.

From 1968 to 1974 Joe served the community through the State legislature, serving in the Rhode Island House of Representatives. As a public servant, Joe was instrumental in drafting the State Civil Defense Preparedness Act of 1974. He also received the coveted Department of Defense Award, one of the highest awards bestowed upon civilians.

As the Congressman representing Rhode Island's Second District, I am proud to acknowledge an individual who exemplifies true humanitarianism, citizenship, a strong work ethic, and sense of commitment. Joe, your contributions to the State of Rhode Island and the town of Westerly are an inspiration to all residents of the Ocean State.

Congratulations on the culmination of a wonderful career with the Washington Trust Co. Please accept my best wishes for all your future endeavors.

HONORING THE ROCKVALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Rockvale Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Armenian community in my district to mark the 81st anniversary of an unspeakable tragedy. I am referring to the genocide of 1.5 million of their people by the Ottoman Empire.

On April 24, 1915, 200 Armenian religious, political, and intellectual leaders from Istanbul, taken to the interior of Turkey and summarily murdered. Thus began an 8-year campaign to eradicate or deport all Armenian citizens from Anatolia and western Armenia.

Yet, today, many people are unaware of this vicious crime against humanity. There is little

mention of it in our history books. It is not taught to our children in school. And now, the Turkish Government is funding Chairs of Turkish history at prestigious American universities in order to cleanse its image and deny its past. For example, the Republic of Turkey endowed Princeton University with \$1.5 million for its Atatürk Chair of Turkish Studies. The professor who holds this chair is the former executive director of a Turkish institute that works to discredit scholarship which mentions the Armenian genocide.

However, my colleagues and I are here today to let the Armenian people know that we will not forget. We will not forget the aggression of the Ottoman Empire against innocent lives, particularly those of women and children. We will not forget that when the genocide ended, half of the world's Armenian population had been decimated. We will not forget that by 1923, the Turks had successfully erased nearly all remnants of the Armenian culture which had existed in their homeland for 3,000 years.

I stand here today to say that the genocide did happen. Nobody can erase the painful memories of the Armenian community. Nobody can deny the photos and historical references. Nobody can deny that few Armenians live where millions lived over 80 years ago. It is our responsibility and our duty to keep the memories of this tragedy alive. A world that forgets these tragedies is a world that will see them repeated again and again.

We cannot right the terrible injustice inflicted upon the Armenian community and we can never heal the wounds. But by properly commemorating this tragedy, Armenians will be at least know the world has not forgotten the misery of those years. Only then will Armenians begin to receive the justice they deserve.

CONDEMNING THE MASSACRE IN AUSTRALIA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 1996

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest sympathies to the families and friends of the 35 people who were killed this past Sunday in Australia. Allegedly killed by a 28-year-old man with a history of mental illness, the killer was random and deadly with his rifle. The victims were visiting a popular tourist site in the Australian state of Tasmania when their day was interrupted by this horror.

Mr. Speaker, it is tragedy enough when one person is shot and killed. However, it is nearly unthinkable to have 35 dead and have the lives of many more changed forever because of this violence. The victims ranged in age from 3 to 72 and came from all parts of the world. On behalf of the people of the State of Florida and the entire United States, I extend my sincere condolences to the people of Australia and to all those who mourn this tragedy.

TRIBUTE TO ANDREW P. HOGAN

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 1996

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a man who devoted much of his life to helping and improving the lives of others through his dedication to the fire service. Andrew P. Hogan, a lifelong member of the fire service, passed away recently in his home in Woodlyn, PA on April 20, 1996.

A member of the fire service for over 40 years, Andy was a key leader in the State and national effort to improve the public's recognition of the fire community. Andy served as a lifetime member of the Woodlyn and Milmont fire companies, belonged to the board of directors of the Milmont fire company, and was active in the Pennsylvania State Firemen's Association, the Pennsylvania State Fire Police Association, the Keystone State Fire Chief's Association, and the Delaware County Fire Police Association.

During his many years of service, Andy was honored for his dedication and work on numerous occasions. In 1980, he was named Fireman of the Year by Ridley Township. Andy was also honored in 1991 by the Pennsylvania State Firemen's Association who awarded him first place in their Fire Prevention Awards.

Andy took great pride in his involvement in the fire community. Because of his efforts, the fire service in Pennsylvania and throughout the United States is better off. Mr. Speaker, I know you and my colleagues join me today in celebrating the many accomplishments and achievements of Andrew Hogan and in honoring his memory.

CLINTON PUTS FRUITS OF COLD WAR VICTORY AT RISK

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD an excellent analysis of the failures of the Clinton administration in Europe by retired Gen. William Odom.

For over 3 years, I and other Republicans have been warning of the dangers inherent in appeasement, the preferred policy of this administration. As General Odom notes, Clinton's appeasement of Russia on the question of NATO expansion puts at risk the fruits of our victory in the cold war.

What is so astonishing, Mr. Speaker, is the Clinton administration's stubborn refusal to adapt its NATO or Russia policies to the changing realities in the region. Four years ago, Russia was led by a team of young reformers determined to set Russia on a path toward democratic, free market modernity. It is these reformers whom the Clinton administration ostensibly wanted to help when it announced its massive and poorly thought out aid proposals in 1993. It is these reformers whom the Clinton administration ostensibly wanted to help when it began appeasing Russia at every turn in 1993, claming that confronting Russia would embolden the hardliners.

Well today, not one of these reformers from 1992 and 1993, not one, remains in power. The hardliners we tried to discourage a few years ago are in control and are very much emboldened. Yet despite the fact that the resurgence of these hardliners has occurred in an atmosphere of unmitigated appeasement, the response of the Clinton administration has been, well, more appeasement.

Where does this leave us? With our NATO alliance adrift. With our friends in Central Europe in limbo. With a dangerous strategic vacuum in a historically unstable region. With a Russian Government peopled entirely by ex-Communist apparatchiks whose commitment to democracy and the free market was unknown until the Clinton administration said it was so. With the U.S. taxpayer on the hook for billions of dollars which have disappeared into a black hole. And with a Russia whose foreign and military policies become more reactionary and anti-Western by the day.

In sum, Mr. Speaker, it leaves us, as General Odom puts it, with the fruits of victory in the cold war at risk.

[From the Washington Post, Apr. 28, 1996]

WE'RE RIGHT TO BE WARY

(By William E. Odom)

Europe, from the Oder River to the Ural Mountains, may appear placid, but it is fast becoming a strategic vacuum, conducive to violence and competitive diplomacy that could eventually cause major instabilities. Only U.S. leadership can reverse this trend. But on the two central issues in the region—Bosnia and the expansion of NATO—the Clinton administration dallies and speaks in contradictory language.

The proper U.S. strategy to cope with the challenge of peaceful European realignment is simple. It consists of keeping the NATO peacekeeping forces in Bosnia long after their scheduled withdrawal in December, and of a limited expansion of NATO into central Europe. As Clausewitz observed, everything in strategy is simple but very difficult. The longer the United States hesitates in central Europe, the more difficult the challenge.

At risk are the fruits of victory in the Cold War. During the years 1989-91, Europe experienced its largest strategic realignment in history. Not only was Germany reunified and kept in NATO, but Soviet military forces completely withdrew from eastern Europe. All such earlier realignments involved wars. Thus far, this one has only catalyzed small military conflicts in the Balkans—and in the Caucasus not traditionally considered part of Europe. The key was the U.S. presence in Europe. Without aggressive U.S. diplomacy, Germany might never have been reunified, much less kept in NATO.

But this achievement, while difficult to exaggerate, is still incomplete. The West must now contain and resolve the Balkan wars and consolidate the new democratic states of central Europe against resurgent Russian ambitions. The Clinton administration's approach to these two issues is not reassuring.

Rhetorically, Clinton has defined the Bosnian issue well. He told the American people that the establishment of a stable Bosnian government is the primary goal of the NATO deployment and a critical U.S. strategic interest. The architect of the Bosnian peace agreement, Richard Holbrooke, added the logical corollary: "We cannot afford to fail." But Clinton remains committed to withdrawing the NATO peacekeeping forces by December (even if U.S. officials now acknowledge that some troops will stay longer). After that, the director of the Defense Intelligence Agency has warned, the opposing forces are likely to partition