

drug dealers and even physically attacked, Bishop Garmendia has not wavered in his commitment to serve his God and his community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bishop Francisco Garmendia for his selfless devotion to the Church and the Hispanic community of New York. In a time when service often goes unappreciated, we should recognize great servants like Bishop Garmendia and encourage them to continue in their courageous efforts.

THE CHALLENGE IN THE CONGO

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to my colleagues' attention my monthly newsletter on foreign affairs from May 1997 entitled *The Challenge in the Congo*.

I ask that this newsletter be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The newsletter follows:

THE CHALLENGE IN CONGO

This is an important and dangerous time for Congo and all of central Africa. The victory by rebel forces creates both an opportunity and risk. With Africa's third largest population (46 million) and vast mineral wealth, Congo (formerly Zaire) could become an economic powerhouse for all of central Africa. Its natural bounty, however, was ravaged by the corrupt rule of President Mobutu. For years Congo has been virtually without a government. If its new leaders turn out to be little better, Congo could descend into violent conflict and even fragment. Given the stakes, U.S. policy should make an intensive effort to steer it toward stability, free markets, and democracy.

Roots of revolution. The successful revolution against Mobutu has its roots in the remote eastern Zaire. Rebel leader Laurent Kabila, though not a Tutsi himself, led the alliance there against Mobutu and Hutu militants from Rwanda, both of whom were oppressing Tutsis. Surprising everyone, Kabila's forces swept across Zaire in seven months, and toppled Mobutu on May 17. But Kabila did not capture the country alone. Rwanda, Uganda, and Angola gave him significant help to avenge Mobutu's meddling in their own politics.

Kabila untested. Many questions remain about President Kabila and his government. His forces are suspected of killing thousands of refugees. He has espoused Marxism in the past, yet we know little about his present intentions. In his rhetoric he supports markets and democracy, but it will be some time before we can see whether he has fulfilled his promises. He has disbanded parliament, dismantled the constitution, and banned political activity outside his movement, which he has declared the national authority.

The challenge before Kabila is formidable. Mobutu virtually destroyed the country and its society. Kabila's task is to remake both. The population must be prepared for democracy, and the country's economy rebuilt. Kabila must keep the disparate elements of his alliance together, reach out to include all elements of the population, and promote autonomy to prevent Congo from fragmenting.

U.S. interests in Congo. Though we do not have security interests in Congo, the U.S. has a significant stake there. First, Zaire has large deposits of diamonds, gold, cobalt,

and copper, and U.S. firms stand to gain from investment in a stable Congo. Second, a successful transformation in Congo could spark growth and better the lives of people throughout central Africa. Third, if Congo were to collapse, the suffering would be great. The U.S. could become involved in costly humanitarian relief or even military intervention. We should not ignore Congo, as we have in the recent past, lest the country cascade into chaos.

Our policy toward Congo should be part of an overall post-Cold War approach to Africa, working toward civilian, democratically-elected governments, and market reforms. It is in U.S. interests to see a secure Congo at peace with itself and its neighbors, moving toward democracy and meeting the basic needs of its people. We want a stable government based on fiscal discipline, an open economy without corruption, and respect for human rights.

Next steps for U.S. We have leverage with the Kabila government, and we should use it to further these interests. First, as a show of goodwill, we should extend a helping hand. We should come forward with some modest transitional aid, and offer a larger package if Congo meets conditions related to economic reform and good governance.

Second, we should continue to press Kabila to form a broad-based, inclusive, and honest transitional government. Representatives of anti-Mobutu opposition groups, church and civic groups should be invited to serve. The U.S. should also stress transparency and accountability in government: after the Mobutu years, people will want to know where funds are going. Security concerns are paramount for Kabila right now, but it is also important that he honor his pledge to hold elections within two years.

Third, the U.S. should help the UN and relief organizations gain access to refugees in Congo, many of whom are in dire need of humanitarian assistance. The U.S. must oppose any attempts to persecute refugees and should continue to press Kabila to grant access to the UN to conduct an objective accounting of reported killings of refugees during the war.

Fourth, the U.S. should urge Congo's neighbors who intervened in the war to help Congo now find the right path. Rwanda, Uganda, and Angola have significant weight with the new regime. These nations should not pursue only their narrow security interests, but should encourage Kabila to pursue reconciliation and an inclusive government.

Finally, the U.S. should encourage the World Bank and the IMF to move into Congo as soon as the Kabila government meets conditions to gain access to their funds. They have far greater resources and expertise than the U.S. or any other single donor. There must be no room for squabbling in the international community, and actions must be coordinated. The new regime is short on economic expertise, and will need outside help in setting sound economic policies. Rebuilding Congo's infrastructure and demobilizing troops are important tasks the new government faces.

Conclusion. One must admire the people of Congo. They have endured great hardship and shown resilience and courage. Now Congo is poised to move from the Mobutu years to a better future for its citizens, and the U.S. has significant interests in this transformation. For the United States, the question is whether we have the will, interest, and patience to pursue and sustain our policy. There are difficult demands ahead, and the U.S. should help Congo become a success in the heart of Africa.

THE LEGACY OF THE MARSHALL PLAN: PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON'S ADDRESS AT THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARSHALL PLAN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, this past week the United States and the countries of Western Europe marked the 50th anniversary of the June 5, 1947, Commencement Address at Harvard University by then Secretary of State George C. Marshall in which the idea of the Marshall Plan are first publicly discussed.

That important anniversary was commemorated last week at a special celebration in the Hall of Knights in the Binnenhof in The Hague, the capitol of The Netherlands. Attending the festive occasion were the heads of state and government of the countries of the European Union and other distinguished European leaders.

Mr. Speaker, just a few days ago, this House considered and adopted a resolution which I introduced with the cosponsorship of a number of my colleagues, House Concurrent Resolution 63, recommitting the United States to the principles of the Marshall Plan. Mr. Speaker, that resolution recognizes the wisdom and insight of Secretary Marshall's address and of the policy that resulted from it, and it recommitments the United States to the wise policy first enunciated 50 years ago. I appreciate the wisdom of the House in rededicating our Nation to those principles.

Mr. Speaker, representing the United States for this commemoration was our President, Bill Clinton. His remarks at the celebration represent the best of American statesmanship—recognizing the importance of our country's contribution to European recovery 50 years ago, the importance of European unification initiated under the Marshall Plan and continuing today through the European Union, and the importance for democracy of the enduring links that were forged between the United States and the countries of Western Europe by our joint struggle in World War II, through the cooperation of the Marshall Plan, and our long struggle in the Cold War.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that President Clinton's remarks be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to give them thoughtful attention. The Marshall Plan was truly one of the great milestones of American diplomacy, and the President's remarks in Holland place that great act of statesmanship in a fitting context.

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT COMMEMORATIVE EVENT FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARSHALL PLAN

President CLINTON. Thank you very much, Mr. Sedee, for sharing your wonderful story. I forgive you for stealing the matchbook from the White House. (Laughter.) In fact, just before we came in, I confess that I had heard did such a thing, so without theft, I brought him some cufflinks and some Oval Office candy for his grandchildren today. (Laughter.)

Your Majesty, Prime Minister, fellow heads of state and leaders of government, ministers parliamentary, members of Congress, to the youth leaders from Europe and America, to all of you who had anything to do with or were ever touched by the Marshall

Plan. And I'd like to say a special word of appreciation to two distinguished Americans—former ambassadors, General Vernon Walters and Arthur Hartman, who worked on the Marshall Plan as young men, who have come here to be with us today.

This is a wonderful occasion. We are grateful to the Queen, the government and the people of the Netherlands for hosting us and for commemorating these 50 years. The words of Mr. Sedee reach out to us across the generations, no matter where we come from or what language we speak. They warn us of what can happen when people turn against one another, and inspire us with what we can achieve when we all pull together. That is a message that we should emblazon in our memories.

Just as we honor the great accomplishments of 50 years ago, as the Prime Minister said so eloquently, we must summon the spirit of the Marshall Plan for the next 50 years and beyond; to build a Europe that is democratic, at peace, and undivided for the first time in history, a Europe that does not repeat the darkest moment of the 20th century, but instead fulfills the brightest promise of the 21st.

Here in a citadel of a prosperous, tolerant Dutch democracy, we can barely imagine how different Europe was just 50 years ago. The wonderful pictures we saw, with the music, helped us to imagine: some 30,000 dead still lay buried beneath the sea of rubble in Warsaw; 100,000 homes had been destroyed in Holland; Germany in ruins; Britain facing a desperate shortage of coal and electric power; factories crippled all across Europe; trade paralyzed; millions fearing starvation.

Across the Atlantic, the American people were eager to return to the lives they had left behind during the war. But they heeded the call of a remarkable generation of American leaders—General Marshall, President Truman, Senator Vandenberg—who wanted to work with like-minded leaders in Europe to work for Europe's recovery as they had fought for its survival. They knew that, as never before, Europe's fate and America's future were joined.

The Marshall Plan offered a cure, not a crutch. It was never a handout; it was always a hand up. It said to Europe, if you will put your divisions behind you, if you work together to help yourselves, then American will work with you.

The British Foreign Secretary, Ernest Bevin, called the Marshall Plan "a lifetime to sinking men, bringing hope where there was none." From the Arctic Sea to the Mediterranean, European nations grabbed that lifetime, cooperating as never before on a common program of recovery. The task was not easy, but the hope they shared was more powerful than their differences.

The first ship set sail from Texas to France with 19,000 tons of wheat. Soon, on any given day, a convoy of hope was heading to Europe with fuel, raw materials and equipment. By the end of the program in 1952, the Marshall Plan had pumped \$13 billion into Europe's parched economies. That would be the equivalent of \$88 billion today. It provided the people of Europe with the tools they needed to rebuild their shattered lives. There were nets for Norwegian fishermen, wool for Austrian weavers, tractors for French and Italian farmers, machines for Dutch entrepreneurs.

For a teenage boy in Germany, Marshall aid was the generous hand that helped lift his homeland from its ruinous past. He still recalls the American trucks driving onto the schoolyard, bringing soup that warmed hearts and hands. That boy grew up to be a passionate champion of freedom and unity in Europe, and a great and cherished friend of America. He became a first Chancellor of a

free and unified Germany. In his good life and fine work, Helmut Kohl has come to symbolize both the substance and the spirit of the Marshall Plan. Thank you. (Applause.)

Today we see the success of the Marshall Plan and the nations it helped to rebuild. But, more, we see it in the relations it helped to redefine. The Marshall Plan transformed the way America related to Europe, and in so doing, transformed the way European nations related to each other. It planted the seeds of institutions that evolved to bind Western Europe together—from the OECD, the European Union and NATO. It paved the way for reconciliation of age-old differences.

Marshall's vision, as has not been noted, embraced all of Europe. But the reality of his time did not. Stalin barred Europe's eastern half, including some of our staunchest allies during World War II, from claiming their seats at the table, shutting them out of Europe's recovery, closing the door on their freedom. But the shackled nations never lost faith and the West never accepted the permanence of their fate. And at last, through the efforts of brave men and women determined to live free lives, the Berlin Wall and the Iron Curtain fell.

Now, the dawn of new democracies is lighting the way to a new Europe in a new century—a time in which America and Europe must complete the noble journey that Marshall's generation began, and this time with no one left behind. I salute Prime Minister Kok for his leadership, and the leadership his nation has given, to ensure that this time no one will be left behind. (Applause.)

Twenty-first century Europe will be a better Europe, first, because it will be both free and undivided; second, because it will be united not by the force of arms, but by the possibilities of peace. We must remember, however, that today's possibilities are not guarantees. Though walls have come down, difficulties persist; in the ongoing struggle of newly free nations to build vibrant economies and resilient democracies; in the vulnerability of those who fear change and have not yet felt its benefits; to the appeals of extreme nationalism, hatred and division; in the clouded thinking of those who still see the European landscape as a zero-sum game in terms of the past; and in the new dangers we face and cannot defeat alone—from the spread of weapons of mass destruction to terrorism, to organized crime, to environmental degradation.

Our generation, like the one before us, must choose. Without the threat of Cold War, without the pain of economic ruin, without the fresh memory of World War II's slaughter, it is tempting to pursue our private agendas—to simply sit back and let history unfold. We must resist that temptation. And instead, we must set out with resolve to mold the hope of this moment into a history we can be proud of.

We who follow the example of the generations we honor today must do just that. Our mission is clear: We must shape the peace, freedom and prosperity they made possible into a common future where all our people speak the language of democracy; where they have the right to control their lives and a chance to pursue their dreams; where prosperity reaches clear across the continent and states pursue commerce, not conquest; where security is the province of all free nations working together; where no nation in Europe is ever again excluded against its will from joining our alliance of values; and where we join together to help the rest of the world reach the objectives we hold so dear.

The United States and Europe have embraced this mission. We're advancing across a map of modern miracles. With support from America and the European Union, Eu-

rope's newly free nations are laying the cornerstones of democracy. With the help of the USIA's Voice of America, today's celebration is being heard freely by people all across this great continent.

In Prague, where listening to Western broadcasts was once a criminal offense, Radio Free Europe has made a new home, and an independent press is flourishing. In Bucharest, democracy has overcome distrust, as Romanians and ethnic Hungarians for the very first time are joined in a democratic coalition government.

Thank you, sir. (Applause.)

From Vladivostok to Kaliningrad, the people of Russia went to the polls last summer in what all of us who watched it know was a fully democratic, open, national election.

We must meet the challenge now of making sure this surge of democracy endures. The newly free nations must persevere with the difficult work of reform. America and Western Europe must continue with concrete support for their progress, bolstering judicial systems to fight crime and corruption, creating checks and balances against arbitrary power, helping to install the machinery of free and fair elections so that they can be repeated over and over again, strengthening free media and civic groups to promote accountability, bringing good government closer to the people so that they can have an actual voice in decisions affecting their lives.

We have also helped new democracies transform their broken economies and move from aid to trade and investment. In Warsaw, men and women who once stood in line for food now share in the fruits of Europe's fastest growing economy, where more than nine of 10 retail businesses rests in private hands. Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, the international financial institutions have channeled to the new democracy some \$50 billion to strengthen the foundations of their market economies. And as markets have emerged, another \$45 billion in private investment has flowed from places like Boston and London to help support enterprises from Budapest to L'viv.

Now, as the new democracies continue to scale the mountains of market reform, our challenge is to help them reap more fully the benefits of prosperity, working to make the business climate as stable and secure as possible, investing in their economies, sharing entrepreneurial skills and opening the doors of institutions that enable our community to thrive.

Again let me say America salutes the European Union's commitment to expand to Central and Eastern Europe. We support this historic process and believe it should move ahead swiftly. A more prosperous Europe will be a stronger Europe and also a stronger partner for Europe's North American friends in America and Canada.

Nations that tackle tough reforms deserve to know that what they build with freedom they can keep in security. Through NATO, the core of transatlantic security, we can do for Europe's East what we did in Europe's West—defend freedom, strengthen democracy, temper old rivalries, hasten integration, and provide a stable climate in which prosperity can grow.

We are adapting NATO to take on new missions—opening its doors to Europe's new democracies, bolstering its ties to non-members through a more robust partnership for peace, and forging a practical, lasting partnership between NATO and a democratic Russia—all these things designed to make sure that NATO remains strong, supports the coming together of Europe, and leads in meeting our new security challenges.

Yesterday in Paris the leaders of NATO and Russia signed the historic Founding Act

that will make us all more secure. We will consult, coordinate and, where both agree, act jointly, as we are doing in Bosnia now.

Now, consider the extraordinary milestone this represents. For decades, the fundamental security concern in Europe was the confrontation between East and West. For the first time, a new NATO and a new Russia have agreed to work as partners to meet challenges to their common security in a new and undivided Europe, where no nation will define its greatness in terms of its ability to dominate its neighbors.

Now we must meet the challenge of bolstering security across outdated divides, making the NATO partnership work with Russia, continuing NATO's historic transformation.

In less than six weeks, NATO will meet again in Madrid to invite the first of Europe's new democracies to add their strength to the Alliance. The prospect of NATO membership already has led to greater stability, for aspiring members are deepening reform and resolving the very kinds of disputes that could lead to future conflict.

The first new members will not be the last. NATO's doors must, and will, remain open to all those able to share the responsibilities of membership. We will strengthen the Partnership for Peace and create a new Euro-Atlantic partnership council so that other nations can deepen their cooperation with NATO and continue to prepare for membership.

But let us be clear: There are responsibilities as well. Enlargement means extending the most solemn guarantees any nation can make—a commitment to the security of another. Security and peace are not cheap. New and current allies alike must be willing to bear the burden of our ideals and our interests.

Our collective efforts in Bosnia reflect both the urgency and the promise of our mission. Where terror and tragedy once reigned, NATO troops are standing with 14 partner nations—Americans and Russians, Germans and Poles, Norwegians and Bulgarians, all in common cause to bring peace to the heart of Europe. Now we must consolidate that hard-won peace, promote political reconciliation and economic reconstruction, support the work of the International War Crimes Tribunal here in The Hague, and help the Bosnian peace make the promise of the Dayton Accord real.

Today I affirm to the people of Europe, as General Marshall did 50 years ago: America stands with you. We have learned the lessons of history. We will not walk away.

No less today than five decades ago, our destinies are joined. For America the commitment to our common future is not an option, it is a necessity. We are closing the door on the 20th century, a century that saw humanity at its worst and at its most noble. Here, today, let us dedicate ourselves to working together to make the new century a time when partnership between America and Europe lifts the lives of all the people of the world.

Let us summon the spirit of hope and renewal that the life story of Gustaaf Sedee represents. He has a son, Bert, who is a bank executive. Today, he is helping to fulfill the legacy his father so movingly described—for just as the Marshall Plan made the investment that helped Holland's industry revive, Bert Sedee's bank is helping Dutch companies finance investments in Central and Eastern Europe. Just as the American people reached out to the people of his homeland, Bert Sedee and his colleagues are reaching out to the people in Slovenia, Latvia, Bosnia and beyond.

The youngest members of the Sedee family are also in our thoughts today—Gustaaf Sedee's grandchildren, Roeland and Sander,

nine months and one-and-a-half—I wonder what they will say 50 years from today. I hope that they and all the young people listening, those who are aware of what is going on and those too young to understand it, will be able to say, we bequeath to you 50 years of peace, freedom and prosperity. I hope that you will have raised your sons and daughters in a Europe whose horizons are wider than its frontiers. I hope you will be able to tell your grandchildren—whose faces most of us will not live to see—that this generation rose to the challenge to be shapers of the peace.

I hope that we will all do this, remembering the legacy of George Marshall and envisioning a future brighter than any, any people have ever lived.

Thank you and God bless you. (Applause.)

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATION

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the National Air Traffic Controllers Association [NATCA], who will celebrate the 10th anniversary of its founding on June 19, 1997. On June 12, the NATCA local in Milwaukee will host a ceremony and public open house at Mitchell International Airport to commemorate this anniversary.

Representing approximately 14,000 men and women nationwide, NATCA works to protect the rights of air traffic controllers in the workplace through advocating safe working conditions and fair benefits in nearly 400 facilities in the United States and its territories. NATCA also helps ensure and maintain a reliable and safe traveling environment for our citizens by working jointly with the Federal Aviation Administration, the White House, Members of Congress, and the media to promote safety.

In today's computer age, there are more and more sophisticated devices in the complicated world of air travel. By skillfully reading and interpreting the information on the disks and screens, the dedicated men and women of NATCA safely get us home from our vacation destinations, back and forth to our home-State offices, and to our families for the holidays.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in wishing NATCA a very happy 10th birthday and great successes in the years ahead. Keep up the excellent work.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN A. GANNON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of John A. (Jack) Gannon.

Jack Gannon was an American hero. He fought bravely in World War II, and when he returned home, he fought for the rights of working people. Jack joined the Cleveland Fire Department in the early 1950's. He fought fires on the front line. Through his experi-

ences, he saw the importance of improving safety and increasing support for his fellow firefighters, and throughout the rest of his career he fought to achieve those aims.

Jack was a union man. Jack joined the local committee of the International Firefighters Association, where his leadership skills and vision were quickly recognized. He rose to become president of the Cleveland Firefighters Local 93, where he served for 10 years. In 1980, Jack became president of the entire International Firefighters Association. Jack challenged his colleagues to improve safety and support. He was elected vice president of the AFL-CIO.

Jack was a national treasure. President George Bush and the U.S. Senate appointed him as a member of the National Council on Disability. As the sole Democrat on the council, he worked to forge a bipartisan forum for disability policy issues, and eventually helped to pass the landmark Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990. President Bill Clinton called upon Jack to help win passage for the first-ever U.S.-sponsored resolution on disability policy in the United Nations Commission on Social Development and General Assembly.

A champion for the rights of firefighters and the rights of the disabled, Jack Gannon left a legacy of which Cleveland, this House, and the whole Nation may be proud.

HONORING RAYMOND G. O'NEILL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, last week, Americans celebrated Memorial Day, remembering those men and women who gave their lives in service to their country. As a nation, we paused to recall all they have done to preserve and protect our way of life. It is in this spirit that I rise today to honor a man who for over a half century has dedicated his life to working for Michigan's veterans. On June 1, 1997, Mr. Raymond G. O'Neill will retire as director of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Service Office of Michigan after 45 years.

A lifelong Michigan resident, Raymond O'Neill enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps while still a high school senior in 1942, serving several stints in the South Pacific. During his tour of duty, he was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation with Star, Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon with two Bronze Battle Stars, Marine Good Conduct Medal, and American Theater and Victory Medals.

After leaving the service, Mr. O'Neill served as the first commander of the VFW Post 9030 of Detroit, a post he was responsible for organizing. That post remained in use from 1947 to 1981, when it was consolidated with two other posts to form Fortier's-O'Grady Post 147, where he again served as its first commander. In 1952, Mr. O'Neill began his long tenure with the VFW Service Office as an assistant service officer and claims examiner, rapidly rising up the ranks from field supervisor to assistant director and ultimately leading to his current position as State director of veterans services, where he has served since 1968.

Mr. O'Neill's activities have garnered the attention of the community as well as his peers,