

in Germany and Fort Huachuca, AZ. Additionally, he has served as a lay eucharistic minister and lector since 1979.

As a professional intelligence officer, Colonel Huisking has made a particular impact on tactical intelligence units, having served in four combat divisions, and having been instrumental in the successful implementation of the combat electronic warfare intelligence [CEWI] concept in the Army beginning in 1976. Additionally, his training of the Army's only unmanned aerial vehicle unit before the Persian Gulf war led to its successful development and use during the conflict. His pioneering work in this area ensured that the Army will always go to war with this important intelligence capability.

Colonel Huisking's service to the Army and his country spans a quarter of a century. It included the years of rebuilding the Army after the Vietnam war; standing guard on the frontiers of freedom from the demilitarized zone in Korea to the Iron Curtain in Central Europe; training units which ensured the readiness of the Army to deter aggression and ensure the victory of the United States in the cold war; preparing and leading soldiers to victory in the gulf war; and maintaining and equipping a force ready to deploy to Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, and other areas of the world during a time of declining resources and increased requirements. Colonel Huisking played an important role in all of these areas. His legacy is in the outstanding soldiers and units who benefited from his leadership, and who will carry the Army into the 21st century.

The citizens of the State of California, particularly the 28th Congressional District, are proud of the service of this native son. They join me in thanking him and his family for their contributions to the Army and the United States, and in wishing them all the best both now and in the future.

WELCOME TO HURRICANE SEASON

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to highlight the fact that hurricane season is upon us. The official start of hurricane season is June 1. With that comes an entire east coast and gulf coast that braces for the worst—a hurricane ravaging the landscape.

Hurricanes are inevitable. They are unpredictable. They are destructive. And this year, 1997, looks to be a particularly bad year. In fact, the New York Times recently ran a story titled "Storm Warning: Bigger Hurricanes and More of Them." That is not exactly good news. I am attaching the article for the record.

The damage that these storms can cause is absolutely staggering. When measured in today's dollars and projected damage based on property value, the worst hurricane occurred in 1926, before storms were named. It hit southeast Florida and Alabama, and had it hit in the same spot today, it is estimated that it would have caused \$72.3 billion in damages. That's right: \$72.3 billion. And we thought Andrew in 1992 was bad, hitting only an estimated \$33.1 billion in damages if the same hurricane swept through today.

Mr. Speaker, this is virtually beyond comprehension. And it isn't just Florida. If New

England were hit today by the same hurricane that did in 1938, damages could exceed \$16 billion. If Camille—1969—hit Mississippi, Louisiana, and Virginia today we'd be looking at almost \$11 billion. If Hugo—1989—hit South Carolina today it would be almost \$10 billion.

So what are we to do? If all projections are correct, it appears that we may have a major storm along the lines of Andrew slamming into the east coast or gulf coast this summer or fall. On top of this frightening thought is the aftermath of such a tragic event. Andrew put a dozen insurance companies into insolvency and threw the entire disaster insurance market in Florida into turmoil. Reinsurance for hurricanes has virtually disappeared in Florida. Today, rates are skyrocketing if coverage is available at all. What would another hit like that do to Florida? What would such a disaster do to North Carolina? Or Louisiana? Or Texas?

Mr. Speaker, I do not think that we necessarily have to find out just how bad things can get. There is a way to ensure that disaster insurance remains a viable option for homeowners. In fact, I have introduced legislation which would directly address this problem. H.R. 230, the Natural Disaster Protection and Insurance Act, would provide a Federal backstop for truly disastrous events. Essentially, Treasury would auction reinsurance contracts to be bid upon by private insurers and State insurance pools. These contracts would be actuarially sound, protecting the Government against undue loss, while injecting reinsurance back into the disaster insurance market. The contracts would cover disasters that cause over \$10 billion in insured losses up to \$35 billion. Payment on the reinsurance would come from the proceeds from the auction.

This legislation would be just what the doctor ordered if we are to ensure continued insurance availability in disaster prone areas. Not only does it cover hurricanes, but earthquakes, volcanoes, and tsunamis as well. Perhaps it is appropriate to discuss this when the House is considering a supplemental bill to pay for other disasters, which we are currently doing. Imagine the burden on the Federal Government if people who cannot get adequate insurance come looking for assistance? Just another reason we need to act.

Mr. Speaker, the House Committee on Banking and Financial Services, on which I serve, is scheduled to begin hearings on this and similar legislation in the near future. I urge my colleagues to support a solution to this current and future crisis affecting people in my State and across the country. H.R. 230 is a solid beginning and I look forward to its consideration.

[From the New York Times, June 3, 1997]

STORM WARNING: BIGGER HURRICANES AND MORE OF THEM

(By William K. Stevens)

The East and Gulf Coasts of the United States may be entering a long-anticipated, prolonged siege of more frequent and more destructive hurricanes, forecasters say.

They predict that this summer, more hurricanes than normal will develop in the tropical North Atlantic for the third straight year. This would make 1995-97 the most active three-year period on record for the pinwheeling oceanic cyclones, and the experts say that could be only the beginning.

The 1970's, 1980's and early 1990's were a time of relatively infrequent hurricanes. Those years did have their big storms: 7 of

the 10 most costly hurricanes ever to strike the United States mainland did so over that stretch, including Hurricane Andrew in 1992, the costliest ever. But a new Federal study attributes the trend of escalating damage over that period to expanding population and exploding development rather than more frequent or powerful storms.

Now the atmosphere and ocean appear to have entered a new and more ominous hurricane phase. Some experts believe the turbulent stretch beginning two years ago signifies a return to the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's, a period of high hurricane activity in the United States. If that is so, according to the new Federal study, the cost of damage wrought by hurricanes—already the most expensive natural disasters in America—could soar to new heights.

Scientists offer varying explanations of what is responsible for the increase in hurricane frequency. One new study has found that sea-surface temperatures in 1995 were the highest on record in the tropical North Atlantic. That year, 19 tropical storms and hurricanes, double the 1946-1995 average, formed in the Atlantic. The authors of the study concluded that warmer seas encouraged incipient hurricanes to develop by infusing them with more energy. Temperatures in the region of hurricane births, between 10 degrees and 20 degrees north latitude, have remained above average since 1995.

Coincidentally or not, 1995 also saw the highest average global surface temperatures on record, and some scientists say this raises the possibility that global warming is contributing to the increased frequency of hurricanes. The coincidence "is suggestive of some link to global warming, but that needs to be proved," said Dr. Mark A. Saunders, chief author of the study. It is "just one of the possibilities," he said.

Others say that global warming is almost certainly not the cause. One is Dr. William M. Gray, an atmospheric scientist and hurricane expert at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. The rise in sea temperature "is not related to the warming of the planet," he said, noting that global warming has been slow, while the Atlantic sea-surface temperature jumped in a matter of months.

It was Dr. Gray and his group of researchers who correctly predicted that 1995 would be one of the most active seasons on record, although they underestimated 1996. In April, the group forecast that 1997 would also bring more hurricanes than average, including the more intense ones. These major storms are defined as those with peak sustained winds of more than 100 miles an hour, and they account for 75 percent of all hurricane damage. Lesser hurricanes have peak winds of at least 74 miles an hour.

The forecasters predicted that the 1997 hurricane season, which officially began on Sunday and lasts through November, would produce 7 hurricanes, 3 of which would be in the intense category, and 4 lesser tropical storms strong enough to be named. By comparison, 11 of the 19 named storms in 1995 were hurricanes, 5 of them severe; last year, 9 of the 13 named storms were hurricanes and 6 were severe.

The Colorado group's forecast applies to an area encompassing the Atlantic Ocean, the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. It is to be updated on Friday, but Dr. Gray said the update was not expected to depart substantially from the April prediction. The forecasters do not attempt to predict whether or where any of the hurricanes will strike land.

The forecasts are based on an array of predictive signs and atmospheric phenomena that Dr. Gray has identified as determining hurricane activity. One is the amount of rainfall in the Sahel region of western Africa, where the small areas of low pressure

that are the embryos of hurricanes first form. When the Sahel is wetter, Dr. Gray found, more embryos form. This year, the Sahel is wet.

Another factor is the phenomenon known as El Nino, the huge pool of warm water that develops every two to seven years in the eastern tropical Pacific, changing weather patterns around the world. When it is in place, high-level winds blowing from the west tend to shear off the tops of developing hurricanes in the adjacent Atlantic, causing them to abort. El Nino may make an appearance later this year, forecasters say, but the Colorado group predicts that it will not do so in time to affect the hurricane picture.

Other elements include the behavior of stratospheric winds that circle the globe high above the equator and weather features far remote from the Atlantic hurricane belt—things, for example, like the temperature high above Singapore. On balance, the forecasters say, the indicators point to higher-than-average activity this year.

One of the most powerful indicators, according to the new study by Dr. Saunders and Andrew R. Harris, climate scientists at University College London in Britain, is the Atlantic sea-surface temperature. Their statistical analysis found that while most of the relevant factors were indeed favorable for hurricane development in the banner year of 1995, the dominating influence was the unusually warm ocean. The temperature in the region where hurricanes develop was 1.2 degrees Fahrenheit above the 1946-1995 average, a record. The development region was 0.36 of a degree warmer than average last year and is about 0.9 of a degree warmer now. This, said Dr. Saunders, presages another active season. His study appeared in the May 15 issue of the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*.

The researchers suggest that warmer seas cause more water to evaporate from the surface. With evaporation, latent heat is released in the atmosphere, and the researchers believe that this is what imparts more energy to the embryonic storms coming out of Africa, making it more likely that they will develop into hurricanes. "It seems that this is a stronger effect than any other mechanism, like El Nino or the monsoon in the western Sahel," Dr. Saunders said.

The question, he said, is whether the rising sea temperature is a natural expression of the climate system's variability, independent of any influence from a warming atmosphere. Dr. Gray, for his part, says he believes the warmer ocean temperature is "a manifestation of a major change in North Atlantic ocean circulation." Stately currents in the North Atlantic undergo periodic shifts on decadal time scales. Dr. Gray said he believed that a new pattern was in place, and that it was likely to presage a decade or two of above-average hurricane activity.

"This is the greatest fear we have," he said, "that we're entering a new era. I believe we are."

If so, the new Federal study on hurricane damage may offer a preview of what lies ahead. In the study, Dr. Roger Pielke Jr. of the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo., and Dr. Christopher Landsea of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's hurricane research division in Miami calculated how much damage would result from past hurricanes if they had occurred in 1995, when the coasts held many more people and much more wealth than earlier.

The calculation, which also accounts for inflation, shows that if the more numerous storms of the very active quarter-century prior to 1970 were to hit the mainland now, each of the storms would cause far more damage than it did back then.

It has been suggested in the past that escalating hurricane damage in more recent decades has resulted from an increase in the number and severity of storms. The Pielke-Landsea analysis found this is not so. In fact, when all hurricane damage was assessed as if it had occurred in 1995, the four biggest hurricanes of the last eight years were no longer the most damaging in history. Andrew, which exacted an all-time record \$26.5 billion in actual damages, was downgraded to second place by a monster that struck Florida and Alabama in 1926. Hugo (1989), Opal (1995) and Fran (1996) slip far down the list.

The analysis, its authors wrote, indicates clearly "that the United States has been fortunate in recent decades with regard to storm losses." Now, they wrote, multibillion-dollar losses may become increasingly frequent, and it may be "only a matter of time" before a single storm exacts \$50 billion in damages.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF DEDICATION

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, recently in my district a celebration was held for Cecil Clark of Leesburg, FL on the 25th anniversary of Cecil Clark Chevrolet. I appreciate this opportunity to congratulate Cecil for a quarter century of service to our community.

Fifty years ago Cecil Clark sold his first Chevrolet, along with his first Frigidaire appliance. In 1972, he opened up his own car dealership—Cecil Clark Chevrolet. Over the last 25 years he has sold 25,000 new cars and trucks, and he has sold over 40,000 used vehicles.

His wife Jackie has shared his vision for almost 50 years and has worked with him at his dealership. Now, his son Greg has assumed responsibilities for the dealership as co-owner, and Mr. Clark's daughter, Cindy Clark Brooker, opened her own dealership last year in Wildwood, FL.

Our society is a mobile society, and we are dependent on automobiles. Cecil Clark and his family have been essential in meeting the needs of thousands of people in my district.

Congratulations, Cecil, and my best wishes to you and your family.

FATHER CUNNINGHAM: PASSION, COURAGE, TENACITY

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a special person—Father William Cunningham—who passed away last week. Detroiters, those in need and Catholics across America have not only lost a kind benefactor and gentle heart, we have lost a hero, friend, and a perfect model of inspiration and hope.

A visionary pragmatist who founded Focus:HOPE, one of the Nation's largest civil rights organizations, Father Cunningham worked tirelessly for more than three decades

building racial harmony and creating jobs in the city of Detroit. Although we have not yet reached his goal, because of his passionate work, relations among our citizens have improved dramatically.

It was a shock to everyone last October to learn that this great man was stricken with cancer, but his courage and tenacity shone bright as the Sun as he fought his deteriorating health to the very end.

His long request to his long-time friend and cofounder of Focus:HOPE Eleanor Josaitis: no plaques, no streets, no buildings named after him, "Just make sure my work continues."

Even during his last breath, this hero to many was still concerned about us—about the future of the city and its people he loved with all his soul.

Focus:HOPE will serve as his lasting legacy. Born out of the ashes of the Detroit riots of 1967, Father Cunningham made his dream of helping the poor a reality. Whether it was food, jobs, or racial harmony, Father Cunningham and Focus:HOPE were on the leading edge, breaking new ground, winning the war on poverty inch by inch.

It was an honor to know such a great man. He was a generous man with a kind heart. His service was to God and his fellow man. He always had a kind word, willing ear, and helpful advice.

Father William Cunningham was a good friend to all he knew and those he didn't know, but could help. He will be missed sorely, but his legacy and spirit will remain ingrained in our souls forever.

TRIBUTE TO ROZ AND BARNEY COOPERMAN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, we are honored to pay tribute to our dear friends, Roz and Barney Cooperman, who this year are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. On June 29, Roz and Barney will celebrate this special occasion in the company of children—they have five—and grandchildren—they have six. Roz and Barney are wonderful parents who have always placed family above all else.

Roz and Barney met in 1946 while attending the University of California at Berkeley. The next year they got married in Brooklyn; the year after that the couple moved to Los Angeles, where they have lived ever since. Barney went into law practice in 1949, while Roz became a history instructor at Los Angeles City College. In 1952 she left teaching to raise a family.

Almost as long as they have been married Roz and Barney have been involved in community and political affairs. Barney has served on the boards of a public radio station, a teacher-training nursery school and Temple Israel of Hollywood. He also started a leading Democratic club, organized local Democratic nominating conventions and served on the state Democratic Central Committee. In 1980 Barney was appointed to the bench as a superior court judge, in which position he served with great distinction until 1995.