

peer counseling and teaching, job training and employment, and other such services are an essential investment in the effort to prevent juvenile delinquency.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Juvenile Crime Control and Delinquency Prevention Act. Vote "yes" for H.R. 1818.

IN HONOR OF THE SPONSORS OF
PROJECT CHILDREN '97: LOCAL
MESSENGERS OF PEACE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a unique group of people, the sponsors of Project Children '97 who have distinguished themselves with unwavering dedication to the promotion of peace in Northern Ireland. Through their generous spirit of compassion, the Project Children '97 sponsors exemplify the best that we as Americans have to offer: reverence for the rights and freedom of the individual citizens. For 22 years caring American families have welcomed children from Northern Ireland into their homes and hearts for 6 weeks during what is traditionally the most violent time of year in the children's homeland.

One year ago, the children who came to visit us from Northern Ireland faced an uncertain future. The cherished cease-fire, in effect for 18 months, had been shattered by a new round of violence. Though the past year has seen a continuation of the troubles, British Prime Minister Tony Blair's inclusion of Sinn Fein in peace talks, along with the cancellation of four of Northern Ireland's Orange Order parades are hopeful signs that we will soon see a return to a lasting ceasefire. This makes the time shared by the 56 families and 61 children participating in Project Children '97 even more valuable.

This year, the 56 families from my home State of New Jersey who have been so generous as to open their homes and their lives to these young people include: Kouros and Rosemary Akhavan, Len and Kathy Ancuta, Sean and Beatris Ashe, Garry and Janet Baker, Gary and Linda Bardzell, Charles and June Bray, Michael and Elizabeth Cancian, Kevin and Patricia Comer, Robert and Barbara Comito, James and Patti Cunningham, Philip and Kathleen DiCicco, Donald and Irene Diverio, Robert and Brianna Donohue, Al and Ellen Dorso, Peter and Robin DuHaine, Brent and Lauren Elliot, Rick and Arlene Faustini, Raymond and Rosemary Ferraro, Robert and Elizabeth Gamble, Margaret Gilsenan, Michael and Pat Goodwin, William and Margaret Giaimo/Terry, Edward and Patricia Grzybowski, George and Margaret Hughes, Edwin and Patricia Jankowski, Nicholas and Patricia Kaminsky, Keith and Karen Kirby, Robert and Donna Lee, Michael and Kathleen McBride, John and Louise McGlinchey, Brian and Lori McGorty, Robert and Dyan Moore, Robert and Carole Nyman, Sean and Anne O'Neill, Kevin and Susan O'Shea, David and Cathleen Quinn, Stephen and Jean Revis, John and Lori Rose, James and Mary Ellen Ruitenbergh, Paul and Candace Ruitenbergh III, Donald and Patricia Ryerson, Guy and Patti

Schweizer, Stephen and Catherine Simpson, Michael and Laura Sims, Cheryl Stone, Douglas and Susanna Stroud, James and Louise Sweeney, Robert and Denise Thompson, Jr., Michael and Anne Tizio, Edward and Judith Wagner, Joseph and Barbara Wells, Craig and Barbara Yeske, Anthony and Anita Zak, Rodney and Linda Bialko, and Grianna and Donald Wynne.

The 61 young people from Northern Ireland who we have been fortunate enough to visit New Jersey are: David Sterrett, John McIlveen, Alannah Massey, Gerald O'Reilly, Lesley Black, Steven Orr, Paul Mahony, Ryan Corbett, Kevin Nellins, Elaine Coyle, Charlene McWilliams, Lindsey Todd, Eilish Bradley, Joseph McGovern, Claire McKinley, Joseph Doak, Eva Taggart, Laura Cairns, Linzi Graham, Joseph Gillen, Seamus Nellins, Michael Duffy, Catriona McCann, Ita Monaghan, Daniel Lynch, Christine Brown, Aislinn Devlin, Stephanie Rae, Aine Hargey, Natalia McKeown, Aisling Burns, Seadhna Billings, Dermot Hartigan, Nicola Catney, Leigh Martin, Mary Louise Heatley, Clara Mulvenna, Danielle Gorman, Brenda Austin, Barry Dobbin, David Goodall, Laura Baird, Paul Willis, Catherine Crawford, Sara Doherty, Kerry-Marie McCaugherty, Jennifer Dixon, Nicola McCabe, Kenneth Murphy, Marie Martin, Darren Diamond, David Diamond, Stephen Coyle, Robert O'Neill, James Moran, Elaine Murray, Margaret White, Mary Deery, Natasha McConnell, Michelle Donnelly, and Collette McTernan.

It is an honor to recognize the exceptional compassion of Project Children '97's sponsors. I hope that word of their steps toward peace will spread throughout Northern Ireland and the world. These exemplary individuals are truly local messengers of lasting peace.

INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 112 IN SUPPORT OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS ON JULY 9, 1997

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the plight of Holocaust survivors around the world. More than 50 years ago, we witnessed one of the most tragic episodes in the history of man's inhumanity to man—the slaughter of 6 million Jews and millions of others in Eastern and Central Europe during World War II. Some were able to hide or escape death, many with lingering memories and medical conditions that will be with them for life.

There are currently more than 125,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States and approximately 500,000 living around the world. It is these survivors who in many cases are still struggling to live out their remaining years with dignity. Many of them live in my district and have contacted me for help after being denied assistance from the current reparations' system set up to help Holocaust survivors.

Let me tell you about one of my constituents, a Holocaust survivor currently living in New York City. Dr. Hadassah Bimko Rosensaft survived concentration camps at both Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen. While in-

terned, she contracted malaria and hepatitis. Unfortunately, because these diseases were not treated at the time, Dr. Rosensaft now suffers from severe cirrhosis of the liver. Although several medical experts support her claim that the condition stems from her imprisonment in Nazi Germany, the German Government says she cannot sufficiently prove that her condition is a direct consequence.

Dr. Rosensaft is fortunate to be able to afford her needed medical care with the help of her family. But her story is somewhat unique. Many other victims of Nazi horrors have been deemed wholly ineligible for reparations, and cannot rely on their families to help support them. These include, people who were in forced-labor camps; people who were confined to areas not recognized by Germany as ghettos; people who hid under false names; and people who were in a concentration camp for fewer than 6 months. In fact, even if someone was interned in two separate camps for 3 and 4 months each, that person may not qualify. In many cases, it is impossible for Holocaust survivors to prove the circumstances under which they acted during the Holocaust. I believe it is unjust to ask elderly people—with permanent injuries, who suffered enormous emotional trauma—to document their life half a century ago.

Many Holocaust survivors who were fortunate enough to avoid death camps during World War II were forced into hiding. A second reparations' provision states that if you were forced into hiding, you are eligible for reparations only if you hid for 18 months, and only if you can document and support your claim.

Learning about these onerous restrictions and the ongoing denial of Holocaust survivors' claims led me to introduce legislation in the 104th Congress calling on the German Government to expand and simplify its reparations' system. I am encouraged by recent reports by the World Jewish Congress that the German Government has announced its willingness to reopen negotiations. This is a very encouraging step in the fight for justice for Holocaust survivors. But it is only a beginning.

I am also concerned about the so-called double victims, who are now living in the former Communist States of Eastern and Central Europe. For years as the reparations' system was developed, these double victims did not have access to the system, and have been victimized twice by being denied access to reparations' today. Many of these people were in hiding. Many used false names to escape from the Nazis. Today, in order to qualify for reparations under the current system, survivors must provide proof of what they did and how they escaped. Many are still living in this part of the world and many are suffering from severe medical ailments. Although some have received a token amount of reparations, tens of thousands of Holocaust survivors in Eastern and Central Europe have never received any reparations.

I am pleased to introduce House Concurrent Resolution 112, a resolution calling on the German Government to expand and simplify its reparations system, provide reparations to Holocaust survivors in Eastern and Central Europe, and set up a fund to help cover the medical expenses of Holocaust survivors. I am pleased to introduce this resolution with the support of International Relations Committee Chairman BENJAMIN GILMAN and committee

members ROBERT WEXLER of Florida, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN of Florida, and SAM GEJDENSON of Connecticut, along with Congressman MARTIN FROST of Texas.

To add insult to injury, recent news reports have uncovered that former members of the Nazi army, including non-German members of the SS, often receive far more generous pensions than do the victims they persecuted. Some of the people who receive German veteran pensions are known killers or were personally responsible in acts of genocide. Meanwhile, Holocaust survivors, many of whom are unable to afford the medical care they desperately need, must battle onerous restrictions and regulations in order to receive their meager benefits.

One example is the case of Wolfgang Lehnigk-Emden. This former Nazi guard murdered 15 women and children in Italy in 1943. Because he was later shot in the leg and suffers a mild disability, he now receives a generous pension—a pension three times what is given to Holocaust survivors—because he is considered a war victim. This is but one example of Germany's hypocrisy. Another example is the story of former SS Guard Wilhelm Mohnke.

According to the Department of Justice, Mr. Mohnke was personally involved in the massacre of 72 American POW's in 1944. Due to injuries he later sustained, the German Government gives Wilhelm Mohnke a war victim's pension equivalent to \$560 per month.

Many people have been instrumental in the fight for justice for all Holocaust survivors around the world. Menachem Rosensaft, Founding Chairman of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and its president Rositta Ehrlich Kenigsberg have worked tirelessly on their crusade for survivors' rights. Benjamin Meed, president of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors has also worked tirelessly on behalf of Holocaust survivors worldwide. I am forever indebted to each of them for their hard work.

Mr. Speaker, Holocaust survivors are an aging, finite population, who are not asking for much. I believe that these survivors deserve sufficient reparations to ensure that no Holocaust survivors are forced to live in conditions worse than those generally enjoyed by the surviving former Nazis who persecuted them.

TEXT OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 112,
INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CAROLYN
B. MALONEY

A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the German Government should expand and simplify its reparations system, provide reparations to Holocaust survivors in Eastern and Central Europe, and set up a fund to help cover the medical expenses of Holocaust survivors

Whereas the annihilation of six million European Jews during the Holocaust and the murder of millions of others by the Nazi German state constituted one of the most tragic episodes in the history of man's inhumanity to man;

Whereas there are more than 125,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States and approximately 500,000 living around the world;

Whereas aging Holocaust survivors throughout the world are still suffering from permanent injuries suffered at the hands of the Nazis and many are unable to afford critically needed medical care;

Whereas while the German government has attempted to address the needs of Holocaust

survivors, many are excluded from reparations because of the onerous eligibility requirements imposed by the German government;

Whereas the German government routinely rejects survivors' claims on the ground that the survivor did not present the claim correctly or in a timely fashion, that the survivor cannot demonstrate to the Government's satisfaction that a particular illness or medical condition is the direct consequence of persecution in a Nazi-created ghetto or concentration camp, or that the German authorities do not consider the survivor is not considered sufficiently destitute;

Whereas tens of thousands of Holocaust survivors in the former Soviet Union and other formerly Communist countries in Eastern and Central Europe have never received reparations from Germany and a smaller number has received a token amount;

Whereas after more than 50 years, hundreds of thousands of Holocaust survivors continue to be denied justice and compensation from the German government;

Whereas the German government is paying generous disability pensions to veterans of the Nazi armed forces, including non-German veterans of the Waffen-SS.

Whereas in 1996, the German government paid \$7.7 billion in such pensions to 1.1 million veterans, including 3,000 veterans and their dependents now living in the United States;

Whereas such pensions are a veteran's benefit provided over and above the full health coverage that all German citizens, including veterans of the Waffen-SS, receive from their government; and

Whereas it is abhorrent that Holocaust survivors should live out their remaining years in conditions worse than those enjoyed by the surviving former Nazis who persecuted them;

Therefore be it resolved that it is the sense of the Congress that:

The German government should expand and simplify its system of reparations so that all survivors of the Holocaust can receive reparations, regardless of their nationality, length or place of internment, or their current financial situation;

The German government should provide reparations to Holocaust survivors in the former Soviet Union and other former Communist countries in Eastern and Central Europe;

The German government should fulfill its responsibilities to victims of the Holocaust and immediately set up a comprehensive medical fund to cover medical expenses of Holocaust survivors worldwide; and

The German government should help restore the dignity of Holocaust survivors by paying them sufficient reparations to ensure that no Holocaust survivor be forced by poverty to live in conditions worse than those enjoyed by the surviving former Nazis who persecuted them.

AMIA TERRORIST BOMBING ANNIVERSARY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this week is the third anniversary of the terrible destructive AMIA terrorist bombing of the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, Argentina. This deadly international terrorist attack, directed at the very heart of the Jewish center of life in

Argentina, took 86 lives, and wounded more than 300 innocents. It has badly shaken the confidence of the largest Jewish community in Latin America on the critical issue of their very safety and security.

It is essential for the Argentine authorities, the U.S. Government, and the world community to do all we can both individually and collectively to bring to justice those who undertook this deadly and cowardly terrorist act.

Hizballah, with its known links to Iran, and which our Government and others have indicated were responsible for this AMIA attack, is now clearly operating in our own hemisphere. We are all at risk. We must all work to insure that those responsible for this terrorist act are brought to justice and that the message is clearly sent that terrorism, no matter where or why, will not go unpunished by civilized society.

Our International Relations Committee staff have visited Argentina in an effort to see what more the United States can do to help solve this terrorist bombing. Based on our staff inquiry, the committee asked that the State Department, which runs a very effective international terrorist rewards program, have its experts visit Argentina and offer assistance. We now have offered to help the Argentine authorities develop a meaningful and effective publicity program for their own already announced terrorist reward for help in solving this deadly AMIA attack.

We anxiously await the further publication and distribution of additional material and efforts by Argentina to publicize the reward on the AMIA attack. As we know, our own reward efforts along these lines have played a critical role in solving or bringing to justice individuals from around the globe involved in international terrorist attacks directed at the United States.

COMMEMORATING THE BIRTH OF MEGAN ILYSSA LEON

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Leon family on the birth of their daughter, Megan Ilyssa. She was born July 10, weighing 8 pounds 10 ounces. I am sure that Megan's parents and grandparents are excited to see that she is a healthy, happy child.

Megan's family has been in Massachusetts for more than a century now and were often involved in the world of politics. Her great, great, great grandfather, John Joseph Tobin, was one of the first Irishmen ever elected to the Boston City Council. Megan's great grandfather, John Michael Downing, served as the court officer of the Massachusetts State Senate for many years. Her grandmother, Kathleen Patricia Leon, was appointed to the Massachusetts Equal Educational Opportunity Commission by Gov. Michael Dukakis.

I offer my warmest wishes to Megan for a happy and healthy life. And, I look forward to one day seeing her involved in our Nation's political process.