

also remain in the Russian Federation, to mention Chechnia as only one example.

In humble pride, it is a source of satisfaction that I have been playing a role in this nearly 40-year tradition begun by the 86th Congress and President Eisenhower and indelibly imprinted in our history by President Reagan and the "evil empire" concept. In short, for our own well-being and peace, a tradition of America's dedication to expressive freedom, democracy, free market economy, human rights, national independence, and the surcease of empires and imperial "spheres of influence".

Definitely certain that all who commemorated this 39th observance share these convictions and civic pride, I deem it an honor to submit the proclamation and the list of its distinguished supporters:

CAPTIVE NATIONS WEEK PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the Captive Nations Week Resolution, which Congress passed in 1959 and President Eisenhower signed into Public Law 86-90, has been proclaimed by every president since, with identical support by Governors and Mayors across our Nation; and

Whereas, reflecting the foresight of that Congress and supports, Public Law 86-90 has been uniquely vindicated by the demise of the Soviet Union and the liberation of the most captive nations in Central and East Europe, Central Asia, Africa, and Central America; and

Whereas, in the total picture and for our national interest, it is imperative to recognize the reality of numerous other captive nations still remaining under totalitarian, communist party dictatorship and the residual Russian Federation structure of imperial control: among others, Mainland China, North Korea, Vietnam, Cuba, Idel-Ural (Tatarstan), Chechnia, the Far Eastern Republic; and

Whereas, like the former USSR and with a long record of massive human rights violations, the People's Republic of China is in essence an empire under communist party rule, consisting of the Chinese, Tibetan, divided Turkestan, and Inner Mongolian captive nations; and

Whereas, with its own unresolved cases of non-Russian and Siberyak self determination drivers, the Russian Federation, centered in Moscow, continues to strive imperially for a "sphere of influence" in eastern Europe, causing former captive nations like Poland, Lithuania, geopolitical strategic Ukraine, and others to seek their preserved independence and full integration in a free Europe through our assistance in the forms of NATO, aid, and investment; and

Whereas, in the true spirit that crucial foreign issues are not foreign to our world leadership, economic well-being, and even American lives, Congress by unanimous vote passed P.L. 86-90, establishing the third full week in July each year as "Captive Nations Week," and inviting our people to observe in that true spirit the week with appropriate prayers, ceremonies, and activities in support of the just aspirations of the still remaining captive nations and the preservation of the freedom of the former captive nations,

Received as of today, July 25, 1997 the following Governors and Mayors have issued proclamations of the week: The Hon. Paris N. Glendening of Maryland; The Hon. Fife Symington of Arizona; The Hon. Christine Todd Whitman of New Jersey; The Hon. John Engler of Michigan; The Hon. George Allen of Virginia; The Hon. Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin; The Hon. Frank O'Bannon of Indiana; The Hon. Frank Keating of Oklahoma; The Hon. Lawton Chiles of Florida; The Hon. Terry E. Brandstad of Iowa; The Hon. Bob

Miller of Nevada; The Hon. Lincoln Almond of Rhode Island; The Hon. Mel Carnahan of Missouri; The Hon. Gary E. Johnson of New Mexico; the Hon. Pete Wilson of California; The Hon. Zell Miller of Georgia; The Hon. William Weld of Massachusetts; The Hon. Tom Ridge of Pennsylvania and the Mayors; Rudolph Giuliani of New York; Richard Reardon of Los Angeles; and Edward Rendell of Philadelphia.

CUTS IN MEDICARE

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 1997

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, hundreds of my constituents have contacted me about the severe cuts in Medicare reimbursement for home oxygen therapy. As the House and Senate conferees deliberate over the extent of these cuts, I would like them to consider the lives of seniors receiving home oxygen services. The following letter was given to me by Laurie Keiper of Springfield, OR.

TO CONGRESS AND THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES: I am an oxygen home therapy patient on 3-4 liters, 24 hours each day. I am a wife of a research vessel boatswain mate who is not home every night. He is gone most of the summer and fall.

I am a care giver also, taking care of my grandson, most of his 14 years. He will be starting 9th grade in the fall.

Without oxygen, I can not take care of my grandson, do for my family, or take care of myself. Instead you will pay more for child care, hospital and for nursing facility care. Most likely my 5 years of life expectancy will be shortened to 2 to 3 years or less. Oxygen is 1 percent of the total medicare budget. If you cut it by 40 percent what will it cost you?

40 percent increase in hospital stays.

40 percent increase in dependent payments, especially without parental guidance look at all the options—drugs, alcohol, runaways etc.

40 percent increase in home health and/or nursing facility payments.

40 percent increase in death benefit burial payments.

It does not seem fiscally prudent to make this cut. Look for fake bills, bad doctors, people who aren't supposed to be on Medicare. When someone says they question a bill—follow up on it. Cut cost that way!

LAURIE KEIPER.

TRIBUTE TO THE U.S.S. "INDIANAPOLIS"

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 1997

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a brief moment to personally pay tribute to those who served so selflessly aboard the U.S.S. *Indianapolis*. A reunion was held in Indianapolis this weekend for those veterans who served on the U.S.S. *Indianapolis*, a heavy cruiser sunk by enemy torpedo on July 30, 1945.

My pride and admiration, for the service of these men know no bounds.

I am proud to report that I have been honored with appointment to the Veterans' Affairs

Committee of Congress, an opportunity to be of special service to those who sacrificed so much for our Nation. In that work I find regular occasion to remember and to admire our citizen veterans and to help secure to them full measure of our Nation's respect for their contributions in time of peace and in the horror that is war.

I am prouder still to join my voice with those who spoke to honor the men who served with such valor aboard the U.S.S. *Indianapolis*—those with us still and those lost in the Pacific vastness somewhere west of Guam. For their service and sacrifice in the highest tradition of our country, our respect must be eternal.

MEDICARE REFORM PROPOSAL

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, this year Congress is faced with one of its toughest challenges yet. A program that for three decades has helped pay the medical bills for America's senior citizens is in drastic need of reform. Credited with alleviating the problem of the uninsured senior citizens and reducing the health problems of the disabled, Medicare is now in need of a major overhaul if it is to continue providing for seniors.

We are working hard to ensure that Medicare remains viable for present and future beneficiaries. By addressing the impending bankruptcy of this program now, we will be able to strengthen and improve it while expanding benefits for all participants. Through a combination of savings and structural reforms, the Republican plan to reform our health care program will extend the solvency of the Medicare trust fund for at least 10 years.

The House Medicare proposal increases the choices available to Medicare beneficiaries, so that they can select from among the same kinds of health plan options that are available to the rest of the population. The plan calls for new systems of payment to address the problems in areas where the growth in costs is unsustainable. Finally, our proposal achieves savings by restraining future increases in costs, while also providing important new preventive care benefits.

I am proud of the progress we have made toward reforming Medicare. I firmly believe that Medicare can be preserved, protected, and improved without jeopardizing health care for the most vulnerable populations, and I am confident that together we can make this goal a reality.

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM N. KEMP

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 1997

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of William N. Kemp, who passed away on July 15, 1997, in Houston, TX. Dr. Kemp was a self-employed optometrist for 41 years in the North Shore area of Houston and was the founder of the firm Drs. Kemp and Peterson, Optometrist. He was past president of both the Harris County Optometric Society and the Texas Optometric Association.

Dr. William Kemp was born August 21, 1925, in Wharton, TX, where he lived until entering the Navy for 3 years of service during World War II. He attended Texas A&I University in Kingsville for 3 years and was graduated from the Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago. Upon graduation, he moved to the North Shore area of Houston and was active in the community for many years, especially in the Lions International.

Dr. Kemp was active in politics where he served as president of the North Shore Democrats and skillfully represented Houston alongside with Congresswoman Barbara Jordan at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in 1968. In 1972, Dr. Kemp was elected to the Texas State Board of Education, district 8, where he served for 11 years.

Dr. Kemp is survived by his wife of 41 years, Kathryn Lourene Kemp; three sons, Paul Davis Kemp, George William Kemp, and Robert Harris Kemp; two granddaughters, Kimberley Shae Kemp and Toni Louise Kemp; and one grandson, Matthew W. Kemp.

William Kemp will be remembered as a leader in his community whose ideas reached far and wide. His genuine enthusiasm for his community prompted people of all ages to become interested and involved in improving their community. Because I experienced Dr. Kemp's vitality and wisdom firsthand, I have no doubt that this tireless role model made Houston, TX, a richer place to live.

As friends and family reflect on his lifetime of contribution, it is only fitting that we also pay tribute to this great man and good friend.

THE PASSING OF A HERO

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 28, 1997

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, July 24 a great constitutional scholar and advocate of social justice passed away. Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. served the highest branch of our judicial system from 1956 until 1990. His scholarship was at the forefront of an intellectual and moral frontier that began in the pre-civil-rights era.

Justice Brennan shaped our law and touched our lives in countless ways. In the area of voting rights he authored *Baker versus Carr*, 1962, which was one of the cornerstone of voting rights case law. It led to one-person one-vote reapportionment cases. On the issue of affirmative action he authored *Metro Broadcasting versus the Federal Communications Commission*, 1990, which upheld two affirmative action programs aimed at increasing African-American ownership of radio and television stations. In *Texas versus Johnson*, 1989, Brennan declared, "If there is a bedrock principle underlying the first amendment, it is that the government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable." And continuing in his tradition of protecting the most vulnerable, in *Goldberg versus Kelly*, 1970, he established that it was a violation of the 14th amendment's guarantee of due process under law for a State to cut off a welfare recipient's benefit without a hearing.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor this great drum major for justice of the 20th century. I

submit for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD two articles from the Washington Post which I believe capture some of the spirit and letter of his contributions to our great system of justice.

[From the Washington Post, July 25, 1997]

THE BIGGEST HEART IN THE BUILDING

(By Joan Biskupic)

Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr. was remembered yesterday as a bulwark of liberal activism whose effects on America is so great—and his personality so compelling—that even those who disagreed with his views said much of his legacy will endure.

Brennan "played a major role in shaping American constitutional law," said conservative Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist. "He was also a warm-hearted colleague to those of us who served with him."

"He had the biggest heart of anyone in the building" said Thurgood Marshall Jr., son of the late justice. "Justice Brennan was not just my father's closest and dearest partner, but his hero in the pursuit of equality and justice."

Marshall, President Clinton's Cabinet secretary, said his father and Brennan could not have been more different as people, given the backgrounds from which they emerged. "But they both believed fervently in the very same ideals."

News of Brennan's death, coming shortly after noon yesterday, spread quickly among former colleagues and friends. He was known for the force of his opinions—more than 1,000—that embodied the notion that the federal courts should actively seek to right society's wrongs. He was venerated yesterday for his persuasive approach and good humor, and for a charisma that will help him be remembered for generations.

"There are few people who are truly extraordinary and we don't always know the reasons why they rise above the rest of us. But he did," U.S. appeals court judge Richard S. Arnold of Little Rock, who was a law clerk to Brennan in 1960, said yesterday. "His chief characteristics were kindness and love—to everybody."

Brennan, who retired from the court in 1990 and initially kept up professional and personal contacts, had been in poor health in recent months. He died at a nursing home in Arlington, where he had been rehabilitating after he broke his hip in November.

A court spokeswoman said Brennan's body would lie in state from 10:30 a.m. until 10 p.m. Monday at the Supreme Court Building. His funeral is set for 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Mathews Catholic Church in the District.

All quarters of government reacted to word of Brennan's death. Clinton, who said Brennan's devotion to the Bill of Rights inspired millions of Americans and countless young law students, including myself, "ordered flags flown at half-staff at government buildings, military facilities and U.S. embassies worldwide."

In addition to Rehnquist, three other of Brennan's former court colleagues issued statements of admiration yesterday.

Justice John Paul Stevens, who sat with Brennan for 15 years and shared some of his liberal views, said, "The blend of wisdom, humor, love and learning that Justice Brennan shared with his colleagues—indeed with all those privileged to know him—was truly unique. He was a great man and a warm friend."

"Justice Brennan's death means the passing of an era in the history of the Supreme Court," Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said. "In addition to the remarkable legal legacy he left behind, he left a legacy of friendship and good will wherever he went."

Justice Anthony M. Kennedy said, "Justice Brennan was one of the great friends of

freedom, freedom for those who have it and freedom for those who yet must seek it."

Justice Antonin Scalia, who strongly disagreed with Brennan's liberal approach, nonetheless once called Brennan "probably the most influential justice of the century" and "the intellectual leader of the movement that really changed, fundamentally, the court's approach toward the Constitution."

Joshua E. Rosenkranz, a 1987-88 clerk who is now executive director of the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University, said, "I would be willing to bet that there is not a single person in our nation who hasn't been touched by Justice Brennan's legacy, whether they know it or not."

Attorney General Janet Reno said she was sad to hear Brennan had died and added: "Justice Brennan stood up for people who had no choice. He devoted his long, rich life to helping the American justice system live up to its ideals. He made a difference, and he will be remembered always by all Americans who prize the rule of law."

JUSTICE BRENNAN, VOICE OF COURT'S SOCIAL REVOLUTION, DIES

Former Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr., the progressive voice of the modern court and a justice unequalled for his influence on American life, died yesterday. He was 91.

During his 34 years on the court, Brennan pushed his colleagues to take on a variety of social issues and was widely recognized as the chief strategist behind the court's civil rights revolution.

He was the architect of rulings that expanded rights of racial minorities and women; led to reapportionment of voting districts guaranteeing the ideal of "one person, one vote," and enhanced First Amendment freedom for newspapers and other media.

A slight man with a ready Irish grin, Brennan was recognized across the political spectrum not only for his legal mastery but as a defender of individual liberty and a voice of civility. Poor health forced his retirement from the court in 1990.

"He was a remarkable human being, one of the finest and most influential jurists in our nation's history," President Clinton said yesterday upon learning of Brennan's death. "The force of his ideas, the strength of his leadership and his character have safeguarded freedom and widened the circle of equality for every single one of us."

Justice David H. Souter has said of the man he succeeded on the court: "One can agree with the Brennan opinions and one may disagree with them, but their collective influence is an enormously powerful defining force in the contemporary life of this republic."

What distinguished Brennan was his ability to forcefully articulate a liberal vision of judging. It was a vision that found the essential meaning of the Constitution not in the past but in contemporary life, prized individual rights beyond what was explicitly written in the text, and compelled him to reach out to right perceived wrongs. He called the Constitution "a sparkling vision of the supreme dignity of every individual," and employed it as a tool of racial equality and social justice.

"The genius of the Constitution rests not in any static meaning it may have had in a world that is dead and gone," he wrote in an essay published in 1997, "but in the adaptability of its great principles to cope with current problems and present needs."

In the confines of the court's conference room and chambers, Brennan was renowned for his cunning and persistence, and relentlessness in winning votes for his side. If a justice initially turned him down, Brennan