

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE PERUVIAN COMMUNITY CELEBRATING 176 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Peruvian community as they celebrate their 13th Annual State Parade. This event, which recognizes Peruvian independence from Spain, was celebrated on Sunday, July 27, 1997, in the cities of Passaic, Clifton, and Paterson, NJ.

Peru's independence began 176 years ago on July 28, 1821. The State Parade is the biggest celebration of Peruvian immigrants in my home State of New Jersey. They have made many contributions to this country. They have distinguished themselves at every level of American society. Their dedication to family and community demonstrates what can be accomplished when people work together.

The Peruvian community is honored to have Carlos Noriega Jimenez and Roberto Chale as the grand marshals of the parade. Carlos Noriega Jimenez is the first Peruvian-American in space. He is a major for the USMC who was on the May 15, 1997, NASA mission STS-84 aboard the space shuttle Atlantis. Mr. Noriega Jimenez is loved by the Peruvian community and serves as an inspiration for the entire Hispanic population.

Roberto Chale is the former star soccer player of the Peruvian national team. Mr. Chale, along with other Peruvian soccer players, remain as role models for the younger generation.

I commend the 1997 Peruvian Parade Committee led by parade president Jose Falen who is currently in his third year as the parade president, and vice-president Lusi Ona for their work in making this event possible. On this momentous occasion, a number of people will be recognized for their outstanding work: Ambassador Carlos Gamarra Mujica, Florencio Guerrero, Lucila Campos, Daisy Cuellar, Dr. Carlos Neyra Estens, Roberto Bustamante, and Jose Cabada. Each of these exceptional individuals has made a unique contribution to enhancing the image of Hispanics in our community.

It is gratifying to know that the Peruvian Day Parade brings our community together, reflecting on the cities of Passaic, Clifton, Paterson, and the State of New Jersey. I am certain my colleagues will rise with me and recognize this wonderful celebration of culture and diversity.

A NEW NATIONAL AIRPORT IS
LAUNCHED

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 1997

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, Sunday morning, July 27, 1997, was a historic occasion in the

Nation's Capital. The New National Airport was unveiled. The new terminal and facility boasts stunning architecture and artwork, sweeping panoramic views of Washington, DC, restaurants, and retail outlets for the 19 major airlines and shuttles which annually serve over 15 million passengers.

The new airport can also be called more user-friendly, with some 5,000 parking spaces and with Metrorail almost to the new terminal's front door. It is truly a magnificent gateway to the Nation's Capital.

National Airport has come a long way since its opening in June 1941, when the Federal Government was in charge of operating the airport. Over the years, National has had its share of growing pains, and as a ward of the Federal Government which had to compete for its share of a dwindling Federal pie, it became what one Transportation Secretary in 1979 called a dump.

Today, though, National is being called a showplace. For that, we salute the yeoman efforts of Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Hanford Dole who 13 years ago set in motion a commission headed by former Virginia Governor Linwood Holton, on which I was honored to serve with other area Members of Congress and Governors, and the D.C. Major, to come up with a plan to get the Federal Government out of the airports business.

After several years of fits and starts, the persuasive Mrs. Dole finally achieved her goal. Congress approved legislation to transfer Washington National and Washington Dulles International Airports from Federal ownership to a local authority.

In 1987 the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority was created, putting the wheels in motion to improve both National and Dulles Airports. Soon after, with the ability to sell bonds to finance improvements, the airports authority began an almost \$2 billion construction program for the two airports. We see today the result of the airports authority's vision at the new National Airport. Dulles is also progressing, with the new Midfield Concourse on schedule and set to open later this fall.

We offer congratulations to the airports authority and the many, many people in northern Virginia and the entire Metropolitan Washington Area who have worked so hard over the past 10 years to launch National Airport into a new century of aviation.

HONORING JOSEPH R. COPPOLA,
PH.D.

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 1997

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Joseph Coppola. This past May, Dr. Coppola was honored by Canisius College for his exceptional service to both the college and our community. A member of the Canisius graduating class of 1940, Dr. Coppola has es-

tablished himself a true leader in the accounting profession. He has served the college both as an educator and as an active alumna, and is a devoted husband, father of 10, and grandfather of 30. In recognition of that commitment, Canisius College has conferred upon Dr. Joseph R. Coppola the prestigious LaSalle Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with Dr. Coppola's family in expressing my enthusiastic commendation for this high honor, and would ask that the following article noting this tremendous achievement be submitted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

THE CONFERRAL OF THE LASALLE MEDAL

The integrity and success of Canisius-educated accountants have earned the college a national reputation for the quality of its accounting program. No one has had a greater impact in that program than Dr. Joseph R. Coppola '40.

Joe Coppola had earned a B.B.A. in accounting from Canisius and an M.B.A. from the prestigious Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (1941) by the time America entered World War II. Thus it was not in the boardroom but on the field of battle that he first answered the call to leadership. He served in both the Army and Air Force, winning six battle stars and the Presidential Unit Citation before returning stateside.

Dr. Coppola returned to Alma Mater to join the faculty in 1946. His affinity for the subject he taught, combined with humor and an unaffected concern for his students, brought accounting principles and practices to life for those who took his classes, including many who went on to distinguished careers in business, industry, and education.

Dr. Coppola earned a Ph.D. from the University of Ottawa in 1967. While teaching, raising a family, and pursuing that degree, he also worked with public accounting firms, private industry, and government agencies to open new employment opportunities for Canisius accounting graduates.

He took on weighty administrative responsibilities during his Canisius years as well, serving as chairman of the Accounting Department, as moderator of the college's Accounting Society, as director of the Senior Accounting Internship Program, and as coordinator of the IRS Work Co-Op Program. In each of these capacities he helped lay the foundation for the exceptional accounting program that continues to thrive at Canisius—one reason he is known as "Papa Joe" in that department.

Dr. Coppola also provided lasting financial support to future generations of accounting students by establishing the Dr. Joseph R. Coppola Scholarship Award in 1988—a fund that provides five annual scholarships. In 1982 he created the Dr. Joseph R. Coppola Award, given to recognize an exceptional Canisius accounting graduate.

Dr. Coppola's devotion to Canisius College has always extended beyond academic matters. Over the years, he and his wife, Angie, their children and grandchildren have been faithful participants in many college events. Thus, in another important way, the Coppolas have illustrated for our students the beauty of a lasting marriage, the joy of a loving family, and the strength of a profound religious faith.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Today we add to his many accolades the highest honor the college can accord and alumnus for service. For the impact of his teaching on the lives of hundreds of our students and for his role in developing one of the finest accounting programs in the nation, we are proud to present the LaSalle Medal to Joseph R. Coppola, Ph.D., '40, professor emeritus of accounting.

TRIBUTE TO COL. FRED MILLS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 1997

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a distinguished Missourian. Col. Fred Mills, a 30-year veteran of the highway patrol, is retiring on September 1, 1997. Colonel Mills has been the superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol since September 1993.

The focus of his administration as superintendent was "Working Together." He worked to forge partnerships between the highway patrol and other law enforcement agencies as well as between the highway patrol and the citizens of Missouri.

Colonel Mills was a driving force behind the partnership formed between highway patrol and the Kansas City and St. Louis Police Departments which put highway patrol officers on the streets with city officers in 1994 and 1995. The joint operation lowered the violent crime rate in both cities.

Colonel Mills also encouraged a process which moved uniformed officers from office jobs back into field positions by training civilian personnel to perform office functions. Nearly 70 officers were put back on the highways during Colonel Mills' tenure.

Colonel Mills' dedication to the highway patrol and the citizens of Missouri exemplify the highest tradition of service. His experience will be sorely missed. I know that the other Members of this body join me in expressing our deepest gratitude to Colonel Mills and our best wishes for his retirement.

"FORTY ACRES AND A MULE"

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 1997

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an "Editorial Notebook" commentary by Brent Staples in the July 21 issue of the New York Times.

In 1989 I first proposed that a commission be created to study the institution of slavery in this country from 1619 to 1865, and subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans, as well as the impact of these forces on living African-Americans, and to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies.

One of the remedies in this Congress is H.R. 40, with the number of the resolution selected for the "Forty Acres and a Mule" rallying cry of 1865 when Civil War Gen. Tecumseh Sherman issued Special Field Order 15, declaring the Georgia Sea Islands and a strip of South Carolina rice country as black settle-

ments. Each family of freed slaves was to be given 40 acres and the loan of an Army mule to work the land.

Mr. Staples' article describes that historical fact from the personal viewpoint of his own family's experience. I commend him for his contribution to the dialog on race in America. The article and the bill with its 21 cosponsors follow.

[From the New York Times, July 21, 1997]

FORTY ACRES AND A MULE

(By Brent Staples)

Bill Clinton has earned a boat-load of scorn since suggesting that he might apologize for slavery, as some in Congress have suggested. Critics from both left and right argue that such an apology would be trivializing, empty, arrogant and racially divisive. The dominant view, typified by the columnist Charles Krauthammer, is that there is essentially nothing to discuss, since the Civil War closed the issue and the slavers and the enslaved are long since dead. But all the noise suggests the issue is very much alive. The terms of Emancipation are nearly as explosive today as during the 1860's, when they dominated public consciousness and nearly tore the Government apart.

The facts of the period have been papered over in myth. These days, every school child thinks that Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves at one fell swoop—and for moral reasons. In fact, the Emancipation Proclamation freed only the slaves in rebellious states. Lincoln himself called it a military tactic, acknowledging that moral issues were in no way involved.

The slavers and the enslaved are certainly gone from the scene. But African-American families that have shown even a casual interest in history can give chapter and verse on relatives who were born in slavery or just afterward and the costs they paid. In the Staples family, for example, mine is the first generation to come of age without a flesh and blood former slave somewhere at the extended family table. That people in their 40's have this experience makes the issue a current one indeed.

My maternal great-grandmother, Luella Holmes Patterson, was born of a former slave and her master—and shipped off the plantation when the wife got wind of her. As a grade schooler, I visited Luella often in Hollins, Va. A few towns away lay the farm of my paternal great-grandfather, John Wesley Staples, who was conceived in slavery as well and born July 4, 1865, at the dawn of Emancipation. He died 10 years before my birth but was remembered to me in stories and pictures. As recently as 10 years ago, he and his wife, Eliza, were the subject of a pamphlet, written for a family reunion.

John Wesley met Emancipation with his whole life still in front of him. But among his neighbors and in-laws were ex-slaves who came to freedom landless and old or simply broken by the experience. My uncle Mack, who will be 80 in December, remembers them well. When I asked him about the apology brewing in Congress, Uncle Mack could barely contain himself: "They can keep the apology. What good is it? They promised us 40 acres and the mule. None of our people ever got that."

"Forty acres and a mule," of course, is a rallying cry from 1865. It originated during Sherman's March to the Sea. Overwhelmed by black families that abandoned the plantations to follow him, Sherman issued Special Field Order 15, declaring the Georgia Sea Islands and a strip of South Carolina rice country as black settlements. Each family was to get 40 acres and the loan of an Army mule to work it. Other generals and Federal

officials followed Sherman's lead, realizing that land was the only hedge against starvation and renewed bondage.

The confiscations were in accordance with Federal law. If sustained and accelerated, the land grants would have created black capital and independence almost immediately and precluded much of the corrosive poverty that still grips the black South. President Andrew Johnson was nearly impeached, in part for obstructing Congress on Reconstruction. Meanwhile, he canceled Special Field Order 15, returning land to white owners and condemning blacks to de facto slavery.

In many places, the eviction process was long and bloody. As the ex-slave Sarah Debro said of the period: "Slavery was a bad thing, and freedom, of the kind we got with nothing to live on, was bad. Two snakes full of poison. One lying with his head pointed north, the other with his head pointing south. . . . Both bit the nigger and they was both bad." My father and uncles grew up steeped in accountings like this one.

For 250 years African-Americans were deprived of freedom, basic education and the right to accumulate wealth, which they could have passed on to their descendants. This history would have left a wound in any case. But the wound is open and running because the country refused to atone materially when it had the chance. In that sense, at least, my Uncle Mack is right about the apology. No amount of talk can alter the past.

H.R. 40

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Commission to Study Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) approximately 4,000,000 Africans and their descendants were enslaved in the United States and the colonies that became the United States from 1619 to 1865;

(2) the institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the United States from 1769 through 1865;

(3) the slavery that flourished in the United States constituted an immoral and inhumane deprivation of Africans' life, liberty, African citizenship rights, and cultural heritage, and denied them the fruits of their own labor; and

(4) sufficient inquiry has not been made into the effects of the institution of slavery on living African-Americans and society in the United States.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to establish a commission to—

(1) examine the institution of slavery which existed from 1619 through 1865 within the United States and the colonies that became the United States, including the extent to which the Federal and State Governments constitutionally and statutorily supported the institution of slavery;

(2) examine de jure and de facto discrimination against freed slaves and their descendants from the end of the Civil War to the present, including economic, political, and social discrimination;

(3) examine the lingering negative effects of the institution of slavery and the discrimination described in paragraph (2) on living African-Americans and on society in the United States;

(4) recommend appropriate ways to educate the American public of the Commission's findings;