

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE ARMY'S SENIOR REVIEW PANEL REPORT ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 22, 1997

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on September 11 the Army announced the results of its largest investigation ever on sexual misconduct. Before commenting on report findings and related recommendations, I wish to commend the Army on the thorough and candid manner in which this survey and report were completed. Now, after a 9-month investigation, we must focus on action to address the serious problems of sexual harassment and sexual discrimination identified by this investigation.

The report confirms that sexual harassment in the Army is not an isolated problem. Contrary to earlier beliefs, sexual harassment exists throughout the Army regardless of gender, rank, or race. More telling is the finding that sexual discrimination is more pervasive than sexual harassment. These systemic problems undermine the effectiveness, readiness, and recruitment ability of the Army.

Nothing will change until Army leadership takes responsibility and accountability for action. Policies, as outlined in the Army Equal Opportunity Program, must be transformed into practice—only leadership can make that happen.

Failure of leadership to treat this issue seriously has led to the belief by soldiers that their commanders have little interest in enforcing rules against sexual harassment. As a result, victims of sexual harassment or discrimination do not file complaints for fear of reprisals. This breakdown in leadership trust is detrimental not only to the dignity of our soldiers, but also to the military effectiveness of the Army.

In the past, the Army has dealt effectively with problems such as drug abuse and racial discrimination. In those cases, leadership was key to changing behavior. Similar action is needed now. We need to be certain that the military is enforcing its code of conduct and disciplining those who violate it. The military code of conduct is based on honor, respect, and loyalty to country and comrades. When this code is broken by allowing sexual harassment of colleagues, it undermines our trust and respect for the U.S. military.

The report confirms the findings of the congressional investigations into sexual misconduct led by chairman of the House National Security Committee Subcommittee on Military Personnel, STEVE BUYER and Representatives TILLIE FOWLER and JANE HARMAN. I agree with their recent statement that there are no quick fixes for this very complex issue, and that the Army's leadership must commit to long-term corrective actions.

In closing, I strongly urge the Secretary of the Army to move quickly from disclosure to decisive, corrective action.

EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUC- TION ACT OF 1977 AUTHORIZA- TION

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVEN SCHIFF

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 910, legislation to reauthorize the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program [NEHRP]. I would like to thank Chairman SENSENBRENNER and Representative GEORGE BROWN, the Science Committee's ranking minority member, for their efforts to bring this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, NEHRP has long enjoyed bipartisan support in the Science Committee because, through the program, the Nation has learned much about what to expect during earthquakes, where earthquakes are likely to occur, and how buildings and other structures are likely to fare during an earthquake.

While much has been achieved through NEHRP, the Nation still faces a very serious earthquake threat. If a major earthquake were to strike in any of the densely populated earthquake prone areas of the Nation, we might be facing losses of life numbering in the hundreds or thousands and property and economic losses in the hundreds of billions.

H.R. S. 910 provides NEHRP with a modest increase in funding so that the program may continue to contribute to a scientific and engineering infrastructure that provides critical knowledge used to further mitigate earthquakes. In addition, this legislation requires the director of National Science Foundation to produce a plan for upgrading earthquake engineering testing facilities. This is especially needed in order to perform the state-of-the-art research necessary to test buildings, lifelines, and materials. Other important provisions of this legislation include: assessments of seismological data gathering equipment and of disaster training facilities, and development of a real-time seismic hazards network, which would enable operators of critical lifelines to shut down in advance of an earthquake. Finally, section 2(c) of S. 910 highlights the Science Committee's commitment to education. This is a provision which encourages the National Science Foundation to disseminate Earth science educational materials to local schools.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that S. 910 is an important piece of legislation which, because of the work we have already done with the Senate, can be expeditiously sent to the President when we pass the bill in the House today. I urge the support of my colleagues.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 22, 1997

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, as I was unavoidably detained on July 29, 1997, I unfortunately missed rollcall votes Nos. 336 and 337. Had I been present I would have recorded an "aye" on both votes.

TRIBUTE TO THE COLOUR ME FREEDOM FOUNDATION

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 22, 1997

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the Colour Me Freedom Foundation, started by my friend, the Reverend W. James Bellamy. From September 22 to October 4 a foundation exhibit entitled "Amandla Awethu; African-Americans and African Solidarity—Political Change in Africa" will be on display at the Cannon Rotunda. I am proud to be the sponsor of this exceptional exhibit.

The Colour Me Freedom Foundation is dedicated to strengthening the ties between Africa and African-Americans. The foundation grew out of the Reverend Bellamy's travels to Africa. While in Senegal in 1980 he met his wife, Fama, and developed a new appreciation and understanding of African politics and culture. He returned to the United States determined to share his discovery with others.

Reverend Bellamy earned a bachelor's degree in pan-African studies. At the same time he satisfied his growing interest in theology and spirituality by entering the ministry. Three years ago he founded the All People's AME Church, which is developing a sister relationship with Africa and African culture.

The Colour Me Freedom Foundation exhibition documents the history of the South Africa from 1960 to 1994. It features 50 photos and documents showing South Africa's transition from apartheid to a multiracial democracy.

The exhibit details the horror and absurdity of apartheid alongside the story of its demise. At the same time the visitor can relive the triumphant rise to power of Nelson Mandela.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting the Colour Me Freedom Foundation, which is educating all of us about the struggle for Africa and the African diaspora. Under the guidance of Reverend Bellamy the foundation is providing an invaluable service. I applaud his efforts and the work of the foundation.

• 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.