

During her successful 50-year career, Celia Cruz has recorded over 70 albums, won a Grammy Award and 10 Grammy nominations. She performed in various films, including "The Perez Family" and "The mambo Kings", and has been recognized with more than 100 awards from publications and institutions around the world. Among other honors, Cruz received an honorary doctorate from Yale University, a star on Hollywood Boulevard, and recognition from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Celia Cruz for her extraordinary talent, her vibrant contributions to the history of music, and her generous gift to the Smithsonian Institution.

THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S 86TH
NATIONAL DAY

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, for many years now, I have joined my colleagues in congratulating the leaders of the Republic of China [ROC] on their National Day.

Today I congratulate President Lee Teng-hui and the people of Taiwan on the ROC's 86th National Day.

President Lee has just completed a very successful Latin American tour and Taiwan has been invited to join the System of Central American Integration. President Lee is an energetic man who is moving forward on a number of diplomatic recognitions for Taiwan.

In the months and years ahead, I hope that Taiwan will continue to enjoy its prosperity and freedom.

FDA APPROVAL OF LEADCARE

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to rise today to inform the House that on September 10, 1997, the Food and Drug Administration announced the approval of a new portable, easy to use, medical screening device that can quickly detect high levels of lead in blood. The Leadcare In Office Test System was developed by ESA, Inc., of Chelmsford, MA, and AndCare, Inc., of Durham, NC, in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Located in my congressional district, ESA, Inc., is a biotechnology research company whose products and services have played a significant role in advancing the health care of Americans for over a quarter century. Since its establishment in 1970, ESA has designed and manufactured numerous high technology analytical instruments used for analyzing minute quantities of substances, often at the molecular level. The company's products are frequently utilized in biomedical research projects, clinical laboratories, and environmental quality control studies.

The recently approved Leadcare System promises to dramatically improve the rate at

which children in the United States and abroad are screened for lead poisoning. Currently, blood samples from children tested for exposure to lead must be sent to a laboratory for clinical evaluation. This process could take several days or even weeks. With the Leadcare System, a sample of a patient's blood obtained by a finger stick can be analyzed by the system within 3 minutes, and the results are instantly displayed. Moreover, clinical studies conducted by ESA indicate that the new test is as reliable as established laboratory screening methods. Both ESA and the Department of Health and Human Services believe that the expediency of the Leadcare System will allow health care professionals practicing in urban, underserved areas to screen more high-risk children in transient innercity communities.

The FDA's approval of the Leadcare System is also a major victory for the many countries around the world currently losing the battle against lead poisoning. Following the FDA's decision, HHS Secretary Donna Shalala, stated that "thanks to the FDA and CDC, and to memorandums of understanding we have developed with other countries, this new technology can soon be applied to fighting lead poisoning throughout many areas of the world." To this end, ESA plans to introduce the Leadcare System to public health officials and primary care physicians in countries with high incidents of lead poisoning.

Mr. Speaker, the FDA's approval of the Leadcare System is truly a landmark in the fight against childhood lead poisoning.

TRIBUTE TO BOB TEDFORD

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Robert A. (Bob) Tedford, one of the most influential citizens and civic leaders of Farmersville, TX, during the past quarter of a century. Bob died recently after a sudden illness, and he was such a pervasive presence in the community that his absence is difficult to accept and to measure.

Bob's influence in Farmersville began in 1963, when he moved there to establish the Bob Tedford Chevrolet Co., which, under his leadership, developed into a thriving business. His energy, enthusiasm, and ability to relate to people were keys to his success in business and also to his community leadership. Bob's imprint could be seen in almost every civic organization and leadership position in Farmersville.

Bob served as mayor, city councilman, and school board president. He was instrumental in obtaining funding to rebuild a State highway through downtown Farmersville. He was president of Farmersville Centennial and a founder of Old Time Saturday, an annual civic fundraising event that has raised an estimated \$200,000 over the years for the library and other civic projects.

Bob was past president of the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, and library board and was chairman of the board of First Bank of Farmersville. He was a lifetime charter member of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars,

member of the Royal Order of Jesters, and member of Masonic Lodge No. 214 for 30 years—serving as past master and secretary. He was a patron of the Farmersville Order of the Eastern Star No. 940 and a member of the Hella Temple and Scottish Rites of Dallas.

Sports were a particular passion. He was an avid golfer, a great baseball fan, and an ardent supporter of high school sports. He operated the game clock at Farmersville High School football games for 30 years and attended the state basketball tournament every year except for one when he suffered a heart attack. He took special interest in the young people of Farmersville and was active in Little League and Boy Scouts.

A native of Clearwater, TX, Bob served in the U.S. Army just after the end of the Korean war and earned the rank of sergeant. Afterwards, he worked for the railroad in Gene Autry, OK, where he met and married the former Sandra Haney in 1955. He is survived by Sandra, son and daughter-in-law Robbie and Kailyn Tedford, daughter and son-in-law Beverly and David Toney, sister Mrs. Glennis Lilley, brother Nelo Tedford, and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Tedford was a friend to many and a friend of mine. He was a driving force in Farmersville and an inspiration to all who had the pleasure of knowing him—and he will be truly missed. He leaves behind a community service and compassion, however, that will be remembered for years to come, and as we adjourn today, let us do so in memory of and in honor of Robert A. "Bob" Tedford.

NOW MORE THAN EVER, IT'S TIME
FOR AN INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct your attention to the following "Tale of the Tapes" editorial from the Albany Times Union, a newspaper circulated in my district. The editorial criticizes the Clinton administration for its feeble attempt to explain away its delay in forwarding videotapes of the White House coffees. The administration's most recent and abominable excuse for its inadvertent overlooking of the video tapes is that they entered the wrong word search on the computer.

The administration's the buck-stops-there philosophy seems to now have gone beyond the customary excuses and is reliant on more creative ones. The mishaps, stalling, and inadvertent overlooking is at an all time high in the White House. And in the midst of all this, Attorney General Janet Reno remains hesitant to appoint an independent counsel to investigate the campaign finance violations and abuses originating in the White House and risks being seen as a cohort in all of this. It has become apparent that Ms. Reno cannot carry-the-ball and shed some light on these campaign finance illegalities, I think it's time that she hand the ball over to an independent counsel who can.

[From the Albany Times Union, Oct. 8, 1997]

TALES OF THE TAPES

THE WHITE HOUSE STRAINS CREDULITY IN ITS LATEST ATTEMPT TO EXPLAIN WHY VIDEOS OF COFFEES WERE LATE TO SURFACE

The Clinton administration is repeating a tawdry chapter of history in its feeble attempt to explain away its delay in forwarding videotapes of President Clinton attending White House coffees where campaign contributors were guests. The White House has, however, added a new cyberspace twist to it all.

The tapes had been sought by the Senate committee looking into 1996 campaign fundraising practices by both Democrats and Republicans. Though filmed in 1995 and 1996, the videos weren't anywhere to be found until last weekend, when a 90-minute sampler was forwarded to Senate investigators and the Justice Department.

In the words of Lanny J. Davis, a special White House counsel, the tapes had been "inadvertently" overlooked.

Never mind that this administration has used "inadvertent" to explain away so many lapses that the word now ranks in the political lexicon right along with such staples as "stonewall" and "plausible deniability." This time, however, the twist is that the computer made them do it.

How so? The White House says it ordered a search for the tapes, just as the Senate committee requested. Somehow, though, the diligent, trusted White House aides came up empty handed. Turns out they were entering the wrong word search in the computer.

Instead of searching under the word coffee, they were busy searching under the words fund raising.

Thus a new blame-it-on-technology excuse enters the political lexicon, right along with the tried and true evasion of blaming the secretary for an 18-minute erasure on a Nixon audiotape.

It's difficult to decide who looks more foolish in the wake of these revelations—Mr. Davis and his boss, or Attorney General Janet Reno, who wasn't told of the tapes until after she announced that her Justice Department had found no evidence that President Clinton had violated any laws by attending the coffees.

Now there is talk of even more tapes of political fund-raisers that have yet to be released by the White House. Little wonder that Sen. John McCain, the Arizona Republican who is co-sponsor of major campaign finance reform legislation, is shaking his head and saying, "I've never seen anything like it."

All the more reason for Ms. Reno to face up to her obligation to appoint a special prosecutor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be in Washington on the evening of October 8, to cast my vote on the motion to instruct conferees on the foreign operations appropriations bill. This motion to instruct is superfluous and serves only to increase unwanted pregnancies. Had I been here, I would have voted "no" on restricting family planning activities just as I voted "no" when this motion came to the floor yesterday.

RESCUE MISSIONS DESERVE OUR ATTENTION

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I want to encourage my colleagues to read the following article from Policy Review by Rev. Stephen Burger.

On May 30, I had the opportunity to visit the Atlanta Union Mission, a private, faith-based rescue mission. The Atlanta Union Mission serves men, women, and children throughout the city and in part of a 250-member International Union of Gospel [IUGM]. During my visit, I listened to participants of the mission's program, who talked about their experiences. Many of them stressed that they had been through other programs in the past, and eventually relapsed, but that the Union Mission had been effective in dramatically changing their lives for good. The key to this effectiveness, was that the mission stressed a Higher Power, and recognized the benefits of faith in counseling and rehabilitation programs.

Collectively, the International Union of Gospel Missions represents the sixth largest charity in the United States. Last year IUGM missions provided more than 30 million meals, 22 million pieces of clothing, and 11 million beds to homeless men, women, and children.

I would encourage my colleagues to visit a rescue mission in their districts in the near future. Although most of these missions receive very little, if any, Government funding, they have proven to be the most cost effective, dollar for dollar, and, most important, they have the highest success rate in drug treatment and rehabilitation. As Rev. Stephen Burger has written, the approach that rescue missions take toward helping the homeless become productive members of our society deserves our attention.

[From the Policy Review, Oct., 1997]

ARISE, TAKE UP THY MAT AND WALK

(By Rev. Stephen Burger)

Spend a little time in virtually any city in America and you'll see them—in doorways, under bridges, poking through trash cans, begging for loose change. They are America's homeless. They no longer wear the face of the 55-year-old alcoholic man; they look more and more like young crack addicts, battered women and children, prostitutes, gamblers, and AIDS sufferers. On any given day, about 600,000 people are living either on the streets or in shelters trying to stay alive.

Americans are a compassionate people. But traditional approaches to the problem—promoted through government initiatives and many private charities—have been so ineffective at treating the fundamental causes of homelessness that we must reconsider what it means to help our neighbors in need.

Many government programs assume that homelessness is simply the absence of four walls and a roof. Usually it is not: The lack of affordable housing, though a problem, is not why most of these people have no permanent address. Most people in trouble economically have friends and families whose homes they could share temporarily if they choose to. The level of government spending on the problem likewise leaves deeper issues untouched. There are more than 60 separate federal programs that provide some form of help. The federal Department of Housing and

Urban Development (HUD) now operates homeless shelters and drug rehabilitation programs in every major city in the United States. But the rates at which the able-bodied homeless graduate to independence from these programs rarely rise above single digits.

America used not settle for this level of failure. If anyone can testify to that, we can.

The International Union of Gospel Missions—whose staff members often emerge from the ranks of the formerly homeless—has been helping the destitute break the cycle of dependence since 1913. Last year, our emergency services and long-term rehabilitation programs helped 14,000 homeless men and women achieve self-sufficiency. These were not "easy" cases. Thousands walked into our doors addicted to alcohol, heroin, crack cocaine, and other drugs. Many have been prostitutes, or veterans who couldn't adjust to civilian life. Many have committed crimes, served time in prison, and failed other rehabilitation programs.

Our experience teaches us that America needs nothing less than a reformation in the way we think about homelessness. Many traditional and government-funded approaches fail not for lack of money but for a deficit of vision: They do not treat the whole person. They neglect the familial and moral aspects of a person's life. They refuse to challenge the homeless person's fundamental way of thinking. Says Rev. Mickey Kalman, the executive director of City Rescue Mission in Oklahoma City: "The philosophy of government homeless programs is to respect and protect lifestyles that produce homelessness."

Most significantly, these programs ignore the central dimension of the problem—the spiritual. After more than 35 years of trying to help homeless people with every imaginable problem, I cannot escape this fact: Men and women who walk away from their jobs, their families, and their homes do so because, fundamentally, they are turning away God and His claim on their lives. But government funded policies, by definition, must exclude this vital dynamic from the discussion. It is a prescription predestined for failure.

Not only are government approaches not working, but government regulations continue to impede or thwart the most innovative programs. Labor laws, zoning issues, licensing requirements are all getting in the way of private, religiously based efforts to deliver effective care. Authorizing block grants and returning power to the states will not by themselves make much of a difference, because it's state and local governments that throw up some of the most egregious obstacles to our faith-based shelter programs. Moreover, much of government's regulatory itch is aggravated by blindness to the moral and spiritual causes of homelessness.

What follows are some of the dynamics of change: We make sure that these elements are present in all of our 245 rescue missions in the 210 cities in which we operate nationwide. Though our missions offer various educational, job-training, relational, and other skills, these three principles establish an ethical and religious foundation without which all our other efforts would amount to nothing.

THE FAITH FACTOR

It is very difficult to overstate the importance of the spiritual aspect of this problem. Spiritual renewal is the fountainhead for personal transformation.

Enoch Walker was married and had a child he loved, a job he enjoyed, and a house in Washington, D.C. Then he began abusing alcohol and drugs, what he calls "the great removers" in his life, because they became