

Argentinean Government to take more aggressive steps to solve the crime. Our resolution "notes with regret" that this is the fifth anniversary of the Israeli Embassy bombing and "police and judicial authorities in Argentina have not identified and initiated prosecution of the perpetrators of these two barbarous acts of terrorism." The resolution also urges the Supreme Court of Argentina to designate a single judge to conduct the investigation of the Embassy bombing in order to improve the efficiency of the inquiry. Currently, the full membership of the Supreme Court is in charge of the investigation, and this has hampered the effectiveness of the investigation.

I invite my colleagues to join as cosponsors of this legislation and urged redoubled effort to solve these horrendous crimes. The text of House Concurrent Resolution 50 follows:

H. CON. RES. 50

Whereas on March 17, 1992, the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, a school, and several nearby buildings were destroyed by a powerful suicide car bomb blast in which 29 innocent children, women, and men lost their lives and an additional 252 innocent people were injured;

Whereas the victims of this terrorist attack included employees of the Israeli embassy and their families, children from a nearby Roman Catholic primary school, women and men from a nearby Roman Catholic church shelter, a Roman Catholic priest, and people across the spectrum of Argentine society;

Whereas Argentina's Jewish community, which numbers over 300,000 and is the largest Jewish community in Latin America, has suffered periods of severe Anti-Semitism during periods of military rule and feels particularly vulnerable to assault from certain radical Islamic groups and from indigenous far right extremists in Argentina;

Whereas Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the bombing of the Israeli Embassy and praised the name of the alleged suicide bomber, Abu Yasser, by calling him a "martyr struggler," and Islamic Jihad is a terrorist organization that is supported by Iran and United States State Department officials have stated that Iranian diplomats collected information to plan the bombing;

Whereas the failure of Argentine and international efforts to bring the perpetrators of the embassy bombing to justice made Argentina a prime target for a second devastating terrorist attack on July 18, 1994, just two years after the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, when the Asociacion Mutual Israelita Argentina (AMIA) Jewish Community Center was destroyed in a similar car bombing in which 86 people died and over 200 people were injured; and

Whereas the effectiveness of the investigation of the Israeli embassy bombing, which is being conducted by the Supreme Court of Argentina, has been hampered by the inefficiency of having the entire membership of the court in charge of the investigation:

Now, therefore, be it—

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring) that the Congress

(1) Notes with regret that March 17, 1997, marked the fifth anniversary of the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, that it is now more than two and a half years since the bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center, and that policy and judicial authorities in Argentina have not yet identified and initiated prosecution of the perpetrators of these two barbarous acts of terrorism;

(2) Urges the Supreme Court of Argentina to designate a single investigative judge to conduct the investigation of the terrorist

bombing of the Israeli Embassy in order to improve the efficiency of the inquiry;

(3) Urges Argentinean judicial authorities to move forward aggressively in the investigation of the terrorism bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center because of the probability that there is a connection between that bombing and the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires;

(4) Urges Argentinean authorities to acknowledge publicly the reports submitted by Argentinean, United States, and Israeli experts, which determined that the explosion at the Israeli Embassy took place outside the walls of the embassy;

(5) Urges the President and appropriate executive agencies to provide all appropriate assistance which has been or which may be requested by Argentinean government authorities in order to help that government in investigating these acts of terrorism; and

(6) Directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to forward a copy of this resolution to the government of Argentina.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAROLYN LANIER

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, the pages of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD chronicle two centuries of actions affecting the everyday lives of Americans. Today, I'd like to add to that history with the account of an everyday American who has affected the lives of the needy beyond the boundaries of her community.

Carolyn Lanier has for 14 years served as the South Plains Food Bank executive director in Lubbock, TX. Her leadership has brought the food bank from its beginnings as a simple storeroom with shelves of canned goods, to its modern-day operation with refrigeration, a working farm and a dehydration plant. The food bank's success in feeding the needy and in helping other food banks created the necessity for the facility's Breedlove Dehydration Plant. Each day, the South Plains Food Bank under the leadership of Carolyn Lanier, its patrons and the many volunteer workers, feed as many as 16,000 people through 254 charitable agencies in a 20-county area of the vast Texas Panhandle-South Plains-Permian Basin Region.

Carolyn is the first to answer the compliment about her service by praising those working with her and the many financial supporters of the South Plains Food Bank. In recognizing those good works, it is helpful for those of us here in Congress and for people who study the pages of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to know that people just like Carolyn Lanier, who was qualified by the experience of feeding and caring for her family, saw a need and a way to help feed and care for an extended family of thousands and thousands she had never met.

Carolyn's success—and thus the success of the South Plains Food Bank—comes from her caring and her determined effort. Those seeing the need in their community can take heart from Carolyn's example. And those of us here in Congress seeking ways to meet those needs are gratified by these efforts. Government must be a servant of the people, doing all it can to encourage these charitable works.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on Thursday, March 13 and was unable to be present for rollcall vote No. 50, final passage of H.R. 852, the Paperwork Reduction Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO REV. LESTER PRATT, SR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Rev. John Lester Pratt, Sr., pastor of Zion Shiloh Baptist Church. Reverend Pratt was born in Fredericksburg, VA, and attended Storer College in Harpers Ferry, WV. As an undergraduate he majored in education. He graduated from Manhattan Bible Institute and American Divinity School of Religion; earning undergraduate and masters degrees in theology.

In 1977 he was elected pastor of Zion Shiloh Baptist Church. He abides by the philosophy of, "I accept the challenge." Currently he is serving as secretary of the Progressive National Baptist Convention. Pastor Pratt has served as past moderator of New York Missionary Baptist Association, been a member of Cumberland Community Board and served as a member of the board of Hampton Ministers Conference.

The reverend is married to Mrs. Gertrude Pratt, and they are the proud parents of two sons, Leo, John, Jr., grandson, Leo Sterling Pratt, and have a wonderful daughter-in-law, Michelle. It is my pleasure to introduce Rev. Lester Pratt, Sr., to my House colleagues.

CODIFICATION OF TITLE 36, UNITED STATES CODE, PATRIOTIC AND NATIONAL OBSERVANCES, CEREMONIES, AND ORGANIZATIONS

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to codify and enact certain general and permanent laws, related to patriotic and national observances, ceremonies, and organizations, as title 36 of the United States Code. This bill has been prepared by the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives as a part of the responsibilities of that Office to prepare and submit to the Committee on the Judiciary, for enactment into positive law, all titles of the United States Code. This bill makes no change in the substance of existing law.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the bill and a description of the bill, containing a section-by-section summary should contact

John R. Miller, acting law revision counsel, U.S. House of Representatives, H2-304 Ford House Office Building, Washington, DC, 20515-6711. The telephone number is (202) 226-2411.

Persons wishing to comment on the bill should submit those comments to the acting law revision counsel no later than May 31, 1997.

THE SERIOUS PROBLEM OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN EGYPT

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last week Egyptian President Mohammed Hosni Mubarak, as well as Foreign Minister Amre Mahmoud Moussa and other leaders of the Egyptian Government, were here in Washington for meetings with the administration and with Members of Congress. I was one of the Members who welcomed President Mubarak and his delegation at a lunch hosted by the Committee on International Relations.

As always, President Mubarak and Foreign Minister Moussa were gracious and frank in their discussion on a whole range of issues involving the relationship between the United States and Egypt. One issue which deserves particular attention, however, is the issue of anti-Semitism in the Egyptian press.

Shortly before President Mubarak arrived in the United States, the Anti-Defamation League [ADL] issued an excellent report "Anti-Semitism in the Egyptian Media." This report was another outstanding example of the kind of work that the ADL does in fighting racism and anti-Semitism here in America and around the world. At our meeting with President Mubarak, I presented him with a copy of this report and indicated to him my serious concerns about its disturbing findings.

President Mubarak responded that the Egyptian press was a free press, and even the Government media were quite independent. I told both the President and Foreign Minister Moussa that the press in Egypt is far from being truly free and independent. The moral authority of the President and the political, economic, and ethical leverage which the Government can exercise could go a long way to discourage and diminish the anti-Semitism that appears so frequently throughout the Egyptian press.

President Mubarak gave me a copy of the Egyptian Government response to the ADL study, in which was included a collection of Israeli cartoons which were considered offensive to Egypt. There is, however, a significant difference. The Egyptian cartoons are patently anti-Semitic—vicious racial stereotypes of Jews appear and there are a number of cartoons in which the Star of David is transformed into the Nazi swastika. The Israeli cartoons are very much like the political cartoons we see here in the United States—Egyptian leaders are portrayed in caricatures and the cartoons satirize policies such as Herblock or Oliphant would do here. There are no racist stereotypes, there are no anti-Muslim overtones to the cartoons.

Mr. Speaker, as I told President Mubarak, peace must be won in the minds of the peo-

ple—the Egyptian people must accept the Israelis if there is to be real peace in the Middle East. People must come to accept the right of the Jews to live in the land of Israel. These anti-Semitic cartoons do not create the climate that is essential for a lasting peace. I strongly urged the President to use his enormous prestige and moral authority to bring an end to this kind of racism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the column of Stephen S. Rosenfeld from the March 14 issue of the Washington Post be placed in the RECORD. Mr. Rosenfeld also met with the Egyptian President as I did and his reaction was much the same as mine. I urge my colleagues to read carefully this article.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 14, 1997]

THE WAR OF THE CARTOONS

(By Stephen S. Rosenfeld)

At breakfast in Blair House I asked President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt about those terrible antisemitic cartoons that for years have adorned the government-controlled Cairo press. The Anti-Defamation League had greeted him on this visit with a booklet and a challenge in a New York Times ad, and it seemed to me a good time to hear how the government that has led the Arab world in reconciling with Israel deals with the seemingly contradictory policy of perpetuating those vicious images.

Mubarak is rough and affable in an officers' mess style, an old hand at engaging with the foreign press. He looks you right in the eye, and plainly he was ready for the question. He said in essence that Egypt has a press law and he does not control the press, that he is himself criticized in the press and that he had advised editors not to get personal in dealing with Israel but to stick to criticism of official Israeli policies. He battled away my attempt to induce him to say whether the Egyptian press meets that excellent standard.

At one point in the discussion, he signaled to an aide who left the room and quickly came back with an exhibit so similar in format to the ADL attack booklet that it was almost amusing. Mubarak had suggested that the Egyptian press was merely indulging a type of criticism familiar in the Israeli press. He now handed me a sheaf of cartoons from both English- and Hebrew-language papers in Israel.

The war of the cartoons may not seem very compelling at a moment when the whole structure of Arab-Israeli peace-seeking trembles on a knife's edge. Consider, however, that one important reason why the process is so precariously perched lies exactly in the fact that it is vulnerable to the popular sentiments evoked in those cartoons, especially the Egyptian ones.

The Egyptian cartoons have what is to a Western eye an unmistakably racist content. They rely on crude physical and cultural stereotypes of Jews, and they drape Israeli officials with Nazi swastikas. These images and accusations, says the ADL report on "Anti-Semitism in the Egyptian Media," are to be found in words but most flagrantly in political cartoons which, "often boldly displayed on newsstands, can inflame passions in a country where illiteracy is significant and where young people may not read the newspapers, but obtain a clear and distorted impression of Jews from the illustrations."

Mubarak cannot be taken literally when he claims that the Egyptian press is independent and that its independence absolves him of responsibility for its enthusiasms. There can be a discussion only over whether particular parts of the Cairo press are best described as "tame," "government-owned" or "controlled" or "semi-official." Egypt, for

all the sophistication of many in its elite, remains one of those countries where editors get to massage major media themes with the president over coffee. A shrewd Third World leader like Mubarak would hardly ignore the capability his press gives him to conduct a certain second line of public diplomacy based on the domestic mass media to complement the first line conducted at the foreign office.

It is sobering to consider that no matter how often he is reminded that the cartoons measurably shrivel Israeli readiness for compromise and accommodation, Mubarak still lets them run. He does so apparently in order to appease hard-liners at home and in the Arab world. It is pale comfort to be told that many Arabs don't think those cartoons are all that abusive anyway and that Egypt is actually something of an island of tolerance in the larger Arab sea.

The Israeli cartoons have what is to a Western eye an unmistakably political content. The Egyptian information ministry's booklet describes them, in this instance fairly, as "Israeli Caricatures of Egyptian Policy." Caricatures they are, strong and abrasive but not racial attacks on Arabs. It is foolish to claim there is no trace of racism in Israeli attitudes toward Arabs. But if you are looking for it on these pages chosen by Arab officials, you will not find it.

An Egyptian cartoon from Ros al-Yusuf of last Sept. 9 depicts an Israeli soldier bedecked in a Nazi flag. An Israeli cartoon in Maariv of Oct. 29 shows Mubarak unleashing a press attack on Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

An American journalist has to be sensitive to the booby traps that imperil any effort to distinguish objectionable "racist" cartoons in one place from acceptable "political" ones in another. Such an effort cannot be used either to spare Israeli criticism for its policies or to rationalize censorship practices in Egypt. But the fact is there is an antisemitic strain on public view in Egyptian society and in the media. It is appalling in its own right and it does harm to constructive public policies. Rather than allowing it to go on, responsible Egyptian authorities ought to be repudiating it without equivocation.

ANCHOR CONNECTION'S HEROISM ON THE FRONT LINES OF AMERICA'S DRUG WAR IS RIGHTFULLY HONORED

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, it is all too easy to get discouraged when reading the latest statistics showing that marijuana and heroin use among teenagers has skyrocketed over the last 5 years. Day after day, it seems that our media reports are filled with reports of violence; depression, and lost opportunities. Yet as a counter-balance against these reports, I am encouraged to share the experience and success of the Anchor Connection in Trenton, NJ.

Anchor Connection is a specialized program operated within the Anchor House, a nationally recognized basic service center for runaway and homeless youth, and has served the residents of central New Jersey since 1979. The Anchor House also operates a Transitional Living Program, which helps reduce drug abuse by teaching independent living skills to troubled teens.

I am proud that Anchor Connection is being honored today for its hard work by three of our