

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO ARCWORK OF
FRESNO, FRESNO, CA

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to ArcWork of Fresno. In partnership with the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, ArcWork employs people with developmental disabilities at jobs which enhance the business environment and the community.

The ArcWork project was the vision of Larry Willey, vice president of marketing for the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Willey was aware that one of the priorities of Fresno Mayor Jim Patterson was to keep Fresno Clean and Green. In response, it was proposed that individual businesses and the Fresno Chamber of Commerce could sponsor various areas and pay ArcWork employees to keep them clean.

Since then, the concept of community and corporate involvement to take care of the cities beautification has expanded greatly. Parks were recently added to the list for the beautification process, and various city agencies and groups have become involved in the program. The collaboration of resources has been so effective, the city of Fresno has been able to redirect its workers to more demanding projects. The result: ArcWork crews are now capable of picking up an increasing number of general city tasks.

The advent of the ArcWork program has been a win-win for everyone involved. Businesses have found the services to be cost effective, helping to create a cleaner environment throughout Fresno. ArcWork also has allowed business to gain recognition for the positive contributions made to the program. Municipalities have benefited by the increased partnerships that have been forged between the Fresno Chamber of Commerce and the business community, helping to create employment opportunities for the developmentally disabled. Most importantly, though, are the benefits that the ArcWork program has given to those with developmental disabilities who want to work and increase their self-sufficiency.

Mr. Speaker, I admire the success of the ArcWork program. Working together, the city of Fresno, the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, private organizations, and local businesses have found a beneficial way to solve some of the challenges facing our city in a positive and effective manner. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to ArcWork, a program that serves as a model of local grassroots involvement throughout the Nation.

IN HONOR OF DR. AARON E.
HENRY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Aaron E. Henry, a fellow Mississippian, and civil rights pioneer died Monday morning, May 19, 1997, of complications resulting from a stroke, following a 5-month illness. Dr. Henry was a mentor, a humanitarian, a scholar, and a great human being. I would like to share with you the following information about the life of a man who helped to forge the shape of society in this country for all African-Americans.

Dr. Henry was born in Clarksdale, MS, July 2, 1921, to the late Joseph and Elizabeth Henry Jackson. He was the youngest of five children. His natural parents died when he was very young and his formative years were spent under the nurturing support of his maternal uncle and aunt, Edd Henry and Mattie Logan Henry. He was an active member of Haven United Methodist Church, serving as lay leader, and a member of the United Methodist Men.

He attended public schools on Coahoma County, graduating from Coahoma Agricultural High School. He entered the U.S. Army as a private in 1943 and was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant in 1946. Following his discharge, Dr. Henry attended Xavier University in New Orleans. After receiving a degree in pharmacy in 1950, he returned to Clarksdale and opened the Fourth Street Drug Store. His career as a civil rights activist began soon thereafter.

On June 11, 1950, he married the lovely Noelle Celestine Michael of Jackson. To this union one daughter, Rebecca Elizabeth, was born.

In 1953, Dr. Henry organized the Coahoma County Branch of the NAACP and served as the State NAACP president from 1960 until 1993. He worked with all five of the field directors of the Mississippi State Conference of the NAACP, including the late Medger Evers. In an effort to assure equal representation for all Mississippians, he chaired the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party that successfully challenged the established State Democratic Party during the 1968 Democratic Convention in Atlantic City, NJ. This effort led to the creation of the integrated Democratic Party in Mississippi. Dr. Henry participated in the Freedom Rider Movement and in the Mississippi Freedom Summer's nonviolent campaigns of public protest which led to the eventual passage of the Public Accommodations sections of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

On the national level, Dr. Henry was instrumental in securing congressional support for passage of the Office of Economic Opportunity Act. Several programs, including Head Start and Job Corps, grew out of this act to provide services to improve the quality of life for all citizens. Dr. Henry's quest for equality and fair

treatment was evident in his commitment to securing Job Corps and Head Start Programs for Mississippians. He believed in the need for Job Corps' existence and in the young people it would serve. He worked with former Gov. Cliff Finch to bring the first Job Corps Center in Mississippi located in Crystal Springs, MS. Dr. Henry recognized that the benefits of the program would mean job opportunities for the State's poor and underserved young people. He not only was a pioneer in the State for Job Corps and Head Start, but for many programs that impacted the quality of life for all Mississippians.

In a fitting tribute to his years as a civil rights leader, Dr. Henry was elected by the citizens of District 26 in Coahoma County to the Mississippi House of Representatives in 1979 and reelected in 1983 and 1987. He was an active member of the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus.

Dr. Henry has served on the board of director of a number of organizations including the national NAACP where he served as vice president and as a member of its executive committee; chairman of the National Caucus for the Black Aged since 1972; member of the Federal Council on Aging since 1977; the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; the Southern Regional Council and the Mississippi Council on Human Relations. Dr. Henry was chairman of the board and primary stockholder in Civic Communications Corp., the holding company for WLBT-TV-3, Inc., the minority-owned NBC affiliate in Jackson, MS; KLTU in Tyler, TX; KTRE in Lufkin, TX; and WLBM in Meridian, MS. He was chairman of the board of directors for MINACT, Inc., a management and training firm in Jackson operating Job Corps centers throughout the Nation.

His commitment to community, educational and civic issues propelled him into the forefront of the American Legion, Elks, Masons, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. He was recognized for his outstanding academic achievements through honorary degrees from Tougaloo College, Rust College, Mary Holmes College, Prentiss Institute, Queens College, and Boston University. Professionally, he was recognized by the American Pharmaceutical Association with the Hubert H. Humphrey Award.

Dr. Henry lived an active and committed life. He leaves to cherish memory a daughter, Rebecca Elizabeth of Clarksdale; grandsons, Aaron and Demon of Clarksdale; a sister, Thelma Henry Johnson of St. Louis, MO, and many supporters of justice and equality throughout this Nation.

• 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.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1997, H.R. 1681

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, together with the ranking minority member, Representative LEE HAMILTON, I am introducing, by request, the administration's bill, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation Amendments Act of 1997 H.R. 1681, extending the authority of OPIC through the year 2000.

Since it began operations in 1971, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation [OPIC], has mobilized private sector resources to assist developing countries and emerging democracies in the transition from nonmarket to market economies. In an era of declining budgetary resources, OPIC has consistently demonstrated an ability to operate on a self-sustaining basis to support United States companies in emerging economies in Africa, the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union and in Latin America and the Caribbean.

OPIC has also played an important role in reinforcing U.S. foreign policy goals and in strengthening our economy by creating jobs and promoting exports. OPIC programs have served to rectify market failures, including limited market information in developing countries and underdeveloped capital markets, by insuring U.S. firms against economic and market uncertainties.

Over the past 25 years, projects supported by OPIC have generated more than \$52 billion in U.S. exports and created more than 225,000 jobs. OPIC has been run on a sound financial basis with reserves totaling approximately \$2.7 billion and with earnings reaching a record \$209 million in 1996. In the process, it has maintained a claims recovery rate of 98 percent, settling close to 260 insurance claims for \$519 million and recovering all but \$11 million.

All the 26 members of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development [OECD] have agencies similar to OPIC: the United States needs to compete with these and other countries that subsidize their exporters.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support the reauthorization of this small but efficient agency.

H.R. 1681

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 "Overseas Private Investment Corporation Amendments Act of 1997".

SEC. 2. ISSUING AUTHORITY.

(a) MAXIMUM CONTINGENT LIABILITY.—Section 235(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2195(a)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and all that follows through the end of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

"(1) INSURANCE AND FINANCING.—(A) The maximum contingent liability outstanding at any one time pursuant to insurance issued under section 234(a), and the amount of financial issued under sections 234(b) and (c), shall not exceed in the aggregate \$32,000,000,000."

(b) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—Paragraph (3) of section 235(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2195(a)(3)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating such paragraph as paragraph (2); and

(2) by striking "1997" and inserting "2000".

INTRODUCTION OF THE SAFE BRIDGES RECONSTRUCTION AND RESTORATION ACT OF 1997

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, this year Congress will take up the reauthorization of the ISTEA law to ensure that the critical infrastructure needs of our Nation are met as we strive toward a more efficient safe, and productive transportation network. To that effect, I am introducing legislation that will expand the bridge discretionary program and I would allow States and local communities to receive sufficient funds for high cost bridges that are in dire need of replacement.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, in 1995, 25 percent of the Nation's interstate bridges were classified as deficient. Twenty eight (28) percent of the 130,000 bridges on all other arterial systems in the nation were deficient as well.

In fiscal year 1994-96 States requested \$1.28 billion in discretionary funds for 65 different bridges. Currently, ISTEA funds the bridge discretionary program at \$69 million a year and there is tremendous need for a greatly expanded program. My legislation would authorize \$800 million to be used out of our transportation funds in the new highway bill for these bridges.

In the 1970's and 1980's, the Federal highway program has a large discretionary component that met the needs of replacing aging bridges and reconstructing early segments of the interstate system. However, in the last two surface transportation acts, these programs were severely cut back. Prior to ISTEA, the bridge discretionary program was funded at the \$200 to \$225 million level annually. ISTEA dramatically scaled back the funding, and the state of the nation's bridges has continued to deteriorate.

An expanded bridge discretionary program would allow your State to compete for bridge funds each year. It would permit these projects to move ahead faster and receive more money rather than relying on a State's regular apportionment or scarce demonstration project funds. Once these bridge projects receive their initial funding, they go to the top of the list to receive funds in the future years, if needed.

The Nation benefits from a strong Federal transportation system. We must allow the Federal Government to have the flexibility to fund a State's extraordinary bridge needs in any given year. This legislation would provide the funding and flexibility to meet this pressing need to help rebuild our high-traffic bridges that are in very poor condition nationwide.

TRIBUTE TO RANKIN FIELD, TULARE, CA

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to pay tribute to the planners and participants from Sequoia and Rankin Fields. These two airfields will be celebrating their first reunion on Saturday, May 31, 1997.

Over 50 years ago, Tulare County opened its doors to train USAAF pilots. This reunion event is designed to honor those pilots who did not make it home from World War II, and to pay tribute to two distinguished soldiers, Maj. Richard Bong and Maj. Daniel Lindsay. Both gentlemen received their flight training at Rankin Field more than 50 years ago. Later, the two went on to fight for victory during World War II. They each received the Congressional Medal of Honor for their distinguished military service.

Rankin Field was founded by flight instructor "Tex" Rankin, a native of the State of Texas. Rankin opened his field during World War II. At the time, the Government contracted out private airfields, making them responsible for training soldiers entering military service during World War II. More than 40 years after Rankin's death, the contributions that he made to the growth of the Tulare and Visalia communities are still felt today.

The celebration at Rankin Field is a culmination of work done by former cadets and instructors, Sequoia Field, the Tulare County Historical Society, and the Costa Mesa Historical Society. Former cadets from all over the State of California joined forces with the Tulare County Deputy Sheriff's Association, an organization that recently purchased a portion of the original Rankin Field site. The association commenced work on the headquarters and recreation facility that would be named "Rankin Field, home of Tulare County Deputy Sheriffs Association." The association plans to create an exhibit devoted to the World War II USAAF pilot training program at Rankin Field.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have constituents in my district who have taken the initiative to restore Rankin Field in its full glory. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing those organizers of the reunion best wishes for a successful and enjoyable celebration.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL ALBERT C. HARVEY, USMCR

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great patriot and fearless soldier, Maj. Gen. Albert C. Harvey, USMCR. General Harvey, a Tennessean, retired from the Marine Corps on May 10, 1997, after a 40-year career that spanned the height of the cold war in 1962 to the new national security challenges of the 1990's. By having his retirement ceremony at historic Chalmette National Battlefield, he honored an important historic connection to another great Tennessean, Gen. Andrew Jackson. At the Battle of New Orleans at