

the people of the United States owe the people of Afghanistan a great debt. Yet right after the Soviet Union collapsed, the United States ran at a quick pace away from Afghanistan and never looked back. And every day, even to this day, young people in Afghanistan, children, are blown apart by land mines, some of which were provided by the United States of America. We have not done our best to try to bring peace to a country and to a people to whom we owe so much. It is my hope that, in Afghanistan, the leaders of the Taliban movement who now control much of that country and the leaders of other factions who control the northernmost regions of that country can come to an understanding that will bring peace and will bring free elections to that strife-torn country and will provide for the people of that country, those brave people of Afghanistan, who stood against Soviet tyranny and Soviet armor, will bring them at last to a time when they can rebuild their water ducts, they can rebuild their villages and mosques, they can rebuild their schools and they can begin again to have a country devoted to Islam, their religion, devoted to their families and to their honor. The United States owes it to the people of Afghanistan to do what we can to help bring peace to that country.

Tonight, as I say, I have spoken to these leaders who have trekked halfway around the world trying to seek help from the United States in bringing peace to their country. I personally believe that the King of Afghanistan represents an option that could unify all of the people of Afghanistan because they know that he will soon die, he is over 80 years old, and will pass away and thus is not a threat in the long run to any one faction. The King of Afghanistan would like to bring democracy to his country. What we have learned, if we have learned anything in these last 50 years, is that free elections bring peace. It is democracy that will bring peace to the world. When Ronald Reagan confronted the Soviet empire, he stressed our belief in freedom and the support for those who struggle for freedom around the world, and that is what changed the world and has made this a more peaceful world. Let us hope that in the years ahead, there will be a more peaceful Afghanistan and the people there can live in dignity and honor and prosperity that they have earned with their blood and their honor.

AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION: 50 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO PROGRESSIVE IDEALS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from California [Mr. FILNER] is recognized for 60 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the topic of my special order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, and many of my colleagues will submit statements to the RECORD to support this special order, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of a great organization called Americans for Democratic Action, an organization we fondly call ADA, an organization that has worked tirelessly for 5 decades to improve American society.

It was on January 3, 1947, that 130 people gathered at the Willard Hotel in Washington, DC, to form Americans for Democratic Action. Included were political activists, academics, housewives, labor union leaders, and former New Dealers. They were idealists, the well-known and the unknown, all dedicated to the basic principle that government has a positive role to play in the lives of its citizens in promoting individual liberty and economic justice.

Among the founders of ADA were such well-known figures as Eleanor Roosevelt, John Kenneth Galbraith, Walter Reuther, David Dubinsky, Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., Reinhold Niebuhr, Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., and Hubert Humphrey. And because I had the opportunity to work for Senator Humphrey back in the 1970's, I was able to learn from him firsthand about the importance of the role of ADA. I truly value my membership and my current position as a member of the board.

The contributions of ADA have been many. In 1948, ADA's efforts led to the adoption of a strong civil rights plank in the Democratic Party platform which has defined our party's commitment to civil rights for over a generation. In subsequent decades, ADA has taken early principled stands on civil rights and civil liberties, nuclear arms control, apartheid in South Africa, workers rights, women's issues, and the Federal budget and tax policy. ADA was the first national organization to call for an end to the Vietnam war and the impeachment of Richard Nixon. The Humphrey-Hawkins full employment bill saw its genesis at an ADA convention.

The values and ideals of ADA members are just as relevant today. For example, the increase in the minimum wage, preservation of Medicare and the passage of health care portability can all be traced directly to the influence of the members of ADA and similarly thoughtful people. Today ADA continues to be dedicated to building a better world with rising standards of living for all. Its members, in Congress and out, work for the values of promoting basic human rights at home and abroad, ending all forms of discrimination, ensuring full employment and balanced growth and more equitably distributing our resources.

During the 105th Congress, ADA will continue to press for a national commitment to full employment, comprehensive campaign finance reform, universal and quality health care, access to a full range of reproductive health care for all, an end to discrimination, full access to quality education, a safe and healthy environment, and national economic priorities that reflect today's social and defense needs.

It is quite a list, it is quite an agenda, it is quite a full plate. But it is normal for the members of ADA to take a comprehensive approach to the problems and opportunities that we see in American society.

So I want to take this opportunity, as do many of my colleagues, to sincerely recognize and thank ADA and its members. The influence that ADA has exerted over national policy has led to several defining moments in our Nation's history. I welcome its participation in the debates of the future and wish for ADA a continued commitment and involvement worthy of its great founders.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it was Eleanor Roosevelt who said, "You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face * * * You must do the thing you think you cannot do." The Americans for Democratic Action has for 50 years been an organization that has looked the sometimes cold and heartless agenda of some in this Congress and fought it head on with its more just and compassionate ideals. The Democratic agenda has long been rooted in the principles that the ADA espouses and we are pleased that this organization reminds us of our responsibility to be tough in the face of injustice.

I rise tonight as a proud member of the Board of the Americans for Democratic Action. I am particularly privileged to stand here as a New Yorker as the ADA has an extraordinary history in the Big Apple. Founded in 1947, by David Dubinsky and the ever remarkable Eleanor Roosevelt, and ADA began as part of a labor movement and since then has developed a progressive agenda that spans from equal rights to jobs to economic justice to education. The ADA has been a strong voice for those whose voices are drowned by words of intolerance and fear.

We are truly fortunate that the ADA has not only been completely dedicated to justice within U.S. borders, but has also been instrumental in advancing human rights throughout the world. From Vietnam to Sarejevo, in its support of the United Nations, in its struggle to promote simple human dignity in the smallest villages to the most thriving cities, the ADA has reminded us that it is essential that the United States lead with more than just its own interests in mind.

The ADA is a proud and vigilant conscience of progressive causes during a time when being called a liberal is sometimes the harshest political epithet that can be hurled. There is no way to adequately thank the ADA for its 50-year fight for peace and justice. I can only say thank you for allowing me to be part of your dynamic organization and I look forward to being a part of the next 50.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, for 50 years, Americans for Democratic Action has been a proud defender of liberal values in America, so it is with great pleasure that I rise to praise this fine organization.

As a former board member of ADA and a great admirer of its president, Jack Sheinkman, I know well the long history and tremendous accomplishments of ADA.

Founded with the help of Eleanor Roosevelt, ADA, has for decades, actively championed liberal policies that work. ADA has been a powerful force for good in Washington—fighting to increase the minimum wage, protect workers, and support valuable programs like Medicare and Medicaid. ADA has led the difficult fight on behalf of this needy; fighting to ensure that the Federal budget does not neglect those who are often overlooked or blatantly ignored.

From the beginning, ADA has been among the Nation's leaders in the fight for civil rights and racial justice. ADA members successfully worked to integrate strong civil rights protections into the 1948 Democratic platform. Working in the South in the 1950's and 1960's, ADA challenged the President and others to more closely live up to the ideals of this great Nation, to respect the rights of all people, and to tear down the segregationist laws that continued to oppress millions of Americans.

ADA has also led the way in promoting a humanitarian foreign policy. From opposing the Vietnam war to pursuing an end to apartheid in South Africa, ADA has been willing to tackle difficult issues and mobilize public opinion in extraordinary ways. ADA has fought long and hard for nuclear arms control and continues to advocate for lower levels of military spending and more restrictions on international arms sales.

ADA has often advocated ideas that were once seen as radical. From promoting civil rights, to opposing the Vietnam war, to ending segregation, ADA has often been the first to voice opinions that many, at the time, considered radical, but with hard work and active citizen education, move to become the prevailing wisdom. ADA's voice in Washington often shines like a beacon of light that cuts through of fog of misinformation that fills the air on Capitol Hill.

Through bold leadership and the strength that comes from speaking the truth, ADA has achieved enormous victories and improved the lives of people everywhere. To promote active citizen involvement in the fight for equality, justice, and peace—this is the mission that ADA has chosen, and I, for one, believe that they have succeeded tremendously in their efforts.

Now, more than ever, we see the need for grassroots activists empowered by ADA to continue to let their Representatives know what's important to them: protecting working families; helping the needy; and fighting injustice. I welcome their support in the upcoming battles of the 105th Congress, and I know that the American people appreciate their efforts to help create a more perfect Union.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, the distinguished gentleman from California, Congressman BOB FILNER, for reserving this special order. We gather today to recognize the 50th anniversary of Americans for Democratic Action [ADA]. As a fellow ADA vice president, I take special pride in joining my colleagues as we mark the anniver-

sary of an organization which has played an integral role in shaping the social and political landscape of our Nation.

Americans for Democratic Action is an independent liberal political organization founded in 1947 and committed to economic and social justice. The organization's founders include Eleanor Roosevelt, labor leader Walter Reuther, economist John Kenneth Galbraith, historian Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., theologian Reinhold Niebuhr, and former Vice-President Hubert Humphrey.

Americans for Democratic Action currently boasts a membership of 30,000, the ranks of which includes members of the business community, professionals, and our Nation's labor and political leaders. ADA seeks to formulate liberal domestic and foreign policies based on the changing needs of the country.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to note that throughout its history, Americans for Democratic Action has taken solid stands on the issues confronting our Nation. We recall that in 1948, ADA's efforts resulted in the adoption of a strong civil rights plank in the Democratic Party platform. This action has helped to define our party's commitment to civil rights for over a generation. Americans for Democratic Action was equally vocal with regard to the Vietnam war, the impeachment of President Richard Nixon, and the issue of apartheid in South Africa. In subsequent decades, ADA has led by advocating workers' rights, civil and equal rights, increases in the minimum wage, and Federal spending priorities.

Today, as I reflect upon the history of ADA, I recall my close friendship with Joseph L. Rau, Jr., a great civil liberties attorney who was affiliated with the organization. I also recall that when my brother, the late Carl B. Stokes, sought to become the first black mayor of Cleveland, OH, Americans for Democratic Action was one of the first organizations to host a fundraiser in his behalf. This was done despite the fact that during this time, it was not popular for major organizations to support African-American candidates. With ADA's support, Carl went on to become the first black mayor of a major American city. Like many of my colleagues gathered today, I also take special pride in my annual ADA legislative voting tally.

Mr. Speaker, as Americans for Democratic Action marks 50 years of progress, I applaud the organization for its strong commitment and leadership. I am proud of my close association with ADA and I join many others in saluting its progress.

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Americans for Democratic Action [ADA].

Over the past 50 years, the ADA has been a champion of a liberal agenda in local and national politics for American citizens. As the base of its strong foundation, the ADA seeks economic freedom, greater individual participation in government, and constitutional, political, and administrative reforms in order to promote a stronger nation and democracy. I embrace their values which support first and foremost liberty, equality, and opportunity for individuals. The ADA believes the Constitution created a national government to serve the common good, and that the Bill of Rights should protect the freedoms of ordinary citizens. The organization is proud of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's legacy, the New Deal, which espoused dedication to economic security for all

Americans, and the need for American leadership within an international community.

The ADA will continue its commitment and urges a progressive advance in the 105th Congress. It hopes to set forth a vision in the 21st century to strengthen human rights and human welfare and to assure peace and security at home and abroad for America. Throughout the tenure of the 105th Congress, the ADA will remind the general public, the Clinton administration, and the Congress that there is an indispensable rule for government in advancing the cause of freedom, dignity, and human welfare. The ADA will call for job creation leading to economic expansion so that the United States can achieve its full economic growth potential providing for a better life for the American people.

Key priorities for the ADA in 1997 include: Expansion of international human rights; opposition of any balanced budget amendments to the Constitution; protection of Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security from privatization and cuts; jobs for all at decent pay; restoration of cuts in the food stamps program; protection of civil rights, civil liberties, and reproductive choice; protection of workers rights and pensions; protection of the environment; and campaign finance reform leading to public financing of all Federal elections.

These are the mission and goals of the Americans for Democratic Action. On the occasion of their 50th anniversary, I am proud to publicly recognize this political organization and its tireless advocacy of political freedom and constitutional guarantees on behalf of all of us.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to join with my colleagues in celebrating the 50th anniversary of Americans for Democratic Action [ADA].

Americans for Democratic Action was established 50 years ago by some of the most important progressive leaders of this century including Hubert Humphrey, John Kenneth Galbraith, and one of my great role models, Eleanor Roosevelt. These great Americans came together because they believed it was time for a political action and lobbying group that looked out for the interests of the forgotten, the disenfranchised, and the most vulnerable in our society. Fifty years later, I am proud to say that Americans for Democratic Action has lived up to those noble intentions.

Americans for Democratic Action was a leader in the civil rights movement and helped define the Democratic Party's commitment to civil rights and social justice. In fact, ADA has been at the forefront of every progressive cause for the past half century, including stopping the Vietnam war, increasing public awareness of Watergate, fighting for nuclear arms control, workers' and women's rights, and ending apartheid.

As a current vice president of Americans With Democratic Action, I am awed by ADA's past accomplishments. Working with my colleagues in Congress and Americans for Democratic Action, we must follow in the footsteps of Roosevelt and Humphrey and continue to move this Nation forward without leaving anyone behind.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate an important event in American political history, which may have been overlooked by many of my colleagues. On January 3, 1997, Americans for Democratic Action celebrated its 50th anniversary.

ADA has a history of which all its members can be proud. In 1947, a group of activists gathered at the Willard Hotel and pledged themselves to a liberalism which moves with the times. As an ADA vice president, I can say with certainty that ADA has lived up to its vision.

Since that day in 1947, ADA has been at the forefront of political discourse. In fact, ADA was the first national organization to call for the impeachment of Richard Nixon during the Watergate scandal. ADA has also been a leader in opposition to issues such as the Vietnam war and apartheid in South Africa.

ADA provides insightful analysis on a myriad of current issues including workers' rights, student opportunities, women's issues, health care, civil rights, the Federal budget, and defense spending. ADA's political advice and members in the field are an invaluable source of information for me and many other Members of Congress.

I am especially pleased that ADA's two top officers, Henry Berger, who chairs the national executive committee, and Jack Sheinkman, our president, are both fellow New Yorkers. ADA's New York City chapter is one of the largest and most active in the Nation.

ADA is not only one of the longest lived political organizations in this country, it also has a rich history on which it continues to build a vision for the future. I am proud to be an ADA member and look forward to working with this remarkable organization for the next 50 years.

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join in the special order organized by Congressman FILNER to pay tribute to the Americans for Democratic Action on this organization's 50th anniversary.

The ADA was formed at a time when this country had just emerged from a devastating depression and an all-engaging world war, and when we faced a number of wracking social changes at home and a series of demanding international challenges abroad. Notable figures like Eleanor Roosevelt, Reinhold Niebuhr, Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., John Kenneth Galbraith, Walter Reuther, Paul Douglas, and Hubert Humphrey created the ADA to provide a forum for progressives to debate pressing public policy issues and to articulate a progressive agenda for national action.

Fifty years later, we can say with some perspective that the ADA has done just that. The ADA has taken bold, principled stands on issues as diverse as civil rights and international affairs—and the organization has been the object of unfair attack and invective by some of its political enemies—but throughout it all the ADA has remained true to the ideals of a compassionate society, an activist Democratic government, and the greatest possible personal freedom and opportunity for all of the members of our society.

I want to congratulate the ADA for 50 years of contributions to a more informed public debate, and I look forward to the contributions that the ADA will make in the next 50 years.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. NEUMANN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. NEUMANN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), for today and the balance of the week, on account of a death in the family.)

Mr. SCARBOROUGH (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), for today and the balance of the week, on account of illness in the family.

Mr. CARSON (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today and the balance of the week, on account of illness.

Mr. OBEY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week, on account of recovering from surgery.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. KILDEE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GREEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. DELAURO, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BOB SCHAEFER of Colorado) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes each day, today and February 13.

Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. ROHRBACHER for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. KILDEE) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. TRAFICANT.

Mr. ROEMER.

Mr. RANGEL.

Mr. DELLUMS.

Mr. SKELTON.

Mr. KILDEE.

Mr. LANTOS.

Mr. BERMAN.

Mr. HAMILTON.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii.

Mr. STOKES.

Mr. SCHUMER.

Mr. WEYGAND.

Mr. YATES.

Mr. ROTHMAN.

Mr. STARK.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida.

Mr. TORRES.

Mr. COYNE.

Ms. HARMAN.

Mr. BECERRA.

Mr. RAHALL.

Mr. SERRANO.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BOB SCHAEFER of Colorado) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. BLUNT.

Mr. ROGERS.

Mr. GINGRICH.

Mr. MCINNIS.

Mr. CRANE.

Mr. PAUL.

Mr. DUNCAN.

Mr. WELLER.

Mr. PITTS.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG in two instances.

Mr. CANADAY of Florida in two instances.

Mr. GILMAN in two instances.

Mr. SHUSTER.

Mrs. CUBIN.

Mr. INGLIS of SOUTH CAROLINA.

Mr. LUCAS of OKLAHOMA.

Mr. YOUNG of ALASKA.

Mr. STUMP.

Mr. SPENCE.

Mr. GOODLATTE.

Mr. BUNNING.

Mr. ROGAN.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. FILNER) and to revise and extend her remarks:)

Ms. WOOLSEY.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FILNER. Mr. SPEAKER, I MOVE THAT THE HOUSE DO NOW ADJOURN.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 42 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, February 13, 1997, at 10 a.m.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut (for herself, Mr. SOLOMON, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. SHAW, Mr. HERGER, Mr. MCCRERY, Ms. DUNN of Washington, Mr. SAM JOHNSON, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. WELLER, Mr. HAYWORTH, and Mr. FOLEY):

H.R. 693. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the increase in the tax on Social Security benefits; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LATOURETTE:

H.R. 694. A bill to provide for a change with respect to the requirements for a Canadian border boat landing permit pursuant to section 235 of the Immigration and Nationality Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GOODLATTE (for himself, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. DELAY, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. COBLE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. BONO, Mr. PEASE, Mr. CANNON, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. GEKAS, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. BRYANT, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. BARR of Georgia, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, Ms. WATERS, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BAKER, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. DICKEY, Mr.