

being transferred to our state's cattle population. This threatens our state's "TB Free" status and could wreak havoc on the cattle and dairy industries in Michigan. Wildlife Services personnel have partnered with the Michigan Department of Agriculture since late 1997 to eliminate Bovine TB in Michigan. The Bass-DeFazio amendment would have severely hindered this partnership would have delayed attention to this agricultural crisis in my state. For this reason, I could not support the Bass-DeFazio amendment.

I know that many of my colleagues have similar concerns. They object to the inhumane use of Wildlife Services in the western states, but rely on the useful Wildlife Services funds in their districts. I urge the conferees for the Agricultural Appropriations bill to seek a solution to this conundrum that will eliminate inhumane Wildlife Services practices without hindering such important programs as Bovine TB control.

Hon. JOE SKEEN,  
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR JOE: This is to express the Department of Agriculture's concerns about a proposed amendment to the Agriculture appropriations bill that would cut \$7 million from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for its Wildlife Services (WS) program. The Department urges that this amendment not be passed.

While the amendment's supporters contend that the proposed funding reduction would only affect predator control programs for private ranches, in reality significant budget reductions in this program would affect other WS program activities as well. The same wildlife biologists who handle agricultural protection work provide protection against threats to public health and safety, damage to property, and protection of natural resources such as threatened or endangered species. A cut of \$7 million in such a personnel-intensive activity would result in a serious weakening of the WS infrastructure through large-scale reductions-in-force. This will result in the elimination of work to protect endangered and threatened species, prevent bird strikes at airports, and control animals that can transmit diseases to humans such as rabies, plague, histoplasmosis, and Lyme disease.

Most State and local governments are not in a position to deal with these problems alone. This is why the WS program is largely a cooperative program. In fact, cooperators provide more than \$30 million in funding for WS activities. Many cooperators have indicated that they could not fund wildlife management activities alone. Thus, a loss of Federal support for this program could ultimately lead to the loss of State and local funding as well. As you know, the President's budget reduced WS by \$1.8 million from the FY 1999 level by assuming that cooperators could be encouraged to cover a larger share of the program. Larger cuts would be extremely difficult for Federal and State officials to manage.

The Department also wishes to reiterate its continuing support for predator control work. Protecting agricultural resources is an investment we make on behalf of producers and consumers. The total value of agricultural production in the United States is estimated at about \$200 billion annually based on cash receipts at the farm gate. Agricultural losses to wildlife in this country are estimated to range from \$600 million to \$1.6 billion annually. A disproportionate share of

this burden falls on small farmers. The National Commission on Small Farms defines small farms as those with less than \$250,000 in gross receipts annually or farms with an average size of less than 1,129 acres. WS estimates that more than 80 percent of its cooperative agreements in the United States are with small farms and ranches.

The range and extent of wildlife problems continues to grow each year in response to expanding wildlife populations such as predators, geese, deer, beavers, cormorants, and other animals. There is an increasing need to look at these problems from a national perspective to avoid simply moving the problem from one location to another. WS provides the responsible leadership necessary to bring balance to the equation. The Department urges Congress to reject the proposed amendment.

Sincerely,

DAN GLICKMAN,  
*Secretary.*

#### A TRIBUTE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE YOUNG ISRAEL OF AVENUE K ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 74TH ANNUAL JOURNAL LUNCHEON

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to pay tribute to the members of Young Israel of Avenue K on the occasion of its 74th Annual Journal Luncheon.

The members of Young Israel of Avenue K have long been known for their commitment to community service and to enhancing the quality of life for all New York City residents.

This year's luncheon is not only a festive happening, it is a chance for all of us to celebrate and pay tribute to a group of individuals who have dedicated their lives to helping others. This year's honorees truly represent the best of what our community has to offer.

Each of today's honorees, Drs. Fred and Sheri Grunseid and Shelly and Roberta Lang, have continuously surrounded themselves and their families in the warmth of Judaism through their involvement with Young Israel of Avenue K.

Drs. Fred and Sheri Grunseid and Shelly and Roberta Lang have each accumulated many years of devoted service to Young Israel of Avenue K and the entire community. Through their repeated acts of generosity toward and on behalf of Young Israel, they have consistently proven themselves to be pillars of strength and support for my constituents.

Each of today's honorees has long been known as innovators and beacons of good will to all those with whom they come into contact. Through their dedicated efforts, they have each helped to improve my constituents' quality of life. In recognition of their many accomplishments on behalf of my constituents, I offer my congratulations on their being honored by Young Israel of Avenue K on the occasion of its 74th Annual Journal Luncheon.

#### CALLING FOR STRONGER UNITED STATES ACTION TO END THE WORLD'S LONGEST RUNNING WAR IN SUDAN

**HON. TONY P. HALL**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 1999*

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call my colleagues' attention to a recent editorial appealing for higher-level United States diplomatic attention to pressing for an end to the war in Sudan (Christian Science Monitor, "Sudan: to End a War," June 2, 1999).

I ask that the text of this editorial be entered into the RECORD. It echoes the appeal twenty colleagues and I sent to Secretary of State Madeline Albright in a June 1, 1999 letter (renewing a similar appeal made one year ago) to appoint a special envoy of stature to focus diplomatic attention on the resolution of the political issues and civil war that are the root cause of Sudan's crisis. Two Washington Post editorials on Sudan in the past year have also supported our approach.

Mr. Speaker, war is hell, but Sudan's war is like no other in the suffering it has inflicted. Sudan's brutal conflict is the longest running civil war in the world, and has killed nearly 2 million people, far surpassing the death toll in Kosovo and many humanitarian disasters combined. Since 1983, Sudan's civil war has killed 180 people per day, on average, most of them Christian or non-Muslim Southerners.

More than 2.5 million Sudanese were at risk of starvation when I last visited Sudan in May, 1998 during the last major famine in which an estimated 100,000 people died. The potential for serious food shortages and large-scale malnutrition continues. As long as it drags on, Sudan's war will continue to perpetuate the cycle of misery that has already claimed nearly two million lives over the past 15 years.

Throughout the war, the rebels and the Government of Sudan each have made repeated predictions of decisive military victories over the other side that have never materialized, and no significant shift in the current stalemate or in the military balance of power is foreseen in the near future. Despite limited progress, peace talks continue to founder, and that pattern is sure to continue without sustained high-level diplomatic attention from the United States and the international community. By all indications, without concerted international diplomatic attention and intervention, Sudan's war can and will continue to drag on as it has almost without interruption for the past four decades.

Humanitarian aid aimed at saving lives and easing human suffering must continue. Nonetheless, the United Nations, relief agencies and others have questioned whether aid has enabled the endless pursuit of war and terrorism. In late 1998, the State Department declared Sudan an emergency—for the 10th consecutive year—so that another \$70 million to \$100 million in U.S. disaster aid could be sent to those in need. The total U.S. contribution during the last decade has been more than \$700 million. We all must ask ourselves how long this can continue, and what could be accomplished if even a fraction of those resources could be invested in helping Sudan to build a more peaceful future.

There is a diplomatic leadership void on Sudan that only the United States can fill. A

United States Special Envoy to Sudan's peace process would not usurp or undermine the regional Kenyan-led peace process. Rather it would serve to enhance and accelerate the work of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development. The Declaration of Principles established by the IGAD and agreed to by all parties should remain the one and only negotiating framework. These principles include the right of self-determination, separation of religion and the state, and a referendum to be held in the South that offers secession as an option. The Envoy we propose would press for progress on these core issues, and serve to:

- (1) Signal the United States' seriousness and commitment to supporting Sudan's peace process—failing which we would have stronger justification to shift to a policy of accelerated overt support for the opposition;
- (2) maintain pressure on all parties to negotiate a serious political settlement, and
- (3) establish as a stronger behind-the-scenes U.S. presence in forging consensus and coherence among outside supporters of Sudan's peace process (the allies and international organizations that count themselves among the "International Partners Forum" on Sudan).

The United States cannot solve all the world's problems. But we can exercise diplomatic leadership in regions where we can make a difference—and where the risks of inaction become intolerable. In Sudan, these risks include no end in sight to the world's longest running civil war and another decade of death, despair, and suffering for the people of Sudan.

I urge my colleagues' support for higher level diplomatic attention to ending Sudan's war and the threat it poses to security in the region, and to the hopes and aspirations of Sudan's people.

#### "SUDAN: TO END A WAR"

Civil war has raged in Sudan since 1955, with an 11-year break in the 1970s and '80s. Since 1983, the world's longest-running war has killed 2 million of the nation's 28 million people and displaced millions of others.

The causes are complex: The Arabic and Muslim north wants to impose Islamic law on the African, Christian, and animist south. Southerners complain they have never been adequately represented in the Khartoum government, which controls natural resources in their region.

The Khartoum regime has turned a blind eye to religious persecution and slavery. But the southern rebels have contributed to the list of human-rights violations too.

What originally was a north-south civil war, however, has evolved into a conflict involving 10 warring parties in every section of the country. Flip-flopping alliances add to the disorder.

Last year a disastrous famine threatened 2.6 million people with starvation. While peace efforts are under way, including one organized by neighboring states, they have been spasmodic at best.

The world is currently spending \$1 million a day in humanitarian aid to the war's refugees, while the Khartoum government spends \$1 million a day fighting the war. This can't go on. It's time the world moved Sudan to the front burner and put an end to the conflict, which would help stop the slave trade in the south. The United States should:

Press the United Nations Security Council to take the matter up, get a cease-fire, and arrange a settlement.

Appoint a U.S. special envoy to bolster the peace process.

Help fund a permanent office, with commissioner and staff, for the Intern-Govern-

mental Authority on Development, the neighboring countries' mediation committee. This will allow regular negotiations to continue without interruption.

Fund university scholarships for selected southern Sudanese students, who have been cut off from educational opportunities by the war. Educated people will be needed to help run any future government and develop the region.

The U.S. has spent \$700 million during the last decade on aid to the war's victims. The prospect of even one more year of this tragedy ought to be enough to spur U.S. and U.N. officials to action.

#### AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

#### HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 8, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1906) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Chairman, I am ashamed that we have taken this long to create a piece of legislation that is this much of a disservice to American farmers. Unfortunately, this isn't the first time an agriculture bill has been stalled. Last fall, while farmers were twisting in the wind, the Leadership failed to pass the emergency supplemental legislation. Now, we have had an agriculture appropriations bill since February but sadly enough, the Leadership has not seen the need to pass it. When the bill finally comes to the floor, it is held up for two months. Then, in the remaining hours of the debate, an amendment which I did not support, was attached that cut \$103 million. This is just one more example of the Congress' failed leadership.

This legislation is an embarrassment to the American farmer. I could not vote for this legislation because it cut billions of dollars in agriculture programs. The legislation spends about \$1.6 billion less than this year and \$6 billion less than the Administration requested. It just doesn't seem right that when America's farmers are hurting the most, we kick them when they're down by passing legislation that spends less money on farm programs than last year.

I voted for a motion to recommit this bill to the agriculture appropriators so that they could make adjustments to it without making haphazard cuts. These last minute cuts were done without the input of the Democrats on the authorizing committee, on which I serve. It is imperative that the Majority not take the fate of farmers so lightly as to just cut funding with so little regard. At the end of the night, despite my firm commitment to American agriculture, I decided to oppose final passage of this legislation. It is my strong desire that our colleagues in the Senate have the wisdom to make improvements on this legislation and that we return from a conference committee with a bill that adequately supports farmers.

In response to the lack of action on the appropriations legislation, I introduced a resolution last month expressing the sense of the Congress that it is committed to addressing this crisis and that it recognizes that further assistance will be needed. I hope that all Members of Congress join me in reassuring America and our farmers that agriculture is vital to our future and our prosperity.

IN HONOR OF JOE HADDEN

#### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 1999*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Joe Hadden, a man distinguished by his 35-year dedication to our system of jurisprudence and, particularly, his service on the bench of the Ventura County Superior Court.

Judge Hadden has decided to retire. His careful exercise of the law will be missed within the Ventura County Hall of Justice.

After a stint in the U.S. Army, where he rose from private to first lieutenant, Judge Hadden attended and graduated from law school and was admitted to the California Bar in 1964. He served a year as a Ventura County deputy district attorney, then became a partner in Hadden, Waldo and Malley, where he specialized in probate, estate planning and representing businesses.

Judge Hadden served as a Ventura County Superior Court Arbitrator from 1976 to 1980. He was appointed to the Municipal Court bench in 1980 and the Superior Court bench in 1981 by Gov. Jerry Brown Jr., a fact I won't hold against him. The wisdom of the voters prevailed. They approved Judge Hadden's appointment by electing him in 1982 and reelecting him ever since.

Outside the courtroom, Judge Hadden serves as a member of the Ventura County Legal Aid Association.

He has a myriad of other interests, as well. He was an amateur sports car racer from 1954 to 1974, runs marathons, scuba dives, skis, plays tennis, works with stained glass and plays the flute.

It's obvious he will have plenty to keep him busy.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in recognizing Joe Hadden for his decades of service and in wishing him and his family Godspeed in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING IRA P. WEINSTEIN

#### HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 1999*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ira P. Weinstein, a constituent and valued patriot, in celebration of his 80th birthday.

Ira Phillip Weinstein was born in Chicago, Illinois June 10, 1919. He entered the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942 as an Aviation Cadet, trained as a Navigator-Bombardier, and rose to the Rank of First Lieutenant; flying 25 missions with the 8th Air Force 445 Bomb Group, 702nd Squadron before being shot down over