

continues to inspire the world. In his stirring "midnight hour" speech, India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, set the tone for the newly established Republic, a Republic devoted to the principles of democracy and secularism. In more than half a century since then, India has stuck to the path of free and fair elections, a multi-party political system and the orderly transfer of power from one government to its successor.

India continues to grapple with the challenges of delivering broad-based economic development to a large and growing population. Indeed, today's New York Times reports that India's population is expected to reach one billion in about 10 days. India has sought to provide full rights and representation to its many ethnic, religious and linguistic communities. And India seeks to be a force for stability and cooperation in the strategically vital South Asia region. In all of these respects, India stands out as a model for other Asian nations, and developing countries everywhere, to follow.

This year, we have seen that India faces serious challenges from outside forces intent on destabilizing the democracy that India's founders dreamed of and that successive generations of Indians have worked to build. Armed militants, operating with the support of Pakistan, crossed over onto India's side of the Line of Control in Kashmir. India's armed forces responded to this incursion in a firm but restrained manner. At the same time, India has sought to resolve its differences with Pakistan in a peaceful way, through bipartisan negotiations.

Mr. Speaker, next month, India will once again demonstrate its commitment to democracy for all the world to see, as it conducts Parliamentary elections. As in past years, hundreds of millions of men and women from all across India—Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists, Jains, Christians—will cast ballots, choosing from candidates representing a diverse array of political parties. I am confident that the elections will be free and fair, as they have been in past years. Whichever party will form the new government, I am confident that they will continue to build on the dream of India's first Prime Minister Nehru to move forward on the path of representative democracy and economic development.

There is a rich tradition of shared values between the United States and India. We both proclaimed our independence from British colonialism. India derived key aspects of its Constitution, particularly the statement of Fundamental Rights, from our own Bill of Rights. It is well known that Dr. Martin Luther King derived many of his ideas of non-violent resistance to injustice from the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. That commitment to the use of peaceful means to overthrow tyranny has been emulated by such diverse world leaders as Nelson Mandela and Lech Walesa.

Today, the National Capital Planning Commission here in Washington approved a small park with a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi across from the Indian Embassy on Massachusetts Avenue in Washington, D.C., known as Embassy Row. Last year, this House approved legislation co-sponsored by myself and the Gentleman from Florida, Mr. McCollum, authorizing the Government of India to establish the memorial. The proposed Gandhi Memorial will be a most worthy addition to the landscape of our nation's capital, and it won't

cost the American taxpayers anything to construct it.

Another extremely important link between our two countries, a human link, is the more than one million Americans of Indian descent. I have the honor of representing a Congressional district in Central New Jersey with one of the largest Indian-American communities in the country. Increasingly, my colleagues in this House, Democrats and Republicans from all regions of the country, have indicated to me that their Indian-American constituents are playing increasingly prominent roles in all walks of life.

Another way in which India and America continue to grow closer is through increased economic ties. The historic market reforms begun in India at the beginning of this decade continue to move forward, offering unparalleled opportunities for trade, investment and joint partnerships—all of which include a human dimension of friendship and cooperation, in addition to the economic benefits for both societies.

Mr. Speaker, for more than a year, United States-India ties have been strained over the issue of nuclear testing, and the subsequent imposition of unilateral American sanctions against India. There is a growing bipartisan effort in Congress, and within the Administration, to lift these sanctions, which have not advanced United States interests and have only served to set back the growing United States-India relationship.

Just this week, we witnessed a debate in this chamber as an amendment to the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill was proposed to cut aid to India, in a purely punitive gesture. The amendment was subsequently withdrawn, after one Member of Congress after another rose to oppose the amendment and to argue for a strengthened United States-India relationship.

Mr. Speaker, there are indications that President Clinton will visit India and other countries in the South Asia region early next year. It's been 20 years since a United States President last visited India, so I think such a visit is long overdue.

Just a few weeks ago, we Americans celebrated the Fourth of July. For a billion people in India, one-sixth of the human race, the 15th of August holds the same significance. I am proud to extend my congratulations to the people of India, citizens of the world's largest democracy, as they celebrate the 52nd anniversary of their independence.

RETIREMENT OF CAPTAIN DAVID
W. WALTON

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding career of Captain David W. Walton and express my appreciation for his twenty-six years in the service of this great nation.

Captain Walton, who last served as Director of Supply Corps Personnel, was awarded a number of decorations and commendations over his career, including the Legion of Merit (3), the Meritorious Service Medal (3), the Navy Commendation Medal (2) and the Navy Achievement Medal (2).

Again, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to extend my best wishes to Captain Walton. Captain Walton, may you always know the success you have enjoyed during your years in the United States Navy. On behalf of a grateful nation, thank you for your faithful service.

H.J. RES. 57—DISAPPROVING EXTENSION OF NONDISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT TO PRODUCTS OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I have thought long and hard about what position to take on the Joint Resolution disapproving Normal Trade Relations with China. While it may be in both our national and global interests to continue to engage China economically, I feel strongly that the United States cannot sit by and ignore the flagrant abuses of human rights that China continues to perpetrate. In good conscience, I cannot support NTR for China.

This is a difficult issue for me personally. As someone who has had the opportunity to travel extensively throughout Asia, I feel a deep connection with that part of the world. I have spent time in Tibet, getting to know the people and sharing in their customs and traditions. The Tibetans are a peaceful and spiritual people, undeserving of the abuses they have suffered under the Chinese government.

When I climbed Mt. Everest in 1994, our group struggled with which route to take so as not to land on Tibetan territory and thereby give support to the Chinese government. Although we did eventually set foot in Tibet, every individual in our group made a commitment to do what we could in our own lives to show support for the people of Tibet and to protest China's human rights record and occupation of Tibet. It is with this commitment in mind that I support this resolution.

The Chinese Government maintains one of the most atrocious human rights records in the world. China continues to wage an all-out war on the people, environment, religion and culture of Tibet. In the 46 years of Chinese occupation, over one million Tibetans have been killed and thousands more unjustly tortured, shot and imprisoned. China has plagued Tibet with extensive deforestation and open dumping of nuclear waste. But the abuses are not only reserved for Tibet. Ten years after the Tiananmen Square Massacre, the Chinese Government has still not made good on its commitment to increase social freedom. Just last week, the Chinese Government banned the religious group, Falun Gong, and imprisoned 5,000 people for peacefully exercising their basic human rights.

As the leader of the free world, the United States is in a unique position to push for freedom and democracy for the people in the region. We must use this opportunity to make a statement to China that we will not tolerate its blatant disregard for human rights.

VFW KANSAS CITY

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my constituents in the Fifth District of Missouri and citizens around the country to honor the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). Kansas City, home of the Veterans of Foreign Wars' National Headquarters, is proud to be the host site for the 100th Convention of this American Institution. I would like to recognize the VFW, an organization dedicated to 100 years of this nation's men and women who have sustained our country's freedom through personal sacrifice.

In 1899 veterans from the Spanish American War united and became the voice of the veteran. Veterans who fought side by side on the battlefield became the advocates for a strong national defense and supporters for veterans and their rights. The last century has witnessed the continual evolution of this organization as it paralleled the growth of our country.

Every decade had presented a different social and economic America. Every conflict has been fought with a new generation of military fortified with the latest technology and skills. The challenge for this organization has been to understand and provide for the emotional and social needs of every generation of veterans. They have met these challenges by serving as lobbyists, advisors, educators, and organizers of beneficial programs for the enlisted and retired. They are active contributors to their community, champions of today's youth, and always vigilant in recognizing and remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting the VFW's and all veterans' contributions during both war and peace.

THE FORD CENTER AND BETHEL
A.M.E. CHURCH: MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN THE ASBURY PARK
COMMUNITY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, July 10, 1999, the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Asbury Park, NJ, dedicated the Bethel Ford Center and Community Development Corporation. The successful completion of the major improvements at the center is a testimony to the long-standing commitment of both the Bethel AME Church, and of the two great community leaders for whom it is named, Mr. and Mrs. William Benjamin Ford.

The Ford Center is a community outreach program serving Asbury Park and surrounding communities. Its mission includes decreasing hunger, providing clothing and offering education and training to improve marketable skills. Dedicated volunteers and professional staff help to provide a food pantry, a clothes closet, computer training, academic remediation, and advise on employability and life skills.

Mr. William Benjamin Ford and Mrs. Willie Mae Taylor Ford, native of Florida, moved to the Jersey Shore in the early 1930s. The Fords were pillars in Bethel AME Church and throughout the community for more than 25 years. Mr. Ford served as Pastor Steward, Class Leader and member of the Lay Organization for many years. He was an employee of the Asbury Park Press for 50 years. Mrs. Ford served Bethel as a Stewardess, Trustee, Missionary, Class Leader, member of the Gospel Chorus and Senior Choir. She operated the Modernistic Beauty Shop in Asbury Park for over 25 years.

The Fords' dedication to serving Bethel lasted throughout their lives, and it still lives through their son, Mr. Greeley Ford. In 1998, Mr. Greeley Ford, who attended Bethel Church as a child and young adult, deeded the property on Atkins Avenue that had been the Modernistic Beauty Shop.

Incorporated in 1879, Bethel Church was one of the first churches in Asbury Park. According to the tradition related by the Church's founders, the organization took place in 1869 under the direction of the Rev. John Cornish. The group had been holding services in a tent at what is now known as the 900 block of Lake Avenue when Mr. James A. Bradley, founder of Asbury Park, proposed a permanent church home and deeded the land, at the southwest corner of Second Avenue and Main Street, in 1893. The congregation worshipped at this site until 1949. The property was sold to a car dealership, who soon demolished the landmark building. The new church home located at the corner of Langford Street and Cookman Avenue, was the former Sons of Israel Synagogue, also a landmark since 1883. Services were held here for the first time on March 6, 1949. The church was renovated in 1954 and again in 1990, while improvements have been made and new amenities have consistently been added throughout the years. In March 1997, the present minister, the Rev. John C. Justice, was appointed to Bethel. Pastor Justice's leadership has seen a continued increase in the number of members of the Congregation and the Fellowship at Bethel.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with the members of Bethel AME Church and the entire Asbury Park community in welcoming the Ford Center and saluting all those who helped make it a reality.

HONORING THE SAN ANTONIO
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL OF UPLAND,
CALIFORNIA ON ITS 75TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to San Antonio Community Hospital of Upland, California which will be celebrating on August 14, 1999 its 75th year of providing comprehensive, quality health care. From its humble beginnings as a small community hospital in 1907, San Antonio has grown into a predominant health care leader in the western Inland Empire in Southern California.

Today, nearly 2,000 professional, technical and service personnel at their 332-bed facility

provide a wide array of medical services, while utilizing the very latest technologies. The 500 plus-member medical staff includes many of the region's leading physicians and specialists who make San Antonio an exceptional hospital. In addition, San Antonio nurses have earned a reputation as compassionate, responsive professionals who continue to meet strict educational and professional standards.

Over the years, San Antonio's logo of a growing plant has become a familiar mark in the community conveying everything the hospital represents. In the hospital's own words, the stalk and leaves express "a feeling of a living, growing organization, consistent with the life mending role the hospital plays. The sturdy central stem, symbolize the elements of the hospital's structure—Trustees, Medical Staff, and Employees. The complete symbol recalls the cooperative efforts needed to accomplish the hospital's primary goal of securing the patient's well being."

At a time when the nation's top concern is achieving quality health care, San Antonio Community Hospital is a shining beacon of excellence in patient care, services, and facilities that respond to consumer and physician needs.

I know my colleagues join me in honoring San Antonio Community Hospital on their 75th Anniversary and wish them many more years of continued success.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESSMAN
GEORGE BROWN

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, those of us who served with George Brown are saddened at his passing for we have lost a colleague and friend, a true gentleman who was always honest and thoughtful.

George Brown was a benevolent, yet intense and resolute, advocate for science; a true supporter and friend to the entire scientific community, and a determined fighter for the public good.

He always felt passionately that science could be the basis for progress. George was convinced that the scientific advancements nurtured by Congress would lead to a better world for everyone. And that was his goal for all those many years.

He was consistently dedicated to openness and educating others about science. He was always eager to learn, and to share, the latest perspectives of science and technology.

His commitment to science always rose above partisanship. I know that George shared my satisfaction that the Science Committee has long been considered one of the most bipartisan in Congress. This is a testament to the respect that everyone had for George Brown, and his determined belief that advancing our Nation's scientific research and development is a goal that is not bound by partisan politics.

And as we look up to see his portrait in the committee room, I am pleased that his vision and his legacy will live on among the committee.

I am grateful that I had time to serve with George. We worked together on a number of