

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF FRED BITTERMAN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise at this time to recognize the remarkable life and significant achievements of a distinguished public servant and friend of mine, Captain Fred Bitterman. Tragically, Fred passed away Tuesday night in an accident at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. Captain Bitterman, a dedicated law enforcement officer, father, grandfather and friend, will be deeply missed.

For over twenty five years Captain Bitterman served the people of the State of Colorado first as a State Patrolman, and later as a Troop Commander and Captain in the Colorado State Patrol. Captain Bitterman supervised a region that included the cities of Parachute, Vail, Eagle, New Castle, Carbondale, and of course our hometown of Glenwood Springs. As a law enforcement officer, his professionalism elevated him into a position of leadership. Captain Bitterman commanded a deep sense of admiration and respect from those officers who had the privilege of working alongside him, and also from those whom he worked so diligently to protect.

Captain Bitterman also put forth an immense effort to serving the public in his professional life. Captain Bitterman distinguished himself with his service to the Colorado State Patrol. Captain Bitterman enjoyed a well-deserved reputation of integrity not only within the ranks of the state patrol, but within the community as well.

Captain Bitterman was a strong family man, who took great pride in the family that he shared with his wife Cathy. In addition to Cathy, Captain Bitterman is survived by his six children, and many grandchildren. Captain Bitterman's passing is a severe loss not only to his family, but to our community as well.

Captain Bitterman was a very, very good man.

CONDEMNING 1994 ATTACK ON
AMIA JEWISH COMMUNITY CEN-
TER IN BUENOS AIRES, ARGEN-
TINA

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 531, condemning the 1994 attack of the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Six years have passed since this senseless, but very tragic act of violence.

The Jewish people of Argentina make up the largest Jewish community in Latin Amer-

ica. On July 18, 1994, the AMIA Jewish Community Center was bombed in Buenos Aires. As a result 86 people lost their lives and 300 were injured.

This resolution calls upon President Fernando de la Rúa to continue the investigation of the bombing, an investigation in which no person primarily responsible for this crime has been brought to justice. Argentine officials have acknowledged that this investigation was filled with negligence, and led to the arrest of just a few people tied to the incident, but who were only charged with providing a stolen vehicle used in the attack.

Investigators for the South American government have stated that the evidence indicates the bombing was carried out by the Iranian sponsored terrorist group Hezbollah. They have also found that the bombing could not have been carried out absent the assistance of local Argentine security forces, which have been reported to be compassionate to anti-Semitic rhetoric.

The democratic leaders of the Western Hemisphere have denounced terrorism in all its forms and have pledged to jointly combat terrorist acts anywhere in the Americas. The United States is not immune to acts of terrorism and this resolution serves to reiterate the long-standing policy of our country to stand firm against terrorist attacks wherever and whenever they occur and to work with its allies to ensure that justice is given to the victims and that the perpetrators of such violence are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

In order to fully live up to this policy we must lend our support to the government of Argentina. As I said previously, the evidence indicates that insiders played a major role in executing this violence. What security is available to the people of Argentina when the officers who pledged to uphold the law commit crimes against the people they are supposed to protect?

Terrorism effectively destroys the peaceful and civilized coexistence of all people. The United States cannot turn its back on such acts no matter where they take place. Failure to punish terrorists would be to reward them and to encourage the spread of violence in our homeland and abroad. This is not the impression the United States Government wants to give to the American people, nor to anyone around the world.

Terrorists ignore existing rules of law and endanger the stability of democratically elected constitutional governments. Terrorism is a serious form of organized and systematic violence, intended to generate chaos and fear among the people and results in death and destruction. Terrorist acts are acts of hate carried out on individuals because of the difference of their religion, the color of their skin or their political beliefs. When we ignore the acts of people that wreak havoc on others because of their differences, it is a negative reflection of the values of America as a whole. Terrorist acts are immoral and should never be condoned by the United States or any other government.

I urge my colleagues to take this opportunity to urge the Argentina government to fulfill its international obligations and its promise to the Argentine people by vigorously pursuing all persons involved in the bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2000

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on July 29, 2000, due to a scheduling conflict, I was unable to be present on the House floor during the vote on H.R. 4871 and its amendments. Had I been here I would have voted in the following manner:

"No" on rollcall 428; "aye" on rollcall 427; "no" on rollcall 426; "no" on rollcall 425; "no" on rollcall 424; "aye" on rollcall 423; "no" on rollcall 422; and "aye" on rollcall 421.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4810,
MARRIAGE TAX RELIEF REC-
ONCILIATION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, as a father of young, working children, with working spouses, I am concerned that our tax system is penalizing them, and over 42,000 other working couples in my district, for making the sacrifices necessary to support their families.

Our tax system create penalties for being married in different ways. The tax laws do not allow married couples to earn twice as much taxable income as single taxpayers before higher tax rates take effect. The higher rates mean that spouses earn less after taxed than if they were single. The standard deduction for a single taxpayer is currently \$4,300. But for married couple the standard deduction is not doubled to \$8,600—it is only \$7,200. Millions of middle class working families who don't itemize deductions wind up paying a penalty because they are married.

Whatever form it takes, the "marriage penalty" is a tax bias against the working spouse with lower earnings. This means it is disproportionately a tax bias against working women taxpayers. Is this tax fairness? Married working women see a higher tax bite than their single counterparts because our tax laws fail to tax them on the same footing as single taxpayers. It's time to stop punishing working Americans. We encourage Americans to work, and we encourage single mothers and fathers to marry to benefit their children, and now we are fixing the tax system so that it makes marriage affordable. I urge you to pass this legislation.

• 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.