

TRIBUTE TO BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA TROOP 3

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of an important group from my district, Boy Scouts of America Troop 3 of Clifton, New Jersey. Troop 3 is celebrating both its 75th anniversary and its years of community service on this date. It is only fitting that we gather here for this honor, for this group epitomizes caring and generosity of spirit.

This Troop was formed not long after the founding of Boy Scouts of America. The national organization was incorporated on February 8, 1910, and chartered by Congress on June 15, 1916. Troop 3 was organized in 1923, and received its Charter from the Boy Scouts of America in January 1924 for the purpose of "Character Building, Americanization and Citizenship Training."

Since its inception, Troop 3 has always been involved in serving the community. The first Scoutmaster of this community organization was William Topp. The time spent under Scoutmaster Topp's leadership instilled in the Troop the attributes necessary for it to become the stellar force in the community it has now become. It was the small steps in the beginning of its development that gave it the fundamentals that would make its members role models to the people that they now serve.

Known for a questioning mind and an ability to get things done, William Topp, the Troop's first Scoutmaster, also organized its first committee. The members of this initial Committee were Adrien Wentink, Frank G. McIntosh and A.W. Moore. These visionary leaders fostered and aided the group during its nascent years, and helped it to become what it is today. Boy Scout Troop 3 is forever indebted to these men.

The early days of Troop 3 saw the Scouts participating in much of the same activities as today. These include basic Scouting activities such as hiking and camping. This Troop has shaped the lives of many generations of Americans, and this is a valuable and noble contribution to society.

This active and involved group from Clifton has many records of its 75-year history. The Troop's archives contain a picture dated July 25, 1926, which shows the Scouts preparing for a weekend trip. The Scouts were the guests of Clifton's then Mayor Thornburn. In addition, minutes of early meetings show that not much has changed in the order of Scout business. Then, as now, the meeting began with the recitation of the Scout Oath and Laws, followed by games and skill building.

Boy Scouts of America Troop 3 continually touches the lives of the people of Clifton. The troop is known throughout the community for its tradition of service. Whether the Scouts are aiding seniors or their fellow students, they have made an important and lasting impact on the citizens of Clifton over the last 75 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Boy Scouts of America, the residents of Clifton, and the family and friends of past and present members of this organization in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of Boy Scouts of America Scout Troop 3.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL KOENIG

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paul Koenig, an outstanding employee of San Mateo County, CA, who is retiring after 22 years of exceptional service to his community, his county and his country. He has served as Director of Environmental Services, Planning Director, Chief Building Official and Executive Director of the San Mateo Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo).

Paul Koenig's long and devoted career in public service began in September, 1965, when he joined Broward County, FL, as a Planner in the Research Division. In September 1966, he moved to California to work for the San Diego County Planning Department, where he became the Chief of Planning in 1976. In April 1978, Mr. Koenig relocated to the Bay Area and was hired by San Mateo County as Planning Director. He was soon appointed to other demanding leadership positions, all of which he carried out with equal diligence, commitment and expertise.

Paul Koenig's accomplishments in San Mateo County are numerous. His most outstanding accomplishments include the adoption of the first county Local Coastal Program (LCP) that was adopted and certified pursuant to the California Coastal Act of 1976; The Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for San Bruno Mountain, which was the first of its kind in the country to succeed in balancing the interests of private property owners with the need to preserve habitat for endangered species; the Coastsides farm labor housing project in Half Moon Bay; the Devil's Slide tunnel project; the establishment of Edgewood County Park and Sawyer Camp Trail; and the establishment of a Joint Powers Authority to operate the County library system.

Paul Koenig's distinguished and successful career can be attributed to his professional skills, his work ethic and his personal characteristics. His flexibility and negotiating skills, along with his helpful nature and sense of humor earned him the respect of all those who worked with him. In addition, Mr. Koenig never neglected the day-to-day problems while keeping his focus on achieving larger goals.

We are all very grateful to Paul for his long commitment to public service. His vision, knowledge and commitment have helped immeasurably to improve the quality of life for our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to a wonderful and distinguished man, my friend, and wish him all the best in his retirement.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANN M. KILEY CENTER

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, on the north end of my district lies a haven of hope called the Ann M. Kiley Center, where people with development disabilities can turn for training, guidance and a place to call home.

On April 4, 2000, the center will celebrate its 25th anniversary. Built in 1975 on 37 acres in Waukegan, IL, the facility consists of 48 single-story, four-bedroom homes. Residents range in age from 20 to 85, with an average age of 39.

Most individuals living at the Kiley Center function below the moderate level of retardation. The primary purpose of Kiley Center is to provide residential services, training and health services. Services focus on addressing basic needs, which enable an individual to function more independently in activities of daily living and in more advanced behaviors and skills needed to succeed in social, work, and leisure pursuits.

The mission of Kiley Center is to enable individuals to develop and achieve their personal goals. Its ultimate goal, whenever feasible, is to prepare for and return individuals to live in the community.

Mr. Speaker, how fortunate my district is to have a place where people with developmental disabilities can live in dignity as they strive to develop to their fullest potential. I congratulate the Ann M. Kiley Center for all the victories it has achieved in the past quarter century and invite my colleagues to join me as I wish this institution great success in providing many more years of quality service to the community.

TRAFFICKING BABIES' BODIES AND ORGANS

HON. BOB SCHAFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. SCHAFER. Mr. Speaker, the selling of aborted baby body parts for monetary consideration of any kind is evil. Unfortunately, this kind of commerce is one to which the Federal Government is enabler, facilitator, and partner. Although the current law hints against profiteering in the horrific destruction and dissection of babies for their tissue and organs, the weakly worded prohibition allows unscrupulous merchants to proceed without pause.

Equally egregious and unconscionable is the Federal Government's involvement in the exploitation of mothers and destruction of babies in the name of research. Bill Clinton, AL GORE, and their researchers at the NIH are major buyers and users in this fundamentally immoral trade in aborted baby body parts.

President George Bush banned Federal involvement in such merchandising in 1988. Currently, 10 States outlaw embryo harvesting. Clinton can attempt to mitigate the moral, ethical, and constitutional damage he and his administration have wrought upon the fiber and foundation of our great country by reinstating the Federal ban, eliminating Federal support for experimentation with aborted baby body parts, and closing the for-profit loophole.

Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for the RECORD the following letter I posted to Bill Clinton urging him to respect the fundamental right of all human beings, namely, the Right to Life, and completely stop the destruction of any human being for "research."

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 6, 2000.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
President of the United States, The White
House, Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Wash-
ington, DC.

DEAR PRESIDENT CLINTON: In the waning days of your last term in office, you can still correct your unfortunate decision to allow the grossly immoral business of selling baby body parts for so-called "fetal tissue" research. Congress will soon hold hearings, and I ask you to join me in this effort to end the ongoing destruction of babies for the purpose of harvesting their tissue and organs.

As you know, President George Bush demonstrated great moral courage by banning federal funding of "fetal tissue" research. Unfortunately, in 1993 you signed the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Revitalization Act (P.L. 103-43) into law, effectively lifting the previous ban and allowing the egregious and inhumane trafficking of baby body parts in the name of "research."

Distressingly, a number of private companies have sought to meet the demand of public and private research facilities for baby body parts. As outrageous as that practice is, many companies have exploited the vague language within the NIH Revitalization Act to sell these gruesome remnants of abhorrent abortive procedures for profit.

Although the NIH Revitalization Act made it a federal felony for any person to knowingly purchase or sell baby body parts for "valuable consideration," it did not define the term to include "reasonable payments associated with the transportation, implantation, processing, preservation, quality control, or storage" of baby body parts. (P.L. 103-43, Sec. 112) Clearly, such loose language has given private merchants the incentive and means to evade federal law and felony charges while prospering through the harvesting and selling of tissue and organs from aborted babies.

Modern America has apparently not learned the lessons of World War II. Then, the possessions of massacred Jewish people, including the gold fillings in their teeth, were sold, often for profit, by unscrupulous and evil perpetrators. Barbaric experiments were performed on innocent, living human beings by their Nazi captors.

As a Representative to the United States Congress for Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, I am doing everything I can to end this malignant practice, whether it is for profit or for any "reasonable payments." That is why I have repeatedly spoken against this horrendous commerce and called on Congress to hold hearings to investigate the full scope of the situation.

The question remains, are you willing to end this unconscionable research and commerce by closing the loophole and stopping all activity involving the use of baby body parts or tissue for research? To kill the innocent and defenseless in the name of science contradicts and corrupts the very essence and foundation of our great country.

Please join me in calling for a complete ban on the destruction of any baby's body for research.

Very truly yours,

BOB SCHAFER,
Member of Congress.

SECRETARY ALBRIGHT'S ADDRESS
ON U.S. RELATIONS WITH SOUTH
ASIA IN PREPARATION FOR THE
PRESIDENT'S VISIT

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, at a meeting of the Asia Society yesterday, our outstanding Secretary of State, Madeleine K. Albright, delivered a thoughtful speech in anticipation of the Presidential visit to India and Bangladesh, with a brief stop in Pakistan. This visit is the first to India by an American president in 22 years and it is the longest presidential visit ever. This will also be the first visit by a U.S. President to Bangladesh.

Secretary Albright's speech was a brilliant background analysis of United States relations and strategic interests in South Asia. With regard to India, she emphasized the good relations our nation has with India, and she said that our relations can and should be strengthened. At the same time, however, Secretary Albright stressed that nuclear proliferation is a critical issue for the United States, and in order for our relationship to achieve its rich possibilities India must take steps to curb the proliferation of nuclear weapons and missile delivery systems.

With regard to the brief visit to Pakistan, Secretary Albright emphasized: "I want to leave no room for doubt. In no way is this decision [to stop in Pakistan] to embrace the military coup or government led by General Musharraf. And no one should interpret it as such." She said that the United States has important interests with Pakistan, particularly in controlling the spread of nuclear and missile technology and in dealing with international terrorism.

In only one area do I find reason to disagree with our distinguished Secretary of State, Mr. Speaker. In discussing Kashmir, she noted that her father served as a member of a United Nations mission dealing with that troubled territory. She said: "He [my father] is now dead, and I am old, and yet still this tragic story goes on." Our Secretary of State is not old, Mr. Speaker, she has pursued with great vigor and energy her critical role as our nation's chief diplomat. We are fortunate to have as our Secretary of State a woman of such distinction and such vibrancy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Secretary Albright's address to the Asia Society be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to give it the thoughtful and careful study that it deserves.

REMARKS TO THE ASIA SOCIETY—
WASHINGTON, D.C., MARCH 14, 2000

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright
SECRETARY ALBRIGHT: I am indeed delighted to be here. Thank you very, very much, Ambassador Wisner, and to you as well to Marshall Bouton and the entire Asia Society. It's a great pleasure to be here. Ambassador Lodhi and Ambassador Gautam, it is a pleasure to have you here and other excellencies of the diplomatic corps; colleagues and friends from the worlds of scholarship and public policy, Capitol Hill and the press.

I have to warn you: This is a long speech. It's a "wonky" speech, and it basically—this, I think, is a perfect audience for it, because

I think that you all have spent a great deal of time on the subject. I also, as I look around the audience, I see today people who signed an open letter to the President on the trip, and I think that you will find that many of your very thoughtful comments are reflected in the framework that I'm going to put forward here. At least, I hope you do.

I appreciate the chance to discuss the President's upcoming visit to South Asia. Our trip provides a rich opportunity to promote American interests in an area where a fifth of the world's people live, security risks are high, economic opportunities abound, and there is a potential for wide-ranging cooperation on global issues.

As befits the diversity of the region, our goals are many. In Bangladesh, we will both affirm and advance our friendship with a young democracy that was born in strife, and is surmounting huge obstacles.

During an extended visit to India, the President will seek to begin a new chapter in our relations with one of the world's leading countries and oldest civilizations. India is projected to pass China in size in the early decades of this century, and I can think of few greater gifts to the future than a strong and cooperative strategic relationship between India and the United States.

Finally, in Pakistan, the President will make clear our support for an early return to democratic rule, as well as our ongoing friendship for the Pakistani people.

In these areas and others, we are fortunate to have the support of America's South Asian communities. They are an amazing success story—and a remarkable resource. For the fruits of their hard work, generosity and genius are manifest here and on the subcontinent. And every day they help bind America and the region closer together.

As the new century begins, our foreign policy priorities include building a healthy and growing world economy, halting the spread of weapons of mass destruction, supporting democracy, and working with other nations to combat international terror, pollution, drug trafficking and disease.

We cannot succeed in meeting these priorities without South Asia. The President's trip offers us the opportunity to make progress towards each, and to forge ties that will benefit America for many years to come.

The first official stop on our schedule will be the first visit ever by an American president to Bangladesh. Although Bangladesh has a short history as an independent nation, it has already taken long strides to emerge from poverty and build an inclusive democracy. In the Muslim world and beyond, Bangladeshi democracy deserves recognition as a source of hope for its people and of inspiration to others.

We also want to support the constructive role Bangladesh plays in the international community. For example, it is a top contributor of troops to United Nations peacekeeping missions, and it has embarked with energy and distinction on a two-year term on the UN Security Council.

Bangladesh is also a valued partner on global issues. Last week it became the first South Asian country to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. And it is working to stamp out child labor in its garment export industry; preserve its tropical forests, and lift the lives of women and disadvantaged with a remarkable micro-lending program that has been emulated around the world.

There is also a very practical economic dimension to this visit. As Bangladesh has moved to join the global economy, American investment there has risen thirty-fold in three years. And with the right policies in place, Bangladesh could make a quantum