

made from one egg and a little flour. Martha would often lie to her husband and say that she wasn't hungry so that he could eat. "We never asked for help," they said, until the doctor gave her two days to live if she did not start eating again. The food pantry helped them with a few bags of groceries, and for now, they say, "we don't have to add water to everything because we can eat again."

Mr. Speaker, people should rejoice for the big things in life, not just because they can eat a whole can of soup. We need to end the scourge of hunger in America. We have the solutions, all we need is the political and spiritual will to do it.

200TH BIRTHDAY OF THE PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD

HON. JOHN E. SUNUNU

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to pay tribute to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the first publicly owned shipyard in our Nation, on the occasion of its 200th birthday. The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard was established on June 12, 1800, on the Piscataqua River between New Hampshire and Maine as our first permanent shipyard devoted exclusively to the construction and repair of vessels for the United States Navy.

In 1814, the Washington, the first naval vessel to bear the name of our first president was built at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. By 1818, the Shipyard's work force had grown to 50 workers. Portsmouth constructed another 12 vessels for the United States Navy prior to the beginning of the Civil War earning recognition as the "Cradle of American Shipbuilding."

Although new ship construction slowed at Portsmouth after the end of the Civil War, the Shipyard continued to play an important role in our Nation's history. The U.S.S. *Constitution* was berthed at the Shipyard for some time, and during and after the Spanish-American War, over 1600 Spanish prisoners were quartered on its grounds. In 1905, the Treaty of Portsmouth, ending the Russo-Japanese War and earning President Theodore Roosevelt the Nobel Peace Prize, was signed at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

With the onset of World War I, the work force was expanded to almost 5,000 and the Shipyard began its long and illustrious history of submarine construction, launching the first U.S. submarine built in a naval shipyard in 1917.

During World War II, the ranks of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard jumped to 24,000. Over 70 submarines were constructed at the Shipyard during the Second World War, with three launched on a single day, a record that no other public or private shipyard has ever equaled. In 1944, Portsmouth held the record for constructing the greatest number of submarines in one year, turning out 31.

After World War II, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard became the Navy's center for submarine design and development. The Shipyard built the research submarine, the U.S.S. *Albacore*, with its revolutionary 'tear-drop' shaped hull, which set the standard for all subsequent submarine designs world-wide. Today the U.S.S. *Albacore* rests at a site close to the

Shipyard in Portsmouth, NH, as an historical and educational exhibit open to the public.

Another in a long line of "firsts" for the Shipyard occurred in 1968 when Portsmouth constructed the first full size very deep diving non-combatant submarine built in a naval shipyard. The Portsmouth Shipyard also launched the last submarine built in a public shipyard, the nuclear powered U.S.S. *Sand Lance*, in 1969.

As a tribute to its historical significance and its place in our heritage, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Today the civilian work force at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard stands at 3601, and it takes pride in its continuing role as the Navy's leading shipyard for submarine overhaul and repair. The Shipyard encompasses nearly 300 acres and over 300 buildings, has three dry docks, and capacity to berth six submarines.

As we embark on a new century and millennium, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has positioned itself to meet the demands of today's competitive business environment and offer its customer, the United States taxpayer, the best product for the best price. Responding to the challenges of the marketplace, the Shipyard is forging joint ventures with the private sector—leasing out unutilized or underutilized facilities and equipment—and partnering with Electric Boat. Today Portsmouth Naval Shipyard workers and Electric Boat employees work side by side in the best interests of the Nation.

For two hundred years the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has served in the defense of our country, the Cradle of American Shipbuilding set in New England's Cradle of Democracy. Ever adapting to the changes that have taken our Nation from sails to atoms, the Shipyard continues to play a critical role in strengthening and maintaining our national security.

Mr. Speaker, this historic institution, a hallmark of our country's mighty naval strength, deserves the recognition of all Americans as it marks the occasion of its two hundredth birthday. I ask you to join me in thanking generations of Shipyard workers for their dedication and service to protecting our Nation's security interests at home and on the seas.

CONDEMNING LTTE TERRORISM

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as Co-chair of the Sri Lanka Caucus, I am increasingly concerned about the situation in that South Asian nation.

The democratic government of Sri Lanka has been under attack for more than 25 years, the subject of an especially vicious campaign by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). The LTTE purports to represent the interests of the minority Tamils and seeks an independent homeland in the north of the country. The Tigers have appropriately been identified by the State Department as a terrorist organization.

The LTTE's tactic of indiscriminate suicide terrorist bombings have succeeded mostly in killing and maiming dozens of innocent civilians at a time, occasionally succeeding in taking out their target.

Yesterday, such an attack, attributed to the Tamil Tigers, killed the Minister for Industrial Development, C.V. Gooneratne, and at least 20 other people. At least 60 people were injured, including Mr. Gooneratne's wife, who was critically hurt. I strongly condemn this terrorist act; I express my condolences to all who suffered losses.

And regrettably this was only the most recent such attack. Last year President Kumaratunga was wounded in a suicide bomber terrorist attack at a campaign rally; that bombing and one at another rally left 22 people dead and more than 100 wounded.

In a statement yesterday, the State Department stated, "The LTTE's legacy of bombing, assassinations, massacres and torture has alienated the people of Sri Lanka and the international community, and has done nothing to promote the legitimate needs and aspirations of the Sri Lankan Tamils. The LTTE must abandon these methods if it hopes to play a constructive role in ending the conflict." I am pleased by the strength of this condemnation, and I am in full agreement with it.

I hope that my colleagues will join me and Congressman PALLONE, my fellow Sri Lanka Caucus co-chair, and other Members of the Caucus in condemning LTTE terrorism and supporting the people of Sri Lanka in their effort to combat terrorism and maintain a united democratic nation.

TRIBUTE TO AN EDUCATOR: IN THANKS TO DAVID GROSS OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a friend of education and a dedicated public servant to the people of San Diego: Mr. David Gross, the budget supervisor to San Diego City Schools, who has retired from the schools after 23 years of service this past April.

As budget supervisor, David exercised particular interest and expertise in ensuring that children with disabilities had the educational resources they needed to succeed in school. He had responsibility for special education, gifted and talented programs, the Health Services Billing System and major categorical programs. With this responsibility, he worked closely with teachers, administrators and families to develop budget plans that met students' needs.

In fact, David was a statewide leader in this important field. He was a member of the State Special Education Fiscal Task Force and the Department of Education's Financial Reporting Oversight Committee. He assisted in the development of the California Association of School Business Officials' Training Manual, and piloted the system established by the State of California for school districts to bill MediCal and private insurance companies for health services provided in school.

David served on several other state and local leadership boards important to the improvement of special education. These included service on the Special Education Task Force (1986–88), the Local Education Area Health and Social Services Advisory Committee (1994–98), Advisory Committee on

Special Education (1996–99), and the AB 602 Special Disabilities Working Group.

This important work is no less important to excellent education than is the day-to-day dedication of parents, teachers and other administrators; for if the school system lacked the administration of resources to do its job, school literally could not open. Even so, David took this critical financial stewardship task to a higher level by continually taking great care to ensure that his work in school system budgets was related to the real, day-to-day educational needs of students, and professional needs of teachers and administrators. For many years, he served hour upon hour as a volunteer tutor in a local San Diego area elementary school.

Let the permanent RECORD of the Congress of the United States show that Mr. David Gross is a friend of education and a friend to America, and a dedicated and gifted public servant whose hard work and great talent will be honored and missed by his friends and colleagues.

HELSINKI FINAL ACT 25TH ANNIVERSARY RESOLUTION

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, an international accord whose signing represents a milestone in European history. As Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the Helsinki Commission, I have been privileged to be associated with the Helsinki process and its seminal role in advancing human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Europe. I am pleased to be joined by my fellow Helsinki Commissioners Representatives HOYER, WOLF, CARDIN, SALMON, SLAUGHTER, GREENWOOD, FORBES and PITTS as original co-sponsors. A companion resolution is being introduced today in the Senate by Helsinki Commission CoChair Sen. BEN NIGHORSE CAMPBELL.

The Helsinki Final Act and the process it spawned has been instrumental in consigning the Communist Soviet Empire—responsible for untold violations of human rights—into the dustbin of history. With its language on human rights, the Helsinki Final Act, for the first time in the history of international agreements, granted human rights the status of a fundamental principle in regulating international relations. The Final Act's emphasis on respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms is rooted in the recognition that the declaration of such rights affirm the inherent dignity of men and women and are not privileges bestowed at the whim of the state.

Equally important, Mr. Speaker, the standards of Helsinki which served as a valuable lever in pressing human rights issues also provided encouragement and sustenance to courageous individuals who dared to challenge repressive communist regimes. Many of these brave men and women—members of the Helsinki Monitoring Groups in Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania, Georgia, Armenia, and similar groups in Poland and Czechoslovakia, Soviet Jewish emigration activists, members of re-

pressed Christian denominations and others—paid a high price in the loss of personal freedom and, in some instances, their lives, for their active support of principles enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act.

Western pressure through the Helsinki process—now advanced in the forum of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe—greatly contributed to the freeing of the peoples of the Captive Nations, thus bringing an end to the Cold War. The Helsinki Commission, on which I have served since 1983, played a significant role in promoting human rights and human contacts. The congressional initiatives such as hearings, resolutions, letters and face-to-face meetings with representatives of Helsinki signatories which violated human rights commitments, encouraged our own government to raise these issues consistently and persistently. The Commission's approach at various Helsinki meetings has always been to encourage a thorough and detailed review of compliance with Helsinki agreements. Specific cases and issues are cited, rather than engaging in broad, philosophical discussions about human rights. With the passage of time—and with the leadership of the United States—this more direct approach in pressing human rights concerns has become the norm. In fact, by 1991 the Helsinki signatory states accepted that human dimension commitments “are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the state concerned.”

With the dissolution of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, the OSCE region has changed dramatically. In many States, we have witnessed dramatic transformation and a consolidation of the core OSCE values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law. In others, there has been little if any progress, and in some, armed conflicts have resulted in hundreds of thousands having been killed and in the grotesque violation of human rights. The OSCE, which now includes 54 participating States, has changed to reflect the changed international environment, undertaking a variety of initiatives designed to prevent, manage, and resolve conflict and emphasizing respect for rule of law and the fight against organized crime and corruption, which constitute a threat to economic reform and prosperity. The Helsinki process is still dynamic and active, and the importance of a vigorous review in which countries are called to account for violations of their freely undertaken Helsinki commitments has not diminished.

This resolution calls on the President to issue a proclamation reaffirming the United States' commitment to full implementation of the Helsinki Final Act. All signatory states would be asked to clarify that respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, democratic principles as well as economic liberty, and the implementation of related commitments continue to be vital elements in promoting a new era of democracy, peace and unity in the OSCE region. In the twenty-five years since this historic process was initiated in Helsinki, there have been many successes. Mr. Speaker, the task is still far from complete, and we must continue to do our part in championing the values that Helsinki espouses.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES ACADEMY
WINS 1ST PLACE IN NATIONAL
COMPETITION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to congratulate Our Lady of Lourdes Academy for winning first place at the National Finals of the “We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution.”

The group was invited to Washington D.C. as the finalist representing all of Florida and went on to win the first place trophy. There were over 50 groups in the competition.

I want to congratulate Giannina Berrocal, Erika Bloch, Carolina Bolado, Gabriela Chamorro, Natalie Dela Maza, Elizabeth Herald, Stephanie Hew, Ana Manrara, Carmen Manrara, Jennifer McNally, Kellie Montoya, Alexandra Mora, Cn'stina Moreno, Carmen Ruiz-Castaneda, Jennifer Smith and Olga Urbietta for their hard work, and especially Ms. Rosalie Heffernon, their teacher, who helped give them direction in this important endeavor.

Congratulations to these Lourdes students for taking such an active interest in the history of our nation, and I am sure that this bright group of high school students will be the voices echoing in the national debate of the years to come.

HATE CRIMES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, sitting on a bench, riding on a bus, or even walking down the street, a hate crime can occur anytime or any place. Hate crimes are acts of pure unadulterated evil, wronging someone because they are different. People should not and cannot live in fear because of their race, color, religion or sexual orientation; it is time that we take the strongest course of action to prevent these crimes.

Over the past decade the number of hate crimes has risen rapidly, consummating with 1999's “summer of hate.” If taking anything positive from this infamous period is possible it is, that we have not done enough to prevent such crimes. Committing a hate crime is the most serious of offenses. It is our duty to make the punishment severe enough to deter even the most prejudicial person from considering a crime of this size. We in Congress have the ability and the opportunity to prevent the possible consequences of bias from occurring.

Today, as we commemorate the second anniversary of James Byrd's tragic death, we must pledge upon ourselves to do everything in our power to reduce the number of hate crimes. No one should ever fall victim to a hate crime, or any other crime for that matter, and we must renew and maintain our focus of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act (H.R. 1082), to ensure that crimes cease.