

U.S. relationship with the Palestinian leadership has been based on a commitment to renounce violence and terrorism, and to pursue a negotiated settlement with Israel. The violence carried out by suicide terrorists this past weekend comes less than 18 months after the generous compromises offered by Israel at July 2000 Camp David Summit. These compromises included a Palestinian state in all of Gaza and over 95 percent of the West bank, additional land exchanges from inside Israel and a capital in Jerusalem. The response from the Palestinian leadership has been 15 months of murder and terror.

I believe passage of this legislation is a critical step to show our nation's unity with Israeli government and the Israeli people. As a democratic nation, the government of Israel is entrusted with the responsibility to provide security for its citizens. This is nothing less than what Americans expect from their own government. Indeed, Article 51 of United Nations Charter guarantees the inherent right of all member states to self defense. The United States must stand steadfastly with the Israeli government in its fight against Palestinian terror, and I urge my colleagues to support passage of this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO TONY BENNETT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I take great pleasure in rising before you today to recognize one of the world's greatest and most admired entertainers—Tony Bennett.

World-renowned as an "individual of unequaled excellence," Tony Bennett has remained for over five decades, one of our leading male singers of traditional pop songs who has entertained all age groups with his magnificent voice and dynamic performances. Indeed, he is an American icon whose talents are timeless and who continues to be an inspiration to all generations.

It is said of Tony Bennett that he is a superb performer, a true legend of American music, and a national treasure. While all that may be true, Tony is all those things and so much more.

In addition to entertaining audiences through song, Tony Bennett is also an accomplished painter and author, as well as a devoted philanthropist. Throughout his career, he has participated in many humanitarian causes and concerns. He has raised funds for the American Cancer Society, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, and the Hospice of Baltimore. He has worked with the Center for Handgun Control and has supported environmental issues through such organizations as Save the Rainforest and the Project for Walden Woods.

His charity concerts have also benefited many causes, namely the preservation of the Apollo Theater in my Congressional District of Harlem in New York City.

What many people may not know is that Tony Bennett served as a foot soldier in World War II, and was an active participant in the liberation of a concentration camp. In 1965, he participated in the March on Selma with the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and refused to perform in South Africa during the era of apartheid.

Tony Bennett, who celebrated his 75th birthday in August of this year, is a lifelong New Yorker born in the Astoria section of Queens. He attended the High School of Industrial Arts in Manhattan, where he continued nurturing his two passions—singing and painting.

This year, Bennett founded the Frank Sinatra School of the Arts in New York as a tribute to his friend and musical mentor.

Recently, friends gathered together to commemorate Tony's extraordinary and enduring career at the pinnacle of popular music, a career that took off shortly after Bob Hope discovered Bennett in a New York nightclub in 1949. That discovery has resulted in scores of albums, ten Grammy awards, a Lifetime Achievement Award, and induction this year (along with Frank Sinatra), into the Black Entertainment in Sports Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for this opportunity to pay tribute to Tony Bennett, an extraordinary entertainer, a true humanitarian, and a champion for all people. Legions of fans of all ages and musical tastes applaud his genius, and we can be assured that the legacy of Tony Bennett will live forever.

TRIBUTE TO LEBANESE
INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Lebanese American community, who celebrated the 58th anniversary of Lebanese independence on November 30, 2001.

On November 22, 1943 Lebanon obtained its independence from France. Shortly thereafter, Lebanon became a founding member of both the United Nations and League of Arab States. Signaling its commitment to the idea that human rights were global and that it was ready to be a full partner in the post World War II world, Lebanon played an integral part in the drafting of one of the UN's most distinguished documents—the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

As one of the world's early cradles of civilization, Lebanon has long been held up as an example of prosperity and perseverance. In its recent history, Lebanon has suffered a great deal but to truly understand the spirit of the Lebanese people, one only need to look at the way in which they have rebuilt their nation. While much remains to be done, the nation's progress is an example from which we can all learn.

The United States and Lebanon have been blessed by a historically strong friendship, owing in part to the emigration of Lebanon's sons and daughters. They embraced America with open arms and their contributions helped build a greater nation. This relationship is best exemplified by the following familiar words, first spoken by a proud Lebanese American: "Are you a politician asking what your country can do for you or a zealous one asking what you can do for your country?" Those are the words of Kahlil Gibran, a poet who frequently wove beauty and justice into his work and in the process touched the heart and meaning of America.

Today, I think we have reason to reflect on another of Gibran's contributions, one that

holds a great lesson for us all. "To be a good citizen is to acknowledge the other person's rights before asserting your own, but always to be conscious of your own."

Since 1965, nearly 100,000 new immigrants have come from Lebanon. My home state of Michigan has one of the largest Lebanese American communities in the country and it has been actively involved in the life of our great state. The Lebanese community willingly shares its culture and values not only with Michigan, but with the entire nation. The result has been innumerable contributions to the arts, sports, medicine, politics, education, science and industry.

Mr. Speaker, I join the people of Lebanon, those of Lebanese ancestry around the world and the Lebanese American community in celebrating Lebanese Independence Day. I salute all of them for the tremendous contributions to freedom and human dignity which they have made.

IN HONOR OF INGRID S. MASON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Ingrid S. Mason in recognition of her career as an educator and children's advocate.

Ingrid S. Mason's roots became solidly grounded by the legacy bestowed upon her by her maternal grandmother, Alice Crawford. Born in Costa Rica, Ingrid spent her formative years under the nurturing love and guidance of her "Tia" and grandmother. Her roots continued to be firmly set, when at the age of five she migrated to the United States to reunite with her mother Irene. It is from her grandmother, mother and aunts that Ingrid gained her most valuable gifts in life a legacy of faith, independence, determination, and commitment to excellence, a strong work ethic and a positive spirit. This legacy has provided her with the wings to soar.

As a youngster and young adult Ingrid excelled academically, earning a myriad of honors, citations, awards and scholarships. She graduated from New York University earning a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Ingrid's love of children naturally guided her to a profession in education. For the past sixteen years she has been a staunch advocate for children and committed educator, working in Community School District 19 in Brooklyn's East New York neighborhood. She has served the parents and children as a teacher, assistant principal and principal. She is currently the assistant principal of P.S. 346 in Starrett City. She has earned a Master of Science in Bilingual Education and an Advanced Certificate in Education Administration, both from Brooklyn College. She is a member of many professional organizations including the Council of Supervisors and Administrators, the Association of Assistant Principals and the Association for School Curriculum and Development.

Ingrid's philosophy on education and working with children stems from her belief that all children possess inner greatness waiting to be awakened. She sees this not only as a challenge, but as a duty. Each day she strives to awaken that greatness by passing on to them the legacy given to her.

Ingrid is provided with "wings" each day by the love, support and encouragement of her family, daughter, Jahira, sister, Rose, and nephew and niece, Travis and Alice, her greatest fans.

Mr. Speaker, Ingrid S. Mason has dedicated her career to education and children's advocacy. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving this recognition, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

THANKING CYPRUS FOR ITS SUPPORT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the government and people of the Republic of Cyprus for expressing their heartfelt condolences and sympathies to our nation. They have declared their unconditional and immediate condemnation of the heinous acts of terrorism against the people of the United States on September 11, 2001.

The Republic of Cyprus has always unequivocally condemned terrorist acts while cooperating with other governments to stamp out terrorism. Following the recent horrific events in New York and Washington, the government and people of Cyprus, standing shoulder to shoulder with the United States, reaffirmed their commitment to the international fight against the perpetrators of terrorism and those that sponsor such barbaric acts. They also reiterated their determination to further augment their capacity to collect and utilize information for the purpose of combating terrorism and eliminating its sources of funding, pledging to cooperate both at the bilateral level, as well as internationally.

As America confronts one of the most ominous challenges in its history, it is reassuring to know that we have the unconditional and unequivocal support from good friends such as Cyprus. Upholding the ideals of freedom, justice, democracy and human dignity are treasured values both Americans and Cypriots hold dear.

IN HONOR OF DR. STEVE HYMAN

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Steve Hyman, Director of the National Institute of Mental Health at NIH, will soon be leaving NIMH to become Provost of Harvard University. While I am very happy that he has chosen to take this important step, I very much regret that public service is losing such a significant figure working on behalf of patients and families affected by mental illness.

Steve is a very well known neuroscientist, and also a gifted communicator. We have worked together on several issues and events, most recently a briefing for Members and staff on the mental health effects of terrorism in the

wake of the awful events of September 11, 2001. Steve has a remarkable ability to leave his audience—whether it is lay or scientific—with a more complete understanding of whatever complex issue he is addressing. This is critical to those of us who work to reduce and eliminate the entrenched stigma about mental illness that so unfairly plagues patients and families. As a scientist, Steve has many times asserted that science shows us absolutely no reason to treat those with mental illnesses as anything other than respected individuals affected by treatable illnesses who deserve health insurance coverage completely commensurate with the coverage provided for physical ailments. In fact, NIMH recently held a meeting in which I participated, focusing on the very real relationship between depression and physical disorders—something that is critical to understand.

For too long, those suffering from depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, anxiety disorders, or any of the other diseases that affect our brain and behavior, have faced discrimination, shame, and even scorn. Leaders like Steve have given us the tools we need to argue forcefully and credibly for equal treatment and equal justice. I believe that his leadership, scientific expertise, and his active participation in trying to educate policymakers like us, as well as our constituents—the American public—have moved us far down the path to eliminating stigma. Steve and NIMH were very much involved in the development of the unprecedented Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health, a groundbreaking document that has had a major impact in this country. He also was a key participant in the equally groundbreaking White House Conference on Mental Health held in June of 1999, a public event that featured the President and First Lady, the Vice President and Mrs. Gore, and many, many Members of Congress.

While we will miss Steve Hyman, I am confident that the course he has set for NIMH, and the people he has left to steer it, will enable it to continue to move steadily forward. I know that Steve has left a strong institution, but he has also left a major challenge for his successor—to continue the momentum that he has built up over the five and one-half years he served us as NIMH Director. I haven't known him for a long number of years, but I do know Steve Hyman well enough to know that he will continue his role as champion of patients and their families, and that we are all better off for it.

NATIVE AMERICAN SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Native American Small Business Development Act. This bill will establish a three-year pilot project providing grants to Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) for assisting the Native American, Native Alaskan, and Native Hawaiian populations with their small business development needs. The purpose is to stimulate the economies on reservation lands through the creation

and expansion of small businesses by ensuring the targeted population has full access to important business counseling and technical assistance available through the SBDC program.

Having traveled extensively throughout Indian Country, I can tell you that there is great need for such a grant program. I am pleased to serve as a cosponsor of this bill and I appreciate the hard work that my colleague, Mr. UDALL, has put into bringing this important piece of legislation to the floor today.

IN HONOR OF ULYSSES E. KILGORE III

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Ulysses S. Kilgore III in recognition of his commitment and service to the health of the Central Brooklyn community.

Ulysses S. Kilgore III possesses a Masters of Business Administration from Long Island University, and a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Lincoln University (MO). He is a former U.S. Army officer whose assignments took him to the Republic of South Korea, West Germany and Fort Meade, MD. His professional experience includes appointments as fiscal officer at the former Sydneham Hospital and financial management positions at Pfizer and Brooklyn Union Gas Company, respectively.

In 1982, Mr. Kilgore was selected as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Bedford Stuyvesant Family Health Center, Inc. Over the years—with strong and compassionate management and clinical teams—the FHC has become a major provider of healthcare in the Central Brooklyn, Bedford Stuyvesant community. According to Mr. Kilgore, it is the Center's ultimate responsibility for their own mental, spiritual and physical well-being. The Center seeks to be a participant in that quest. He believes that the greatest source of enrichment comes from service to others. He gives thanks to the Creator for the opportunity to be used to help make life better.

Mr. Speaker, for all of his hard work and dedication to improving access to health care in central Brooklyn, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Ulysses S. Kilgore III a truly remarkable man.

GERALD B.H. SOLOMON SARATOGA NATIONAL CEMETERY

SPEECH OF

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2001

Mr. QUINN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to add my strongest support to H.R. 3392, the "Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery Designation Act."

It was a true honor and distinct pleasure to serve with Congressman Solomon in the House of Representatives. With his death, this important and historic designation not only