

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING 14 YEARS OF
STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM IN
BURMA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember September 18th, 1988, a day fourteen years ago that a totalitarian military regime in Burma brutally shot, stabbed, and tortured its way to control. The regime killed an estimated 10,000 innocent people who marched on the streets and called for democracy, including women, children, students, Buddhist monks, teachers and others from all walks of life.

To this day, the 50 million people of Burma still suffer gross human rights abuses. According to credible organizations including the United Nations, U.S. State Department, and Amnesty International, the Burmese regime presses millions of persons into forced labor, holds over a thousand political prisoners, and organizes systematic, mass rapes in the Shan state. Evidence shows that Burma's military regime is among the world's most brutal.

In fact, the regime is so fearful of its own people that it has established a military intelligence service to squash free thinking and prevent even the discussion of ideas like freedom and democracy. On August 17th and 18th of this year, 15 students from the Rangoon University and Rangoon Institute of Technology, all under age 21, were arrested by the regime. Thirteen were arrested simply for forming a literary study group without permission of the authorities. Two others, Thet Naung Soe and Khin Maung Win, were arrested in front of Rangoon City Hall for handing out leaflets calling for the realization of democracy. It is expected that they will be sentenced to long prison terms where they are likely to be in serious danger of torture.

In July, two youth members of the rightfully elected National League for Democracy were arrested for possessing a secretive pro-democracy journal. They were beaten severely by the police and later sentenced to seven years imprisonment in a summary trial held in the infamous Insein prison.

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At the same time the regime has abused its own people, it has initiated an international diplomatic charm offensive to curry favor with the United States and other countries. The regime announced to the world on May 6, 2002, "We shall recommit ourselves to allowing all of our citizens to participate freely in the life of our political process."

The United States should not be fooled by false propaganda of the regime while the peo-

ple of Burma sacrifice for the freedom and democracy I believe in. The United States has always supported the struggle for freedom in Burma. Now, at this critical time, we must do all that is in our power to increase international pressure on this regime.

1991 Nobel Peace Prize recipient Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has courageously held together her country's freedom movement for the past 14 years, and she and the people of Burma deserve our ongoing support. Fourteen years into the struggle for freedom and Burma, I commend the courageous people of Burma who have never allowed their call for freedom to be crushed. Freedom united their cause. Courage gave it life. Tyranny tried to crush it. But to this day, hope inspires the people of Burma to continue in their struggle for democracy.

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN FULLER ON
HER RETIREMENT AS THE
SANTA CLARA COUNTY LIBRARIAN

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Susan Fuller, a highly respected citizen of Santa Clara County, California, who is retiring from her position as the Santa Clara County Librarian on Thursday, September 19, 2002.

Susan Fuller has worked as a librarian for over twenty years in Santa Clara County. A graduate of the University of California at Berkeley with a Masters degree in Library and Information Science, Susan began her career as a children's librarian before moving on to management positions in the Santa Clara County and San Jose Library systems. She became the Santa Clara County Librarian in 1985.

Susan Fuller's work and leadership for public libraries have not gone unnoticed. In 1995, in recognition of her significant contributions to the Santa Clara County Library, Susan Fuller was acknowledged by the Santa Clara County Valley Chapter of the American Society for Public Administrators as the 'Outstanding Public Administrator of the Year.' In 1998, she was recognized once again as the 'Librarian of the Year' by the Library Journal honoring her remarkable work and sharp leadership skills.

Susan Fuller's dedication to her job and her community helped the Santa Clara County Library earn the title of the number one public library in America in 2000. During her seventeen years as the county librarian, Susan helped increase circulation from 2,500,000 to 8,500,000, an achievement that exemplifies not only her extraordinary leadership, but her tireless dedication to the library system.

Susan Fuller has also been a leader in addressing issues facing libraries in this technology-driven era. She has responded to the

issue of appropriate Internet use by giving countless hours of her time to speak to members of her community about children's safety on the Internet, as well as freedom of speech and access to information at libraries. Her published work on the subject includes an essay in *Managing the Internet Controversy* called "Ethics and the Internet."

Mr. Speaker, Susan Fuller is an exceptional, respected and admired community leader and friend. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this distinguished woman for all she has done for the public library system. We are a better county, a better country, and a better people because of her.

HONORING ARCHIE C. DAVIDSON

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in honor and recognition of our dear friend Archie C. Davidson.

Shortly after Pearl Harbor, Archie enlisted into the U.S. Army and served as Sergeant with the 503rd regimental combat team. Archie proudly served his country in the Pacific Theater in such hostile areas as New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, and the Philippines.

Throughout his life, Archie was involved in numerous organizations including: as past president and life member of the New City Volunteer Ambulance Corps, as a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, past president of the Lake Lucille Property Owners' Association and former president of the Rockland County Association of Postmasters.

Archie was extremely active in his duties as Postmaster attending crucial congressional hearings held at Bear Mountain in the 1970's that targeted ways in which to improve the U.S. Postal Service.

After retiring, Archie continued to serve his community by becoming a public school bus driver. For almost twenty years, he assisted in driving for the Clarkstown School District. Archie's legacy will live on in the community of Clarkstown and will long be remembered by the people of the 20th District of New York.

As we mark the passing of Archie C. Davidson let us remember his commitments and let his legacy and accomplishments live through his family. His legacy continues with his four children, five grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO LELAND HAWES

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Leland Hawes, a respected journalist

• 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.

and historian, who last month marked his 5th year of work at the Tampa Tribune.

In a world of 24-hour-a-day news stations, wireless phones and Internet connections, it is easy to get so wrapped up in the here-and-now that we forget the history that shaped our community and our lives. For 50 years, Leland Hawes has worked to remind Tampa Bay residents of where we came from and how we got here.

Every Sunday, Tampa Tribune readers are treated to Leland's "History and Heritage" page where he passes on a wealth of knowledge about Tampa Bay's rich and vibrant culture. Leland's detailed stories restore the color and texture to the events that we may vaguely remember, and open the door to a fascinating past that we had long forgotten. Most importantly, Leland and his stories make us proud of our community, our history and our heritage.

Those fortunate enough know Leland personally have only the best things to say about him. During his career at the Tribune, he has earned the upmost respect as an award winning journalist, a kind mentor to young reporters, a gentleman, and a loyal friend.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I would like to express my deep appreciation to Leland for his dedication to telling our story, telling it well, and preserving our history for future generations.

HONORING DETROIT SHOREWAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OR- GANIZATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization, and neighborhood volunteers and community leaders, as they celebrate the success of the Bridge Square Project and the renovation of the historic Courtland Building.

This tangible evidence of community renewal, fostered by the hard work, vision, and persistence of the public and private sector within and surrounding the Detroit Shoreway community, shines within the spirit of the neighborhood—from house to house, and street to street. Hope has risen in the form of the Bridge Square Project—twenty-nine new homes have been built, and over one hundred housing units have been renovated. This significant accomplishment is an example of the sustainability of the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood, and other neighborhoods within the Cleveland and Greater Cleveland area.

The preservation and renovation of the Courtland Building, built in 1897, is also a testament to the renewed hope, energy and possibility of this neighborhood. This structure, once a dilapidated magnet for criminal activity, is now a monument to the focus and work of a neighborhood, whose unity, action and determination have made Detroit Shoreway better, safer, and brighter place for everyone.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor, recognition and celebration of the residents and leaders of the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood, the Detroit Shoreway CDO, and all individuals and agencies connected to the

rejuvenation of this historical, diverse and significant community. Due to the collective efforts of those who live and work in the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood—an effort that spans many years—a community has been reborn. Out of the darkness of illegal drug activity, blighted neighborhoods, and streets in decline, new life has risen—held aloft by those dedicated to their community—and accomplished one neighborhood meeting at a time, one nail at a time, and one brick at a time—rebuilding the heart and soul of this neighborhood.

CALLING ON UKRAINIAN LEADERS TO ENSURE AND DEFEND FREE- DOM OF EXPRESSION, AND TO RESOLVE AND BRING TO JUST- ICE THOSE, RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF HEORHIY GONGADZE ON THE SECOND AN- NIVERSARY OF HIS DISAPPEAR- ANCE AND SUBSEQUENT MUR- DER

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to read my address to the attendees of a meeting-requiem, commemorating the memory of murdered Journalist Heorhiy Gongadze and calling for freedom of speech in Ukraine. This event took place on Sunday, September 15, 2002, in Washington, DC.

On behalf of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, I extend my greetings to those assembled today in Washington, DC on this anniversary of the brutal and tragic murder of Ukrainian journalist, husband and father, Heorhiy Gongadze. Your presence at this important observance, and your individual participation sends a clear message about our common commitment to the unalienable right to life, our devotion to human dignity, our love for the freedom of speech and our hope that these qualities will one day be secured in Ukraine.

As a child of a Ukrainian immigrant, I celebrated Ukraine's independence in 1991 and its separation from the tyranny of Soviet communism. My heart swelled with pride as Ukrainians broke the shackles of communism and announced their desire to live free. This Ukrainian passion for liberty and justice is, in fact, why Ukrainians and our Ukrainian parents and grandparents came to America. August 24, 1991, was a great day, but today's gathering reminds us that Ukrainians, eleven years later, are still not completely free. The murder of Heorhiy Gongadze proves this.

I commend the organizers of this event and all participants for their civic and political consciousness. This is an important reflection of the gradual awakening of civil society in Ukraine. As the latest Ukrainian parliamentary elections vividly demonstrated, a democratic groundswell has started in Ukraine, and the Ukrainian people will no longer yield to oppression of their liberty and human rights.

My colleagues in the U.S. Congress share our concern about freedom of speech and freedom of the press in Ukraine. If journalists are subjected to censorship in any form, and political parties are denied equal access to mass media, civil society cannot exist.

My heart aches for the spouse, children, parents and friends of Heorhiy Gongadze and other journalists who have lost their lives in the exercise of political speech. I call upon Ukraine's leaders to solve these cases of murder and render swift justice to the guilty. I urge Ukrainian investigators to fully utilize the talents and expertise of our Federal Bureau of Investigation, just as President Kuchma personally promised he would do in February 2001.

There is no doubt the Ukrainian people are capable of developing a vibrant democratic society. Your peaceful demonstration and steadfast solidarity is proof of this, and I commend your compassion. Your sincerity inspires my colleagues and me in the Congress to pledge our continued and tireless support for a mature and durable democracy in Ukraine.

May God bless you all and may He bless Ukraine and the United States of America.

IN MEMORY OF EDITH SCHERMER FREIDENRICH

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a very special woman, Edith Schermer Freidenrich who passed away on January 4, 2001.

Edith, the daughter of Joseph and Jenny Schermer, was born in Seattle, WA, on March 14, 1910. She studied nursing at the University of Washington before moving to San Francisco, where she married her husband of 44 years David Freidenrich on December 17, 1933.

Mr. Speaker, Edith's family was her pride and joy. She was the mother of three sons David Jr., John, and Dennis, the grandmother of seven and great grandmother to three.

Edith was an active school volunteer, an avid reader, a bridge player, and seasoned traveler. She was passionately engaged in the Democratic party and its principles. She passed on this love of politics and compassion to her children who continue their mother's legacy of community and political activism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring the memory of Edith Schermer Freidenrich and to give thanks for all she did throughout her life to make her community and our country better for human kind.

WELCOMING MADAME CHEN WU SUE-JEN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today H. Res. 533, a resolution welcoming Madame Chen Wu Sue-jen of Taiwan to Washington. Madame Chen's visit comes at an important moment in our Nation's relationship with Taiwan and the People's Republic of China, PRC. Although the United States has repeatedly asked Beijing to resolve its difficulties with Taiwan through peaceful means, the