

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 42ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today in recognition of the 42nd anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Cyprus. On October 1, 1960, Cyprus broke free from 80 years of British colonial rule to become its own independent Republic. While the tragic events in this region over the past four decades have overshadowed its progress, the government of the Republic of Cyprus remains committed to the core principles enshrined in the Cyprus Constitution that guarantee basic rights and freedoms to both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.

This year, Cyprus' Independence Day occurs at a time of great hope and optimism for its people. The economic and political progress that Cyprus has made during its young history has made it a leading candidate for membership in the European Union, and it is expected that a formal invitation to enter the EU will be extended to them at the end of this year. As resolutions have been introduced in both the House and Senate expressing the sense of Congress that security, reconciliation, and prosperity for all Cypriots can be best achieved within the context of membership in the EU, this is certainly a favorable advancement for the prosperous future of Cyprus. Despite the hardships and trauma caused by the ongoing Turkish occupation, Cyprus has registered remarkable economic growth, and the people living in the government-controlled areas enjoy one of the world's highest standards of living. Sadly, however, the citizens who reside within the occupied area continue to be mired in poverty as a result of the policies implemented by the Turkish occupants.

This year's celebration is also marked by significant advances in U.S.-Cyprus relations. The United States Congress has adopted several resolutions stating that the status quo in Cyprus is unacceptable, and has called for international efforts to resolve the Cyprus occupation on the basis of international law. In return, the government of Cyprus has taken many concrete and active steps to assist the U.S. with the war on terrorism, including blanket clearances for U.S. military aircraft, the sharing of intelligence, the introduction of new criminal laws and regulations to deter and punish terrorism, and endorsement of UN Security Council Resolution 1373 which serves to freeze the assets of terrorists and their supporters. The relationship between Cyprus and the United States is strong and enduring. The people of Cyprus appreciate the leadership that America has shown in trying to end the division of Cyprus and bring about reunification. At the same time, the people of Cyprus stand with the American people and share in their firm resolve to uphold the ideals of freedom, justice, and democracy.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Republic of Cyprus on the progress they have made during their first 42 years of independence. In addition, let's take this opportunity to recommit the United States Congress to continuing their blossoming relation-

ship with the Cypriot government and working towards a peaceful, agreeable resolution to the Turkish occupation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the National Association of Realtors on their decision to build a new headquarters on Capitol Hill.

In addition to serving their 850,000 members, this new building will enhance the Capitol Hill community. Its elegant design will complement the location, and its state of the art environmentally friendly features will serve as a model for future construction. Moreover the \$45 million in construction and acquisition capital will benefit several Washington, D.C. businesses, including developer Lawrence N. Brandt, Inc., construction manager CarrAmerica, architectural firm Bannigan and Associates, and numerous contractors and subcontractors.

As a homebuilder, I understand the significance of selecting a community to call home. The District of Columbia should take pride in the fact that the National Association of Realtors has chosen 500 New Jersey Avenue, NW as their new home. This new building will demonstrate the association's commitment to both the city and the legislative process.

Clearly, this is an exciting time for the National Association of Realtors. Mr. Speaker, I ask that this 107th Congress join me in congratulating them on this endeavor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I missed some votes yesterday because I was traveling. I left for Iraq last week to get a better understanding of how a preemptive U.S. military strike against Iraq will affect the Iraqi people, and to encourage the Iraqi leadership to allow United Nations weapons inspectors into the country.

Had I been able to, I would have voted: "yes" on H.R. 4793; "yes" on H.R. 3450; "yes" on H. Res. 398; "yes" on H. Con. Res. 291; "yes" on H.R. 4013; "yes" on H.R. 4014; "yes" on H. Res. 399; "yes" on H.R. 5091; "yes" on H. Res. 561; "yes" on H. Con. Res. 484; "yes" on H. Con. Res. 451; "yes" on H. Res. 522; "yes" on H.R. 556; "yes" on H.R. 5472; "yes" on H.R. 5469; "yes" on H.R. 4125; "yes" on H. Res. 417; "yes" on H. Res. 538; "yes" on H.R. 4851; "yes" on H. Res. 530; "yes" on H.R. 4944; "yes" on H.R. 4874; "yes" on H.R. 4141; "no" on H.R. 4968; "yes" on H.R. 4129; "yes" on H.R. 3802; "yes" on H. Con. Res. 425; "yes" on H.R. 3813; "yes" on H.R. 4830; "yes" on H.R. 4692; "yes" on H.R. 3534; "yes" on H.R. 5125; "yes" on H.R. 2426; "yes" on H.R. 5303.

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR PAUL GOLATT

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a dedicated Pastor and leader in my district as he celebrates his fourteenth Pastor's Appreciation Day on October 6, 2002.

Pastor Paul Golatt, Jr. is the Pastor of Macedonia Church of God in Christ and the Superintendent of the North Miami District of the Church of God in Christ. He also serves his community as an employee for the United States Postal Service.

Pastor Paul Golatt, Jr. was ordained by Bishop Jacob Cohen in Fort Pierce, Florida during the Jurisdictional Holy Convocation in 1969. After many sermonettes, faithful services and training under the leadership of the late Pastor Paul Golatt Sr., he was appointed the first Assistant Pastor of the Macedonia Church of God in Christ. Upon the passing of his father and Pastor in December 1987, Paul Golatt, Jr. was appointed Pastor of Macedonia Church of God in Christ. On September 4, 1999, he was officially appointed and installed as District Superintendent of the North Miami District Church of God in Christ, by the Jurisdictional Prelate, Bishop Jacob Cohen.

Pastor Paul Golatt, Jr. continues to devote his life by extending benevolence to people in need. In addition to providing churches and communities with school supplies for children, he frequently donates food, clothing and money to communities and to orphanages in Haiti. He also finds the time to conduct joint services on holidays, including Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, with neighboring churches.

Pastor Paul Golatt, Jr. is a remarkable man whose personal achievement and community service are an example to us all. He is a father, Superintendent, Mail Carrier, an Organist, Choir Director, Recording Artist, Counselor, Secretary, Singer, Jurisdictional Adjutant, caring and compassionate Shepherd, praying servant and "A Man After God's Own Heart". (Jeremiah 3:15)

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Pastor Paul Golatt, Jr. for his humanitarian efforts which have touched the lives of so many people. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this congenial man of God. His faith, courage and kindness are an inspiration to all who have been touched by him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I was out of the country on congressional business from September 25 to October 1. Had I been present I would have voted in the following manner:

"No" on rollcall vote Nos. 413, 414, 416, 417, 419, and 421.

"Yes" on rollcall vote Nos. 415, 418, 420, 422, 423, 424, 425, and 426.