

IN HONOR OF FRANCISCO AND
HORTENSIA CANONICO

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 25, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Francisco and Hortensia Canonico, who were honored by the North Hudson Board of Realtors Friday, January 18th, for their exceptional contributions to New Jersey's real estate industry.

Mr. Canonico entered the real estate industry in 1967, and became a licensed real estate broker in 1972. That same year, he opened his own business, Canonico Real Estate, on 1010 Summit Avenue in Union City, New Jersey.

As an innovative real estate broker, he became the President of the Hudson County Multiple Listing Service in 1979. He was President of the Hudson County Board of Realtors in 1984, when he was recognized as Realtor of the Year. In 1984, Mr. Canonico also served on the Committee to Make America Better, and was recognized again as Realtor of the Year in 1996.

In 1977, Mrs. Canonico became the first Latina licensed real estate broker in Hudson County. She was recognized in the Million Dollars Sales Club from 1996 through 2000.

Both Francisco and Hortensia Canonico have been avid fund-raisers for the American Cancer Society and Lung Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating husband and wife, Francisco and Hortensia Canonico, for their positive contributions to Hudson County as successful real estate brokers and innovative entrepreneurs.

ON FEDERALIZING SECURITY AT
NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 25, 2002

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to inform my colleagues that I have requested that the General Accounting Office undertake a study of questions relating to the feasibility of federalizing security at nuclear power plants nationwide.

As Congress examines ways to protect critical infrastructure in the wake of September 11, the vulnerability of commercial nuclear reactors has become increasingly evident. Even before then, the potential hazards associated with nuclear power have long required special vigilance; and the terrorist attack obviously elevates the gravity and urgency of security concerns. All of us who represent areas with commercial nuclear facilities share an urgent concern for safeguarding residents who live in close proximity to the 103 facilities across the country.

Most Americans understand that we can't completely insulate the nation—and every person and property in it—from attack by suicidal terrorists. Nearly everyone appreciates the complexities and expense involved, and grasps the need to balance security precautions with civil liberties and economic impact. But the fact remains that there is no

more fundamental responsibility of government than homeland defense, and that addressing vulnerabilities—including those associated with nuclear plants—are essential.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has acknowledged that the nation's commercial reactors were not designed to withstand the type of attack carried out against the World Trade Towers. In light of this new potential threat and in the context of analogous legislation relating to airport safeguards, it seems to me self-evident that we explore the prospect of a federal security force charged with protecting nuclear plants.

Within hours of the September attacks, security at nuclear plants went on high alert. In my own congressional district, the Pilgrim facility took significant new precautions against potential threats to perimeter security from both the ground and the water. Although the immediate response was sound, I remain concerned about long-term protection of the plant. The NRC is presumably consulting with the new office of Homeland Security and various other federal agencies on coordinated efforts to buttress nuclear safeguards; however, its approach seems focused on existing protocols rather than new methods. Even as legislation to federalize airport screening regimes was signed into law, however, the equivalent discussion of a federal nuclear plant security force has received only scant attention.

Historically, it appears the NRC has not moved aggressively to explore the potential authority for federalization under existing statute, much less for administrative or legislative initiatives to create a federal presence. Correspondence with my office over the last four months suggests the NRC is not inclined to examine section 102 of the Atomic Energy Act, which could offer relevant authority. The agency rationale is that "the Commission is confident that substantial protection is being provided to plants."

Perhaps that reluctance derives from a substantive disagreement about the need even to review a federal approach. In written remarks to a Senate colleague, the NRC Chairman stated last month that "there have been no failures in nuclear plant security of the type that would warrant the creation of a new federal security force" and warned that, by federalizing security, the government would incur an exorbitant cost "all to address a non-existent problem."

I seek neither to raise undue alarm nor to condemn the current security protocol. However, in a series of meetings since September 11 with local, state and federal officials about public health and safety in the dozens of communities near the Pilgrim plant, one of the most recurring and compelling themes has been the need for serious and thorough consideration of a federal force.

The consequences of getting this wrong are unthinkable. It seems to me that an independent examination of a number of technical and financial issues by the GAO would be invaluable. Accordingly, I wrote today to the Comptroller General to ask the GAO to:

1. Review current federal guidelines and protocols for safeguarding nuclear plants from the air (including through the use of no-fly zones); through perimeter ground security measures; and through coastal security measures;

2. Examine the jurisdictional issues and administrative obstacles to transferring responsi-

bility for security from plant owners to the federal government; and

3. Analyze the cost of federalizing security—including initial training, upkeep, and long-term protection.

I have no presuppositions about the outcome of such a study, or about the policy debate it could help inform. However, I remain deeply concerned about the consequences of failing to explore these issues on an expedited basis.

IN HONOR OF JOANNE CARINE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 25, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the many accomplishments of Joanne Carine, who will be recognized Friday, January 25, at Ireland's 32d annual dinner dance to be held at the Hi-Hat Club in Bayonne, NJ.

A Bayonne native, Joanne Carine has been employed with the Board of Education since 1978, and is currently a secretary for the Superintendent of Schools.

She serves on the Executive Board of the St. Dominic Academy Mother's Club; the Holy Family Academy Mother's Club; and is a Trustee and Secretary for the Simpson Barber Foundation for the Autistic, an organization that educates about autism and provides social and educational opportunities for children with autism. In addition, she is a trustee of the Bayonne Environmental Commission.

Mrs. Carine was a member of the 1998 Bayonne Municipal Inaugural Committee; a member of the Bayonne Youth Soccer Association, Travel Parent's Board; and a Corresponding Secretary for the Friends of Nicholas Capodice Association, serving as Chairperson for the organization's 2000 annual brunch. In 1977, Joanne was selected the first recipient of the Miss Bayonne Columbus Award.

Mrs. Joanne Carine is married to Frank Carine, Jr., and has two daughters, Jenna and Jerilyn.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Joanne Carine for her positive influence and hard work on behalf of New Jersey's education system.

REAFFIRMING THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 273, reaffirming the special relationship between the U.S. and the Republic of the Philippines.

The Philippine government has committed government troops and vast resources towards tracking down and arresting terrorist organizations, most notably the Abu Sayaff, the separatist group that is linked to the al Qaeda network and Osama bin Laden. Abu Sayaff

has repeatedly kidnapped foreigners for ransom, including numerous Americans, one of whom, Guillermo Sobero, was murdered. Americans Martin and Gracia Burnham remain captives of this terrorist group that continues to terrify many islands in the southern area of the archipelago.

Although an extension of the U.S.-Philippines Mutual Defense Agreement was rejected by the Philippine Senate in 1991, prompting the U.S. to withdraw our troops from the country, the Philippines and the U.S. forged a new agreement in 1999 to revive the agreement. The new agreement allows U.S. military personnel to enter the Philippines for joint training and other cooperative activities. Moreover, the agreement re-institutes U.S. military aid programs to the Philippines.

The agreement is proving very beneficial in the U.S. struggle against terrorism. The Philippine government has made all of its military bases available to the U.S. for transporting, refueling, and re-supplying troops headed toward Afghanistan. The U.S. has also made good on our commitment to eradicate terrorism within the borders of our allies by providing the Philippines with military advisors and other military assistance to defeat terrorists in the Philippines.

The U.S. and the Philippines have a strong and special relationship. This relationship encompasses more than military and economic assistance. It includes an intimate diplomatic relationship dating back over 100 years.

Filipinos were a free people until the Spaniards claimed the island nation in 1521. Despite numerous uprisings and resistance movements, Spain maintained its control over the Philippines until 1898.

In 1898 the American Navy defeated the Spanish fleet in Manila Bay and subsequently began its occupation of the Philippines. Emilio Aguinaldo, who had led a resistance movement against the Spanish, battled the U.S. when it became clear that America had no interest in granting independence to the island nation. After a two year struggle, the U.S. captured Emilio Aguinaldo. He agreed to swear allegiance to the U.S., and without its leader, the revolutionary effort to gain independence quickly came to an end in 1902.

At the end of the Philippine-American War, the U.S. declared its goal to develop a free and democratic government. The U.S. began by creating a public education system and a fair legal system. In 1907 the Philippines established its first bicameral semi-autonomous legislature, structured like the American federal government.

From 1907 to 1946, a Resident Commissioner represented the Philippines in the U.S. Congress. They had no vote and were not allowed to serve on standing committees, but were able to participate in debate on the House floor. The Philippines became fully independent in 1946, at which time the office of the Resident Commissioner was abolished.

The 1935 Tydings-McDuffie Act outlined the terms for establishing a fully independent nation. Filipinos began the ten-year transition period to independence by framing a constitution modeled after the American Constitution.

The outbreak of World War II and the subsequent Japanese occupation of the Philippines temporarily suspended Filipino dreams for independence.

During World War II, the U.S. treated Filipinos as "noncitizen nationals." It gave them

some right to self governance, but the U.S. federal government reserved the final say over the Philippine government's decisions.

Nearly 200,000 Filipinos responded to President Roosevelt's call to arms. From 1941 to 1945, Filipino soldiers fought alongside American soldiers. They responded without hesitation to defend their homeland and because they were a part of the United States. They defended Bataan and Corregidor, which helped ensure that General MacArthur could escape to Australia. Thousands of Filipino prisoners of war endured the infamous Bataan Death March, and many died in prisons.

After the fall of Bataan and Corregidor, Filipinos formed guerrilla groups. These guerrilla forces distracted attention away from U.S. troops in the Pacific region who worked to rebuild and respond to attacks against American possessions in the Pacific. Filipino veterans fought bravely in every major battle and lost their lives defending our values of justice and freedom.

After the war, the U.S. Congress enacted the Armed Forces Voluntary Recruitment Act of 1945 to establish the "New Philippine Scouts." From 1945 through 1946 the New Philippine Scouts helped defend the Philippines as the nation worked to rebuild itself.

Based on promises from the U.S. government, New Philippine Scouts, Commonwealth army veterans, and veterans in recognized guerrilla forces expected to receive their full military benefits.

In October of 1945, General Omar Bradley, then Administrator of the Veterans Administration, reaffirmed that they were to be treated like any other American veteran and would receive full benefits, but in 1946 Congress broke our promise to Filipino veterans and revoked their benefits by enacting Public Law 70-301. The Rescission Act declared that military service rendered by 200,000 Filipinos under Roosevelt's Military Order and the guerrilla forces was not official military service. The act specifically excluded Filipinos from receiving full veterans' benefits unless they had service or combat related injuries.

The U.S. government enacted the Second Supplemental Surplus Appropriation Rescission Act in 1946. It repeated the provisions that eliminated Filipino veterans' benefits under the Rescission Act, and it placed similar benefit restrictions on New Philippine Scouts.

The U.S. government has restored partial benefits for some Filipino veterans living in America, but New Philippine Scouts and most veterans living in the Philippines still do not have the full benefits that were promised to them.

Following the Second World War, America provided assistance as the Philippines struggled to create a democratic nation. As promised, the Philippines became an independent nation on July 4, 1946.

In 1986 the people of the Philippines led a peaceful uprising that ousted Ferdinand E. Marcos and installed Corazon Aquino as president. Throughout the late 1980's President Corazon Aquino re-established fundamental values found in America, including civil liberties, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, and a free press.

Today, over 1.8 million Filipinos reside in the U.S. Many of these individuals can trace their ancestry back to the over 100,000 Filipinos who migrated to Hawaii between 1910 and 1941 to serve as laborers on sugar plan-

tations. Even though many of them returned to the Philippines, thousands stayed in Hawaii to become one of the state's major ethnic groups.

Filipinos are the third largest racial group in Hawaii. There are currently 275,730 people who listed full or partial Filipino ancestry in the 2000 Census, including Governor Benjamin Cayetano and State Supreme Court Justices Mario Ramil and Simeon Acoba. The following members of the state legislature are Filipino: Senator Robert Bunda, Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Senator Lorraine Inouye, Representative Felipe Abinsay, Representative Benjamin Cabrerios, Representative Willie Espero, Representative Nestor Garcia, Representative Michael Magaoay, and Representative David Pendleton.

2001 marks the 50th anniversary of the United States-Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty. During this anniversary we must celebrate the deep relationship that ties our nations together.

I urge all Members to support H. Con. Res. 273 to acknowledge the Philippines as an important partner in our defense of freedom in the Pacific region.

IN HONOR OF BRIAN C. DOHERTY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 25, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and acknowledge the many accomplishments of my good friend, Brian C. Doherty, whose life was commemorated and celebrated on Thursday, January 24, at the Boys and Girls Club of Hudson County's annual dinner at the Liberty House Restaurant in Jersey City, New Jersey. It was fitting and appropriate that the Boys and Girls Club's gymnasium was named in recognition of Mr. Doherty's commitment to the youth of Jersey City.

Mr. Doherty was the sole sponsor of the Boys and Girls Club's Competitive Basketball Program from its inception in 1987 until 1998. He also strongly supported St. Anthony's High School Basketball program in Jersey City; the Jersey City Recreation Basketball Tournaments; and his own Men's League basketball team in the Jersey Shore Basketball League in Belmar, New Jersey. Thanks to the guidance of Mr. Doherty, many of the participants of these programs went on to play professional basketball.

A veteran of the National Guard, he was Executive Secretary to Mayor Paul T. Jordan of Jersey City from 1975 until 1977. In 1995, he became partner of the law firm of Schumann, Hanlon, Doherty, McCrossin, and Paolino.

Mr. Doherty, an active member of the American Bar Association and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, graduated from the New School for Social Research in Manhattan, New York, and earned his law degree from Seton Hall University Law School in 1977.

Mr. Doherty was a dedicated husband to Rosemary T. McFadden and cherished son of Bernice and Eugene Doherty.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Brian C. Doherty for his generosity, kind spirit, and work on behalf of the community. I am very proud to have called Brian my