

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### INTERPARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 24, 2003*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, the first meeting of the Interparliamentary Conference on Human Rights and Religious Freedom was held in Brussels, Belgium from September 16 through September 18, 2003, under the auspices of the Washington-headquartered Institute on Religion and Public Policy.

The Interparliamentary Conference on Human Rights and Religious Freedom is composed of members of national and supra-national parliaments from around the globe, allowing members of parliaments to meet and address the issues of human rights and freedom of religion and belief with common understanding and background as parliamentarians. I ask that the Conference's concluding document, as follows, be entered into the RECORD.

#### DECLARATION OF THE INTERPARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Whereas, recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world;

Whereas, disregard and contempt for fundamental human rights have resulted in acts which have shocked the conscience of humankind, the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of humankind;

Whereas, it is imperative to promote the development of friendly relations between nations;

Whereas, Member States of the United Nations have pledged themselves to achieve the promotion of universal respect for and observance of fundamental rights;

Whereas, a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of great importance for the full realization of this pledge;

Whereas, this Declaration of the Interparliamentary Conference on Human Rights and Religious Freedom appeals to a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every society—keeping this proclamation constantly in mind—shall strive by dialogue and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by national and international measures to secure their recognition and observance;

Therefore, we hold that,

Respect for human life is fundamental;

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood;

All are equal before the law and are entitled without discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of their rights;

Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion; this right

includes freedom to have or adopt a religion or belief. Everyone has the freedom alone or in community with others and without any outside interference to express his/her religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance, within the limitations prescribed by law and are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals or the fundamental rights or freedoms of others.

Nobody shall be persecuted or denied his/her rights because of his/her religious beliefs. No discrimination or privileges based on affiliation or rejection of affiliation to a religion are acceptable.

The Interparliamentary Conference on Human Rights and Religious Freedom will convene annually to further the recognition and observance of the principles contained in this Declaration.

### THE CONSERVATIVE MIND

**HON. MARK E. SOUDER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 24, 2003*

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, The Conservative Mind is an historic book that has profoundly affected many of us in this chamber. Indeed, some of us may be in this very chamber because of its great influence. Published in 1953, the masterpiece was penned by the late Dr. Russell Amos Kirk, the foremost philosopher of the modern conservative movement. His writings—not to mention his Piety Hill seminars—served as part of the philosophical foundation for such important moments in American political history as the 1964 Goldwater presidential campaign, the Reagan Revolution of 1980, and, most recently, the Republican Revolution of 1994.

How does one begin to sum up conservatism? One can start, as Dr. Kirk did in *The Conservative Mind*, by stating what it is not. He wrote that the conservative abhors all forms of ideology. Promising a “terrestrial paradise,” an ideology is anathema to the conservative, who knows it to be the tool and weapon of the coffeehouse fanatics—a substitute for religion—that will ensure an “earthly hell.” No manual for partisan action, then, *The Conservative Mind* does not—cannot—point the way to Zion.

Instead, the man of letters wisely explained, we must turn to custom, convention, constitution and prescription. And we must apply variously and with prudence the general principles he delineated.

The brilliance of *The Conservative Mind* is its cogent synthesis of the works of historical icons—ranging from Edmund Burke to T.S. Eliot—into six canons of conservative thought. The resolution that I have introduced acknowledges these canons and honors the golden jubilee of Dr. Kirk's magnum opus.

It also recognizes the tireless work of the Russell Kirk Center for Cultural Renewal, presided over by Dr. Kirk's widow, Annette, and the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, which is republishing many of his master works.

It is time that the House of Representatives affords this man, this book and these institutions with such recognition. I hope that the members of this body will join me in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the publication of *The Conservative Mind* and those custodians of this wonderful patrimony.

ALIJA IZETBEGOVIC

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 24, 2003*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I learned this week of the passing of Alija Izetbegovic, formerly the President of Bosnia-Herzegovina. As a former Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I knew President Izetbegovic and followed the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina closely and with great concern.

Under Izetbegovic's early leadership in 1990 and 1991, Bosnia-Herzegovina sought to cope with the disintegration of the former Yugoslav federation of which it was a part, a particularly difficult task given the republic's very multi-ethnic population which had benefited greatly under that federation. Eventually, Izetbegovic led Bosnia-Herzegovina to respond by asserting independent statehood in early 1992, an act used immediately as a pretext by the regime of Slobodan Milosevic in neighboring Serbia to wage a war of aggression and genocide. Seeing the international community take little action to stop well-armed Serb militants from seizing more than two-thirds of the country, the regime of Franjo Tudjman in Croatia, another neighbor, later joined the fray. In the next three years, the ethnic cleansing associated with this conflict would cause the forced displacement of millions, the death of hundreds of thousands and the rape or torture of tens of thousands of innocent people.

By 1995, the international community was essentially shamed into taking more decisive action by atrocities like that which occurred in Srebrenica and fresh attacks on civilians in Sarajevo. The international community also recognized that not doing so had definite implications for the future of post-Cold War Europe. The result was NATO intervention and the negotiation of the Dayton Agreement, which preserved Bosnia territorial integrity on the one hand but hampered its recovery and development by legitimizing internal division on the other. Alija Izetbegovic, ethnically a “Bosniak” or Muslim Slav, retained power, but shared the presidency in a new arrangement with Bosnian Serb and Croat counterparts.

Given these circumstances, it is difficult to assess Izetbegovic's legacy. As a dissenter in Tito's Yugoslavia and as a politician during the emergence of multi-party politics, Izetbegovic expressed devoutness to the Islamic faith and pride in Bosnia's Muslim heritage. The conflict, however, denied Izetbegovic the chance to prove his claimed desire to respect the religious beliefs of others, to embrace Bosnia's

• 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.

cultural diversity and to become part of Europe. While Sarajevo was under siege, he correctly asserted that international principles of tolerance and respect were as threatened as that city's population. As the feckless United Nations and Europe failed to stop the conflict quickly, Izetbegovic's Bosnia became increasingly vulnerable to militant Islamic infiltration as well as corruption, both of which plague the country to this day.

From his hospital bed in late September, however, Alija Izetbegovic was quoted as saying to the media that Bosnia will survive as a state if "Serbs stay Serbs, Croats stay Croats, and [Muslims] stay [Muslims], but they also should all be Bosnians . . . Nobody should seek revenge but rather justice, because revenge starts a chain of evil that has no end," adding that people "should not forget the past but not live in it. They should turn toward the future."

As I note the passing of Alija Izetbegovic, Mr. Speaker, and we express our condolences to his family, friends and supporters, we should also recall with equal sadness the troubled times he and the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina faced a decade ago.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
AND THE LEWIS AND CLARK BI-  
CENTENNIAL

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 24, 2003*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, The Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition is being commemorated between 2003 and 2006. As we celebrate the Bicentennial, the famous expedition evokes pride and awe in countless Americans who reflect on its achievements. While most Americans have some knowledge of the expedition, relatively few recognize that it was an Army endeavor. It was not an accident that President Jefferson turned to the Army for the mission. President Jefferson chose the Army for his Corps of Discovery because it was the "right tool" for the arduous job. Frontier soldiers possessed the toughness, teamwork, discipline and training appropriate to the challenge of exploring the newly acquired lands. Most importantly, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were outstanding officers and leaders who had previously served the Army with distinction.

Today, the route followed by the Lewis and Clark Expedition lies within eight Corps districts. By virtue of its stewardship role for the Nation's rivers and its Army heritage of exploring and mapping the western United States, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will play a key leadership role in the observance of the Bicentennial. Of the more than 5,000 miles of trail from Pittsburgh to the Pacific Ocean, the Corps directly or indirectly manages nearly 4,700 river miles. Corps management activities include navigation channel maintenance, levee maintenance, environmental permitting responsibilities, and operation of the reservoirs and locks/dams. Because the Corps manages more of the trail than any other governmental entity, and it is the largest Federal provider of outdoor recreation opportunities in the country, the Corps will play an important role during the Bicentennial Commemoration.

The Commemoration officially began in January 2003 at Monticello and will retrace the original expedition across the United States and back. There are 17 Signature events planned and organized under the guidance of the Lewis and Clark bicentennial Council. The Corps of Engineers will support these Signature events by participating in the Federal interagency project called Corps of Discovery II—200 Years to the Future, which is a traveling exhibition and classroom, providing educational programs for school children, and manning displays and exhibits.

The overall goal of the Corps' participation in the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration is to accommodate the anticipated increased visitation, ensure a safe visitor experience, and provide information on the Expedition, the Army, and the Corps—all with minimal impact on the environment. To reach this goal, the Corps is working to upgrade sanitary facilities, visitor centers and campgrounds. The Chief of Engineers has emphasized that park facilities should be in good condition to support the additional visitation and visitor expectations, particularly those facilities that are on the Lewis and Clark trail or within 50 miles of a signature event. To reach the "safe visitor experience" objective, the Corps will provide water safety information specific to reservoirs and rivers along the Lewis and Clark route, including locking and portage procedures, the identification of hazardous areas, fueling areas, and the location of boat ramps. The Corps is also cooperating with other Federal, State and local enforcement, safety and emergency agencies to provide the essential public safety services along the route. The Corps will provide information to the public during the Bicentennial to educate about the expedition and the contribution of the Army to the success of the expedition. The legacy of the expedition is also an important story, including the role the Corps of Engineers played in exploration and development of the waterways that opened the west to river travel and the continuing role of the Corps in developing, managing, and protecting the Nation's water resources.

The Corps is also a partner and sponsor of the Ft. Leavenworth re-enactors who will attend many of the Signature events and portray the Lewis and Clark expedition as an Army reconnaissance mission. The Corps is the sponsor of numerous educational products including a discovery box educational kit which is used by Corps park rangers to educate school children about the Lewis and Clark Expedition as a military expedition. Other educational products that we have partnered in include an interagency brochure, car audio tours, a training academy for educators, exhibits and a film that will be marketed to public television. Lewis and Clark began the legacy of Army exploration of the American West which led to the Corps long tradition of service to our customers—the American public.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JEFF FLAKE**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 24, 2003*

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, today I voted "no" on final passage of H.R. 3161. While acknowl-

edging my opposition to this bill is unpopular—even in my own household—I believe I voted correctly.

Telemarketing calls bother me as much as the next person and I understand the desire to prohibit them. But I do not believe that asking the government to take care of this problem is the answer. New products are now on the market (Caller ID, voice mail systems, answering machines, Privacy Director, Call Reject, etc.) that inhibit the activity of telemarketers, and states are passing their own laws to address this issue. In fact, Arizona began enforcing the state's own telemarketing restrictions on October 1, 2003.

Most people know that H.R. 3161 provided authority to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to implement and enforce a national do-not-call registry. What many do not know, however, is that the bill allows government bureaucrats to pick and choose which calls consumers can block. It is not surprising that consumers cannot sign up to not be bothered by politicians. I would be willing to bet that consumers will find those calls to be just as annoying as any others. When government sets the rules, it must not discriminate based on the content of the calls. That's what the First Amendment means.

I consistently vote against additional federal regulations. Granting the FTC additional authority to further regulate on this matter, however popular, would be inconsistent with my record.

CONGRATULATING REVEREND  
THOMAS J. O'HARA ON BEING  
HONORED BY THE ETHICS INSTI-  
TUTE

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 24, 2003*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Father Thomas J. O'Hara as he is honored by the Ethics Institute of Northeastern Pennsylvania at College Misericordia this Thursday, October 23, 2003, at the Woodlands in Wilkes-Barre.

Father Tom has been a part of the King's College campus since 1988 and has served as the Professor of Political Science and Vice President of Academic Affairs. About four years ago, Father Tom was chosen to lead King's College as its President.

Father Tom is a native of Northeastern Pennsylvania and is involved in many community activities in addition to his demanding schedule as President of the college. He serves on the boards of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, the Osterhout Free Library, St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen, the Earth Conservancy, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, City Vest, and the Council of Presidents.

He will be honored for his commitment to both civility and ethical leadership. Father Thomas O'Hara is a community icon in Wilkes-Barre who leads by example. I am pleased that he is receiving well-deserved recognition for his ethical and effective leadership.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and honor to represent a man who has played an important leadership role in educating and shaping our future generation in Northeastern Pennsylvania and throughout the nation. His style of