

Mexico Legislature and Interstate Stream passed an Act authorizing the State Engineer to construct a dam on the Canadian River, thus establishing the Ute Reservoir. Since 1966, numerous Congressionally-authorized studies addressed the feasibility of a project that would utilize the Ute Reservoir as a reliable water supply for communities in eastern New Mexico. Finally, in the late 1990s, several communities, concerned about the increasingly urgent need, came together to begin planning for the development of a regional water system.

The Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Supply Authority, consisting of nine communities in the Curry, Roosevelt and Quay counties of eastern New Mexico, was formed in 2001 to oversee the development of the ENMRWS. This Authority has expeditiously and effectively finalized the studies and planning necessary to move forward with this project.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see from this brief history, the citizens of eastern New Mexico have both proven the critical need and completed the necessary steps that must form the basis for a project of this magnitude. This project is not new and the need for water is becoming increasingly more urgent. Without this project, it is clear that this important region will suffer economically. I believe that none of us in this House wants to stand by and watch vibrant communities dissolve into western ghost towns especially when a well-studied, adequate solution exists. I sincerely hope my colleagues will support this legislation and help provide a positive, long-term solution to a pressing water need in the rural West. This legislation represents the important next step toward addressing this issue, and I look forward to working with the entire New Mexico Congressional delegation.

Thank you very much.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHANEY, GOODMAN, AND SCHWERNER KILLINGS

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 2004

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, forty years ago this Sunday, members of the Ku Klux Klan committed a terrible crime against three young men in Neshoba County. It was a crime against them, a crime against equality, and a crime against freedom. As we remember the killings of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner during the 1964 Freedom Summer in Mississippi, I'd like to take the opportunity to share with you the statements of that community today in 2004. These statements represent a call by community leaders; a tri-racial commission of blacks, whites, and Choctaws; and city and county elected officials to seek justice and forgiveness for these crimes of the past. Like the rest of the country, Mississippi still has much work to do concerning racial reconciliation, but I believe we have come further and are more committed to racial harmony than many other states. But I will let this Neshoba County community speak for itself:

First is the Philadelphia Coalition's Resolution for Justice. This tri-racial coalition led by

Leroy Clemons and James E. Prince III is leading the call for justice in this community, and organizing the events affiliated with the 40th Anniversary Memorial this weekend.

THE PHILADELPHIA COALITION'S RESOLUTION FOR JUSTICE: STATEMENT ASKING FOR JUSTICE IN THE JUNE 21, 1964 MURDERS OF JAMES CHANEY, ANDREW GOODMAN AND MICHAEL SCHWERNER

Forty years ago, on June 21, 1964, three young men, James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner, were murdered in Neshoba County by members of the Ku Klux Klan.

The state of Mississippi has never brought criminal indictments against anyone for these murders—an act of omission of historic significance. There is, for good and obvious reasons, no statute of limitations on murder. This principle of law holds that anyone who takes the life of another person for any reason not provided by law is never immune from prosecution, no matter how remote in time.

With firm resolve and strong belief in the rule of law, we call on the Neshoba County District Attorney, the state Attorney General and the U.S. Department of Justice to make every effort to seek justice in this case. We deplore the possibility that history will record that the state of Mississippi, and this community in particular, did not make a good faith effort to do its duty.

We state candidly and with deep regret that some of our own citizens, including local and state law enforcement officers, were involved in the planning and execution of these murders. We are also cognizant of the shameful involvement and interference of state government, including actions of the State Sovereignty Commission, in thwarting justice in this case.

Finally, we wish to say to the families of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner, that we are profoundly sorry for what was done in this community to your loved ones. And we are mindful of our responsibility as citizens to call on the authorities to make an effort to work for justice in this case. Continued failure to do so will only further compound the wrong.

We, the undersigned, call on those in authority to use every available resource and do all things necessary to bring about a just resolution to this case.

The Philadelphia Coalition.

Next comes the resolution by the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors, the elected leadership of this community on the county level.

NESHOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' RESOLUTION

Forty years ago, on June 21, 1964, three young men, James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner, were murdered in Neshoba County.

The State of Mississippi has never brought criminal indictments against anybody for these murders. There is for good and obvious reason, no statute of limitations on murder.

This principal of law holds that anyone who takes the life of another person for any reason not provided by law is never immune from prosecution, no matter how remote the time.

With firm resolve and strong belief in the rule of law, we call on the appropriate authorities to make every effort to seek justice in this case.

We regret that history will record that the authorities did not make a good faith effort to do its duty and we call on the people in authority to make an effort to seek justice in this case.

Finally, we wish to say to the families of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Mi-

chael Schwerner that we regret what was done in this community to your loved ones.

We, the undersigned, call on those in authority to use every available resource and do all things necessary to bring about a just resolution to this case.

By: James Young, President, Neshoba County Board of Supervisors.

The leadership of the City of Philadelphia, the county seat and population center of Neshoba County, has also passed a resolution in support of this seeking of justice.

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA'S RESOLUTION: RESOLUTION ASKING FOR JUSTICE IN THE JUNE 21, 1964 MURDERS OF JAMES CHANEY, ANDREW GOODMAN AND MICHAEL SCHWERNER

Forty years ago, on June 21, 1964, three young men, James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner, were murdered in Neshoba County.

The State of Mississippi has never brought criminal indictments against anybody for these murders. There is for good and obvious reasons, no statute of limitations on murder. This principal of law holds that anyone who takes the life of another person for any reason not provided by law is never immune from prosecution, no matter how remote the time.

With firm resolve and strong belief in the rule of law, we call on the appropriate authorities to make every effort to seek justice in this case. We regret that history will record that the authorities did not make a good faith effort to do its duty and we call on the people in authority to make an effort to seek justice in this case.

Finally, we wish to say to the families of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner that we regret what was done in this community to your loved ones.

We, the undersigned, call on those in authority to use every available resource and do all things necessary to bring about a just resolution to this case.

By: Rayburn Waddell, Mayor; Janice Payne, Alderwoman at Large; Joe Tullos, Alderman, Ward I; Roy White, Alderman, Ward 2; Ronnie Jenkins, Alderman, Ward 3; and, Bobbie Jackson, Alderwoman, Ward 4.

The Community Development Partnership is Neshoba County and Philadelphia's chief economic development organization and represents the interests of many businesses, financial institutions and companies in the region.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP'S RESOLUTION

Resolution Asking for Justice in the June 21, 1964 Murders of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner.

Forty years ago, on June 21, 1964, three young men, James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner, were murdered in Neshoba County.

The State of Mississippi has never brought criminal indictments against anybody for these murders. There is, for good and obvious reasons, no statute of limitations on murder. This principle of law holds that anyone who takes the life of another person for any reason not provided by law is never immune from prosecution, no matter how remote the time.

With firm resolve and strong belief in the rule of law, we call on the appropriate authorities to make every effort to seek justice in this case. We regret that history will record that the authorities did not make a good faith effort to do their duty and we call on the people in authority to make an effort to see justice in this case.

Finally, we wish to say to the families of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner that we regret what was

done in this community to your loved ones. We the undersigned, call on those in authority to use every available resource and do all things necessary to bring about a just resolution to this case.

By: Brenda Mills, Chairwoman of the Board; and David Vowell, President.

This Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians have long represented an integral part of this community and has created a model of economic and community revitalization and development. Today they have moved from poverty to prosperity and are an integrated part of both the community and this call for justice.

LETTER FROM THE TRIBE OF MISSISSIPPI
CHOCTAW INDIANS

DEAR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS: Forty years ago, three communities, white, black, and Choctaw, lived in Neshoba County separated by fear, ignorance, and bigotry.

Although all of us were Neshoba Countians, Mississippians, and Americans, living together in a relatively small geographic region, we lived apart in our separate communities seeking protection and self-preservation among our own kind. Mainly what we knew of one another was to be wary. Being a small community many of us did interact and often positively, but mutual respect, honor, and acceptance were indeed not commonalities shared between us.

Being forced apart, we were often denied the opportunity to learn from one another's differences and to gain from each other's strengths. Forty years ago, three young men who ignored the walls of separation between our communities were sacrificed to the fears and hatreds that long simmered throughout our country. Forever since, Neshoba County has been associated with an act of infamy. However, those three that we lost, live among us today.

While it is right to mourn them, we honor them more when we celebrate their lives for the positive changes they provided to all of us.

Today white, black, and Choctaw still live together in Neshoba County. We also work together, transact business together, learn together, worship together and play together.

While we have not eliminated fear, ignorance, or bigotry, we have surpassed those constraints and are prospering together.

While we continue to maintain our separate communities, we do so now not to, but because we choose to in order to preserve our unique cultural identities.

Now, forty years later, we come together with ease, and as equals not just to remember the trauma of the past, but more importantly, to admire our present, and plan our future together. All of our communities have changed for the better, we have an economy that is flourishing, our people are working and prospering, with the Tribe alone providing more than 9,000 jobs. When we work together and support one another, good things happen.

On behalf of The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, I commend Philadelphia Coalition for its efforts to celebrate our unity.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP MARTIN,
Tribal Chief.

Mr. Speaker, today at the request of this community, federal and state law enforcement officials are actively studying the potential of reopening this case to bring any remaining murderers to justice. The purpose is not to reopen old wounds, but to bring closure and healing to those wounds by providing the remedy of justice.

This weekend, I will participate in events in Neshoba County memorializing the deaths of

three men who sought equality, justice and civil rights. We will remember the past, take stock of the present, and work for the future. We are a better Mississippi today, we will be still better tomorrow. I commend this community for showing leadership and embracing justice and look forward to working with all the citizens of Neshoba County as we continue to move forward both socially and economically. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

INTRODUCTION OF A HOUSE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEAS OF NATIONAL TIME OUT DAY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a House resolution supporting the goals and ideas of the National Time Out Day, which the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) and over 50 other health care organizations are celebrating on June 23, 2004 to promote the adoption of a new protocol for preventing medical errors in the operating room.

The number of individuals who are affected by medical errors is astounding. In 2000, the Institute of Medicine released a report entitled "To Err is Human: Building a Safer Health System." The report revealed that between 44,000 and 98,000 hospitalized people in the U.S. die each year due to medical errors, and thousands of others suffer injury or illness as a result of preventable errors.

To address this problem, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations has developed a universal protocol which calls for surgical teams to call a "time out" before surgeries begin in order to verify the patient's identity, the procedure to be performed, and the site of the procedure. The Joint Commission is requiring nurses, surgeons and hospitals throughout the country to adopt this protocol beginning July 1, 2004, in order to curb the alarming number of deaths and injuries due to medical errors.

AORN has created an Internet website and distributed 55,000 tool kits to healthcare professionals to help them implement the universal protocol, and they are celebrating National Time Out Day on June 23 to promote the protocol and its adoption.

National Time Out Day has been endorsed by a distinguished group of healthcare organizations, including the American College of Surgeons, the American Society of Anesthesiologists, the American Hospital Association, and the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management.

Mr. Speaker, ultimately, this issue is about health care access and patient safety. Fewer medical errors will result in better outcomes for patients, fewer medical malpractice suits, which in turn will help keep malpractice insurance rates and health care premiums down.

I think it is important for Congress to recognize and congratulate perioperative nurses and representatives of surgical teams for working together to reduce medical errors and to ensure the improved health and safety of surgical patients—and that is the purpose of this resolution.

THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 2004

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, today the United States needs true friends like the Republic of Kazakhstan as never before and we should encourage and welcome their achievements for the simple reason that by strengthening themselves they strengthen us.

I have followed the development of a young Kazakhstan with great interest and I should note that since gaining its independence from the former Soviet Union in 1991, this country has undergone tremendous political and economic transformation. Reforming a former totalitarian society is not an easy task. Of course, there were some mistakes and drawbacks. However, one should acknowledge the fact that Kazakhstan is dynamically moving forward and is moving in the right direction.

We should keep in mind that we are talking about a country which achieved democracy and personal freedoms through tremendous suffering. A great deal of credit for Kazakhstan's coming of age should go to its leader, President Nursultan Nazarbayev. I fully share the position of the leadership of Kazakhstan that any reforms make sense only if they serve the people.

Many have criticized Kazakhstan for initially choosing a course of economic liberalization while putting deep political reforms on the backburner. However, the time has proven this course right. I praise the political foresight of President Nazarbayev, an architect of Kazakhstan's success, who, in spite of criticism, has managed to bring his country into the fold of economically strong nations and has now embarked on an even bolder set of political reforms.

Recently, Kazakhstan's leader has called for a massive transformation of the country's political life and the strengthening of Kazakhstan's leadership by building a democracy. The major step in this direction will be a significant strengthening of the role of the national Parliament. President Nazarbayev has proposed to increase the numbers of deputies in both houses of Parliament and to develop a new system of forming the Government through the mechanism of a Parliamentary majority.

I believe decisions to decentralize state management and pursue aggressive fights against corruption are also crucial. Moreover, according to the President, the judiciary system will undergo serious reforms. Jury trials will be introduced, more power will be given to defense attorneys in criminal litigation.

All this, to me, is a true sign of Kazakhstan's maturity. I agree with President Nazarbayev, that "You can't just declare democracy. You can only build it through hard work." As a nation that has been building its democracy for more than 200 years, we should value the words of a leader of a young democracy.

I would like to wish the people and government of Kazakhstan success in their efforts. Future successes of a democratic and free Republic of Kazakhstan directly benefit the United States, as it will help ensure stability and prosperity of Central Asia, a region extremely important in our fight against international terrorism.