

While there, we had the opportunity to meet with Col. Mohammad Qaddafi and members of the Libyan People's Congress to discuss Libya's recent renouncement of state sponsored terror and their development of weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. Speaker, this prospective opening to the West is not a mystical revision, but a practical decision by the Libyan Government. It must be met with an equally practical policy of one very wary step at a time.

While there, it became clear the Libyan possibility for peaceful regime conversion and rehabilitation gravely underscores the inherent stakes of succeeding in the Iraqi regime change and reconstruction. If the latter fails, the former fades, and we are all worse than we were at square one.

Unfortunately, my participation in this trip forced me to miss a few votes.

During this time I missed six recorded votes. If I was present I would have voted the following way:

On H.R. 3769, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 137 East Young High Pike in Knoxville, Tennessee, as the "Ben Atchley Post Office Building". Roll Number 32, I would have voted "yes."

On H. Res. 526, expressing the sympathy of the House of Representatives for the victims of the devastating earthquake that occurred on December 26, 2003, in Bam, Iran. Roll Number 33, I would have voted "yes."

On H. Res 530, urging the appropriate representative of the United States to the 60th session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights to introduce a resolution calling upon the Government of the People's Republic of China to end its human rights violations in China, and for other purposes. Roll Number 34, I would have voted "yes."

On H.R. 912, Charles "Pete" Conrad Astronomy Awards Act. Roll Number 35, I would have voted "yes."

On H.R. 3389, to amend the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 to permit Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards to be made to nonprofit organizations. Roll Number 36, I would have voted "yes."

On H.R. 1417, Copyright Royalty and Distribution Reform Act of 2003 Roll Number 37, I would have voted "yes."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RICK ALLEN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the contributions of Rick Allen, the founder of the Christians Reach Out Ministries in Grand Junction, Colorado. His actions are all the more remarkable when one considers that he has overcome a crippling disability and his own homelessness, hurdles which he sees as God's way of preparing him for his path of service. His tireless efforts have motivated others in the community to join with him to give hope to those individuals, that society views as hopeless.

In 1992, after nearly 20 years as a successful truck driver, Rick Allen developed debilitating carpal tunnel syndrome. Losing the use

of his hands precipitated the loss of his job, home and family within a matter of months. Through the years of surviving under the harshest of conditions, Rick came to see his plight as God's way of educating him for his special mission to the homeless.

In 1997, while still homeless and living in a church basement, he began preparing meals and serving them every Sunday at the park where many homeless spend their days. Soon, church members began to join Rick and the program became the Christians Reach Out Ministries. When Rick was awarded long term disability in 1998, he moved into a modest apartment, which he promptly put into use preparing meals for an ever increasing number of people. Rick is currently working on plans for a larger shelter, giving those in need access to healthcare and employment services, in order to make it possible to climb out of the pit of homelessness, which Rick knows firsthand.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring the service and vision of Rick Allen to the attention of this body of Congress, and to commend him for his outstanding dedication to his community. His mission to serve does not end with simply feeding the homeless, but rather in giving the homeless hope for a better life. I would like to wish him the best and sincerely thank him for his service.

IN HONOR OF CAMP RAMAH IN THE BERKSHIRES

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

Mr. NADLER. I rise today to honor Camp Ramah in the Berkshires as the Ramah family celebrates its 40th anniversary.

Camp Ramah provides our community's youngsters a unique opportunity to interweave exposure to the beautiful countryside of the Berkshires with education in Jewish values and practice. The benefit of such experience is precious, and I commend Camp Ramah's continued efforts to extend that benefit to all children, regardless of economic limitations. The future of our community depends upon programs and experiences like those provided by Camp Ramah, which has a long history of cultivating knowledge and leadership in our community's youth.

As Camp Ramah prepares to open its doors for the 40th time, I would like to commend those special honorees, Dr. Charles and Barbara Mann and Rabbi Paul and Martha Resnick, who have done so much for the camp and the values that it embodies. It is from teachers like Mr. Mann and Rabbi Resnick that the leaders of tomorrow gain the encouragement, enrichment, and values that they will need to make our future the best it can be. I send my warmest congratulations to the honorees, and thank them for their years of service.

I wish Camp Ramah's extended family of friends and supporters a wonderful evening of entertainment and celebration, and I join you in wishing for the camp 40 more successful years.

A TRIBUTE OF GRATITUDE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL DON "BOBO" SCHILPP

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute one of the many brave men and women who serve all of us in our great military. I would especially like to pay tribute today and offer my personal thanks to Lieutenant Colonel Don "BoBo" Schilpp, of the United States Air Force, for a job well done.

Many of us in Congress know Lieutenant Colonel Schilpp because of his dedicated service during the past four years as the Appropriations/Budget Liaison for the Air Force. This is an important role, at a time when many significant national security decisions were being made in the Congress, affecting the Air Force as well as our nation's ability to fulfill our constitutional role of "provid(ing) for the national defense." The Air Force, through Colonel Schilpp's leadership during the past four years, has given us timely and thorough responses to our requests for information, and I want to take this opportunity as he retires from active duty to express our appreciation to him for all of his efforts. I have also had the pleasure of traveling with BoBo on several occasions, and each time his professionalism and personal attention to detail were the keys to a smooth and successful congressional delegation mission.

Before this assignment, Lieutenant Colonel Schilpp was an accomplished leader and combat pilot with more than 3,400 hours in the F-15 and T-37 aircraft. He served overseas during Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm and Southern Watch accruing more than 260 combat hours.

While I have relied upon Lieutenant Colonel Schilpp's military advice, I have valued his friendship even more, and I know many of my colleagues on defense related committees in the House share in that sentiment. In this regard, I wanted Colonel Schilpp to know that all of us in Congress who have known him and worked with him wish him the very best of luck in all his future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DORIS CHERRY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to a warm and generous soul who takes pride in brightening the lives of countless Capitol Hill employees and visitors each and every day. Doris Cherry has worked in the Longworth House Office Building cafeteria for 28 years. Doris is an enthusiastic and friendly face amidst the hectic cafeteria environment. I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing her tremendous years of service to the Capitol Hill community.

This year Doris was recognized as Employee of the Year by Guest Services for her longtime dedication to customer service. Doris

came to Washington, DC as a child and started work in the Longworth cafeteria as a line server in 1976. She was a grill cook and a deli server for ten years before moving to her current position at the checkout line registers, where she has been a pleasant fixture for Cafeteria patrons over the past 15 years. Doris is a compassionate person who maintains that she is happiest when her customers come in for a break and leave with a smile. Her reputation for kindness and customer care have led patrons to line up 20 people deep to get a chance to speak with Doris.

Mr. Speaker, Doris Cherry is a dedicated individual who genuinely cares about every person she meets. Doris has demonstrated a talent for customer service that resonates in her ability to selflessly enrich the lives of the Capitol Hill Community. Doris's enthusiasm and commitment certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress. Congratulations on your award Doris. I look forward to continuing to see your friendly face in the Longworth cafeteria.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to official business, I was unable to vote during the following rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as indicated below.

Rollcall No. 32 "yes"; rollcall No. 33 "yes"; rollcall No. 34 "yes"; rollcall No. 35 "yes"; and rollcall No. 36 "yes."

AMERICAN RED CROSS

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and acknowledge March as American Red Cross Month.

For over 122 years the American Red Cross has helped people through man-made and natural disasters. Last September after my district took a huge hit and was smashed by Hurricane Isabel the American Red Cross was there to help.

Hurricane Isabel will not be forgotten and neither will the good work of the American Red Cross. From broad measures to help entire communities to individualized care, the American Red Cross acted swiftly and without hesitation. By creating temporary shelters and providing food and water and medical care to those who needed it, the American Red Cross made an extremely difficult situation bearable. Thousands of homes and businesses were damaged or destroyed by the hurricane and without the American Red Cross countless people would have suffered.

The American Red Cross saves lives. In addition to disaster relief, the American Red Cross' biomedical services program provides life saving aid through their blood and tissue donation efforts.

The American Red Cross has a long history of serving the people of the United States. Es-

tablished by Clara Barton in 1881 as a disaster relief and battlefield assistance organization, the American Red Cross carries on the fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity, and Universality are the guiding forces behind the work and service provided by the American Red Cross.

The American Red Cross is truly a blessing to all who benefit from their services. It is impossible to adequately show my appreciation to all of the volunteers and members of the American Red Cross who tirelessly aid people in need. Thank you for this opportunity to honor the American Red Cross and the people who make it a truly wonderful organization.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRANK DICAMILLO

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Frank Dicamillo on his recent retirement as chief operator of the wastewater treatment plant for the City of Delta, Colorado. For over forty years, Frank helped Delta's sewage and water systems become more ecological and efficient. His service to the community is certainly commendable.

Frank began his career with the City of Delta in 1960, when all the city's wastewater was discharged, untreated into the Uncompahgre River. After serving in the Army from 1963 to 1966, he returned home to find the city building wastewater treatment lagoons. He became responsible for overseeing these lagoons, and in 1968 when the water treatment plant was built, overseeing that as well. One of the most memorable moments in Frank's career came in 1977 when he and his co-workers came to national attention for their success in preventing a water shortage. They solved the problem brought about by a lack of snowfall the previous winter by diverting water from a canal to the water plant. When the new wastewater treatment plant opened in 1985, Frank eagerly accepted the challenge the more complex plant presented and was named Chief Plant Operator.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring the service of Frank Dicamillo to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation, and to congratulate him on an outstanding career. I would like to wish Mr. Dicamillo the best in his retirement. I sincerely thank him for his service.

TRUTH COMMISSION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation calling on the Administration to expose and explain their involvement in Haiti's 33rd coup d'etat.

My legislation will create a TRUTH Commission, which stands for The Responsibility for

Uncovering the TRUTH about Haiti. This independent commission will be bipartisan and work to uncover the Bush administration's role in Haiti prior to President Aristide's exile.

I believe the Bush administration undercut the potential for a diplomatic solution for peaceful democratic elections, any potential for a cease-fire and an end to violence.

It bears primary responsibility therefore, for Aristide's unwilling departure as well as for the sacrifice of the democratic process in Haiti.

As Members of Congress find out more about the events leading up to President Aristide's departure, the twilight activities of his alleged resignation, the current unconstitutional government, and the ongoing turmoil, fear, and misinformation that is still flowing out of Haiti.

We want answers, Mr. Speaker and an independent commission is one of many tools that we intend on exercising.

I have several pressing questions that I hope this commission will find the answers for:

1. Did the U.S. Government impede democracy and contribute to the overthrow of the Aristide government?

2. Under what circumstances did President Jean-Bertrand Aristide resign and what was the role of the United States Government in bringing about his departure?

3. To what extent did the U.S. impede efforts by the international community, particularly the Caribbean Community, CARICOM, countries, to prevent the overthrow of the democratically-elected Government of Haiti?

4. What was the role of the United States in influencing decisions regarding Haiti at the United Nations Security Council and in discussions between Haiti and other countries that were willing to assist in the preservation of the democratically-elected Government of Haiti by sending security forces to Haiti?

5. Was U.S. assistance provided or were U.S. personnel involved in supporting, directly or indirectly, the forces and opposed to the government of President Aristide? Was United States bilateral assistance channeled through nongovernmental organizations that were directly or indirectly associated with political groups actively involved in fomenting hostilities or violence toward the government of President Aristide?

6. Was any U.S. bilateral assistance channeled through non-governmental organizations that were directly or indirectly involved in fomenting hostilities or violence toward the Aristide government?

And there are more questions about the long-term origins of Haiti's current crisis and the long-term impact on the region as a result of the administration's policies.

This was regime change by other means.

We do not teach people to violently overthrow our U.S. Government, and we must not teach other people in the international community, particularly Haiti, to participate in activities that taint the hope for democracy by use of violence.

I stand here today because the Haitian community stands for democracy and not for political maneuvering by the Bush administration.

This is an issue of democracy.

The United States must stand firm in its support of democracy and not allow a nascent democracy like Haiti, fall victim to regime change and an international "racist" foreign policy.

I commend all of my colleagues to join in support of this commission and ask for its timely passage.