

in terms of crime prevention and crime solving, but we need to remember that there are only so many available law enforcement officers at a given time. As our society grows, the demands placed on these individuals have also increased tremendously.

The falling crime rate has largely benefited urban and suburban areas, so it is important to remember our rural constituencies also need our help in fighting crime. Officer safety and the ability to investigate major crimes are often compromised by a lack of resources in rural areas. One of the local police chiefs in a small town in my district recently told me that his main concern at home is not Al Qaeda infiltrating the town—it's making sure that the middle school down the streets is drug free and safe.

I truly thank the members of law enforcement across this nation for their service and I commit to working in support of both homeland security and domestic security.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIETNAM HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 613, recognizing Vietnam Human Rights Day. This resolution marks the tenth anniversary of the day the Manifesto of the Nonviolent Movement for Human Rights in Vietnam was announced. This landmark document was written in 1994 by the great human rights leader Dr. Nguyen Dan Que, who called for an end to human rights violations in Vietnam.

Dr. Que is one of the most prominent advocates for democracy, freedom and human rights in Vietnam. He has remained in Vietnam since 1975, after the fall of Saigon and the departure of the last American troops. Even in the face of significant peril, Dr. Que defied the communist regime by speaking out in defense of human dignity and the rights of all Vietnamese people. He has been imprisoned intermittently for the past 20 years, and remains under constant supervision and subject to frequent harassment by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. He continues his struggle in order to focus the world's attention to the thousands of his countrymen and fellow dissidents who are also harassed, tortured or imprisoned for openly criticizing the government.

One such dissident is Father Thaddeus Nguyen Ly, a Roman Catholic priest who was invited to testify before the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom in 2001. Although he was denied permission to leave his country to testify in person, his statement cited several specific actions taken by the Government of Vietnam that violated religious freedom and which he described as "extremely cruel." He called for a "non violent and persistent campaign" to achieve full religious freedom for all people in Vietnam.

The Vietnamese government imprisoned Father Ly on the basis of that testimony. He was branded a traitor for "slandering" the Communist party, and "distorting" the religious pol-

icy of the government. Father Ly was arrested and tried without the benefit of counsel. In a trial that lasted only a single day, he was convicted of all charges and sentenced to fifteen years in prison and an additional five years of administrative probation. Father Ly's nephews were also imprisoned, further demonstrating this case of egregious oppression of human rights and its devastating impact on Father Ly's family.

Mr. Speaker, it has been ten years since the United States ended its trade embargo with Vietnam and normalized relations with Hanoi under the policy known as "constructive engagement," which has proven effective with our previously closed societies in which human rights violations were prevalent. While the U.S. continues to open diplomatic relations with Vietnam, we must continue to advance constructive engagement to ensure a more open, democratic and prosperous Vietnamese society. It is our responsibility to promote greater freedom of speech and religion and greater respect for basic human rights in Vietnam.

Mr. Speaker, human rights shall always remain a firm pillar of U.S. foreign policy. Accordingly, I thank the gentleman from Virginia for introducing this important resolution and I urge my colleagues to support it.

RECOGNIZING THE VETERANS WHO SERVED DURING WORLD WAR II, THE AMERICANS WHO SUP- PORTED THE WAR, AND CELE- BRATING THE COMPLETION OF THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 409, which recognizes the 16,000,000 Americans who served in the armed forces during World War II and the millions more who supported them at home. As the dedication of the National World War II Memorial and the 60th anniversary of D-Day approach, our country will rightfully be thinking of those Americans who bravely gave or risked their lives to a great cause.

I remain in awe of this generation, of men who accepted the call to travel around the world to spend years fighting in the Asian and Pacific theaters, and of women who kept the country running by assuming jobs in factories, growing victory gardens, and serving overseas in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps and other capacities.

It has been my good fortune to spend some time with veterans and their families in my home district of western Wisconsin, and I always enjoy hearing their stories of wartime. In fact, it was the experience of listening to my uncle, a World War II veteran, that inspired me to introduce legislation creating The Veterans Oral History Project. Almost four years after becoming public law, the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress has collected 16,000 stories and is working at a feverish pace to collect more everyday. This living legacy is testament to the millions of Americans who sacrificed so much during World War II.

Now, almost 60 years after the end of the war, a monument has at last been built in our nation's capital that pays tribute to the generation that fought and won World War II. The monument, set in the middle of the National Mall between the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument, will remind all visitors to the city that World War II was the defining event of the 20th Century and the seminal point for what is often and aptly called "the Greatest Generation."

THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN SUDAN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Sudan today.

Sudan is the ninth largest country in the world and Africa's largest. The wars of Sudan have killed more people than in Kosovo, Bosnia, Rwanda and Somalia combined, most of them civilians. For the best part of 50 years, peace has eluded the people of Southern Sudan.

Southern Sudan has not only been neglected by Northern Sudan, it has also been neglected by the world.

It is estimated that more than 3 million people have been uprooted from their homes and the numbers of dead are unknown.

Destruction of homes, huts, crops and agricultural areas, wells, shops and entire villages are systematically taking place. Women report that they would be kidnapped and raped if they went any further than one and one-half kilometers away from their camp to collect wood or to tend to their vegetables.

These actions have resulted in a dire human rights and humanitarian crisis.

Neighboring governments have generously received Sudanese refugees. It is estimated that over 110,000 Sudanese refugees are in Chad; 223,000 are in Uganda; 88,000 are in Ethiopia; 69,000 in Democratic Republic of the Congo and 60,000 are in Kenya.

Women arrive in refugee camps already greatly traumatized by hardship and loss. They may have walked for months through hostile territory, living on wild fruits and drinking water from puddles. Often the weaker members of their family, particularly, their children, have died along the way.

In a Kenyan refugee camp, a Southern Sudanese woman says, "We flee the Sudan and our problems follow us. The security is fine but it's an alien environment—hot and windy, no grass or rain or water. We get homesick for familiar surroundings. Most people who came here have died even though there's a hospital. The place where they bury people is full. Now they have started another one."

Mr. Speaker, the United States must do everything in its power to encourage the government of the Sudan to end this abuse.

Although this current conflict was initiated by rebel forces, the government of the Sudan has a legal responsibility to protect all its citizens and uphold the law.

We must act immediately to prevent the recurrence of the human rights that have already taken place and act swiftly to restore

the Southern Sudanese's survival, security and human dignity. In doing so, we not only honor them, we bring honor to America.

RECOGNIZING DR. LEE L.
HUNTSMAN

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Lee L. Huntsman, who will soon complete his term as president of the University of Washington. I want to acknowledge his service to the State of Washington, to the students, faculty and staff of the University, and to the Nation.

Research universities like the University of Washington are essential to the economic, cultural and educational vitality of the United States. The University of Washington is unquestionably one of the great research and educational institutions in this country. The University of Washington plays a key role in carrying out the scientific and research agenda set by Congress. Over the last 8 years Dr. Huntsman has provided key leadership as provost and president, helping the UW establish itself as one of the most innovative and entrepreneurial universities in America.

Dr. Huntsman took the helm of this great educational enterprise and helped to move it forward. His integrity, intellect and incisive thinking have given the Regents an opportunity to continue their work and have enlightened and inspired the efforts of the entire community of the University of Washington. We are grateful to Dr. Huntsman for answering the call to public service and for doing so in such a principled and congenial way.

INTRODUCTION—WEATHER AND
OCEANS RESOURCES REALIGN-
MENT ACT

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be here today to introduce an important piece of conservation legislation, the Weather and Oceans Resources Realignment Act. This bill will transfer the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the Department of the Interior.

An issue to which I have devoted a great deal of time and one that I feel is very important is the protection of the diverse range of fish stocks that inhabit our world's oceans, many of which are very close to disappearing forever. The National Marine Fisheries Service, the agency tasked with the protection of these species has failed to do so. I have never been able to comprehend why the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is housed within the Department of Commerce, which has nothing to do with the protection of our natural resources. For this reason, I have introduced this legislation, which simply moves NOAA to a more appropriate agency, Interior.

Given the release of now three studies essentially stating that what I have been talking

about is likely to happen, I am more convinced than ever that we need to take aggressive action immediately. Many of our oceans' fish stocks are now reportedly 90 percent depleted, meaning only 10 percent of the stocks that once existed remain. And many of these stocks are in grave danger of extinction if we proceed down the same path we are on now—that is, continue to study these stocks and do little to mitigate the damage that has already been done.

The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, created from my Oceans Act of 2000, released its report in April of this year, with many of the same findings. We need to take immediate aggressive steps to prevent the disappearance of these fish species, before it's too late. These studies should be a wake-up call that the process through which our world's fisheries is managed is broken and needs to be fixed.

The National Marine Fisheries Service has demonstrated repeatedly they are incapable of doing the job they have been tasked with as the primary federal agency responsible for monitoring and protecting our Nation's fisheries. To place them within the Department of the Interior would serve to strengthen the two agencies goals of resources conservation.

This is an issue that resonates with anyone who has ever been to the beach in States like New Jersey, or watched a television program involving the deep blue sea. And given that 50 percent of the population of the United States lives within 100 miles of a coast, there are many who are personally affected by this issue. We have a unique opportunity to do something amazing and I think we owe it these wonderful resources that are our oceans to do all we can to bring them back to a healthy and sustainable level, for future generations.

HONORING LULA BELL HOUSTON

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lula Bell Houston of Davidson, North Carolina. Ms. Houston retired in May 2004 from Davidson College, my alma mater, after 57 years of service in the college laundry. The significance of this milestone in the Davidson community is matched only by the devotion that Ms. Houston has brought to her job everyday for over half a century.

Born in 1923 (just three years after the current laundry building was constructed), Ms. Houston worked for a year in Davidson's dining service from 1943–44. She spent the next few years raising a family, but returned in 1947 to work at the college laundry. She has been there ever since, waking up every weekday morning at 4:15 a.m., to ensure that she would be there for the 6:30 a.m. start of the work day. Ms. Houston originally took the job as a means of supporting herself and her two young children after her first husband left them, but the students have kept her here long after her children have grown up and had kids of their own.

The biggest legacy that Ms. Houston leaves the college and the town of Davidson is her warm personality and loving nature. She was

always ready with a hug and a smile to all who came to drop off their laundry. Student after student shared stories and memories about Ms. Houston and all spoke of the genuine love in her voice when she greets them and how she has been like a grandmother to them all. The college has figured that she has cared for the laundry of all but 1,226 of the college's 19,731 living alumni—a lot of surrogate grandchildren.

Davidson College honored Ms. Houston in the best way possible, naming the laundry building after her. The Town of Davidson commemorated that sunny day of April 29, 2004 by declaring it "Lula Bell Houston Day." At Spring Convocation the day before, the Omicron Delta Kappa honorary leadership fraternity presented Ms. Houston with its Staff Appreciation Award, and in 2002, the SAE fraternity presented Ms. Houston with \$500, a dozen roses, and a trophy recognizing her as "The Spirit of Davidson."

As an article featured on the college's website puts it, "Few retirees in local history have been so royally heralded." Ms. Houston deserves every bit of that recognition for her long and tireless service to the college and her part in the lives of thousands of Davidson students over the years. I join my fellow Davidson alumni and other members of the Davidson community past and present in commending Ms. Lula Bell Houston and celebrating her achievement.

I submit for the RECORD a news article with more about Ms. Houston.

[From the Davidson, Apr. 30, 2004]

CAMPUS HONORS RETIREMENT OF "SPIRIT OF
DAVIDSON" IN LAUNDRY'S NEW NAME

(By Leslie Hempson)

As if fifty-seven years of work weren't enough, in a sense Lula Bell Houston will never leave her job now. That's because the college on Thursday afternoon affixed her name forever to the laundry building, naming it in her honor.

Hundreds of well-wishers turned out to honor the eighty-year-old Houston at her retirement party, and cheered when President Robert Vagt made the surprise announcement of the building's new name. In praising her loyalty to Davidson and irrepressible good cheer, Vagt called her "a biological mother to four children, but a mom to all who needed her."

"This is a grand moment in the history of Davidson College," he said.

When asked to respond, Houston could find few words. "What can I say? What can I say?" she asked. "I just want to thank everyone for being here, for letting me see your beautiful faces. I love all of you."

Few retirees in local history have been so royally heralded. In a whirlwind twenty-four hours that capped her long career sorting student clothes and folding sheets, President Vagt also read a proclamation from the Town of Davidson declaring "Lula Bell Houston Day," and the student membership of the Omicron Delta Kappa honorary campus leadership fraternity presented her with its Staff Appreciation Award at Spring Convocation.

Alumni and current students turned out at the retirement party to honor the woman who greeted them with a smile on their regular trips to the laundry. Joey Harris '02, former student body president, took a day off his job in a Congressional office and drove from Washington to attend. "I couldn't miss it," he said. "Ms. Lula Bell has been a good friend over the years, and we still keep in touch. There's no other place I'd rather be right now than here."