

In the early 1970s Juana Bordas started the MiCasa Resource Center for Women in Denver which continues to this day to help low-income Latinas and youth with job training and life skills. As President of a multicultural consulting firm, Mestiza Leadership International, she travels the country developing diversity in the workforce. She has said that, "my mission is to help with the birth of a multi-cultural nation." She notes how Latinos in other countries are heads of government and industry, and believes that there is no reason why it should be different here in the United States. Juana served with the Denver Election Commission to register more voters and to put her beliefs into practical effect. Today, Latino leaders are emerging in public office as never before. Thoughtful and hard-working people like Juana Bordas have helped to pave this path of progress.

Juana Bordas reminds of us of something that should be important to every American. Each of us owes an enormous debt to the strength and courage of families who sacrificed for their children in order to realize the American dream. Our country was founded by such people, and that continues to be our greatest strength. As a successful business woman, Juana Bordas has given an immeasurable amount back to our community in time, skill, wisdom, and by simply being a role model. It is with great admiration that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Juana Bordas, a great American success story and a woman worth knowing and learning from. I wish her continued success in the future.

BUSH AND THE G-8 AGENDA

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 8, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, the current state of the African continent has been an ongoing issue of concern for policy makers in this country and elsewhere. As the rest of the world is reaping the rewards of development, Africa seems to be sinking deeper into a health and poverty crisis.

In pursuit of a solution, British Prime Minister Tony Blair met with President Bush at the White House yesterday to discuss next month's Group of Eight (G-8) summit. Specifically, the two men discussed Prime Minister Blair's ambitious plan to bring a historic combination of debt relief, trade concessions, and aid to the African continent.

A major component of the plan would entail a large increase of aid payments to Africa to around \$25 billion annually, before increasing to \$50 billion annually within three to five years. This would be in-line with the UN's goal to have industrialized nations allocate 0.7 percent of their GDP to development assistance. While Mr. Blair's exciting proposal should be applauded, agreement as to how it will be achieved is still awaited.

Mr. Blair and British Finance Minister Gordon Brown argue that the aid should be funded through a mechanism they call the "International Finance Facility" (IFF). The IFF would raise aid funds by issuing bonds on world capital markets. The IFF bonds would be backed by a promise from the G7 economic powers to repay them after 2015.

The Bush Administration has not been supportive of the IFF, which it views as incompatible with U.S. Congressional budgetary rules. However, while aspects of the IFF proposal may be problematic, the necessity for increased aid to Africa is not in question. At current assistance rates, Sub Saharan Africa will unquestionably fall short of the Millennium Development Goals to cut poverty on the continent in half by 2015. As such, Blair's call for further aid to the continent is merited.

To its credit, the Bush Administration has substantially increased aid to Sub-Saharan Africa, which amounted to around \$3.2 billion in 2004. Though this ranks the U.S. among the world leaders in total African assistance, we still trail much of the industrialized world in the amount of aid we give as a percentage of GDP. In addition, large amounts of the Bush Administration's aid pledges to Africa have been slow in coming. For example, the \$4 billion committed to the region under the Millennium Challenge Account has yet to actually be delivered in earnest. Indeed, a June 8th Op-Ed in New York Times entitled "Crumbs for Africa" describes just how much more we can do.

On Tuesday, the Bush Administration announced that the U.S. will provide \$674 million in additional famine assistance to Africa this year from funds already appropriated by Congress. While this is to be commended, Prime Minister Blair is pushing for a broad, long-term effort to help Africa's economy get on its feet, not just emergency food aid. He also wants G-8 countries to commit new money for Africa rather than reallocating funds already earmarked for foreign assistance. It is my hope that the Administration will work with its G-8 partners in the coming weeks to arrive at a more substantial and comprehensive aid package for Africa.

While the issue of increased aid will be difficult, the related goal of debt relief is very attainable, as long as all parties involved dedicate themselves to that outcome. Both Prime Minister Blair and Finance Minister Brown have voiced optimism about the prospects for reaching G-8 agreement on the issue. The U.S. and other G-8 members already agree in principle on 100 percent debt relief for Africa's poorest nations, but the exact formula for how the debt will be cancelled is still being resolved.

The U.S. is calling for a simple write-off of the debt, while Britain and others have called for the debt to be paid off, so as to replenish the resources of the International Development Banks. Among other things, Blair advocates selling a portion of International Monetary Fund (IMF) gold reserves to help pay off the debt. Whatever the mechanism, Africa needs debt relief as soon as possible. Many African countries are crippled by debt burdens that in some cases consume nearly 40 percent of their annual budgets. It is thus imperative that negotiations on this issue continue.

President Bush now has a golden opportunity to join with Prime Minister Blair and other members of the G-8 in helping to establish a new era for Africa. Such an opportunity is unprecedented in Africa's post colonial history. To turn back now would be more than shameful.

The United States has already spent nearly \$200 billion on the war in Iraq—a country of 26 million people. Prime Minister Blair is calling on us to now spend a few billion dollars

more to help save an entire continent encompassing over 700 million people. That is what I call making our money count, and the legacy of such an effort will yield immeasurable benefits for Africa, and the world as a whole.

Again, I thank Mr. Blair for his bold and ambitious vision, and I pray that our country will be able to stand with him in making it a reality.

[From the New York Times, June 8, 2005]

CRUMBS FOR AFRICA

President Bush kept a remarkably straight face yesterday when he strode to the microphones with Britain's prime minister, Tony Blair, and told the world that the United States would now get around to spending \$674 million in emergency aid that Congress had already approved for needy countries. That's it. Not a penny more to buy treated mosquito nets to help save the thousands of children in Sierra Leone who die every year of preventable malaria. Nothing more to train and pay teachers so 11-year-old girls in Kenya may go to school. And not a cent more to help Ghana develop the programs it needs to get legions of young boys off the streets.

Mr. Blair, who will be the host when the G-8, the club of eight leading economic powers, holds its annual meeting next month, is trying to line up pledges to double overall aid for Africa over the next 10 years. That extra \$25 billion a year would do all those things, and much more, to raise the continent from dire poverty. Before getting to Washington, Mr. Blair had done very well, securing pledges of large increases from European Union members.

According to a poll, most Americans believe that the United States spends 24 percent of its budget on aid to poor countries; it actually spends well under a quarter of 1 percent. As Jeffrey Sachs, the Columbia University economist in charge of the United Nations' Millennium Project, put it so well, the notion that there is a flood of American aid going to Africa "is one of our great national myths."

The United States currently gives just 0.16 percent of its national income to help poor countries, despite signing a United Nations declaration three years ago in which rich countries agreed to increase their aid to 0.7 percent by 2015. Since then, Britain, France and Germany have all announced plans for how to get to 0.7 percent; America has not. The piddling amount Mr. Bush announced yesterday is not even 0.007 percent.

What is 0.7 percent of the American economy? About \$80 billion. That is about the amount the Senate just approved for additional military spending, mostly in Iraq. It's not remotely close to the \$140 billion corporate tax cut last year.

This should not be the image Mr. Bush wants to project around a world that is intently watching American actions on this issue. At a time when rich countries are mounting a noble and worthy effort to make poverty history, the Bush administration is showing itself to be completely out of touch by offering such a miserly drop in the bucket. It's no surprise that Mr. Bush's offer was greeted with scorn in television broadcasts and newspaper headlines around the world. "Bush Opposes U.K. Africa Debt Plan," blared the headline on the AllAfrica news service, based in Johannesburg. "Blair's Gambit: Shame Bush Into Paying" chimed in The Sydney Morning Herald in Australia.

The American people have a great heart. President Bush needs to stop concealing it.

A TRIBUTE TO MIKE PFANKUCH

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 8, 2005

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognizing the outstanding achievements of Mike Pfankuch, the outgoing president of the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club. In this 2004–2005 service, Mike has contributed enormously and made a tremendous difference to the Rotary Club and the citizens of Carlsbad.

Mike's accomplishments are many and varied. Under his guidance, the Rotary Club has completed and dedicated its three-year Centennial Project, the Carlsbad Hosp Grove Picnic Area. The project included a cleanup of the grove, the planting of 1,000 trees and the donation of picnic tables and benches, a very welcome amenity to the city.

In addition, the Second Annual Hi-Noon Rotary golf tournament fundraiser was successfully completed and the funds dedicated to providing scholarships to local high school students, a Rotaract Club has been established, and the Annual Oktoberfest fundraiser sponsored in conjunction with the Carlsbad Evening Rotary Club completed a record year. The 26,000 of proceeds was donated to the Women's Resource Center, the Boys and Girls Club of Carlsbad and Community Youth Services. The Oktoberfest was a project originally initiated by the Hi-Noon Rotary Club.

Mike's leadership is also making a difference to people in need of a helping hand. He initiated a program to provide financial aid to the Store Front, a San Diego organization dedicated to helping homeless children get a fresh start in life. During Mike's tenure a number of other projects were completed which enhanced public safety, provided volunteers and supplies to do maintenance and repair work for the elderly and needy in the community, to distribute food, clothing and toys to needy families in conjunction with the Carlsbad Christmas Bureau, and sponsored a Christmas party and dinner for elementary school children of very low income families.

During Mike's tenure, in an effort to promote literacy, a Dictionary Distribution program was initiated and the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotarians distributed English and Spanish dictionaries to needy elementary school children.

On the international front, Mike also provided extraordinary leadership by establishing a Model UN Program, exposing high school students to world affairs, led the way to provide sponsors for exchange students from foreign countries, initiated and obtained an AIDS Education Program grant, initiated an aid program for the victims of the tsunami in Southeast Asia, and provided the leadership necessary to provide financial assistance for dental care and a dental clinic for the needy children of Honduras. In addition, during his tenure a partnership project was established with a Rotary Club in Ensenada, Mexico to provide water, electricity, plumbing and painting, a project that will benefit approximately 1,000 people.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in recognizing the many fine achievements of Mike Pfankuch. Without question, his leadership and the fine work of the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club are worthy of recognition by the House today.

HONORING THE VOLUNTEERS OF
THE BATTLESHIP NEW JERSEY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 8, 2005

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the volunteers of the USS *New Jersey*, which is located in my district in Camden, New Jersey. The ship has been open to the public since 2000 and is our Nation's most decorated battleship, having heroically served in three major conflicts: World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.

The volunteers of the USS *New Jersey* are responsible for many things on the ship, including restoration and maintenance, giving tours, clerical work, and educating the community about the ship and its history. Volunteers work 7 days a week, rain or shine, and have logged over 300,000 hours of volunteer time. In 2000, they won the Governor's Volunteerism Award for their extraordinary work.

Below are the names of the dedicated volunteers of the USS *New Jersey*:

Mike Aaron, Edward Adams, Harry Aharon, Edwina Alber, John Alberta, Ricardo Alciniaga, Craig Allen, Adam M. Allibone, April Allstaedt, Bob Allstaedt, Joshua Allstaedt, Ryan Allstaedt, Tyler Allstaedt, Anthony Altadonna, David M. Ambrosio, Frank C. Annaloro, Theresa E. Annaloro, Ricardo Arciniaga, Carl A. Arzillo, Gus W. Augustin, William Bacon, John P. Bader, William J. Baehr, Christina Baessler, Arlene Baker, Cameron M. Balaban, Charles B. Ball, Sam Ballinger, Thomas Banit, Elaine Barnes, Clifford Barr, Albert Beatty, Don R. Beck, John C. Becker, Harry P. Becky, Pat A. Becky, Frances Bender, Paul A. Benner, Sam Bennett, Bill Berman, Art Beyer, Jim Bibbo, Bob Bieber, Ed Bilger, Randy K. Binter, Bill Bittner, Richard J. Blash, William Blazer, Michael K. Boggess, Peter Bomm, Abel Boney, David Boone, Steven A. Borkowski, Cathy Bosley, Charles Bosley, Tom E. Boughton.

Mike R. Bowser, Joe Boyle, Fred Branyan, Norm Branyan, Frank J. Brennan, Robert Bretz, Ralph A. Bringhurst, Steven A. Bromhead, Eric A. Brown, Kimberly A. Brown, Rob Brown, Robert Brown, William V. Brown, Jr., Harry V. Bryant, Dave Buchanan, David R. Burgess, Margaret D. Burgess, Charles Burns, Walt Burshtin, Dan Bush, Brian L. Callahan, Peggy F. Caltabiano, Joseph Campbell, Jeffery L. Cantor, Earl M. Cargen, Jose Caringal, Paul Carman, Robert W. Carmint, Jr., Mark B. Carney, Eugene V. Carr, Lauren Carter, Carol Cassel, Robert Cassel, Fred Cassentino, Edwin Cassidy, Jr., Richard A. Castro, Robert Catando, Michael Cauto, Tony Cellucia, Stuart L. Chalkley, Edward Cheeseman, Kurt E. Cheesman, William Chew, Frank Chiacchio, Merwyn B. Claaria, Edward R. Clark, Jeff Cochrane, Ronald B. Cohen, Anita Collings, Joseph Collins, Russell Collins, Gary Conover, Ken Conte, Ted Cooper, George A. Corbeels, Larry A. Cote, Arthur Covello, Utta Covello, Joseph R. Cramer, Robert Creamer, Pat Crespo, Virgil R. Crider, Gary Crispin, John D. Croghan, Stewart Cross, David W. Cunningham, Michael Cutrera, Wayne Dahl, Bob A. Daniels, Tony Dawson, Bob Day, David Deaner, Patrick C. Dechirico, Gennaro DeFrancesco.

Skip Deglavina, Michael Del Pidio, Robert Delconte, Dominador DelRosario, Tony

Deluca, Frank DeRoberts, Peter DeStefano, Klaus Dewedoff, Hugo Di Bona, John A. Diblasio, Phil Diciano, Jerry T. Dickinson, Charles Dieterich, David J. Dimarzio, Frances E. Doak, Anne Dobbs, Welford L. Dolbow, Roger Doll, William J. Domzalski, Joe Donnelly, Jerry M. Donovan, John M. Dorosky, Gail Dougherty, Paul Dougherty, Sara Dougherty, Bob Downs, Joseph F. Drebes, Bill Dreisbach, Joseph Duffin, Joseph J. Dugan, Esther Duke, James J. Duross, Linda Duross, James J. Dziemian, Joseph V. Dzurenda, Don Ebert, Robert L. Eboch, Jr., Dick Edwards, Erik C. Efsen, Jen E. Efsen, Walter Eife, Chris D. Eme, Lawrence J. Engel, Harry E. Engleman, Nicholas Erisman, Mayer Falk, Joseph Falker, Vincent Falso, Louis J. Fantacone, Peter Fantacone, Paul A. Farber, Dan Farrell, Dave Farren, Joe A. Fassano, Albert Faulkner, Paul D. Fazekas, Thomas J. Fee, Joseph Fillmyer, Kara Fillmyer, Conor Finnegan, William Finnegan, Jr., Allen P. Fisher, George A. Foglia, Frank Foord, George Fore, Reita Forsythe, Elenor Forsythe, Wayne G. Fox, Harry Frank, Ron Frantz, Michael D. Frazer, Woody Freeman, Bruce Frey, Bj Frullo.

Millicent Frye, Bill Fuentes, Gene F. Furmanski, Robert Furmanski, Charles Gallagher, Ted Gallagher, Philip Galluccio, Roland Garber, George Gasper, Christine Gaudet, Steve Gava, Douglas G. Gehring, Bernie Gelman, Philip J. Gentile, George Gershefski, Hoot Gibson, Frank Gilbert, Matt Gilbert, John J. Gildea, Albert Giumetti, Michael Glauberman, John P. Goheen, Art Gordon, Jack P. Gordon, Bob Gramigna, Lee H. Gray, Dane J. Greene, Peter Greene, Charles Gronek, Joe Groppenbacher, James Grossi, Rachael Grossman, John Grunwald, Scott Gunt, Edward Grygo, Edward A. Haas, Bruce Haegly, William H. Hague, Kathleen Haines, Patricia A. Haines, Arthur Hall, Paul Halter, Sandy Halo, Charles Hamilton, Edward J. Hamilton, Jim Hamilton, William H. Hamilton, Dick Hammond, Ivan B. Hancock, William P. Hansche, Paul D. Hanson, Tom R. Hanson, Paul Hanstein, Kenneth Hardcassel, Fred Harron, Walter Haswell, Ken J. Hattrick, Walter Hause, John C. Heacock, Chris F. Heller, Ebe Helm, William Helmetag, Tom Helvig, Greg Henderson, Kevin Henry, Elmer Heppard, Charles A. Higgins, William H. Higgins, Art T. Hilkert, Arthur Hill, John B. Hinds, John Hoban, Martin J. Hoffman, Stan Hojnacki.

Eugene F. Holben, Gary Holden, Gary A. Hollenbaugh, Carl R. Holmstrom, George Holston, William Holstrom, Robert Homan, Fred Honigman, Joseph A. Hopkins, John R. Horan, Robert Houck, Ursula Houser, Glenn E. Hughes, Jerold Humphreys, George Hunt, Carl S. Hyde, Spud Ignatius, Thomas J. Jaskel, Philip S. Jaworski, William R. Jensen, David M. Jimick, Charlie Johnson, R. Kevin Johnson, James E. Jones, Robert Jones, Harry L. Josephsen, Willaim Jubbs, Ruben E. Kafenbaum, Roland Kane, Cheryl L. Kaplan, Ted J. Katz, Dennis Kauffmann, Ed Keenan, William Kehler, Glen W. Kelley, Richard Kellum, John F. Kelly.

John R. Kelty, Brian Kerrigan, Karen Kersch, Kenneth E. Kersch, Ruth Keser, Al Kidder, Edith Kinsky, Bill Kinsky, Chet W. Klabe, Robert W. Koch, Arnold B. Kohler, Martin Kokoska, Matthew Kokoska, Edward Kolbe, Ed Komczyk, Christian M. Kraft, Walter Krilov, Robert L. Krukowski, Raymond A. Kuehner,