

VENEZUEAN RESOLUTION REGARDING TERRORIST LUIS POSADA CARRILES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. On Wednesday, June 15, 2005, Representative DENNIS KUCINICH met with legislators from Venezuela who presented him with a resolution that passed in the Venezuelan legislative assembly regarding the terrorist Luis Posada Carriles.

The following is a translation of that resolution.

Non Official Translation

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA—RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DECISION OF THE SUPREME TRIBUNAL OF JUSTICE REQUESTING THE EXTRADITION OF LUIS POSADA CARRILES

CONSIDERING

That on October 6, 1976, a Cubana de Aviacion airplane was victim of an abominable terrorist act over the island of Barbados, exploding in mid-air and resulting in the death of its passengers and crew;

CONSIDERING

That among the victims were 57 Cuban nationals, 24 of which were members of the Cuban National Fencing Team who had recently emerged victorious in the Fencing Championships of Central America and the Caribbean, held in Caracas, Venezuela; alongside 11 Guyanese students and 5 Korean students;

CONSIDERING

That material responsibility for the condemnable terrorist act was linked to Venezuelan nationals Heman Ricardo and Freddy Lugo, and that a consequent investigation determined that the sinister plan was hatched in Caracas, under the direction of Orlando Bosch and Luis Posada Carriles, a Cuban-Venezuelan, who from 1967 served in an official capacity in various police forces, including as the Chief of the Explosives Brigade of the Division of Intelligence and Prevention Services (DISIP), known by the alias "Commissar Basilio;"

CONSIDERING

That the commission of this crime affected traditional relations between the countries linked to the events, and could have resulted in international political conflicts;

CONSIDERING

That joint actions by state authorities in Cuba and Venezuela allowed judicial officials to prosecute and sanction those responsible for such actions;

CONSIDERING

That the terrorist Luis Posada Carriles avoided being brought to justice on numerous occasions and often with the use of violence, escaping from various Venezuelan prisons, most notably his escape from the San Juan de los Morros Prison on August 18, 1985;

CONSIDERING

That having detected that the terrorist fugitive Luis Posada Carriles had been detained in the Republic of Panama, accused and convicted of planning a new terrorist attack against the President of the Republic of Cuba, Fidel Castro, the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela requested his extradition pursuant to a decision of the

Chamber of Penal Cassation of the Supreme Tribunal of Justice;

CONSIDERING

That said request was denied by the Government of Panama under the presidency of Mireya Moscoso, who reprieved Luis Posada Carriles, effectively ignoring the Extradition Treaty between the two countries and provoking international condemnation;

CONSIDERING

That terrorist attacks constitute crimes against humanity that can cause social commotion and must be punished by the competent authorities in any country in the world;

CONSIDERING

That the families of the victims and their respective countrymen await that justice be done for these abhorrent terrorist acts.

AGREES

First: To express support for the decision of the Supreme Tribunal of Justice which, in a sovereign, autonomous, and independent decision, dictated the issuance of an extradition request for the terrorist Luis Posada Carriles to the Government of the United States of America.

Second: To ratify the National Assembly's repudiation and condemnation of this abominable terrorist act, just as the repudiation and condemnation of similar acts that occur anywhere else in the world.

Third: To ratify the National Assembly's repudiation of the conduct of the Republic of Panama's former president, Mireya Moscoso, who in reprieving the terrorist Luis Posada Carriles violated the terms of the Extradition Treaty in force between Panama and Venezuela.

Fourth: To request that the Government of the United States of America provide information as to whether Luis Posada Carriles is within its territory, and if so, to provide for his immediate extradition.

Fifth: To encourage the Organization of American States, the United Nations, and the international community coordinate efforts to capture and extradite one of the most dangerous terrorists in the history of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Sixth: To request that the Congress of the United States of America ratify their absolute rejection of terrorism and their conviction to fight it.

Seventh: To deliver copies of this legislation to the diplomatic representatives in Venezuela of Cuba, Guyana, Barbados, South Korea, Panama, and the United States of America.

Eighth: To publicize said legislation.

Ratified and signed in the Federal Legislative Palace, headquarters of the National Assembly, in Caracas, Venezuela, on the fifth day of May of the year 2005, year 195 of Venezuelan independence and year 146 of the federation.

NICOLÁS MADURO MOROS,
President.
RICARDO GUTIÉRREZ,
First Vice-President.
PEDRO CARREÑO,
Second Vice-President.
IVÁN ZERPA GUERRERO,
Secretary.
JOSÉ GREGORIO VIANA,
Assistant Secretary

CONGRATULATING THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY ON ITS 180TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this year the American Tract Society is celebrating the 180th Anniversary of its founding in 1825. There is no doubt that the American Tract Society has played a pivotal role in advancing Christian family values in this country. Not only does American Tract Society have a widespread and profound impact on the current moral climate of the United States, but its tracts deliver a message of hope worldwide.

The American Tract Society was founded to address the need for solid Biblical teaching and evangelism in the wide-open, ever-expanding Western frontier of our country. Too often, frontier families found themselves without any access to a church and without vital Christian fellowship. The Society was born out of this profound need and quickly became the largest publishing house in the United States, publishing around 8 million pieces in 1860.

The American Tract Society has continued to grow and evolve based on the changing world around it. While the society holds steadfastly to the timeless and unchanging quality of Christ's Gospel message, they recognize the need to remain relevant in their medium to maximize the impact.

And so in this Anniversary year, I congratulate the American Tract Society and challenge them to continue spreading God's message of salvation to a world that desperately needs it.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES E. SIMPSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a Brooklynite and distinguished lawyer, Charles E. Simpson. It is an honor to represent Mr. Simpson in the House of Representatives and it behooves us to pay tribute to such an outstanding leader.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Simpson received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1974, graduating magna cum laude from Pepperdine University and named a Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellow. He subsequently obtained his Juris Doctor from Harvard University in 1978. Before completing his undergraduate studies, Mr. Simpson dedicated three years of service to the United States Air Force. As a lawyer, Mr. Simpson often represents debtors and creditors in Chapter 11 Reorganization cases. He is currently a partner of Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf, LLP, and chairs the firm's Bankruptcy, Creditors' Rights and Workouts Practice Group, and is a member of the Corporate and Securities, Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution, and Real Estate Practice Groups.

Mr. Simpson has served as counsel to me since 1981. He also acted as outside counsel to the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation from 1983 through 1996. Mr. Simpson engaged in several philanthropic activities

and demonstrated true dedication by serving on the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn Children's Museum, the Brooklyn Red Cross, and the Queens Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, as well as acting as Brooklyn's representative on the Board of Directors of the New York City Public Development Corporation. He was also active as a member of the Brooklyn Area Council of Boy Scouts of America and the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Minorities in the Profession.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments and selfless service of Mr. Simpson as he continues to offer his talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of the community.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Charles E. Simpson has continuously demonstrated his altruistic dedication to the community that makes him more than worthy of our recognition today.

IN MEMORY OF MR. FRANK
LICHTANSKI

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a great public servant for Monterey County, California. Frank J. Lichtanski passed away on June 9, 2005 in his home in Del Rey Oaks, California after a battle with cancer.

Frank was passionate about all modes of transportation, and particularly buses, for more than 31 years. At age 23, he worked as a bus driver for Monterey-Salinas Transit, beginning what would become an illustrious career. After six years, Frank became general manager, and in 1982 he became Monterey-Salinas Transit's Chief Executive Officer. In his 31 years of service with MST, Frank turned a fledgling bus service with only nine buses and twenty employees into a thriving public transit system. Today, Monterey-Salinas Transit provides public transit service in Monterey, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties and carries 4.8 million passengers each year. Each time Frank came to Washington, D.C., he marveled at the Metro system and how Union Station had developed as a commercial center with transportation as the anchor for restaurants and entertainment. He took that inspiration and figured out how a public transit station could benefit Monterey County. The City of Marina is the northern gateway to the Monterey Peninsula. Frank's vision grew to become the Marina Transit Station, situated at the west end of a major corridor between the coastal communities and the inland communities of Monterey County. The Marina Transit Station is a multimodal connection serving transit and over-the-road buses, as well as automobile passengers, taxis, and bicyclists. It will serve as the anchor for economic development in a part of the county that had lost its commercial businesses when the former Fort Ord military base closed.

He was a regional leader in implementing Intelligent Transportation Systems that include visual tracking of buses through enhanced communication systems, automated voice announcements to ensure compliance with ADA,

and visual displays at transit centers to provide passengers with real time bus arrivals and departures. Frank understood that technology improvements alone would not improve ridership and championed the purchase of new fuel efficient buses. Always a creative problem solver, Frank fought for and won FTA approval to leverage the purchase of three buses into a financing package of 46 new buses to respond to 10 percent annual growth in ridership.

Frank amassed a collection of train and bus schedules dating back to the early 1900s, and I am talking to officials at the Smithsonian Institution about the possibility of a display of Frank's memorabilia. Being passionate about all modes of transportation, Frank personally traveled to 34 countries and inspected more than 180 transit systems, always searching for ideas to improve public transit on the Central Coast.

The residents of Del Rey Oaks, Monterey County and the Central Coast mourn the passing of Frank Lichtanski and join me in expressing our heartfelt condolences to Frank's wife, Pam; his daughter, Aaron; and sisters Jeannie Stopa and Fran Stauff, and to the MST family to whom Frank devoted his stellar career.

HONORING SIR FERNANDO MUY

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues in the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus to honor the contributions and achievements of Sir Fernando Muy on his recent passing. Sir Muy was an entrepreneur, friend, community volunteer, husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. Sir Muy made an impact to each person he came in contact with and left them with compassion, patience, and generosity.

I had the honor of meeting Sir Muy at a community gathering at the On Leong Chinese Community Center last July. I learned that he was a kind and caring man who took interest in helping others. He was a man who pushed for the rights of Chinese both in the U.S. and internationally.

The title "Sir" was bestowed upon Fernando Muy by the 25th Knight of the Imperial Byzantine Order of the Star of Asia, by H.I.R.H. Prince Henri Constantine III the current leader of Byzantine Dynasty of the Eastern Roman Empire. His title was placed upon him for his outstanding accomplishments in making great contributions to the public charity, culture, and his promotion of world peace. Other such winners of this award include President Harry Truman and John Glenn.

Since he had been oppressed by two Communist regimes in China and in Cuba, Sir Muy was a staunch opponent of Communism. With a sound financial foundation behind him, the retired entrepreneur decided to become active in the community. Sir Muy's contributions and tireless advocacy work helped make it possible for Chinese immigrants to have the rights they have today. He advocated and encouraged all immigrants to become citizens, to register to vote so as to exercise their duty and power as citizens.

Sir Muy worked tirelessly to reduce the tension between China and Taiwan by traveling to both countries to encourage on-going dialogue between the two sides. In Miami, his place of residence, he continued his personal commitment to the community by establishing the following organizations in Miami: Chinese Welfare Council in 1978, World Kwong Tung Community Association in 1991, Florida Chinese Federation in 1993 and Overseas Chinese Association in 2000. He also helped with the creation of the following: Chinese American Benevolent Association in 1956, Organization of Chinese Americans—South Florida Chapter in 1987, and United Chinese Association of Florida in 2003.

Sir Muy accepted the position of the National President of Overseas Chinese Association in 2000. He wanted to revitalize an inactive ten-year-old organization with only one chapter in the country of Macao. In order to make an international impact, he decided to stay in Taiwan. The mission of OCA is to unite all overseas Chinese worldwide, to promote harmony by using Founding Father Dr. Sun Yat-San's "Three People's Principles"; preserve the Chinese heritage, and encourage members to actively participate in local civil affairs for equality, and advancement of Chinese.

Sir Fernando Muy will be remembered as a great philanthropist, a successful entrepreneur, a caring father and grandfather. Most of all, he will be remembered for his philanthropy and chivalry's spirit of justice, his commitment to advocate for the welfare and advancement of Chinese worldwide, and the promotion of the Chinese culture.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL DONALD G.
COOK

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to honor General Donald Cook, United States Air Force, for his 36 years of dedicated service.

During the past 36 years, General Cook has served in the Air Force with honor and distinction. He's a command pilot with over 3,300 hours. The general has commanded a flying training wing, two space wings, and the 20th Air Force—a real tribute to his leadership capabilities.

General Cook has been the commander of Air Education and Training Command since December 9th, 2001. This command includes the Air Force Recruiting Service, two numbered air forces, Air University and consists of 15 wings, more than 66,000 active-duty members and 15,000 civilians. As commander of the Air Force University, General Cook was responsible for recruiting, training and educating Airmen to sustain the combat capability of the Air Force.

On a personal note, I have known General Cook and his wife Diane for a number of years. They and their family members are outstanding Americans who have dedicated a great deal of time and energy to public service. General Cook worked in my office for a year, working with me to formulate legislation on professional military education. Through