

who had initially committed to participate in this recognition commemoration withdrew in the face of such Turkish pressure. This solves nothing. The dead are not honored for their sacrifice. The actions of the righteous are not recalled. And ironically, the descendants of the victimizers are not allowed to come to terms with the truth.

Nevertheless, we pause today as we begin this 90th commemorative year to give thanks to all nations and organizations that came to our aid—but particularly to those that attended today despite the Turkish government's campaign to stop you.

For Turkey's state sponsored denial effort, having this event is a defeat. This is a good day for the truth. As Armenian-Americans, we recall with special appreciation the leading role of the United States in attempting to prevent the Armenian Genocide and in aiding those that survived. As Armenian-Americans, we look to the United States to continue this proud chapter of American history by reaffirming the facts of this most calamitous chapter of Armenian history. There is an inevitability to universal affirmation of the Armenian Genocide, and America has not and will not be an exception.

A case in point is the recently concluded visit of U.S. Ambassador to Armenia John Evans with major Armenian-American communities across the country. In his public commentaries, Ambassador Evans repeatedly employed the words "Armenian Genocide" to properly characterize the attempted annihilation of our people by Ottoman Turkey.

This is in keeping with President Reagan's proclamation of April 22, 1981 where he stated in part, "like the genocide of the Armenians before it, and the genocide of the Cambodians which followed it—and like too many other persecutions of too many other people—the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten". . .

And also with the thrust of President Bush's 2001 to 2004 April 24 messages that set forth the textbook definition of genocide without using the word. Ambassador Evans completed the thought.

The Ambassador's characterization also is in keeping with the public declarations of over 120 renowned Holocaust and Genocide scholars regarding "the incontestable fact of the Armenian Genocide".

Further, Ambassador Evans' characterization conforms to the summary conclusion of the International Center for Transitional Justice on the use of the term Armenian Genocide. ICTJ stated that "the Events, viewed collectively, can thus be said to include all of the elements of the crime of genocide as defined in the Convention, and legal scholars as well as historians, politicians, journalists and other people would be justified in continuing to so describe them."

The Armenian-American community will not rest until the United States formally and irrevocably reaffirms the Armenian Genocide. By so doing, we forever advance the special role of the United States in genocide prevention.

Today, we are here to honor 17 nations who have joined the movement towards universal affirmation of the Armenian Genocide. You have appropriately remembered this instance of man's inhumanity to man. You have stepped forward to combat denial and revisionism. We will never forget your solidarity.

As Voltaire said, "to the living we owe respect, but to the dead we owe only the truth".

REGARDING S. 384, TO EXTEND THE NAZI WAR CRIMES AND JAPANESE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP FOR 2 YEARS

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 384, a bill extending the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group for two years. This crucial legislation amends the Japanese Imperial Government Disclosure Act of 2000 to extend from four to six years the existence of the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group. H.R. 842 extends by two years this worthy working group, which was originally created by Congress through Public Law 105-246 in 1998. The group is made up of government agency representatives who are directed to oversee the declassification of U.S. Government records that contain information about Nazi war crimes.

Such information includes trafficking of assets seized by the Nazis and post-war communications between U.S. Government and former Nazi officials, unless declassification would unduly violate personal privacy or harm national security or foreign policy interests. The law also allowed for expedited processing of Freedom of Information, requests made by survivors of the Holocaust.

On December 6, 2000, as part of the Intelligence Authorization Act for 2001, Congress changed the group's name to the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group. This action expanded the mission of the group to include the declassification of U.S. Government records related to World War II-era war crimes committed by the Japanese Imperial government.

Mr. Speaker, the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group is a valuable effort that informs the American people of the actions of their government while balancing the protection of legitimate national secrets.

I support this noble effort so that we can continue to confront this dark chapter in American History.

The vicious and barbaric war crimes committed by the Nazis, and the atrocities committed by the Japanese Imperial Government during World War II, were some of the worse criminal acts of the 20th century. Both of these historical crimes against humanity must be studied and chronicled in their entirety. The acts of barbarism and genocide committed by the German Nazi and Japanese Imperial governments should never be forgotten. Therefore, it is up to the elected representatives of the American people to ensure that the United States Government complies completely with the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group and makes accessible all information that is allowable by law.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "END GRIDLOCK ACT"

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON and TOM DAVIS in introducing the "End Gridlock Act." This bill is a refinement of a proposal, the "Washington Regional Transportation Act" (H.R. 2882) that I introduced last session.

Unfortunately, this region is not yet prepared to embrace last year's proposal and establish a regional transportation authority. Last year's bill called for the creation of a regional transportation authority, one that could receive a dedicated revenue source, issue bonds and be in an ideal position to coordinate land use and transportation funding decisions. I regret that the time is not ripe for this a proposal.

The defeat of the Northern Virginia transportation referendum in 2002, in my view, moved us away from real progress in solving our transportation problems. Unfortunately, poor management of the state's transportation programs and false promises by past state officials left the public distrustful that any meaningful solutions were possible.

I'd trade the price of a daily cup of coffee for real investments in transit and road improvements, something that would shave 10 minutes off my commute. I think a majority of the public share this view, but they have been skeptical and fear that the money raised would not be spent wisely or spent on projects that have their own built-in opposition and controversy.

The legislation I am introducing today does not to create a regional authority, it won't build new roadways. Instead, it focuses on making improvements to what already exists. It is a small but important first step that I hope builds the foundation for greater regional coordination and cooperation and builds public confidence for longer term solutions.

Believe me, we need better coordination and cooperation. We need to rebuild confidence. The legislation I am introducing today borrows from some of the best, simplest and most cost-effective proposals. Some of the ideas were drawn from local transportation and planning experts. They are small ticket items, but if they prove successful, maybe the consensus will be there to support a more ambitious agenda. The Washington Post highlighted some of these potential projects in a series featured last year.

These investments included building sidewalks and pedestrian and bike paths to connect communities to schools, transit centers, Metrorail stations and commercial centers. This legislation will provide grants to help localities synchronize traffic lights signals on major transportation corridors which will reduce travel time and improve capacity. The bill provides money to encourage more businesses to offer greater telework and telecommuting options. It will provide grants to give transit riders real-time information on bus and rail schedules so they can time their departures from home and work to arrive at a transit stop just when the bus pulls up. It will also fund advance technologies to allow buses to slip through interchanges before the traffic

lights change and on and offload passengers without blocking traffic.

These simple measures can be done for a few million dollars as opposed to the tens or hundreds of millions other projects require but for lack the funds are not being built and would take years to complete. It is said that if you can encourage just 3 percent to today's drivers to carpool or take the bus, you can reduce congestion by 10 percent.

In addition to these type of investments, the bill also allows the regional governments to fund a transportation incident management operations center. The center would be modeled after the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut program, known as TRANSCOM, where a full-time staff is focused on helping the public get around congestion problems when they occur. How many people remember the "Tractor Man" episode? There were hundreds of law enforcement and emergency response people on the scene, but it was hours before anyone there began to try to figure out how to move traffic around when all the adjacent streets were closed.

Similarly, how many times do commuters find road or utility construction closing traffic lanes in a haphazard manner. Jurisdictions should be working together to coordinate their construction schedule to minimize the time a lane along a transportation corridor remains closed. A New York-New Jersey TRANSCOM-type program for the National Capital Region would be on point for coordinating critical transportation information 24/7.

These are simple solutions, but ones that are not in the interest of any one jurisdiction to fund. But, if a federal grant was offered as an incentive, the local governments might all be willing to contribute, or better yet, compete to pull down the extra federal money. Mr. Chairman, this bill is the first step to end this region's gridlock. It gets us started and could bring measurable quality of life improvements to this region's citizens at a relatively small cost.

I will be working with my colleagues from this region to try to incorporate this proposal into this year's surface transportation reauthorization bill.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BEXAR COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SUSAN REED

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Susan Reed for her distinguished career in law, and her many contributions to the justice system in the state of Texas.

Susan Reed was raised in San Antonio, Texas, and graduated from Alamo Heights High School. She attended the University of Texas at Austin, where she received an undergraduate degree in Economics, and completed her JD at the University of Texas Law School in 1974.

Ms. Reed began her legal career as an Assistant District Attorney for Bexar County in 1974. She served in that position for eight years, and was chief prosecutor in the 144th and 187th District Courts.

Following a successful career in civil practice, Ms. Reed served as Judge of the 144th

District Court for 12 years. She was Administrative Judge for the District Courts of Bexar County in 1996 and 1997, and spearheaded the development of the gang unit within the Adult Probation Department, which she counts as one of her proudest accomplishments. Her work on this project resulted in her being awarded the Judge of the Year Award by the Texas Gang Investigators Association.

Since 1998, Susan Reed has served the people of Bexar County as District Attorney. She is a member of the National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women, and a member of the Regional Anti-Terrorism Task Force. She has been a tireless advocate for victims of crime, and a powerful force for making our communities and our State safer.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Bexar County have benefited greatly from Susan Reed, and I am proud to have the opportunity to thank her today.

IN MEMORY OF DR. JAMES O. MCBRIDE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give tribute to Dr. James O. McBride, from Fort Worth in the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for his lifelong contributions to his community and to medicine. Dr. McBride started the first open-heart surgery program in Fort Worth. Dr. Brooks died on March 11th at the age of 86.

I would like to recognize and celebrate Dr. McBride's life today. Dr. McBride was a third generation Fort Worth resident. Dr. McBride graduated from Central High School before going on to college at Texas Christian University. He then went to the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and received his PhD in 1942. When Dr. McBride finished his internship in Fort Worth, he went on active duty with the Navy as a surgeon in the Pacific Theater. There, he earned a Navy Unit Citation and nine battle stars.

Upon completion of his active duty in 1946, Dr. McBride completed medical residencies at Bellevue Hospital and Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York. In 1951, Dr. McBride moved back to Fort Worth where he set up a thoracic surgery practice. He was known for visiting with patients' families after performing an operation, which was virtually unheard of then. While at Saint Joseph Hospital, Dr. McBride began the first open-heart surgery program in Fort Worth. He was later promoted to chief of surgery at Saint Joseph Hospital. Dr. McBride was also the chief of thoracic surgery at John Peter Smith Hospital.

Dr. McBride was very active in several philanthropic organizations and served on the board or as a chairman for the Fort Worth Chapter of the American Lung Association, YMCA's Camp Carter, Joseph White Foundation, Carter Blood Center, and Country Day School and Union Bank. Dr. McBride's community realized his great services in 1989 when he was presented with the Gold-Headed Cane Award by Tarrant County Medical Society. Only a doctor who has been a society member for 20 or more years can receive the award.

I respected him as a fellow doctor and was honored to represent him here in Congress. I extend my sympathies to his family and friends. Dr. McBride was described by one of his sons as a "source of guidance for whoever sought his counsel." Such a man can never be replaced and will be dearly missed.

RECOGNIZING DR. R. DUNCAN LUCE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RECEIVING THE 2003 NATIONAL MEDAL OF SCIENCE

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize Dr. R. Duncan Luce of the University of California-Irvine for his outstanding contributions to the scientific community. Professor Luce is one of eight U.S. scientists and engineers—and one of four Californians—to receive the 2003 National Medal of Science, the Nation's highest scientific honor.

Professor Luce is no stranger to high honors. Over his 50-year career, Professor Luce has been awarded the Society of Experimental Psychologists' Norman Anderson Award, the Decision Analysis Society's Frank P. Ramsey Medal, and the American Psychological Foundation's Gold Medal for Life Achievement in the Science of Psychology. Among his many influential publications are the seminal texts *Games and Decisions* (1957) and *Individual Choice Behavior* (1959), both of which remain in widespread academic use. His pioneering work in game and choice theory has resulted in dramatic advances in the fields of economics and psychology, and is applied to a variety of disciplines, including the analysis and prediction of stock market fluctuations.

Professor Luce has made vital contributions to Orange County in the course of his 20 years of service at the University of California-Irvine. He first came to UCI in 1972 before leaving in 1975 to serve in a variety of positions at the forefront of mathematical research at some of the Nation's finest universities, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia University, Harvard University, and the University of Pennsylvania. In 1988, he returned to Irvine, where he created UCI's Institute for Mathematical Behavioral Sciences, thereby reinforcing the campus's reputation as a leader in that field. He has served on search committees for three UCI chancellors.

Mr. Speaker, I know that all of our colleagues join me in paying tribute to Dr. R. Duncan Luce. In behalf of all of us in the United States Congress, I am pleased to recognize Professor Luce's remarkable achievements, and to thank him and his family for all that they have given to the improvement of learning and the betterment of our society.

HONORING COLONEL BILL GUINN

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Bill Guinn, Commander of