

by creating synagogues, yeshivas, and other religious institutions.

When I see and hear tragic stories from these heroic individuals it provides living testimony to an event that is hard for many today to phantom. Educating people especially the young, about the events that transpired in Europe over 50 years ago is critical to halting the recent spread of anti-Semitism around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of organizations in my district that have taken extraordinary steps in servicing and caring for the Holocaust survivor population: The Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty; The United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg; The Council of Jewish Organizations of Flatbush; The Jewish Community Council of Canarsie; The Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany; Peasch Tikvah and all the Bikkur Cholim organizations. Their selfless work for Holocaust survivors continues to serve as an inspiration to me and I am honored to recognize their hard work.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues here today in remembering the Holocaust. Because there are still Holocaust non-believers today it is imperative that we never forget and continue to learn from this terrible chapter in history.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I join my friends and colleagues around the world in commemorating the horrors inflicted during the Holocaust.

Today, we bear witness to the millions of Jews and countless other innocent people who were brutally murdered in Nazi concentration camps.

We bear witness to the horrors of genocide that shocked the world, and ask ourselves if we have truly upheld the promise of "never again," when we hear the echoes of the Holocaust in the rising threat of anti-Semitism today.

We bear witness to the millions of people who were persecuted and enslaved for their political or religious beliefs, or their mental handicaps in the name of social cleansing.

But we also remember amazing acts of courage and kindness, when those with everything to lose risked their lives and freedom to help those most in need, and the bravery of those who would not go willingly to a certain death.

There is a reason why we call this day not an anniversary, but a remembrance. Every day, but especially today, we must remember not only the horrible acts committed by the Nazis but also the actions, and the lack of action, that led to those horrors.

In remembering, we honor those who suffered—but our memories must also serve as a constant reminder of the vigilance required from each of us to prevent it from happening again, or to take action if we see it happening.

Never again should the innocent be left to languish. For those who perished, for those who survived, for those who fought and for those who liberated, we must not falter and we must not fail. We must learn from history so that we are not doomed to repeat it.

We must bear witness.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker I rise to join people around the world who are commemorating Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom Ha-Shoah, and mourning the six million people who were murdered simply because they hap-

pened to be Jewish. It is important that we take time each year to remind ourselves of the devastating horror of a world in which insanity ruled and it was possible for the Nazis to try to eradicate an entire people from the face of the Earth.

The horror of the Holocaust comes not merely from the fact that massive numbers of people were murdered—in truth the total civilian body count in World War II was enormous, including roughly 20 million Russians and 10 million Chinese. There have been other conflicts in which vast numbers of civilians have died. The true horror of the Holocaust is that a modern nation used organized, efficient, systematic, scientific methods to try to wipe out a minority population. What compounds the horror is that the Nazis brought their peculiar brand of death with them as they swept through Europe and rounded up Jews in occupied countries. We must not forget that the world watched silently and allowed the Holocaust to happen.

The Nazis could never have been as effective at targeting Jews if it were not for the collaboration of local populations. Tens of thousands of people assisted the Nazis in identifying Jews and herding them to the concentration camps and gas chambers. The Nazis succeeded in large part because hatred of Jews was already well entrenched throughout the countries they conquered.

There were always people of good heart who were willing to risk their lives to save Jews. Their bravery and selflessness must also be remembered on this Holocaust Remembrance Day. Jews were hidden in basements and attics. Jewish children were taken into friendly homes or transported to safety elsewhere. Diplomats issued visas, sometimes in violation of their country's policies. Most famous among them is Raoul Wallenberg who saved 100,000 Hungarian Jews. Few nations protected their Jewish populations as effectively as Denmark. The Danes saved virtually all of their Jewish population first by refusing to join the Nazis in singling out the Jewish minority and later by uniting to smuggle them to safety in Sweden.

One of the principal reasons we remember the Holocaust is to ensure that it never happens again. Anti-Semitism is an old hatred, and every generation seems to have a new version. Television and the internet provide new avenues for spreading hatred. Recently, Middle Eastern citizens' nations such as Egypt have been able to watch "Horsemen Without A Horse," a television serialization of the vicious czarist hoax Protocols of the Elders of Zion.

Attacks on Jews and Jewish targets around the world are rising. The U.S. Department of State recently released a report on anti-Semitism around the world that found: "Beginning in 2000, verbal attacks directed against Jews increased while incidents of vandalism (e.g. graffiti, fire bombings of Jewish schools, desecration of synagogues and cemeteries) surged. Physical assaults including beatings, stabbings and other violence against Jews in Europe increased markedly, in a number of cases resulting in serious injury and even death . . . Holocaust denial and Holocaust minimization efforts find increasingly overt acceptance as sanctioned historical discourse in a number of Middle Eastern countries."

Mr. Speaker, the Holocaust could not have occurred without the complicity of govern-

ments and individuals who tolerated stark hatred of Jews. I am hopeful that by reminding ourselves of the horrors of that time, we will remain vigilant about preventing a recurrence of the widespread anti-Semitism that helped the Nazis rise to power.

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Martyr and Heroes Remembrance Day. I join the people of Israel and those around the world to memorialize the 6 million Jews who were murdered by the Nazis during World War II. The world is still feeling the Holocaust's effects.

In 1933, there were over 9 million European Jews. By 1945, nearly two of every three had been killed as part of the Nazis' Final Solution. European cities have never recovered the diversity and way of life they had prior to the war. The Jewish people killed were teachers, lawyers, doctors, musicians, parents, and children, and were killed only because they were Jewish and targeted for no other reason.

We must also remember the others who were murdered. Gypsies, the handicapped, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons. Millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny for no specific reason except they were different than their captors.

As time moves forward, there are few Holocaust survivors still with us and it is important for them to share their stories and educate people about their experiences. Nearly 60 years have passed since the Holocaust but anti-Semitism still exists. However, I believe passing on the lessons learned from this horrible time from generation to generation will someday destroy the hateful attitudes and ignorance that resulted in the evil of the Holocaust.

The Holocaust was not an accident. It was a planned attempted extermination. Individuals, organizations and governments made choices that not only legalized discrimination but also allowed prejudice, hatred, and ultimately, mass murder to occur. The human race must constantly be reminded of the Holocaust and how the world stood idly by for too long. We must remember these painful events in order to prevent another Holocaust from ever occurring again.

We will never forget.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER FROM CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on Resources, and the Committee on Veterans Affairs:

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 5, 2005.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives, The Capitol Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER HASTERT: I have been informed that in accordance with a decision made by the Steering Committee to place me on the Committee on Ways and Means, I must resign my position on the Committees on Agriculture, Resources, and Veterans Affairs.

Please accept this as a formal letter of resignation from the Committees on Agriculture, Resources, and Veterans Affairs.

Best Regards,

DEVIN NUNES,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

ELECTION OF MEMBER TO COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 264) and I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk will report the resolution. The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 264

Resolved, That the following Member be and is hereby elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

Committee on Ways and Means: Mr. Nunes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE CLINICAL RESEARCH ACT OF 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to join with my colleague today, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DOYLE), to introduce the Clinical Research Act of 2005. This bill might be better referred to as the "Curing Humans Rather Than Rats Act of 2005."

This bill will address many of the problems confronting academic health centers as they attempt to leverage enormous biomedical research gains made in the past century and, in particular, in the last decade, by the vast investment of the U.S. taxpayers in the National Institutes of Health.

In 1994, when I was first elected, the NIH budget was just \$10 billion, but today, they get \$29 billion. This is a significant expansion of biomedical research funding. It is resulting in significant breakthroughs in a host of areas to include human genomics, biomedical engineering, molecular biology, and immunology. These have provided an unprecedented supply of information for improving human health.

Research often does not produce results overnight, but as stewards of the taxpayer dollars, we have every right to expect that the fruits of that research will result in better treatments for patients. Reaping the benefits of this bench research requires a Federal commitment to clinical research, including a commitment to ensuring that the infrastructure is capable of translating, in a systematic and rational

way, the fruits of basic science research into improved patient care.

Unfortunately, while we have seen this dramatic increase in NIH funding, the Federal commitment to clinical research has not kept pace with rising costs.

Just what is clinical research? A great example has been the great breakthroughs in the treatment of AIDS in recent years. These new compounds are often developed in a laboratory, tested on laboratory animals, but then, at some point, academic research centers have to start giving these products, these compounds to humans. They interface with the lab and the patients. They bring these new interventions from the bench to the doctors and clinics all over this country.

What has happened to the clinical researchers and why? From 1970 to today, the percentage of clinical researchers and NIH study committees has dropped dramatically. These NIH study groups are the committees that score research proposals and make recommendations on which proposals will be funded. The costs of clinical research have increased dramatically as, obviously, we are working with humans. To many researchers, working with rats and tissues is just much easier. With rats, they show up to work every day, they follow the protocols and, if they die, they will not sue you. You just buy some more rats.

Also, academic health centers, under increased pressure to costs and the need to generate income, are putting increased pressure on the clinical researchers to spend more of their time seeing billable patients and less of their time on their clinical research projects. All of this hinders clinical research and makes it less likely that the cures will move from the lab to the bedside. This is a growing frustration, not just for the clinical researchers that work in this field, but for the patient advocacy groups.

I hear repeatedly from people who advocate for those suffering from kidney disease, heart disease, Parkinson's Disease that we are not moving the scientific information quickly enough into patient care. We have been too slow in getting improved patient therapies and interventions from the enormous investment we have made in basic research. It is important that this Congress step in now and address this challenge.

I believe we can and should do a better job in moving bench research to the bedside. That is what this bill is aimed at doing.

In addition to concerns about how NIH dollars are allocated, we must recognize the significant financial burdens that academic health centers are facing today associated with rising costs, inadequate funding, mounting regulatory burdens, fragmented infrastructure, incompatible databases, and a shortage of both qualified investigators and willing study participants.

Let me add that some of my colleagues have suggested that NIH

should focus on basic research and that private industry will focus on clinical applications. Those suggesting this lack a full understanding of the issues at hand. Industry is much less likely to dedicate tens of millions of dollars to research clinical applications to address the needs of millions of Americans who suffer from one of the hosts of small and less profitable to treat diseases. Industry does not, nor will it, spend tens of millions of dollars on nonpatentable therapies and interventions. If you cannot patent it and you will not make a profit, industry just will not fund it.

Of note, however, is that the NIH will and does devote significant taxpayer funding in partnerships with industry to develop patentable compounds and interventions. Absent the resources provided in this bill, patients will continue to suffer, I believe needlessly, from diseases for which we could and should develop definitive treatments.

The bill that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DOYLE) and I are introducing today, and that Senator SANTORUM is preparing to introduce in the Senate, will provide our Nation's academic health centers with the crucial resources they need and the opportunity to meet the public's expectation.

If we are going to reap the full benefit of the enormous investment of taxpayer dollars in biomedical research, it is important that we move this legislation forward. I would say to my colleagues, if you think that we have cured enough rats and believe it is time that we look to cure a few more humans, join me and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DOYLE) in the bipartisan Clinical Research Act of 2005.

HONORING CINCO DE MAYO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Cinco de Mayo. I rise to recognize and remember the importance of this day and salute the millions of Mexicans and Americans of Mexican descent that will celebrate throughout the Americas this day, this important day.

While the War Between the States was raging in the 1860s, at the same time, on May 5 in 1862 an undersized, inadequately armed band of Mexicans determined to defend their land, fought a lopsided contest against their oppressors, those oppressors who were invading their homes.

Many people assume that Cinco de Mayo is Mexico's Independence Day from Spain, but that is not correct. Mexico's actual Independence Day is September 16, 1821. Some 40 years after Mexico achieved independence from Spain, their country was once again threatened, this time by the French. And that year, Napoleon III sent a massive, mighty military force to Mexico to unseat President Benito Juarez.