

Beginning in the early 1990s, Dr. Storrs's research focused more on Brazil and Mexico within the context of U.S. initiatives to promote free trade in Latin America. On Mexico, he dealt with issues relating to congressional passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1993, congressional concerns with political stability and a guerrilla insurgency in 1994, and a large financial assistance package for Mexico in 1995. He also worked extensively on congressional initiatives to strengthen regional and bilateral drug control programs with Mexico. For well over a decade Larry has provided extensive support to the annual U.S.-Mexico Interparliamentary Group meetings, and he has accompanied the U.S. delegation for the past 7 years.

Larry Storrs is a fine example of those many dedicated staff of the Congressional Research Service who help inform Congress as it deliberates important public policy issues. His gracious demeanor and considerable expertise on Latin America made him an invaluable asset to Congress for many years. On behalf of my colleagues, I extend our deep appreciation to Larry for his service, and wish him the very best in future endeavors. I doubt he will really retire from teaching. Good teachers never do. There will always be someone lucky enough to learn from Dr. Storrs. We wish you the best, Larry!

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 31, 2006*

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to surgery, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

December 17, 2005:

Rollcall vote 663, on Agreeing to H. Res. 623—Providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 664, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2520—the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act, I would have voted aye.

December 19, 2005:

Rollcall vote 665, on Agreeing to the Conference Report H.R. 1815—the National Defense Authorization Act of FY 2006, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 666, on Agreeing to H. Res. 639—Waiving points of order against the conference report on H.R. 2863, FY 2006 Department of Defense Appropriations, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 667, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended to H. Con. Res. 284—Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the 2005 presidential and parliamentary elections in Egypt, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 668, on the Motion to Recommit with instructions H.R. 2863—Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, I would have voted nay.

Rollcall vote 669, on Agreeing to the Conference Report H.R. 2863—Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 670, on Agreeing to the Conference Report S. 1932—the Budget Reconciliation Act of 2006, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 671, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree—Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the education curriculum of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, I would have voted aye.

#### U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL KOFI ANNAN INAUGURATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

#### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 31, 2006*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to my Colleagues' attention to a very important event, the first annual International Day of Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust, which took place last Friday, January 27, 2006, at the U.N. in New York.

Mr. Speaker, under the leadership of my two good friends, Secretary General Kofi Annan and General Assembly President Jan Eliasson, the U.N. established this annual remembrance, and in doing so, has taken a critical step to begin to undue a dark legacy of bias and hatred directed against Jews and the Democratic State of Israel that has long plagued the U.N. The idea for an annual U.N. Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust, which was instituted by Resolution 60/7 on November 1, 2005, grew out of an event that took place one year ago in New York, an historic Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly to mark the 60th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Nazi Death Camps on January 25, 2005. Last year's U.N. Special Session was convened with the support of the vast majority of U.N. member State's at the urging of Secretary General Annan.

The relevance of and the need for this International Day of Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust could not be more clear. Mr. Speaker, in the months following the establishment of the International Day of Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust by Resolution 60/7, the current President of Iran, Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, has publicly stated that he believes that Holocaust is a "myth" and that Israel "should be wiped off the map."

Mr. Speaker, I draw my colleagues' attention to the courageous remarks U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan delivered on the occasion of the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust last Friday, January 27th. The Secretary General stated, "Remembering is a necessary rebuke to those who say the Holocaust never happened or has been exaggerated. Holocaust denial is the work of bigots. We must reject their false claims whenever, wherever and by whomever they are made."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the entire text of the Secretary General's important address be placed in the RECORD. I also ask that the entire text of remarks delivered at that same event by General Assembly President Jan Eliasson of Sweden and Israel's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambas-

sador Dan Gillerman be included in the RECORD.

MESSAGE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST BY SECRETARY-GENERAL KOFI ANNAN

Today, for the first time, the United Nations marks what will, from now on be an annual observance: the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

There can be no reversing the unique tragedy of the Holocaust. It must be remembered, with shame and horror, for as long as human memory continues.

Only by remembering can we pay fitting tribute to the victims. Millions of innocent Jews and members of other minorities were murdered in the most barbarous ways imaginable. We must never forget those men, women and children, or their agony.

Remembering is a necessary rebuke to those who say the Holocaust never happened or has been exaggerated. Holocaust denial is the work of bigots. We must reject their false claims whenever, wherever and by whomever they are made.

Remembering is also a safeguard for the future. The abyss reached in the Nazi death camps started with hatred, prejudice and anti-Semitism. Recalling these origins can remind us to be ever on the lookout for warning signs.

As the Holocaust recedes in time, and as the number of survivors dwindles, it falls to us—the current generation—to carry the torch of remembrance and uphold the cause of human dignity.

The United Nations was founded as a reaction to the horrors of the Second World War. Even so, the international community has too often failed to stand up to mass atrocities.

In recent years we have taken important steps to improve on that record, such as establishing the International Criminal Court and agreeing on the collective responsibility to protect.

On this International Day of Commemoration, the theme of our observance is "remembrance and beyond". In that spirit, let us pledge ourselves to even greater efforts to prevent genocide and crimes against humanity.

MESSAGE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, H.E. MR. JAN ELIASSON, ON THE OCCASION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Today we observe for the first time the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. This event will take place every year on 27 January. This follows the adoption without a vote of General Assembly resolution 60/7 on "Holocaust remembrance", on 1 November, 2005.

This year's commemoration is of special significance. It takes place only one year after the General Assembly's Special Session on 24 January 2005, which marked the sixtieth anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps.

The liberation of the Nazi death camps revealed to the world one of the most horrendous crimes against humanity. Auschwitz-Birkenau, Dachau, Sobibor, and Treblinka are among the sites where the lives of millions of people were extinguished on political, religious or ethnic grounds.

Remembering this low point in human history is a solemn duty for all of us. We must continue to exorcise the evil of the past. In resolution 60/7, the General Assembly unequivocally "rejects any denial of the Holocaust as an historic event, either in full or in part."

We must also commit ourselves to preventing the reoccurrence of genocide in the future, whenever and wherever it might occur. We must remain vigilant. The forces of hatred, bigotry and racism are still at work in the world.

It is a tragedy that the international community has not been able to stop new horrors in the years since the Holocaust. This makes it all the more important that we remember the lessons of the Holocaust. It must be a unifying cause around which we all can rally.

On this International Day of Commemoration let us pay tribute to all the victims of the Holocaust. Let us also honour the survivors. And in looking back at this sombre page of history and other atrocities and crimes of genocide following it, let us join forces and recommit ourselves to building mutual respect and dignity for all. Holocaust remembrance will strengthen us in this resolve.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST, STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR DAN GILLERMAN, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

I, Danny Gillerman, born in Israel to parents who fled the Nazis, but whose grandparents and family perished, stand before you today, as an Israeli, a Jew, and a citizen of the world—moved and filled with pride as the world embarks on a journey beyond remembrance.

I stand here as a representative of the Jewish State that arose out of the ashes of the Holocaust. A Jewish State whose cabinet yesterday convened a Special Session at the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem. A Jewish State that has become, against all odds, a beacon of beauty, excellence, creativity, and justice for the whole world.

And today, on this solemn occasion, I urge you to imagine. Indeed many of you in this hall don't need to imagine because you were there, but I urge the rest of the world to imagine—imagine the shattering of skulls, the burning of flesh, the cries of anguish. Look at one child, and multiply it by a million and a half. Look at one member of your family and multiply him by six million. Imagine!

But imagine too what a world this would be if they, and their children, were still with us. How much more beauty, more excellence, more art and culture, more cures and innovations there would be. Imagine. Imagine how much better the world would be.

So today, as we look to the past, embrace the present, and look to the future, we must all pray. We must remember, salute, sound an alarm, and vow. We remember the sacrifice of the victims, we salute the courage of the survivors, many of them in this hall, whose numbers dwindle as the Holocaust turns from being memory to becoming history. And we sound an alarm, a call to arms, and a wake up call to the world.

A world in which a Member State of this organization calls for wiping Israel off the face of the map. A world in which an extreme and evil regime denies the Holocaust while preparing the next one.

A world that stood still 65 years ago and has since witnessed Cambodia and Rwanda.

A world that must act today to atone for yesterday and preserve our tomorrow.

On this day, I want to also express to you in this hall and around the world, my deep regret. I deeply, very deeply regret, and I believe the rest of the world should too, that the State of Israel did not exist in 1938 or 1943. Because if it did, this horrible event would never have happened.

And today, from this podium, in this hall, on this solemn day, I vow to you. I vow to you that as long as there is an Israel, no Jew will again be made to wear a yellow star or be tattooed with a number. And I vow to you that there will forever be an Israel, so these horrors will never be witnessed again—Never Again!

Ladies and Gentlemen, as we gather here today, night is descending on Jerusalem, and the Jewish Sabbath is enfolding Israel. So it is from here, from this world stage, that I say this Eve of Shabbat prayer:

"May God Give His People Strength. May God Bless His People With Peace." Shabbat Shalom.

TRIBUTE TO CLYDE P. SELIG

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 31, 2006*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Clyde P. Selig, president and CEO of Commercial Metals Steel Group, CMSG. CMSG ships around 2.4 million tons of steel a year, employs over 6,700 people and grosses close to \$1.3 billion a year in sales.

Mr. Speaker, Clyde Selig attended Clarkson College of Technology and graduated from the University of Maryland. He also served in the U.S. Army in various command and staff positions in Europe.

Mr. Selig has served in many capacities with SMI-Texas including manager of maintenance and engineering, manager of steelmaking, works manager, vice president of operations and general manager before becoming executive vice president of CMC Steel Group Mills. He was appointed President and COO in February of 1997 and CEO in May of 2002.

A strong believer in community support and involvement, Mr. Selig was one of the founders of the Seguin Boys' Club, and is a former president of the Seguin Chamber of Commerce. He also served as vice president of the City/County Hospital Board, including the Citizens Advisory Juvenile Board. Currently, he serves with the Rotarians.

Mr. Speaker, the 28th district of Texas is proud to have such an outstanding civic leader living in San Antonio.

CONGRATULATING MS. CHRISTIANE E. BUUCK

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 31, 2006*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Christiane E. Buuck of Bedford, TX, for receiving the prestigious Fulbright award to study abroad in France during the 2005–2006 academic year. Ms. Buuck was honored with this award for her studies in creative writing at the University of Arizona.

The Fulbright program is sponsored by the Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The program was established in 1946 with the purpose of building mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the rest of the world by allowing recipients to study, lecture or conduct

research in an international exchange program.

Christiane was selected on the basis of academic achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in her field.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Christiane Buuck on receiving this award and commend her dedication and desire to help her community and country.

CONGRATULATING NATALIE SOLFANELLI AS SHE IS HONORED BY THE LACKAWANNA RIVER CORRIDOR ASSOCIATION

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 31, 2006*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Natalie Solfanelli, executive director of the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority in Lackawanna County, PA. Mrs. Solfanelli has been honored by the Lackawanna River Corridor Association for her exceptional performance in creating partnerships to preserve and develop the Lackawanna Valley's historic, cultural, natural and economic resources through preservation, education and promotion of the regional heritage.

The Lackawanna River Corridor Association is a nonprofit community organization created in 1987 to promote the restoration and protection of the Lackawanna River and its watershed resources. A major goal of the LRCA is to foster the development of a 40-mile long network of parks and trails along the Lackawanna River.

The Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority and the Lackawanna River Corridor Association have been collaborating to get the 40-mile trail and greenway system built. Known as the Lackawanna River Heritage Trail, several sections were developed in the past few years. Other sections are in final engineering phases and will be under construction soon.

Mrs. Solfanelli's leadership and vision have contributed to making the Lackawanna River Heritage Trail project a strategic link in the work of the authority and its partners to promote the economic and environmental revitalization of communities along the river.

After being named LHVA executive director, Mrs. Solfanelli began to enhance the scope of the Downtown Riverfront Trail Project and position the trail as an economic development generator. She is leading a riverfront partnership effort to look ahead at the next steps that will enable private developers and local public agencies to further develop the riverfront area as a complement to the revitalization of downtown Scranton.

Mrs. Solfanelli has an impressive background in financial services, having served with Alpha Benefits Group, Consulting Group, Inc. and Omni Health Plan. She is an NASD licensed registered representative with MidSouth Capital, Inc. and has been president of Harbor Group, Inc., an insurance and investment planning firm since 1989. Mrs. Solfanelli is also a certified life underwriter and a long term care professional.

Mrs. Solfanelli serves on the board of Scranton Tomorrow, the Jewish Federation of