

present for votes, I would have voted "yes" on each of the five votes taken: H. Res. 397, H. Res. 422, H. Res. 430, H. Res. 451, and H. Res. 452.

CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT
OF CHINA TO STOP GENOCIDE
AND VIOLENCE IN DARFUR,
SUDAN

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 422, a resolution calling on China to use its unique influence and economic leverage to stop genocide and violence in Darfur.

I would like to thank the Congresswoman from California for her dedication to human rights throughout the world and especially in Darfur.

I was pleased to be a cosponsor of this bill and pleased that this Congress will not let the ongoing genocide go unnoticed or ignored.

What's taking place in Darfur today is truly a crime against humanity. Every day women are raped, men are killed, and children face violence, hunger, and desperation.

China has chosen to continue to invest in Sudan and to prop up a government bent on murder and bloodshed. Let us be clear: any country that supports the Khartoum government's brutality—either through monetary or military support—is complicit.

I urge the support of this resolution and call on our own administration to take immediate actions to bring an end to the genocide in Sudan.

A TRIBUTE TO OSWALD "OZZIE"
TORRES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Oswald "Ozzie" Torres who is being honored at the International Association of Lions Club District 20-K1 Governor's Testimonial Dinner. Mr. Torres, a native of Brooklyn, NY, is a successful Certified Public Accountant who credits his achievements to his caring parents Osvaldo and Lydia Torres.

Mr. Torres decided to follow in his father's footsteps and establish a career in accounting. Together they are the driving force of the firm Torres and Associates.

Mr. Torres has been a member in good standing of the Brooklyn Caribe Lions' Club since 1995 and has received numerous recognition awards from Lions Club International. Among those honors include; the Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship and the Robert J. Uplinger award from District 20-K1.

Mr. Torres has been a presenter at many orientation sessions and workshops speaking in both English and Spanish. He has served District 20-K1 as Chairman of International Understanding and Cooperation, Leadership,

Membership; Business Manager of the Kings and Queens Publication; Zone and Region Chairman; Cabinet Secretary and Treasurer; Vice-District Governor; and currently District Governor.

Mr. Torres has served the communities of both Brooklyn and Queens and has previously been named "Business Person of the Year." He is a member and Executive Board Officer of the Boricua Festival of New York and is an Executive Member of the Woodhull Hospital Auxiliary Board.

Mr. Torres is married to Melissa Torres and has two sons Michael and Brandon.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize this pillar of our community for all of his contributions.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Oswald "Ozzie" Torres.

SENATOR PAUL SIMON STUDY
ABROAD FOUNDATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1469, the Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act, which will significantly enhance opportunities for Americans to gain international education, build understanding and respect among different cultures, and enhance leadership in the global community.

Senator Paul Simon embodied the role of concerned citizen, which is the essence of this program. Starting his career in the newspaper business, he served in the Illinois General Assembly and as Lt. Governor of Illinois, and later was our colleague in the U.S. Congress, where he served in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Senator Simon was a great believer in the hope that good government can instill in people, and was widely regarded for his commonsense, hard work and integrity. In addition, Senator Simon was proud of Southwestern and Southern Illinois, where he got his professional start, entered politics and lived much of his life. It was a pleasure to serve with him and it is important for young Americans to know about his career and ideals.

As a professor and author of numerous books, Senator Simon was passionate about education. He was particularly interested in the need for American students to travel abroad to learn about different peoples, their languages and their cultures. In this way, the United States would be better able to understand and work with other nations.

Today, only one percent of U.S. undergraduate students participate in a study abroad program during their degree program. This statistic shows the United States is failing to take advantage of a valuable tool that should be used to enhance our standing in the world and to improve our Nation's security.

Mr. Speaker, as economic competition and national security continue to defy geographical boundaries, the need for our students to gain international knowledge greatly increases. That is why, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act.

HONORING THE LIFE AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE LATE
PARREN JAMES MITCHELL

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the life and achievements of Parren James Mitchell, the first black Congressman to represent the State of Maryland, 1 of the 13 founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus, CBC, and a champion of civil rights. Mr. Mitchell was a powerful force in the 20th century resurgence of Black political strength in the United States and I was proud to serve with him in the Congress.

Born in Baltimore, MD, on April 29, 1922, Parren Mitchell was the ninth of 10 children in his family. He earned a bachelor's degree from Morgan State College in 1950 and was the first Black to earn a master's degree from the University of Maryland—College Park in 1952, after a successful suit that granted him fair admission. Mitchell returned to his undergraduate institution to teach sociology and serve as the assistant director of the Urban Studies Institute. He was also a commissioned officer of the 92nd Infantry Division during World War II, receiving the Purple Heart.

Having amassed more than 3,000 awards and 14 honorary degrees, Mitchell was a leader in politics and business. He served on the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City from 1954 to 1957 and as executive director to both the Maryland Human Relations Commission and Baltimore Community Action Agency.

Mr. Mitchell was elected to the 92nd United States Congress in 1971 and reelected for seven successive terms. As the first Black to head the House Committee on Small Business, his greatest triumph was in leading a fight to ratify bills providing special aid to Black business owners on the grounds that Blacks had been subjected to discrimination for generations. In addition to heading the Small Business Committee, he was also Democratic whip at large, the senior member of the House Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs Committee, and chairman of its Subcommittee on Domestic Monetary Policy.

In 1980, Mitchell founded the Minority Business Enterprise Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc., MBELDEF, whose accomplishments include a successful lawsuit against Burger King in 1988 for discriminatory practices in awarding franchises.

As a mentor to African Americans committed to improving American civil rights, such as former president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, Kweisi Mfume, Mitchell was selflessly committed to uplifting his people and was even referred to during his chairmanship of the CBC as "the Little General."

Parren is remembered in Congress as a soft-spoken yet eloquent speaker with a large presence. Former Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Richard Lugar asserted it was Mitchell's impassioned plea for sanctions against South Africa that persuaded him to accept a tougher measure than the Senate originally backed in 1985.

Parren, along with other family members have dedicated their careers to public service and specifically to representing the people of

Baltimore for many years. His brother, Clarence Mitchell, Jr., the late civil rights activist, was the chief lobbyist for the NAACP for 30 years and was instrumental in the passage of several civil rights bills. Two of his nephews, Clarence M. Mitchell III and Michael B. Mitchell, Sr., were elected as Baltimore city councilmen and Maryland State senators. His nephew, Keiffer Mitchell, is currently serving as a Baltimore city councilman and plans to campaign for the upcoming mayoral election in Baltimore city. His legacy of inspiring others to serve the public still lives on.

In remembering the life of Parren Mitchell, I am grateful to have known him personally and am confident that America is a better place because he lived.

HONORING THE COMMITMENT OF
HERB HICKS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Herb Hicks as he celebrates his 40th year of perfect attendance as a Rotarian. A dedicated man, Hicks has been present for over 2,000 weekly Rotary meetings.

Hicks helped found the Cantonment Rotary Club in 1948. He later became the club's fifth president. Furthermore, Hicks has received the honor of being named a Paul Harris Fellow in Rotary, a privilege reserved for those who have donated \$1,000 to the club. At 93 years of age, Hicks is the last charter member of the civic organization; yet he continues to play an important role at his local Cantonment Rotary Club.

Paul Frederick, current president of the Cantonment Rotary, explained, "Herb is one of the exemplars in this club. He leads by example and attendance to Rotary functions is one thing this club stresses. No one in this area has a longer perfect attendance record." He also pointed out that Hicks hosts an annual picnic for Rotary members and family.

Hicks is very clear on his priorities, saying, "I think Rotary is important. I put church first and Rotary second in my life." Hicks admits to cutting many business meetings short in order to be present for his 12:15 p.m. Wednesday meetings. However, for circumstances that were unavoidable, Hicks had a backup plan. Rotary International allows missed meetings to be made up by attending other local Rotary club meetings. Hicks divulged, "I have attended make-up meetings everywhere in the United States."

In total, Hicks has been a member of Rotary for 59 years. The dedication exemplified can only be explained by Hicks as he said, "I like the fellowship and I like what Rotary does, I like its world-wide outreach and I believe in its principles and high ethical standards." To put it simply, Hicks asks, "If you are not going to attend, why belong?"

Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my congratulations to Hicks as he has not only set a precedent for the Rotary, but also has challenged the commitment of those before me today. I take pride in Hick's determination, and I wish him all the best.

HONORING LEE HAYES OF THE
TUSKAGEE AIRMEN

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize a great American patriot and World War II hero, Lee Hayes, of the renowned Tuskegee Airmen.

In 1941, the formation of the all African-American squadron based in Alabama, the Tuskegee Airmen, was largely regarded as an "experiment" by the U.S. military to test the combat readiness of an all-black fighting squadron. These brave servicemen demonstrated exceptional selflessness and patriotism as they fought two wars for our country—one against the enemy overseas and the other against segregation and discrimination at home.

Among the honors bestowed upon the Tuskegee Airmen include 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 744 Air Medals, 14 Bronze Stars, and 8 Purple Hearts. Most recently, they were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor that the legislative branch can bestow.

I am proud to call one of the Tuskegee Airmen a friend and neighbor. His name is Lee Hayes. He was raised on Long Island and is a current resident of Amagansett, New York. At 88 years young, Mr. Hayes was born in Mannboro, Virginia. In the 1930s, Lee's family moved to eastern Long Island, where he attended East Hampton High School.

Lee Hayes developed an interest in flying planes at a young age, while keenly aware of the sad racial realities of the time. In his own words: "I never thought much about whether or not blacks fly airplanes . . . It didn't occur to me that we didn't, and the more I thought about it, the more I wanted to do it."

After the Army drafted him and after scoring a 94 on the preliminary examination, Mr. Hayes impressed his instructors by quickly learning to fly the B-25 bomber. Mr. Hayes never entered combat, as the war ended shortly before he finished his pilot training. He was honorably discharged and returned to East Hampton.

Madam Speaker, it is truly an honor to represent Lee Hayes in the U.S. House of Representatives. On behalf of a grateful nation, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring Lee Hayes and the Tuskegee Airmen for their extraordinary bravery and contributions to our Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF CATHERINE
BOHAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Catherine Bohan, for her outstanding efforts in educating children, and for her lifelong commitment to family, colleagues, and friends.

Cathy has educated and enlightened our children and prepared them for life's journey for approximately 40 years, including 13 years

at Saint Richard School where she currently teaches third grade. She has proven herself a wonderful teacher, colleague and friend. Not only does she teach at Saint Richard School, but she also makes a tremendous contribution as member of the Liturgy Committee, a Eucharistic Minister, a Praxis Pathwise Mentor, and a member of the Retreat Committee.

Likewise, her services to Saint Clarence Church as RCIA Leader, Eucharistic Minister, PSR Teacher and Pre-Cana organizer while at the same time raising three beautiful children, is truly admirable. She has been married to her beloved husband, Patrick, for 30 years.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Catherine Bohan for her long and successful career as an educator and for her dedication to and care for the future generations of Northeast Ohio.

CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT
OF CHINA TO STOP GENOCIDE
AND VIOLENCE IN DARFUR,
SUDAN

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I wish to support H. Res. 422, a resolution calling on the government of the People's Republic of China to use its unique influence and economic leverage to stop genocide and violence in Darfur, Sudan. This resolution highlights China's inaction regarding the genocide in Darfur and I am particularly proud to be a cosponsor of this resolution.

Since the conflict began 4 years ago, 400,000 persons have been murdered and 2.5 million displaced. Thousands are still dying from the ravages of war each month in an area roughly the size of Texas. This campaign of terror in the region has been labeled "genocide" by our Government.

China is Sudan's largest trading partner and the main foreign investor in Sudan's oil industry. China National Petroleum Corporation has a 40 percent share in the international consortium extracting oil in Sudan, and it is building refineries and pipelines, enabling Sudan to benefit from oil-export-revenue since 1999. Although most Western oil companies have withdrawn from Sudan under pressure from human rights organizations, Chinese companies have turned a blind eye to the brutal war in which Sudan forced 2.5 million of its citizens from oil-rich lands without compensation. Nor have these companies shown concern that Sudan uses oil revenue to purchase arms for its wars against its population.

Mr. Speaker, countless people have spoken out against the tragedy taking place in Darfur, but now it is time for elected leaders to demand that action be taken to end this genocide in Darfur. If we fail to take action it is likely that future generations will view our inaction as complicity. I am hoping that our government will do everything in its power to stop this genocide. Additionally, it is my strong desire that the international community, including China, do everything in its power to end this genocide as well.

H. Res. 422 calls on the People's Republic of China to acknowledge and condemn the violence taking place in Darfur, cease all military