

UNITED NATIONS' GOLDSTONE
REPORT ON ISRAEL**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, in April 2009 the United Nations (UN) set upon an "investigation" and "fact-finding" mission into the recent Israel-Gaza border conflict and released a report on findings on September 15th. Although the facts clearly showed that the terrorist Hamas government in Gaza had launched thousands of rockets on Israel prior to any Israeli response, the UN Goldstone Mission came to a surprising conclusion. It found "violations of international human rights law . . . by the occupying power, Israel." This outrageous conclusion was predetermined by the originating mandate's anti-Israel bias.

After lasting six months and producing a 575-page report, the Goldstone Mission apparently had no interest in fairness or engaging in a real investigation. This "fact-finding" mission was nothing more than a charade that demonizes a nation for protecting its own citizens, all the while protecting terrorist organizations and damaging any chance of true peace in the Middle East. The Goldstone Report is just another example of the UNHRC's dismal track record.

The Goldstone Report is the epitome of what is wrong with the United Nations in general and the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in particular. Dominated by anti-democratic, anti-Semitic nations opposed to any semblance of human rights, the UNHRC has proven itself to be lacking objectivity and interest in truth or advancing the real cause of human rights.

My central concern with the Goldstone Report is the lack of recognition of Israel's right to defend itself against attacks from the internationally-recognized terrorist organization, Hamas, which currently controls Gaza. Despite video documentation, the report alleges no conclusive evidence of Hamas's extraordinary use of civilians and civilian infrastructure for military purposes, and accuses Israel of war crimes. The Goldstone Report shamefully accuses the victims with little mention of the aggressors. It even leaves open the possibility of Israel's prosecution at the International Criminal Court for simply protecting its citizens.

No nation can sit idly by while its people are killed, its children are traumatized, and the daily life of its citizens is severely disrupted by terrorism. Ask yourself, would America tolerate 10,000 rockets being launched against our homeland? No, we would protect our people. Israel has the same responsibility to protect its people as it did in Gaza. To suggest otherwise is a failure to accept the facts.

Americans look forward to peace in Israel and the Middle East; but until Hamas and its terrorist allies relinquish their arms, renounce violence, and acknowledge the right of Israel to exist, the hope for peace can not be realized. Israel can not do it singlehandedly. The UN must recognize Hamas for what it is—a terrorist organization that prevents peace in the Middle East. The Goldstone Report, by rejecting truth and objectivity, brings us no closer to that ultimate goal. It is a disgrace and should be viewed as such by the international community.

HONORING ELAN CORPORATION

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the Elan Corporation which this year will celebrate four decades of extraordinary work dedicated to advancing neuroscience, developing disease-modifying treatments that are defining the future of therapy for degenerative neurological conditions, and playing a significant role in the drug delivery and technology field.

On September 21 the world marked World Alzheimer's Day 2009. It is therefore fitting to acknowledge Elan Corporation's research, development, and commercial activities for neurodegenerative diseases including Alzheimer's. An estimated 5 million Americans have Alzheimer's disease, including one in eight Americans over 65 and nearly half of Americans over 85. A new Alzheimer patient is diagnosed every 71 seconds and 1 in 10 Americans have a family member living with the disease. In Pennsylvania, more than 500,000 individuals suffer from Alzheimer's and there are nearly 431,000 family caregivers. Elan's work in this area has the potential to dramatically improve the quality of life for those afflicted with that terrible disease as well as the tens of millions of caregivers the world over, who struggle with the physical and emotional burden of seeing their loved one grow more distant and disabled each day throughout the course of a very lengthy affliction.

The dedicated team at Elan also is working to overcome a host of other devastating and debilitating challenges including Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, Crohn's disease, and severe chronic pain. The commitment of this corporation to defeating so many destructive conditions affecting the human brain is impressive. As our nation continues to discuss the future of health care, it is vital to remember that the development of therapies that will free millions of minds from the shackles of neurologic impairment offers incalculable value to our collective well-being, our economy and could inspire us to tackle even greater challenges in science, medicine, engineering and other vital aspects of life.

I am proud that King of Prussia, Pennsylvania is home to an office of the Elan Corporation. The exceptional employees of that office are actively contributing to Pennsylvania's reputation as a center of innovation in the life sciences. From King of Prussia, PA, leading edge pharmaceuticals are enhancing the lives of millions of patients worldwide.

I join all of the residents of the Seventh Congressional District of Pennsylvania in wishing the 1,500 employees of the Elan Corporation four times forty more years of successful research, development and delivery of life changing pharmaceuticals to patients throughout the world. That you "view the human brain as the last great frontier in scientific research and therapy development with no greater challenge and no greater opportunity to make a meaningful difference in patients' lives" is noble and appreciated.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
SARAH RIGGS FOR WINNING THE
GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE SOFT-
BALL CHAMPIONSHIP**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:
Whereas, Sarah Riggs showed hard work and dedication to the sport of softball; and
Whereas, Sarah Riggs was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Sarah Riggs always displayed sportsmanship on and off the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Sarah Riggs on winning the Girls' Division IV State Softball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 softball season.

RECOGNIZING ENVIRONMENTAL
TECTONIC CORPORATION'S 40TH
ANNIVERSARY**HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very special company located in my district in Southampton, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. This Saturday, September 26, 2009, Environmental Tectonics Corporation will celebrate its 40th anniversary of producing world-class technology for a variety of markets.

I am proud to say that Environmental Tectonics Corporation, ETC, is located in my congressional district in Southampton, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. They employ more than 260 employees and subcontract with dozens of local suppliers throughout Pennsylvania creating hundreds of jobs and generating millions of dollars annually in local economic development.

On Monday, February 2nd, ETC announced a \$20 million contract with the United States Navy for the manufacture of a next-generation, motion-based research device that will improve the health and safety of pilots. ETC estimates that the contract will generate three hundred jobs in our region.

Founded in 1969, ETC is a cutting-edge, high technology manufacturing and integration company that services the requirements of a broad base of customers. As one of the most important innovative manufacturers in Bucks County, ETC remains a driving force of our economy and is at the forefront of technology manufacturing. ETC provides high-paying jobs to local employees in the areas of manufacturing, engineering, software development and other high-tech careers. ETC has partnered with local technical and engineering institutions of higher learning to provide hands-on training for local students pursuing careers in the science, technology and manufacturing fields. ETC's NASTAR Center is truly a global leader in preparing for the next generation of sub-orbital space flight guaranteeing local economic development for decades. It gives me a

tremendous sense of pride that in the future the departure desk for space will be in my home district.

On September 26th, the ETC family will gather to celebrate its past success and prepare for a future of remarkable achievement. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate the entire ETC team on their past and continued success and I look forward to representing them in our nation's Capitol for years to come.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING NATALIE GAUSE FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Natalie Gause showed hard work and dedication to the sport of softball; and Whereas, Natalie Gause was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Natalie Gause always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Natalie Gause on winning the Girls' Division IV State Softball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 softball season.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOSEPH A. WASSERMAN

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Mr. Joseph A. Wasserman of southwest Michigan. After nearly four decades in health administration, Mr. Wasserman will be retiring as the president and CEO of Lakeland HealthCare.

A man of the Midwest, Joseph was born in Lima, Ohio. He went on to receive his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Toledo and his master's in health administration from the University of Michigan. Joseph was named the president and CEO of Lakeland HealthCare in 1984 and has served in his position with distinction and honor.

Throughout his career as president and CEO, Joseph Wasserman has played a vital role in the success of Lakeland HealthCare. He managed the merger of four hospitals in the system, including the consolidation of the organizational structure to enhance the quality and value of services for southwest Michigan residents. Joseph introduced key services and technology to provide a continuum of care in areas such as oncology, outpatient services, long-term care, and home care. He led the healthcare industry in the area of evidence-based design by creating spaces that promote healing. He also launched an innovative five-star service program to create a service-mind-

ed, patient-centered culture. These impressive achievements earned Joseph such honors as the 2009 Health Care Weekly Review Excellent Administrator of the Year Award and the 2008 MHA Meritorious Service Award, and earned Lakeland HealthCare the Gold Seal of Approval for Primary Stroke Centers from the Joint Commission and the 2008 VHA Leadership Award for Clinical Excellence.

Throughout his nearly four decades in healthcare administration, Joseph Wasserman's leadership skills, compassion, and commitment to outstanding service have made him an asset not only to Lakeland HealthCare, but to the entire State of Michigan. As Mr. Wasserman prepares for his retirement this September, he leaves a legacy that will benefit the community for generations to come.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING LISA REIFENSCHNEIDER FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Lisa Reifenschneider showed hard work and dedication to the sport of softball; and

Whereas, Lisa Reifenschneider was a supportive coach; and

Whereas, Lisa Reifenschneider always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Lisa Reifenschneider on winning the Girls' Division IV State Softball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 softball season.

HONORING MAYOR JOSEPH DIGIROLAMO

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo as a 2009 recipient of the Bensalem Outreach Center Community Service Award.

Serving his community of Bensalem as its Mayor for nearly fifteen years, Joe DiGirolamo embodies what it means to be a public servant. Since being elected as Mayor in 1994, he has brought countless community improvements to Bensalem, including new state-of-the-art parks, transportation system upgrades, reduced real estate taxes, and infrastructure improvements.

Mr. DiGirolamo has also helped to ensure a brighter future for his community's youth through his efforts with programs like "Kids at Work" and by founding the Joseph DiGirolamo Scholarship Foundation.

As a former farmer, he understands the importance of responsible land management and

respect for the environment. He has demonstrated this by maintaining a policy of preserving open space and the natural beauty of Bensalem.

Mr. DiGirolamo is also a family man in every sense of the word. He has been married to his wife Mary for 53 years, and is the proud grandfather of seven and great-grandfather of three.

It's been an honor to work with the Mayor over the past three years, but an even greater honor to be able to call him a friend.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo for his outstanding commitment to public service, his community, and his country. I am honored to serve as his Congressman.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING NICKI CREGAN FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Nicki Cregan showed hard work and dedication to the sport of softball; and

Whereas, Nicki Cregan was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Nicki Cregan always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Nicki Cregan on winning the Girls' Division IV State Softball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 softball season.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, on September 22, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to be present for the recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall #720, "yea" on rollcall #721, and "yea" on rollcall #722.

HONORING ALBERT A. GRENIER AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BALTIC FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and dedication of a man who has been a pillar in his community for more than half a century. For the past 50 years, Albert A. Grenier has dedicated much of his personal time to the Baltic Fire Department and the residents of Baltic, Connecticut.