

proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PRIVILEGED REPORT ON RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY TO SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. CUELLAR, from the Committee on Homeland Security, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-377) on the resolution (H. Res. 922) directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit to the House of Representatives all information in the possession of the Department of Homeland Security relating to the Department's planning, information sharing, and coordination with any state or locality receiving detainees held at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba on or after January 20, 2009, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

HONORING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RECORDING OF "KIND OF BLUE"

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 894) honoring the 50th anniversary of the recording of the album "Kind of Blue" and reaffirming jazz as a national treasure.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 894

Whereas, on August 17, 1959, Miles Davis, Jimmy Cobb, Bill Evans, Wynton Kelly, Paul Chambers, John Coltrane, and Julian "Cannonball" Adderley collaborated to record the album "Kind of Blue";

Whereas "Kind of Blue" ranks 12th on the list of the "500 Greatest Albums of All Time" published by Rolling Stone magazine;

Whereas "Kind of Blue" was recorded in 1959, the year Columbia Records declared "jazz's greatest year";

Whereas "Kind of Blue" marked the beginning of the mass popularity of jazz in the United States;

Whereas in 2008, the Recording Industry Association of America awarded "Kind of Blue" quadruple-platinum status, meaning 4,000,000 copies of the album had been sold;

Whereas in 2002, the Library of Congress added "Kind of Blue" to the National Recording Registry;

Whereas "Kind of Blue" was recognized as the bestselling record in the history of jazz;

Whereas 50 years after the release of "Kind of Blue", MOJO magazine honored the Legacy Edition of the album by giving it the "Best Catalogue Release of the Year" award;

Whereas "Kind of Blue" both redefined the concept of jazz for musicians and changed the perceptions of jazz held by many fans;

Whereas today, the sole surviving member of the Miles Davis Sextet, Jimmy Cobb, is performing and touring with his So What Band in tribute to the 50th anniversary of "Kind of Blue"; and

Whereas "Kind of Blue" continues to be the standard masterpiece of jazz for American musicians and audiences: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) honors the 50th anniversary of "Kind of Blue" and recognizes the unique contribution the album has made to American jazz;

(2) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit enrolled copies of this resolution to Columbia Records;

(3) encourages the United States Government to take all appropriate steps to preserve and advance the art form of jazz music;

(4) recommits itself to ensuring that musical artists such as Miles Davis and his Sextet receive fair protection under the copyright laws of the United States for their contributions to culture in the United States; and

(5) reaffirms the status of jazz as a national treasure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today we honor Miles Davis, the trumpet player, and his sextet, recognizing the 50th year of the recording of one of the legendary jazz tunes, one of the most important too of the 20th century, that was an album called "Kind of Blue." It was recorded in New York, a Manhattan church turned recording studio—and there were six other people with Miles Davis: John Coltrane; Julian "Cannonball" Adderley; Bill Evans and Wynton Kelly, pianists; Paul Chambers, bass; Jimmy Cobb, the drummer—and made musical history and changed the artistic landscape of this country and in some ways the world.

At the Congressional Black Caucus event this past September, we honored the only living artist of that recording date, Jimmy Cobb, the drummer, who was there and who performed, as a matter of fact. It was a great time for a great event that occurred 50 years ago.

The reason that it was great was that each one of these artists—Coltrane, Adderley, Davis, Bill Evans, Wynton Kelly, Paul Chambers, and Jimmy Cobb—all became musical leaders in their own right. And they were experimenting with what was once called bebop, now progressive jazz, and some went on to modal jazz, which I'm still finding out what that's all about. They'd usually take chords of a song, sometimes a ballad or a popular song, and then substitute chords, and then you'd get this creative improvisation of what their interpretation of a song means to them. And that's what modern jazz is, of course, all about.

So with the event that the Congressional Black Caucus had with the only

living musician from that historic recording, this gives us a chance and an opportunity to understand what this contribution to music means to the American cultural scene.

Jazz is celebrated all over the world. I introduced a concurrent resolution on jazz, H. Con. Res. 57—I have forgotten what year now, but it was passed in both the House and the Senate—and it celebrated this contribution, this musical contribution that's been appreciated, reinterpreted all over the world. Whenever and wherever I travel, I always try to locate the musicians, whether it's in Norway or Jamaica or Germany. This music is still going on and it's something that we celebrate, and I'm glad to bring before the House today this resolution, 894, for passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I support Chairman CONYERS' sponsorship of House Resolution 894, which honors the 50th anniversary of the album "Kind of Blue" and reaffirms jazz as a national treasure.

I thank Chairman CONYERS for his excellent work over many years to honor and support jazz not only in music halls but in the Halls of Congress.

In 1987, Chairman CONYERS' House Concurrent Resolution 57 designated jazz a national American treasure. Taking its name from this resolution, the HR-57 Center for the Presentation of Jazz and Blues later established itself on 14th Street in Washington, D.C., to educate aspiring musicians on the history and culture of jazz and blues.

In 1990, Chairman CONYERS won passage of appropriations legislation awarding the Smithsonian Institute with funding to establish a comprehensive jazz program, including the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra.

Chairman CONYERS has long supported efforts to present live jazz to the public in Washington, D.C. He has served on the board of directors of such organizations as Capital City Jazz Festivals, Inc., the National Jazz Service Organization, and the Rhythm and Blues Foundation. His love of jazz is shared by many. Jazz is an historic American creation, and as such, it certainly should be honored and supported by Congress today.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the famous jazz album "Kind of Blue." On August 17, 1957, Miles Davis and his ensemble sextet collaborated to record "Kind of Blue." This album popularized jazz like never before. It led Columbia Records to declare 1959 as "jazz's greatest year." Today, "Kind of Blue" is recognized as the best-selling jazz album of all time. Its influence on music beyond jazz alone has led music writers to view it as one of the most influential albums ever. In 2002, it was one of 50 recordings chosen by the Library of Congress to be added to the

National Recording Registry. In 2003, "Kind of Blue" was ranked No. 12 on Rolling Stone magazine's list of the 500 greatest albums of all time.

One reviewer called "Kind of Blue" a defining moment of 20th century music. Ashley Kahn, the author of the book "Kind of Blue: The Making of a Miles Davis Masterpiece," called it "the premier album of its era, jazz or otherwise." Pianist Chick Corea, one of Miles Davis' acolytes, said, "It's one thing to just play a tune or play a program of music, but it's another thing to practically create a new language of music, which is what 'Kind of Blue' did."

As a distinctly American language of music, jazz is rightfully honored by Chairman CONYERS' resolution today. So it is with great pleasure that I join him in supporting this resolution, and I urge our colleagues to support the resolution as well.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to one of the people who knows a little about this music and who has come a long way from Memphis, Tennessee. He is the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN).

Mr. COHEN. I thank the chairman.

Mr. Speaker, we all start as a tabula rasa in all areas of life. Then we grow, and we have the opportunity to learn. In my fewer number of years here on Earth than the chairman, I have learned quite a bit about jazz myself.

It has been my honor to have friends who have been involved in jazz in Memphis—particularly, the late Phineas Newborn, Jr., who was a great pianist, one of the great jazz pianists of all time. He was a Memphian, and he was known by jazz musicians all over the world as a great jazz pianist. Others have come from Memphis and have gone to New York, which is oftentimes where jazz is played.

Marvin Stamm, a great flugelhorn player, performed with different orchestras throughout the country as a Memphian. He went to North Texas State University for his education where he got a degree in jazz band, which is one of the few places in the world, Mr. SMITH's State, that has jazz band distinction.

In New York, there are Bradley's, Village Vanguard and all of those wonderful places where you historically have been able to hear people like Art Blakey. I was able to see Max Roach in Baltimore once at a jazz festival. I am a fan of Charlie Parker's and of Miles Davis. They are great jazz musicians. I think all musicians respected Miles Davis as one of the greatest influences on their lives regardless of whether they were rockers or whether they were blues musicians or jazz performers.

I thank the chairman for his appreciation of what is a uniquely American

cultural achievement, one that the world holds dear and respects America for. The appreciation of jazz is an art form that is being lost to our students. It is one that needs to be taught in our schools and that needs to be maintained as a living and breathing expression of the American art industry.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute merely to say that I appreciate the gentleman from Tennessee because an earlier jazz started in his State, in Memphis and in Nashville. The roots of it were embedded in the modern jazz of the music that we reaffirm today as a national treasure.

Before I yield back the balance of my time, because I studied music as a young person, I owe these musicians a debt of gratitude because it was they who recommended that I go to law school, so I am grateful to them for helping my career.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the actions of the House in recognizing the 50th anniversary of Miles Davis' ground breaking recording, Kind of Blue. I would also like to thank Representative CONYERS for his spirited commitment to preserving the American art form known as jazz. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago, Miles Davis brought together six gifted musicians, Bill Evans, Cannonball Adderley, Paul Chambers, John Coltrane, Wynton Kelly, and Jimmy Cobb. These men, who we now revere as jazz legends, under Davis' lead, fashioned the best selling jazz album of all time. It is no wonder that Kind of Blue is ranked as the 12th greatest albums of all time by Rolling Stone Magazine. Selling more than 4 million copies to date, Kind of Blue changed the shape of jazz through the buzz of Davis' trumpet and his focus on musical modes. The album's influence on popular music throughout the years cannot be overstated. Musicians including Quincy Jones, Duane Allman, Q-tip, and Pink Floyd have cited the jazz standards of Kind of Blue as a musical inspiration, and as a musician, I was also inspired by the stylistic melodies of Kind of Blue.

Mr. Speaker, as Kind of Blue continues to introduce listeners around the world to jazz music and the genius of Miles Davis, let us not forget the importance of jazz education and music appreciation.

Mr. CONYERS. I yield back the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 894.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

HUMAN RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2009

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1472) to establish a section within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice to enforce human rights laws, to make technical and conforming amendments to criminal and immigration laws pertaining to human rights violations, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1472

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Human Rights Enforcement Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. SECTION TO ENFORCE HUMAN RIGHTS LAWS.

(a) REPEAL.—Section 103(h) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1103(h)) is repealed.

(b) SECTION TO ENFORCE HUMAN RIGHTS LAWS.—Chapter 31 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 509A the following:

"§ 509B. Section to enforce human rights laws

"(a) Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Human Rights Enforcement Act of 2009, the Attorney General shall establish a section within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice with responsibility for the enforcement of laws against suspected participants in serious human rights offenses.

"(b) The section established under subsection (a) is authorized to—

"(1) take appropriate legal action against individuals suspected of participating in serious human rights offenses; and

"(2) coordinate any such legal action with the United States Attorney for the relevant jurisdiction.

"(c) The Attorney General shall, as appropriate, consult with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State.

"(d) In determining the appropriate legal action to take against individuals who are suspected of committing serious human rights offenses under Federal law, the section shall take into consideration the availability of criminal prosecution under the laws of the United States for such offenses or in a foreign jurisdiction that is prepared to undertake a prosecution for the conduct that forms the basis for such offenses.

"(e) The term 'serious human rights offenses' includes violations of Federal criminal laws relating to genocide, torture, war crimes, and the use or recruitment of child soldiers under sections 1091, 2340, 2340A, 2441, and 2442 of title 18, United States Code."

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 31 of the title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 509A the following:

"Sec. 509B. Section to enforce human rights laws."

SEC. 3. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) GENOCIDE.—Section 1091 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking "in a circumstance described in subsection (d)"; and

(B) by striking "or attempts to do so";

(2) in subsection (c), by striking "in a circumstance described in subsection (d)";

(3) by striking subsection (d) and (e); and