

troops. I have only sent four out of the hundreds of pictures he has taken because many of them are too graphic to be shared.

During these difficult economic times, we should not allow scarce American tax dollars to support countries that empower war criminals like Bashir. I look forward to your response and hope you will use this opportunity to demonstrate that the U.S. will stand up to those countries that help perpetuate Bashir's rule.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

[From the BBC News Africa, Oct. 14, 2011]

OMAR AL-BASHIR ARREST REQUEST REJECTED
BY MALAWI

Malawi has rejected calls to arrest visiting Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, who is wanted for war crimes in Darfur.

Mr. Bashir was welcomed by a military guard of honour when he arrived in the capital, Lilongwe, for a trade summit.

Malawi's Information Minister Patricia Kaliati told the BBC it was not her government's "business" to arrest him.

The International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant for Mr. Bashir in 2008.

The European Union and human rights groups have urged Malawi, which is a signatory to the ICC, to arrest Mr. Bashir.

"Genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes must not go unpunished and their prosecution must be ensured by measures at both domestic and international level," a spokesman for EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton said.

Ms. Kaliati said Malawi could not detain Mr. Bashir as he was attending a heads of state summit of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (Comesa), a regional trade bloc.

"He's coming for business and we don't have any business to do with the arrest of President Omar," she told the BBC's Network Africa programme.

"We are very honoured to have these heads of state."

STAUNCH ICC CRITIC

The BBC's Joel Nkhoma in Lilongwe says Malawi's refusal to arrest Mr. Bashir is not surprising because President Bingu wa Mutharika has become a staunch critic of the ICC.

He accuses it of unfairly targeting African leaders and believes that Africa should set up its own court to try alleged war criminals, our reporter says.

Mr. Bashir was the first head of state to be indicted by the ICC, which accused him of genocide and war crimes in Darfur.

Mr. Bashir denies the allegation, saying the ICC is controlled by Western powers hostile to Sudan.

Several other African countries have also refused to arrest Mr. Bashir and the African Union has urged the UN to suspend the arrest warrant.

Some 2.7 million people have fled their homes since the conflict began in Darfur, and the UN says about 300,000 have died—mostly from disease.

Sudan's government says the conflict has killed about 12,000 people and the number of dead has been exaggerated for political reasons.

[From Thomson Reuters, Oct. 13, 2011]

MALAWI TO ALLOW SUDAN'S BASHIR IN FOR
SUMMIT

(By Mabvuto Banda)

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters).—Malawi will allow Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir into the country for a regional trade summit

starting on Friday and has no plans to arrest him under an International Criminal Court warrant, a senior government official said on Thursday.

"Malawi believes in brotherly coexistence between COMESA states and beyond so we will not arrest him. He is a free person in Malawi," Deputy Foreign Minister Kondwani Nankhumwa told Reuters.

The decision will likely lead to the further diplomatic isolation of Malawi's President Bingu wa Mutharika, who is locked in diplomatic row with major aid donor Britain and earned international condemnation after government forces killed 20 protesters at anti-government rallies in July.

COMESA is the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa.

The ICC issued an arrest warrant last year for Bashir on charges of orchestrating genocide in the Darfur region, where as many as 300,000 people have died since 2003.

The European Union in August expressed concern about a second visit to Chad by Bashir, saying he should have been arrested. Bashir has also gone to countries including Kenya, Djibouti and China since warrants have been issued.

The ICC earlier issued a warrant in March 2009 for war crimes and crimes against humanity. Bashir has dismissed the charges by the ICC, the world's first permanent court for prosecuting war crimes, as part of a Western conspiracy.

The influential international right group, Human Rights Watch, said Malawi was bound by its international obligations to arrest Bashir.

"Malawi should instead uphold its commitment to justice for grave crimes by cooperating with the ICC, as civil society across Africa has called on their leaders to do," said Elise Keppler, senior counsel with the group.

IN SUPPORT OF THE GREAT
CALIFORNIA SHAKEOUT

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize another successful Great California ShakeOut that occurred on October 20, 2011.

On 10:20 am, over 8.6 million Californians took part in a Drop, Cover, and Hold On earthquake drill. This was an increase from the 7.9 million people who participated in last years' drill.

The Great California ShakeOut occurs on the third Thursday of October each year. Schools, businesses, tribes, government officials, faith-based organizations, non-profit organizations, and more participated in this year's Great California ShakeOut. The purpose of the Great California ShakeOut is to raise earthquake preparedness among all stakeholders in the State.

As the Ranking Member of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, I applaud my home State of California for taking earthquake preparedness seriously.

California is no stranger to having earthquakes. Earthquake preparedness in California has saved countless lives and money.

Having effective emergency plans in place for earthquakes and other disasters has proven to save lives. I will continue to fight to ensure that our communities in California and

across the country have the resources available to handle emergency situations.

Mr. Speaker, again I congratulate Californians on another successful Great California ShakeOut. While the Great California ShakeOut occurs once a year, it serves as a reminder to us all that emergency planning needs to be a year-round effort.

A TRIBUTE TO RUTH CHERRY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Ruth Cherry for her tremendous impact on the lives of Brooklyn youth.

Ruth Cherry has made a lifelong commitment to educating young children and their families by providing them with opportunities that encompass the most innovative learning strategies and essential services to spark a new-range of possibilities in their lives.

Born in "Snakebite" and raised in Ahoskie, North Carolina, Ruth earned her BA degree in Psychology at North Carolina Central University and her Masters degree in Education from Bank Street College of Education in New York.

In 1965 the Federal Government declared a "War on Poverty" by creating Head Start, a national preschool program for underserved young children and their families. It was then that Ruth Cherry would be able to hone her skills and solidify her commitment to children and families when in 1966 the Bedford Stuyvesant community, under the sponsorship of a community based organization named Youth-In-Action, created the Bedford Stuyvesant Head Start—now known as Bedford Stuyvesant Early Childhood Development Center, Inc.

Ruth Cherry began her career in education as a Group Teacher and as Bed Stuy Head Start's first official employee. Through devotion and hard work Ruth was able to diligently move up the ladder. Ruth went from her first role as Group Teacher to her current role as Executive Director, with many positions in between.

During Ruth Cherry's 40-year tenure and counting at Bed Stuy Head Start she has been the forerunner of the development, coordination and implementation of programs that meet the needs of the children and families of Bedford Stuyvesant. Ruth has utilized her expertise as an "award-winning" grant writer to acquire millions of dollars to supplement existing, and implement additional high-quality services to children and families. One such grant allowed Bed Stuy Head Start to implement a New York State Even Start Family Literacy Program which provided adults who were deemed most in need with an opportunity to participate in adult literacy programs that led to a GED.

After the September 11th crisis, Ruth wrote a grant that created a program to support and provide mental health services to Bed Stuy Head Start families affected by the tragedy.

Her latest endeavors include the development and coordination of one of the first Universal Pre-Kindergarten programs in the Greater New York area and the Bed Stuy Head Start Extended Day Program.

RECOGNIZING SUPERIOR
CHEVROLET

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, we need businesses to set up shop in our community to provide the goods and services that are needed in order for our citizens to survive and thrive on a day to day basis; and

Whereas, in 1969, Mr. Lamar Ferrell started Lamar Ferrell Chevrolet here in Decatur, Georgia, to service the citizens of DeKalb County, Georgia, and nearby communities; and

Whereas, when Mr. Ferrell passed away, the new owner Mr. Buddy Hyatt purchased the business and it has been family owned ever since under the name of Superior Chevrolet; and

Whereas, Superior Chevrolet continues to be a resource for citizens in DeKalb County and beyond with excellent service, providing employment opportunities and providing a product that "keeps America moving" contributing to the local and national economy; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia is officially honoring, recognizing and congratulating Superior Chevrolet on their forty-second (42) anniversary as a business anchor in our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim October 21, 2011, as Superior Chevrolet Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 21st day of October, 2011.

HONORING CONNIE DREGA FOR
HER INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered to pay tribute to Connie Drega as she is honored by the Connecticut Democratic State Central Committee with one of their 2011 Women's Leadership Awards. Connie is the quintessential volunteer and has devoted countless hours to improving the quality of life in her hometown of Middlefield, Connecticut.

Each year, in the spirit of the late Governor Ella Grasso, the Democratic State Central Committee selects ten women whose extraordinary leadership and contributions have made a difference in their communities. The annual Women's Leadership Awards celebrate the innumerable ways in which women, through their work in the political arena, have helped to shape our communities.

Connie has been a member of the Middlefield Democratic Town Committee for more than thirty years and has been involved with the local Democratic Party for even longer. She is a past Treasurer and is always involved in their fundraising efforts. Be it the annual Baked Potato Booth at the Durham Fair,

a spaghetti supper, or organizing meetings and other opportunities for the public to discuss their issues with local leaders, Connie can always be found in the background, quietly ensuring that everything is in order and running smoothly.

At 84-years young, Connie is involved in almost every facet of the Committee's activities. Every month, she calls through the membership to remind them of meetings and she has served on the nominating committee, assisting in identifying and recruiting folks to run for local office. She herself served on the local Board of Finance for several years and today acts as the Deputy Registrar, another volunteer effort where she helps to ensure elections and referendums are conducted with the highest of integrity.

In addition to her work on the Town Committee, Connie is also very involved in her church, St. Colman's, as well as at the Middlefield Senior Center. She is also a member of the Middlefield Community Services Council, a group of local residents whose mission is to reach out and support those members of the community who are facing difficult circumstances. In fact, Connie was honored by the Durham-Middlefield Exchange Club with their Golden Deeds Award which recognizes "exceptional contributions by a resident to the betterment of our communities."

Connie Drega reflects the very spirit in which the Women's Leadership Award are given and I am proud to join her family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating her as she receives this very special and well-deserved recognition.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE MILLER

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to Dr. George Miller, who has announced his intention to retire later this year from his position as the Director of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Dr. Miller has served his country honorably for nearly forty years as a scientist and leader within the nuclear security labs, and he deserves our thanks and praise for a job very well done.

Throughout his long and varied career, Dr. Miller's work has made our nation more secure in ways that are difficult to fully encapsulate. He has been a critical force in maintaining and reinvigorating the nation's nuclear deterrent, has applied his unmatched scientific skills and personal energy to develop innovative technologies to support U.S. warfighters, and has been at the forefront of efforts to reduce and respond to the threats of terrorism, cyber attacks, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

During his nearly 40 years of service to the nation at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Dr. Miller's greatest contributions came in his efforts to ensure the U.S. nuclear arsenal is safe, secure, and reliable. Early on in his career, Dr. Miller was a leader in the design of the B83 gravity bomb, which was a tour-de-force in nuclear weapons engineering. The requirements placed by the military on the B83 design were incredibly demanding: the

bomb had to hold a variety of targets at risk, be capable of being released from low-flying aircraft to avoid air defenses, and must survive impacts with any sort of irregular ground feature or structure at speeds up to 75 miles per hour.

Dr. Miller also led development of the W84 nuclear warhead, which was deployed on an Air Force ground-launched cruise missile during the 1980s. Intended for NATO deployment, the W84 included many advanced safety and security features that are still considered "best practices" in the nuclear weapons arena. These features include insensitive high explosives that will not detonate in an accident, a fire-resistant nuclear "pit" that mitigate the dispersal of radioactive fissile materials in the event of a fire, and advanced surety features to prevent unauthorized use of the weapon. Even today, the W84 is one of the safest and most secure nuclear warheads ever made. The deployment of the W84 on its ground-launched cruise missile helped foster the Soviet Union's willingness to sign the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, which dramatically lowered the number of—and threat from—nuclear warheads in Europe.

During his career, Dr. Miller initiated several programs to better understand nuclear weapon system performance at a more fundamental level. Motivated by intimate knowledge of nuclear weapon design issues gained through his experience as a design physicist for 16 nuclear explosive tests at the Nevada Test Site, Dr. Miller pioneered complementary above ground non-nuclear experiments to gain deeper insights into weapons physics phenomena.

Driving for greater scientific understanding of the physics underpinning the nuclear deterrent, Dr. Miller shepherded initiatives probing weapons physics using high powered lasers. By challenging the Lab's workforce to take advantage of laser capabilities coupled with advanced diagnostic techniques, he developed a new and highly stimulating training ground for weapons designers. Dr. Miller's innovation laid the groundwork for the highly successful program of high energy density physics experiments that continue to provide key data and understanding for the annual assessment and certification of the nuclear stockpile. Almost two decades after the first laser-driven weapons physics experiments, experiments on the National Ignition Facility (NIF) provided the final data needed to resolve "energy balance," a problem originally identified during the era of nuclear explosive testing that had remained an anomaly to weapons physicists for nearly 40 years.

As one of the architects of the Science-Based Stockpile Stewardship Program (SSP), Dr. Miller has provided national leadership and critical personal insight into defining and structuring a cohesive and multi-decadal national program to maintain the nuclear deterrent without nuclear testing. SSP brings together advances in experimental capabilities like NIF with tremendous computational capabilities to provide better understanding of the nation's nuclear stockpile. Since the 1990s, SSP has provided the foundation needed to ensure high confidence in the safety, security, and reliability of our nuclear weapons in the absence of integrated nuclear explosive testing. Dr. Miller's proven personal commitment to fundamental science in the service of national security has allowed the nation to maintain the deterrent without nuclear testing and enabled