

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
CHARLES NEWEL "CHUCK" HUG-
GINS

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the long and productive life of Chuck Huggins, who was born in Vancouver, British Columbia to American parents in 1925 and died peacefully on August 19, 2012, with his beloved wife and family members with him at his home in Larkspur, California.

Charles Newel Huggins, known to everyone as Chuck, served his nation during WWII as an Army Paratrooper with the 513th Parachute Infantry Regiment and participated in battles throughout Europe. He graduated from Kenyon College, and with his wife Mime moved to Menlo Park, California, where he began working for See's Candies which would be his career for 55 years. He helped sell the company to Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Company in 1972, and was appointed President and CEO of the See's Division. He grew the company beyond all reasonable expectations, and estimated that he consumed over 300,000 pieces of candy in the process, before retiring in 2006 at the age of 81.

Chuck lived happily with his wife Mime for 48 years and adored their children and grandchildren. After Mime died, he married Donna Ewald, and they enjoyed 15 joyful years together. Chuck was an extraordinary man. He was known to everyone for his generosity. He loved music, travel, history, jazz, singing, drumming, the Bohemian Club, and he was quoted as saying he and Donna had "serious fun." Next to his family, generosity was his biggest love, and he was famous for it. Countless San Francisco Bay Area charitable events have occurred with a little gold box at each place . . . and diners rushed through dinner for the delicious See's chocolate treat.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our most sincere sympathy to Donna Ewald Huggins, Chuck's beloved wife, and to his son Peter Huggins, his wife Sue and their four children, Evan, Ryan, Tye and Dia; his son Charles "Chip", his wife Pam and their children Anna Morris (Matt), Chuck and Mimi; daughter Anne Huggins Walton and her husband Bart; and daughter Shelley Huggins Dutton, her husband Peter and their children Ella Campbell (Alex) and Taylor, as well as Chuck's sister Ruth. Chuck's passing is a hardship for his family and for those of us fortunate enough to have known him and called him friend, as I did. An unknown author of his Los Angeles Times obituary wrote, "Following Chuck's example, be kind to someone every day and make it a 'Wonderful World' in his memory." Chuck Huggins served his country and loved it, and gave back so much to his community, strengthening it. His example of citizenship will stand tall through the ages as the highest standards of all.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
CREATION OF THE OFFICE OF
THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTA-
TIVE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago this October, Congress directed the President to appoint a Special Representative for Trade Negotiations to lead the Administration's efforts to expand global trade. As a result, for the past 50 years, the U.S. Trade Representative has led the Executive Branch in aggressively opening markets to American-made goods and services and promoting economic growth and job creation through trade. USTR's leadership has contributed in significant ways to the tremendous economic growth that the United States enjoyed over the past 50 years and firmly established our global economic leadership.

Across Administrations, USTR has maintained an admirable bipartisan and close working relationship with Congress. I've always said that the very best people become the U.S. Trade Representative. The 50-year history of USTR demonstrates that the men and women who have served as the U.S. Trade Representative are strategic thinkers and tough negotiators—the kind of intelligent, can-do people who have demonstrated their ability to advance our trade agenda. And the dedicated USTR employees who serve with them also exhibit that intellectual rigor and high caliber. I'm proud of all that they have accomplished in opening markets and enforcing our rights under our trade agreements.

USTR is uniquely nimble, lean, and effective. In a world that has changed dramatically over the past 50 years, USTR's small size, independence, and direct access to the President have been critical to its success. With these attributes intact, I am confident that USTR will continue to fulfill its mission effectively and commendably for the next 50 years.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S CODY
TAYLOR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cody Taylor, on the occasion of his retirement after thirty-six years of service as Clerk of Court for Holmes County, Florida. For more than three decades, Mr. Taylor served the citizens of Northwest Florida with distinction and unwavering commitment to public service.

A native of Northwest Florida, Mr. Taylor attended Poplar Spring High School in Graceville. There, he helped lead the basketball team to two state championships. He received a basketball scholarship to Chipola Junior College and to the University of West Florida, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Political Science and a master's degree in Public Administration. In 1976, Mr. Taylor was elected Holmes County Clerk. He

has served in this capacity with the utmost respect and integrity. His tireless work ethic and dedication to the citizens of Holmes County for the last thirty-six years did not go unnoticed. In 2007, Mr. Taylor was named the "Clerk of the Year" by the Florida Association of Court Clerks and Comptrollers.

Mr. Taylor's commitment to the Northwest Florida community extends well beyond his role as Holmes County Clerk of Court. He is an active member of the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce and a devoted member of the First Baptist Church. Mr. Taylor served in the Florida Army National Guard and as a member of the Bonifay Kiwanis Club and West Florida Regional Planning Council. For twenty years, he served as a member of the Bonifay Little League Association and as a basketball official for the Florida High School Athletic Association. He was also the President and Board Member of the Holmes County Fair Association, President and co-founder of Holmes Healthcare, and Vice President of the Florida Future Farmers of America.

In addition to his service to the community, Mr. Taylor is also a loving and committed husband, father and grandfather. He and his wife Brenda, also a Northwest Florida native, have four children, Zachary, Whit, Lucas, and Hilary; and eleven grandchildren, Jordan, Jacob, Jackson, Kodie, Campbell, Graham, Gwynneth, Eli, Taylor, Brighton, and Georgia. I know Mr. Taylor looks forward to spending more time with them following his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I thank Cody Taylor for his dedication to our community, and I congratulate him on his retirement. My wife, Vicki and I wish him and his family all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker on rollcall vote No. 590 on September 20, 2012, the record shows that I did not cast a vote even though I was present for the vote. I intended to vote "yes."

SUMMARY OF RFK CENTER'S TRIP
TO MOROCCAN-CONTROLLED
WESTERN SAHARA AND
SAHRAWI REFUGEE CAMPS IN
ALGERIA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD the preliminary observations of a Robert F. Kennedy Center Delegation to Moroccan-controlled Western Sahara and the Sahrawi refugee camps in Algeria. The executive summary paints a bleak human rights picture.

Too often the government of Morocco is held up as a regional model for human rights and tolerance. But this report, among others, including a September 17 Reuters story which reported that, "Last week, a network of 18 Moroccan human rights organizations said rights

have declined despite the adoption of a new charter proposed by the ruling monarchy last year at the height of street protests," once again call that reputation into question.

ROBERT F. KENNEDY CENTER DELEGATION TO MOROCCAN-CONTROLLED WESTERN SAHARA AND SAHRAWI REFUGEE CAMPS IN ALGERIA—SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

On Friday, August 31, 2012 an international delegation of the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights (RFK Center) concluded a visit to evaluate the human rights situation in Moroccan-controlled Western Sahara and the Sahrawi refugee camps near Tindouf, Algeria. The RFK Center delegation met with victims of human rights violations, a broad range of representatives of civil society, representatives of the international community, and government officials. The delegation also noticed that the conflict stalemate has a serious impact on the rights of the Sahrawi population in both Moroccan-controlled Western Sahara and refugee camps.

MOROCCAN-CONTROLLED WESTERN SAHARA

Though the Moroccan Constitution now incorporates advances that include the criminalization of torture, arbitrary detention, and forced disappearances, the delegation observed the need for increased implementation of these changes. In spite of these guarantees, these freedoms are often undermined by the King's authority as the "guarantor of the independence of the Nation and the territorial integrity." In conjunction with article 3 of the Moroccan Law of Associations, these provisions have led to the prohibition of associations of certain groups and individuals such as those Sahrawi advocating for the right to self-determination of Western Sahara.

Large Police and Military Presence in Capital City of El-Ayoun: Most Sahrawi interviewed expressed concern about the uniformed and plain-clothed police and military personnel posted on almost every corner. Sahrawi who were not pro-Moroccan reported that they were followed and verbally abused in the streets by police. The RFK Center delegation was under surveillance by security officers for the duration of their time in El-Ayoun.

Police and State Brutality: Characteristic of the situation, the RFK Center delegation witnessed firsthand a police attack on a peaceful demonstrator. One uniformed police officer and three State agents attacked the woman who subsequently needed medical attention. Moroccan government dismissed the delegation's report of the incident, and instead attempted to discredit it. Two of the State agents involved in the beating (Mohammed Al Hasouni and Mohamed Natchi) were described as human rights violators in reports by other victims interviewed. The delegation heard innumerable reports of non-violent protestors who were detained and tortured for participating in peaceful demonstrations. Other cases included: 1) police brutally beat a mentally disabled man who was involved in demonstrations in 2005, 2008, and 2012. 2) The emblematic case of Said Dambar, a 26 year-old man who was shot and killed by a Moroccan police officer after being beaten in 2010. His family still waits for an autopsy, a murder investigation, and to learn the whereabouts of this body.

Nearly absolute impunity for human rights violations: In spite of the numerous denunciations of cases of torture received by the delegation, the Prosecutor of First Instance in El-Ayoun informed the delegation that, over the past five years, only one state agent was successfully prosecuted for committing an act of torture.

Violation of the Sahrawi people's rights to freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, and freedom of association:

The delegation met with representatives of a group of seven people criminally prosecuted under spurious charges for expressing their opinions. The group was arrested and charged with treason upon their arrival in Morocco after criticizing the Moroccan government from Algeria. The group was imprisoned and is now on provisional release, pending a final decision.

Pro-independence Sahrawi human rights groups are barred from registering and are deemed illegal to register as civil society organizations. Registration is essential for allowing the organizations to effectively advocate in their communities. Notably, The Collective of Saluawi Human Rights Defenders (CODESA), Moroccan Association of Human Rights (AMDH) El-Ayoun Chapter, and the Sahrawi Association of Victims of Grave Human Rights Violations Committed by the Moroccan State El-Ayoun, Western Sahara (ASVDH).

Assaults, threats, illegal searches, surveillance, and criminal prosecutions by high-level authorities designed to discredit and stigmatize the work of human rights defenders and attorneys who represent victims of human rights abuses (e.g., RFK Human Rights Award laureate Aminatou Haidar).

Concerns of retaliation against those who met with the RFK Center delegation.

SAHRAWI REFUGEE CAMPS—THE SAHARA DESERT

The RFK Center delegation did not observe any restriction on the freedom of movement or association.

Basic Needs—There are concerns regarding: food ration quality, quantity, and variation; exposure to extreme heat (which can reach 115 degrees); limited electricity; need for permanent housing; and limited sanitation.

The camps house over 100,000 people and have been in existence for 37 years in harsh physical and psychological situation that put at risk their well-being.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Moroccan government should:

Immediately stop the harassment, violence, persecution, and intimidation of pro-independence Sahrawi people;

Investigate, prosecute, and punish those involved in past and present human rights violations;

Immediately suspend government agents under investigation for human rights violations and establish an effective vetting program;

Ensure effective access to due process and judicial guarantee, without discrimination, and regardless of political positions;

Release prisoners falsely accused of committing a crime, while exercising their right to freedom of expression and association.

2. The U.S. government should support the inclusion of a permanent human rights monitoring and reporting mandate to the UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO).

3. The international community should encourage further negotiations to guarantee the fulfillment of the right to self-determination of the Sahrawi people as established in several UN resolutions and in the decision of the International Court of Justice.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SUMMIT ROAD AT THE SCOTTS BLUFF NATIONAL MONUMENT

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Summit Road at the Scotts Bluff National Monument. The road opened on September 19, 1937 after four years of work. Efforts to design and build the road continue to allow Nebraskans and Americans from across the country to enjoy one of the most spectacular views in our nation.

Today we celebrate not only the achievement of building the Summit Road, but also the beauty and historic significance of this National Monument.

Scotts Bluff served as an important landmark for Americans as they moved West during the Nineteenth Century. Pioneers often faced extreme hardship travelling to and settling new lands. They risked everything to give their families a better life, and laid the foundation for the Good Life Nebraskans cherish.

I hope all of my colleagues will join me in celebrating the Scotts Bluff National Monument on this important anniversary.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office; the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,014,424,023,771.68. We've added \$5,387,546,974,858.60 dollars to our debt in 3.5 years. This is \$5.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL OF THE FLORIDA PANHANDLE AND THE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle and the Girl Scouts of the USA on the occasion of their 100th anniversary.

Over the last century, the Girl Scouts of the USA has been committed to service and empowering America's youth. Today, this organization continues to bestow in young girls the courage, confidence, and character necessary for success in life. They afford young girls the opportunity to grow and develop physically,