

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE HOLOCAUST

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on Yom Ha'Shoah to honor the memory of the victims of the Holocaust. In the 1940's, the Nazi regime murdered six million innocent human beings in an attempt to wipe out the entire Jewish community.

It is of the utmost importance that we continue to reflect upon this tragedy and teach our children about this horrific event, so that we fully understand the importance of embracing our common humanity, so that we recognize the universality of human dignity, and so that we prevent genocide from ever occurring again.

In the first few years of the Nazi regime, Jews were harassed and humiliated in every imaginable way to tear away at their basic human dignity.

This denial of their human dignity and humanity culminated in the death camps, where mass murder was accomplished with a factory-like efficiency that shocks the soul.

Facing a totalitarian state intent on genocide and war, several Jewish underground organizations found the strength to create resistance movements. In the Warsaw Ghetto, these groups launched an uprising that lasted over a month against the entrenched Nazi war machine. The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising inspired other uprisings across Europe, including in the Bialystok and Minsk ghettos and in the Treblinka and Sobibor death camps.

The indomitable resilience of the human spirit was also demonstrated in the aftermath of the Holocaust when Jews recreated their lives, rebuilt their families and their culture. This rebirth is epitomized by the creation of the first independent Jewish state in our modern era—the state of Israel.

In Israel, Yom Ha'Shoah is marked by the sound of a siren, which calls for two minutes of silence. Two minutes when an entire country stands in silent reflection.

I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in observing the lives that have been lost, in honoring the survivors, and in recommitting ourselves to ensuring that such a tragedy is never repeated again.

HONORING ALVIN AURELIANO
DAVIS

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Alvin Aureliano Davis, who was recently named the 2012 Macy's Florida Department of Education

State Teacher of the Year. With this honor, Mr. Davis will serve as the Christa McAuliffe Ambassador for education, touring Florida as an education advocate. Mr. Davis is the band teacher at Miramar High School and has been a music educator for the past 11 years. By actively encouraging his students and keeping them engaged on obtainable goals, his students find success both in and out of the classroom. For the past three years, every student who was a regular participating member of the Miramar High band program has gone on to college under his guidance and leadership.

Alvin Davis graduated from Florida A&M University with a Bachelor of Science degree in, Music Education. He began his professional career as the band instructor at Crystal Lake Middle School, teaching the fundamentals of band to 6th thru 8th graders. As the director of the Miramar High School band, Mr. Davis has continuously constructed his music program and performances with the philosophy of developing an award winning, academic-focused music program on the cutting edge of creativity and band pageantry.

Mr. Davis has a genuine and vested interest in his students. Passing on the legacy of music appreciation is only part of his greater mission of instilling academics and discipline. He requires his students to receive one-on-one counseling with a member of the band staff, and he personally reviews students' report cards and interim reports. Every school band rehearsal includes a one-hour study hall where students are tutored. He has implemented guidelines that high school seniors can perform only if they have registered to take the ACT or SAT college entrance exams, and must prove they have applied for admission to a college or university.

Over the years he has developed a reputation as an educator with a heart as big as the moon as he is wholeheartedly dedicated to the entire educational welfare of students.

Alvin Davis is the husband of Tiffani Davis and the proud father of his daughter, Caitlyn. I proudly acknowledge his achievement as the 2012 Macy's Florida Department of Education State Teacher of the Year and appreciate his commitment to the many students whose lives he has positively impacted.

HONORING MRS. LOURDES LOZANO

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Lourdes Lozano, a remarkable leader in the South Florida community.

Mrs. Lozano was born in Las Villas, Cuba and attended the Escuela Normal de Maestros in preparation for her teaching profession. After graduation she received a post graduate degree from the University of Martha Abreu, in Santa Clara. Once arriving in Miami, she re-

ceived her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from St. Thomas University.

Mrs. Lozano began her professional career working at ARSCO International, a company in the paint roller industry. While working for this company she became the first woman in the industry to hold the position of Plant Manager. She later went on to become Vice President and General Manager of the company. Mrs. Lozano has also worked as a realtor for the past 28 years and as a supervisor for twelve social workers and one specialist for 22 years. In the past she has been appointed to serve the community as a Commissioner for Hialeah's Housing Authority, and is currently serving as a Council Member for the City of Hialeah.

Mrs. Lozano's work does not stop there, as she has been a volunteer for Liga Contra el Cancer and for the Muscular Dystrophy Association for over 30 years. Along with her husband Richard Irizarry, Mrs. Lozano has made tremendous contributions to our community and both are highly admired for their hard work. In 2004 she was recognized as one of the eight public service employees in Miami-Dade who perform their professional duties with excellence. She has also received the "Most Humanitarian Award" from the Department of Children and Families. She has also been recognized by the Mayor of the City of Hialeah, for her leadership on a number of projects which help alleviate some of the burdens of needy families in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute my dear friend Mrs. Lourdes Lozano for her continued service to the South Florida community. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual and wish her continued success.

TRIBUTE HONORING ISRAEL'S
SIXTY-FOURTH INDEPENDENCE
DAY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Israel's sixty-fourth Independence Day. Today is a cause for true celebration.

On May 14, 1948, Mr. David Ben-Gurion declared the independence of the State of Israel. It is with this in mind that families and friends across the globe come together to celebrate on this very special occasion.

The United States' strong solidarity to the Israeli people is continually fortified. Since Israel's independence, the ties of democracy between Israel and the United States have been unwavering.

The United States was one of the first nations to recognize the nation of Israel, just minutes after Prime Minister Ben-Gurion declared the independence of the State of Israel.

As the only democracy in the Middle East, Israel has been one of the United States' most

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

important allies since its founding. This relationship remains strong and vibrant to this day.

While many things have changed in the past sixty-four years, the bonds of friendship between our two great nations has remained constant.

President of Israel Shimon Peres has called on all Jewish people across the world to participate in Independence Day celebrations being hosted at the Presidential residence in Jerusalem.

These celebrations will include honorary flyovers of Israeli combat planes and helicopters and a full military review by President Peres and Chief of Staff Gantz. President Peres will also be awarding 120 soldiers with the President's Outstanding Service Award.

Also, President Peres and Prime Minister Netanyahu, will partake in singing songs commemorating Israeli independence with the Israeli Defense Forces band and numerous patriotic singers.

I am always pleased to recognize and commemorate historic occasions such as this one.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, all Jewish people, and me, in recognizing Israel's sixty-fourth Independence Day.

HONORING THE NEW JERSEY STATE ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS ON POLICE ON THEIR 100TH AN- NIVERSARY

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police on 100 years of leading the way in providing the highest level of professional and ethical police services. I join with the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police in recognizing their centennial anniversary to commemorate the many years of their outstanding leadership. These servicemen and women are exceptional in both their professional field and community service to the public.

The New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police is one of the oldest, largest and most respected police executive associations in the country. Membership includes the sworn chief executives of local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies throughout the state of New Jersey. Since its founding in 1912, the Association has been a driving force for implementation of the latest techniques, technology and methodologies in New Jersey police agencies. In 1945, they began administering professional entry level and promotional examinations for non-civil service police departments. As the responsibilities of the organization continued to grow, the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police developed the Command and Leadership Academy in 1993 for law enforcement executives in New Jersey. Striving to uphold its mission of maintaining the highest standards for law enforcement, the Association provides command school, executive and professional development, administrative, management and leadership training for New Jersey police professionals. In that same vein, the Association offers at no cost full portfolios of model policies

and resources to law enforcement agencies throughout the state. It also established and administers New Jersey's law enforcement agency accreditation program. In addition to all these services, the association founded, coordinates and hosts the annual New Jersey memorial service for officers killed in the line of duty—the first of its kind in the United States. After a century of service to New Jersey, I join the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police in honoring this exceptional organization and its members who have dedicated themselves to delivering quality service to both the law enforcement community as well as the citizens of New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police and honor all of its members for their role in keeping this wonderful organization going for so many years. I know I join with all of my constituents in wishing the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police continued success as they proudly serve the communities of New Jersey.

NINETY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, *parev, pari yegak* (Hello, welcome.)

Thank you to the Armenian National Committee of America, the Armenian Assembly, the Armenian Caucus, the Embassy of Armenia, and the Office of Nagorno Karabakh for organizing this very important event.

I would also like to give a special thanks to all of the Armenian Genocide survivors and their families who are here tonight.

I am very proud to represent the 7th district of Massachusetts because my district includes the community with the third highest percentage of Armenian-Americans in the Nation.

We have gathered today to remember and commemorate the Armenian Genocide, one of the darkest chapters of World War I, and the first of many genocides we saw in the 20th century.

Ninety-seven years ago, the Armenian Genocide was initiated when hundreds of Armenian political, religious, and intellectual leaders were arrested in Constantinople and then deported and murdered. Unfortunately, these terrible atrocities that occurred in the capital of the Ottoman Empire only represented the beginning of the suffering inflicted on the Armenian people.

Between 1915 and 1923, the Ottoman Empire carried out the deportation of nearly 2 million Armenians from their homes, resulting in the deaths of 1.5 million innocent children, women and men.

This must never happen again.

In order to prevent future genocides, we must recognize those of the past. For many years the House has had before it a resolution which clearly affirms the United States record on the Armenian Genocide.

I have been a strong supporter and vocal cosponsor of this resolution in every Congress, and I remain so today.

Almost one-hundred years have passed since the Armenian Genocide, yet the suf-

fering will continue for Armenians and non-Armenians alike as long as the world allows denial to prevail.

Already, 43 states and 22 nations have officially recognized the Armenian Genocide, and it is long overdue for the United States to do the same.

Unfortunately, the Republic of Armenia's challenges continue even after its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

In the face of ongoing blockades from Turkey and Azerbaijan, the United States must provide assistance to Armenia while working to reestablish the Turkish government's commitment to normalized relations in order to ensure peace and stability in the Caucasus region. I strongly support these efforts.

The Armenian people are true survivors. Despite the reappearing themes of invasions and land loss that the Armenians have dealt with for over 3,000 years, coupled with the loss of between one-half and three-quarters of their population in the early 20th century, the people of Armenia have prevailed.

In fact, I have a wonderful Armenian intern in my office, Victoria Hines. Victoria's grandmother was born on a train in Moscow during her family's journey to America after her mother hid her father from the Ottoman Turks, allowing for their escape.

Despite watching their friends and even their own first-born perish in the genocide, the Tutunjian family, along with the rest of the Armenian people, view the stories of their families as reminders of the importance of preserving the fight for recognition.

The journey of the Armenian people continues today, with our shared responsibility to ensure that the Armenian people are able to build their own independent and prosperous future.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Armenian-American community to address the issues facing this longtime friend and important ally of the United States. Together we can build something positive, something hopeful, something good for the future—an Armenia that is respected and honored by its allies and neighbors.

And this cannot come without universal acknowledgement of the horror that was the Armenian Genocide.

IN RECOGNITION OF RONALD McDONALD HOUSE OF LONG BRANCH & NEW BRUNSWICK'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate The Ronald McDonald House of Long Branch and New Brunswick's 25th Anniversary. The Ronald McDonald House organization and its charities have provided warm and hospitable living environments and support to families whose children are being treated at area hospitals at little or no cost. Their outpouring of support and charitable efforts to serve the members of their community is worthy of this body's recognition.

The Ronald McDonald House was established in 1974 through a collaborative effort by Philadelphia Eagles football player, Fred Hill and Dr. Audrey Evans at Children's Hospital of