

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CAPITOL HILL WELCOMES LEGISLATORS FROM TAIWAN

HON. ROBERT SMITH

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome a distinguished legislators' delegation from the Republic of China on Taiwan. The legislators represent all major political parties in Taiwan: The ruling Nationalist Party, the Democratic Progressive Party, the New Party, and non-aligned parties. Members all democratically elected by the electorate, this delegation fully demonstrates how democracy has worked in the Republic of China on Taiwan. In ten years' time, Taiwan has evolved from a one-party state to multi-political parties of different ideologies. The growth of elective politics has been very healthy for Taiwan. Ambassador Stephen Chen tells me that there will be major elections this coming December: mayoral elections, legislative yuan (Parliament) elections and municipal elections. There is no doubt in my mind that Taiwan politics is vigorous and vibrant. Once again, Taiwan is setting a good example of elective democracy for other developing nations, especially China.

On the eve of President Clinton's visit to the People's Republic of China, I wish to say that while the P.R.C. is vital to U.S. interests, it is equally important that we not ignore the interests of our ally and trading partner: The Republic of China on Taiwan. For years and years, Taiwan has been buying American agricultural products worth billions of dollars and cooperating with us on all major issues affecting our two countries.

I therefore share the many concerns of our Taiwan friends who are visiting us here on the Hill today. Let us abide by the Taiwan Relations Act and continue our arms sales to Taiwan. It is also my hope that both Taiwan and the People's Republic of China will work toward eventual reunification when both sides reach similar levels of freedom and democracy. In the meantime, both sides should dialogue on all issues as equal partners. Moreover, the P.R.C. should declare that it will not use force against Taiwan now or in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my warmest welcome to this very distinguished group of legislators from Taiwan. I wish them every success during their short visit to Capitol Hill.

A TRIBUTE TO JANE SMITH

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and outstanding service of Mrs. Jane Smith of Yucaipa, California. Jane, the Associ-

ate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction at the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools Office in San Bernardino, is moving to Colorado shortly to pursue a wonderful professional opportunity with the Weld County District 6 School District.

Jane graduated from the University of California, Davis with a Bachelor of Arts in English in 1968. Ten years later, she completed her Master of Arts in Education with a special emphasis on reading. She began her professional educational career as an English teacher with the Vallejo City Unified School District in 1968, and later, with the Fontana Unified School District in 1979. She served as a Reading Resource Specialist with the Fontana Unified School District from 1980-83 and a District Resource Teacher from 1983-1985.

In 1985, Jane became Assistant Principal at Fontana Junior High School. One year later, she became Director of Staff Development for the Fontana Unified School District where she served until November, 1989. At that time, she became Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services where she served until July, 1993. She then worked as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction until 1995 when she took on her present assignment as Associate Superintendent with the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools Office.

Over the years, Jane has been widely recognized for her outstanding contributions in the field of education. Among other awards she has received the California School Leadership Academy Regional Merit Award and the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Redlands Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa. In addition, she has spoken at a number of educational conferences across the country, served in numerous professional development capacities, and had numerous articles published in educational journals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in recognizing Jane Smith as she concludes this chapter and begins another. To say the least, her fine work with the San Bernardino County School District will be greatly missed. Over the years, she has made a tremendous difference in the lives of countless students. I'd like to join County Superintendent, Barry Pulliam, and others in wishing Jane and her family the very best in their future endeavors.

A WELCOME TO ARMEN
MELKONIAN, CONSUL GENERAL
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Armen Melkonian, Consul General of the Republic of Armenia, to the 19th Congressional District of California. The Central Valley holds a large portion of the Ar-

menian community in America and is rich in Armenian culture and history. Thus Consul General Melkonian's leadership in Armenia has provided a great deal of inspiration to the Armenians in the Central Valley.

Armen Melkonian was born in Yerevan, Armenia in 1958. He is married to Yevkenya Melkonian and has two children, Ashod and Ani. Armen Melkonian graduated from Yerevan State University, Faculty of Near Eastern Studies Arabic Division in 1980. Armen received his Ph.D. in the Eastern Studies Institute of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia.

From 1982-1984 Armen Melkonian served as an Arabic language translator in South Yemen. He served as a Soviet Army Lieutenant from 1986 to 1988. Following his commitment as a Lieutenant, he lectured in the Eastern Studies Institute of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia in the division of Arab countries. Armen lectured as part of the Eastern Studies of Yerevan State University in the beginning of 1991. He served as an aid to the President of the Republic of Armenia from 1992-1994. At the beginning of 1994, he was in the foreign ministry of the Republic of Armenia. Being the first secretary of Arab countries division, led him to becoming the ambassador in Cairo, Egypt from 1994-1997. From 1997-1998 he was the administrator for the foreign ministry's Middle Eastern countries division of the Republic of Armenia. Currently he is the Consul General of the Republic of Armenia in Los Angeles.

Armen Melkonian is the author of numerous articles in scholarly journals and various publications. He has participated in various symposiums all over the world. In 1990, his paper "Armenian Medieval Resources about Arab Caliphates" earned him a degree in Historical Sciences.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I welcome Armen Melkonian to the 19th Congressional District of California. His leadership has been an inspiration to the Armenian community. I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming Armen Melkonian to the United States and to the 19th Congressional District of California.

AN INTERNATIONAL SPOTLIGHT ON CHIAPAS

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I commend to my colleagues' attention the attached statement by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Honorable Mary Robinson. The situation in Chiapas, Mexico is only getting worse, and Mrs. Robinson is right to call our attention to the brutal situation in southern Mexico. It is high time that all sides in that festering conflict renounce violence and dedicate themselves to a peaceful resolution of that conflict.

• 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.

STATEMENT BY MARY ROBINSON, UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CHIAPAS, MEXICO

I have been following with mounting concern the situation of human rights in the Chiapas region of Mexico. News reports and almost daily submissions from representatives of indigenous groups and NGOs indicate an alarming deterioration over the past several days.

These reports paint a grim picture of an atmosphere of fear among the indigenous people of Chiapas caught between government forces supported by officially funded militias on one side and armed resistant groups on the other. Such conflict does not serve the interests of anyone.

The deaths of nine people in what has been reported as an action by government forces in the town of San Juan de la Libertad this week is just the latest in a string of violent incidents in a region already affected by widespread displacement, dispossession and severe poverty.

These are serious violations of the rights of indigenous people. As High Commissioner and as the UN Coordinator for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, I appeal to the Government of Mexico to look urgently at ways of restoring dialogue with communities in Chiapas. A reduction in the military presence in the region could be an important first step in restoring confidence that a peaceful solution might be found. This would also contribute to improving the current climate of fear.

The Office of the High Commissioner is prepared to assist the Government in meeting its obligations under the International Covenants and other human rights treaties it has ratified including ILO Convention 169 of 1989 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. We would also welcome opportunities to assist civil society organizations active in promoting respect for human rights as an essential condition for improving the lives of people in Chiapas.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF ROSEVILLE'S 40TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to send birthday greetings to a special city at the heart of Michigan's 10th Congressional District. On June 20, 1998, the City of Roseville will celebrate its 40th birthday and will dedicate a new library addition. Citizens of Roseville will gather at the Civic Center grounds for food and family entertainment in honor of this historic occasion.

When Michigan became a state in 1837, this area was a small farming community known first as Orange Township, then as Erin Township. As history tells us, William Rose was appointed as the area's first postmaster in 1836. In a tribute to his father, Denison Rose, a hero of the War of 1812, William established the Roseville Post Office. Gradually, the whole community became known as Roseville.

Years passed and the residents witnessed great changes such as a plank toll road and the Rapid Electric Interurban. Churches, schools and libraries were established as spiritual, educational, and cultural centers. In the 1950s, the area experienced a population explosion. Homes, shopping centers, industrial

plants, and highways were developed. In 1958, the booming village was incorporated as the City of Roseville.

As the 52,000 members of this community celebrate their past, they are also anticipating a bright future. With the dedication of the new addition to Roseville Library, the city is dedicating a living piece of history. Mr. Long, who founded the institution in 1936 said, "No town should be without a library." Since it has opened, the Library has changed locations, expanded, and become "the information place" for the citizens of Roseville.

On the 40th Anniversary of the City of Roseville, we celebrate the people who have made this community a diverse and wonderful place to live. I would like to extend my congratulations on this historic occasion and best wishes for a successful future.

HONORING SHEPARD COLEMAN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today it is with sadness that I rise to recognize the life of Shepard Coleman, a talented musician and award winning musical conductor. I wish to call to the attention of our colleagues the outstanding talents of Shepard Coleman, who made his home in Orange County, New York. On June 27, there will be a memorial service for Shepard Coleman in Sugarloaf, New York, at the Lycian Center.

Shep Coleman was an accomplished musician who for many years was the leading cellist with the New York Philharmonic. The Washington Post reported on May 17, that as a graduate of the Julliard School of Music, Shep Coleman was a pit musician in many Broadway musicals from 1946 to 1960. He played under Leonard Bernstein for more than twenty years, as well as playing for Frank Sinatra. In 1964, Shep Coleman won a Tony Award for his magnificent musical direction of the Broadway hit, "Hello Dolly".

Shep Coleman was extremely active in local theater productions. He was a loving teacher as well as a great performer. He was also a strong supporter of many AIDS charities and art organizations. When he moved to Warwick, New York, he became active in their Humane Society. Shep Coleman continually gave of himself for the benefit of our entire community.

I came to personally know Shep through his advocacy for the Arts in our home region. Shep was the kind of person who placed a high premium on attracting young people to the Arts and encouraging them to develop their talents. Shep never hesitated to remind me that by stimulating the Arts Community, we are helping the economy of our entire region.

Shep Coleman was an articulate, unique individual who will long be missed greatly by his friends and neighbors in Orange County, New York.

Shep is survived by his sister, Diana Hoffman, of New York City, his brother, Aaron Coleman also of New York City, and his nephews Robert and Kenneth Hoffman.

Shep Coleman lived to the age of 74. He was always involved in so many different aspects of our communities, always devoting himself to a good cause. Mr. Speaker, I invite

all my colleagues to join me in honoring Shepard Coleman. We have lost an outstanding talent and a great friend.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. BOB BERRY

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and outstanding service of Dr. Bob Berry of Yucaipa, California. Bob, the Chief Information Officer for the Information Systems Department at the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools Office in San Bernardino, is moving to Michigan shortly to pursue a wonderful professional opportunity with Central Michigan University.

Bob graduated from Central Michigan University in 1969 with a double major in Biological Science and Instrumental Music. Three years later, he earned a MA degree in Curriculum Development and Educational Administration from CMU. In 1979, Bob completed his Doctor of Education degree at Northern Arizona University.

Dr. Berry began his professional career at the Fowler Public School System in Michigan serving as Director of Instrumental Music (1969-74) and Principal of Fowler High School (1974-1976). From 1976-84, he worked at Northern Arizona University as Assistant Director of Research and Development, Assistant Professor of Educational Administration, and Executive Director of the Arizona Public Schools Computer Consortium.

In 1984, Bob became Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools. In this capacity, he has had the responsibility of planning, organizing, and implementing all administrative financial processing requirements for the educational agencies within San Bernardino County, the largest in the United States. In addition, the CIO also serves as the executive director of the California Educational Computer Consortium comprised of other California county offices of education, school districts and community colleges. The consortium, comprised of over 249 agencies, pools its financial resources for applications software development and services.

Over the years, Bob has served as professional consultant for a number of school districts across the United States in computer systems, budgeting, and networking. In addition, he has served in numerous professional development capacities and has had numerous articles published in educational journals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in recognizing Dr. Bob Berry as he prepares for his latest professional challenge. To say the least, his fine work with the San Bernardino County School District will be greatly missed. I'd like to join County Superintendent, Barry Pulliam, and others in wishing Bob Berry the very best in his future endeavors.