

France. The Gestapo was bringing pressure on the French police to arrest him immediately. A high police official informed him that "you have caused my good friend the Consul-General of the United States much annoyance. . . . Unless you leave France of your own free will, I shall be obliged to arrest you and place you in residence forcée in some small town far from Marseille, where you can do no harm." As Varian got up to go, he asked the official, "Tell me frankly, why are you so much opposed to me?" "Because you have protected Jews and anti-Nazis."

Varian played for time. He had no assurance of a replacement, and his staff was afraid that their "relief" organization would collapse if he was forced out of France. And finally he was. The Embassy had refused to reissue his passport unless he agreed to leave at once. The organization sent out nearly 300 people between the time he left in August 1941 and the time it was raided and closed by the police, on June 2, 1942.

Varian returned to the States, wrote his book, and quit *The New Republic* in protest against the pro-Soviet sentiments of its editors. His last years were unhappy. His first wife died, and he was separated from his second. He moved to Connecticut, taught Latin at a local school, and died in 1967. During his thirteen months in France, Varian's organization offered assistance to 4,000 people, and between 1,200 to 1,800 of those people made it to safety. Varian's organization saved British soldiers and pilots, Marc Chagall, Jacques Lipchitz, André Breton, Max Ernst, André Masson, Hans Namuth, Hannah Arendt, Wanda Landowska, Marcel Duchamp, Randolph Pacciardi (leader of Italian exiles fighting in the Spanish Civil War), the German poet Hans Sahl, Victor Serge, Max Ascoli, the pianist Heinz Jolles, the Catholic writer Edgar Alexander-Emmerich, the psychiatrist Dr. Bruno Strauss, the German art critic Paul Westheim, the Sicilian novelist Giuseppe Garetto, the Surrealist poet Benjamin Péret, the former liberal Prime Minister of Prussia Otto Klepper, the museum director Charles Stirling, the novelist Jean Malaquais. There were many, many more. Chagall would not leave until he was assured there were cows in America.

Varian rescued also many people who were not famous, not distinguished, not artistic. And how it burned him that there were many, many more he was unable to rescue. This man really cared.

TRIBUTE TO A GREAT LEADER, CHITIMACHA CHAIRMAN RALPH DARDEN

HON. W.J. (BILLY) TAUZIN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, we have recently lost an important leader who made a significant difference in the lives of many people in southern Louisiana. The Chitimacha Indian tribe Chairman Ralph Darden had his life cut short on January 8th by a car accident.

Chairman Darden took the small and impoverished Chitimacha Indian tribe virtually from rags to riches in the decade he led the tribe. He believed in hard work and in the tribal members gaining self-reliance and not dependency on the federal government. He helped bring about a dramatic economic development for both the Chitimacha tribe and

the surrounding communities to the point that Chitimacha is the biggest employer in the parish—aside from government.

But it was not only jobs and economic growth that Chairman Darden accomplished for the Chitimacha and southern Louisiana. He was committed to seeing that every Chitimacha child got a college education if they so desired and thus he helped underwrite their college scholarship program. He had served as President of the Chitimacha tribal school board and as a board member of the United South and Eastern Tribes. And he realized that the tribe had to diversify its economic interests and invest in land purchases and other industries for long term security. Already the tribe had one of the finest restaurants in south Louisiana named for the tribe's oldest living member, Mr. Lester. Chairman Darden looked out for the long term interests of his people. And he made his tribe one of the most respected "model" tribes in the country.

Chitimacha Chairman Darden had earlier worked for the current Governor Mike Foster and they remained good friends.

That he was widely respected and appreciated by the tribal members and by the surrounding community members was evidenced at his funeral attended by about 1,000 people. His sons gave moving tributes to their father and a young girl sang the "Colors of the Wind" song from the movie *Pocahontas*.

I cannot improve on the tribute poem written by another notable Indian Howard Rainer "To A Dear Friend":

"Who was this leader among Chitimachas?
Whose visions for his people went beyond the
eyes of many?

A man who shared his example that others
might succeed.

A Chitimacha who gave of his time for the
cause of his tribe.

A man who prayed for goodness to prevail to
the prevail to the next generation.

A leader whose heart heard the woes of
many, and extended his hand to go on.
Who was Ralph Darden?

A mortal who gave that others might re-
ceive,

A husband cherished by his wife,

A father admired,

A light to those who now shed their tears,

May the Great Creator God Hear my prayer,

I thank Him for my brother,

Who shared his love and friendship, a gift I
shall cherish, until we meet again!"

Mr. Speaker, I knew Chairman Darden.

I want to extend my personal condolences to Chairman Darden's family and to the Chitimacha and surrounding communities, and pay my personal tribute for his many achievements. His death is a big loss for all of us.

NOTING THE PASSING OF BER- NARD 'BEN' KAUFMAN AN OUT- STANDING BUSINESSMAN

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Bernard "Ben" Kaufman, an outstanding member of the Cleveland business community. Mr. Kaufman passed away on February 4, 1998. He was a good friend and an outstanding gentleman whom I respected and admired. In his

honor, I want to share with my colleagues and others throughout the nation some important information concerning the late Mr. Kaufman.

Ben Kaufman was one of the finest printers throughout the Greater Cleveland area. It was a trade that he learned at an early age and devoted his life to perfecting. He was born and reared in Cleveland. Upon his graduation with honors from South High School, and armed with his printer's union card, he began working in various print shops. His employers included the Plain Dealer, the Cleveland News, and the Cleveland Shopping News.

In 1951, Ben Kaufman became a partner in Brothers Printing. Eight years later, he became the sole owner of the business. Those of us who came to know Ben Kaufman learned that although he owned the print shop, he was one of its best workers. He often worked long hours, arriving before sunrise each morning and working late in the evening.

Throughout his career, Mr. Kaufman took pride in the fact that he retained his union membership. Individuals who ran for public office, regardless of party affiliation, utilized his print shop. In fact, I recall that it was not unusual to encounter your political opponent while visiting Brothers Printing. My brother, the late Ambassador Carl B. Stokes, and I could always depend upon Ben Kaufman for printing advice and political advice as well.

Mr. Speaker, Ben Kaufman was also an individual who cared about the community. He was affectionately known as the "Mayor of Euclid Avenue" for his commitment to maintaining the neighborhood. Other merchants and residents of Euclid Avenue looked forward to the American flags which would line the streets on various holidays. We also recall that he would plant trees along Euclid Avenue in order to beautify the neighborhood.

Ben Kaufman was proud of the fact that his sons, Jay and David, followed in his footsteps and continue to operate Brothers Printing. I have enjoyed a close friendship with the Kaufman family and I extend my deepest sympathy to Jay and David upon the loss of a devoted father. I also want to express my sympathy to Ben's wife of 48 years, Doty; his daughters, Rosean and Laura; his grandchildren and other members of the family. Ben Kaufman will be remembered as an outstanding businessman, a loving husband and father, and a very special friend to all who knew him. He will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO HOSPICE

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, while November was National Hospice Month, I would like to take a moment now that the busy holiday season is over to recognize and thank several of the hospices which serve the communities in my district. Hospice of North Central Florida, Bay Medical Center Home Care and Florida Hospices, Inc., which is based in Tallahassee and serves all of Florida's hospices, make invaluable contributions to North Florida's families, all year round.

Hospice care involves a team of professionals, including physicians, nurses, therapists, home care aides, counselors and volunteers who help terminally ill patients and their

families share their final days at home in peace, comfort and dignity. These hospice caregivers help patients, as well as their family members, with one of the toughest transitions in life. The hospice program, primarily based in the home, treats the person, not the disease; focuses on the family, not the individual; and emphasizes the quality of life. Hospice care ensures that the patient's life is as fulfilling and satisfying as possible, right up to the last moment.

Last November, I was pleased to be personally invited by my friend Ron Wolf, to visit Bay Medical Center and participate in a breakfast honoring the many volunteers who give of their time to help North Florida's terminally ill patients and their families. Volunteers are the backbone of hospice care, and the multitude of volunteer positions available in hospice care serve as an opportunity for community members, old and young, to get involved in a service organization that provides critical care to those in need.

Hospice care has played an important role in my life. Two years ago, I lost my father to cancer. I do not know what my mother and my family would have done without the care that our area hospice provided. The hospice allowed my father to die at home, in dignity, surrounded by the people who loved him. I want to thank the caregivers who helped my family through a very difficult time. My family and I will never forget their commitment and compassion.

HONORING DR. KENNETH
GERHART MATHIS, M.D.

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of an extraordinary man, Dr. Kenneth Gerhart Mathis of Pasadena, TX, who passed away on Sunday, February 1, 1998. His passing is a tremendous loss for his family and all the citizens of Pasadena who knew this fine physician and civic leader.

"Dr. Ken," as he was known, graduated summa cum laude from Texas Christian University in 1952, the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in 1955, and Bates School of Law, where he won the Fred Parks Award in 1977.

Dr. Mathis is best known for his radio show, KTRH's "Ask the Doctor," which aired from the mid-80's to October of 1990. His kind and gentle manner was evident on and off the air in his counsel to his many patients. He was well-read and well-rounded and his colleagues noted his phenomenal ability to communicate with his patients. He was a popular guest speaker and often lectured nationwide on many medical and legal topics.

It was always clear that what mattered most to Dr. Ken Mathis was the well-being of his patients. In an era when the practice of medicine is rapidly changing, he reminded many of an old-fashioned country doctor. He was always available to patients who needed him and often opened his clinic on weekends. Patients could go to his clinic rather than endure the uncertainty of waiting or the trauma of the emergency room. His patients respected him for his compassion and capability and trusted him for his knowledge and expertise.

Dr. Mathis was deeply committed to his country and the City of Pasadena. He served as a qualified flight surgeon for the U.S. Air Force in France from 1957-1959 with the 50th TAC Wing F-100 Jet Fighter Bombers. His civic activities included service as a board member of the Southwest Diabetic Foundation and the American Heart Association, and he received the Paul Harris Award from the Pasadena Rotary Club. He traveled widely and spread the word about Pasadena wherever he went. His many interests included the Shriners, trains, classic cars, boats, and of course Dutch Masters cigars.

Whatever he did, Dr. Mathis' intelligence, compassion, and integrity served him and all those he encountered well. He brought a tireless energy, an unflagging drive, and a passionate caring to each of his endeavors.

Dr. Mathis was more than just a great physician; he was also a great Texan, a dedicated citizen, devoted husband, father and grandfather. We offer our sincere condolences to his wife Gay, his children and grandchildren, and his entire family. We feel their loss as our entire community mourns the passing of Dr. Kenneth Mathis.

SISTER RITA STEINHAGEN

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring the plight of Sister Rita Steinhagen to the attention of my Colleagues. Sister Rita, who has been serving the poor and the impoverished in Minnesota for decades, was among 22 people found guilty January 21, 1998 in a Federal court in Georgia of trespassing at the U.S. Army's School of the Americas (SOA) at Fort Benning, Georgia. The court sentenced her to six months in prison, and fined her \$3,000. (A substantial amount for someone living effectively with a vow of poverty for 47 years.)

The horrific history of the SOA today is in focus. The SOA was established in 1946 to train military officers from Latin American countries. To date, nearly 60,000 military personnel from various Latin American countries have attended the SOA. Unfortunately, upon returning to their home countries, many graduates have instigated challenges to self-determination and participated in the overthrow of democratically elected governments and have been implicated in the broad abuses of human rights. It is apparent that the SOA did not teach its students proper and ethical conduct, rather perverse lessons were learned, and historically have been used to abuse the people of Central and South America.

Recently declassified documents have revealed the profoundly anti-democratic methods used to train Latin American militaries at the SOA. The Pentagon has released seven training manuals demonstrating that as recently as 1992, the SOA was distributing materials which instructed the student trainees in execution, extortion, and torture.

Sister Rita Steinhagen recalled the murders and rape by soldiers initiated and led by the graduates of the SOA that have never been punished. It is indeed ironic that people such as Sister Rita can be sent to prison for having

the audacity to repeatedly and peacefully protest the SOA while the SOA's graduates outrageous conduct remains unpunished.

Sister Rita Steinhagen is a non-threatening woman. A dedicated Sister who is respected and admired by her colleagues and friends. Upon returning from her startling court sentence in Georgia, she was greeted by friends and supporters at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport clapping and singing, "When the Saints Go Marching In."

Sister Rita's life has been illuminated by a commitment to social justice. Her experiences express no threat to society or harm to any person. Rita Steinhagen grew up in Walker, Minnesota, where like many heartland Minnesotans, she enjoyed outdoor recreation and is a passionate fishing activist to this day. At the age of 23, she became a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet. She quickly acquired recognition as a Sister of St. Joseph, because of her outstanding service in health and social work.

Over these 47 years, Sister Rita has worked as a medical technologist. Her career is highlighted by founding the Bridge, a shelter for runaway youth, and The Free Store. More recently, she has been working with torture victims at the Center for Victims of Torture in Minneapolis, and of course her social conscience and active protests of such institutions as the SOA.

All of her devoted life, she has stood as an advocate for peace and human rights. She has frequently toured several Latin American countries and has personally experienced the graphic vista of horror. It was during these journeys that first led her to her involvement and protests with the School of the Americas.

Over 600 arrests occurred on Sunday, November 16, 1997. Over 2000 people gathered at the main gate of Fort Benning, Georgia for a prayer vigil and memorial service marking the eighth anniversary of the massacre of six Jesuit priests and two women in El Salvador in 1989 by graduates of the U.S. Army School of Americas. Over 60 people from Minnesota were among those arrested. These arrests at the SOA are the largest number of nonviolent civil disobedience arrests at one time in the U.S. in over a decade.

Mr. Speaker, this peaceful Minnesota woman who has devoted her life to alleviating social injustice, stated to the federal court judge on the day of her sentence:

"Your Honor, I'm 70 years old today, and I've never been in prison, and I'm scared. I tell you, when decent people get put in jail for peaceful demonstration, I'm more scared of what's going on in our country than I am of going to prison."

Mr. Speaker, Sister Rita's words clearly demonstrate the irony of this case. We as members of Congress, have a responsibility to uphold the law and ideals of social justice. We must honor and respect the men and woman who have sacrificed their lives for the well being of others and those willing to raise their voices to the contradiction within our system. Justice will not be served by the imprisonment of Sister Rita Steinhagen. The core values of our society have been ill served by the tragic consequence of the SOA operation.

Enclosed for member's review is a recent Minnesota newspaper article concerning Sister Rita and the incident.