

CALLING FOR AN END TO RECENT CONFLICT BETWEEN ERITREA AND ETHIOPIA

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 292, a concurrent resolution calling for an end to the recent conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia. I support this bill for several reasons. First, I am concerned that this conflict shows signs of worsening, ravaging a civilian population that has experienced severe hardship during the last half century. The threat to the civilian populations of Eritrea and Ethiopia is real, as both countries are among the largest recipients of international aid.

Thus, far hundreds of soldiers and civilians have died on both sides. Towns and villages have suffered aerial bombardment. Just one example of the horrors of this war, occurred as an Eritrean fighter plane strafed a schoolyard killing dozens of children. Both sides have begun gathering citizens of the other country for deportation which raises the specter of genocide.

Second, this conflict threatens to undermine United States efforts to increase investment and trade in the region. During the President's recent trip to the African continent, the President indicated a willingness to increase America's economic ties in the region. This conflict represents a major obstacle to America's efforts to continue to develop and foster an economic partnership on the continent.

Finally, the strategic importance of this region has long been viewed as vital to United States interests. The Horn of Africa has long been viewed as a strategic area of the globe because of its proximity to the sea lands linking the oil rich Persian Gulf region with the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean.

This Congress should pass House Concurrent Resolution 292 and support all efforts which will mediate an immediate end to the conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY TRANSFIGURATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a respectful tribute to the Russian Orthodox Cathedral of the Holy Transfiguration on the 90th anniversary of its founding. Throughout its history, the Cathedral of the Holy Transfiguration had dedicated itself to providing spiritual guidance to the growing immigrant population of Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

The Cathedral was founded in 1908, with construction beginning on the cathedral in 1916. In 1921 Archbishop Platon consecrated the church. This large, beautiful house of worship was listed in the National Registry of Historic Places in 1980.

The Cathedral of the Holy Transfiguration would not have grown and prospered without

its dedicated parishioners and priests. The first Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Rev. Alexander Hotovitzky. The first assigned pastor was Rev. Theofan Buketoff. Since that time a number of distinguished theologians have had the privilege of serving the Greenpoint community through the Cathedral of the Holy Transfiguration.

The Cathedral has met the challenge presented by the diverse and growing immigrant population of the community by offering a variety of religious and spiritual services. Among these are Divine Liturgies, Vigil, panikhida and Vespers. The church encourages the active participation of its parishioners in its liturgical life.

Additionally, the church provides myriad services for the community via various clubs and associations. These church sponsored organizations also provide a sense of community and belonging for their members. These organizations include the Brotherhood of the Holy Trinity, the Transfiguration Russian Orthodox Club, the Church School, the Parents Association and a special organization for new immigrants. These groups provide services ranging from church maintenance to youth educational programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to the Russian Orthodox Cathedral of the Holy Transfiguration as it celebrates its 90th anniversary. I am honored to have such a distinguished and important parish in my district continuing in a long tradition of spiritual and community service.

DAVID P. RICHARDSON, JR., POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3999, which will designate the United States Postal Service building located at 5209 Greene Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the "David P. Richardson, Jr., Post Office Building."

Mr. Speaker, Dave Richardson was a man like few others. I heard the many kind things my colleagues said about Ron Dellums today. I didn't serve with Mr. Dellums, but I worked for many years with Dave. And based on what I've heard about Ron, he and Dave were cut from the same cloth.

Dave Richardson was a fighter for justice. He never stopped working on behalf of the poor and working people of this country, especially those in his beloved Germantown. Mr. Speaker I am proud to share the representation of Dave's old district with this bill's sponsor, Mr. FATTAH. And every day, I can see the results of Dave's tireless work. Dave earned and kept the respect of everyone who knew him in Philadelphia, in the State House in Harrisburg and across this great nation through his work with other African American legislators. He was a leader. He was a warrior. And happily, Dave Richardson was my friend. I am proud to join my colleagues in supporting this bill.

A TRIBUTE TO HELEN FANNING ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. WILLIAM. O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a woman who has seen a century, Mrs. Helen Fanning, on the event of her 100th birthday, September 21, 1998.

I am pleased to remark that the Village of Justice, Illinois, is proclaiming the week of September 20 through 26, 1998 "Helen Fanning Week" in honor of Mrs. Helen Fanning's 100th birthday. The family and friends of Mrs. Helen Fanning will be celebrating with a birthday party, where the proclamation will be presented.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mrs. Helen Fanning on achieving this great milestone and extend to her my best wishes for many more birthdays to come.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF GENERAL GERARD BROHM

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations and thanks to Major General Gerard P. Brohm, who is retiring after thirty two years of dedicated service to his country in the United States Army. Born in New York City, General Brohm first enlisted in the Army in 1966, taking basic and advanced training as an infantryman. He and his wife, Ines, have four children: Maria Elena, Kathy, Jerry, and Michael.

In July of 1967, General Brohm received the commission of Second Lieutenant and then served in Vietnam as a platoon leader. During his career, he has served as commander of two companies at Fort Bragg, S-3 and Executive Officer for the 41st Signal Battalion in Korea, and as Battalion Commander for the 143rd Signal Battalion, 3rd Armored Division. He has also served as the Brigade Commander for the 93rd Signal Brigade, VII Corps, as well as Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon, Georgia.

General Brohm has also been a distinguished staff officer, whose assignments have included Executive Officer for the Deputy Chief of Staff of Operations and Plans for the U.S. Army Communications Command in Fort Huachuca, Arizona, Director of Combat Developments and Communications at Fort Gordon, Georgia, and finally as Chief of the Communications Systems Section, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Belgium.

Since January 10, 1995, Major General Brohm has served as Commanding General, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) and Fort Monmouth. He has overseen the expansion of the mission of CECOM and the consolidation of functions onto Fort Monmouth from other installations. He also has been an active advocate for the Army as it plans to digitize the battlefield. His tireless commitment to modernizing Army communications will serve this nation well for many decades to come.

General Brohm's achievements have earned him numerous decorations and awards, including the Bronze Star, the Army Achievement Medal, the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, as well as numerous others.

On a personal note, I have thoroughly enjoyed working with him on matters relating the Army and Fort Monmouth. His good humor and patience with me as I have adjusted to my new position as a new Congressman and a member of the House National Security Committee have been invaluable and I am very grateful for insight. I congratulate him and wish him, his wife Ines, and their four children Maria Elena, Kathy, Jerry, and Michael best wishes in his retirement.

FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY OF JOHN A. CATSIMATIDIS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

NEW YORK, NY, September 3.—I rise today to pay tribute to John Catsimatidis, who today is celebrating his fiftieth birthday.

John Catsimatidis, an outstanding member of the community which I represent, was born in Greece in 1948. While still an infant, his parents brought him to the United States where he was raised in New York City. He attended high school in Brooklyn and then graduated from New York University.

Mr. Catsimatidis' contributions to the New York City community as a businessman and as a caring citizen are vast and varied.

He is the chairman and chief executive officer of the Red Apple Group, Inc., a privately held company that employs 10,000 people. The Red Apple Group is a diversified company with holdings in several areas, including: oil refining, supermarkets, real estate, aviation and publishing.

Red Apple Group operates United Refining of Warren, Pennsylvania, a mid-sized oil refinery that functions under the name "Kwik-Fill." The refinery operates 354 convenience stores and filling stations in Northwest New York and Western Pennsylvania.

Mr. Catsimatidis' company also operates the largest supermarket chain in Manhattan under the names "Sloan's" and "Gristede's." He founded this business in 1969 while still a college student; the company now operates 50 stores. An additional supermarket operating under the name "Grand Union," located in the Virgin Islands.

Mr. Catsimatidis, a pilot, also operates an aviation company under the names "Capitol Air Express" and "C&S Acquisition." This company is a worldwide commercial charter and aircraft leasing company with Boeing's 727's and personal jet aircraft.

Additionally, he is the owner and editor of the Hellenic Times newspaper, the largest English-language Greek-American newspaper in the United States.

The list of Mr. Catsimatidis' philanthropic activities is equally as extensive and impressive as his business initiatives. He is the former chairman of the Hellenic American Neighborhood Action Committee (HANAC), a nonprofit social services organization which

operates low-income housing, medical services, and housing for the elderly and home meal delivery in the New York Metropolitan area.

He is the co-chairman and founder of the Brooklyn Tech Endowment Foundation; the \$10,000,000 fund is the largest gift to a secondary school in the United States. He is the director of the New York Police Athletic League. He funds the John Catsimatidis Scholarship Fund at NYU School of Business, which awards two scholarships annually. He is a past president of the Manhattan Council of Boy Scouts of America.

He is also active in the National Kidney Foundation, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, Young Men's Philanthropic League and the Alzheimer's Foundation. In 1991, he underwrote the construction of the library at Camp David Chapel, the Presidential Retreat.

John Catsimatidis and his wife, Margo, have two children, Andrea John, 9; and John Andreas, Jr., 5.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in tribute to John Catsimatidis on his fiftieth birthday. It is a privilege to have such an outstanding leader in my district.

CONGRESSMAN KILDEE HONORS REV. JAMES E. WALKER, JR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise before you today to recognize the achievements of Reverend James E. Walker, Jr., of Flint Michigan. On Saturday, September 12, the congregation of Flint's Faith Gospel Temple Church of God in Christ will honor Reverend Walker for the many contributions he has made over the last 25 years to both City and State in the name of the Lord.

It is difficult to imagine what the Flint community would be like today had Reverend Walker not been called to become Pastor of Faith Gospel Temple. Born in 1949, to the Minister James Walker, Sr. and Lola Walker, Pastor Walker's dedication to the Lord began at the young age of 4, as a mandolin player in his family's traveling Evangelist band. The years later found the elder James Walker founding the Faith Gospel Temple in Saginaw, Michigan, in 1971. It was only fitting that the first service of the new church was the wedding of his son to the former Tonya Etoile Blythe.

It was in May of 1972, following a severe automobile accident that left his father paralyzed from the neck down, James announced to his father his plans to enter the ministry. In September of 1972, Reverend James Walker, Jr. gave his first sermon at Faith Gospel Temple, and began a distinguished career of spiritual guidance, most notably his appointment as Superintendent of Peace for the District of Northeast Michigan. In this role, which he has maintained for more than 14 years, he oversees and provides advice and insight to four churches in the Flint and Saginaw area. Many have benefitted greatly from Pastor Walker's work in the community, as well as the state.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask you and my fellow members of the 105th Con-

gress to join me in saluting Pastor James Walker, Jr. Self evident is his lifelong journey to enhancing the dignity and nurturing the spirits of all people I am grateful that there are people like that serve as examples of what Americans should strive to be.

HONORING DR. JUDITH CRAVEN

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Honoring Dr. Judith Craven on her retirement as the President of The United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast.

Judith Craven is a Medical Doctor, a Master of Public Health, and has served as President of The United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast since the fall of 1992. Under Dr. Craven's leadership The United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast experienced financial stability and growth. As result of Dr. Craven's determined efforts The United Way of Texas Gulf Coast became the fourth largest campaign in the nation.

During her tenure, unprecedented growth in multi-cultural communities offered new challenges and opportunities, both in campaign and volunteer recruitment areas. This challenge was met by Dr. Craven's recommitment to the values of the United Way. Dr. Craven embraced the values of diversity in volunteer composition and in service to a multi-cultural community.

Dr. Craven maximized fund raising efforts, by conducting a community wide campaign that increased the opportunity for everyone to be able to give and which sought to ensure funding stability in the community. The hallmark of Dr. Craven's fiscal responsibility was a results oriented stewardship for every charitable dollar given.

Just one example of Dr. Craven's contribution to her community was the creation of the Community Table. This effort resulted in a place where diverse individuals and groups could meet together to collaboratively plan and respond to health and human service needs. Her efforts are responsible for better communication among service providers which serve those in need.

Dr. Craven used her influence and considerable powers of communication to effectively communicate with public policy partners at the city, county, state, and federal levels to affect health and human services. This considerable effort resulted in a more effective social service delivery system.

Thus, it is clear that under the leadership of Dr. Judith Craven, the United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast has become a recognized and respected leader of the nonprofit community. Dr. Craven's leadership and administration should be copied by all nonprofit organizations.

Thank you, Dr. Craven, for your commitment and dedicated leadership in service to Texas Gulf Coast community.