in a new elemental chlorine-free pulp bleaching system.

Mr. Speaker, my friend Dick Carota, Finch, Pruyn's president and CEO, likes to do a little play on words, attributing the company's success to what he calls "Finch Pride."

He and every last employee have a right to be proud. So am I, and so is an entire community. I invite you, Mr. Speaker, and every member of this body to come on up and visit us any time, to see community and corporate cooperation at its finest.

A DEAL THAT'S WORSE THAN WORTHLESS

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend a recent column by Charles Krauthammer of the Washington Post to the attention of my colleagues.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 27, 1998] A DEAL THAT'S WORSE THAN WORTHLESS

PEACE IN OUR TIME-AGAIN

Two days before Kofi Annan made his "breakthrough" in Baghdad, the U.N. Security Council, with U.S. approval, authorized a huge increase in the amount of oil that Iraq can sell. In an stroke, this "humanitarian" gesture doubled Iraq's oil income to \$10.5 billion a year. Iraq can now sell nearly 2 million barrels a day—about two-thirds of the oil it was selling when producing at peak capacity before the embargo. And that number does not even count the oil that we know Saddam is illegally smuggling through Iranian coastal waters.

At this U.N.- and U.S.-authorized level, Iraq—under sanctions!—becomes the *eighthlargest oil exporter in the world*.

This embargo-buster passed with little fanfare. It barely made the back pages of the newspapers. All hands pretended, moreover, that there was no linkage between this bonanza and the subsequent Saddam-Annan deal in Baghdad.

But remember that last November, when the administration was desperately looking for a way out of the last Iraq crisis, the State Department said we'd be willing to offer Saddam a "carrot" to get him to be nice. Such as? Such as a sharp increase in the amount of "humanitarian" oil that Iraq could sell.

So last time, when Saddam broke the Gulf War agreements and kicked out U.S. arms inspectors, the carrot was offered. This time, when Saddam broke the Gulf War agreements and stymied all the arms inspectors, the carrot was delivered.

Last time, President Clinton flapped about threateningly, then watched meekly as the Russian foreign minister brokered a "compromise." This time, Clinton flapped about threateningly, then watched meekly as the U.N. secretary general brokered a new "compromise."

Last time, Clinton's U.N. ambassador crowed that Saddam had "blinked." This time, Madeleine Albright's spokesman deemed the deal "win-win" for us.

Last time, the deal turned out to be completely worthless, giving Saddam four more months to hide his nasty stuff. This time, the deal is worse than worthless, giving Saddam crucial victories on the two issues he cares most about: economic sanctions and weapons inspections. 1. Sanctions. Not only did Saddam incur no penalty for his open defiance of the United Nations and open provocation of the United States, he was treated by Annan with a deference and flattery that bordered on the indecent. Moreover, the Annan-Saddam Memorandum of Understanding breathes not a word of criticism about Iraq's violating previous agreements, nor about its creating this crisis. On the contrary, Annan trashed his own arms inspectors (UNSCOM) as unruly "cowboys" and undertook, in writing, to bring Saddam's ultimate objective, the lifting of sanctions, "to the full attention of the members of the Security Council."

Sure enough, upon his return to New York, Annan began emphasizing the need to show Iraq "the light at the end of the tunnel," the Iraqi code phrase for ending sanctions. Like Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov, who brokered the first nonagreement in November, Annan has become Saddam's sanctions-lifting advocate to the world. Unlike Saddam buddy and ex-KGB biggie Primakov, however, Annan is an effective shill.

2. Inspections. The United States had demanded no retreat from free and full access and no tampering by Iraq with the composition and authority of UNSCOM teams. Annan came back with a radical change in the composition of the inspection teams and a serious erosion of their authority. Inspection of "presidential sites," those huge complexes with hundreds of buildings where Saddam could be hiding anything, is taken away from control of UNSCOM, the tough inspectors whose probity we can rely on.

These sites are instead entrusted to a new body, headed by an Annan appointee. It will comprise political appointees, including diplomat-spies from Iraq-friendly France, Russia and China, as well as inspectors who presumably possess the requisite delicacy and sensitivity to Iraqi feelings. Iraqis can be so touchy about their stores of poison gas and anthrax.

How do you carry out a spot inspection the only kind that has any hope of finding anything—when you first have to notify and await the arrival of, say, the Russian appointee, who has a hot line to the very Iraqi regime he is supposed to inspect? Inspector Clouseau has a better chance of finding concealed nerve gas than this polyglot outfit of compromised politicians and handpicked inspectors.

So tote it up. For Saddam: No penalty. Annan shilling for his demand to end all sanctions. UNSCOM undermined. Presidential palaces secure for storing anthrax and such. And his oil output doubled.

Another triumph of Clinton diplomacy.

1998 CONGRESSIONAL OBSERVANCE OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate African American History Month, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the 86 African American recipients of the nations' highest military award for valor, the Medal of Honor. These medals of Honor were awarded for acts of bravery performed from the Civil War through the Vietnam Era.

Last year the President took steps to right a serious wrong, by acknowledging that not one Medal of Honor was awarded to an African American during World War II due to discrimination and other factors. On January 13, 1997 the President awarded the Medal of Honor to seven World War II African American heroes. The Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen also hosted a Pentagon ceremony on February 19, 1997 and paid tribute to the three surviving African American recipients of the Medal of Honor. During the ceremony the "Legacy of Valor" videotape tribute was presented, followed by the unveiling of an exhibit honoring the 86 African American recipients.

I find the following words, as contained in the Department of Defense "Legacy of Valor" tribute to be of particular significance;

"Eighty-six African Americans have earned the Nation's top award for valor, the Medal of Honor. Their legacy of valor is the thrilling story of African Americans in defense of freedom and justice. The stories of these 86 Medal of Honor recipients account for some of the most astonishing acts of bravery and personal sacrifice in the history of our armed forces. Through it all, despite an American legacy rooted deeply in slavery, each and everyone of them, by supreme sacrifice and devotion to duty, in the words of the great African American poet, Langston Hughes, boldly declared, "I too am American.'

They demonstrated that African Americans have earned the right through military sacrifice and achievement alone, to be true Americans economically, politically, and socially. All Americans can take heartfelt pride in this illustrious record which, unfortunately, too frequently has gone unnoticed.

Although 86 African Americans received the Medal of Honor in military conflicts from the Civil War to Vietnam, due to discrimination and other factors, not one was awarded the Medal of Honor during World Wars I and II.

In 1991, however, President George Bush awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously to a World War I African American hero.

Additionally, on January 13, 1997, at a White House ceremony, President William Jefferson Clinton awarded seven Medals of Honor to African American WWII heroes. Six of those medals were awarded posthumously to the families of the honorees and the seventh Medal of Honor was presented to the only living WWII honoree.

All Americans owe a special debt of gratitude to these 86 African American heroes. Despite slavery, segregation, discrimination, and bitter disappointment they defended America with their very lives. When the chips were down, to paraphrase the incomparable General Douglass MacArthur, they understood the hallowed words, "Duty, Honor, Country, Freedom and Justice." These words were their rallying point to build courage when courage seemed to fail; to regain faith, when there seemed to be little cause for faith: to create hope when hope became forlorn. These words taught them not to substitute words for action nor to seek the path of comfort but to face the stress and sharp spur of difficulty head-on; to learn to stand up in the storm, but have compassion for those who fall; to reach into the future, vet never neglect the past. In their belief in God and family, in their strength, in their love and loyalty, many of them gave all that mortals can give.

"Oh beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountains majesties, above the fruited plains . . ." The wonderful song "America the Beautiful" begins. But as we look back over the valorous contributions of African Americans, it is the second stanza of America the Beautiful that all Americans can sing, with new meaning:

"Oh beautiful, Oh beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,

who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life . . ."

For these are truly 86 African American heroes who proved in liberating strife on domestic and foreign soil that they loved their country more than themselves and mercy for their people more than life!"

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

VIETNAM (1964-1973)

*ANDERSON, James, Jr. ANDERSON, Webster *ASHLEY, Eugene, Jr. *AUSTIN, Oscar P. *BRYANT, William Maud *DAVIS, Rodney Maxwell *JENKINS, Robert H., Jr. JOEL, Lawrence JOHNSON, Dwight *JOHNSON, Ralph *LANGHORN, Garfield M. *LEONARD, Matthew *LONG, Donald Russell *OLIVE, Milton Lee, III *PITTS, Riley L. ROGERS, Charles Calvin *SARGENT, Ruppert L. SASSER, Clarence Eugene *SIMS, Clifford Chester *WARREN, John E., Jr. KOREAN WAR (1950-1953) *CHARLTON, Cornelius H. *THOMPSON, William WORLD WAR II (1939-1945) BAKER, Vernon J. CARTER, Edward A., Jr. *FOX, John R. *JAMES, Willy F., Jr. *RIVERS, Ruben THOMAS, Charles L. *WATSON, George WORLD WAR I (1917-1918) *STOWERS, Freddie WAR WITH SPAIN (1898) BAKER, Edward L., Jr. BELL, Dennis LEE, Fitz PENN, Robert THOMPKINS, William H. WANTON, George H. INTERIM (1871-1898) ATKINS, Daniel DAVIS, John GIRANDY, Alphonse JOHNSON, John JOHNSON, William NOIL, Joseph B. SMITH, John SWEENEY, Robert Augustus (1 of 20 double recipients) INDIAN CAMPAIGNS (1861-1898) BOYNE, Thomas BROWN, Benjamin DENNY, John FACTOR, Pompey (Black/Seminole; also used last name of Facton) GREAVES, Clinton JOHNSON, Henry JORDAN, George MAYS, Isaiah McBRYAR, William PAINE, Adam (Black/Seminole) PAYNE, Isaac (Black/Seminole) SHAW, Thomas STANCE, Emanuel WALLEY, Augustus

WARD, John (Black/Seminole) WILLIAMS, Moses WILSON, William WOODS, Brent CIVIL WAR (1861-1865 ANDERSON, Aaron (a.k.a. Sanderson) ANDERSON, Bruce BARNES, William H. BEATY, Powhatan BLAKE, Robert (Escaped slave) BRONSON, James H. BROWN, William H. BROWN, Wilson CARNEY, William Harvey DORSEY, Decatur (Escaped slave) FLEETWOOD, Christian A. GARDINER, James HARRIS, James H. HAWKINS, Thomas R. HILTON, Alfred B. HOLLAND, Milton Murray JAMES, Miles KELLY, Alexander LAWSON, John MIFFLIN, James PEASE, Joachim PINN, Robert RATCLIFF, Edward

AFRICAN-AMERICAN MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

VEAL, Charles

Vietnam	20
Korea	2
World War II	7
World War I	1
War with Spain	6
Interim 1871–1898	8
Indian Campaigns	18
Civil War	24
Total	86

 * The asterisk denotes killed in action. This information provided by the Congressional Medal of Honor Society.

THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA BANK FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOP-MENT (MENA BANK)

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that efforts at regional economic integration, an important part of the Middle East peace process, have fallen by the wayside. The Middle East and North Africa Bank for Economic Cooperation and Development (MENA Bank) is an important U.S.-sponsored initiative to foster regional economic integration, and that Bank has yet to begin operations. A key part of the problem is that the United States has yet to provide funding to capitalize that Bank, and so other Members of the Bank have also been reluctant to provide funding. On December 23, 1997 I wrote to Secretary Albright concerning United States support and funding for the MENA Bank, and on February 4, 1998 I received a reply. The text of the correspondence follows:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Washington, DC, December 23, 1997.

Hon. MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT, Secretary of State, Department of State, Wash-

Secretary of State, Department of State, Wasnington, DC.

DEAR MADELEINE: I write to state my strong support for U.S. funding for the Bank

for Economic Cooperation and Development in the Middle East and North Africa (MENABANK).

It is a source of concern to me that Congress so far has failed to provide for the U.S. share of MENABANK capital contributions. As a result, it has been difficult for the United States to provide the needed leadership to make the bank a reality, and this entire effort to enhance and backstop the peace process has floundered. Unfortunately, little progress has been made over the past two years toward establishment of the MENABANK, and it is still far away from beginning operations.

I am convinced that this Bank can fulfill a very important role in support of the Middle East peace process. Its intended emphasis on privatization and regional cooperation is exactly the focus needed to promote peace and economic growth to bolster the peace process.

It is my understanding that some in Congress are reluctant to provide funds for this initiative, in addition to funds otherwise available for the Middle East. As you put together the Fiscal Year 1999 budget request, I would urge you to give priority to the MENABANK, even if it is at the expense of other Middle East priorities in the International Affairs budget account.

At a time when some key aspects of the Middle East peace process are so troubled, I believe it is especially important to the U.S. national interest to foster regional economic progress, and to foster hope. The MENABANK can do both. I want to be helpful to you in any way I can in support of U.S. funding and the Bank's early establishment. With best regards,

Sincerely,

LEE H. HAMILTON, Ranking Democratic Member.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Washington, DC. DEAR MR. HAMILTON: Thank you for your letter of December 23, 1997, to Secretary Albright concerning United States funding for the Bank for Economic Cooperation and Development in the Middle East and North Africa (MENABank). We appreciate your support and that of others on the Hill for this important peace process institution.

The Ådministration shares your view that the MENABank will play a seminal role in building stability in the Middle East through facilitating stronger regional economic ties. As you know, the MENABank is a product of an historic joint proposal made in October 1994 by the four core parties to the peace process: Egypt, Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinians. In cooperation with the regional parties, the United States has spearheaded the effort to bring the Bank into being.

Perhaps the best ongoing example of our commitment is our support of the multinational transition team in Cairo, headed by former United States Ambassador David Dunford, which is charged with setting up the Bank's structure. Already, the team, which includes professional staff members from Israel, Egypt, the United States, Japan Italy, the Netherlands, and Canada, has developed a set of draft financial and operational plans and an illustrative list of projects, which should enable the Bank to be launched promptly once two-thirds of its initial capital is committed by its members.

The Middle East currently receives only one percent of global foreign direct investment. The region will need investment of approximately \$500 billion over the next ten years to stimulate sustainable economic growth. The Bank's focus on projects with a regional character and the ability to use its \$5 billion capital base to leverage significantly greater flows of private resources is