

the same means as other victims who suddenly lost their homes and livelihood through no fault of their own. Therefore, we are introducing this bill today and urge our colleagues to quickly enact it into law to assist families who are otherwise hopelessly destitute because of the disasters and the impact of a drug conviction.

HONORING DOROTHY MARION
PETE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Dorothy Marion Pete of Oakland, California. Dorothy was a beloved mother, wife, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, friend, and leader in our community. She passed away on October 10, 2005 at her home in Oakland at the age of 91.

A longtime East Bay Area resident, Dorothy was known throughout her life for her devotion to her family, her church, and her community. She was born in Berkeley, California on February 28, 1914 as the ninth of thirteen children to Virginia (Jennie) Parker and Thomas Reid, Sr. After graduating from Berkeley High School, she worked as the office secretary at the then segregated West Oakland Linden Street Branch of the YWCA. She later integrated the downtown Oakland YWCA, serving first as a stenographer before becoming the administrative assistant to Executive Director Helen Grant.

In addition to the changes she affected at the local YWCA, Dorothy had an immense impact on the local faith community by integrating the staff of the Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church in Oakland. An active member, Dorothy also taught Sunday school and served as president of the American Baptist Women's Group.

Dorothy's bright and giving spirit shaped her actions not only in the context of these institutions, but in every aspect of her life. She was known by all for her boundless generosity toward those who were close to her and also toward those she was meeting for the first time. Dorothy was especially committed to providing aid and comfort to those in need, initiating many food drives at her church and giving away blankets, quilts and dolls that she created by hand or with her sewing machine.

A bright light to many, Dorothy's role was especially profound in the lives of her loved ones. She was happily married for many years to her husband Herman Rideau Pete, who hailed originally from Crowley, Louisiana but spent most of his life in the Bay Area. Though sadly Herman preceded her in death, he and Dorothy spent many happy years together and raised three sons, Gregory, Dennis, and Geoffrey, who is a business owner and community activist in Oakland. Her guidance and unconditional support has given them the strength they have needed to confront and conquer life's challenges, and will continue to sustain them as they, along with their families, continue to celebrate her life in the years to come.

Dorothy's family and friends have come together during this time to honor, remember and cherish not only her life, but the way that she touched the lives of so many others. On

behalf of the California's 9th U.S. Congressional District, I am proud to add my voice to the countless others who have united in thanks, appreciation, and joy to remember this very special woman and wonderful friend, Mrs. Dorothy Marion Pete.

CONDEMNING COMMENTS BY
IRAN'S PRESIDENT

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the new president of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, told 4,000 hardline students in Tehran that "Israel must be wiped off the map." Mr. Ahmadinejad's address was the highlight, if you want to call it that, of a forum called "The World Without Zionism," that also saw chants of "Death to America" and "Death to Israel." The Iranian President also attacked other Muslim nations for making peace with Israel and claimed that terrorist attacks by Palestinians could destroy the Jewish state.

I completely and utterly condemn the comments by Iran's president. Peace will only come to the Middle East when all parties recognize Israel's right to exist and completely renounce support for terrorism. Unfortunately, Iran's new government is turning its back on peaceful coexistence and appears bent on confrontation with Israel, the United States, and the world community. Iran also continues to bankroll terrorists, like those who killed five innocent Israelis on Wednesday. Mr. Speaker, the world must unite to denounce the hate speech of Iran's president in the strongest terms possible.

Tomorrow, Catholics, Jews, Muslims, and people of other faiths will come together to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Nostra Aetate, the Catholic Church's landmark document that called for respect for other faiths, particularly Islam and Judaism. And four months ago, the three great Abrahamic religions came together to mourn the death of the great spiritual leader, Pope John Paul II. Because of their nations' alphabetical proximity, the then-presidents of Israel and Iran sat next to each other and even shook hands. But it seems the spirit of interfaith harmony, sadly, lasted little longer than the services for the Pope.

Mr. Speaker, as long as Iran's president continues to rage hatefully against Israel and the West, there will be no peace in the Middle East. The world community will not tolerate these comments by Iran's president, and I condemn them as strongly as I can.

NEW URGENCY REQUIRED TO
STOP VIOLENCE IN SUDAN

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am alarmed and worried about recent reports coming out of Sudan describing deteriorating political conditions and an increase of violence. The world's governments, including the

United States have moved too slowly to resolve the conflict in Sudan. And now, despite a negotiated ceasefire, we have received numerous reports of renewed killings and abductions, including attacks on aid workers and African Union peacekeepers.

The escalating violence is threatening humanitarian support for millions of people as international aid workers, increasingly find themselves the target of violence. Last month, a squad supported by Sudanese government helicopters attacked a camp for displaced civilians in Darfur, killing 35. Days later, in West Darfur, an Arab rebel group abducted 18 African peacekeepers. Last week, two African Union peacekeeping soldiers were killed in an ambush along with two civilian contractors. Three other African peacekeepers were wounded during the same raid.

The Bush Administration's slow response offers little hope for success and sets no deadline for resolution. We must adopt a new approach that recognizes the urgency of the situation on the ground.

If the ceasefire is to successfully progress toward a fully implemented peace agreement, the U.S. will need to play a more active role in increasing the influence and capabilities of the African Union troops. Currently there are 6,000 peacekeepers working to secure an area the size of Texas and containing a population approaching two million. By honoring its pledge to provide \$50 million as part of the FY06 Foreign Operations bill for equipment and supplies, the Administration would do much to assist the efforts of the African Union.

The U.S. should also work aggressively with the AU on expanding the mandate of the African Union peacekeepers. After more than a year, peacekeeping troops are still confused about their role in the region and about their enforcement powers. While AU troops have been able to protect civilians in some instances, their mandate does not expressly include this important responsibility. As a result, their ability to protect civilians from violence has been extremely limited and varies from one contingent to the next.

Finally, the Bush Administration should pressure the Sudanese government to fully implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. That means the commissions and boards mandated by the peace agreement to oversee such contentious, but essential issues as petroleum production and military operations must be established.

Sudan has been the focus of organized armed conflict for 20 of the last 21 years. Given that the Administration in Khartoum has demonstrated only token commitment to the goal of establishing a lasting peace, only the active, aggressive engagement of the United States will make it possible for the Sudanese people to one day be able to return safely to their homes.

REGARDING DR. C. DELORES
TUCKER

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, it is never easy to lose an esteemed friend and colleague such as Dr. C. Delores Tucker. A valiant warrior in the fight for freedom and equality, she