

TRIBUTE TO ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN ROYAL OAK, MI

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the congregation of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Royal Oak, Michigan, as they celebrate 125 years of ministry to the Royal Oak community.

St. Paul Lutheran Church began as a Lutheran orphanage in 1873 on twenty acres of property at University and Main Street in Royal Oak. In August of 1873, Pastor George Speckhard was installed as Pastor of the Church as well as superintendent of the orphanage and instructor of deaf children.

Pastor Speckhard, a former teacher for the deaf in Germany before entering the ministry, had been instructing two deaf children and was soon asked to instruct other deaf children in the area. Within ten months, he was instructing 15 deaf children. Because of the obvious need, the orphanage was transferred to Addison, Illinois and the Royal Oak facility became a school for the deaf. In 1875, the school was moved to Nevada Avenue in Detroit, and became known as The Lutheran School for the Deaf.

After the School for the Deaf was moved, Pastor Speckhard faithfully made the trip to Royal Oak to continue church services and other pastoral duties in various temporary locations. After reorganization, the church was called St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church.

St. Paul's experienced changes in pastors throughout the years. In addition, the church made several moves, and underwent building and expansion projects to accommodate its growing congregation and increasing enrollment in the day school.

During these 125 years, St. Paul's has always served the Royal Oak community by participating in a variety of local projects, teaching children in their day school, and reaching out with their ministry program specifically formulated for Royal Oak's unique urban community.

I ask my colleagues to join me as we extend our sincere congratulations to St. Paul Lutheran Church for their 125 years of dedicated spiritual service to the Royal Oak community.

“ARBEN XHAFERI ON PEACE AND
DEMOCRACY IN THE FORMER
YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MAC-
EDONIA”

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Arben Xhaferi is the Chairman of the Albanian Democratic Party of Macedonia, one of the leading parties representing ethnic Albanian citizens of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Mr. Xhaferi visited Washington last week and delivered a speech at the United States Institute of Peace concerning developments in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the situation in the Balkans in general. I

would like to provide for the Members' review the introductory portion of Mr. Xhaferi's presentation, in which he outlines his argument that a people's right to self-determination should supercede a state's right to territorial integrity if that state does not guarantee democratic and human rights for all its citizens, regardless of ethnic background.

Mr. Speaker, while attention has been focused on the conflict that has raged in the Kosovo region of Serbia, we should note that the future of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is just as important for the development of peace and democracy in the Balkans. The creation of a unitary state with equal rights for all its citizens is an important process in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The United States Department of State and Agency for International Development should pay full attention to the problems in that new country and re-double on-going efforts to support democratization, economic growth and educational opportunities there.

Mr. Speaker, the introductory portion of Mr. Xhaferi's speech follows.

CHALLENGES TO DEMOCRACY IN MULTIETHNIC
STATES

(By Arben Xhaferi)

INTRODUCTION

Since the fall of communism, the economic, social, ethnic, and cultural problems that previously were concealed and suppressed by Communist ideologists have re-emerged, and often in tragic ways. Five decades of the suppression of ethnic and social conflicts in the service of Communist ideology have resulted in the "revenge of history over ideology," which, in post-Communist states, has manifested itself in two troubling phenomena: the creation of "ethnic States" and the creation of colonial relations, and in some instances, apartheid relations, among different ethnic groups.

Consequently, in post-Communist States, there is and there will be for the foreseeable future a struggle between the forces that seek to affirm and cultivate diversity and democracy and those that seek the ethnic, religious, economic, and political domination of one group over another. The attempt of dominant ethnic groups to achieve hegemony is being orchestrated through the misuse of Western values. Democracy is proclaimed and then subverted by officials who have transformed it into an instrument of elimination, a method for marginalizing non-dominant ethnic groups. In the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), for example, a parliament that represents the dominant group of Macedonians "votes" to legalize their "right" to dominate the minority.

With the shattering of the former Soviet Union and the corresponding rise in ethnic wars of secession, two competing claims in the sphere of international law now confront each other: the right of self-determination, including emancipation and decolonization, and the right of sovereignty, including the inviolability of borders. The former right is in alienable, whereas the latter right is not absolute—it simply defines the ways in which borders can or cannot be changed. The right to self-determination is under attack by those who would replace the ideological totalitarianism of the Communist system with ethnic totalitarianism. In Bosnia, we have witnessed ethnic cleansing. In Kosova, we have watched an apartheid unfolds into genocide; in FYROM, we have seen the second largest ethnic group, the Albanians, marginalized; and in Russia, a Slavophile diplomatic policy prevails.

The efforts of dominant ethnic groups in the post-Cold War world to deny individual

liberties and ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and religious rights among ethnic groups seeking freedom and self-determination have been justified using arguments of Legality, the inviolability of borders, conspiracy (unfounded speculations about attempts by "foreign enemies" to overthrow the State), racist or ethnocentrist theories, history, including fictitious claims of national destiny, and the threat of instability posed by false comparisons between, for example, the demands and status of American Hispanics, Aborigines in Australia, Basques in Spain, Arabs in France, and Albanians in the former Yugoslavia.

Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic and his staff resort to most of these arguments when they discuss the factors that led to the disintegration of Yugoslavia. The blame foreign agents, the West in general and former U.S. Congressman Robert Dole and former German Minister of Foreign Affairs Hans Genscher in particular, as responsible for the disintegration of their country. Simultaneously, the hold aloft Serbia as the bastion of Orthodoxy preventing the penetration of Catholicism in the East and Islam in the West. In order to justify their hegemony, the Serbian regime oscillates between the ethnic argument (Bosnia and Hercegovina) and the historical argument (Kosova is Serbia's "Jerusalem").

Similarly, in FYROM, when the Albanians called for more extensive use of the Albanian language and the official recognition of the Albanian University of Tetova within the Macedonian educational system, the government of Koro Gligorov dismissed these demands by arguing that if such rights were given to Albanians, then the same should also be given to Hispanics in Texas and Arabs in Marseilles.

Nevertheless, we stand at the beginning of a new era in which old federations are dissolving, their constituent parts are seceding, and the right to self-determination is emerging as a defining issue on the historical stage. In the face of massive human rights abuses and economic, cultural, and political disenfranchisement, a people's right to self-determination must have priority over territorial integrity. Emerging new States should be recognized only if they guarantee human rights, freedom, equality, peace, and democracy for all groups.

RECOGNIZING THE FAYETTE
COUNTY 4-H ANNUAL BANQUET

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, the Fayette County 4-H will hold their annual banquet on Sunday, October 11, 1998. This is a very important event Mr. Speaker, as it recognizes 90 years of 4-H in Texas. For those of us who were raised on farms and who represent agricultural communities it is well known how important an organization 4-H truly is.

Head, Hand, Hearts and Health, these are the "4-H's" and they are truly indicative of what this organization is all about. One of the primary missions that this organization undertakes is agricultural education. Earlier this year I introduced a bill which would exempt the sale of livestock by those involved in educational activities such as FFA and 4-H from federal income taxation. By making young men and women who participate in these activities hire a group of tax accountants and attorneys we are sending the wrong message.

Young people who sell livestock at county fairs and the like should be rewarded for taking self initiative and allowed to keep the money they've earned to help pay for their education or to re-invest in other animals to raise. My bill would eliminate the current policy of forcing these youngsters to visit the tax man.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the young people of Fayette County's 4-H, as well as their parents and sponsors, for continuing the fine traditions of this truly great organization.

GAS PRICES

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, the citizens of El Paso voiced their concerns to me over what they pay for gas at the pump. As many of you know, the mayor of El Paso, Carlos Ramirez, contacted me earlier this year with a request that I initiate a closer look at this situation. At my request, Congressman GENE GREEN chaired a public meeting in El Paso on gas prices. I would like to insert for the RECORD the statements of two of the participants, Mr. Carter Montgomery of Longhorn Partners Pipeline, and Dr. R. Perryman of Perryman and Associates, who both spoke about the gas prices in El Paso and how to resolve those problems.

STATEMENT OF CARTER R. MONTGOMERY, PRESIDENT AND CEO, THE LONGHORN PARTNERS PIPELINE, SEPT. 3, 1998, EL PASO, TX

Good morning. I am Carter Montgomery, President and CEO of Longhorn Partners Pipeline. Longhorn is a limited partnership based in Dallas, Texas. In 1995, we began developing a 700-mile, 18-inch diameter pipeline that will transport gasoline, diesel and jet fuel from Gulf Coast refineries to West Texas communities and the El Paso gateway market.

Our pipeline consists of an existing 450-mile section from Houston to Crane, which we have significantly improved; a newly constructed 250-mile extension from Crane to El Paso; and a new nine-mile section to connect the existing pipeline in Houston with the GATX terminal in Galena Park, Texas. GATX is the largest products terminal on the Gulf Coast. By originating there, Longhorn will be able to receive products for delivery to West Texas from as many as 12 Gulf Coast refineries that, together, constitute nearly 25 percent of the refining capacity of the U.S. Our goal is to begin delivering products to El Paso and West Texas before the end of 1998.

In El Paso, we are also constructing a 19-tank, 900,000-barrel terminal to allow shippers to store fuels for this area and send some on to New Mexico and Arizona. In addition, Longhorn is constructing a smaller terminal in Odessa, Texas to serve the Permian Basin market. An 8-inch pipeline is being constructed from Crane to serve the new terminal in Odessa.

We made the decision to serve El Paso consumers and businesses after identifying historically high gasoline costs, often 10 to 20 cents per gallon more than drivers pay in other parts of Texas, such as Houston. This costs El Pasoans more than \$12 million per year.

As this chart shows, between January 1990 and July 1998, Houston had consistently lower gasoline prices than El Paso.

Even as El Paso's gasoline prices became slightly lower between June 1996 through July 1998, its prices have still remained higher than in Houston plus the cost of transportation, although an interesting phenomenon is taking place.

From June 1996 through July 1998, there has been a definite closing of the price gap. It appears to me that several factors have contributed to this welcome relief to El Paso motorists: the actions of El Paso citizens in demanding lower prices, including some very active advocates in the media; the actions of Mayor Ramirez and other elected officials like yourselves; and the mere threat of competition from the Gulf Coast that has resulted in gasoline merchandisers competing for market share before the new gasoline supplies get here.

I want to emphasize, though, that El Paso citizens have seen short-term price reductions before, only to have their hopes dashed a few months later. What will be different after Longhorn is operating is this—bringing gasoline and other fuels from those Gulf Coast refineries will create a structural change in the market. That structural change is what will seal in the new, more competitive market that will, in turn, help make fairer pricing a lasting part of the El Paso economy.

I am extremely proud to be a part of this project. We are building a safe, environmentally sound pipeline, with a goal of 100 percent safety. We have gone to great lengths to ensure the operating integrity of this pipeline. Many of the tests and improvements to the line exceed federal and state requirements.

Even before purchasing the line in 1995, we conducted several comprehensive tests. These included the "Smart Pig" test, a device, run through the pipeline, that electronically measures wall thickness and other structural conditions. Following that, a Hydrostatic Test was performed to confirm the integrity of the entire pipeline. In a Hydrostatic Test, the line is pressurized to 1.25 times its maximum operating pressure and held there for an extended period. The tests confirmed the pipeline's structural integrity. Going forward, Longhorn will conduct additional "Smart Pig" tests every five years.

Once in operation, the entire pipeline will be monitored 24 hours a day from a central control room, with readings taken every few seconds by computer. An operator will manage the pipeline, including the new remotely controlled valves we are adding as a safety upgrade.

Longhorn is adding these remotely operated block valves on both sides of the Edwards Aquifer and at all river crossings, isolating these small sections so the flow of products can be quickly halted if necessary. Volumes entering and exiting sections of the pipeline are metered and balanced every few seconds, allowing the operator to monitor the flow of products through the pipeline. Each valve operates independently, enabling the operator to select the most environmentally sound course of action.

Suction and discharge pressures at all pumping stations are also continually monitored, giving the operator additional data to operate the pipeline safely and reliably.

Longhorn will also install an additional pump near the Edwards Aquifer that will lower the operating pressures over the aquifer. These operating pressures will be lower than in the past. This is an additional step that will help to protect the environment.

We are also posting pipeline identification signs closer together than the previous operator, decreasing the risk of third-party damage to the line.

Longhorn will visually inspect the entire line once a week, more frequently than in

the past. Many of these safety measures go beyond the requirements of law or regulation, but we are doing them because they enhance safety, help us fulfill our commitment to safety and environmental quality and, frankly, because they're good, prudent business measures.

We are, and will continue to be, regulated by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Pipeline Safety on interstate pipeline matters, and by the Texas Railroad Commission on any intrastate pipeline matters.

This concludes my statement. I will be happy to answer any questions.

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY BY M. RAY PERRYMAN, PHD, SEPT. 3, 1998, EL PASO CIVIC CENTER

INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS

My name is M. Ray Perryman. I am President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group (TPG), an economic research and analysis firm with its principal place of Business in Waco, Texas. In addition to my responsibilities at the firm, I am business Economist-in-Residence at Southern Methodist University (SMU) and Institute Distinguished Professor of Economic Theory and Method at the International Institute for Advanced Studies.

It is my pleasure to appear before this Committee and offer a perspective on the retail gasoline market in El Paso and New Mexico. I am deeply appreciative of the work that the Committee is doing and greatly admire the willingness of this group to tackle such complex issues. I will do anything possible to assist in the process.

INTRODUCTION

A new competitor is seeking to enter the market for gasoline sales in the Upper Rio Grande area which is dominated by the El Paso Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The project will also provide a new source of refined petroleum products in New Mexico. The new venture promises substantial economic benefits to consumers in the form of lower costs. The project involves the development of a pipeline connecting the refineries of the Texas Gulf Coast with El Paso. The pricing structure offered by this new initiative will bring significant savings to area residents, particularly within the Hispanic population. The new pipeline will also enable connections to third party pipelines with access to major urban centers in Arizona and New Mexico.

The total project has far-reaching economic benefits for the economies of regions it serves, including construction costs, ongoing operating expenditures, and substantial savings to consumers. The present testimony presents the project's economic savings to residents in the El Paso area, to the local Hispanic community, and to New Mexico—all of which are made possible by the pipeline. Initially, a brief description of the methodology is provided. This discussion is followed by a presentation of results and a concluding synopsis.

METHODOLOGY

The basic technique used in this investigation is known as input-output analysis. In general, this approach involves the creation of a system which estimates the amount of various inputs required to make a unit of output (measured in monetary terms). For example, the construction of a typical house requires quantities of wood, glass, wiring, roofing shingles, financial services, and numerous other factors. Each of these items also requires inputs, thus leading to multiple rounds of activity. The portion of this production activity that remains in an area depends upon its capability to supply the various items required in the process.