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RECOGNIZING HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Madam Speaker, I rise today, April 21, 2009, to recognize the Holocaust Remembrance Day and to remember and honor the 6 million Jews, among them one-and-a-half million children, who perished during one of mankind's worst atrocities.

As we remember those who were persecuted and who lost their lives, it is also important to honor the countless numbers of people, who at great risk to both themselves and their families, risked everything to come to the aid of the Jews of Europe.

Today we must also pay tribute to the American soldiers, who as a result of their heroic service, liberated a continent besieged by terror and helped to extinguish the flames of the Holocaust.

The wounds of the Holocaust still remain and we must be vigilant in this day and age to confront those who deny the

Holocaust or continue to foment agendas of hate and anti-Semitism.

I also want to recognize The Holocaust Museum of Southwest Florida which is located in my district. The museum, and others like it around the country, exists so that this generation of Americans can learn the importance of tolerance and vigilance. The museum has begun a program where the community's students can meet and reflect with the estimated 100 Holocaust Survivors who call Southwest Florida home. In addition, thousands of students from Southwest Florida visit the museum each year in order to learn and remember the Holocaust and its lessons.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to recognize the importance of the Holocaust Remembrance Day. In doing so, we will continue to fulfill our vow of, "never again."