

and an escape from the lies and hate that have plagued them under the CCP. I am proud of Charles for the risk he took to try and accomplish that in peaceful, non-violent way. I am proud of him for his courage.

Charles should be rescued back immediately, and unconditionally. I believe that, together, we, the American people and the US government, will not let him down.

"My family, friends and I are fortunate to have so much help and support from you ever since I have been illegally detained and persecuted. We all appreciate it very much. As time goes by, I believe that the truth will be revealed to you. The persecution of Falun Gong is totally illegal and brutal. And also, as Dr. King says, injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. Thank you very much! Yours Very Sincerely, Charles Li"—From a letter written in jail by Charles to US officials, May 16, 2003.

Let's rescue our fellow US citizen back from the hand of the Chinese Communist Party and let the moral value and conscience be awakened! Thank You!

Yours sincerely,

YEONG-CHING FOO.

MARCUS GARVEY—KEEPING HIS
LEGACY ALIVE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to draw attention to the life and legacy of a towering figure in the struggle for global human rights. Marcus Garvey is now widely viewed as one of the most crucial figures in the modern history of peoples of African descent, and is considered a national hero in his native Jamaica. The movement he started with the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) during the early 1900's is still the largest that the modern Black world has ever seen. During a bleak and oppressive period, he gave Black people in this country and around the world a pride in themselves and a hope for the future.

His efforts were a major impetus in the later movements that ended legalized discrimination in this country, and freed many parts of the Black World from the shackles of colonization. Indeed, his life and philosophy were embraced by influential leaders of the 20th century such as Kwame Nkrumah, Martin Luther King and Malcolm X.

Marcus Garvey has been an inspiration to me since I was a child. I was born, raised, and still live in Harlem, where Garvey established the Headquarters for the Universal Negro Improvement Association. Though I was born three years after Garvey was deported from the United States, his imprint on Harlem was still deep throughout my childhood and adolescence. I often met followers of Garvey's movement, known as Garveyites, who would preach his philosophy. Their words encouraged me to do my own research. As I grew older, I came to fully understand the importance of Garvey—both the man and his message—and the injustice of his wrongful conviction.

Despite his future impact, he lived in an early 20th century America that was very resistant to change. Many became threatened by the size and implications of his movement, and he soon became the target of significant government harassment, led by a young J. Edgar Hoover.

Hoover became determined to rid the country of Garvey and his message. After many failed attempts to impugn his reputation and his motives, he ultimately became the victim of an unjust prosecution and conviction by the United States government in 1923, on a single count of mail fraud. So great was the outcry regarding the suspect nature of the conviction that President Calvin Coolidge would commute his sentence in 1927.

The actions of J. Edgar Hoover in his capacity as FBI Director are well documented, and have been the source of much public objection. Indeed, we now know of the efforts he made to undermine and discredit Dr. Martin Luther King and the civil rights movement.

Outside the issue of J. Edgar Hoover however, the case of Mr. Garvey highlights a regrettable period in American history—when groups and individuals inexcusably used the American legal system to assail innocent people, especially African Americans. Many, like Garvey, who had achieved great fame and success, were victims of such malevolence.

Jack Johnson, the famous African American Boxer, is one example. His wrongful prosecution and conviction, which occurred little more than a decade before that of Marcus Garvey's, has elicited a bi-partisan effort in the Congress to bring about his exoneration.

Since 1987 I have sought to clear the name of Marcus Garvey by seeking Congressional recognition of the injustice done to him, and securing a Presidential pardon of his conviction. I have continued this effort in 109th Congress with H. Con. Res. 57, and have received the most support for the effort since I first introduced legislation nearly 20 years ago.

The case of Henry O. Flipper gives me optimism as I move forward with the current Garvey effort. Flipper was West Point's first Black graduate, and the Army's first black officer. But he was also the victim of an unjust, and racially motivated court-martial. President Clinton's 1999 exoneration of Mr. Flipper has cleared the way for other such posthumous Presidential pardons.

In addition, I am also heartened by the fact that individuals and groups in the U.S. and around the world continue to ensure that the deeds and legacy of Marcus Garvey is preserved for future generations. UNIA, the organization which Marcus Garvey established nearly 100 years ago still exists today, and continues Marcus Garvey's message of self improvement and self awareness, through various education and service programs around the country. The organization will actually be having a 91st anniversary celebration here in Washington, DC on July 30th, which will serve to further illuminate the life and message of this important man.

Other groups and organizations, such as the Connecticut-based International Foundation for the Exoneration of Marcus Garvey, have been active in spreading awareness of Marcus Garvey's wrongful conviction, and building support for the exoneration effort. I thank all of them for everything they continue to do to seek justice for Marcus Garvey and keep him alive in our hearts and minds.

Marcus Garvey once asserted that, "Action, self-reliance, the vision of self and the future, have been the only means by which the oppressed have seen and realized the light of their own freedom." This message transcends any race or group; it is a universal human American ideal. It is why the world must never forget Marcus Garvey.

TRIBUTE TO COL. ROBERT A.
ROWLETTE, JR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Colonel Robert A. Rowlette, Jr., Commander of the Army Corps of Engineers for the Louisville District. On July 29, 2005, after 26 years of distinguished and dedicated military service to our country, Colonel Rowlette will retire from his post as commander. I believe it is important to highlight the honors he has received and the assignments in which he has dutifully served.

Born in Berea, Kentucky, Colonel Rowlette was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers upon graduation from the University of Kentucky in 1979. At the University of Kentucky he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. He returned to the University of Kentucky to earn a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1990. Additionally, he is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College. Colonel Rowlette is registered as a Professional Engineer in the Commonwealths of Virginia and Kentucky.

Colonel Rowlette has received many honors and awards for his service to our Country. His military honors include the Meritorious Service Medal with seven Oak Leaf Clusters, The Army Commendation Medal, The Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Prior to becoming the Army Corps of Engineers' Commander for the Louisville District, Colonel Rowlette's tour of duty included assignments in the continental United States and Hawaii. He has previously served as a project manager and assistant chief Army Programs in the Louisville District. Following his assignment to Louisville District he served with the 46th Battalion at Ft. Rucker, Alabama as a company commander and operations officer.

Colonel Rowlette's next assignment was at the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York where he served as an instructor and an Assistant Professor of Mathematical Sciences. Following his time at West Point attended the Command and General Staff College. Following graduation, he served as the Executive Officer for the 84th Engineer Battalion at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. He next served as the Operations Officer for the 416th ENCOM FWD cell at Fort McPherson, GA.

I had the pleasure of meeting and working with Colonel Rowlette when he arrived in Charleston, South Carolina to serve as Commander of the Charleston District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in my Congressional District. He followed his tenure in my home state, as the Engineer Colonel Assignments Officer with the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command and attended the Canadian Forces College in Toronto, Ontario.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in celebrating the 26-year career of Colonel Robert A. Rowlette, Jr. His leadership has been characterized by excellence and service. He has been a great asset to his profession and a role model for all of those who follow him in the United States Army Corps of Engineers. I wish him a very happy retirement and Godspeed.