

abuses by prepaid health plans. They were trailblazers.

We all know of the commitment and achievements of John Moss to open up government information to ordinary citizens through the Freedom of Information Act. We know of his achievements in the fields of product safety and consumer protection. But perhaps not so widely known is the influence his example and integrity had on so many other Members and staff. Mike Lemov, who served as his Chief Counsel on Oversight, said recently in a tribute to his Chairman that John Moss invariably championed the underdog, and relished uphill fights. And that sums him up as well as any words could. He was in many ways, for so many of us, the conscience of the House.

If it needed to be done for the little guy, he was ready to do it. If he needed to take on big business or big government, the Defense Department or the drug companies, he was there. And he did it with thorough, effective, untiring work.

I consider myself lucky to have had the opportunity to serve with him. He has been gone from this House for many years, but the public that he championed continues to benefit because of his work and accomplishments. We would all be proud to leave such a legacy.

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ILA
METTEE-MCCUTCHON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pay tribute to Colonel Ila Mettee-McCutchon, the Commander of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center and Presidio of Monterey, and Commandant of DLIFLC, on the occasion of her retirement from the U.S. Army. Colonel Mettee-McCutchon has been an inspiration to all during her 26-year career in the armed forces, and her positions of successive command only further confirm her valued leadership within the Army and of the respect shown to her by the men and women serving under her command.

Colonel Mettee-McCutchon is herself an esteemed graduate of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center. She first earned both a B.A. and an M.S. in clinical psychology from Auburn University which prepared her well for her exceptional career in military intelligence. Later, she completed the WAC (Women's Army Corps) Officer Basic Course and the Military Intelligence Officer Advanced Course, and then graduated from the Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College, true marks of distinction in the career of any military officer.

For the first three years following Colonel Mettee-McCutchon's commissioning in 1971, she served as a psychologist at the Presidio of San Francisco responsible for drug and alcohol abuse rehabilitation. After displaying compassion and savvy in that assignment, she was transferred in 1974 to the Military Intelligence Branch and appointed a Regular Army Officer of Military Intelligence, which was the beginning of her extraordinary career in the field of military intelligence. Colonel Mettee-

McCutchon was initially a strategic analyst at Fort Bragg, before moving up to the following posts: Commander, Headquarters and Operations Company, 525th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Bragg; Chief, Joint Intelligence Center, U.S. Southern Command Panama; Commander, 741st Military Intelligence Battalion, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Meade; and Staffer in the Intelligence Division, International Military Staff of NATO, at NATO Headquarters, Brussels. Because of her superb record of accomplishment in these critical intelligence posts, she was chosen to be Commander of the Garrison at the Presidio of Monterey in October, 1994.

Colonel Mettee-McCutchon has earned numerous awards during her career including the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Army Meritorious Service Medal with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters. She is married to John R. McCutchon, Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry (Retired), and has one child, Erin T. Mettee-McCutchon. I am sure everyone who knows Colonel Mettee-McCutchon joins me in recognizing her career of exemplary service to her country, and expressing heartfelt wishes for a happy retirement.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 1998 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG STAFF EXCHANGE

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the US Congress and the German Parliament have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and convey Members' views on issues of mutual concern.

A staff delegation from the United States Congress will be chosen to visit Germany March 22 to April 4 of this year. During the 2-week exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag members, Bundestag party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies. Cultural activities and a weekend visit in a Bundestag Member's district will complete the schedule.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for 3 weeks this summer. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington and visit the districts of congressional Members.

The Congress-Bundestag exchange is highly regarded in Germany and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. The ongoing situation in Bosnia, the future expansion of NATO and the proposed expansion of the European Union, as well as plans for a single currency will make this year's exchange particularly relevant.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff members who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag sends senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern in Germany and the United States such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, immigration, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the program for the Bundestag staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two Bundestag staffers in their Member's district over the Fourth of July break, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants will be selected by a committee composed of U.S. Information Agency personnel and past participants of the exchange.

Senators and Representatives who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state why they believe they are qualified and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated. Applications may be sent to Kathie Scarrah at 316 Hart Senate Building by Thursday, February 12.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD D. ISAAC

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the retirement of a friend of all veterans, and the only director the West Palm Beach DVA Medical Center has ever known, Mr. Richard D. Isaac.

A graduate of Morehead State University and an Army veteran, Rich began his 25-year Department of Veterans Affairs career in his hometown of Pittsburgh as a recreational therapist. With hard work, a professional attitude and a good sense of humor, he served in ten assignments of increasing responsibility including service as the Associate Director at VAMC in Lake City, FL, and as the Associated Deputy Regional Director at the Southeast Region Field Office in Gainesville, FL.

In 1989, Rich was appointed as the director of the new VA Medical Center to be constructed in Palm Beach County, Florida. During the design phase of the medical center, Rich was charged with the daunting tasks of coordinating the efforts of regional clinical and administrative advisors who provided input to architects in the design of each department, as well as evaluating and implementing the overall design to assure quality care for every veteran.

Rich brought the 265-bed medical center and extended care facility to life, with its 800,000 square feet of space, nearly 1600 employees and \$110 million annual budget, and has given the veterans of South Florida one of the most efficient, technologically-advanced and caring medical facilities in the country.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to thank Richard D. Isaac for his many years of service to the

dedicated veterans across our nation. I wish him and his wife, Marie, many enjoyable and healthy years in the mountains of Georgia.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT G. GARD, JR.

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of California's Central Coast. Dr. Robert G. Gard, Jr. began a lifetime commitment to public service with a distinguished military career and went on to become a leading advocate for one of Central California's most prized institutions, the Monterey Institute of International Studies. Bob will retire January 30, and he will be deeply missed.

Lt. Gen. Gard served in the U.S. Army not only at the Department of Defense, but in Germany, Korea and Vietnam as well. As commanding general, he oversaw Fort Ord's transition from an Army training center to a light infantry division in the 1970s. Following that success he was brought back to Washington once again, where his expertise led him to become the commanding general of the Military Personnel Center and president of the National Defense University.

After retiring in 1982, Dr. Gard put his international experience to use in the civilian world. Following his service with American and Johns Hopkins universities, the Monterey Institute of International Studies was both savvy and fortunate enough to land Dr. Gard as its President, a post he has filled superbly for over a decade.

Located in California's beautiful Monterey, the Language Capital of the World, the institute provides training in 24 languages and comprises one-fourth of the nation's advanced foreign language training. During Dr. Gard's tenure, the institute has seen a 62 percent increase in student enrollment, a tripling of its endowment and a broadening of its academic and graduate programs like never before.

Under his leadership, MIIS' Center for Non-Proliferation Studies has developed a worldwide reputation as the source of information on the spread of weapons of mass destruction, and is used as a resource by national policy-makers in Congress, the CIA and other federal agencies.

Dr. Gard is a vocal advocate for such humanitarian causes as the elimination of anti-personnel landmines. He has openly pointed to the weapons' military insignificance and the need to prevent further needless destruction of innocent human life by banning them from all future use.

MIIS is a better institution under Dr. Gard's leadership. While Bob's contributions will remain forever, we will surely miss him. On behalf of the constituents of the 17th district, I offer our heartfelt thanks and our best retirement wishes to a true American hero.

FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, on January 29, 1998, Dr. Benjamin Major, M.D., M.P.H., will be honored for over 40 years of volunteer service to Bay Area communities. A specialist in obstetrics and gynecology, Dr. Major has over thirty-five years of experience in practice, with service in not only the United States, but in Africa as well. Dr. Major also possesses a widely varied background in working with private and international agencies providing such services as health planning, project management and manpower development.

From 1941-1943, Dr. Major attended Fisk University in Tennessee, to begin his pre-medical education. He then went on to Meharry Medical College in 1946, also located in Tennessee. From 1946-1951, Dr. Major entered into an internship and residency program in obstetrics and gynecology in the City Hospital System in St. Louis, Missouri. He then completed a Master of Public Health Degree in Health/Family Planning at the California School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley.

Over his distinguished career, Dr. Major has utilized his knowledge of many different areas of medicine in behalf of the community. These experiences include work as an Instructor and Lecturer in Behavioral and Biomedical Aspects of Family Planning; an Instructor in International Health Programs; an Instructor in Health Education (Sex and Family Life), and; by providing clinical training in MCH/FP for African midwives as part of an ongoing project that was started at Meharry College in Tennessee. Dr. Major has generously donated his time and skills to many organizations and hospitals. A principle beneficiary of Dr. Major's expertise has been Planned Parenthood, where he has volunteered for many years with such duties as comprehensive family planning, public health, pre-natal care, infant care and abortion education.

Dr. Major has greatly contributed to the health and well-being of many communities, not only at home but abroad as well. Dr. Major is also to be commended on his many years of accomplishments, and his commitment to teaching others less fortunate.

I congratulate him and thank him for his many years of valuable service, and commend his service to the attention of my colleagues.

SHREWD ADVICE

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, one of our former colleagues, Mike Barnes of Maryland, has recently published an essay in the Baltimore Sun in which he describes two recent trips to South Korea—the first in October, before the worst of the financial crisis took hold in Korea, the second two months later, after it had become apparent how severely hit South Korea would be by the economic turmoil that has rocked Asia in recent months.

Mr. Barnes argues that it is very much in America's interest to help South Korea through the current financial crisis. Moreover, he insists, all the fundamentals are present in Korea for a full recovery.

Mr. Speaker, because of our own stake in the Asian crisis, and because we have an immense interest in seeing South Korea weather its current problems, I ask that Mr. Barnes' essay be reprinted in the RECORD.

SOUTH KOREAN 'TIGER' IS IN OUR BEST INTEREST

Recently, the Center for National Policy has sponsored trips to two very different countries in Asia. Each time, the destination was South Korea.

In October, we visited a dynamic Asian "tiger" with a booming stock market, huge multinational corporations and a population of 70 million looking forward to 1998 with expectations of improved economic performance.

Late last month, we visited a country in deep emotional depression brought on by the sudden collapse of banks, securities firms, major construction and manufacturing conglomerates and the stock market. Almost overnight, South Korea's currency—the won—lost more than 60 percent of its value. The government was forced to seek emergency assistance from the International Monetary Fund to stave off national bankruptcy. Now, massive job layoffs are inevitable in a society that once regarded them as unthinkable.

Signs of the new economic reality were everywhere. Seoul's infamous traffic jams have virtually disappeared. Stores, buses, airplanes were all half-empty at the height of the holiday season. Prices have skyrocketed for anything that must be imported, such as heating fuel, which has doubled in cost at the beginning of a tough Korean winter. The news media gave wide coverage to tragic stories such as that of the woman who leaped to her death from an apartment window to avoid another argument with her husband over the family's financial difficulties.

Equally dramatic is the change in Korea's politics. The Dec. 18 election of longtime opposition leader and democratic activist Kim Dae Jung as president can only be compared with that of Vaclav Havel in the Czech Republic, Jean-Bertrand Aristide in Haiti or Nelson Mandela in South Africa. In October, we were told it was impossible for Kim to win because he could never appeal to voters outside his rural home province of North Cholla. But he won a narrow victory over two candidates from the ruling party by carrying urban districts, including the capital city of Seoul.

The election of Kim to South Korea's "Blue House" is extraordinary by any measure. When I last met him in 1985, I was a congressman from Maryland serving on the Foreign Affairs Committee, and he was in exile in the United States from a repressive military regime that repeatedly attempted to assassinate him. When they kidnapped him in Japan, only an intense international outcry prevented his murder at the hands of his captors. His ultimate return to Korea was highlighted by an attack of government thugs at the airport and his immediate arrest.

Since his election, Kim has been making the right moves to give Koreans and the world confidence that the economic and political future will be better. He has recognized the need for restructuring Korea's economy in accordance with IMF mandates, called for direct dialogue with North Korea and reached out to domestic political opponents by allowing lame duck President Kim Young Sam to pardon two former military dictators (those responsible for his own persecution). The president-elect has successfully urged the Korean National Assembly to