

both sides of the need to build stability and security in Asia and beyond.

The U.S.-India Security and Non-Proliferation Dialogue held in New Delhi on September 23–24 was but the latest example of this cooperation, as India continues to make substantial progress in meeting non-proliferation goals. India is also committed to vigorously enforcing stringent export controls on its locally developed know-how and technologies, an issue that the two sides will continue to pursue.

The U.S. and India have held joint military exercises, and others are planned. Following a December 2001, meeting of the U.S.-India Defense Planning Group and the Executive Steering Groups of the Army, Navy and Air Force, the U.S. and India agreed that each of its Navies would jointly patrol the Strait of Malacca to ensure the uninterrupted flow of vital oil supplies. The U.S. and India will hold their first joint air exercise over Indian airspace in almost four decades in October. In Washington, the chief of the U.S. Pacific Air Force Command, General William Begert, described the joint exercise as “a breakthrough.” It has also been announced that Indian Army and Air Force personnel will participate with U.S. forces in exercises in Alaska later this year.

India and the United States have forged an ever-closer partnership in the struggle against international terrorism—a partnership that had actually begun before last September 11. The U.S.-India Joint Working Group on Counterterrorism was established in January 2000. The fifth meeting of the Joint Working Group was held in July in Washington. The past year has been a watershed for the two democracies in confronting the challenge of terrorism. During this period, India and the United States have accomplished much in their counter-terrorism cooperation, including:

Broadening their exchange of information and assessments on the international and regional terrorist situation.

Strengthening intelligence and investigative cooperation.

Signing a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty.

Launching a bilateral Cyber Security Forum, with a wide-ranging program of action to address cyber terrorism and information security.

Introducing military-to-military cooperation on counter terrorism to supplement the initiatives of the India-U.S. Defense Policy Group in this area.

Working together closely on multilateral initiatives on terrorism, including the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1373.

Initiating dialogue and cooperation in homeland/internal security, terrorist financing, forensic science transportation security and border management.

Taking concrete steps to detect and counter the activities of individual terrorists and organizations of concern to both of our countries.

Accordingly, I urge the Administration and my colleagues to continue to strengthen the U.S.-India ties and to turn the blueprint outlined at the joint meeting between President Bush and Indian Prime Minister last year, into a sturdy and enduring structure that will benefit the people of both of our great nations.

IN RECOGNITION OF A TRUE
TEXAS WWI HERO—LIEUTENANT
MITCHELL H. BROWN

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true patriot from my hometown, Rockwall, Texas—the late Mitchell H. Brown. My district, the Fourth Congressional District of Texas, is home to the second largest population of veterans in the State of Texas. Today I would like to single out a great veteran and WWI hero, Mitchell Brown, who was a distinguished Second Lieutenant in the 50th Aero Squadron, Air Service, American Expeditionary Force.

Mitchell left Rockwall in January of 1918 and was dispatched overseas to France, where he attended French artillery school and an aviators instruction center. He studied aerial photography and learned to be proficient in the use of light weaponry. Finally, he attended the Aeronautical section of the Ind Corps school located at Chantillon-Sur-Seine.

After finishing his training, Mitchell was assigned to the 50th Aero Squadron. Mitchell used his field training as he penetrated enemy lines, reporting batteries in action, trucks on the roads, trains, massed troops, fires, and other favorable targets that the artillery might fire upon. He survived many near-death encounters with the enemy. During an aerial reconnaissance mission for the 78th Division near Beffu-et-le-Morthomme, he attacked an enemy balloon, forcing it to the ground, but this drew an attack by three enemy planes in return. The incendiary bullets from the enemy's machine guns set the signal rockets in Mitchell's cockpit afire. Disregarding the flames, he continued to fire his machine gun, destroying one enemy plane and forcing the others to disengage. He quickly put out the flames and then successfully completed the mission and secured information of “great military value”. This was one of his more well known acts of heroism during the war.

Mitchell has always been passionate about his country. He once wrote his wife Lilybel, saying, “It's all very true that war isn't what it's cracked up to be. Lots of times you have a longing for quiet pastures when the odds loom up against you. Personally, I had rather die a dozen times than to have folks say I didn't do my duty.” That statement characterizes so many veterans who put their lives at risk in defense of our country and the principles of freedom upon which America was founded. These veterans, like Mitchell, are true American heroes, and we owe them a debt of gratitude that can never be adequately repaid.

Mitchell was married before he went overseas and, after the war, returned to Rockwall County to farm and raise three boys with Lilybel. His sons were also in the service of their country, with one son, Lt. Tom Brown, paying the supreme sacrifice on the battlefield. I went through high school with Tom. He, like his father and brothers, loved life and loved this country. He gave it all so that his family—and all of us—could live in safety and peace. God Rest His Soul.

For many years Mr. Mitchell Brown lived, as he said, a “rather quiet life with little to enlarge upon” as a farmer. Such a humble statement

belies the great man he was. He was dedicated to his country, his family, and his community—and he was a good friend of mine. I admired him greatly—and I have never forgotten the greatness I saw in this great WWI aviator who flew the airplanes that were forerunners to today's fast fleet of jets. Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, let us do so in memory of Mitchell H. Brown and all our veterans whose sacrifices enable us to be free today.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES THE LIFE AND CAREER OF FORMER SPEAKER JACK COLLINS

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the commitment of former assemblyman and speaker Jack Collins to his constituents in the third district and to his extended responsibility to all New Jerseyans.

I am proud to speak across partisan lines in praise of Jack Collins because, so often, he reached across party lines to fight for things important to all New Jerseyans. He is the embodiment of the citizen legislator: a working teacher and farmer who also represents the people of his district and his state.

As a career educator, he rose above partisan politics to defend our teachers whether it was fighting for pension enhancements and health benefit improvements or blocking ill considered voucher proposals or tenure threats.

Jack Collins also defended open space retention, farmland preservation, and aid to the developmentally disabled. These are all examples of the greatness of the heart of the man, and his dedication to issues concerning New Jersey.

His career as speaker was marked not just by the legislation he championed, but the house he ran. As the longest serving speaker of the Assembly in New Jersey, Jack Collins was respected by politicians of all persuasions, for his directness, for his honesty and for his convictions.

I am proud to rise today to wish Jack Collins well in his retirement. While he is no longer serving in the Assembly, I am sure that New Jersey has not seen the last of Jack Collins. He has built his life around service to others, whether in the classroom or on the floor of the Assembly, and I am sure that this instinct to serve will keep him active in the political life of New Jersey.

THE “COMMERCIAL SPECTRUM
ENHANCEMENT ACT”

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, I am pleased to join the distinguished Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. TAUZIN, in introducing