

would steal our freedom and replace our way of life with blind obedience enforced by secret police and fear. Today's soldiers are fighting an enemy with similar goals. Our soldiers are fighting an enemy that would take our freedoms through acts of terror and fear. But these enemies cannot defeat our indomitable spirit and our love of freedom. Our enemies cannot and will not defeat us.

This is not the first time that the United States and her allies have gone into a country representing freedom. As we remember the Greatest Generation we certainly recall the epic D-Day Invasion during World War II when we asked our military—today's distinguished veterans—to place themselves in danger to liberate Europe from the occupation of Nazi Germany. We did not ask for much in return when our troops were victorious.

And our World War II troops did not ask for much from America when they returned home. Most of them did not return to hometown parades, they just returned to their everyday, pre-war lives, even though they had not seen their loved ones in several years. In return for all they had given up, they simply came home, desiring that the world would remain free. We helped Europe, the West, and Japan rebuild under democratic principles, and today we see the fruits of that labor. We have the golden opportunity to do that for Iraq, to help them rebuild into a free country after years of tyranny.

I give my thanks, respect and gratitude to today's military who will be tomorrow's veterans. These individuals represent the long and distinguished tradition of our armed forces as exemplified by the Greatest Generation. Our current service men and women can look to those who came before them as examples of honor and courage, the very lifeblood and creed of the military, and the principles that will always carry the United States to victory.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on May 19 and 20, 2004. The following is an explanation on how I would have voted had I been present:

Rollcall No. 191 "Yes," Previous question—budget rule.

Rollcall No. 192 "Yes," Adoption of the budget rule.

Rollcall No. 193 "Yes," Previous question—DOD rule.

Rollcall No. 194 "Yes," Adoption of the DOD rule.

Rollcall No. 195 "Yes," H. Con. Res. 424—Memorial Day resolution.

Rollcall No. 196 "Yes," Goode amendment (DOD) military on border.

Rollcall No. 197 "No," Davis (CA) amendment—abortion.

Rollcall No. 200 "Yes," Kennedy (MN) amendment—BRAC delay.

Rollcall No. 201 "Yes," Weldon (PA) amendment—destroying Abu Ghraib.

Rollcall No. 202 "Yes," Slaughter amendment—sexual assaults policy.

Rollcall No. 203 "Yes," Tauscher amendment to H.R. 4200—bunker buster.

Rollcall No. 204 "Yes," Ryun amendment to H.R. 4200—Taiwan training programs.

Rollcall No. 205 "No," Democrat motion to reconsider.

Rollcall No. 206 "Yes," DOD final passage.

Rollcall No. 207 "Yes," S. 2092—Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

Rollcall No. 208 "Yes," H.R. 4359—Child tax credit.

TRIBUTE TO SHEILA LOCKWOOD

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on a bittersweet mission—to honor a most cherished staff member, Ms. Sheila Lockwood, on her retirement from the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Sheila began her federal government service career in Washington as a clerk-typist for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). After six years at HUD, Sheila joined the staff of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

For the past 24 years, Sheila has served the Members of the Committee and its staff with grace under pressure, uncommon ability, and an irreverent style that endeared her to all. She has worked for six different Chairmen and Ranking Democratic Members including Harold "Bizz" Johnson, Jim Howard, Glenn Anderson, Bob Roe, Norm Mineta, and me. She has held many titles and roles—staff assistant, assistant office manager, assistant to the Chief Counsel, executive staff assistant, office manager, and systems administrator—to name but a few.

But titles have never mattered to Sheila; helping people and completing the job have. From Chairman of the Committee to the unpaid intern, she has always been available to help. She has been the glue that has held our Committee and its staff together and we truly appreciate her many important contributions.

Sheila has spent many years supporting our legislative staff in the preparation of documents, charts, tables, and statements. She has the innate ability to create easy-to-read materials that enable Members to read documents and charts and quickly discern the critical information. Having worked for the Full Committee for so many years, she has seen it all and always found a way to get it done.

In addition, although she began her career with the Committee using a typewriter, Sheila always served as our in-house systems administrator. With each new computer program, Sheila became the expert to whom all would appeal with any computer problem or question, of which there are always many. From Word 11 to Microsoft Word, she always had the answer—and the patience to explain it.

One prime example of both Sheila's can-do work ethic and considerable computer skills was her work on the Committee's Democratic Web site. Several years ago, we needed to find a way to more efficiently update our Committee's Democratic Web site. We wanted to be able to provide the public with immediate access to the Democratic position on Committee issues and legislation. Sheila took it upon herself to become our "Web diva", as she would say, teaching herself how to post information on the site. Over time, she redesigned the site to make it more user-friendly

and to enable users to conduct searches for issues. Within the past four years, the site has received more than 50,000 hits and has become an essential tool for the transportation community.

Sheila's greatest contribution to the Committee flowed from her personal qualities—her genially irreverent style, her interest in her colleagues, and her absolute grace under pressure. Sheila started each day with the theme song to her favorite TV show, Hawaii Five-O, and, after her dance to the song, her "complaining" began—she made us all laugh. She genuinely cares about her colleagues and has always been there to help. In essence, Sheila has simply made the Committee a much better place in which to work.

Mr. Speaker, after 30 years of public service, Sheila returns home to Woodland Park, Colorado, to have the opportunity to spend more time with her beloved family, especially her mother. She carries with her our gratitude for her service, and our prayers for good health and happiness in the many years ahead.

HONORING RAYMOND T. WHITE

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Raymond T. White. Mr. White is stepping down from his outstanding service to veteran advocacy, and his work deserves our respect, gratitude, and admiration.

Mr. White's commitment to veteran affairs is rooted by his own service to this country. In 1953, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force to fight in the Korean conflict. His tenure is marked with distinction, and he served as a combat air policeman, a forerunner of the Green Berets. He completed his tour at Mitchell Field, Long Island, and there began his family with his wife, Roberta.

This week, Mr. White relinquishes his duties as commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, Department of Florida. He has also served in similar capacities over the past 20 years with veteran organizations such as the American Legion and the Disabled American Veterans. In addition, Mr. White's civic commitment led him to serve as Mayor of New Hyde Park Gardens, NY, in addition to his tenure as Chief of Police in Albertson, NY.

I am happy that Mr. White will enjoy this day in the company of his wife, five children, and nine grandchildren. I am reassured that Mr. White's service to his fellow soldiers has been returned in blessings with a bountiful family.

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, this year, the American Lung Association proudly celebrates their 100th Anniversary. On this momentous occasion, I would like to recognize this organization for their invaluable