

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following rollcall votes and would like the RECORD to reflect that I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 229—"yes"; Rollcall No. 230—"yes"; and Rollcall No. 231—"yes".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, on June 8th and 9th, 2004, I was unavoidably detained while part of an official Congressional delegation. If I had been present, on rollcall vote Nos. 229, 230 & 231, I would have voted "aye".

80TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. RHYS LEWIS

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor and acknowledge an important milestone as Mr. Rhys Lewis celebrated his 80th Birthday on Thursday, May 13, 2004.

Rhys honorably served in the South Pacific during World War II as a United States Marine Corp Sergeant, fighting against tyranny and defending America's freedom and security. Following his invaluable service to our country, Rhys returned safely home to marry Ruth M. Lewis in 1947. After successfully building and managing two small businesses, Rhys was elected a Trustee of the Charter Township of Redford. His personal commitment and ongoing efforts to better the community have made Rhys indispensable and the people of Redford have benefited from his character, dedication, leadership, and tireless motivation. His wife Ruth, and their two children, Arthur Lewis and Judge Charlotte Wirth, should be extremely proud of the indelible mark he has made.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my appreciation to Mr. Rhys Lewis, upon his 80th birthday, for his fine service to our community and country.

HONORING THE SANTA BARBARA JEWISH FEDERATION IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Santa Barbara Jewish Federation as they celebrate their 30th anniversary of service to our community. The Santa Barbara Jewish Federation contributes to the entire Santa Barbara community through their educational programs, art exhibits, festivals, and other programs.

The mission of the Santa Barbara Jewish Federation is to create and advance a cohesive Santa Barbara Jewish community by promoting identification and connectedness to the Jewish community, generating mutual respect amongst Jews of different practice, promoting cooperative relationships among the Jewish organizations and promoting positive relationships between the Jewish community and the community at large. The Santa Barbara Jewish Federation promotes charity and justice in all that they do.

The Santa Barbara Jewish Federation contributes to the community by helping to care for those in need, helping elders live in dignity and they work to build respect and trust among religious and ethnic groups. In their mission statement, the Jewish Federation stresses the Hebrew Phrase Tikkun Olam, meaning "healing the world." The work that is done here in Santa Barbara helps not only our local community, but sets a positive example for all. Their work truly goes a long way in helping to heal the world.

I have been honored and privileged to attend the Federation's "Super Sunday" telethon to raise funds for all of the critical programs they provide to our community throughout the year. I am pleased to help commemorate the Santa Barbara Jewish Federation for all the wonderful, positive ways they contribute to the community as they celebrate their 30th anniversary.

ABU GHRAIB PRISON

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, last week the Bethany United Church of Christ in Mendon, IL, sent me this letter regarding Major General Antonio Taguba's report on the incidents at Abu Ghraib prison. I respectfully request that this letter be entered into the RECORD.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN EVANS: On pages 49 and 50 of the Executive Summary of his report, Article 15-6 Investigation of the 800th Military Police Brigade Major General Antonio M. Taguba writes:

3. (U) Throughout the investigation, we observed many individual soldiers and some subordinate units under the 800th Military Police Brigade that overcame significant obstacles, persevered in extremely poor conditions, and upheld Army Values. We discovered numerous examples of soldiers and sailors taking the initiative in the absence of leadership and accomplishing their assigned tasks.

a. (U) The 744th Military Police (MP) Battalion, commanded by LTC Dennis McGlone, efficiently operated the HVD Detention Facility at Camp Cropper and met mission requirements with little to no guidance from the 800th, Military Police Brigade. The unit was disciplined, proficient, and appeared to understand their basic tasks.

b. (U) The 530th MP Battalion, commanded by LTC Stephen J. Novotny, effectively maintained the MEK Detention Facility at Camp Ashraf. His soldiers were proficient in their individual tasks and adapted well to this highly unique and non-doctrinal operation.

c. (U) The 165th Military Intelligence (MI) Battalion excelled in providing perimeter security and force protection at Abu Ghraib (BCCF). LTC Robert P. Walters, Jr., demanded standards be enforced and worked endlessly to improve discipline throughout the FOB.

4. (U) The individual soldiers and sailors that we observed and believe should be favorably noted include:

a. (U) Master-at-Arms First Class William J. Kimbro, US Navy Dog Handler, knew his duties and refused to participate in improper interrogations despite significant pressure from the MI personnel at Abu Ghraib.

b. (U) SPC Joseph M. Darby, 372nd MP Company discovered evidence of abuse and turned it over to military law enforcement.

c. (U) 1LT David O. Sutton, 229th MP Company, took immediate action and stopped an abuse, then reported the incident to the chain of command.

By this letter we express our admiration and appreciation for the courageous and decent execution of military duties by these individuals and units, as we admire and appreciate the work of MG Taguba and his staff and assistants.

It is painfully and visibly evident that there have been abuses and violations of legal, Christian, and humane standards of conduct. We are shamed by the facts, and we know only too well how long the world's memory is likely to be. In the midst of the darkness, however, we take particular comfort from knowing that in spite of the pressures and in spite of the many bad examples, and perhaps even bad orders, there were men and women whose deeds may inspire us all to live up to all that is noble and right.

We share with all people of faith, and especially with other Christians, Jews, and Muslims, many understandings of what divine direction and purpose call us to do and be. In our own language, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. (John 1:4, NRSV)" We are grateful that God has called men and women in even the most difficult of circumstances to respect the dignity and intrinsic worth of others.

We ask you to reflect our tribute in an official way, by reference or quotation in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD perhaps. If there is a way for Congress to honor the units and individuals who have distinguished themselves

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