

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ASSISTANT SHERIFF  
RICHARD BRESHEARS

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2004*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Assistant Sheriff Richard Breshears. Richard Breshears has had a long and exemplary career in law enforcement that has lasted nearly 35 years.

Mr. Breshears began his career as a Stanislaus County Sheriff in 1970. He soon became an investigator, where he dedicated almost 18 years, rising from the ranks of detective to Lieutenant and working on several high profile cases that garnered national attention. In 1991, he was promoted to Captain and served as Commander of both the Custodial and Operations Divisions. In 1997, he was appointed to the position of assistant Sheriff and continues to command the Operations Division.

Mr. Breshears has not limited his dedication to law enforcement and his community to working hours. He has continuously engaged in, and often led activities that allowed him and the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to better serve the community. In 1982, he graduated from the FBI academy in Quantico, VA. He has been a member of countless law enforcement associations and organizations over the years. He has dutifully served such organizations as the Stanislaus County Advisory Board on Substance Abuse, the U.S. Attorney's Law Enforcement Executive Council, and as President of the Stanislaus County Police Activities League for the past eight years.

Richard Breshears' selfless service to his community has not gone unnoticed. His community has bestowed upon him such honors as the "Assyrian Community Presidential Award," the California Attorney General's "Certificate of Commendation for Meritorious Service," and the Stanislaus Sheriff Department's "Medal of Merit" for exceptional service.

It is my honor and privilege to join the community in recognizing Richard Breshears for his lengthy, dedicated service to his community. Throughout his career, he has distinguished himself as a leader and mentor. I am delighted to recognize his service and his retirement as I wish him the very best in the years to come.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 22, 2004*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 4613) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes:

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to thank the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Subcommittee and the Committee for their excellent work in crafting a bipartisan bill that will provide our troops with the tools they need to continue their outstanding service to our country.

Our troops have done an amazing job under very difficult circumstances in Iraq and Afghanistan. I fear that their job will only get tougher in the weeks and months ahead, but this bill will help ensure that our troops will be prepared for whatever they may face in Iraq and in the war on terror.

I am especially grateful to my colleagues Mr. MURTHA and Mr. LEWIS for including in the report accompanying this bill important language that calls for a comprehensive study of mental health services available to service members and their families both during and after deployment to combat theaters.

Despite a growing awareness of the importance of mental health issues, there remains too much of a stigma associated with mental health care. The fact is that the pressures of war and lengthy separation from friends and family can take their toll on our soldiers, and we ought to do more to help our brave soldiers and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I have seen this first-hand. The 439th Quartermaster Company is an Army reserve unit based in New Haven. They have performed admirably well in setting up fuel depots in southern Iraq on the road from Kuwait to Baghdad. But they have been in the Iraqi theater for 14 months now, and will be there for at least a few months more. I have been working with Yale University's Child Study Center to make sure the families of this great unit have access to mental health services. But the military ought to do more to help.

I might add that our commitment to our troops should not stop when they return from the field. Experience has taught us that for service members and their families, the difficulties associated with deployment do not always cease when the service member returns. In the case of Reserve and National Guard troops, who often live far from a military installation, it is especially important that top-quality mental health services are available to them to ease the transition from deployment to civilian life.

This benchmark study will give us some indications about how we can overcome barriers to care, and how we can do better by our soldiers, sailors and marines. It is my hope that the Congress will use this study as a starting point to better fund mental health services for military personnel and their families, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on this issue.

So again I thank Chairman YOUNG, Chairman LEWIS, Mr. OBEY and Mr. MURTHA for taking this issue so seriously and including my amendment.

HONORING MERLE McDOUGALD  
"DOUG" WERNER

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2004*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Merle McDougald Werner, a correspondent who filed one of the first reports of the D-Day invasion in 1944. Mr. Werner died May 19, 2004 at his home in Falls Church, VA at the age of ninety-one.

Mr. Werner was born January 28, 1913, in Bladen, Nebraska. He attended the University of Nebraska and received a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri in 1934. During the years 1934 to 1937, Mr. Werner worked for several newspapers in Nebraska and Wyoming when he became employed with the United Press, a precursor of United Press International located in Des Moines. In 1941, Mr. Werner transferred to United Press' Washington bureau and was appointed as a war correspondent based in London where he worked with Walter Cronkite.

Surrounded by gunfire and deep cold waters, Werner stepped onto Utah Beach four hours after the beginning of the attack in which 156,000 Allied troops took part. He pulled out his typewriter and began an account of the day from a foxhole that was dug for his protection. Mr. Werner's account became one of the first of the invasion to reach Americans in the states.

During World War II, Werner also covered the German bombing of London, the liberation Paris in August 1944, the U.S. occupation of Berlin in 1945 and the Potsdam Conference.

Additionally, Mr. Werner's recollections of his D-Day experiences are on display in a current online issue of the Newseum, a museum dedicated to journalism. He is also believed to be the last surviving journalist of those who accompanied the invasion forces.

Mr. Werner was viewed as a calm and stoic man who considered himself to be very fortunate to have not only survived the war, but also to have participated in covering the biggest news event of his generation.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to express my gratitude to Merle McDougald Werner for his service to his country. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding Mr. Werner's past accomplishments and remembering him for his dedication to his country and fellow Americans.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE  
OF BLUES MUSIC

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 22, 2004*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the importance of Blues

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