

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 150th birthday of Fresno County. A story rich with tradition, I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating Fresno County's journey and future success.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
LANCE CORPORAL ERIC AN-
THONY PALMISANO TO OUR
COUNTRY

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Lance Corporal Eric

Anthony Palmisano, who died in a tragic accident while serving our Nation in Al Asad, Iraq.

Prior to joining the Marine Corps, Eric spent much of his early childhood living in Chicago and eventually moved to Tampa, Florida with his family. Eric had lived in central Florida since 1996, and attended the University of Central Florida where he was active in sports and studied criminal justice.

Eric enlisted in the Marine Corps and attended Basic Training in Camp Pendleton, California last year. He stood out both in training and during his service and quickly became one of the best Marines in his unit. Proud of his achievements, Eric once wrote to his fiancée, "This is an opportunity to prove—mostly to myself—that when I give something all my effort, I cannot fail."

We should all remember Eric's courage and his ultimate sacrifice for our Nation. The freedom we enjoy and the liberty in the world for which he fought are part of the great legacy that Lance Corporal Eric Anthony Palmisano leaves behind.

To Eric's fiancée and his entire family, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Mr. Speaker, because of Lance Corporal Eric Anthony Palmisano's sacrifice for our country, I ask all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing his service in our Nation's Armed Forces and remembering both his life and his dedication to the United States of America.