

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING FRAZIER
LOCKART

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exemplary constituent and public steward, Mr. Frazer Lockart of Evergreen, Colorado. Mr. Lockart is a finalist for the 2007 Service to America Medals, a prestigious national awards program designed to pay honor to those individuals who have demonstrated great accomplishment in public service. Presented by the Partnership for Public Service, these awards highlight the successes of Federal employees who have made significant contributions to the country. This year, Mr. Lockart's achievements in completing the first successful cleanup of a former nuclear weapons production facility are commended.

Rocky Flats, located near Denver, Colorado, was a nuclear weapons production facility which closed in 1989 after Federal investigators discovered grave amounts of radioactive pollutants in surrounding soil and water sources. The extent of the pollution was so severe some officials deemed the facility beyond the point of recovery, even suggesting the site should be abandoned outright. A 1995 cleanup estimate of the facility was projected at \$35 billion over a 70-year span.

Mr. Lockart, managing an intergovernmental and private-sector contingent, began work to clean and restore the site. It took just 10 years and \$7 billion to complete. To date, the Rocky Flats project is the largest and most successful Federal cleanup, with over 95% of formerly contaminated land now reopened for public use. In fact, Congress passed the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act of 2001, setting aside 6,400 acres for protection and public enjoyment. None of this would have been possible without the efforts of Mr. Lockart.

The ability to effectively and efficiently handle this great undertaking is a profile to Mr. Lockart's abilities and vision. Through his efforts, all Americans are now able to enjoy the natural beauty of Colorado, and local residents now live in a healthy environment. In addition, his management style and leadership abilities have become prime examples for the success of future restoration projects.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute and congratulating Mr. Lockart for his great contribution to this Nation.

A TRIBUTE TO NIA ELENA HENRY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 16th birthday of Nia Elena Henry.

Nia was born in Brooklyn, NY, and attended pre-school at the Montessori Academy in Park Slope. She stayed at the Montessori Academy throughout elementary school, after which she attended the Crown School for Law and Journalism.

At the Crown School Nia discovered her affinity for filmmaking. She demonstrated an ability to lead, and was selected to be a "Prefect" of a community service team. While serving this position, Nia orchestrated a project in which she visited and delivered gifts from her schoolmates and New York Assemblyman Clarence Norman to a disabled woman.

During the summer of seventh grade, Nia enrolled in a cultural arts program called Iletayo. Through the program, Nia was able to take African and Modern Dancing classes, as well as participate in a program called "Rites of Passage," which she continues to attend. Nia was able to apply her filming abilities in order to make a movie about the death of her grandfather. She also volunteered to complete a cinematic project about Guatemala.

Ms. Henry currently attends the Benjamin Banneker Academy for Community Development where she became a student of the Chinese language during her freshman year. She also helped to complete a school movie made for media communications. Nia is a student with broad horizons and great ambitions. Her desire to help others is reflected in her ultimate career goal, which is to become a doctor.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the 16th birthday of Nia Elena Henry, who has achieved much more in 16 years than most are able to accomplish in a lifetime.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Nia Elena Henry.

HONORING DR. ALBERT J. SIMONE

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, with great appreciation and delight I rise today to honor a distinguished and dedicated leader, educator, administrator, and neighbor who for a decade and a half has moved his institution and his community forward.

As President of Rochester Institute of Technology, RIT, Dr. Albert J. Simone has left a lasting and profound mark not only on his professional school, but on the region it calls home. At RIT, Dr. Simone brought innovation, energy, vision and success after success to a school with 15,500 students from all across America and the world, helping make it one of the Nation's leading career-oriented universities.

The effect of his leadership has been felt well beyond campus limits and will be felt for generations to come in Rochester and western New York. A believer in education through collaboration, Dr. Simone has been indispensable

in cultivating enriching relationships with local and federal government, western New York businesses, the local community, and nations across the globe. Whether he was engaging students in college classrooms or becoming the first American university president to officially visit North Korea and Vietnam when these regions were largely closed to the United States, Dr. Simone has understood the importance of reaching out, connecting, and working together.

Ever since arriving in Rochester from Hawaii in 1992, Dr. Simone has immersed himself and RIT in the western New York community. Involved in countless organizations—including the Rochester Business Alliance, the Center for Governmental Research, the Executive Committee of Upstate Partners, and High Technology of Rochester, just to name a few—Dr. Simone has put his characteristic zeal and intelligence to work to make Rochester work. Although an incomparable educator at heart, having taught at MIT, Northeastern University, Boston College, and others, Dr. Simone has become a regional leader as much as an educational leader.

Thus, Madam Speaker, in recognition of the indelible mark Dr. Simone has left on RIT, Rochester and western New York, his remarkable educational and administrative accomplishments, and his spirit to make his community a better place, I ask that this honorable body join me in honoring Dr. Albert J. Simone.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
FOREIGN OPERATIONS AND RE-
LATED PROGRAMS APPROPRI-
ATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2764) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. SALI. Mr. Chairman, I am dismayed by last week's votes on issues related to abortion and foreign aid.

I joined with all but 12 of my colleagues on my side of the aisle and 25 Members of the Majority in voting against legislation that would overturn what commonly is known as the "Mexico City" policy.

First enacted by President Reagan and sustained by the first President Bush, this policy has been, for the past 6 years, the policy of our country under our current President. Put simply, the policy says this: Federal resources provided to international family planning organizations cannot be used by them to pay for abortion or efforts to overturn pro-life laws in the countries where such groups operate.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

This is entirely consistent with the Hyde Amendment, which prohibits the use of American taxpayer dollars to pay for abortions in our own country.

Yet now, only 6 months into the new Congress, the majority has decided that tying federal funding of abortions in other countries to family planning assistance is somehow acceptable.

Moreover, my friends across the aisle have enacted within the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill a provision that would make optional the requirement that 33 percent of all prevention funding be used for abstinence and marital fidelity programs.

Mr. Chairman, abstinence and faithfulness to your spouse are the only sure ways of preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS and a large number of sexually transmitted diseases. Yet now we are giving programs and groups that work against such diseases the opportunity to rely more on condoms than common sense and commitment to sexual probity.

Additionally troubling is that the State/Foreign Operations bill contained \$2.4 billion for the State of Israel. This funding is especially imperative given the fact that Hamas has just gained control of the Gaza Strip.

I voted against the Foreign Operations bill because of its strange insistence that American taxpayers fund overseas abortions. That's morally wrong. It affronts the convictions of tens of millions of our fellow citizens. It is an expression of ideology, not sound foreign policy.

Mr. Chairman, Israel has no stronger supporter in Congress than me. I have cosponsored legislation to counter Iran's efforts to obtain nuclear weapons and another measure recognizing the 40th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem and calling upon the President to begin the process of relocating the United States Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. I have worked closely with my friends in Idahoans United for Israel and am proud of my association with supporters of Israel across the political spectrum.

Mr. Chairman, I urge you to bring a clean bill to the House floor so that my colleagues and I can vote for Israel and for funding for our State Department and its vital mission and for so many other important foreign relations-related programs.

The American people are weary of the legislative process being used to score political points. Both sides are guilty of this kind of maneuver and it needs to change. Support for Israel is too important for it to be held up by the vagaries of domestic politics. Let's have a clean bill and a clean vote.

SBA VETERANS' PROGRAMS ACT
OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the H.R. 2366, Small Business Administration (SBA) Veterans' Programs Act of 2007, an act to reauthorize and invest in the veterans entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration.

As a Korean War veteran, I appreciate the sacrifices the brave men and women who de-

fend our country make and how great a challenge it can be to return successfully to civilian life. I can relate to their struggle to obtain employment and start businesses after their service. I am supporting this act not only because it reminds me of the sacrifices of these veterans, but because legislation like this sends America a message that Congress believes in supporting and giving the necessary tools to our veterans to help them in their transition when they return from war. With this act, veterans will have the means and information to compete and participate in our economy. It is imperative that Congress let them know that we care about the sacrifices they have made and hardships that they have endured for this Nation.

Further, this act will benefit healthy veterans, disabled veterans, military units, federal agencies and veterans organizations by providing them the information required through an advertising campaign to promote awareness and education of the services available at the centers. Providing knowledge through the use of technology-assisted online counseling and distance learning technology to overcome impediments that veterans and Armed Forces service members can face enables veterans to access vital information.

Finally, it is up to Congress to do everything it can to ensure the most comprehensive service is given to all our service members. We will be taking one more step to accomplish that by supporting this act. We have the best military in the world. The best soldiers in the world. Let's have the best benefits for our soldiers. They deserve no less. Like General Douglas MacArthur said, "the soldier who is called upon to offer his life for his country, is the noblest development of mankind."

A TRIBUTE TO DARNELL P. SMITH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the work and achievements of Darnell P. Smith. Darnell began to demonstrate his leadership abilities at a very young age. While attending Brooklyn Technical High School, he was named President of the 81st Precinct Youth Council. Darnell went on to attend Hampton University, where he earned the admiration and respect of his peers by founding the African Studies Cluster of Hampton University, and serving as Vice President of the Student Government Association.

Darnell Smith continued to serve his community as a probation officer and the founder of WeCare2Cure Inc. He still works with WeCare2Cure Inc, where he is committed to providing education, employment and affordable healthcare opportunities throughout the community of Brooklyn.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the selfless efforts of Darnell P. Smith, who continues to work to improve the lives of the residents of Brooklyn.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Darnell P. Smith.

HONORING SERGEANT GREGORY J.
RUDOLPH

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, with great pride and appreciation I rise today to honor a dedicated, determined and now highly acclaimed law enforcement officer who has stopped at nothing to serve his country and his neighbors.

Today I am delighted to join the chorus of well-deserved praise for Sergeant Gregory J. Rudolph, an officer who has led a life deeply committed to making his Wyoming County community a better and safer place. This year, Sgt. Rudolph was honored by both the New York State Sheriff Association and then the National Sheriff's Association as Deputy of the Year, an award reflecting Sgt. Rudolph's supreme service as an officer.

Yet more than any awards can show, Sgt. Rudolph is a true hero—a selfless individual who has risked his own life to protect the lives of others. And more than my words can demonstrate, Sgt. Rudolph is an inspiration to those in Wyoming County and beyond—a survivor who has overcome each and every challenge with a positive attitude and a steadfast strength of will.

After graduating from Genesee Community College, Sgt. Rudolph began his career of service in 1994 by enlisting in the United States Navy. While serving admirably as a Front Line Supervisor for 3 years, Sgt. Rudolph was confronted with an enemy beyond the scope of his military training—the onset of cancer. It was a battle that Sgt. Rudolph would wage with characteristic resolve and dignity, and it was a battle he would win, surviving a horrible disease and continuing on even stronger than before.

After his honorable discharge in 1997, Sgt. Rudolph returned to Wyoming County to serve in a different capacity, as a substitute teacher at Attica Central School. While teaching, he would begin his law enforcement career at the Attica Police Department in 1997, and 4 years later joined the Wyoming County Sheriff's Office as a deputy sheriff. Described as reliable, loyal, unselfish and sincere by fellow officers, Rudolph was promoted to sergeant in 2005.

Sgt. Rudolph's well-known qualities were never more apparent than on March 15, 2006, when he would again summon his tremendous willpower to serve and protect to the best of his abilities. Responding to a call of an armed man threatening suicide, Sgt. Rudolph was struck in the face by shotgun blasts after the occupant of the house opened fire without warning or provocation. Despite his injuries, Sgt. Rudolph maintained communication with other officers and provided invaluable information, eventually leading to the peaceful arrest of the gunman and saving other officers and innocent civilians from any further injuries. Sgt. Rudolph would soon fully recover and in remarkable time return to work. A partial pellet still left lodged in his face, Sgt. Rudolph today supervises the 3 to 11 p.m. shift, a survivor yet again and a role model to us all.

Thus, Madam Speaker, in recognition of his tremendous and selfless service, as a serviceman, an educator, an officer, and a Wyoming County neighbor, I ask that this honorable

body join me in honoring a hero and a survivor, Sergeant Gregory J. Rudolph.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT
WARREN, JR.

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor the life of Mr. Robert Warren, Jr.

Mr. Warren was born in Jacksonville, FL, on September 18, 1940 to Robert and Alma Moore Warren and passed away on June 14, 2007. As a child he was affectionately tagged with the name Bobo, a selective and endearing form of Robert. Mr. Warren was spiritually nurtured in the Historic Metropolitan AME Church in Washington, DC but remained a life long member of the Historic Mount Zion AME Church in Jacksonville, FL.

Robert attended school in Jacksonville and graduated from New Stanton Senior High School in 1958. While at New Stanton, Robert was a member of the National Honor Society, the Foreign Language Club, and the New Stanton High School Marching and Concert Bands.

In August 1958, Robert left Jacksonville to attend Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, FAMU, in Tallahassee, FL. While at FAMU, Robert was a member of the world famous "Marching 100" and served in the Beta Nu chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Robert was also active with the French club, the NAACP, YMCA, and graduated in 1962 with a bachelor of science degree with a major in French and a minor in Spanish.

Robert moved to Washington, DC to earn a master's degree in French from Catholic University of America in 1970. Also, he was a fellow at the Sorbonne University in Paris, France, and studied at several other institutions of higher learning including the Universite de Basancon in France and Howard University in Washington, DC. Robert taught in the public schools of the District of Columbia and influenced many young minds throughout his career at home and abroad.

Since moving to the DC area, Robert remained supportive of his university and became a life member of the FAMU National Alumni Association. He continued to serve his fraternity by participating in events sponsored by all three Washington, D.C. alumni chapters.

Robert was an avid swimmer and won various swimming meets sponsored by the Golden Dolphin Senior Citizens Olympics. He was a lifetime member of the Anthony Bowen YMCA.

Mr. Robert Warren will not only be missed throughout the entire Jacksonville, Washington, DC, Florida A&M University, and Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity communities but many more across this Nation.

Madam Speaker, today I ask that you join me in honoring the life of a man who leaves behind a record of service that speaks volumes about his life.

A TRIBUTE TO ANALEITHA E.
SIMPSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the work and achievements of Analeitha E. Simpson. As a child growing up in St. Mary, Jamaica, Analeitha's parents instilled in her the values of hard work and dedication. Analeitha was quick to take the lessons learned from her parents, and communicate them to her peers in St. Mary.

Analeitha became deeply involved in her community while attending high school. As a teenager, she provided food and basic necessities to both the sick and prison inmates in Jamaica through the help of her local church. She was instrumental in forming an after school program at her house where she created a study group for her fellow high school classmates. The program also provided a homework assistance program for younger students, including an initiative for the donation of used text books for those who could not afford to purchase new ones.

Analeitha spent 1 year at the University of the West Indies after graduating high school. During that time she entered a leadership program that helped to create a state of the art recreational center for students at The August Town Primary School. Analeitha says that her time at the university allowed her to lay the foundation of who she was and what she would become.

Analeitha moved to New York City in 1999. Following the move, she became a liaison for patients and family members at the Critical Care Department of New York's Presbyterian Hospital. She later moved on to the Department of Neurological Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College—New York Presbyterian Hospital, where she established several departmental policies and practices that have helped to facilitate patient care in an effective and timely manner.

Analeitha's drive to help others has resulted in her current enrollment in nursing school at Medgar Evers College. She is now developing a program to help promote healthy lifestyles for the elderly.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the selfless efforts of Analeitha E. Simpson to improve the health, education, and general welfare of all who cross her path.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Analeitha E. Simpson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, June 21, 2007, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation.

Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 527 "no" (on agreeing to the Diaz-Balart Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 528 "no" (on agreeing to the Wolf Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 529 "yes" (on agreeing to the Shays Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 530 "no" (on agreeing to the Garrett (NJ) Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 531 "no" (on agreeing to the Foxx Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 532 "no" (on agreeing to the Pitts Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 533 "yes" (on agreeing to the Lowey Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 534 "no" (on agreeing to the Smith (NJ) Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 535 "no" (on agreeing to the Boustany Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 537 "no" (on agreeing to the Jordan Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 538 "no" (on agreeing to the Price (GA) Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 539 "no" (on agreeing to the Musgrave Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 540 "yes" (on agreeing to the Pence Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 541 "no" (on agreeing to the King (IA) Amendment to H.R. 2764).

Rollcall No. 542 "yes" (on Final Passage of H.R. 2764).

IN ETHIOPIA, FEAR AND CRIES OF
ARMY BRUTALITY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD an excellent article written by Mr. Jeffrey Gettleman of The New York Times June 18, 2007 entitled "In Ethiopia, Fear and Cries of Army Brutality." It is about the forgotten people of the Ogaden and accurately describes in great detail the systematic abuses against civilians by the Ethiopian government security forces.

IN THE OGADEN DESERT, ETHIOPIA.—The rebels march 300 strong across the crunchy earth, young men with dreadlocks and AK-47s slung over their shoulders.

Often when they pass through a village, the entire village lines up, one sunken cheekbone to the next, to squint at them.

"May God bring you victory," one woman whispered.

This is the Ogaden, a spindle-legged corner of Ethiopia that the urbane officials in Addis Ababa, the capital, would rather outsiders never see. It is the epicenter of a separatist war pitting impoverished nomads against one of the biggest armies in Africa.

What goes on here seems to be starkly different from the carefully constructed up-and-coming image that Ethiopia—a country that the United States increasingly relies on to fight militant Islam in the Horn of Africa—tries to project.

In village after village, people said they had been brutalized by government troops. They described a widespread and long-standing reign of terror, with Ethiopian soldiers gang-raping women, burning down huts and killing civilians at will.

It is the same military that the American government helps train and equip—and provides with prized intelligence. The two nations have been allies for years, but recently they have grown especially close, teaming up last winter to oust an Islamic movement that controlled much of Somalia and rid the region of a potential terrorist threat.

The Bush administration, particularly the military, considers Ethiopia its best bet in the volatile Horn—which, with Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea, is fast becoming intensely violent, virulently anti-American and an incubator for terrorism.

But an emerging concern for American officials is the way that the Ethiopian military operates inside its own borders, especially in war zones like the Ogaden.

Anab, a 40-year-old camel herder who was too frightened, like many others, to give her last name, said soldiers took her to a police station, put her in a cell and twisted her nipples with pliers. She said government security forces routinely rounded up young women under the pretext that they were rebel supporters so they could bring them to jail and rape them.

"Me, I am old," she said, "but they raped me, too."

Moualin, a rheumy-eyed elder, said Ethiopian troops stormed his village, Sasabene, in January looking for rebels and burned much of it down. "They hit us in the face with the hardest part of their guns," he said.

The villagers said the abuses had intensified since April, when the rebels attacked a Chinese-run oil field, killing nine Chinese workers and more than 60 Ethiopian soldiers and employees. The Ethiopian government has vowed to crush the rebels but rejects all claims that it abuses civilians.

"Our soldiers are not allowed to do these kinds of things," said Nur Abdi Mohammed, a government spokesman. "This is only propaganda and cannot be justified. If a government soldier did this type of thing they would be brought before the courts."

Even so, the State Department, the European Parliament and many human rights groups, mostly outside Ethiopia, have cited thousands of cases of torture, arbitrary detention and extrajudicial killings—enough to raise questions in Congress about American support of the Ethiopian government.

"This is a country that is abusing its own people and has no respect for democracy," said Representative Donald M. Payne, Democrat of New Jersey and chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Africa and global health.

"We've not only looked the other way but we've pushed them to intrude in other sovereign nations," he added, referring to the satellite images and other strategic help the American military gave Ethiopia in December, when thousands of Ethiopian troops poured into Somalia and overthrew the Islamist leadership.

According to Georgette Gagnon, deputy director for the Africa division of Human Rights Watch, Ethiopia is one of the most repressive countries in Africa.

"What the Ethiopian security forces are doing," she said, "may amount to crimes against humanity."

Human Rights Watch issued a report in 2005 that documented a rampage by government troops against members of the Anuak, a minority tribe in western Ethiopia, in which soldiers ransacked homes, beat villagers to death with iron bars and in one case, according to a witness, tied up a prisoner and ran over him with a military truck.

After the report came out, the researcher who wrote it was banned by the Ethiopian government from returning to the country. Similarly, three New York Times journalists who visited the Ogaden to cover this story were imprisoned for five days and had all their equipment confiscated before being released without charges.

ETHIOPIA'S TIANANMEN SQUARE

In many ways, Ethiopia has a lot going for it these days: new buildings, new roads, low crime and a booming trade in cut flowers and

coffee. It is the second most populous country in sub-Saharan Africa, behind Nigeria, with 77 million people.

Its leaders, many whom were once rebels themselves, from a neglected patch of northern Ethiopia, are widely known as some of the savviest officials on the continent. They had promised to let some air into a very stultified political system during the national elections of 2005, which were billed as a milestone on the road to democracy.

Instead, they turned into Ethiopia's version of Tiananmen Square. With the opposition poised to win a record number of seats in Parliament, the government cracked down brutally, opening fire on demonstrators, rounding up tens of thousands of opposition supporters and students and leveling charges of treason and even attempted to kill top opposition leaders, including the man elected mayor of Addis Ababa.

Many opposition members are now in jail or in exile. The rest seem demoralized.

"There are no real steps toward democracy," said Merera Gudina, vice president of the United Ethiopian Democratic Forces, a leading opposition party. "No real steps toward opening up space, no real steps toward ending repression."

Ethiopian officials have routinely dismissed such complaints, accusing political protesters of stoking civil unrest and poking their finger into a well-known sore spot. Ethiopia has always had an authoritarian streak. This is a country, after all, where until the 1970s rulers claimed to be direct descendants of King Solomon. It is big, poor, famine-stricken, about half/Christian and half/Muslim, surrounded by hostile enemies and full of heavily armed separatist factions. As one high-ranking Ethiopian official put it, "This country has never been easy to rule."

That has certainly been true for the Ogaden desert, a huge, dagger-shaped chunk of territory between the highlands of Ethiopia and the border of Somalia. The people here are mostly ethnic Somalis, and they have been chafing against Ethiopian rule since 1897, when the British ceded their claims to the area.

The colonial officials did not think the Ogaden was worth much. They saw thorny hills and thirsty people. Even today, it is still like that. What passes for a town is a huddle of bubble-shaped huts, the movable homes of camel-thwacking nomads who somehow survive out here. For roads, picture Tonka truck tracks running through a sandbox. The primary elements in this world are skin and bone and sun and rock. And guns. Loads of them.

Camel herders carry rifles to protect their animals. Young women carry pistols to protect their bodies. And then there is the Ogaden National Liberation Front, the machine-gun-toting rebels fighting for control of this desiccated wasteland.

REBELS LIVE OFF THE LAND

Lion. Radio. Fearless. Peacock. Most of the men have nicknames that conceal their real identities. Peacock, who spoke some English, served as a guide. He shared the bitter little plums the soldiers pick from thorn bushes—"Ogaden chocolate," he called them. He showed the way to gently skim water from the top of a mud puddle to minimize the amount of dirt that ends up in your stomach—even in the rainy season this is all there is to drink.

He pointed out the anthills, the coming storm clouds, the especially ruthless thorn trees and even a graveyard that stood inconspicuously in the middle of the desert. The graves—crude pyramids of stones—were from the war in 1977–78, when Somalia tried, disastrously, to pry the Ogaden out of Ethiopia's hands and lost thousands of men. "It's up to us now," Peacock said.

Peacock was typical of the rebels. He was driven by anger. He said Ethiopian soldiers hanged his mother, raped his sister and beat his father. "I know, it's hard to believe," he said. "But it's true."

He had the hunch of a broken man and a voice that seemed far too tired for his 28 years. "It's not that I like living in the bush," he said. "But I have nowhere else to go."

The armed resistance began in 1994, after the Ogaden National Liberation Front, then a political organization, broached the idea of splitting off from Ethiopia. The central government responded by imprisoning Ogadeni leaders, and according to academics and human rights groups, assassinating others. The Ogaden is part of the Somali National Regional State, one of nine ethnic-based states within Ethiopia's unusual ethnic-based federal system. On paper, all states have the right to secede, if they follow the proper procedures. But it seemed that the government feared that if the Somalis broke away, so too would the Oromos, the Afar and many other ethnic groups pining for a country of their own.

The Ethiopian government calls the Ogaden rebels terrorists and says they are armed and trained by Eritrea, Ethiopia's neighbor and bitter enemy. One of the reasons Ethiopia decided to invade Somalia was to prevent the rebels from using it as a base.

The government blames them for a string of recent bombings and assassinations and says they often single out rival clan members. Ethiopian officials have been pressuring the State Department to add the Ogaden National Liberation Front to its list of designated foreign terrorist organizations. Until recently, American officials refused, saying the rebels had not threatened civilians or American interests.

"But after the oil field attack in April," said one American official who spoke on the condition of anonymity, "we are reassessing that."

American policy toward Ethiopia seems to be in flux. Administration officials are trying to increase the amount of nonhumanitarian aid to Ethiopia to \$481 million next year, from \$284 million this year. But key Democrats in Congress, including Mr. Payne, are questioning this, saying that because of Ethiopia's human rights record, it is time to stop writing the country a blank check.

In April, European Commission officials began investigating Ethiopia for war crimes in connection to hundreds of Somali civilians killed by Ethiopian troops during heavy fighting in Mogadishu, Somalia's capital.

WOMEN ARE SUFFERING THE MOST

In the Ogaden, it is not clear how many people are dying. The vast area is essentially a no-go zone for most human rights workers and journalists and where the Ethiopian military, by its own admission, is waging an intense counterinsurgency campaign.

The violence has been particularly acute against women, villagers said, and many have recently fled.

Asma, 19, who now lives in neighboring Somaliland, said she was stuck in an underground cell for more than six months last year, raped and tortured. "They beat me on the feet and breasts," she said. She was freed only after her father paid the soldiers ransom, she said, though she did not know how much.

Ambaro, 25, now living in Addis Ababa, said she was gang-raped by five Ethiopian soldiers in January near the town of Fik. She said troops came to her village every night to pluck another young woman.

"I'm in pain now, all over my body," she said. "I'm worried that I'll become crazy because of what happened."

Many Ogaden villagers said that when they tried to bring up abuses with clan chiefs or local authorities, they were told it was better to keep quiet.

The rebels said that was precisely why they attacked the Chinese oil field: to get publicity for their cause and the plight of their region (and to discourage foreign companies from exploiting local resources). According to them, they strike freely in the Ogaden all the time, ambushing military convoys and raiding police stations.

Mr. Mohammed, the government spokesman, denied that, saying the rebels "will not confront Ethiopian military forces because they are not well trained."

Expert or not, they are determined. They march for hours powered by a few handfuls of rice. They travel extremely light, carrying only their guns, two clips of bullets, a grenade and a tarp. They brag about how many Ethiopians they have killed, and every piece of their camouflage, they say, is pulled off dead soldiers. They joke about slaughtering Ethiopian troops the same way they slaughter goats.

Their morale seems high, especially for men who sleep in the dirt every night. Their throats are constantly dry, but they like to sing.

"A camel is delivering a baby today and the milk of the camel is coming," goes one campfire song. "Who is the owner of this land?"

A TRIBUTE TO LEONA WILLIAMSON MOSLEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Leona Williamson Mosley of Brooklyn, NY, on her 100th birthday. Ms. Williamson Mosley is a woman deeply committed to family and faith. She was born on June 23, 1907, in Clinton, NC. She is one of eight children born to her parents, Lewis and Hattie Williamson. Ms. Williamson Mosley grew up in a crowded household and worked hard to help her family. She spent many years working in her family's tobacco fields.

Ms. Williamson Mosley married Daniel Webster Mosley and moved to New York to start their lives together. From this union came six children—three boys and three girls—which included one set of twins. She worked odd jobs while raising her children, however, once they became teenagers she went to work full time at Brooklyn Hospital where she retired in 1969.

Ms. Williamson Mosley keeps the church as a constant in her life. She joined the Concord Baptist Church in the 1940's and to date is a fixture in that very same church. She has made tremendous contributions to her community with her tireless work through her church.

Ms. Williamson Mosley's legacy will continue to live on in her extended family. She has 17 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, 5 great-great-grandchildren and one great-great-great grandchild. She currently resides with her namesake, her daughter Leona who is her last living child.

Madam Speaker, it is with pleasure that I recognize and honor Ms. Williamson Mosley as she celebrates her 100th birthday.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Leona Williamson Mosley, a true national treasure.

IN HONOR OF HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN SCHOOL AND THEIR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE SUN SAFETY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Holy Cross Lutheran School and their recognition by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Recently the Achievements in Stratospheric Ozone Protection: Progress Report, a publication by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, highlighted the school's assistance in encouraging Sun safety.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency raises awareness about the effects of ozone depletion on public health. It also works to educate young children about the harmful effects of ultraviolet rays and how to reduce the risk of skin cancer as a result from over exposure to the Sun. The efforts of the United States Environmental Protection Agency would not be possible without the volunteer assistance of schools like Holy Cross Lutheran School.

I know I speak for all of Dallas when I say that we are very proud to have such an outstanding school in the 32nd District of Texas. The school is an example to all and I wish to thank them here on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives for all of their hard work.

CONGRATULATING SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH OF WACO ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, on June 24, 2007, the parishioners and community of Waco celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, a cornerstone of our central Texas community.

Like many Spanish Franciscan churches in this great Nation, Sacred Heart Parish had a very humble beginning. In 1946, the priests of St. Francis Church established three catechetical centers: Hernandez at 2306 Bagby Avenue; Gonzalez at 2224 James Street; and Rosas at 2313 Bagby Avenue. On June 30, 1957, in what became known as a very moving ceremony, the Most Reverend Louis J. Reicher, Bishop of Austin dedicated the Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Several outstanding and dedicated pastors have demonstrated their devotion and commitment to the growth and development of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church over the past 50 years including Father Francisco Dols, Father Miguel Rigo, Reverend Anthony Ferrer, Father Gonzalo Ferrer, and presently Father Lawrence Soler.

Under the leadership of Father Lawrence Soler, the Sacred Heart Church has impacted the lives of many people. Father Soler, recognized for over 50 years in the priesthood, has a history of unselfish devotion to others, and a legacy of personal achievement as well as an unwavering commitment to his faith.

The profound words of Father Lawrence spoken during the 25th anniversary of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church best describe the impressive past, as well as the bright future of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church: "From a few scattered families it has grown into a closely knit community of faith, pooling its talents, coordinating its efforts for more effectiveness, so that God may be glorified and mankind served. Our greatest strength in the future will be, as it was in the past, our Faith, our Hope, and our Love."

With this compelling mission of faith and the spiritual message of serving others to guide them, the people of Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Waco have touched countless lives. On their 50th anniversary, I rise to honor the moral leadership, dedication to community, and generous spirit of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, and extend my warmest wishes for continued blessings in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LINDA HOLLOWAY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize Linda Holloway for being honored as the 2007 Southern District Elementary School Physical Educator of the Year by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education, NASPE.

As a National Board Certified Teacher in Physical Education, Linda has dedicated 34 years of faithful service teaching in the Okaloosa County public school system. She received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of West Florida.

Out of her passion for teaching and her love for children, Linda encourages all of her students to set and actively pursue personal goals that focus on healthy lifestyle behaviors that promote physical wellness.

Throughout her career, Linda has maintained active membership in numerous professional organizations. These include the National Association for Sport and Physical Education/American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, NASPE/AAHPERD; the Florida Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, FLAHPERD; and the United States Tennis Association.

As an extraordinary educator, Linda's leadership and knowledge have helped to create a better life for the youth of the community by giving them the confidence, knowledge, and inspiration needed to succeed.

When discussing her teaching techniques, the award-winning physical educator explains, "I offer positive experiences in my classes that encourage students to succeed and enjoy physical activity. By devoting time to skills instruction, it increases the chances that students will use the skills throughout life and will maintain health and fitness."

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Linda Holloway for exemplary service in Physical Education at Valparaiso Elementary School and wish her continued success throughout her career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, on the legislative day of Friday, June 22, 2007, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to cast a vote on a number of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: rollcall 543, "nay"; rollcall 544, "nay"; rollcall 545, "aye"; rollcall 546, "aye"; rollcall 547, "aye"; and rollcall 548, "nay."

CONGRATULATING THE CHESTNUT LOG MIDDLE SCHOOL READING TEAM

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a great accomplishment by students in my Congressional district. I offer my congratulations to members of the Chestnut Log Middle School Reading Team of Douglasville, GA, for winning the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl. This competition was held at the University of Georgia in Athens on April 21, 2007.

Students read from a statewide book list and answered questions from the novels in order to earn points and win the contest. To be eligible for the State competition, Chestnut Log students first won the Douglas County Reading Bowl in February, then a regional competition at West Georgia University in Carrollton in March. In April, they became State champions.

I want to recognize the members and coaches of the Chestnut Log Middle School Reading Team. These individuals are Seth Blair, Isaac Carter, Zachary Fowler, Will Gay, Patrick Ray, and Caroline Wesson. Special recognition goes to coaches Jan Easterwood, Margaret Robbins, and Susan Bissell for their guidance of this team and devotion to fostering good reading habits among youth.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I want to commend these students for their great accomplishment. As an avid reader, I wish to persuade all of my constituents, no matter young or old, to read and to encourage reading within their communities.

RECOGNITION OF MARGO PELLEGRINO'S 2,000-MILE JOURNEY FROM MIAMI TO MAINE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to pay tribute to Margo Pellegrino for her remarkable Journey from Miami, FL to Camden, ME. On Monday, May 7, 2007 Margo Pellegrino, a 40-year-old mother of two, with limited training, began paddling her 20-foot outrigger canoe up the Intracoastal Waterway, ICW, and along the Atlantic coast. Her

reason? To highlight the importance of coastal issues up and down the coast.

Ms. Pellegrino's efforts are an inspiration to us all. During her 11 week trip she will make 74 stops along the East Coast in her personal quest to help save our oceans from pollution, overfishing, and habitat destruction.

She understands that we need responsible management of our rich coastal resources. Margo Pellegrino is doing her part to ensure that our Nation's coastal beauty can continue to be enjoyed by both present and future generations. She shares my commitment of improving the quality of our coastal environment while enhancing the interests of those who live and work in America's coastal communities. Her efforts will help achieve those goals.

As Ms. Pellegrino paddles her 40 miles a day she has encountered endangered reefs and dredged beaches—problems that she wants to bring to light throughout her journey. One of Margo's major concerns is dwindling fish populations. Overfishing is largely responsible for the rapid decrease in fish populations and has put our oceans in peril.

It is important to note that Ms. Pellegrino is not a professional athlete. She is a mother and an environmentalist who is showing her children how to make a difference in the world and inspire others to take an active role in the stewardship of our oceans.

This week, she paddles along the coast of New Jersey. As she continues her journey up through New England to Maine, I wish her the best. And I once again ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Margo Pellegrino for her exceptional journey from Miami to Maine to bring attention to our coastal environment.

MARKING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE LIMA CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay special tribute to the outstanding women of the Lima Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The chapter marked its 100th anniversary with a special reception on June 3, 2007.

Chartered on April 10, 1907, the Lima Chapter has served the people of Lima in countless ways through the years. From their work in support of servicemembers and veterans to their committed work with the youth of Allen County, Ohio, the women of the Lima DAR have compiled a long and distinguished record of service in times of war and peace.

Fifty-two women have served the Lima Chapter as Regent, starting with Mrs. Clara Paine Ohler. The chapter's membership through the years has included women from all walks of life who have distinguished themselves in numerous ways through their service.

The Lima DAR is especially noted for its work in local schools to promote civic education, reflecting the group's love of country and its high regard for the gift of freedom that we all enjoy. They are true examples of the DAR's high calling to "cherish, maintain, and extend the institutions of American freedom."

Madam Speaker, I invite all of my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Lima Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Our Nation is better served through their hard work and diligence. We wish them all the best at their centennial celebration.

IN TRIBUTE TO FRANCES SWIGART

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding citizen, community leader, and world traveler of the 4th Congressional District, Frances Swigart. Fran Swigart passed away on June 17, 2007.

Fran served in leadership roles on many non-profit boards: Interchange, UWM Board of Visitors, the Volunteer Center of Greater Milwaukee, League of Women Voters, MATA Community Media, Future Milwaukee, Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin, and the City of Milwaukee Ethics Committee. She was the Executive Director of Future Milwaukee for 9 years, preparing community leaders. Fran was president of the MacMurray College (Jacksonville, IL) Alumni Board, serving two terms.

Fran was a member and leader in the League of Women Voters organization and believed strongly in people's right to exercise their franchise. She proudly served as an election site supervisor for 6 years. Fran facilitated numerous political candidate debates for the League of Women Voters throughout Milwaukee County. She also helped eliminate the bureaucratic barriers that prevented the League of Women Voters from registering new citizens to vote immediately following their swearing in ceremonies. Fran was a candidate for Wisconsin State Representative in the 22nd Assembly District, in 1992. Fran served as a panelist at my "Citizenship Day" events explaining why it was important to register and vote.

In her spare time, Fran loved traveling; in fact, she reached every continent but Australia. She was also a 30-year member of a gourmet cooking group. Fran devotedly served her church, Immanuel Presbyterian, as an elder, deacon, trustee, and mission worker.

Madam Speaker, Milwaukee has suffered a great loss with the passing of Fran Swigart, and we celebrate her life and her many contributions to the life of our community.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill—(H.R. 2764) making appropriations for the Department of State,

foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Payne amendment and thank my colleague for working with Chairwoman LOWEY in drafting this amendment.

Over the last month the entire country has awakened to the threat of XDR-TB (Extensively Drug Resistant Tuberculosis). The simple fact of the matter is that we can prevent XDR-TB and the less dangerous MDR-TB (Multi-drug resistant TB) with better TB control programs that ensure that people who are taking drugs for TB stay on their medicines, and avoid developing drug resistance.

XDR-TB has already been found in over 37 countries around the world. However, due to inadequate lab facilities around the world we don't truly know how far XDR-TB has spread.

Additional funding provided by the Payne amendment would help us address some of these issues. I want to again thank my colleague Representative PAYNE for offering this amendment and for working with Chairwoman LOWEY to ensure that we increase funding for Tuberculosis programs in the State-Foreign Ops bill this year.

I look forward to continuing to work with both of my colleagues and the committee to ensure that TB continues to get the funding and attention it deserves.

KOREAN WAR VETERANS
ASSOCIATION FEDERAL CHARTER

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, today on the 22nd anniversary of its founding, I rise to offer legislation that would grant the Korean War Veterans Association a Federal Charter, enabling the Association to expand its mission and further its charitable and benevolent causes. The Association, comprised exclusively of Korean War veterans, has over 25,000 members and is one of the few such organizations of its size without a Federal Charter.

Being awarded such a charter will afford the Korean War Veterans Association the same status as other major veterans' organizations and allow it to participate as part of select committees with other congressionally chartered veterans and military groups. A Federal Charter—at no cost to the government—will also accelerate the Association's accreditation with the Department of Veterans Affairs, enabling its members to assist in processing veterans' claims.

More than 50 years have passed since the war-weary men and women who served in Korea returned home. Half a century later, history has revealed that the sacrifices made by these brave soldiers stemmed the expansion of communism and effectively contributed to a more peaceful world.

Granting this Federal Charter is a small expression of our appreciation for the extraordinary courage and sacrifice of our forces in Korea. This bipartisan legislation is an opportunity to express our gratitude and respect for our military, past and present, and to give Korean War veterans the long-awaited recogni-

tion they deserve to ensure that the "forgotten war" is forgotten no more.

TRIBUTE TO SOLDIERS OF THE
KOREAN WAR

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, 57 years ago today, on June 25, 1950, the Korean war began when North Korean forces invaded South Korea. Two days later, President Truman sent U.S. forces to support South Korea and the United Nations followed suit. This initial conflict led to a 3-year war in which American forces defended South Korean territory against Communist invaders from North Korea and China. The United States and our allies suffered numerous successes and setbacks, engaging in a difficult struggle for terrain on the Korean peninsula. In the end, over 54,000 American service members died during the Korean War and over 100,000 were wounded.

We are still living with the legacy of the Korean war today. Thousands of American servicemembers remain on guard on the Korean peninsula along the Demilitarized Zone. While the Korean war is sometimes called the "Forgotten War," it is certainly not forgotten in the 110th Congress. I am proud to honor the commitment and service of those soldiers who fought in Korea and those who continue to stand watch at their posts on the peninsula today. On this day, the 57th anniversary of the start of the Korean war, we honor the sacrifice and service of America's Armed Forces and pledge to continue to work on their behalf in this Congress and beyond.

TURNING THE BATTLE AROUND

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly honor, but sadly send away, one of Baltimore's finest citizens and leaders: Dr. Stanley F. Battle, who recently left his post as the President of Coppin State University, located in my district.

Dr. Battle is a man of vision—and true to his name, he turned the battle around to achieve victory for thousands of college students, faculty and the entire Baltimore community.

When Dr. Battle took the helm of this great historically black liberal arts institution in March 2003, Coppin was at a different place than it is today.

Then classified as a college, Coppin was severely underfunded—a situation further escalated by budget cuts to higher education institutions, and a slow economy.

Yet, where critics saw dark clouds—Dr. Battle saw sunlight.

One of his most notable accomplishments was to establish the campus as the first completely wireless campus in the University System of Maryland.

Through Dr. Battle's leadership, Coppin pioneered the Tegrity Campus, which combines

digital audio and video recording of the class lectures with electronic note-taking and computer usage. These technological innovations were noticed by the prestigious U.S. News & World Report magazine, which ranked Coppin as one of the top 50 U.S. colleges and universities with absolute wireless capacity.

Then, within 1 year and 1 month of Dr. Battle's tenure as president, Coppin received university status for the first time in its history.

The following academic year, enrollment increased by 11 percent.

Dr. Battle's innovation reached beyond the campus—as he created several initiatives to uplift children in Baltimore City Schools, and empower them to attend college. One such initiative was the Academic Enrichment Academy that offers a free SAT Camp.

Another project he spearheaded was the Talented Ten African American Male Mentoring Program. He also collaborated with Baltimore Public Schools to create several programs to uplift children.

He continued building strong relationships with Baltimore's faith-based community.

Joining with the Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation, Dr. Battle also helped bring together members of the university and the neighbors of the campus to redevelop and revitalize the area surrounding Coppin. He further facilitated the campus's growth from 38 to 52 acres.

In terms of research expansion, Dr. Battle facilitated increased external research grants and established the Raymond V. Haysbert Research Center.

As the Congressman representing Coppin, I was proud to work with Dr. Battle as I helped secure a grant for a major research project, and other funding for educational and transportation programs.

On July 1, 2007, Dr. Battle will begin his role as the Chancellor at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University in Greensboro, NC.

It is a great loss for the Baltimore community and for Coppin State University.

However, he leaves behind a legacy that has forever changed us—and made an impact on the future leaders of America.

Nevertheless, as a strong believer in expanding high quality education to all Americans, I am joyful that the community of North Carolina A&T University is receiving a great gift as Dr. Battle as its chancellor.

Dr. Battle's legacy of turning around battles will continue to reverberate throughout Maryland for years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE ADA, OKLAHOMA CEMENT PLANT FOR A CENTURY OF CONTINUOUS OPERATION, AND CONGRATULATING THE HOLCIM (US) ADA PLANT FOR ITS USE OF RECYCLED MATERIALS, AND DIRECTING DISTRIBUTION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the Holcim (US) cement plant in Ada, OK, for ensuring a century of continuous cement operations, for its use of

recycled materials and for directing distribution. The Holcim plant in Ada provides jobs to over 100 employees, and many of their families have worked at the plant for two generations.

Madam Speaker, since 1921 the Holcim plant has produced more than 33 million tons of cement used in the construction of roads, highways, airports, homes, and oil wells throughout Oklahoma. As such, this plant has been a dependable business in the region, a great example of American ingenuity and technology, and a leader in Oklahoma's industrial revolution.

Madam Speaker, companies like this are rare. When so many have moved to other States and Nations, we are truly fortunate and blessed that Holcim has remained in place. I truly believe that this is testament not only to the company, but to the workers and the larger community of Ada, OK. Companies can only be faithful to a community if a community reciprocates. Ada's demonstrated dedication and its people reveal the pride we all have in our hearts for Holcim.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Holcim cement plant in Ada, OK for a century of continuous service. The plant is a part of the fabric that makes up present-day Oklahoma, and is an integral part of the economy for Ada by providing jobs and opportunities for our citizens. During Oklahoma's centennial year I want to salute Holcim (US) for the company's contributions to this State.

TRIBUTE TO STS-117

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the success of NASA's latest mission to the International Space Station. I also wish to celebrate the safe return of the STS-117 *Atlantis* crew and honor the accomplishments of the astronauts, including Colorado's very own Steven Swanson.

From a distinguished member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society to a recipient of the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal, Mission Specialist Swanson's path to space is paved with miles of achievements. Long before he took in the majestic sights of our galaxy, a young Swanson was in search of new heights of adventure amidst our Rocky Mountains. After whetting his appetite for sky-high ventures in Steamboat Springs, Mr. Swanson went on to graduate from the University of Colorado with a bachelor's degree in engineering physics. A year after he received a master of applied science in computer systems from Florida Atlantic University, Steve Swanson joined NASA.

As a systems engineer in the Aircraft Operations Division of Johnson Space Center, JSC, Swanson worked on the Shuttle Training Aircraft, eventually earning both the JSC Certificate of Accommodation and the Flight Simulation Engineering Award. After earning a doctorate in computer science from Texas A&M University in 1998, Swanson was selected as an Astronaut Candidate and successfully completed intensive training to even-

tually become a member of the crew on STS-117.

Building on the lessons and mission objectives of the two previous NASA shuttle missions, STS-115 and STS-116, the STS-117 mission focused on further construction of the International Space Station. The seven-astronaut crew, under the command of Marine Colonel Rick Sturckow and the piloting of Air Force Colonel Lee Archambault, successfully installed a large truss needed to expand the orbiting space research facility and added third pair of solar wings to power the station. The STS-117 mission represented the 28th flight of the space shuttle *Atlantis* and NASA's 118th shuttle mission.

As the 18th graduate of the University of Colorado to fly in space for NASA, Steve Swanson's safe return not only reaps great pride for his family and friends but the entire state of Colorado as well. Colorado has a rich history of accomplished space pioneers as the state has the second highest private aerospace employment concentration in the country. Swanson serves as a great embodiment of the determination and fearless pursuit of adventure found so deeply ingrained in the American West.

In fact, the entire *Atlantis* crew embodies the very best of the American ingenuity and limitless capacity for human achievement that make this country great. I join my fellow Members of Congress in celebrating and honoring the fine astronauts of STS-117 and the accomplishments of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF RUTH GRAHAM

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the memory of Ruth Bell Graham, wife of the Reverend Billy Graham. On Thursday, June 14, 2007, Ruth Graham passed away, after being bed-ridden for several months with pneumonia, surrounded by her husband and all five of her children. She may be best known as the wife of the world-famous evangelist Reverend Billy Graham, but Ruth made her own mark on the world as an author, poet, mother, and spiritual leader in her own right.

Ruth Bell, the second child of five children, grew up in China where her parents were missionaries. They instilled in her the dependence on the Bible for strength and guidance. Reverend Billy Graham would later confide in her, relying on her knowledge of the Scripture and her strength of character as guidance.

Due to her husband's travels, she bore major responsibility for raising the couple's five children: Franklin (William Franklin III), Nelson, Virginia, Anne, and Ruth.

Ruth Graham was the author or co-author of 14 books, including collections of poetry and the autobiographical scrapbook "Footprints of a Pilgrim."

In 1996, the Grahams were each awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for "outstanding and lasting contributions to morality, racial equality, family, philanthropy, and religion."

She helped establish the Ruth and Billy Graham Children's Health Center in Asheville, and the Billy Graham Training Center near Montreat.

I am honored to have Reverend and Mrs. Graham as two of my constituents in Western North Carolina. The Grahams moved to Montreat many decades ago, and have made an indelible mark on the area. I have the utmost respect for Reverend Graham.

Madam Speaker, the legacy of Ruth Graham will live on long after she is gone. Ruth Bell Graham has served her Lord for a lifetime, and it is an honor to have served Ruth Graham in the United States Congress.

I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing remorse for the loss of Ruth Graham and may God bless and comfort the family and friends she has left behind.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, June 26, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 27

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

Constitution Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the federal death penalty. SD-226

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to markup pending legislation; to be immediately followed by a full committee hearing to examine the nomination of Charles L. Hopkins, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Operations, Preparedness, Security and Law Enforcement). SD-562

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine the Stealth Tax, focusing on how to stop the alternative minimum tax from sneaking up on unsuspecting taxpayers. SD-215

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 793, to provide for the expansion and improvement of traumatic brain injury programs, and S. 1011, to change the name of the National Institute on Drug Abuse to the National Institute on Diseases of Addiction and to change the

- name of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism to the National Institute on Alcohol Disorders and Health, original bills entitled, "Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act", "Wired for Health Care Quality Act", and other pending calendar business. SD-628
- Environment and Public Works
Transportation Safety, Infrastructure Security, and Water Quality Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine protecting water quality at America's beaches. SD-406
- 10:30 a.m.
Aging
To hold hearings to examine the relationship between doctors and the drug industry. SD-106
- 11 a.m.
Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine the economic case for early care and education. SH-216
- 11:15 a.m.
Foreign Relations
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. S-116, Capitol
- 11:30 a.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To continue hearings to examine violent Islamist extremism, focusing on the European experience. SD-342
- 2 p.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jill E. Sommers, of Kansas, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for the remainder of the term expiring April 13, 2009, and Bartholomew H. Chilton, of Delaware, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for the remainder of the term expiring April 13, 2008. SR-328A
- 2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Business meeting to consider S. 704, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit manipulation of caller identification information, S. 950, to develop and maintain an integrated system of coastal and ocean observations for the Nation's coasts, oceans, and Great Lakes, to improve warnings of tsunami, hurricanes, El Nino events, and other natural hazards, to enhance homeland security, to support maritime operations, to improve management of coastal and marine resources, S. 1650, to establish a digital and wireless network technology program, and S. 1661, to communicate United States travel policies and improve marketing and other activities designed to increase travel in the United States from abroad, and promotion lists in the United States Coast Guard. SR-253
- Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine S. 1171, to amend the Colorado River Storage Project Act and Public Law 87-483 to authorize the construction and rehabilitation of water infrastructure in Northwestern New Mexico, to authorize the use of the reclamation fund to fund the Reclamation Water Settlements Fund, to authorize the conveyance of certain Reclamation land and infrastructure, to authorize the Commissioner of Reclamation to provide for the delivery of water. SD-366
- 9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine draft legislation regarding the regulation of class III gaming. SR-485
- 10 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine global warming issues in the power plant sector. SD-406
- Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 1145, to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform, and S. 1060, to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of offenders into the community in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, to improve reentry planning and implementation. SD-226
- Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard Subcommittee
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2008 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. SR-253
- 2 p.m.
Appropriations
Business meeting to markup proposed legislation making appropriations for State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, and Energy and Water Development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008. SH-216
- 2:30 p.m.
Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219
- 3 p.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine financial management systems modernization at the Department of Homeland Security, focusing on systems and processes needed to support the Department's mission and operations. SD-342
- JULY 9
2:30 p.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Investigations Subcommittee
To continue hearings to examine excessive speculation in the natural gas market. SD-342
- JULY 10
10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine community services and support, focusing on planning across the generation. SD-106
- JULY 11
10 a.m.
Judiciary
To continue hearings to examine the Department of Justice politicizing the hiring and firing of United States Attorneys, focusing on preserving prosecutorial independence (Part VI). SD-226
- JULY 17
2:30 p.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense education issues. SD-562
- JULY 18
10 a.m.
Judiciary
To continue oversight hearings to examine the Department of Justice. SH-216
- JULY 25
9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine Department of Veterans Affairs health care funding. SD-562