

We have noticed, we are furious, and we will not let this go!

HONORING DR. TERRY W. HEIMAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dr. Terry W. Heiman. Terry retired June 30 after 33 years serving the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Terry has served as the Director of Agricultural Education since 1984, providing the leadership and vision that has provided Missouri with a strong and expanding agricultural education program. Individual enrollment in agricultural education has doubled during Terry's leadership, with programs currently in 326 high schools and 12 community colleges. Terry also served as the state advisor to the Missouri Future Farmers of America program, watching that program grow to include more than 25,000 members. National organizations have also benefitted from Terry's leadership, including his time as National President of the National Supervisors of Agricultural Education and as a board member of the National FFA. Terry's commitment to agriculture has been recognized by the University of Missouri-Columbia as the College of Agriculture Alumnus of the Year and by the Missouri Farm Bureau for Outstanding Service to Agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dr. Terry W. Heiman for his accomplishments with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and in wishing him the best of luck in the years to come.

HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS
HAROLD KENNER

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2011

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a hero of World War II, Private First Class Harold Kenner, United States Army. After 67 years, PFC Kenner is finally home and will be buried July 29 at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. It has been a long journey for this West Scranton, PA, native, but his story illustrates the military's commitment to bring its troops home—no matter how long it takes.

You see, PFC Kenner, a member of the Army's 401st Glider Infantry Regiment, G Company, was listed as missing in action on September 30, 1944, during Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands. The Allies used 933 gliders to bring its troops and supplies to the battlefield. The fight would last 72 days as the Allies tried to keep the corridor open in the Zon-Veghel area of Holland. The fighting was extremely heavy and so were the casualties. PFC Kenner died on that battlefield, but his body was not recovered.

PFC Kenner was buried in the Kiekberg Woods near Groesbeek, Netherlands, unbeknownst to the Army. His family was notified

of his death, but they did not know what happened to him or his body. In 1987, remains were found at that gravesite, and recently, thanks to DNA samples those remains were positively identified as PFC Harold Kenner. Now, this brave American soldier will return to his homeland and rest among other heroes at Arlington.

Harold Kenner was only 20 years old when he died, but he was a member of the Greatest Generation. Posthumously, he was awarded the Purple Heart, Army Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with two Bronze Service Stars and Bronze Arrowhead Device, World War II Victory Medal, Glider Badge, Honorable Service Lapel Button for World War II, French Croix de Guerre, Belgium Gourragere and Netherlands Orange Lanyard.

PFC Kenner died in the largest airborne operation in the war up to that point as the Allies attempted to seize a succession of bridges over the main rivers of the Nazi-occupied Netherlands, allowing them to outflank the Siegfried Line and advance into Northern Germany. The movie, *A Bridge Too Far*, told the story of this failed mission.

According to military records, members of Kenner's 401st and the 325th Glider Infantry regiments were dropped into an area around Grave and the Waal River in Nijmegen on September 23, 1944. They were dropped behind enemy lines and over the next week, PFC Kenner and his fellow soldiers were repeatedly attacked by the Germans. The wet, dense woods made it difficult for the men to navigate, and the weather resulted in rusted, jammed guns.

On the morning of September 30, the woods were lit up with a relentless barrage of artillery fire on both sides. Company commanders were ordered to move onward and continue the attack, despite the fact that their wounded were left in German positions. Heavily armed, the enemy held positions on both flanks. As the day wore on, G Company's communication lines broke down amid the chaos, leaving soldiers separated from their platoons and scattered throughout the dense woods. When the day finally ended, G Company had sustained heavy casualties, and five men were missing in action (MIA), including PFC Kenner.

A year later, on October 1, 1945, the War Department, despite never recovering a body, issued a finding of death for PFC Kenner. In the years that followed, the Kenners accepted that Harold was gone, but he was never out of their hearts.

The Army never gave up looking for the missing members of G Company in the Kiekberg Wood. Finally, in 1987, a second burial site was uncovered in the wooded area, two miles south of Groesbeek and seven miles southeast of Nijmegen. A Dutch search-and-recovery team turned the American soldier's remains over to the United States Army Memorial Affairs group in Europe. From there, PFC Kenner—not yet identified—went to Hawaii to the Central Identification Laboratory. It was believed that the skeleton was, indeed, one of the missing five G Company soldiers; specifically 1st Lt. Joseph F. Myers. CIA determined it was a male who was 17 to 23 years of age, between 64 and 70 inches tall and had a fracture on the left forearm at or near the time of death. They also determined it was not Lt. Myers.

The remains were returned to the Netherlands in 2001. Five years later, the CIA decided to try to examine the remains against DNA supplied by family members of the other four missing G Company members. Using the DNA and dental records, it was concluded that the remains were PFC Harold Kenner.

Harold's mother and father, Henry and Pearl Kenner, and his two siblings, Henry and Ruth, are deceased. But 50 members of his family will attend his funeral and finally bring this true American hero home. His journey is a vivid reminder of the heroism and sacrifices of our troops and our military families, whether they serve today or yesteryear. Welcome home, PFC Harold Kenner, and may you now rest in peace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2011

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, on July 8, 2011, I missed rollcall votes 525–533. I was in my home state of California attending, in my role as Co-Chairman of the Congressional United Kingdom Caucus, a working reception in honor of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Had I been here, I would have voted:

“Yes” on rollcall vote 525: To reduce Defense Wide Operation and Maintenance by \$250 million in order to prohibit the Secretary of Defense from transferring \$250 million to the Department of Education to repair public schools on military bases operated by local education agencies.

“Yes” on rollcall vote 526: To reduce the Overseas Contingency Operations Transfer Fund by \$3.6 billion.

“Yes” on rollcall vote 527: To reduce funding for Research, Development, Test and Evaluation by 1 percent saving \$730 million.

“No” on rollcall vote 528: None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement the curriculum of the Chaplain Corps Don't Ask, Don't Tell repeal training regarding the performance of same sex marriage ceremonies.

“Yes” on rollcall vote 529: None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to maintain an end strength level of members of the Armed Forces of the United States assigned to permanent duty in Europe in excess of 30,000 members. Reduces funding for military personnel by \$813 million.

“Yes” on rollcall vote 530: None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for military operations in or against Libya except under a Congressional declaration of war.

“No” on rollcall vote 531: Motion to recommit H.R. 2219 with instructions to transfer \$200 million from the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund to the Yellow Ribbon Re-Integration program.

“No” on rollcall vote 532: On passage of H.R. 2219, Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes.

“Yes” on rollcall vote 533: On passage of H. Res. 340, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1309, the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2011.