

culminating in their legislative contributions to the NDAA we consider here today.

Without question, the Asia Pacific Rebalance constitutes one of America's most important military and security policies. The Chairman and I both represent districts in a state with vast ties to the Asia Pacific—whether political, security, military, economic, cultural, social and even people-to-people exchange. We also have a vibrant Asian American community in our state that is an embodiment of our relationship with this critically important region.

It is within this context that I wish to raise an important issue and one that I feel is central to the Asia Pacific Rebalance. Let me be clear that I feel this issue is both germane to the jurisdiction of this committee and our consideration of the NDAA on the Floor.

As you and our colleagues on this committee are well aware, more than 200,000 young women and girls from throughout Asia and the Pacific, but mainly from Korea, were forced to become sex slaves during World War II by the Imperial Armed Forces of Japan. For over 70 years, these women endured unspeakable and nightmarish ordeals and have yet to receive a formal apology.

There are those who believe that the Comfort Women issue is a controversial historical dispute that is not germane to our committee's jurisdiction or the NDAA. I fundamentally disagree. As a case in point, during President Obama's recent Asia trip a couple of weeks ago, he specifically brought up the Comfort Women issue. At a joint press conference with Korean President Park Geun-Hye, President Obama stated that what happened to the Comfort Women was "terrible and egregious," that these "women deserved to be heard and respected" and that "there should be an accurate and clear account of what happened." President Obama made these remarks in the context of U.S.-Korea-Japan relations and the Asia Rebalance.

The Comfort Women survivors are dying by the day. Of the over 200,000 survivors less than 100 are still alive today. As a matter of valuing women's rights and human rights, these Comfort Women survivors deserve the dignity of a formal apology by the Japanese Government. I further urge Japan to follow the recommendations set forth in H. Res. 121 that was authored by my friend and colleague, Representative MICHAEL HONDA and passed the House on June 30, 2007. Proper resolution to this issue yields the benefit of closer U.S.-Korea-Japan trilateral relations which is critical to countering the North Korean nuclear threat and enhancing security ties with our allies.

Mr. Chair, I wish to reiterate the importance of this issue to our committee, our constituents, our state, our nation and our allies. I urge my colleagues to also offer expressions of support for the Comfort Women survivors.

CELEBRATING LOU WEINTRAUB

HON. AMI BERA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2014

Mr. BERA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lou Weintraub. The oldest veteran in the Sacramento Jewish Community, Lou turned 100 earlier this year and will be

honored at the Jewish Memorial Day Commemoration this weekend for his years of commitment to the Sacramento County community.

Born to Polish immigrant parents in New York in 1914, Lou and his two siblings were children of the Depression. He attended City College of New York, and later the University of Pennsylvania. Soon after, he served as a clinical psychologist in the military for four years during World War II.

A longtime executive with San Francisco's Jewish Community Federation before he retired, Lou has worked with and served on the board of many commissions and nonprofits in the Sacramento region, where he moved in 1989 after meeting his wife.

He continues to be very active, delivering food to the home-bound for Meals-A-La-Car and on the boards of both the Community Services Planning Council and the Friends of the Sacramento Public Library. He is currently the Vice-Chair of the Emergency Food and Shelter Board.

Lou is also an active congregant of Mosaic Law Congregation, attending its Daily Minyan and Shabbat and holiday services. He is known to regularly hold court after the services where at lunch in the social hall he is surrounded by people of all ages taking in his wisdom.

Lou's wife Roslyn summed him up best when she told the Sacramento Bee earlier this year, "What I see about Lou is that he cares more about other people than himself. He's always caring about somebody else."

Thank you, Lou, for caring, and for your continued dedication to the Sacramento area community.

SUPPORTING THE NAVY EA-18G
"GROWLER"

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) and its Chairman, BUCK MCKEON, on passage of the National Defense Authorization Act FY15 today that includes funding for additional Navy EA-18G "Growler" aircraft as well as language to stretch the EA-18G and FA-18 E/F lines in St. Louis, Missouri.

I recently visited the F-18 line in St. Louis, Missouri near my district. Like many Members I have an F-18 supplier in my district. Without additional funding, this line will shut down and we as a nation will lose a national asset including thousands of dedicated and talented workers who make up this defense industrial base.

But the EA-18G is about more than just jobs—it is about supporting our warfighter. The U.S. Navy has clearly stated before Congress this year that it has a requirement for additional EA-18G airborne electronic attack aircraft that are vital to current and future operations—both for the Navy and other services. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the coming weeks, especially on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, to help address this clear Navy and joint war fighting requirement. The warfighter

needs the EA-18G and we in Congress need to continue to support our warfighters.

SUPPORTING CONTINUED PRODUCTION OF THE EA-18G "GROWLER"

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2014

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) and its Chairman, BUCK MCKEON, and Ranking Member SMITH, on passage of the FY15 Defense Authorization Bill (H.R. 4435) today that includes funding for additional Navy EA-18G "Growler" aircraft as well as language to continue the EA-18G and F/A-18 E/F lines in St. Louis, Missouri.

During this year's deliberations of the President's budget request, the committee received a request from the Navy for an unfunded requirement for 22 additional airborne electronic attack (AEA) aircraft—the EA-18G Growler. The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Admiral Greenert outlined the growing need to control the electromagnetic spectrum to support the warfighter. The CNO indicated to the Committee that the current level of AEA aircraft in the Navy inventory was just meeting the operational needs in today's world. However, based on increasing demands and a projected difficult operational environments in the future, the Navy requested 22 additional EA-18G Growlers. It is this Growler that can meet these expanding and stressing AEA operational requirements.

I have a number of constituents that commute to work on the production line in St. Louis, and like many members have F/A-18 suppliers in my district. Without additional funding for EA-18G aircraft, this important production line will shut down and we as a nation will lose a national asset—including thousands of dedicated and talented workers who make up this defense industrial base.

But the EA-18G is about more than jobs—it is about supporting our warfighter. The Navy has clearly made its case before Congress that it has a growing operational requirement for additional EA-18G aircraft that are vital to current and future operations—both for the Navy and other services.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the coming weeks, especially on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, to help address this clear Navy requirement. We need to support our warfighter needs and the EA-18G Growler is key to operating and prevailing in the important airborne electronic attack environment.

PLANT OF THE YEAR IN NORTH AMERICA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate TRW Automotive's Fowlerville, Michigan facility on earning Quality magazine's "Plant of the Year in North America" award for quality, safety and continuous