

In fact, 172 Victory Ships were activated during Vietnam as part of the Maritime Administration's National Defense Reserve Fleet (NDRF). A crew of approximately 35–45 U.S. citizen merchant mariners manned each vessel. I wish to extend a special thanks to the 15,000 or so merchant mariners who crewed the various National Defense Reserve Fleet ships throughout my time in Vietnam. Any member of the Armed Forces will tell you that the cooperation of the entire organization is needed to retain order, readiness, and fighting efficiency. As I flew over Vietnam, I was grateful for our dedicated mariners at sea.

As we pay tribute to their service to this country, remember that the American mariners need U.S.-flag ships to sail on in peacetime in order to be available to us in emergencies. Unless a maritime bill is enacted this year, our U.S.-flag presence in international trade is likely to vanish, along with civilian sealift support and seafaring jobs. I urge you to support our mariners by supporting H.R. 1350, the Maritime Security Act of 1995.

FINCH, PRUYN, THE HEART AND
SOUL OF GLENS FALLS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, Finch, Pruyn, the heart and soul of Glens Falls, NY, will mark its 13th decade on June 22.

It might even be said, Mr. Speaker, that a company grew into a town, a town that grew into a small city. Look magazine called Hometown, U.S.A. in 1944. Even in this era of downsizing, plant closings, and moves to foreign lands, outstanding management has kept Finch, Pruyn not only a thriving enterprise employing over 1,000 people, but a respected corporate neighbor as well.

Creating and preserving the conditions that allow the Finch, Pruyns of America to prosper should be the first priority of this Congress, Mr. Speaker. The health and prosperity of companies like Finch, Pruyn mean jobs for Americans, growth for our economy, and vibrant, thriving communities.

That's what Finch, Pruyn has meant to Glens Falls, an important employer and a source of pride because of its leadership in the paper industry. That industry, as does the equally important tourist industry, both require a concern for the environment, and in this area, too, Finch, Pruyn has been a leader.

A symbol of that leadership is its present chairman of the board, a good friend of mine, Richard J. Carota. Two years ago Dick Carota was named Executive of the Year by the Paper Industry Management Association, and never was an award more deserved.

Dick Carota began as a \$1.35-an-hour sweeper in 1956, and rose up the ranks. Having done so, there isn't a single job he doesn't understand. As I said on this floor in 1993, Dick Carota listens to everyone, respects everyone, sets high standards, and gets everyone to work as a team. His all-American success story is typical of the spirit of Finch, Pruyn. I'll say it again, Mr. Speaker, I'm proud of Dick Carota, and I'm proud of the outstanding company he leads.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and this entire House to join me in wishing Finch, Pruyn all

the best on this occasion of its 130th birthday, and many more decades of industry leadership and contributions to the community.

HONORING DR. DAVID N. MESCHES

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of the Mid-Hudson Consortium for the Advancement of Education for the Health Professions, which is now commemorating its 20th anniversary. For the past two decades, the consortium has promoted invaluable training programs for health care professionals that respond to the needs of the mid-Hudson community. Vital to the success of this organization have been the tremendous efforts of my good friend, Dr. David N. Mesches.

Dr. Mesches was a strong advocate of managed care even before managed care was an established system of health care delivery. In the hopes of attracting physicians to our area who would provide affordable, quality care, Dr. Mesches and his colleagues have paved the way toward improved care by the formation of the consortium as well as other programs they have created such as the Mid-Hudson Rural Family Practice Resident Training program.

Through the continued efforts of Dr. Mesches, the resident program annually attracts a considerable number of physicians and medical students through an affiliation with the New York Medical College and the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. These health care providers are being trained to respond to the specific needs of the community in which they live and work and the program proudly boasts that 75 percent of its graduates not only remain in New York State but also in the community in which they were trained. This is an astounding success rate and it has benefitted the people of the mid-Hudson Valley immeasurably. We are indeed grateful for it as well.

I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in commending Dr. David N. Mesches for his very generous hard work and devotion to our community.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN F. LONG

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues the outstanding service to our Nation of Mr. John F. Long, of East St. Louis, IL. John Long served as a U.S. soldier from the 125th Infantry, who served his country during World War II.

Mr. Long, originally from Cairo, IL, entered the U.S. Army in October 1941, and fought a number of World War II battles in Italy. Those conflicts included Rome, Arno, the Appennines, and the Po Valley.

Private Long's bravery won him the Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Medal, American Defense Ribbon, American Theater

Ribbon, European African Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with three Bronze battle stars, and one service stripe.

John Long, who will turn 76 on June 15, was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in November 1945. This year commemorates the 50th anniversary of his World War II service, and I am confident he watched, as we all did, the recent commemoration of V-E Day. On this glorious day, 50 years ago, John Long joined his fellow servicemen to accept the surrender of the Axis Powers to the Allied victors. His Army service in the battles of Italy was part of this victory, a contribution we honor in the House today.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1776: THE
BLACK REVOLUTIONARY WAR
PATRIOTS COMMEMORATIVE
COIN ACT

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced, with my colleague DONALD PAYNE of New Jersey, H.R. 1776, the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Commemorative Coin Act. This legislation will direct the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a special coin in commemoration of the many black soldiers who fought for our Nation's independence and our individual freedom. In addition to recognizing the often forgotten contributions of African-Americans during this historic period of our Nation's history, distribution of such a coin will enable the Black Patriots Foundation to succeed in funding the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial, to be located in Constitution Gardens between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.

More than 5,000 black revolutionary war patriots fought shoulder to shoulder with white patriots, heroically sacrificing so that we can stand here today, a free people and a world leader. This contribution should not be forgotten. As generations of children visit our Nation's Capital and walk the mall, they should have a concrete reminder that we are descendants of men and women of all races and ethnic backgrounds and only together can we create a Nation in which individual social freedom and justice are a reality.

I urge my colleagues to join in honoring black revolutionary war patriots through this commemorative coin act and enable the Black Patriots Foundation to complete the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial here in Washington, DC.

FAIRNESS FOR PAKISTAN

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues' provisions in the American Overseas Interests Act that address basic issues of fairness for Pakistan.

I think it was the Greek poet Aeschylus who once wrote that the greatest wish a man could have was to live in interesting times.

I think all of us know that we live in a time of rapid change. But as the United States moves forward into this new world, we can't afford to forget where we've been. We can't afford to leave our oldest and truest friends behind.

For nearly 50 years, the United States and Pakistan have been close friends and allies. Even though we come from different cultures and have different customs, in the end we are united by our hopes and dreams for the future and by our deep, profound belief in democracy. Those values have brought us together through tough times—and they must sustain us now.

However, I'm concerned that we have pushed Pakistan away from us the past few years.

Mr. Speaker, I have said it before and I'll say it again: Pakistan is not a terrorist nation or a nuclear outlaw, and it's time we stop treating them as if they were.

If we are truly going to meet the goals we all share in South Asia we must work with both India and Pakistan to make it happen.

To be honest, I'm encouraged by some of the developments I have seen recently. Thanks to Prime Minister Bhutto's efforts at reform, over \$20 billion has been invested in Pakistan—half of which came from private American investors. That's more than any other time in history. In addition, we were all appreciative of Pakistan's efforts to work with us to capture Ramzi Yousef, one of the key suspects in the World Trade Center bombing.

Last week, I'm also told that for the first time since 1990, the Pentagon has had fruitful discussions with Pakistan about our common defense interests in South Asia.

And as we all know, both the White House and Congress are working with Pakistan to come up with ways to resolve this dispute over the planes. I agree with President Clinton: I don't think it's right that Congress keeps the money Pakistan paid for those planes. Not only have we kept over a billion dollars—we're actually charging Pakistan a \$50,000 storage fee for each jet. Some in Congress have suggested that we should sell the planes to a third party, then give the money to Pakistan. But we are working on this issue now and hopefully we'll reach a solution in the next few months.

But there are two other issues we should all be able to agree on. The Senate is working on the antiterrorism bill. But while we work for solutions, we can't allow people to be scapegoated on the basis of ethnicity or race.

When those first reports were coming out of Oklahoma City—looking for three "Middle Eastern men"—it brought back painful memories from the Persian Gulf war, when Moslem-Americans actually saw their homes being searched. As much as we all want to crack down on terrorism, we have to do it in such a way that doesn't hurt innocent people and doesn't violate constitutional rights.

When this bill comes to the House floor—which should be in the next month or so—I look forward to working to make sure these concerns are addressed.

I also look forward to continuing to work and to speak out on behalf of the people of Kashmir. By all indications, the situation in Kashmir isn't getting any better.

Just last Saturday, the Indian Government canceled elections in Kashmir yet again—and extended its direct rule. We can't sit back as

Indian Government security forces continue to rape, torture, and murder innocent women and children.

If India hopes to have any kind of relationship with the United States in the future, I believe these issues must be addressed, the troops must be withdrawn, international observers must be allowed in, and the people of Kashmir must be given the opportunity to determine their own destiny. Because if they're not, I believe the whole issue of Indian aid comes into question. The world simply cannot afford to have two nuclear powers locked in mortal combat over disputed territory any longer. It's up to all of us to help solve this.

Mr. Speaker, the Pakistani-American community has provided real leadership on these issues in recent years. We all live in a time of exciting change.

I look forward to working to make sure that we can make that change work for all of us.

HAPPY 100TH ANNIVERSARY EASTERN STAR HOME

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Eastern Star Nursing Home for 100 years of quality service. Located in Macon, IL, the home has, for a century, provided exceptional living conditions for the Sisters of the Order of the Eastern Star of Illinois. I want to take this opportunity to wish them my very best as they enter a new era of providing excellence in health care.

The members of Eastern Star offer guidance and support to young women from across the country, and always strive to work together for the benefit of mankind. This non-profit, sheltered, and intermediate life care facility is dedicated to providing superior medical care to its residents, furnishing 58 women a caring and compassionate home that ensures a safe and secure living environment.

The Eastern Star Nursing Home is the only remaining retirement home specifically designated for the Sisters of the Order of the Eastern Star of Illinois. Since 1895, the home has set the standard of excellence in this area of health care. I applaud the home's dedicated staff, and I salute the members of this civic minded organization. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the Eastern Star Nursing Home on its century of service to the people of southeastern Illinois.

REFUTING DEMOCRAT SCARE TACTICS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to the comments of Ian M. Yarian, a resident of Gansevoort, NY in my congressional district. Ian, for one, has not fallen prey to the vicious scare tactics being employed by Democrats who have no solutions to the crises facing our Nation. It is cer-

tainly encouraging to see the comments of Americans outside the beltway who don't fall victim to the Washington propaganda which floods the news media.

To that end, Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to submit Ian's remarks as published in The Saratogian newspaper in Saratoga Springs, NY. I ask all my fellow Members to pay close attention to the logic of his argument, especially those colleagues on the other side of the aisle who simply seek to employ class warfare as opposed to addressing the concerns of the people.

REPUBLICANS AREN'T OUT TO ROB US

(By Ian Yarian)

After reading the May 17 Speaking Out column by Ron Deutsch, I can't help but speak out also.

I am one of the so-called middle class the Republicans are accused of trying to rob. I am also a single parent. I am tired of the leftist drivel being spouted concerning the Contract With America. People like Mr. Deutsch are either ignorant of the facts or they are intentionally misrepresenting them. The proposed spending for the balanced budget does not cut vital services, nor does it redistribute the money from such programs to the wealthy.

First, the Republicans are not cutting welfare, Social Security or Medicare. What they are doing is trying to curb the runaway spending increases that will bankrupt the programs and leave nothing for my generation.

The programs are in fact being increased in accordance with appropriate inflationary figures instead of the arbitrary current services baseline which makes no logical budgetary sense. Democrats routinely hide behind this automatic 10 to 12 percent annual spending increase to mask their irresponsible spending habits and turn the truth around to claim Republican-proposed smaller increases are cuts.

Mr. Deutsch further shows his ignorance by comparing the so-called "cuts" to tax reductions. Tax cuts such as those being proposed have been historically proven to increase revenue generated for the government because they encourage consumer spending, business expansion and investment. They don't need to be paid for. Redistribution of wealth is unfair, to everyone, but the Democrats want us to send more and more of our money to them so they can decide who gets what. They say whatever it takes to scare us into doing it. With so many blatant lies coming out of the mouths of Democrats lately, they must believe we are all to ignorant to look up the facts for ourselves. Unfortunately, few make the attempt.

The federal school lunch program fiasco is one such example. The Republicans proposed a 4 percent increase in funding. President Clinton and the Democrats had proposed a 3 percent increase, but they campaigned the countryside to tell people the Republicans were planning to take food from the mouths of children. The only people cut out by the Republicans would have been the federal elitists who have been mismanaging the program and lining their pockets. Control of the lunch program would have been given to individual states where programs have been proven again and again to be more efficient. Do Democrats feel our state governments are as incapable as they believe the citizens to be?

Democrats are clearly interested only in preventing Republicans from doing what they were elected to do, not in the future of America. I am firmly convinced if Republicans all got together and decided to give a