

THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN CIVIL
WAR MEMORIAL COMMEMORATIVE
COIN ACT INTRODUCED

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 1997

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will establish a commemorative coin for the African-American soldiers that fought in the Civil War. Several years ago, the release of the movie "Glory" brought national attention to the role played by African-American soldiers during the Civil War. This movie told the story of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment which distinguished itself at the historic battle of Fort Wagner in July 1863. These soldiers of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment and those African-Americans who served with the Union Army did so as volunteers. At first they were barred from combat and made to contribute only as members of service and labor battalions. The number of African-American troops that were in the Union Army was larger than the entire Confederate Army in the final months of war. Ultimately, their determination, courage, and love for their country and for the cause of freedom, enabled them to transcend this barrier.

The 185,000 African-American troops who served in the Civil War never received the recognition they deserved for fighting so bravely for our country. Following the end of the Civil War, The Grand Army of the Republic paraded 200,000 Union soldiers for 2 days down Pennsylvania Avenue in the District of Columbia, but not one of the units representing the African-American soldiers was invited to attend the celebration. They never received a thank you for their service. Not only is it fitting for the memorial in their honor to be located in our Nation's Capital, but they too deserve a commemorative coin to memorialize their sacrifice to our country.

This coin would be of no net cost to the Government and it is for an outstanding cause. It is my hope that this legislation serves as a reminder of the contribution that these brave men gave for this country.

TRIBUTE TO DAN SAIN

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 1997

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has worked to improve the quality of life in my hometown of Flint, MI, Mr. Dan Sain. On September 14, 1997, Dan Sain will be the guest of honor as many of his family and friends gather to celebrate over 40 years of dedicated service to our community.

It has been over four decades since Dan Sain moved to Flint from his home of Leachville, AR. When he first arrived, Dan supported his family by working several jobs, including working during the day at Standard Cotton Products, and at Fisher Body plant at nights. In 1953, Dan accepted a position with Buick, and with that, he began a long partnership with the UAW. In his service with the union, Dan served as committeeman, trustee,

shop committeeman, newspaper editor, and vice-president. In 1972, Dan was elected president of the UAW Community Action Council, a position he held until 1996.

Danny was the ultimate political organizer. He worked endlessly to elect people who were pro-union. Under his leadership, the UAW attained the highest standards of political and community awareness. There are very few political officeholders in Genesee County who have not benefitted from the work of Danny Sain. Whether it was organizing the county effort for a Presidential campaign, or if it involved an election in a small local town, Dan always knew what was going on, and more often than not, he knew who was going to win.

We in Genesee County have been extremely fortunate to have someone like Dan Sain live in our community. Dan always believed that the UAW must play a role in the larger community and he has made a positive impact with his work. Dan has served on a number of boards and commissions including chairing the Bishop International Airport board, serving on the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission, the Genesee County Planning Commission, Healthplus of Michigan, and the local board of the Federal Emergency Management Association. He has also been a active supporter of the United Way for a quarter of a century.

Mr. Speaker, this year, the labor movement celebrated the 60th anniversary of the famous Sitdown Strike that took place in Flint. I ask my colleagues in joining me in honoring a man who, although too young to have been a sitdowner himself, through his thoughts, deeds, and actions has proven himself time and again as a living legacy to the perseverance and courage shown by a group of determined young men in February of 1937, and their quest for equity and equality for all.

IN MEMORY OF DR. ROBERTO
OLIVARES

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 1997

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today is the funeral of one of the kindest and most compassionate men I have ever known and one of the most gifted, most respected and most beloved physicians in Sherman, TX—Dr. Roberto Olivares, who died Sunday at the age of 57.

Dr. Olivares was born in Puebla, Puebla Mexico, studied at UNAM, the national university in Mexico City, and received his medical degree in 1962. He moved to the United States in 1966 and after completing his internship at Kettering Memorial Hospital in Dayton, OH, he spent 4 years as urology resident at The Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis, IN. While there he was named chief resident and received the Pediatric Fellowship from Riley Children's Hospital.

After a brief return to Mexico, Dr. Olivares moved to Sherman in 1974 to begin what would be a 23-year practice. He was a beloved and highly respected physician and was only the second urologist in the United States to receive the Distinguished T. Leon Award from the American Urological Association four times for significant achievement in the field of urology.

Dr. Olivares was a member of the AUA Terminology and Health Policy Committee from 1992 to 1997 and served on the board of directors for the South Central Region and as the Texas delegate to the national organization. He was past president and board member of the Texas Urological Society and was a selected member of the International Andrology Society, the Society of Laparoscopy Surgery, the Endourological Society and Lithotripsy Society. He was dedicated to the local medical community and served as president of Medical Plaza Hospital for 2 years, chief surgeon at Wilson N. Jones and past president of the Grayson County Medical Society.

Dr. Olivares was a dedicated and prominent figure in the community. He served as president of the Parks and Recreation Board, was a basketball and soccer coach for many years for the Boys and Girls Club and was a proud member of the Sherman Bearcat Booster Club. He could always be seen sitting at the 50-yard line cheering for the Bearcats. He and his wife, Gayle, hosted numerous fundraising events for local charities.

But more than any of these achievements, his kindness, his compassion, and his faith distinguished him among his patients and his friends. I never heard him utter an unkind statement, and I never heard an unkind statement uttered about him. He took both a professional and personal interest in his patients and was concerned about both their physical and emotional well-being. His faith sustained his own struggles with leukemia, which eventually claimed his life, and with other family tragedies and other challenges that he endured with eternal optimism. His faith was a powerful example for all who knew him and were inspired by him, and he demonstrated his faith in all that he did and with all those he touched—through his words, his deeds and his daily interactions with people from every walk of life.

Dr. Olivares is survived by his wonderful wife, Gayle; his sons, Roberto III and Ricardo; his daughters, Rebecca and Raquel; his mother, Minerva; sisters, Minerva and Elsa; brother, Sergio; and grandsons, Roberto IV, Julian and Austin. I am saddened to lose such a dear friend and constituent, and I share the grief of his family and many friends in the Sherman community.

But I know that this great man would want us to carry on with the same optimism that he demonstrated so well, and we will carry him with us in our hearts and in our memories. Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today in the House of Representatives, I ask that we do so in honor of and in memory of this great America, great physician, and great man—Dr. Roberto Olivares.

CENTRAL AMERICA: INDEPENDENCE,
PEACE AND PROGRESS

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 1997

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, September 15, five of the nations of Central America will celebrate their respective independence days. As chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, I want to congratulate the nations of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua

on the occasion of this day and to call to the attention of the Members of the House the great progress which the region as a whole has made toward peace, stability, and democracy.

The historic signing of the Guatemala Peace Accords last December 29 ushered in a period in which for the first time in almost 40 years, the entire Central American region is at peace. Even more significant is the fact that democracy is taking hold as evidenced by the fact that every current government in the region has been elected in what have been determined to be free and fair elections by both domestic and international observers. The economies of these nations seem to be making solid progress as growth, albeit slow, is being achieved through a combination of liberalization, modernization, and privatization. Further, it would appear that in general, an awareness and respect for human rights is on the increase and that the militaries of several of these nations are accepting their new roles under civilian leadership.

Nowhere are these last two issues more evident than in Guatemala. A recent subcommittee staff visit there found very encouraging signs that the peace process is taking hold thanks to the total commitment of President Arzu and the representatives of the URNG. And, the Guatemalan Congress is about to begin a historic debate on amending their Constitution to accommodate the political and economic reforms mandated by the accords. In the 9 months since the peace accords were signed, more than 3,000 former URNG combatants have been reintegrated into Guatemalan society. A Historical Clarification Commission has begun looking into 36 years of human rights abuses and atrocities committed against the general populace during the conflict years. And, the U.N. Verification Mission, MINUGUA, has stepped up its work in helping to strengthen organizations dealing with human rights issues. The significant U.S. financial commitment to this process as well as to programs we are funding in Nicaragua and El Salvador are clearly helping make these efforts successful.

This is not to say that there are not problems. Drug use and crime seem to be on the increase everywhere and nagging problems of poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, and infant mortality persist. But on the whole, Central America has moved beyond the crisis period of the past 15 years and has given us great cause for optimism.

So, Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the celebration of the independence of these nations, I want to congratulate each of these nations for the progress they are making and to express my hope that they continue on this impressive path.

TAX RELIEF FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, no one ever said that running a business was supposed to be easy. But Washington seems to want to make it more difficult. Small businesses need a break. And for the first time in 16 years, they

will get this long-awaited and much-deserved relief—a serious tax cut. The Taxpayer Relief Act is looking out for small businesses across the Nation.

Higher taxes and burdensome regulations are hurting America's small business community. Our Taxpayer Relief Act will relieve the tax burden on working Americans while simplifying the small business tax code. By offering estate tax relief as well as capital gains tax relief, we will ensure that businesses grow and prosper, while providing jobs and opportunities to many.

Mr. Speaker, not only do small businesses need a real break, they deserve one. They employ 53 percent of the private work force, contribute 47 percent of all sales in the country, and create millions of jobs each year. But yet Washington tax-and-spend values have led to the demise of many small businesses across the Nation. It doesn't have to be this way. Our plan ensure that this will not be the case in the future.

We want to see as many small businesses succeed as possible. They are critical to our economy. The Taxpayer Relief Act is good for small businesses and self-employed entrepreneurs. Under our plan, businesses will not only succeed, but will thrive and prosper for many years to come. Hard-working, tax-paying citizens have finally won a major victory. Relief is becoming a reality because the American people have spoken loudly and we have listened.

CONGRATULATING MICAH MORGAN, PACIFIC AREAS WINNER, VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY BROADCAST SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 1997

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, each year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its ladies auxiliary conduct the Voice of Democracy broadcast scriptwriting contest. Entries for this year's theme, "Democracy—Above and Beyond," were received from more than 109,000 secondary school students. Fifty-four national scholarships were distributed among the 54 national winners.

Mr. Micah Morgan is this year's Pacific areas winner. He is the recipient of a \$1,000 USS Battleship Maine Memorial Scholarship Award. Micah is a senior at Morrison Academy in Taichung, Taiwan. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Morgan and he plans a career in architecture.

As I congratulate Micah for being this year's Pacific areas winner, I would like to submit his speech for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

"DEMOCRACY-ABOVE AND BEYOND"

Deep in the jungle, a soldier fights. But he is not the first. He is the newest warrior in a battle that men have been fighting for centuries. Just as those soldiers did long ago, he fights against tyranny and oppression backed by brothers in his own country, as well as sympathizers around the world. He is not fighting in their name, however, nor is he fighting for any kingdom or revered leader, nor even his own comrades in arms. He is fighting for himself. He is fighting for the opportunity to provide for his family. He is

fighting so his children won't have to grow up in fear. He is fighting so that he and his wife will be able to express their opinions openly. He is fighting so that he can have a voice in who governs him. He is fighting for his right to be a man. He is fighting for an idea which began centuries ago, but one which has survived while so many other great ideas have passed away. He is fighting for Democracy. The only government in the world that will give him and his family the hope to keep going, the freedom to express their opinions and the opportunities to do something about it.

Democracy gives people hope because it listens to them and helps them and allows them to succeed. Hope: something that everyone wants and needs to keep going. It can come through a baby's smile, an encouraging word from a friend, or even just a beautiful day. Not much to ask, really, but still people in many countries don't even have hope. Millions of immigrants fled to America during the 1820's and 1830's because it gave them this hope. In their own countries, no matter how hard they worked, they could never overcome the lot that they have been dealt in life. But, in America, their work would be rewarded and they could see that their children started off better in life than they had. The hope of a brighter future is one factor which makes democracy a step ahead of the rest.

Freedom, something which many take for granted, but something for which many people are willing to give their lives. Hope is a wonderful thing but is a short-lived thing if there is no freedom in which to enjoy it. People can experience life more when they have freedom because they can develop their own thoughts, express their own opinions, and pick their own direction in life without worrying about somebody looking over their shoulder. Freedom is something people respond well to, but most governments in the world haven't realized this. They don't realize that allowing people to make their own choices can only aid the government, because people work better when they know that they are doing it for themselves. Democracy, on the other hand, gives people freedom and it takes advantage of the work that people are doing for their own sakes. Freedom unlocks spirit and, by giving its people freedom, Democracy takes one more giant leap ahead of the rest.

Opportunities are essential to a good government. Hope and freedom are wonderful but they only breed discontentment if the people are not given the opportunities to do something about it. Giving people hope and freedom without opportunities is like grooming, encouraging, and aiding a pitcher to become amazing, but then never putting him into a game. People with hope and freedom will exercise their opportunities to improve government, technology, society, and countless other things. No other form of government is willing, however, to give up the little bit of power that it takes to give people opportunities, in order to gain the great advancements that they will bring to the nation.

BLACK LUNG COMPENSATION

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 1997

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my opposition to regulations proposed by the Department of Labor regarding black lung compensation.