

very little legislation, Clinton never speaks of Johnson, who compiled a monumental domestic record.

It was to remind us of Johnson's impact on our lives and put a tidy historical end to the 1990s that scholars and former Johnson administration officials gathered recently at the Lyndon B. Johnson Library in Austin to look back across the generation gap at a period of almost unimaginable change.

This nation would be a far worse place had Lyndon Johnson not occupied the White House. He demanded that elderly patients get government help for health care through Medicare and Medicaid, blacks be granted the right to vote and enjoy equal access to public places, students be given financial aid for education, consumers be protected from fraud, poverty be assaulted with an array of education and employment initiatives and discrimination attacked with affirmative-action concepts.

This remarkable domestic revolution was overwhelmed by public outrage at Johnson for escalating a distant war in which more than 50,000 U.S. soldiers died. As a young student, Clinton himself dodged the draft to avoid being sent to Vietnam. Resentment of the war still fuels Clinton's chilly attitude toward Johnson even though Clinton has fought to perpetuate and expand most of LBJ's social programs.

But finally that war is fading into history. It was nearly a quarter century ago that we fled Saigon in defeat. Now diplomatic and trade ties are being restored and even battle-scarred veterans are returning there on sentimental visits.

If the war itself can recede, so can public anger at LBJ. He didn't live long enough to crusade for his own political rehabilitation, as Richard Nixon did. But time may do the task for him.

And despite decades of conservative scorn, the Great Society and the War on Poverty still exist, sometimes under different labels.

At the LBJ Library symposium, Joseph Califano Jr., a former Johnson White House assistant and Jimmy Carter's secretary of health, education and welfare, summed up LBJ's domestic record. And what a stunning record it is. He shoved through a reluctant Congress all sorts of radical ideas to help ordinary people.

For the first time, the federal government subsidized scholarships, grants and work-study programs to expand education opportunities for students from families with limited resources. Since 1965, the federal government has provided more than \$120 billion for elementary and secondary schools and billions for college loans.

Today, nearly 60 percent of full-time undergraduate students receive federal financial aid. When LBJ took office, only 41 percent of Americans had completed high school; only 8 percent held college degrees. Last year, more than 81 percent had finished high school and 24 percent had completed college.

Medicare and Medicaid provided millions of elderly Americans with health insurance for the first time. Since 1965, 79 million senior citizens have benefited from Medicare. Since 1966, more than 200 million poor Americans have been helped financially by Medicaid.

The food stamp program launched in 1967 helps to feed more than 20 million people in more than 8 million households. The school breakfast program begun the same year has provided a daily breakfast to nearly 100 million schoolchildren.

Johnson's civil rights act ended the officially segregated society that belied the American promise of freedom. No longer did blacks have to drink from separate water fountains and eat in separate restaurants.

No longer were they automatically denied equal opportunities for jobs and education.

Johnson was proudest of the Voting Rights Act, which outlawed all the sneaky practices that kept blacks from the ballot box. In 1964, there were only 300 black elected officials in the country; by 1998, there were more than 9,000. In 1965 there were five blacks in the House; today there are 39.

Although conservatives charge that LBJ's Great Society was a failure, Great Society projects like Head Start, the Job Corps, Community Health Centers, Foster Grandparents, Upward Bound and Indian and migrant worker programs helped reduce the number of Americans living in poverty. When LBJ took office, 22.2 percent of Americans lived below the poverty level. Today 13.3 percent are below that level, still too many but a trend in the right direction.

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#### A TRIBUTE TO CHIEF PAUL WALTERS

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#### HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Paul Walters of the Santa Ana Police Department in Orange County, CA. On July 14, 1999, Chief Walters will be honored with the Federal Bureau of Investigation Director's Award for exceptional public service and partnership with the FBI. It is fitting that we pay tribute to this outstanding citizen and leader.

Chief Walters' 29 years in law enforcement were preceded by numerous academic achievements—a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from California State University, Fullerton, a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Southern California and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the American College of Law. He began his career as the Santa Ana Chief of Police in 1988.

Since that time, Chief Walters has demonstrated skilled and innovative leadership. He has received numerous awards, including distinctions from the National League of Cities and Orange County Metro Business Magazine. He has also served as a distinguished member of several organizations dedicated to improving law enforcement's effectiveness and quality.

The 1993 creation of the Multi-Agency Safe Streets Task Force is one of Chief Walters' most admirable achievements. This move led to a significant reduction in Santa Ana's crime rate. In fact, Chief Walters' support helped ensure the success of the FBI's anti-crime and drug efforts in Orange County. Last but not least, he demonstrated his own police skills and experience when he brought decisive evidence to a high-profile local murder case through his collaboration with federal agents.

I thank my Congressional colleagues for joining me today in recognizing this remarkable man who has dedicated himself to serving his fellow citizens and neighbors. He has shown what kind of men and women America needs for its future.

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#### A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RICHARD C. BLAKE

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#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Richard C. Blake of Toledo, OH, a man of great stature and kindest heart, who passed from this life on June 4, 1999. I came to know Dick and his family through his passionate commitment to the credit union movement to which, as his family noted, he "dedicated 52 years . . . as both his vocation and avocation."

Employed by the former Champion Spark Plug in Toledo, Dick was a member of the Champion Credit Union. He served in many of the credit union's leadership positions over 37 years, including membership on the board of directors, on the Credit and Supervisory Committees, board president, and treasurer/CEO. Not limiting his involvement in promoting credit unions to just the Champion Credit Union, Dick rose to the highest levels of the movement. He served as president of the Toledo Chapter of Credit Unions, chairman of the board and director emeritus of the Ohio Credit Union League, and director of the Credit Union National Association.

Dick also focused his time on community involvement, and was a past master of Toledo-Fort Industry Lodge #144; past patron of Fort Industry Chapter #391; a member of the Scottish Rite; and a member of the Adams Township American Legion Post. He also was a member of the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #1610 and served on the finance committee of his church, Zion United Methodist. A water enthusiast, Dick belonged to the Toledo Yacht Club, Oak Harbor Long Beach Association, and the Coral Cay Association in Florida.

Dick's passing leaves a void in our community, but much more importantly within his loving family. Our heartfelt condolences to his wife of 57 years, Helen, and his children Becky, Kathy, and Bill, his eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Dick has touched the lives of thousands of people and made our community and country a more humane nation. We all are grateful for the privilege of knowing him.

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#### TRIBUTE TO THE 31ST COMMANDANT, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS, GENERAL CHARLES C. KRULAK

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#### HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, integrity, respect, and character have always been the centerpiece of the long and magnificent tradition of the United States Marine Corps. I cannot begin to praise our United States Marines for their reliability and devotion to our country and its history. But I would like to pay tribute today to a great American and friend who has served his country since he graduated from the Naval Academy in 1964.

General Charles C. Krulak stepped down from his position as the 31st Commandant of

the Marine Corps last month. General Krulak, who served his country for 35 years, leaves the Marines with countless honors. While serving two tours of duty in Vietnam, commanding during the Gulf War, and serving as Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Krulak earned numerous decorations and medals including the Defense Distinguished Service Medal; Silver Star Medal; Combat Action Rib-

bon; Vietnam Service Medal; and the Purple Heart.

However, these well deserved honors simply amplify the values of duty, honor, and country which General Krulak exemplified. His honest and candid assessments were always welcome and our military is a stronger force and America is better nation because of him.

I want to say thank you to this great man who has done so much for our country. His service to the United States will be missed, but not forgotten. I am sure our Marine Corps will continue to pursue and practice the lofty values that General Krulak instilled in America's troops. I would like to thank General Krulak and wish him the best of luck for the future