

Reserves in the Pentagon, Washington, DC, from March 1987 to November 1996 serving as the Manpower Branch head and then late as the Director, Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Mobilization. In November 1996, he was assigned to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs in the Materiel and Facilities Deputate as the Director of Materiel.

Among his awards and decorations are the Meritorious Service Medal with one star, Navy Commendation Medal with one star, Navy Achievement Medal, navy Unit Commendation with one star, Meritorious Unit Commendation with two stars, Battle "E" ribbon with two "E"s, Navy Expeditionary Medal with one star, National Defense Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with one star, and Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Bronze Hour Glass. He was appointed to the rank of captain on 01 August 1996.

Captain Sabol resides in Centerville, VA, with his wife Anne, also of Weirton, WV, and their two children, Bryon (19) and Alexis (16).

BICENTENNIAL OF RAVENNA, OHIO

HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, 1999 is a special year for Ravenna, Ohio. In 1799, on the cusp of a new century, Benjamin Tappan became the first settler of what is now Ravenna, in Portage County. The bicentennial of that humble beginning is being celebrated and commemorated throughout the year.

In many ways, Benjamin Tappan demonstrated in one person the diverse talents that have been so instrumental in America's growth. And, in much the same way, the story of Ravenna is the story of America.

Benjamin Tappan apprenticed as a copper-plate printer and engraver and studied portrait painting under Gilbert Stuart. He practiced law, served in the World War of 1812, and served in public life as a state senator, judge, canal commissioner, and U.S. Senator. He was, by all accounts, an independent thinker, an opponent of slavery, and a man of immense talents and principle. In short, an American archetype.

Just as Benjamin Tappan's life was characteristic of the early settlers of the wilderness that was Ohio, Ravenna's history is one of growth, adaptation, pride, and hard work.

In the 1820's, Ravenna benefitted from construction of the Pennsylvania and Ohio Canal, popularly known as "The Cross Cut," running from Akron to the Ohio River.

As technology and transportation changed, so did Ravenna. Beginning in the 1850's, the railroads arrived, gradually supplanting the canals. In the years following the Civil War, assisted by the railroads, Ravenna emerged as a manufacturing center. From glassworks to coaches, from woolen mills to cereal mills, and from foundries to rubber, Ravenna has made the tools that built America, the fabric that clothed America, the cereal that fed America, and the balloons that brightened America.

Today, access to both rail and highway transportation has helped Ravenna to attract and maintain industry, even as the region and the nation changed.

It could be said, Mr. Speaker, that there is nothing very special in any of this. Many towns, cities, and regions have changed as the nation and the economy have changed. But it is this apparent familiarity that makes Ravenna special—a community able to maintain its sense of self, its pride of achievement, celebrating its past while looking to the future. Like Benjamin Tappan, as American archetype.

The calendar of events marking this bicentennial is remarkable for its breadth, variety, and sense of fun. Two hundred trees have been planted to mark Ravenna's 200th birthday. There have been presentations of local history, workshops on making memory scrapbooks, a horse show, proclamations, and a golf outing. Still to come are a concert, a parade, fireworks, an art show, a raffle, trolley tours, and the 21st annual "Balloon-A-Fair," a continuing celebration of Ravenna's pride in its lighter-than-air heritage. In short, even as Ravenna celebrates, it cheerfully demonstrates the adage that "it's great to visit the past, but you don't have to live there to enjoy it." The past and the future share a home in Ravenna, Ohio.

At 200, Ravenna has a full, rich heritage, and on the cusp of another new century, the promise of even better things to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AMERICORPS YOUTH PRIDE PROGRAM

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the devoted men and women of the AmeriCorps Youth Pride Program. Youth Pride Program volunteers tutor and mentor 250 low-income youth to help ensure academic achievement in Florida City, Florida. It is both an honor and a privilege for me to pay tribute to such a noble effort.

In addition to helping these students with their academics, the Youth Pride Program provides after-school activities to approximately 350 students. With a 90% decrease in school suspensions and detentions among those served, the success rate of this after school program has been outstanding.

The Youth Pride Program is part of AmeriCorps, a national network of hundreds of community service groups throughout the United States. When President Clinton created AmeriCorps, he spoke about the virtue of service to the community. Like many Americans, I strongly believe that volunteerism provides extensive benefits to volunteer, recipients, and the community at large.

Throughout our nation's history, we have relied on the dedication and action of our citizens to tackle the biggest challenges. I am pleased to say that the AmeriCorps Youth Pride Program adds to this revered tradition. I wish to congratulate the entire staff and volunteer network of the Youth Pride Program on a job well done. This is truly an achievement of which the entire South Florida community can be proud.

COMMENDING ADAM JONES FOR HIS SERVICE AS A REPUBLICAN PAGE

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Adam Jones on the completion of his service as a Republican page in the House of Representatives.

During his tenure in the nation's capital, Adam proved himself to be a reliable and tireless worker. His work ethic and attention to detail helped ensure that the trains ran on time in the House of Representatives, and he will surely be missed by the individuals he worked closely with over the last year.

Adam is an outstanding young man and an excellent student. He has compiled a grade point average of 3.79 at Northville High School, where he has assumed numerous leadership positions. In addition, Adam has volunteered his time to work on several political campaigns in Oakland and Wayne Counties and has been active in his church.

I am honored that I had the opportunity to nominate Adam for the Republican page program. He capitalized on this wonderful opportunity to work and learn in our nation's capital and enhanced his understanding of politics and the legislative process.

I have the utmost confidence that Adam will continue to achieve success in the endeavors he pursues, and I wish him the very best during his senior year at Northville High.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, due to an unforeseen airline delay enroute to Washington, I was not present to vote on rollcall vote No. 335, the Hoeffel amendment to H.R. 1074. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment. I was also unable to vote on rollcall vote No. 336 on passage of H.R. 1074. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on this recorded vote.

CONGRATULATING PAT CAMPANILE'S STUDENTS AT SHADY LANE ELEMENTARY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a great day, on which 30 sixth grade students from the Shady Lane Elementary School reached all of the appropriate levels on their Terra Nova test. Ms. Pat Campanile's sixth grade class is an outstanding group of young people. I wish the best of luck to the following group of sixth graders who shared this special day with me at the Shady Lane School: Courtney Callahan, Nicholas Battee, Jaimie Beeker, Destiny Bingham,

Brian Buck, John Childress, Robert Kilcourse, Kody McMichael, Marisa Peters, Matthew Raively, Deborah Robinson, Karen Sabater, Donald Smith, Richard Smith, Marcus Smith, Ayana Thomas, Jessica Welch, George Williams, and Nylan Wolcott.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, last week I was not able to be present for rollcall votes 308–334. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way: 308—"yea"; 309—"yea"; 310—"yea"; 311—"yea"; 312—"yea"; 313—"no"; 314—"no"; 315—"no"; 316—"yea"; 317—"yea"; 318—"yea"; 319—"yea"; 320—"no"; 321—"yea"; 322—"yea"; 323—"yea"; 324—"no"; 325—"yea"; 326—"yea"; 327—"yea"; 328—"yea"; 329—"yea"; 330—"no"; 331—"yea"; 332—"yea"; 333—"no"; 334—"yea."

RECOGNIZING BISHOP MACRAM MAX GASSIS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I am submitting for the RECORD an article from the recent Washington Watch by the Family Research Council about Bishop Macram Max Gassis, a Roman Catholic bishop from Sudan. Over the years, Bishop Macram has tirelessly fought for justice for his people—the people of Southern Sudan and the Nuba Mountains who have suffered and died in great numbers during the war that has plagued the country for the past fifteen years.

Over 2 million people have died in Sudan—more than in Rwanda, Kosovo, Somalia and Bosnia combined. They often feel they are forgotten by the world.

Bishop Macram reminds us that these men, women and children must not be forgotten. He reminds us of their brave spirit, their hope in the midst of suffering and their quest for justice. He reminds us of our responsibility to speak out, take action and do what we can to help the people of Sudan.

I have been privileged to know Bishop Macram over the years.

A GENTLE GIANT OF FAITH

(By Bill Saunders)

In Sudan, just south of Egypt, where the church traces its roots to Apostolic times, a radical Islamic government is waging war on its own citizens—torturing and murdering Christians. In this war, the government regularly bombs innocent civilians, destroys their food supplies, poisons their only sources of clean water, desecrates their churches, supports the taking of their children as slaves, and forces non-Arab, non-Muslim people into refugee camps where they must convert to Islam or starve.

For years, the world has done little to help. The U.N. has allowed the Sudanese government to dictate where it can provide relief (thus, the most needy people starve).

Until recently, the U.S. focused little diplomatic effort on the problem, despite Sudan's strategic position as a bridge between black Africa and the Middle East, and despite the Sudanese government's avowed aim of exporting radical Islam throughout the world. Only recently, the House of Representatives passed a stinging resolution, finally and fairly condemning these practices by the Sudanese government. Senator Sam Brownback has introduced a similar resolution in the Senate but it remains to be seen whether the House will vote to take substantive action.

In the midst of this man-made hell on earth, one man stands out as he fights for justice. That man is Catholic Bishop Macram Max Gassis. Born in Sudan of ethnically mixed parents and educated in England, Italy, and the United States, the Bishop is an articulate modern-day prophet. The only Sudanese bishop born in the northern (Arab) part of the country, he is fluent in the Arabic language and understands those in the North who see all blacks as "slaves" and all Christians as "infidels".

Unlike so many others, he refuses to pretend the horror does not exist. He has spoken out before the European Parliament, the U.S. Congress, and the United Nations Human Rights Commission. He travels regularly to the West, particularly to the United States, to expose the evil in his country. His witness has inspired many, from Senator Brownback to Congressman Frank Wolf. He, like St. Paul, has spoken the truth to kings and governors.

In Sudan, the people revere Bishop Gassis for his courage. The government, angry that he has called it to account, has branded him a criminal. Whenever he travels back to his country, he risks being captured and possibly executed.

Undaunted, he returns to his diocese because his people need him. His presence inspires them. Every time he returns, he smuggles desperately needed supplies through enemy lines. In many areas, he is the only one providing assistance.

Despite his tribulations, the Bishop remains a gentle man, firmly committed to Christ. He has a special affection for children, particularly those children who were formerly enslaved, and is raising several hundred of them, orphaned by the raiders who abducted them. These children need food, clothing, shelter, education, and counseling, and he provides it. Because of this expression of Christian love, the children are joyful and, like Bishop Gassis, full of hope.

Christianity in Sudan, its ancestral home, is alive and growing. The church, through heroes like Bishop Gassis, refuses to be silenced. As he says, "though we in Sudan are being crucified, after every crucifixion, there comes a resurrection."

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2561) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Chairman, the House Department of Defense Appropriations Bill for FY00 provides an extremely important allocation

of resources in a serious effort to improve critical shortcomings affecting the readiness of our armed forces. This bill meets the budget authority and outlay limits set in the Committee's 302(b) allocation, provides a critical \$15.5 billion increase over appropriations in FY99, and provides \$2.8 billion above the President's request. This legislation goes a long way to address critical readiness, recruitment, retention, operational maintenance, and quality of life needs that are so important for our military. However, I am concerned about one aspect of the legislation's strategy, cutting programmed funding for the initial production of the Air Force's number one development priority, the F-22, Raptor.

We expect our military to remain the world's best, head and shoulders above any potential aggressor. We demand that our armed forces reign supreme in personnel, training, professionalism, and equipment. We do not want parity with our enemies, we demand superiority. We do not want to win conflicts by attrition but by overwhelming our foes. A most critical aspect of our superiority is our ability to achieve and maintain air superiority in any conflict. Furthermore, today Americans have grown to expect to win conflicts with minimal or even no casualties. The best trained pilots in the most advanced aircraft are the great enabler in any conflict whether to protect our Navy, or to allow the introduction and free maneuver of our ground forces. Air superiority is vital. Experience in modern warfare has continued to reflect the importance of this from success in World War II to operations during Desert Storm and Operation Allied Force.

The F-22 aircraft is being produced to replace the F-15 fighter and to accomplish its air superiority mission beginning in 2005. The F-15 currently represents 1960's technology and the aging fleet will average 26 years old when the F-22 is scheduled to be operational. Today's F-15's have served our country well, but in the future our pilots will be at risk. Its capabilities today are at parity with the Russian SU-27, MIG-29 and by 2005 will be at a disadvantage facing the Russian SU-35 or the French Rafael, and the European Fighter 2000 aircraft that will be available on the world market. Additionally, the surface to air missile threat continues to advance world wide. Today the SA-10 and SA-12 missile availability pose a threat to the F-15. Proliferation of SA-10 and SA-12 capability has increased from four countries in 1985 to fourteen in 1995 and an estimated 22 by 2005. The F-22 will have the capability to counter the surface to air missile threat through stealth technology, supercruise capability that will significantly reduce missile engagement opportunity, maneuverability and unequalled pilot awareness.

The F-22 aircraft does bear costs, \$19 billion has been invested to date, but the cost and advanced technology provide significant efficiencies and long term savings. The F-22 will reduce by half the number of maintenance personnel for each aircraft. It is expected to have 30 percent reduction in direct operations and sustainment costs per squadron per year when compared to the F-15. A quicker combat turnaround time will allow higher sortie rates during a conflict. The F-22 program costs are under control and are within the Congressionally mandated cost caps for both development and production. This plane utilizes cutting edge technology to ensure our Air Force continues to maintain our nation's superiority in air combat.