

Adm. Bringle was a member of the exclusive Early and Pioneer Naval Aviators Association, an honor society of some 200 members.

He is survived by his wife, Donnie Godwin Bringle; a daughter, Lynn Riegle of Thompson's Station, Tenn.; and a son, Donald of San Diego.

Memorial services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Monday at the North Island Naval Air Station chapel. Donations are suggested to the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Fund, Alumni House, King George Street, Annapolis, MD 21402.

ADMIRAL WILLIAM F. BRINGLE, UNITED STATES NAVY, RETIRED

William Floyd Bringle was born in Covington, Tennessee, on April 23, 1913. He attended Byars-Hall High School in Covington, and Columbia Military Academy, Columbia, Tennessee, and entered the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, on appointment from his native state on July 6, 1933. As a Midshipman he was a member of the Naval Academy Football Team (N* award). He was graduated and commissioned Ensign on June 3, 1937, and through subsequent advancement attained the rank of Rear Admiral, to date from January 1, 1964; Vice Admiral, to date from November 6, 1967 and Admiral, to date from July 1, 1971.

After graduation from the Naval Academy in June 1937, he was assigned to the USS SARATOGA until February 1940, with engineering, communications and gunnery duties on board that carrier, operating in the Pacific. In April 1940 he reported to the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida, for flight training, and was designated Naval Aviator in December of that year. Detached from Pensacola in January 1941, he joined the USS MILWAUKEE, and served as Senior Aviator on board that cruiser until December 1942. During the eight months to follow, he served as Commanding Officer of Cruiser Scouting Squadron TWO.

From September to November 1943 he had training at the Naval Air Station, Melbourne, Florida, and in December formed the first Observation Fighting Squadron (VOF-1) during World War II. He commanded that squadron throughout the period of hostilities. For outstanding service while in command of that squadron during the invasion of Southern France and Pacific operations in the vicinity of Sakishima, Nansei Shoto invasions of Luzon and Iwo Jima and operations in the Inkinawa and Philippine Islands areas, he was awarded the Navy Cross, the Distinguished Flying Cross with Gold Star in lieu of five additional awards and the Air Medal with Gold Stars in lieu of sixteen similar awards.

He is also entitled to the Ribbon with Star for, and facsimiles of, the Navy Unit Commendation awarded the USS MARCUS ISLAND and USS WAKE ISLAND and their Air Groups for heroic service in the Western Carolines, Leyte, Luzon, and Okinawa Gunto Areas. He was also awarded the Croix de Guerre with Silver Star by the Government of France for heroism while commanding Observation Fighting Squadron ONE during the Allied Invasion of Southern France in August 1944 before he moved his squadron to the Pacific.

After the Japanese surrender, from October 1945 until October 1946 he was Air Group Commander of Group SEVENTEEN, and when detached he returned to the Naval Academy for duty at Battalion Officer. He remained there until June 1948, then for two years was Air Group Commander of Carrier Air Group ONE, based on the USS TARAWA and USS PHILIPPINE SEA. Again at the Naval Academy, he served from June 1950

until July 1952 as a member of the Superintendent's Staff. The next year he spent as a student at the Naval War College, Newport, and from July 1953 to December 1954 served as Executive Officer of the USS HORNET (CVG-17).

In January 1955 he reported to the Navy Department, Washington, D.C., for duty as Head of the Operational Intelligence Branch in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and on August 24, 1955, was transferred to duty as Naval Aide to the Secretary of the Navy. He commanded Heavy Attack Wing TWO from August 1957 until June 1958, after which he had duty until August 1960 as Commandant of Midshipmen at the Naval Academy.

Ordered to the USS KITTY HAWK, building at the New York Shipbuilding Corporation, Camden, New Jersey, he served as Prospective Commanding Officer until she was placed in commission, April 29, 1961, then as Commanding Officer. In June 1962 he was assigned to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, where he served as Assistant Director of the Aviation Plans Division until January 1963, then was designated Director of that division. On April 6, 1964, he assumed command of Carrier Division SEVEN. "For exceptionally meritorious service as Commander Attack Carrier Striking Force SEVENTH Fleet and as Commander Task Group SEVENTY-SEVEN POINT SIX from March 29 to June 29, 1965, and as Commander Task Force SEVENTY-SEVEN from May 26 through June 27, 1965 . . ." he was awarded the Legion of Merit with Combat "V".

On July 12, 1965 he became Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Operations to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet and was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of the Second Legion of Merit for exercising ". . . forceful supervision and outstanding direction over each of the many diverse and complex operations conducted by the Pacific Fleet . . ." In November 1967 he became Commander SEVENTH Fleet and for "exceptionally meritorious service . . . was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal and Gold Star in lieu of a Second similar award for combat operations in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam conflict.

In March 1970 he became Commander Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, with headquarters at the Naval Air Station, North Island, San Diego, California. For ". . . his distinguished and dedicated service . . ." in that capacity, from March 1970 to May 1971, he was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of the Third Legion of Merit. In July 1971 he reported as Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Europe and Naval Component Commander of the U.S. European Command with additional duty as United States Commander Eastern Atlantic. "For exceptionally meritorious service . . . from July 1971 to August 1973 . . ." he was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of the Third Distinguished Service Medal. The citation further states in part:

" . . . Admiral Bringle displayed inspirational leadership, outstanding executive ability and exceptional foresight in directing the complex and manifold operations of his command in the execution of United States national policy . . . "

Returning to the United States, Admiral Bringle had temporary duty at Headquarters Naval District, Washington, D.C. from September 1973 and on January 1, 1974 was transferred to the Retired List of the U.S. Navy.

In addition to the Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Medal with two Gold Stars, Legion of Merit with two Gold Stars and Combat "V", Distinguished Flying Cross with five Gold Stars, Air Medal with sixteen Gold Stars, the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon with two stars, and the French Croix

de Guerre with Silver Star, Admiral Bringle has the American Defense Service Medal; American Campaign Medal; European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one operation star; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with four operation stars; World War II Victory Medal; Navy Occupation Service Medal; Europe Clasp; China Service Medal; National Defense Service Medal with bronze star; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with two stars, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon.

Married to the former Donnie Godwin of Coronado, California, Admiral Bringle has two children, Rosalind Bringle Thorne and Donald Godwin Bringle. His official residence is 1639 Peabody Street, Memphis, Tennessee, the home of his mother.

TRADE DEFICIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, our scientists have just discovered a new fault line that exists underneath downtown Los Angeles. This fault line, called Puente Hills, is 25 miles long and 10 miles wide and it was invisible until recently. The 1987 Whittier Narrows quake, which caused eight deaths and \$358 million worth of damage, was the result of a rupture of just 10 percent of the Puente Hills fault line. Obviously, this fault line has the potential to do a great deal of harm to the good people in Los Angeles and we would be foolish to ignore it.

But, Mr. Speaker, there is another fault line in America that is invisible to our eyes, the American economy. And the American workers are sitting on a fault line that is shifting below us; and, like many in Los Angeles, we are ignoring it, hoping it will go away. The fault line is our trade deficit. And as it grows, America is at greater risk of our very economic foundation being rocked.

We recently learned that the trade deficit grew to its highest level in the last decade, projected again this year at over \$250 billion. According to the Commerce Department just this past month, \$93.76 billion worth more of imports landed on our shores while our exports again fell. These are not just numbers. They are part of the shifting ground underneath America's economic feet. And for some, they could not escape the cracks in the ground.

I am talking about workers like the 6,000 at the Levi's plants, most of them women, that recently packed up and closed to ship manufacturing to undemocratic nations overseas. I am talking about the workers at Huffy Bicycle in Ohio who lost their jobs to Mexico's exploited workforce, or the thousands of workers at Anchor Glass or General Electric or Henry I. Siegel or VF Knitwear or Zenith Television or Dole Food, and the list goes on. They have seen the ground shift and they felt the earthquake. They have just seen some of the consequences of a growing trade deficit.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, between 1979 and 1994 nearly 2.5 million jobs in our country were lost to America's backward trade policy, which says to America's workers the solution for them is to work for shrinking wages and benefits and net worth in order to buy more imported products from places where workers have absolutely no rights.

The second consequence of the trade deficit is its crippling effect on wages here at home. Workers who lose their manufacturing jobs still have to find some way to feed, clothe, and educate their families; and usually that is in the form of a service job with a substantial pay and benefit cut.

The Economic Policy Institute points out that increasing imports from low-wage, undemocratic countries are contributing to decreasing wages of our workers. Our U.S. firms and workers are forced to cut their standards of living to compete. They cut wages or cut hours or cut benefits to reduce costs. And as a result, our workers are finding that their real buying power of their wages has been declining for almost 15 years. In fact, the growing gigantic trade deficit literally lops off a whopping 25 percent of the economic bang that would occur inside this economy if in fact our trade ledger was balanced.

Probably the biggest consequence of this deficit is what it does to our long-term competitiveness, as America writes off one industry after another: televisions, electronics, clothing, recently steel. We have seen how many parts of this economy have been savagely hit.

Mr. Speaker, this fault line in America cannot be ignored. We can see the consequences getting worse every year. But the people being hurt cannot afford high-powered lobbyists in this city. If we want American workers to be able to increase their net worth, save for their futures, invest in the stock market, start their own small businesses, we need to make sure our economic foundation is rock solid.

Mr. Speaker, we ignore this trade deficit, this fault line, at our own peril.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, first I want to thank my colleagues who have spoken so eloquently tonight about the importance of Women's History Month or who have submitted statements for the RECORD.

I want to especially thank my Republican colleague the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) for being here this evening and also for submitting her statement on the RECORD for the contribution of African American women in America's history.

We are, in the month of March, proudly celebrating the achievements

of all women in this Nation. I come this evening to take a few minutes to briefly talk about the history of Women's History Month and to celebrate the contributions of women, especially African American women, the contributions which they have made to this country and the world.

Back in 1978, the first Women's History Week celebration was initiated in Sonoma County, CA, which is now represented by a great woman, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY), who serves here with us in this Congress. It began in Sonoma County as a means of introducing students and teachers to the many contributions that women of all cultures have made to the building of this Nation.

Three years later, the idea of celebrating Women's History Week began to spread across this Nation and the National Women's History Project was created to provide technical assistance to educators and community organizers and to produce and distribute women's history materials.

In 1981, then Representative, now Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI, and Senator ORRIN HATCH cosponsored a joint congressional resolution proclaiming the week of March 8 National Women's History Week. The success of National Women's History Week and the availability of information on women's history necessitated expanding the celebration to a full month.

In 1987, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress to expand the celebration to the entire month of March. The resolution was approved with bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate.

Today schools, communities, and workplaces celebrate the month with special curriculum and events. The popularity of women's history celebrations has sparked a new interest in uncovering women's forgotten heritage. It has allowed all Americans to learn more about women who have made a tremendous impact on our Nation's history.

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Women's history is really a new way of looking at events and individuals that have made this country what it is today. History as it has been traditionally taught has virtually excluded women and people of color. One would think that someone would have noticed that half of the United States population is missing from our history. Textbooks, curricula and academic research has been silent about the impact that women and people of color have made. The silences have made women's accomplishments and contributions to American life invisible.

Mr. Speaker, the history of African American women's participation in American politics must recognize our involvement in traditional political acts such as registering, voting and holding office, but also those nontraditional activities in which we engaged long before we had access to the ballot.

Because African-American women are simultaneously members of the two groups that have suffered the Nation's most blatant exclusions from politics, African American and women, our political behavior has been largely really overlooked.

African-American women organized slave revolts, established underground networks and even sued for the right to vote. Public records reveal that many African-American women were involved in the abolition movement and were active participants in the early women's rights movement. African-American women's political activities have largely been directed towards altering our disadvantaged status as African Americans and women and making sure that this country lives up to its responsibilities for equality and justice for all people.

Today, we look at African-American women holding political office as a very recent experience. African-American women who have previously served in this Congress include my mentor, our first African-American woman who served here, Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, as well as Barbara Jordan, Yvonne Braithwaite Burke, Cardiss Collins, Katie Hall and Barbara Rose Collins. I stand here as the 171st woman, the 100th African American and the 19th African-American woman ever to have the privilege of serving in this body. I stand here because of those who came before us. I stand here as a result of the work of many of those individuals, and in the words of the Honorable Shirley Chisholm, "We all came here to serve as a catalyst for change."

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. I want to thank the gentlewoman for yielding, and I certainly want to thank the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) for giving us the opportunity to have a moment.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia.

TRIBUTE TO DR. YVONNE BOND MILLER

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge this month as Women's History Month and to honor the contributions of a distinguished African-American woman, Dr. Yvonne Bond Miller.

Dr. Miller is the first black woman to serve in the Virginia House of Delegates and the first black woman to serve in the Virginia Senate. She is the first woman of any race to serve as chair of a Senate committee in the State of Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, Women's History Month is a time to recognize and give thanks to those women who dared to brave uncharted waters so that we may all fully participate in our society.

As we pay tribute to women for their vast contributions to our nation, I'd like to formally salute Dr. Miller as an educator and as the first African American woman to serve in the Virginia House of Delegates and Virginia Senate. She has been widely recognized for her