

they are forced to get in line in the chain supply, a growing food for a narrowing market. Even further, it will erode the independence of farmers by shifting major decision making to a handful of corporate firms and executives. America is a great Nation because we were built on a strong moral threshold. That is to say, in part we have strongly encouraged small businessmen to freely enter the fair market system.

Unfortunately, the corporate conglomerates now stand between hundreds of thousands of producers and millions of consumers as they manipulate the markets to their own advantage. This is seriously handicapping our farmers and ranchers and consumers also, Mr. Speaker.

We all know that big agribusiness, like ConAgra, Cargill and IBP, need American producers more than farmers and ranchers need big agribusiness. So, again, remember we know from history that concentration of economic decision making in a small number of hands is the least productive and the least beneficial system. Ultimately, it only serves as the road to serfdom for American farmers.

Take, for instance, Communism. It took what Karl Marx called, quote, the means of production, and consolidated it into one giant entity, the government. That is what Communism did. It gave a small group of people control over the farms, the factories and even the roads and rivers. Yes, that is precisely what is happening here today, except that it is the corporate monopoly that is gaining a stranglehold on the means of production.

To make matters worse, the Federal Government is giving its winking approval. This is brutally wrong and against American principles and public policy that we have historically been able to rely on.

Mr. Speaker, the time has now come for the Clinton administration to use the powers at its disposal under the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921 to provide a fair beef marketplace. The measure was enacted to prevent these kinds of anticompetitive practices by the big corporate giants. Undoubtedly, there is something wrong when the conglomerates are allowed to operate in blatant violation of Federal laws.

□ 1915

In fact, meat packers today look right into our eyes with a straight face, when their monopolistic practices remain unchecked by existing law, but they go ahead and deny that they are even regulated. This is a mockery of our existing laws and the justice system that we are supposed to be able to rely on.

I believe in a fair and competitive marketplace. However, I am very concerned that the individual agricultural producers have been overwhelmed by threats of predatory pricing. The time has come to restore the market balance between small producers and big agribusiness.

To help in this, legislative measures such as H.R. 1144, the Country of Origin Meat Labeling Act of 1999, which I introduced, complete price reporting, as well as other measures addressing anticompetitive practices by the meat packers, will give hope and encouragement to American producers and security to American consumers, because with this act coming into law, American consumers will know the country of origin which the meat came from.

Let me conclude by pointing out that the very powerful words of Theodore Roosevelt still ring true. President Roosevelt states in his March 4, 1905, inaugural address, "Never before have men tried so vast and formidable of an experiment as that of administering the affairs of a continent under the forms of a Democratic republic. The conditions which have told our marvelous material well-being, which have developed to a very high degree our energy, self-reliance and individual initiative, have also brought the care and anxiety inseparable from the accumulation of great wealth in these industries."

Mr. Speaker, these are important words.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES L. CADIGAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TANCREDI). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. DELAHUNT) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, throughout American history, our men and women in uniform have constantly risen to the challenge of our national defense, putting life and limb at risk for our security. This Nation, and the liberty for which it stands throughout the world, owes our veterans a deep and ongoing debt of gratitude.

Some would say that this debt is repaid in Memorial Day observances. But we all know what veterans, from the Revolution to the Kosovo campaign, appreciate most is respect. Respect for their commitment. Their sacrifice. Their medical needs. Respect for what they went through, so that we would not have to suffer. Respect for the families of friends who never made it home.

Tonight I take the floor of the United States House of Representatives to share with you the story of one soldier who has never received the respect I believe he is owed. His picture is to my right in his uniform holding a child. His name is Jim Cadigan, from the community of Hingham in the district in Massachusetts which I represent.

Once in a great while an individual serves this country with special distinction. When ordinary people demonstrate such extraordinary valor, official recognition not only honors the heroism, but also uplifts the entire Nation, whose freedom is safeguarded by such courage. Unfortunately, official recognition of this soldier's bravery has been less than forthcoming.

On a German battlefield in 1945, Lieutenant James Cadigan acted instinctively and against almost inconceivable odds to protect his platoon and apprehend dozens of armed enemy troops. For his selflessness, he earned the lifelong admiration of his comrades. But the Army that Jim served with such fierce loyalty has dismissed repeated recommendations, to express the degree of respect his bravery deserved.

Over the 3 years I have been privileged to serve in this chamber, I have labored to ensure a fair shake for Mr. Cadigan's candidacy to receive a Congressional Medal of Honor. Regrettably, Jim had more success on that German battlefield than in the corridors of the Pentagon. Thus, to honor the 55th anniversary of his heroism, I rise tonight as one grateful Member of Congress to salute Lieutenant Cadigan publicly for all he did for us.

To do so, I need only describe his remarkable acts of heroism. As you will see, the facts more than speak for themselves.

On February 26, 1945, Second Lieutenant James Cadigan, a Member of Company C, the 20th Armored Infantry Battalion, 10th Armored Division, led a platoon advancing on the German town of Zerf. Upon hearing that a second platoon had been ambushed and was pinned down by enemy fire, Lieutenant Cadigan, without concern for his own safety, charged fortified enemy positions perched on high ground and single-handedly wiped out two German machine gun nests.

Dozens of witnesses have testified that Lieutenant Cadigan killed or wounded 50 Germans, then took another 85 prisoner. The trapped U.S. platoon was able to escape and reorganize, saving scores of American lives. Most of these men made it back to the United States after the war. Without Jim Cadigan's heroism, it is likely that none of those men, or their children, grandchildren or great grandchildren, would be alive today.

One of Jim's comrades, Thomas Tomae of Irvington, New Jersey, reported, "Like the other men, I know that we never would have gotten out of there alive if Lieutenant Cadigan hadn't knocked out the 2 Nazi machine guns that were closing in on us."

From another comrade, John Milanak of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: "All of us were sure we would be killed that day. It was just like a miracle. I thanked God many times, but never more than that day. I say thank God for Lieutenant Cadigan. He saved so many lives."

When the smoke of the battle of Zerf cleared, Lieutenant Cadigan's commanding officer, Captain Melvin Mason, immediately began preparations to recommend him for the Congressional Medal of Honor. Before Captain Mason could submit the referral, however, he was seriously wounded in action himself and spent over a year convalescing in the hospital. Jim Cadigan's battalion commander was killed in action shortly thereafter.

With both of Lieutenant Cadigan's superiors out of action, and in the swirl of post-war homecomings, the Medal of Honor recommendation was not filed in a timely fashion under the statutory requirements then in effect. In fact, it was not until 1950 that Captain Mason inquired whether the commendation had been awarded.

When told that Jim Cadigan had not been recognized for his heroism, Mason and other comrades-in-arms began the arduous task of assembling eyewitness affidavits and other documentation from around the United States establishing his claim to the Medal of Honor.

This resolve resulted in Jim's being awarded the Silver Star in 1977, pending resolution of Captain Mason's Medal of Honor recommendation. The Silver Star is indeed a great honor, but not what those who know of Jim's deeds feel his heroism earned.

Why did Captain Mason devote himself to this task? Just listen to his account of that day in Zerf some 55 years ago. Again, I am quoting.

Through these acts of bravery, two platoons were saved from being wiped out. His actions made it possible for us to get our wounded evacuated, reorganize and continue our attack. His inspiring leadership and amazing acts of courage revived the spirit and energy of all of the men and contributed most significantly to the capture of Zerf.

These acts were most extraordinary, since Lieutenant Cadigan repeatedly exposed himself to deadly enemy fire, and again and again risked his life to save the rest of his comrades from what seemed to be certain death and defeat by the enemy. It would not normally be expected that any one man should carry a machine gun by himself through deadly enemy fire and single-handedly knock out two enemy machine guns.

Lieutenant Cadigan's quick reactions had changed his comrades' lives, but they carried far less weight within the Pentagon. Having awarded him the Silver Star, the Army washed its hands of his case. Why? Because the Medal of Honor paperwork had not been turned in on time. There was no chance for a review of the merits of his case because, as far as the Army was concerned, proper procedure had not been followed.

Imagine how many American lives would have been lost on that day in 1945 if Jim Cadigan had followed "proper procedure."

As word spread about the way the Army was treating Jim, veterans from across the country proceeded to rally to his cause. At his division's annual Labor Day reunion, the question is always the same: Has Jim received his Medal of Honor yet?

Many of you here this the chamber have heard from his supporters, his admirers. Some of you have joined with my predecessors and with me in introducing and cosponsoring specific legislation on his behalf. But the Army successfully argued against each of these bills, ostensibly because of the missed paperwork deadline.

As you know, Congress went to the lengths of amending Federal statutes

governing cases like Jim's. Section 526 of the 1996 Defense Authorization Act explicitly provided for Pentagon review on the merits of potential Medal of Honor awards upon the personal petition of a Member of Congress.

Where I am from, Jim's story is well known. To say "Jim Cadigan" is the same as saying "hero." It has also become legendary how the military has treated him.

When I was sworn in as his Congressman in 1997, Jim Cadigan became one of my top personal priorities. I studied how the Army had handled my predecessor, Congressman Gary Studds', Section 526 review, and found an inexcusably inaccurate interpretation of its obligations under the statute.

In calling for reexamination of the evidence, I wrote to then Secretary Togo West that the Pentagon was required to "review the case afresh, not merely post-date an old rejection letter." It seemed to me that this was the time for proper procedure. Accordingly, I resubmitted a personal request for reconsideration of his case on its merits in accordance with Section 526 and backed it up with new legislation.

At the risk of raising Jim's blood pressure, let me recount what the review which followed by the Senior Army Deliberations Board was, what happened.

□ 1930

Well, the offices conducting this review never interviewed lieutenant Cadigan or any of the surviving eyewitnesses. They never requested a single document. They made a habit of ignoring inquiries from Members of Congress, and they took nearly 2 years, literally, to complete the review.

The result consisted in its entirety of a handwritten checkmark in a preprinted box which indicated that the petitioner did not meet the standard for the award of the medal of honor: as an expression of basic human compassion, I implored Army officials to speak directly to Mr. Cadigan or at least to review the results of this torturous process. Even a simple expression of common courtesy took on cosmic proportions within the Pentagon.

By the second year, when it became rather clear how this review of the merits would end, I requested in advance a copy of the complete record on which any final decision was based. The package I ultimately received fit in a very small envelope.

Notwithstanding the affidavits about the Battle of Zerf, it appeared that Army officials either did not read the materials or concluded that Jim and so many others were not to be believed.

Since a checkmark does not really answer these questions, I again sought a clarification of the rationale for the Pentagon's decision. I was told that the Army saw Jimmy's heroic acts as nothing more than what "we expect a platoon leader in combat to take" and that "the evidence presented did not meet the standard for an award of the Medal of Honor."

That sounded to me like a lot less like a rationale than like a rationalization.

It came as no surprise that I disagreed with the Army's decision, but I was most deeply disappointed that the decorations board record contained no analysis, no discussion, and no justification for the decision. It was, thus, impossible to determine how this decision was reached.

I understood from the beginning that this was an uphill battle. This is one brave soldier for whom adversity has never been an obstacle. While he expects no charity, however, he also abides no disrespect. Nor do the many comrades who have stood shoulder to shoulder with Jim Cadigan through the years, like Len Morris, an Army infantryman who landed on Omaha Beach and whose unit was fighting on February 26, 1945 in Luxembourg, only 10 miles from the Battle of Zerf. And John Donlon, another son of Quincy in the D-Day invasion who wrote me, and again I am quoting:

Lieutenant Cadigan's gallant leadership for his men is an act of valor and the nobility of spirit and should be boldly and eloquently commemorated. We must glorify the values and ideals of a great Nation whose people came together in one of its finest hours and who offered up their lives to defeat the ruthless aggression of the forces of tyranny.

Mr. Speaker, over the past 55 years, international alliances have come and gone; the Cold War has boiled over and cooled down. Americans in uniform have served their country in many strange and far-away places. American society itself has been dramatically transformed and retransformed.

Throughout the tumult and turmoil of the last 55 years, certain universal values, however, have remained strong: commitment, courage, sacrifice, loyalty. But these are nothing more than lofty words chiseled in some granite memorial until they are brought to life by inspired acts like those of Lieutenant Jim Cadigan.

Jim Cadigan personified those values on that German battlefield 55 years ago; and he still does today, stirring the hearts of nearly all who hear his story.

None of this is lost on the members of Jimmy's family whose hearts ache every time they review this ordeal. Recently, his daughter, Mary, said to me, and again I am quoting, "It is shameful that a great soldier and leader is ignored all those years." Well, I agree with Mary. So if the United States Army cannot see fit to adequately honor a true American hero like James Cadigan, then I will do so as a Member of Congress.

Jim, we recall all those you saved 55 years ago as well as those who never made it home; and we thank you for the sacrifices you and your generation made so that we can enjoy the freedom we take for granted today. Jim, we thank you for saving so many American lives on that battlefield in 1945, enabling those young men to return to

our soil and raise their own families, and for risking your life and your family's future for our sake.

Jim, thank you for proving that such qualities as commitment, courage, sacrifice, and loyalty still count for so much. And Jim, although the Army has denied you the Medal of Honor you deserve, in my eyes and in the eyes of those who really know what happens on the battlefield, you have already earned your Nation's highest honor and gratitude. You do not need a piece of medal pinned to your chest to prove that.

Jim Cadigan, in the name of the American people and the men whose lives you saved, I salute you as a true American hero.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. TANNER (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of attending a funeral of a personal friend in the district.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of personal reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LIPINSKI, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SMITH of Washington, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WU, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DOGGETT, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. STABENOW, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DOOLEY of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. WELDON of Florida) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, March 21 and 22.

Mr. GEKAS, for 5 minutes, March 16.

Mr. SOUDER, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. ROHRBACHER, for 5 minutes, today.

The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. MILLER of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported

that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1000. An act to amend title 49 United States Code, to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, March 16, 2000, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6590. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Almonds Grown in California; Revisions to Requirements Regarding Credit for Promotion and Advertising Activities [Docket No. FV99-981-4 FIR] received February 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6591. A letter from the Administrator, RMA, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Potato Crop Insurance Certified Seed Endorsement—received January 11, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6592. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Onions Grown in South Texas; Change in Container Requirements [Docket No. FV00-959-2 IFR] received February 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6593. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the directive to study the need and appropriate criteria for two possible new decorations for individuals who are killed or injured in the line of duty while serving under competent authority with the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

6594. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Prompt Corrective Action—received February 17, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

6595. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the 1996 activities report on environmental assessment, restoration, and cleanup activities required by section 120(e)(5) of the Comprehensive Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); to the Committee on Commerce.

6596. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Over-The-Counter Human Drugs; Labeling Requirements; Final Rule; Technical Amendment [Docket Nos. 98N-0337, 96N-0420, 95N-0259, 90P-0201] (RIN: 0910-AA79) received January 11, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

6597. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Department's final rule—Findings of Significant Contribution and Rulemaking on Section 126 Petitions for Purposes of Reducing Interstate Ozone Transport [FRL-6522-9] received January 10, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

6598. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Competitive Pricing Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Access Charge Reform [CC Docket No. 96-262, FCC 98-257] received January 11, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

6599. A letter from the Chief Counsel (Foreign Assets Control), Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Reporting and Procedures Regulations: Mandatory License Application Form for Unblocking Funds Transfers—received February 25, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

6600. A letter from the Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting the new mileage reimbursement rate for Federal employees who use privately owned automobiles while on official travel; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6601. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the amended Commercial Activities Inventory; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6602. A letter from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule to List the Riparian Brush Rabbit and the Riparian, or San Joaquin Valley, Woodrat as Endangered (RIN: 1018-AE40) received February 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

6603. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Water and Science, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Information Requirements for Certain Farm Operations In Excess of 960 Acres and the Eligibility of Certain Formerly Excess Land (RIN: 1006-AA38) received February 17, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

6604. A letter from the Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Services, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Status for *Erigeron decumbens* var. *decumbens* (Wilamette daisy) and Fender's blue butterfly (*Icaricia icarioides fenderi*) and Threatened Status for *Lupinus sulphureus* ssp. *kincaidii* (Kincaid's lupine) (RIN: 1018-AE53) received January 21, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

6605. A letter from the Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the report on the Apportionment of Regional Fishery Management Council (RFMC) Membership in 1999; to the Committee on Resources.

6606. A letter from the Chairman, Commission On The Advancement Of Federal Law Enforcement, transmitting the final report entitled, "Law Enforcement In A New Century And A Changing World"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6607. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Aircraft Engines CF34 Series Turbofan Engines