

addition to periodic deployments in support of military activities all over the world, the Guam National Guard has been instrumental in recovery efforts on island in the aftermath of emergencies and natural disasters. They have also made tremendous contributions towards mentoring and the development of the island's youth and they have also assisted the local community in its campaign against illegal drugs.

On this, their 20th anniversary, I would like to commend the men and women of the Guam National Guard for their contributions towards the security of our nation and the well being of our island. I would also like to submit for the RECORD the names of the Guam National Guard's 32 charter members who, twenty years ago continued the traditions of their forebears and paved the way for today's men and women on the Guam National Guard.

GUAM NATIONAL GUARD CHARTER MEMBERS
AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Brig. Gen. Robert H. Neitz; TSgt George R. Quichocho; SSgt Raymond L. Taimanglo; SrA Juan G. San Nicolas; SrA Alfred Flores; SrA George C. Pablo; SrA Carlos E. Umayam; A1C Prudencio F. Meno

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

CPT Arthur W. Meilicke; 2LT Molly A. Benavente; 2LT Michael G. Martinez; CW2 Charles Guantlett; WO1 Charles W. Walters; SSG Roland M. Chargualaf; SSG Benjamin B. Garrido; SSG Ladislao C. Quintanilla; SSG Carlos R. Untalan; SGT Edward R. Blas; SGT Charles F. Moore; SGT Joseph J. Sablan; SGT Thomas R. Wolford; SP4 Dedia T. Kellum; SP4 Raymond C. Benavente; SP4 Ricardo Camacho; SP4 Lorenzo M. Manibusan; SP4 James E. Thurman; PFC Raymond P. Cruz; PFC David G. Rodriguez; PFC Jesse R. Camacho; PV1 Marcelande I. Castro; PV1 Marcie T. Paulino; PV1 Jeffrey I. Santos

CONTRIBUTION OF HMONG/LAO VETERANS

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute and honor the important work of Hmong and Lao-Americans in my district in Pennsylvania for their efforts on behalf of their community in Reading and their former homeland of Laos. Many of them are veterans, or the family members of veterans, who served with the United States military and clandestine forces during the Vietnam War, and who have now become proud U.S. citizens.

As new Americans, the Hmong and Lao people from Reading, and other parts of Pennsylvania, are still very concerned about their suffering families and friends still being oppressed by the one-party Communist regime in Laos. Many of my constituents recently traveled from Pennsylvania to Capitol Hill to participate in the U.S. Congressional forum on Laos. At the forum, they offered testimony and evidence regarding human rights abuses in Laos, including: religious persecution against Christians and Buddhists; the oppression of ethnic minorities; and the crackdown against

peaceful student demonstrators. The Lao Veterans of America helped to make this effort a success by raising awareness in Congress about the ongoing problems in Laos. Important community leaders that have participated include Mr. Tong Vue, Mr. Nhia Pao Vue, Reverend Song Chai Hang, Long Yang, and others. I am also very grateful to Mr. Philip Smith for his work in Washington, D.C. and the U.S. Congress with regard to Laos and Southeast Asia, and with the Asian American community in my district.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to represent the Hmong and Lao-American citizens in my Congressional district, including the veterans and their refugee families, who were staunch allies of the United States during the Vietnam War. It is important for us to recognize and commend them. It is also important not to forget their relatives and friends who continue to suffer terrible human rights abuses in Laos as a result of their devotion to the cause of freedom and democracy.

To the Hmong and Lao-American community, and the Lao Veterans of America, I salute you and thank you for your commitment to the principles of freedom, democracy, and human rights. I appreciate the productive role that you are playing in our community as patriotic new Americans and good citizens.

RADNOR TOWNSHIP CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL YEAR

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to offer congratulations to Radnor Township in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, which is celebrating its centennial this year.

Founded in 1682 by 40 Quakers from Radnorshire, Wales, Radnor Township is a thriving community with a rich history. The land that is now Radnor was purchased as a 5,000-acre parcel from William Penn at a cost of one British pound per 50-acre lot. Prior to settlement by the Welsh, the Lenni Lenape Indians made their home here.

By 1717, the Welsh Friends society began to establish a government in the township. They erected a meetinghouse on a former Conestoga Indian trail, now known as Conestoga Road. The meetinghouse served as the center of the population of the Township for the next 200 years, with Radnorville growing rapidly around it.

The power of Darby and Ithan creeks helped the settlers establish tanneries, gristmills, and sawmills, and allowed them to clear nearby fields for farming. Land that is now preserved as open space at The Willows was once the Township's busiest commercial area.

Thanks to its fortuitous location between Lancaster and Philadelphia, Radnor quickly became a favorite passageway for travelers. At one time, four inns operated in the town. One of these inns, the Sorrel Horse, is believed to have accommodated General Lafayette and George Washington during the encampment at Valley Forge. Today, this is the location of the Agnes Irwin Lower School.

The development of America's first toll road in 1794, Lancaster Turnpike, brought more development and traffic to the town. Additional traffic to the township came when the Columbia (later Pennsylvania) Railroad laid tracks through the township in 1832.

In 1842, the Brothers of the Order of Hermits of St. Augustine established the Catholic College of St. Thomas of Villanova on one of the first great estates in Radnor. Today, Villanova University is a valued neighbor in the community, and just one of several well-known and respected educational institutions located within the township.

The history of the village of Wayne began in 1865 when banker J. Henry Askin bought a 300-acre parcel along the railroad. He named this parcel Louella, for two of his daughters, and built a mansion, a Presbyterian Church, Lyceum Hall, and an avenue (Bloomingdale) of mansard-roofed villas on this property.

In the 1880's, Louella changed hands and was renamed Anthony Wayne after a local Revolutionary War figure. Wayne became one of the country's first suburban communities to be served by a central heating system, a public water supply, sewers, and electricity. The development of such a high-quality public works system led the township's population to double to 3,800 between 1880 and 1890.

By the early 1900's Radnor Township Commissioners knew that the township needed a more elaborate governmental structure. On March 12, 1901, they elected to adopt the status of a First Class Township. This new form of government provided representation to both the suburban villages of Wayne, Rosemont, and Bryn Mawr, as well as the more pastoral districts of Villanova, Newtown Square, St. David's, and Radnor.

Today, Radnor Township is a culturally, ethnically, and economically diverse community. With its status as one of the best places to live in the Philadelphia region and continued high standard of living and education, Radnor Township is a community that residents can be proud to call home.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Radnor Township during its centennial year as the citizens of Radnor begin an exciting new century.

GENGHIS KHAN FURNITURE

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, in 1971, Robert and Anna Kao came to Guam upon Anna's recruitment to work as the Sales Manager for the furniture store at Andersen Air Force Base. Shortly thereafter, the couple opened their own furniture store, Genghis Khan Furniture.

The business grew steadily and over thirty years became the leading provider of fine furniture to the residents and businesses of the

island. Based on their success on Guam, Genghis Khan Furniture has been able to branch out. They now have stores in San Diego and San Marcos, California, in addition to a location in mainland China.

Robert and Anna credit their success to their hard work and perseverance. However, they admit that they would not have been able to accomplish this feat without the invaluable support of those close to them. Their children, Michael and Heidi, provided them inspiration and drive to succeed while loyal employees such as their interior design consultant, Sylvia Flores, and their sales manager, Hsui Pi Perez, insured the success of the business that they started.

Despite the rigors and stress involved in running a business, Robert and Anna still managed to become actively involved in community affairs. A member of the masonic fraternity, Robert was also a former president of the Chinese Association of Guam. As a charter member of the Federation of Asian Peoples of Guam, he served as the association's first president. While serving as president of the Confucian Society of Guam in 1997, Robert was instrumental in lobbying the Guam Legislature to designate September 28, Confucius' birthday, as "Teacher's Appreciation Day." In addition, he was also appointed by the Republic of China Overseas Chinese Affairs Commission to serve as the Overseas Chinese Affairs Commissioner on Guam—a position he held for several years. Due to his prominent standing within the community, he was able to coordinate numerous cultural exchanges between Taiwan, China, and Guam.

Anna has also served as a director for several local nonprofit organizations. She currently serves as Vice-President for the Chinese Merchants Association. In addition, she also sits on the Board of Directors for Sanctuary, Incorporated, a local nonprofit organization assisting Guam's youth.

For the past three decades, Genghis Khan Furniture has been at the forefront of providing top quality furniture on Guam. Its founders, Robert and Anna Kao, have been distinguished and productive members of our community. On behalf of the people of Guam, I offer my congratulations to the Kao's and to the employees of Genghis Khan Furniture on their 30th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE PENN

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, this week, the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security bids farewell to George Penn. George, a detailee from the Social Security Administration's Office of Inspector General, has served the Subcommittee with distinction as a Professional Staff member since March of last year.

George brought a wealth of new experience to the Subcommittee, having served over 4 years as Senior Attorney for the Office of the General Counsel to the Inspector General. Before then, George served 6 years as a Senior Attorney for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation/Resolution Trust Corporation, 2 years with the Department of the Interior as an attorney, and many years in general private practice.

With George's expertise the Subcommittee was better able to tackle one of the fastest growing crimes in America—identity theft. With the rise of the internet age, our Subcommittee has had to deal with a threat to the integrity of the Social Security number as we have never seen before. Supported by George's skill and leadership, the Subcommittee has held numerous hearings on Social Security number privacy and identity theft. Last year, his efforts culminated in the Ways and Means markup of the "Social Security Number Privacy and Identity Theft Prevention Act of 2000." With George's help, 1, along with a number of my Ways and Means colleagues, have held another hearing and have introduced similar legislation this year. George's commitment to excellence, masterful negotiating skills, and steadfast adherence to our key principles for this legislation, have helped to ensure a fair and comprehensive approach to protecting the privacy of Social Security numbers and preventing identity theft.

In addition, George has worked on a number of hearings and resulting legislation aimed at improving the integrity of Social Security programs. George's vast knowledge of the law, superior analytical skills, and attention to detail have helped focus the Subcommittee's oversight efforts on those Social Security Administration's stewardship efforts most needing improvement.

Agency detailees sometimes find the politically charged atmosphere of Capitol Hill overwhelming. But George jumped right into the fray and proved to have an excellent political mind. In addition, using his train commute to good end, George graciously presented the Subcommittee staff with Godiva chocolates on a regular basis. Needless to say, he will be a hard act to follow in many regards.

Americans owe a debt of gratitude to George Penn. His professionalism, integrity, and commitment to improving government's service to the citizens of this country have greatly assisted the Subcommittee and the full Committee on Ways and Means. My heartfelt thanks and best wishes to George Penn.

DIRECTING FERC TO ORDER REFUNDS FOR ELECTRICITY OVERCHARGES

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am joined by many of my California colleagues in introducing legislation directing FERC to order refunds to consumers in the Western States of California, Oregon and Washington who have been charged excessive electric energy rates.

This bill is necessary because we were blocked yesterday from offering it as an amendment to H.R. 4, the energy bill.

As our colleagues know, on several occasions, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has found electricity rates charged in the Western States to be "unjust and unreasonable." Under the Federal Power Act, such a finding should result in refunds to consumers but, as of today, not a penny has been paid.

To be sure, there is a difference of view on how much should be refunded. While the

State claims \$8.9 billion, even the Administrative Law Judge tasked by FERC several weeks ago to investigate concluded that upwards of a billion dollars was owed.

Now is the time to finally resolve this issue.

The bill my colleagues and I are sponsoring will require FERC to accelerate the process of refunding electricity overcharges.

It is consistent with the Federal Power Act, although many of us would have liked the bill to do more. In particular, if FERC had acted promptly when the first evidence of gouging surfaced, FERC could have ordered refunds for the period May to October 2000, when electricity rates rose dramatically and evidence of overcharges first surfaced. The Federal Power Act and concern about "takings" prevents FERC and us from including that period, although we hope there may be an equitable way to do so.

Many of us also believe that all sellers of electricity engaged in price gouging should be ordered to make refunds. Last week, for example, FERC exerted jurisdiction over municipal power entities, although many legal experts are dubious about the authority to do so. Again, without amending the Federal Power Act, we are unable to include them, though if we could, there would be an *ex post facto* concern about recouping for a past period.

Lastly, the process FERC announced last week will still not result in refunds for many months. FERC is again engaged in a process of investigate-and-delay. Consumers need relief now.

We strongly believe FERC should act promptly, using one of two methodologies in the bill that are fair and likely to result in a quick determination. In fact, one of the methodologies was advocated by Republicans on the Commerce Committee.

Consumers in California, Washington and Oregon deserve a prompt resolution of this issue. Billions of dollars have been siphoned from home and business budgets. Those dollars should be returned and returned promptly.

This bill does that and we urge our colleagues in supporting its passage.

BILL TO FIX ISO/AMT PROBLEM INTRODUCED

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing with Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. WELLER and several of our colleagues, legislation to alleviate the problem of the unfair tax imposed by the alternative minimum tax on many of our constituents who exercised incentive stock options last year. The bill represents a temporary patch for the tax year 2000.

I have advocated repeal of the alternative minimum tax (AMT) for some years now. It no longer serves the function for which it was designed. The AMT was intended to make very high income individuals who heavily invested in tax shelters, pay some minimum amount of tax each year. However, the 1986 Tax Reform Act repealed most of these tax shelters, leaving the AMT with little impact on taxpayers until recently. Since the AMT is not adjusted for inflation while the regular tax base is, the