

What makes this so excruciatingly painful to cope with is that Dwayne had just completed the Army Command and General Staff College in Kansas and got the assignment to the Pentagon just three months ago. It was to be the highlight of his career. One would think the military headquarters building would be the safest place in the world to serve.

Dwayne served in the Persian Gulf War and spent two years in Egypt, a scene of many terrorists' attacks, yet came home unscathed. Then this happened.

Dwayne is one of three of my brothers serving this great country in the military: the others are Army Sgt. 1st Class Kim Williams and my identical twin brother, Air Force Staff Sgt. Troy L. Williams. In the back of my mind, I always worried about them being injured or killed in battle. I never imagined one would fall victim to a terrorist attack in our homeland.

MORE THAN A STATISTIC

Let me paint a picture of Dwayne to show that my brother is more than a statistic in this senseless tragedy that killed and injured more than 5,000 innocent people.

An 18-year Army veteran who got his start as a paratrooper and ranger at Fort Benning, Ga., Dwayne served in the Persian Gulf War in 1991 and is a highly decorated soldier.

Dwayne is a loving husband to his wife, Tammy, and a devoted father to a 13-year-old daughter, Kelsie, and 17-year-old son, Tyler.

He is the beloved son of my parents, Horace and Pearl Williams, of Jacksonville, AL.

He is a protecting big brother to me and my other two brothers.

He is a star athlete, having lettered in high school football and basketball, then later played for four years on the University of North Alabama football team as a pass receiver. An avid softball player, he helped lead his Army team to victory in competition while in Egypt.

He is a man of strong moral character, who rarely displayed much emotion but is quick to express love in his own quiet way. And he is a friend to many.

To get a true picture of the horrible ordeal and anguish this country has been going through during the past week, simply multiply the devastation my family is experiencing by 6,000—the number of other victims either killed or still missing in these attacks.

It's a numbing, horrible feeling I pray that no other family has to experience themselves. Please pray for all of the victims of these terrible attacks. God bless America.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING CAREER OF LAUREL GROSHONG

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous contributions of a good friend, Laurel Groshong. After serving the citizens of California for thirty-two years, Laurel is retiring from the California Employment Development Department (EDD) on Friday, September 28th, 2001.

Shortly after graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree from UCLA in 1968, Laurel began her career in public service as an Employment Trainee in the Van Nuys, California office of EDD. Moving up the ladder at EDD, in 1972 she transferred to the Canoga Park

EDD office as an ES Officer 11. In 1982, she moved her family to Northern California to take over the Lakeport EDD office as the Assistant Field Office Manager. Then, in 1992, former Governor Pete Wilson appointed Laurel to represent California on special assignment in Washington DC for six months covering labor and employment legislation. Upon her return to Lakeport, she was promoted to Field Office Manager where she has served with distinction until her official retirement.

Along with two close friends, Laurel decided in 1995 to return to graduate school all the while managing an office and taking care of her family. In 1998, she proudly received her Masters Degree in Behavioral Sciences with an emphasis on negotiation and conflict management that has assisted her greatly in the past three years.

Laurel's peers have recognized her with numerous awards for outstanding teamwork, including Outstanding Employer Advisory Committee Coordinator, positive impact quality management, job training partnership training, and EDD division teamwork. The awards she has received reflect upon her dedication to her hometown of Lakeport. She has always shown a strong sense of public service in the tremendous amount of time and resources that she donates to a variety of community organizations and causes.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Laurel both professionally and personally for more than a decade. Throughout my tenure in public office, both as a California State Senator and now as Congressman, she has been a friend that I could turn to for sound advice and counsel on employment issues.

Mr. Speaker, as we honor Laurel Groshong for her outstanding career in public service, please join me in extending the best wishes from the members of the 107th Congress to her upon retirement.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2944) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. HAYES. Madam Chairman, I rise in support of Mr. HOSTETTLER's amendment—a vote in support of the Boy Scouts of America.

The Supreme Court has ruled on this issue—and they said that to force the Boy Scouts to accept homosexual troop leaders would violate their right to free association and would dilute the Scout's message. We must not threaten the Scouts' constitutional freedoms that were clearly upheld by the Supreme Court.

The process of appealing this ruling is costing the Scouts valuable dollars each day that could be better used to benefit the lives of young men—Young men who are being taught

values such as duty to God and country, honor, respect, and community service.

We must send a message that Congress will uphold the full benefits of freedom of association, and that the Scouts, a private organization, may continue to define their own leadership and promote core American values that have been taught to children for over a century. I urge my fellow members to vote in favor of the Hostettler amendment.

AIR 2001 TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND SYSTEM STABILIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2926, legislation that will help our nation's air infrastructure recover from the shocking terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The September 11 tragedy dealt a dual blow to the airline industry; not only did American and United Airlines lose highly esteemed pilots and flight attendants in these violent hijackings, the subsequent federal shutdown of the airways also had a severe financial impact on carriers and led to the layoffs of more than 100,000 workers. Our air infrastructure supports the American economy by transporting goods and people across this great nation, and its continued strength is essential to the ongoing economic health of the United States. However, airlines also provide an opportunity to exercise the American freedom of movement. Every year, millions of Americans use air travel to visit their friends and families, take vacations, and conduct business throughout the country. Congress is now poised to bolster the airlines and restore confidence in our ability to fly.

H.R. 2926 will provide \$5 billion in immediate cash assistance to airlines to compensate for losses incurred during the federal grounding order. The measure also includes \$10 billion in loan guarantees to help airlines adjust to the lingering effects of the September 11 attacks. By promoting the continued viability of air travel, this legislation will also assist other businesses reliant on the airline industry such as aircraft manufacturers, travel agents, rental car agencies, hotels, and other travel- and tourism-related companies—all of whom have been adversely affected by the recent slowdown in air travel. Coupled with significant improvements in airline and airport safety, which I urge Congress to address in the immediate future, H.R. 2926 will stabilize and restore confidence in air travel.

However, I am quite dismayed that this legislation contains no provisions to help the 100,000 workers in the airline and airline-related sectors who have lost their jobs in the aftermath of September 11. If we truly hope to boost our nation's economy, we must ensure that these men and women receive unemployment benefits, as well as the educational and retraining assistance needed to minimize the transition time between jobs. Additionally, Congress must enact legislation to provide these families federally-subsidized COBRA health insurance during this difficult time.

Finally, it is critical that we move quickly to adopt a legislative response to the need for enhanced security in our airports and on our aircraft. The federal government must play a major role ensuring the safety of our travel, and we must act soon. I understand that the House leadership intends to address these concerns in the near future, and, in the spirit of bipartisanship, I stand ready to work with them in these efforts.

TRIBUTE TO PEREZ BROTHERS,
INC.

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this occasion to congratulate one of Guam's premier construction companies, Perez Brothers, Inc., on their Golden Anniversary marking 50 years of service to the people of Guam.

Tracing its origins from a retail outlet of residential electrical products operating out of a modest quonset hut in the capital city of Hagåtña in 1951, Perez Brothers, Inc. has grown to be a great contributor in the development of the island of Guam. The company's founder, the late Frank D. Perez, Sr., founded the Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA) and introduced Federal Housing Authority (FHA) residential financing to Guam.

The destruction brought about by World War 11 opened a window of opportunity for the company to grow and serve the needs of the island. The establishment of a concrete block plant in 1952 led to Guam's first private housing development, Perezville, in 1954. Soon Perez Brothers would rebuild the damaged cathedral in Hagåtña. Completed in 1958, the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral remains one of Guam's most prominent buildings.

The company continued to grow in the 1960's. The concrete, block and crusher plants established in 1959 were augmented by a new two-story hardware store in 1962 and another block plant in 1969. By the 1970's, the company had acquired a modern and fully equipped asphalt plant that enabled Perez Brothers to take part in a number of significant road paving projects on the island.

Several setbacks in the mid-1970's and the early 1980's forced the company to downsize. However, the last ten years have been marked by an increased share in the construction market. Recently, the company has participated in a number of projects including the construction of high-rise structures and concrete "outfall" for underwater pipes. This is in addition to road paving and residential construction.

Fifty years after Frank Perez, Sr., brought together a conglomerate comprising of a hardware store, a concrete block plant, and a construction company, a new generation has been tasked to carry on his legacy. Thomas "Tom" Perez serves as the company's President. Margarita "Marge" Perez is its Corporate affairs vice-president while Gregory "Greg" Perez serves as Personnel and administration vice-president and John Perez is the company's Comptroller.

For the past fifty years, Perez Brothers had been at the forefront of Guam's construction

industry. I offer them my sincerest congratulations on their landmark anniversary. I wish them the best in the years to come.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2586) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2002 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Chairman, I rise in support of the Stump/Skelton amendment to H.R. 2586, the National Defense Authorization Act. The transfer of \$400 million from missile defense to intelligence and anti-terrorism initiatives is just the beginning of what actions Congress should take to defend our nation against future threats of terrorism. In light of the September 11, 2001 attacks on America, it is evident that our nation must re-evaluate its priorities to address a list of a broader range of threats to our national security. Developing and implementing premature technology to defend this nation from a foreign missile attack is not at the top of that list. Instead, we need to start focusing our attention on the threat of and preparation for chemical or biological warfare. It would not only be fiscally irresponsible to appropriate the full amount, of some \$8 billion plus dollars originally requested by the committee for this sole purpose, but it would also be detrimental to our country's role in the international community and open the United States to even more threats.

Limited Ballistic Missile Defense is an ambitious program that will require the commitment of enormous resources in order for it to be even remotely successful. This ill-conceived initiative, from all projected estimates, will cost this nation \$60 to \$120 billion over the next 20 years, and there is no guarantee that we will be able to intercept an incoming missile. Before any defense system implementation takes place, much more research needs to be done to develop a total or layered missile defense system that can intercept a missile in all phases of flight. The Bush administration has been adamant in its willingness to go forward, even if unilaterally, with implementation of a limited missile defense system, but I ask: "Why risk violating the 1974 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and triggering a new arms race to implement a system that is not even failsafe?" An arms race this time around would not only include the traditional player, of Russia, but also China and North Korea. After years of brokering disarmament and nuclear reduction treaties, like SALT and START, we would once again start to witness the dramatic proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including chemical and biological weapons. This proliferation would make it much easier for rogue nations or terrorist organizations wanting to do harm to the United States to get their hands on weapons to commit acts of terrorism and instill fear into American citizens.

POPOY ZAMORA'S RETIREMENT AS HOST OF BUHAY PINOY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend and congratulate Popoy Zamora, a distinguished community leader, for his achievements and his well-earned retirement as host of the Guam television program, Buhay Pinoy.

Our geographic location on Guam makes us a true melting pot. Within our small island, the many variations of eastern and western thought and cultures meet and coexist in a state of cooperation and harmony. It is, however, the diversity and interesting aspects of these particular cultures that has made Guam the special place that it is today. Achieving unity while focusing upon diversity is no simple task. Community leaders like Popoy Zamora greatly contribute in making this possible.

For the past twenty-seven years, Popoy worked hard to produce a weekly television program which highlights the interests and activities of the Filipino community on Guam. In a market where it is mostly difficult to locally sustain a cultural and ethnic program, Popoy had great success in keeping the pulse of his viewers. To keep his show interesting, Popoy brought in guests from the local community as well as personalities and politicians from the Philippines. Through his show, he was able to promote Filipino culture, increase the involvement in community activities of Filipinos on Guam and remind us all of the strong friendship and close relations between the United States and the Philippines. His eagerness and perseverance made all this possible.

For all his work and dedication, we, in Guam are most thankful. Upon his retirement, I offer my congratulations for his distinguished career and my personal commendation for a job well-done. On behalf of the people of Guam, I wish him the best on his well-earned retirement and all the luck in his future endeavors. Tausupusong pasasalamat, Popoy.

CANADA: NO TRUER FRIEND

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today The Buffalo News carried an editorial entitled "No Truer Friend," expressing thanks to Canada for its support for the United States following the attacks of September 11, 2001. I commend this editorial to the attention of all Members and know they join me in thanking Canada for its long friendship, even brotherhood, with the United States.

The United States cannot, and will not, forget the special relationship between our two countries. We will not allow terrorist attacks to strain that relationship. As Canada's reaction to the events of September 11 show, Canada is the truest friend of the United States.

Again, I thank all Canadians for their steadfastness and friendship to the United States.

No TRUER FRIEND

This is a time of tragedy and a time of crisis, and not a moment to invest nuances of