

The void these individuals have left in their communities is vast. Words and medals cannot make up for their absence. But in their deaths, the victims of the World Trade Center attack have come to symbolize all that we love in America. The terrorists attacked these towers because they represented America's democracy, economic prosperity, diversity, and freedom. Joseph embodied these ideals in his work and his life, and for that reason, he was a target of these terrorist attacks.

We may not know the details of Joseph's final moments, but we know what his death has done for our country. From this tragedy, a tremendous pride in our country has emerged. We are stronger, more determined, and more united. Signs in New York City storefronts read: "I LOVE NEW YORK MORE THAN EVER." American flags hang in windows, doorways, fences, and wherever space can be found. A tremendous outpouring of charity donations and blood donations has swept across the Nation. Franklin Delano Roosevelt called this "the warm courage of national unity." With this American courage and unity, we will win our war against the men who terrorized our Nation and stole these lives. We are a nation united, now more than ever. And for this we are tremendously grateful to Joseph Roberto. For a man who loved his country, his death brought his country closer together.

Joseph has the admiration and thanks of an entire Nation. His family can be assured that this Nation will never forget the atrocities of September 11 or the values Joseph died for. Our country has come together. And we now come together to tell Joseph's family they are not alone. America stands with them—now in their hour of grief, and in the days and years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, the Bergen County community, and our country in honoring Joseph Roberto for his achievements in life and the legacy he leaves. As his children grow in our unified country, we will tell them about their father, an American hero.

#### HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF GENERAL JOHN G. COBURN

#### HON. ERNIE FLETCHER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 30, 2001*

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that General John G. Coburn is retiring after 37 years of exemplary active military service in the United States Army. He served his country with dignity, honor, courage and integrity.

General Coburn is a native of the great state of Kentucky and a distinguished military graduate of Eastern Michigan University where he was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education in 1962 from Eastern Michigan University and commissioned as a second lieutenant of Infantry. He earned a Master of Arts degree in Political Science and is a graduate of the Industrial College of Armed Forces, Fort McNair and Washington, D.C. General Coburn also has a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Missouri and is licensed to practice law before the Supreme Court, State of Michigan; Supreme Court, State of Kentucky; District of Columbia Court of Appeals; the United

States Court of Military Appeals and the Supreme Court of the United States.

General Coburn is a world-class logistician, who served our nation brilliantly in numerous logistics assignments throughout his career, to include his prior assignment as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Department of Army from 1996 to 1999; Deputy Commanding General, AMC, Alexandria, Virginia and Commanding General, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. He was also the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany from 1991 to 1992. Prior to that, he served as the Deputy Commanding General, 22d Theater Army Support Command, Saudi Arabia from April 1991 to July 1991, and as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Procurement, U.S. Army Materiel Command from 1989 to 1991. From the jungles of Vietnam to the Sands of Saudi Arabia, to the floors of our nation's depots, General Coburn brought astute judgment, bold leadership and selfless service to our Army.

Other major command assignments of outstanding service include Commander of Materiel Readiness Support Activity, Lexington, Kentucky, from 1987 to 1989; Commander, Division Support Command, 2d Armored Division, Fort Hood, Texas, from 1984 to 1986; Commander, 124th Maintenance Battalion, 2d Armored Division, Fort Hood, Texas, from 1980 to 1982; Commander, Defense Contract Administration Services Management Area, Defense Logistics Agency, South Bend, Indiana, from 1978 to 1980; and Plant/Depot Commander, Taiwan Materiel Agency, AMC, Taiwan, from 1971 to 1973. After returning from Taiwan, General Coburn attended the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

General Coburn's staff assignments include: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4 (Logistics), 2d Armored Division, from 1982 to 1983; Executive Officer, Battlefield Systems Directorate, Headquarters, AMC, from 1977 to 1978; Procurement Officer, Procurement and Production Directorate, Headquarters, AMC; Senior Advisor, Training and Personnel, U.S. Army Engineer District-Saudi Arabia, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 1975 to 1977; Executive Officer, Defense Contract Administration Services Region, Defense Supply Agency, New York, NY, from 1968 to 1971; Assistant G-3 (Operations), II Field Force Vietnam, U.S. Army, Vietnam, from 1967 to 1968; and Special Weapons Platoon Leader, Savanna Army Depot, Illinois, from 1963 to 1964.

General Coburn's military decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.

The General is concluding his illustrious career as the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC) from May 1999 to October 2001. General Coburn's extraordinary leadership extended around the globe commanding one of the largest commands in the Army, with over 50,000 military and civilian employees, and activities in 42 states and over a dozen foreign countries. The

AMC missions are intricate and complex, ranging from developing sophisticated weapons systems and cutting edge research to maintaining and distributing spare parts. It is the one place in the Army where technology, acquisition, and logistics are integrated to assure Army readiness. With General Coburn at the helm, AMC led the Army in sustaining the nation's defense industrial base with the right combination of maintenance depots, ordnance plants, arsenals and innovative industry partnerships. General Coburn is known as one of the foremost leaders in transforming the Army. His strategy in building AMC as the conduit for new technologies is making the Army more lethal, lighter and readily deployable thus setting the path for the future.

Mr. Speaker, General Coburn deserves the thanks and praise of the nation that he faithfully served for so long. I know the Members of the House will join me in wishing him, his wife, Janice and their three sons, John, Robert and Matthew, all the best in the years ahead.

#### CONGRATULATING THE CHOOKASIAN ARMENIAN CONCERT ENSEMBLE

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 30, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Chookasian Armenian Concert Ensemble on their work to preserve traditional Armenian music. The Chookasian Armenian Concert Ensemble is the only traditional performing Ensemble of Armenian music in the United States.

John Chookasian, a premier clarinetist, is the founder of the Chookasian Armenian Concert Ensemble. He has been playing Armenian folk music for over 35 years. John holds a graduate degree from the University of Nevada in music and education. He also taught Music and Ethnic Studies at U. of N. for 3 years. He and his wife Barbara have made it their life's mission to preserve ancient Armenian music for future generations.

The Chookasian Armenian Concert Ensemble has been performing since 1994. The ensemble performs the classical, folkloric, and troubadour musical works of the 16th to 20th centuries. The main aspiration of the ensemble is to preserve, promote, and perpetuate the music of the Armenian people, as well as to promote intracultural understanding.

In 1999, the President of Armenia, Mr. Robert Kocharian, invited the ensemble to present a series of concerts in Armenia and Karabagh. At this concert series the ensemble was presented with the prestigious "National Gold Medal Award of Armenia," thereby making them the only musical group in the United States to receive such an honor from the Armenian Government.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Chookasian Armenian Concert Ensemble for working to preserve the tradition of Armenian music. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Chookasian Armenian Concert Ensemble many more years of continued success.

# INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION ON CLEAN WATER

**HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 30, 2001*

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce a concurrent resolution regarding the 30th anniversary of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and encouraging citizens and government to recommit to meeting the Act's ambitious goals.

First, let me thank my colleague and friend, Senator CHRISTOPHER "KIT" BOND, for introducing the same measure in the Senate. The resolution we introduce today is very similar to the resolution enacted into law in 1992. That legislation designated 1992 as the "Year of Clean Water" and celebrated the Act's 20th birthday. Both measures are largely the result of efforts by our nation's state water quality managers, specifically the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators, and America's Clean Water Foundation, which will coordinate the "Year of Clean Water." I want to thank them for their support in not only advancing this legislation but, more importantly, carrying out the nation's water quality programs on a daily basis.

This resolution signals the beginning of a year-long campaign for clean water through public education, civic involvement, and improved coordination among government, business, and community groups. The upcoming "Year of Clean Water" will culminate on October 18, 2002, the 30th anniversary of the CWA, and include volunteer cleanups, water quality monitoring events, watershed protection summits, and other events to celebrate the Act and strengthen the commitment to cleaner, safer water throughout the country.

The CWA has made dramatic progress over the years in cleaning and protecting the nation's waters through regulatory controls, partnerships, and financial assistance to states and municipalities. While we should celebrate the upcoming 30th anniversary and water quality achievements to date, we must also improve our efforts to tackle persistent and emerging challenges—including nonpoint source runoff, acid rain, and wetlands destruction. In order to succeed in the long term war on water pollution, we'll need to continuously improve the science and foster creative performance-based partnerships. That's why the resolution specifically recognizes the need for further development and innovation of water pollution control programs and advancement of water pollution control research, technology, and education.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor this bipartisan and bicameral legislation. I look forward to working with the leadership of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. I also look forward to working with the Administration, which I know is already planning efforts to celebrate the Year of Clean Water.

# IN TRIBUTE TO JOE PATERNO

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 30, 2001*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I must admit to my colleagues today that my Penn State alumni pride is showing.

This past Saturday in State College, Pennsylvania, Penn State head football coach Joe Paterno made history. When the Nittany Lions came from behind to defeat Big Ten rival Ohio State by a score of 29–27, it marked the 324th win for Coach Paterno, affectionately known as "Joe Pa."

Why was that win so special? It made Coach Paterno the winningest major college football coach in history. That victory surpassed the former record of 323 wins held by the legendary Paul "Bear" Bryant.

What makes the record so special, too, especially for Penn State alumni and fans, is that all those wins have come as Coach Paterno paced the sidelines as head coach for the Pennsylvania State University, where he has spent his entire coaching career.

We salute Coach Paterno, his wife Sue and his family, all the teams he has lead over the years to victory and all the young men who have not only learned how to play football under his tutelage, but who have learned life lessons from one of the best teachers they could ever have.

Here's to 324 and counting.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD an Associated Press article from the Sunday, October 28, 2001, edition of the Washington Post which reports on Coach Paterno's record-breaking win.

[From the Washington Post, Oct. 28, 2001]

PATERNO'S 324TH WIN MOVES COACH INTO 1ST State College, PA., Oct. 27—Joe Paterno spent the last three months saying his chase for the major college victory record was no big deal. Now that he's got it, he's changing his tune.

"You never think it's going to be a big deal until it happens like this, with this many people," Paterno said today after his Nittany Lions rallied from an 18-point deficit to beat Ohio State, 29–27. "It's just hard to describe. But I'm a very, very lucky guy to be at an institution such as Penn State with all these fans."

The win was No. 324 for Paterno, who passed Paul "Bear" Bryant for the record. Paterno has spent his entire coaching career at Penn State, serving as an assistant for 15 years before becoming head coach in 1966.

Paterno came into the season one win behind Bryant but was questioned and criticized—even by some of the Penn State faithful—after his team started 0–4. He tied Bryant last week with a 38–35 win at Northwestern.

Ohio State Coach Jim Tressel said brief congratulations to Paterno, then quickly went to his locker room.

"I have respect for his tremendous career, but that moment was for he and his team," Tressel said.

After the game, in the understated style Penn State fans have come to expect, Paterno praised his team, hugged his wife and held his grandchildren at a ceremony at midfield.

"I can't tell you how proud I am of this football team," Paterno told the crowd. "They could have packed it in a long time

ago. But they came back last week, and they came back today, and I tell you they're going to be one hell of a football team."

The game solidified freshman Zack Mill's spot as Penn State's lead quarterback. Mills, a graduate of Urbana High School who came in on the Nittany Lions' second possession after Matt Senneca started, threw two touchdowns and broke his own freshman passing record with 280 yards. He completed 17 of 32 passes and also ran for 138 yards and a touchdown.

# INTRODUCING THE STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (SAFER) ACT OF 2001

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 30, 2001*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the aftermath of the heinous attacks against our nation on September 11, we have discovered many things that our society has taken for granted. Foremost among these is the selflessness and dedication of our nation's fire fighters.

These brave men and women who have for so long protected our homes, families, and communities, are now being asked to fill a new, expanded role beyond simply putting out fires. Fire fighters engage in search and rescue activities, respond to natural disasters like floods, tornadoes, and hurricanes, and are on the front lines in the fight against terrorism, especially the growing threat of chemical and biological warfare.

However, two-thirds of all fire departments in America are inadequately staffed and do not meet the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)'s 1710 Standard, which recommends no less than four fire fighters per vehicle. My hometown of Houston, center of our nation's petrochemical industry, location of our nation's second-largest port and home to a former president, is a prominent target for terrorist attacks. Tight budgets have led to a shortage of fire fighters, and have put an increasing strain on the ability of the Houston Fire Department to respond. Other jurisdictions across America suffer from similar staffing shortages.

That is why I am introducing the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Act of 2001. This legislation will ensure that we have an adequate number of well-trained fire fighters who can fill that expanded role as first responders to fires, emergencies, and terrorist attacks, including chemical and biological attacks.

The SAFER Act would establish a seven-year grant program, closely modeled after the successful Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program. This program would add an additional 75,000 fire fighters in departments across America. Under SAFER, the Federal government would cover 75% of the salary and benefits for a three-year period, with the grantee covering the remainder of the cost. The local departments would then be required to retain that position for at least one additional year. Based on the experiences of the COPS program, once an agency has invested four years in an individual, it is likely that they will be retained.