

the American Battle Monuments Commission for their efforts, without which none of this would have been possible. I also want to honor the search team of the U.S. Army's 99th Infantry Division and the Belgian "Diggers" for their dedication and hard work in honoring the memory of these brave soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of the freedoms we enjoy. Above all, I want to thank Vernon Swanson for his determination not to leave his brothers-in-arms behind on the battlefield. His service and that of his comrades are the reason why we live in a free society today.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM F. GREEN

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2002*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Mr. William F. Green for his commitment to health care.

Mr. William F. Green has spent almost 35 years of creating, implementing and enhancing medical programs and services for the underserved. After a distinguished tour of duty in the United States Marine Corps, Mr. Green pursued an undergraduate degree in sociology. Recognizing the need to strengthen and integrate health care and business systems, he later obtained Masters Degrees in both business and social work.

He has also held many Executive Health Care Administrator positions in various hospitals including St. Mary's Hospital, St. John's Hospital, and the Interfaith Medical Center. He was named Vice-President of Ambulatory Services at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center and later took the position of Vice-President of External Affairs and Government Relations.

Mr. Green is a member of many professional associations such as the American College of Hospital Administrators, National Association of Black Health Executives, and the Royal College of Health Administrators.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. William F. Green is devoted to improving community health and advancing the health profession. I hope that all my colleagues will join me in honoring this remarkable person.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MARCH

**HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2002*

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of a resolution to honor the remarkable life of David March, a Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff killed in the line of duty.

On May 1, 2002, during a seemingly routine traffic stop, Deputy March, a 33-year-old husband and stepfather was shot and killed.

Deputy March's life is that of a true American Hero. Even as a high school football and baseball star, his life long dream was to serve his fellow man through a career in law enforcement.

During his seven years of service, Deputy March garnered the admiration and respect of his superiors and subordinates.

A week before he was shot, Deputy March wrote these words to a friend in the Department.

I feel I give a full days work when I'm here. My contacts with the public are positive. Most of all, I have learned to enjoy what I am doing. My goals are simple. I will always be painfully honest, work as hard as I can, learn as much as I can and hopefully make a difference in people's lives.

May the tragedy of David March's death never overshadow the glory of his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2002*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, because of duties I was required to perform, pursuant to State statute, as Democratic county chairman in my district, I was unable to be present for votes after 1:30 p.m. on June 12, 2002.

On rollcall No. 223, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall No. 224, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall No. 225, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

REFUGEES FIRST

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2002*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I recently read an op-ed in the Israeli paper, Ha'aretz, entitled Refugees First written by Dr. Avi Becker, the Secretary-General of the World Jewish Congress. In the article, Dr. Becker discusses the role of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, UNRWA, for Palestinian refugees. The article brings to light how these refugee camps are coming under control of the Palestinian Liberation Organization and being converted to "military bastions", a strict violation of U.N. policy. The Palestinian refugees of the UNRWA refugee camps are suffering and have not been offered a rehabilitation program to rebuild their communities outside these camps. The United Nations and the international community must reform their current policies on these camps and formulate a new humanitarian vision that will benefit the Palestinians within these camps and elsewhere. I strongly recommend that my colleagues read the following article.

REFUGEES FIRST

It is revealing that only after the Arab/UN abortive attempt to send a fact-finding committee to Jenin, questions have been raised in the international media about the role of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA). Several articles in the American media have asked bluntly: "What exactly is the UN doing in its refugee camps (with our money)?" The United States today finances more than one-fourth of UNRWA's operations, about \$90 million, annually. Some Arab oil countries give together less than \$5 million annually, while Iraq and Libya pledge nothing.

Since the current mandate of UNRWA runs through June 30, 2002, it is essential to re-

view and reassess the role of this UN agency. UNRWA, according to its self-proclaimed mission described in its Web site, does not aim to solve the problem of the refugees. While all of the world's refugees are dealt with by the UN High Commissioner of Refugees (UNHCR) who is charged with working for their ultimate rehabilitation, UNRWA, which had existed for more than 50 years, was never meant to actually solve the problem of the Palestinian refugees but rather to perpetuate it.

Under the auspices of UNRWA, some major principles of international law are violated. In 1998, the UN Security Council affirmed the "unacceptability of using refugee camps and other persons in refugee camps . . . to achieve military purposes," a commitment which was immediately confirmed by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan in a 1998 report to the Security Council, in which he urged that "[r]efugee camps . . . be kept free of any military presence or equipment, . . . and that the neutrality of the camps . . . [be] scrupulously maintained." It is therefore important to apply the same principles in the case of the UNRWA camps.

In 1976, the Lebanese ambassador to the UN Edward Ghorra warned the international community of the fact that UNRWA camps in Lebanon had been taken over by terrorist organizations. In his letter to the then UN secretary-general, Kurt Waldheim, the ambassador said that "the Palestinians acted as if they were a state within the State of Lebanon . . . . They transformed most, if not all, of the refugee camps into military bastions . . . in the heart of our commercial and industrial centers, and in the vicinity of large civilian conglomerations." (The letter was published as an official UN document.)

In reality, UNRWA camps, with 17,000 employees, had come under PLO control, and under the UN flag they were functioning, for all intents and purposes, as military camps. In October of 1982, UNRWA released a most comprehensive report, which related in great detail that its educational institute at Sibleen, near Beirut, was in reality a military training base for PLO fighters, with extensive military installations and arms warehouses.

The forthcoming renewal of UNRWA's mandate must be used to put pressure on the UN agency to begin a reform plan which will prepare the ground for its future integration with the UN High Commission on Refugees. Thus, in preparation for the decision on the mandate renewal, UNRWA must be asked to develop reliable and viable policies on two fronts: to enforce the ban, required under both international law and UN policy, against using their camps for military and terrorist purposes, and to draft a rehabilitation program which will build new neighborhoods for refugees outside the camps, wherever they are located.

The tragedy of the Palestinians cannot be addressed by existing UN policies and practices. Any comprehensive peace plan dealing with Israeli withdrawal and new borders with a Palestinian state must include as a major component a thorough political and humanitarian solution for the Palestinian refugees. While the borders and security arrangements are obviously issues that need to be concluded, the refugees' situation must be addressed first, and a realistic practical solution must be developed which is based on dealing with the real conditions of their daily lives. The issue of the Palestinian "right of return" cannot be left in limbo, looming over every peace initiative, including the most recent Saudi one, which did not address the refugee issue clearly.

Polls taken in Israel in recent days show that a significant majority of the Israeli public is prepared to accept the establishment of a Palestinian state, the dismantling

of settlements and the making of far-reaching compromises for a sincere peace. As stated by President Bill Clinton on July 28, 2000, the refugee problem in the Middle East is two-sided, and includes the Jews from Arab lands "who came to Israel because they were made refugees in their own land." The Jewish post-1948 refugees, whose number was about the same as that of the Palestinian refugees from the same period, were resettled and rehabilitated in their new home—Israel. The Palestinians of the UNRWA refugee camps have not been offered any form of rehabilitation anywhere, and this is precisely the reason that the camps have become the incubators for so many suicide bombers. Thus, a peaceful resolution of the conflict continues to be stymied by the violent consequences of a decades-old policy of deliberately neglecting the Palestinian refugee problem and of deferring its resolution until some far-off future date. Today, for the sake of peace, the UN and the international community must reverse their long-standing and destructive Palestinian refugee policies and offer a dramatic and new humanitarian vision to the Palestinian refugees in the UNRWA camps and elsewhere.

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JAMES W.  
DELONY OF THE UNITED STATES  
ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

**HON. MIKE MCINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2002*

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today and honor Colonel James W. DeLony of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. On June 13, 2002, Colonel DeLony retired after serving the people of this great nation for over twenty-eight years.

James DeLony was a decorated officer, who spent his career ensuring that the freedoms the United States holds dear are protected. Throughout his illustrious career, Colonel DeLony was honored with the Legion of Merit Award, Bronze Star Medal, five Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Saudi Arabia/Kuwait Liberation Medal, two Humanitarian Service Awards, Senior Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

As Commander of the Wilmington District United States Army Corps of Engineers, Colonel DeLony continued to serve the people by managing many civil works projects in southeastern North Carolina. Without the dedication and determination of Colonel DeLony, many of these projects would not have been possible. From the Wilmington Port to the Brunswick, New Hanover, and Pender County beaches, his commitment has been unwavering and steadfast.

We owe Colonel James W. DeLony our sincere appreciation for his twenty-eight years of committed service to our nation. His devotion to the people of the United States should serve as an example to us all.

May God bless him and his family, and may God bless this great nation.

PERMANENT DEATH TAX REPEAL  
ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2002*

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, all across this country moms and dads are striving to provide a bright future for their children. Parents who own small businesses or family farms put years of sweat and blood into making them prosper so they will have something to leave behind for their children. Here in America, dreams really do come true as individuals work hard to achieve great success. But here in America, we are also cursed by an offensive tax penalty that often forces families to lose these small businesses and family farms.

Last year when President Bush signed the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 into law, Americans were pleased to know that this curse, commonly called the death tax, would finally be terminated by 2010. What many did not realize is that this tax is scheduled to come back from the dead to haunt us January 1, 2011.

If a farmer or small business owner dies on December 31, 2010, no death tax will be charged. But if that person dies just one day later, the government will once again be there to offer its condolences by charging up to a 60 percent tax on the value of the farm or business. Instead of the final wishes of the deceased family member being honored with respect, the government just wants more money to waste in Washington.

After 2010, Americans who pay taxes their entire life will be taxed one final time when they die. No taxpaying citizen deserves to have the fruit of their labor taxed twice.

Just two months ago the House passed a bill that would make last year's tax cut permanent. Unfortunately, some politicians don't want to see this money leave Washington and have made every effort possible to obstruct doing away with this tax. That is why we are once again discussing this matter.

Any vote in opposition to permanently eliminating the death tax is a vote in favor of higher taxes for millions of Americans. Whether we make last year's tax cuts permanent with one vote or a dozen votes, I will continue fighting against raising taxes for my constituents in Kansas. I urge my friends and colleagues to join me today in voting to permanently kill this disgraceful tax burden imposed on families during their time of grief.

The death tax issue is not about how many rich or poor people have to pay a certain tax. It is about the inherent impropriety of taxing death. Whether a person is rich, middle-class, or poor, it is wrong to tax the dead.

I was proud to cosponsor the Permanent Death Tax Repeal Act of 2001 last year, and I look forward to its passage today. When I talk to Kansas farmers, agriculture producers, business owners and others who have invested wisely, I consistently get the same message: don't tax us when we die.

The American people are tired of Washington taxing and spending their money, and one of the most egregious actions this Congress can do is allow the death tax to come back to haunt us again.

Mr. Speaker, let's bury the death tax for good.

CEDAR CREEK BATTLEFIELD AND  
BELLE GROVE PLANTATION NA-  
TIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2002*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, after more than 11 years of study, effort, and public comment, I am proud to announce that today Senator JOHN WARNER and Congressman BOB GOODLATTE and I are introducing legislation to create the Cedar Creek Battlefield and Belle Grove Plantation National Historical Park. The concept for the establishment of a new national park in the Shenandoah Valley was one of the key recommendations within the Management Plan for the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District.

This legislation is the result of work from a broad range of interest groups including the National Park Service, local partner organizations, locally elected officials, local landowners and others. I want to recognize their efforts to produce this legislation. I believe the strength of this legislation lies with this widespread public interest.

Legislation for the new park is an outgrowth of a bill sponsored by Senator WARNER and the late Congressman French Slaughter in 1988 and the law passed in 1996 which established the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District sponsored by Senator WARNER and myself. The local citizen-based commission established for the Battlefields District recommended that Cedar Creek Battlefield be established as a new national park. The accompanying Park Service study found in fact only Cedar Creek met the criteria to be designated a national park.

Originally conceived as purely a battlefield park, the local stakeholders expanded the vision to include a broader scope of history. The new park will preserve and interpret the rich story of Shenandoah Valley history from early settlement through the Civil War and beyond and protect the historic landscape which features panoramic views of the mountains, natural areas, and waterways in the northern Shenandoah Valley.

Importantly too, the other nine Civil War battlefield sites within the Shenandoah Valley will benefit from the national park designation in the valley and increase in tourism at the new park, but each will continue to be protected and managed locally.

The proposed park boundary includes approximately 3,000 acres at the intersection of Frederick, Shenandoah and Warren counties and is based on the 1969 boundary establish for the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historic Landmark. Today, of the 3,000 acres, Shenandoah County and three private preservation groups, including Belle Grove Plantation, collectively protect nearly 900 acres within the park boundary.

For years it has been the burden of local organizations to protect, honor, and interpret these nationally significant lands. Given increased development pressure, federal involvement is needed to help support the local efforts, to preserve historic lands for future generations, and to ensure continued high quality interpretation of the area.

This park is a model for a new type of national park for the future. A key provision allows all landowners to continue their right to