

my district for emergency purposes. As a result, I missed 4 rollcall votes.

Had I been present, the following is how I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 320 (On Agreeing to the Amendment) to H.R. 5121—"Moran of Virginia Amendment"—"Yea"

Rollcall No. 321 (On Passage—H.R. 5121—Legislative Branch Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2003—"Yea"

Rollcall No. 322 (On Ordering the Previous Question)—"Yea"

Rollcall No. 323 (On Agreeing to the Resolution—"Yea")

HONORING COLONEL JAMES A. MARKER UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Colonel James A. Marker upon his retirement from the United States Air Force.

Colonel Marker, who has served in active duty for 43 years, is the longest serving member of the Air Force currently on active duty. When he first enlisted on June 1, 1959, Dwight D. Eisenhower was the President of the United States. He served as an enlisted airman for 14 years before being commissioned as an officer in October of 1973.

Colonel James A. Marker, Jr. is the Inspector General, 375th Airlift Wing, Scott Air Force Base, Ill. As Inspector General, he supports the wing commander through oversight of the wing fraud, waste, abuse, and complaints program, processing complaints from the military and civilian work force, their families, the general public, elected state and federal officials, and higher headquarters personnel. He performs complaint analyses to determine the appropriate investigation method or referral agency, appoints and trains investigation officers, conducts investigations, reviews evidence, coordinates legal and appointing authority review of completed reports of investigation, and notifies complainants of investigation findings.

Colonel Marker is a graduate of Jefferson Union High School, Richmond, Ohio in 1958. The Colonel earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology in 1973 from the College of Great Falls, Mont. and a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice in 1983 from Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, Mo.

Colonel Marker entered the Air Force as an airman basic and performed various duties as an enlisted security policeman. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in October 1973 through the Bootstrap Commissioning Program and remained in the security police career field. If the Air Force published a list of air force terminology, the word "lifer" would surely be in it. Next to it, possibly, would be a picture of Col. James Marker. And he'd be smiling. Being called a lifer no longer offends him. On the contrary, he sees the term lifer as a badge of honor, a proud testimony of his long, devoted service.

However, his career almost didn't get off the ground. Marker had three relatives who fought

in World War II and inspired the 18-year-old to join the Air Force. But the teen from Steubenville, Ohio, wasn't thinking of a lifelong commitment when he signed up in Pittsburgh. He wanted to be a photographer. But the Air Force needed cops, air policemen back then.

He soon married Bev, and they both decided he'd re-up. He's has been doing that ever since. The couple raised five children and lived in too many places to count—three tours were in Alaska. He is ending up here at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. After 14 years, Marker, then a technical sergeant, decided to become an officer. Col. Marker stayed because he loves the people, his job and the service he's given his country. That he's a true patriot is apparent when he talks about that service. "If it were up to me," Marker has said, "I'd stay in the Air Force until the day I die."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Colonel James A. Marker and to congratulate him for his retirement after 43 years of active duty service in the Air Force.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, because of commitments in my home state of Wisconsin, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 320 through 325. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Aye on rollcall No. 320
Aye on rollcall No. 321
No on rollcall No. 322
No on rollcall No. 323
Aye on rollcall No. 324
Aye on rollcall No. 325

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes due to a family medical emergency. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 324, on agreeing to H. Con. Res. 439, I would have voted yea.

Roll call vote 325, on agreeing to H. Res. 492, I would have voted yea.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 22, 2002, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall Nos. 324, and 325. The votes I missed include rollcall vote 324 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Con. Res. 439, Honoring Corinne "Lindy" Clainborne Boggs; and rollcall vote 325 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 492, Expressing Gratitude for the 10-

month World Trade Center Cleanup and Recovery Efforts.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 324 and 325.

HONORING ALEXANDER MOULTON OF CLIFTON, TEXAS

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, the 11th Congressional District and Central Texas lost an outstanding young citizen and one of the leaders of the next generation with the untimely death in June of Alexander (Alex) Moulton of Clifton.

Alex and his twin sister Alyson were born in Austin on December 14, 1982, the children of Robert and Carol Moulton. In his all-too-brief life, Alex, lived in Texas, Virginia, New Hampshire and New Mexico before the family settled in Clifton, a city of approximately 3,500 resident just north of Waco.

On a hot Texas summer afternoon in June, Alex and a group of friends were swimming at nearby Lake Whitney when one of Alex's friends started struggling in the water. Two of the group ran for help and Alex went into the water to help his friend. Alex was able to keep the struggling swimmer afloat until help arrived, but by then, he was exhausted himself. Alex went under and stayed under. When his friends were able to pull him to shore, they could not resuscitate him. Alex Moulton, at 19½ years of age, had given his life so that another could live.

Losing a friend and a loved one is always a heavy burden, a loss made even harder to bear and more difficult to accept when it is someone with the promise of such a bright future. For Alex Moulton, who grabbed each minute of life with joy, and held on until he had wrung it dry of all the possibilities, every day sparkled and every tomorrow looked even more dazzling. This was the life that he sacrificed to help someone in trouble.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the Members of the House of Representatives to join me in honoring and celebrating the life of Alex Moulton.

HONORING THE CHILDREN'S HOME OF LUBBOCK

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Children's Home of Lubbock, Texas for the outstanding work it does on behalf of children in the State of Texas. The Children's Home of Lubbock has shown an unwavering commitment to service and placement of disadvantaged and deserving children.

The doors of The Children's Home of Lubbock opened in 1954. The house began as an extension of the Broadway Church of Christ in Lubbock, Texas. Since that time more than 4,400 children have been helped either through placement in a family or by receiving

a loving environment at the home itself. This early faith based program has been an exemplary model for other similar homes in Texas. The Home provides not only shelter, food, and safety but therapy and love also. Permanent placement is a goal of the home, but the overriding concern is caring for the children regardless of the problem or situation.

As it becomes increasingly difficult for children in this world, it is imperative that centers like the Children's Home of Lubbock continue to perform the good work that they do. The home functions as more than just a center for children; it is an invaluable community resource on which many local, county, and State agencies have come to depend. The staff and volunteers are top notch, Christian individuals who give not only of their time, but also of their heart and soul.

It is with great respect, Mr. Speaker, that I call on all Members to join me in congratulating and thanking the Children's Home of Lubbock. The Children's Home of Lubbock's years of service have benefitted not only the community, but the children and the adopting families. The contributions of the Children's Home of Lubbock number more than these mere words can express.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN CUBA

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, in my office hangs a picture of a woman—Marta Farias holding a photograph of her son—Lazaro Planes Farias. Mr. Planes is one of an estimated 400 Cuban political prisoners who have been unjustly imprisoned for having the courage to publicly speak out against the Communist regime, a regime which lives in perpetual terror of its citizens exercising the most basic forms of human rights. The Cuban Government's official charge against Mr. Planes is that he committed "disrespect and resistance." His "disrespect" was to have the audacity to form an opposition political party to promote freedom, knowing the grave risk he was taking by openly opposing Fidel Castro, Planes continued to speak out—demanding human rights and democracy for all Cubans.

He was released from prison following a request by Pope John Paul—the Second in 1998, but soon after the Pope's visit—the Communist authorities deemed him too great a risk, and imprisoned him again. Planes suffers today in Castro's gulags—recognized by human rights groups as some of the worst prisons in the world. Castro has not allowed the International Committee of the Red Cross to inspect prison conditions since 1989. And it's no wonder—men and women who refuse to undergo "re-education" in the gulag are subjected to daily beatings, malnourishment and an appalling lack of medical care.

The United States of America and the rest of the world can no longer remain silent. The struggle undertaken by these courageous men and women demands international recognition. That is why I have joined with 17 of my colleagues in the House and Senate in the Congressional Cuban Political Prisoners Initiative. Each month we will feature a new prisoner. And each month there will be a new name, a

new face and a new story which strikes down Castro's lie that there are no political prisoners in Cuba.

I am here today to urge my colleagues on both sides to stand with me in demanding the unconditional release of Mr. Farias and all Cuban political prisoners.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 17, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5093) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the amendment to provide an additional \$10 million to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and \$5 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). I commend the authors for their commitment to the arts and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this amendment.

This amendment will support the NEA's Challenge America initiative, which has been successful in expanding access to the arts for underserved communities. To broaden the reach of federal arts funding, Challenge America supports arts education, after-school arts programs and community arts development initiatives.

In my state of Minnesota, an NEA grant helped to establish "Creating the Link"—an after-school program for Hmong youth. St. Paul is home to the largest concentration of Hmong in the United States. Many Hmong children who have grown up in this country have not had opportunities to learn about the culture and traditional art of their elders. "Creating the Link" provides the connection between these children and traditional Hmong folk art—preserving this cultural richness for future generations.

Through support of programs such as "Creating the Link," the National Endowment for the Arts has brought the enrichment of artistic experience to communities in every corner of the nation. Art is no longer considered a pastime reserved for the elite class, but is widely recognized as central to the cultural, social and cognitive development of a well-rounded public.

Further support for the National Endowment for the Arts is an important investment for all of our communities. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD W. PHILLIPS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a lifetime of achievements by Howard W. Phillips from Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

Mr. Phillips dedicated his life to being a good citizen. He was a leader that was not only well respected, but loved by the people that knew him. Howard put the needs of his community above his own.

As a veteran of the United States Navy, Howard defended his country and did it well. He entered the Navy on May 26, 1944. He served while World War II was devastating Europe. After his time in Active Duty, he became involved with veterans groups. Mr. Phillips was a member of American Legion Post 141. He served on the Military Burial Detail and was chaplain of the detail for 21 years. As chaplain he conducted almost 1,000 funerals. The Legion designated him Legionnaire of the Year in 1993 and again in 1997. He is the only person to receive this award twice.

Mr. Phillips was past commander of AMVETS Post 4. While commander, Howard was designated by the state executive as the outstanding AMVET Adjutant in the state. Post 4 was also named the outstanding AMVET post by the National Commander while Howard was in charge. Another of his many achievements was being appointed chairman of all Jefferson County Veterans Groups in order to rename 42nd Street and Fishers Lane, in Mt. Vernon, to Veterans Memorial Drive.

Howard was also an active member of Epworth United Methodist Church. His faith in God shined through in his personality. Mr. Phillips' love for others was demonstrated by involvement throughout the community. He participated in such groups as the American Cancer Society, the Mt. Vernon Fire and Police Commission, and the Murray Parents Association. Howard received the Dr. Plassman award for Outstanding Volunteer Service from the Murray Parents Association for his work with the handicapped.

I would like to take this time to honor the memory of my friend that gave so much to his country and community. All men should aspire to hold themselves to a standard equal to that of this man, Howard W. Phillips. My heart and prayers go out to his family and friends.

THE RESTORATION OF THE DAVENPORT HOTEL

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great pride as a native of Spokane, Washington, to recognize the reopening of the historic Davenport Hotel. Mr. Speaker, this historic event would not have been possible without the commitment and perseverance of Walt and Karen Worthy, the owners of the property.

Designed by renowned architect Kirtland Cutter and built in 1914 by Louis Davenport, this grand hotel has been the centerpiece of downtown Spokane and an immense source of community pride. It has played host to American presidents, generals, statesmen, an stars of the opera, stage and screen. During the 1980s and most of the 1990s, the Davenport fell into great disrepair. Over almost two decades several owners tried to save the Davenport Hotel, but could not gather the necessary resources or assemble community support behind a restoration project of this magnitude.