

enriched the lives of so many others and he is a stellar example of the type of individuals we need leading our communities. I am proud to be a congregant of Rabbi Weinblatt's Synagogue. I wish Rabbi Weinblatt a very happy 50th birthday and I look forward to his continued service as a leader in our community. I am proud to call him my Rabbi, and even more proud to call him my friend.

HONORING THE MEMORY AND COURAGE OF JOURNALISTS

HON. BOB SCHAFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2002

Mr. SCHAFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and the courage of journalists who have given their lives in the pursuit of truth.

I rise to commend organizations like the National Ukrainian Journalists Union, a group dedicated to the protection of Ukrainian journalists, the abolition of censorship and the defense of free speech.

In many developing countries, harassment, in the form of threats, arrest, and even kidnapping and murder is used as a tool to silence journalists who dare to report the truth. No single attempt at censorship has sparked more protest than the disappearance and murder of Georgiy Honhadze in Ukraine in 2000. This crime cast international attention on the systemic oppression of freedom of expression, and cast significant doubts on the level of democratic development in Ukraine.

The death of Honhadze, the beating death of Ihor Aleksandrov, the director of a television station in the Donetsk region of eastern Ukraine in July 2001, and most recently, the death of Mykhailo Kolomiets, the director of a news agency in Kyiv, Ukrainian News, reinforce doubt about the state of freedom in Ukraine. The lethargic pursuit of the investigations of these deaths by authorities indicates official apathy if not tacit approval.

Mr. Speaker, continued government control of the media, and often violent oppression of freedom of expression denies the Ukrainian people their inalienable human rights and prevents democracy from rooting and growing in Ukraine. Therefore, I call upon my Colleagues in the Congress to urge the government of Ukraine to resolve the deaths of these journalists expeditiously, to implement an agenda for the defense of free speech, and to recognize the fourth day of December as "a day of sorrow for lost journalists."

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSMAN BOB BORSKI

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2002

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a good friend and colleague, BOB BORSKI, upon the occasion of his retirement from twenty years of distinguished service in the House of Representatives.

Congressman BOB BORSKI (D-PA) was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives

in November 1982. He is currently serving his tenth term as the Representative from Pennsylvania's Third Congressional District, which encompasses Northeast Philadelphia, the River Wards, Society Hill and portions of Queen Village. Of the three districts that include parts of Philadelphia, the 3rd is the only district completely within city limits.

As a teenager in Northeast Philadelphia, BOB was a standout athlete for the Frankford High Pioneers, captaining the basketball and baseball teams. He is a low-profile leader in Congress, but he still gives his all for the community where he grew up, devoting most of his energies to the needs and concerns of the 3rd District.

Since he was elected, BOB BORSKI has fought vigorously to preserve military facilities and defense jobs in his congressional district and throughout the Philadelphia region. In 1993 and 1995, he worked with the city of Philadelphia and community leaders to defeat attempts to close the Aviation Supply Office (ASO) and its tenant activities in Northeast Philadelphia.

In the past couple of years, BOB has initiated an effort to reclaim and revitalize the neglected waterfront of the Delaware River. We worked together in a coordinated effort with various regional, federal, state and local stakeholders in order to develop Philadelphia's waterfront for the benefit of both the city and the people. He envisioned an exciting, prosperous, new waterfront for Philadelphia that will reconnect neighborhoods with land developed for many uses. Interconnected recreational pathways as well as plenty of open green space bordering the river are principal parts of his vision.

Representative BORSKI retires as the third ranking Democrat on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and as the lead Democrat on the Committee's Highways and Transit Subcommittee.

In addition to his leadership position on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, BOB served as Regional White for Philadelphia and Ohio. As a senior member on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and Subcommittee Ranking Member, BOB has been a vocal advocate of an improved national transportation system and a strong federal commitment to public infrastructure and mass transit programs. In Philadelphia, his legislative efforts have resulted in millions of dollars more for SEPTA, I-95, neighborhood roads, and transportation improvements which will greatly benefit the Port of Philadelphia, and as a result, the surrounding area.

In the 105th Congress, BOB worked to pass TEA-21, authorizing spending for highway, mass transit and other transportation-related projects across the nation. This bill included \$221 million in projects for the City of Philadelphia and led to the expansion of Philadelphia International Airport, I-95 improvements, investment in mass transit, and the construction of the Frankford Transportation Center, a state of the art multimodal terminal complex. With TEA-21, Congressman BORSKI led the effort to bring construction and manufacturing jobs to the City of Philadelphia with projects that also assisted in the reduction of traffic congestion and air pollution.

He has worked consistently to defend public safety, authoring legislation which bans the expanded use of triple trailer trucks as well as legislation which prohibited the dangerous

practice of backhauling—transporting foods one way and toxic chemicals on the return trip.

In previous years, BORSKI served as the top Democrat on the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee, a job that at times pulled him well beyond his customary focus on Philadelphia into issues such as government response to natural disasters and desalination efforts in communities short of fresh water. BOB was instrumental insuring the passage of the landmark Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act.

BOB BORSKI has been a strong supporter of the environment. As the subcommittee began debate in the 105th Congress on legislation to overhaul the Superfund hazardous waste cleanup program, BORSKI refused to support legislation that would go easy on polluters or that failed to ensure the protection of human health and the environment. He has pushed for legislation to promote cleanup of "brownfields"—urban industrial sites where pollution discourages redevelopment.

BOB is also a member of the Subcommittee on Railroads, the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, the Congressional Delegation to the NATO Assembly, and the ad-hoc committee on Irish Affairs.

In addition to his committee assignments, he represented the concerns and needs of his large senior citizen constituency and serves on the Older Americans Caucus, the Diabetes Caucus, and the Prescription Drug Task Force.

Prior to his 1982 election to the U.S. Congress BOB BORSKI served three terms in the Pennsylvania State House. Before that, he was a floor manager at the Philadelphia Stock Exchange. He was born in Philadelphia on October 20, 1948 and is a life-long resident of the city. In 1966, he graduated from Frankford High School where he captained the basketball and baseball teams. He attended the University of Baltimore on an athletic scholarship and, after graduating with a B.A. in 1971, served one year as the assistant basketball coach. Congress BORSKI lives in Northeast Philadelphia with his wife Karen and is the father of four girls and one boy.

I am grateful for the many years I've gotten to serve with BOB in the Pennsylvania delegation. His friendship, unfailing congeniality and hard work made it a joy to work with him, contributed immeasurably to the cohesiveness of the delegation and benefited Pennsylvania greatly. He will be remembered as a gentleman and statesman who left a positive mark on this body.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF CORNELIUS MYRICKS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2002

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Cornelius Myricks born April 25, 1926 in Montgomery, Alabama. During his younger years, Mr. Myricks served in the United States Navy for four years. After being honorably discharged from the Navy, he moved to Chicago, Illinois. It was then he became a member of Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church and ordained as a Deacon in 1950. He served as

the President of the Senior and Junior Usher Boards for many years and later as the Captain of the Usher Board and the Willing Workers Club Number Two. Mr. Myricks was an active member of the Metropolitan Baptist Church participating in duties as an usher. His favorite scripture was John 9:4, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day, the night cometh, when no man can work."

Mr. Myricks departed this life on Saturday, November 16, 2002 at 9:32 a.m., at the VA Westside Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. He is missed by his devoted wife, Thelma; one brother, Willie (Matty) Myricks; sister-in-law, Geraleme Myricks, McGrye Wright, Lucille Payne and Pearly Payne; brother-in-law, George Payne; two play sisters, Lonzie Johnson and Ernestine Lenard; nieces; nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my condolences to the family. May God Bless his family.

HONORING THE 3RD U.S. INFANTRY REGIMENT, "THE OLD GUARD"

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2002

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the perseverance, dedication, and hard work of the members of America's oldest and one of the most prestigious units of our Armed Services, the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, "The Old Guard."

As a nation, we have held many ceremonies honoring those individuals and groups who responded to the tragic events of September 11, 2001, and, without regard for their personal safety or emotional well-being, went about the sometimes gruesome task of looking for survivors in an area so devastated, few of us can even imagine the horror faced on that day. Men and women who eventually were searching for something, anything, that could help identify a victim and bring some measure of peace to anxious family members and friends. Unfortunately, as with any disaster of this magnitude, some people who assisted in the search for survivors and helped in the recovery efforts have not been identified and therefore have not been recognized for their invaluable service during the days, weeks, and months following the attacks.

Traditionally, The Old Guard has served to conduct ceremonies, memorial affairs, and special events to demonstrate the excellence of the United States Army to the world. Their missions normally include conducting military ceremonies at the White House, Pentagon, and other national memorials as well as to provide funeral escorts at Arlington National Cemetery and maintain the 24-hour vigil at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. However, their normal mission changed on September 11, 2001.

The Old Guard was immediately pressed into service for rescue and recovery for the disaster site at the Pentagon. Like all branches and units of our armed services, The Old Guard met the challenge in response to the terrorist attack. And like our nation, the resolve of The Old Guard was not shaken, no matter the mission.

I rise today to honor the sacrifices of all our men and women in uniform involved in the

war on terrorism, in particular the unique services provided by members of The U.S. Infantry's Old Guard at the Pentagon. Let us never forget the service that our military has provided over the past 225 years and the sacrifices they made to protect and preserve our freedom.

IN TRIBUTE OF STAFF SGT. RYAN FORAKER

HON. BOB SCHAFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2002

Mr. SCHAFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Staff Sgt. Ryan Dane Foraker. Staff Sgt. Foraker, a U.S. Army reservist with the 342nd military police Company based in Columbus, Ohio, has been reported missing at the U.S. Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba since Tuesday, September 24, 2002.

Sgt. Foraker's wallet, military ID and civilian shorts and T-shirt were found folded and stuck in a rock crevasse outside Camp America barracks.

An extensive search and rescue effort including watercraft and search and rescue helicopters for the missing soldier was called off as of 2 p.m. (EST) October 4, 2002. Staff Sgt. Foraker's official duty status is, "whereabouts unknown."

Described as a "model soldier," Foraker was in his seventh month of reserve duty as a supervisor of MP's guarding al-Qaeda and Taliban prisoners, first at Camp X-Ray and later at compound Delta as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. Detainee involvement was not suspected in his disappearance.

Staff Sgt. Foraker leaves behind a wife and two daughters, ages 3 years and 14 months.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to join me in expressing sincere sorrow, sympathy, and gratitude for Staff Sgt. Foraker and his family. Staff Sgt. Foraker's disappearance while defending America is a somber reminder of the dangers facing those safeguarding our Nation's freedoms. May God rest his soul.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH BERMUDEZ

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2002

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph Bermudez who has dedicated his life to his adopted country. Joseph came to the United States as a boy of just 6 years of age. Throughout his life he has given so much to his country, his community, and his family.

Joseph joined the Navy and served during the Vietnam era; He remained in the Naval Air Reserve for 23 years, retiring at the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Shortly after his discharge from the Navy, Joseph joined the Bronx Bureau of Child Welfare serving as a caseworker, child protective investigator and training specialist for the Manhattan office.

Joseph's professional career in the New York City Schools began as a bilingual social worker and social work coordinator for Community School District 1 and District 4 in Man-

hattan. Later he worked for School District 11 in the Bronx, as a bilingual social worker at Junior High School 112 and at Truman High School as a counselor. He also worked as an in-house social worker for the Committee on Special Education. The past 12 years he has served as an Education Administrator for The Committee on Pre-School Special Education. Finally, he has also served on the District Universal Advisory Board.

During this distinguished tenure, Joseph took time away from the New York Schools to serve a 3-year assignment with the U.S. Public Health Service as a Health Service Officer. During his tour of duty, the United States faced two major public health crises, the Cuban Boat Crisis and the Three Mile Island nuclear accident.

Joseph is a graduate of Long Island University and Fordham University, where he received a Master's degree in Social Work. He still lives in New York with his wife of 34 years and is the proud father of two daughters, Christina and Yvonne.

Mr. Speaker, New York and the United States have been blessed by the efforts of Joseph Bermudez. He is a shining example for all of us to look to.

TRIBUTE TO TOM LEVY

HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2002

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements of Tom Levy, who is retiring as the General Manager and Chief Engineer of the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD).

Mr. Levy has served the public for thirty years at CVWD, and has served as General Manager for sixteen years. Under his tenure as General Manager, the District's domestic water service more than doubled, from less than 42,000 meters in 1986 to more than 86,000 today. He was instrumental in numerous water conservation projects, including the Whitewater River Spreading Area facilities and the development of an Urban Water Management Plan. He also worked feverishly for the last six years to bring about an agreement on the apportionment of Colorado River water for Southern California that would be satisfactory to CVWD, Imperial Irrigation District, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the State Department of Water Resources and the Department of the Interior.

He was appointed to California's Advisory Drought Planning Panel by Governor Gray Davis, and has also served two terms as Chairman of the State Water Contractors, which oversees the State Water Project.

For his leadership in California water issues, he was honored as a recipient of an Excellence in Water Leadership Award in 2000.

Even in retirement, Mr. Levy hopes to stay active in the water field, and will continue to provide whatever support the Coachella Valley Water District may need. It is my honor to acknowledge a man who deserves the recognition of our Nation and this Congress.