

Battlefield, he moved to Fredericksburg, Virginia in 1972. Bob has been the Chief Historian at Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park ever since.

After nearly 30 years of work, his reputation is largely based on two things: his prolific career as a writer and his work as a battlefield preservationist. Bob's first published article appeared in 1973. Since then he has produced almost a dozen books, most of them devoted to the history of individuals and sites associated with the Civil War battles in the East. His published articles, book reviews, and related material number in the hundreds.

He also has considerable experience and success as a Civil War battlefield preservationist. In the 1980's he was a co-founder and vice-president of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites—a group that has evolved from an earnest local organization that met in its members' living rooms into a powerful national presence that saves thousands of battlefield acres annually. Bob has been especially active in protecting historic acreage around Fredericksburg, where the size of the national park increased significantly during his tenure, helping maintain the integrity of these hallowed battlefields and preserving our history for future generations.

I recently had the distinct privilege of viewing the battlefield site in Fredericksburg with Bob. His insight and passion for his work left me captivated. His riveting stories of the small events that turned the tide and determined the final outcome of this battle left me feeling as if these events were actually unfolding before my eyes. It is this zest that Bob has brought to the Park Service for the last thirty years that will have an impact for generations to come. His legacy will be to have passed this knowledge and appreciation to scores of other Americans, who, in turn, will pass it along to their loved ones. Nearly one half of the country's Civil War battlefield parks presently have historians who learned their trade at Fredericksburg while Bob was the chief historian. In retirement his influence will carry on. The Park Service, and indeed our nation, will miss his service.

I would like to wish my friend the very best upon his retirement from the National Park Service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SEPTEMBER 11TH VICTIM COMPENSATION FUND FAIRNESS ACT

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2002

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Fairness Act, which makes an essential change to the provisions of the September 11th Victim Compensation fund in order to justly compensate the thousands of families whose loved ones died in the attack on our nation. Specifically, this legislation will repeal the collateral compensation provision of the September 11th Victims Compensation Fund. The current provision requires the Special Master to reduce the amount of federal compensation by the amount of other compensation the family has received, including life insurance and pension benefits. This provi-

sion resulted in unintended consequences that will negatively affect many of the victims' families.

Our Nation is faced with a difficult challenge. Thousands of American families are trying to recover from the horrible loss of their loved ones on September 11th. As a Congress, we have pledged our support to these families, including providing compensation to them for the tremendous sacrifice made by their loved ones. We did this because we recognized that our assistance was essential in helping families recover.

However, the tragic events of this day left us in uncharted territory and we moved forward quickly as a Congress to enact laws to help these families. We must be sure that what we enacted in the days immediately following September 11th provides the best assistance possible to these families who have suffered so much.

The September 11th Victims Compensation Fund was created in the Air Transportation Safety and Stabilization Act, which was enacted on September 22, 2001. This was a mere 11 days after our country suffered the deadliest attack in its history. The Victim Compensation Fund was designed to aid these families fairly and justly. Unfortunately, the full implications of the collateral compensation provision in this fund have only recently become clear. As the regulations of the fund are developed and families receive compensation estimates, many are realizing that they will receive little if any federal support.

I do not believe that this is what Congress intended. Congress created this Fund to compensate families for their losses on September 11th. But because of a provision that reduces the total compensation by the amount of pension benefits and life insurance received, the very families we set out to help have the potential to receive nothing from the Nation's fund. That is not only unfair but also unacceptable. The Victim Compensation Fund inadvertently created a loophole and it is our responsibility to correct it.

The men and women who purchased life insurance or accrued pension funds did so to provide for the future of their families. We must properly and justly compensate families for the sacrifice that their loved ones made for our country. We cannot turn our back on our fellow Americans.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RUDY RUDIBAUGH

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Mr. Rudy Rudibaugh and recognize his contributions to this nation. Now a resident of Parlin, Colorado, Rudy began his service as a sailor during World War II when he joined the Navy and served in the Pacific Theatre. During his tour, Rudy was involved in five allied invasions, including the invasion and subsequent liberation of the Philippines.

Rudy was assigned to Underwater Demolition Team 10, serving as a "frogman" or com-

bat swimmer. As a member of the team, Rudy was a demolition expert assigned to demolish obstacles that would prevent the landing of allied forces on Japanese controlled islands. Rudy's exploits as a frogman were recently brought to light by the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization. A recent surprise ceremony highlighted a mission on the island of Peleliu in the Palau Island Nation chain. It was here that Rudy, along with several UDT demolition experts, cleared underwater obstacles and traps opening a path for occupation of the island by United States Marine forces.

Although Rudy will not brag, he was recently awarded the Bronze Star for his service as a frogman, as well as the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, the Philippine Liberation Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal. The surprise ceremony took place at the Colorado Outfitters Convention in Gunnison, Colorado. Rudy and his wife Deb, currently reside in the town of Parlin, where he serves as a local outfitter.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to recognize Rudy before this body of Congress and thank him for his dedicated service during the war. If it were not for servicemen such as Rudy, America would not enjoy the many freedoms that we have today. He served selflessly in a time of great need, bringing credit to himself and to this great nation. Thanks Rudy for your service.

READY, WILLING, AND NO LESS ABLE: VETERANS WITH PHYSICAL CHALLENGES WINNING IN THE COMPETITION FOR LIFE

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2002

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, despite the tragedy of September 11th, last year's Veterans Braintrust, an event that has become one of the traditional highlights of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Legislative Conference was a somber occasion. As we commenced the event at a time when our country had experienced one of the more tragic events in its history. We paused for a moment to remember those who lives were lost as we convened for this family affair. While we didn't know what kind of turn out we would get after the terrible disaster we call "911." We want to thank veterans for coming and always giving such tremendous support and participation for veteran's issues and concerns nationally. But last year especially we really appreciated veteran advocates coming that morning.

This Braintrust brought veterans and their families together from throughout the country and gave us an opportunity to discuss critical issues affecting veterans with physical disabilities such as voting rights; wheelchair accessibility; community based care; family support; reasonable employment and expanding entrepreneurial opportunities. Minister Clyde E. Sims of the True Light Baptist Church gave the invocation and I had the very special honor to bring up Ms. Melba Moore, Recording Artist and Tony Award winner who sang

'God Bless America.' Then Hon. SANFORD BISHOP, JR. (D-GA) co-sponsor introduced our keynote speaker who exemplified our theme Ready, Willing, and No Less Able: Sen. MAX CLELAND, Georgia's Senior Senator, disabled Vietnam combat veteran, and former VA Administrator. A hard fighter in defense of veterans programs and services that many African Americans risk their lives to earn. Sen. CLELAND noted, approximately 300,000 to 400,000 Vietnam veterans came back who were wounded from combat. But, the physical wounds healed up fairly quickly. However, then the emotional aftermath began to set in. Quite frankly, it was that emotional aftermath that he had to deal with, and sometimes still deals with decades later. By 1978 we gave it a name PTSD.

Equally important, he said, America's veterans have always taken care of this country, but this country has not always taken care of our veterans. So we are grateful for this burst of national euphoria we haven't seen since Pearl Harbor, and we want to take advantage of this flurry of interest in veterans. Particularly, Tom Brokaw's book, the "Greatest Generation" about WWII and now HBO's special "Band of brothers." However, the truth of the matter is anybody who has ever served in the military, they are "Our Band of Brothers and Sisters," and we must look at it that way! Afterward Braintrust members Mr. Morocco Coleman, Executive Committee member and Mr. Clyde Poag, MSW made a special presentation as a token of our appreciation to Sen. CLELAND, and it read from the entire body of the Congress Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust in recognition of your outstanding leadership, dedication, and commitment to all veterans on September 28, 2001. As the former Team Leader of the Grand Rapids Vet Center Program and Past Chairman of the National African American Veterans Working Group, Clyde who recently retired from the DVA, thanked him on behalf of all veterans who have received services from the Vet Center Program, and on behalf of all its very dedicated employees, he said to us you will always be Mr. Secretary.

Next Mr. Anthony Hawkins, Acting Director of the Center for Minority Veterans, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, our forum moderator speaking from the heart remarked that it is extremely important that Congress keeps focused on the needs of our veterans, because if we don't care for our veterans, we can not expect our children to go forth 'in harms way' and defend America. Only to come back and be treated as second-class citizens. With that said, he introduced our distinguished panelist Hope Cooper, Larry Hughes, Pastor Jerry Cochran, George Brummel, Alvin Jones, Lee Williams, Judge Hughey Walker, and Robert Coward. Although, there were many, many very touching, or compelling stories the common truth for all of us was 'the importance of family and friends.' Because we all have to take responsibility for each other, particularly when anybody goes into the hospital, because if you don't have somebody to look out for you, you don't get good treatment! In closing, Hon. CHARLES RANGEL (D-NY), Dean of the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust expressed his deep abiding appreciation for the camaraderie that veterans have displayed year after year not only to the CBC, but to their comrades who can't make it to Washington, DC.

He said, you can feel it where ever you go that you say, to this great nation don't ever forget those people of African descent that have really fought for this great country of ours.

Later that evening the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust held its 13th annual reception and awards ceremony with the gracious assistance of Mr. Wayne Gatewood, Jr., a Vietnam veteran and owner of Quality Support, Inc., an SBA 8(a) Vietnam veterans owned firm. Whereby, we honored those who made the freedom we enjoy possible. The brave men and women who laid their lives on the line for a country that all too often treated them as second-class citizens.

Then it was my great pleasure to introduce the night's keynote speaker Gordon Mansfield, the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Legislative Affairs at the Department of Veterans Affairs, or the point man for the department's legislative agenda. He graciously thanked the Veterans Braintrust for inviting him to speak because many of the award recipients are his good friends. He also praised the work we have done on the part of all veterans regardless of race, gender, religion, or disability; and next took this opportunity to introduce, for the first time in Washington, DC, Mr. Del McNeal, the new Executive Director of Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA). Mr. McNeal is a combat-injured Vietnam veteran, who has been a member of PVA since the 1970's and served as the Executive Director of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter since 1991.

More importantly, Assistant Secretary Mansfield focused on four key words and they were: Able, Veterans, Challenges and Winning. This focus was done within the purpose of creating a dialogue between the veteran's community, and lawmakers, which can develop into policies that enhance the quality of life for all our nation's veterans. However, winning was the key to his presentation for the night. He stated we know from scientific studies that everyone with a catastrophic disability goes through a number of phases "Anger, Avoidance, Denial, Understanding, and Acceptance." Yet, as you work your way through these stages, you have the opportunity to direct yourself on a path towards winning, or to resign yourself to the unhappy life of being a loser. Although, some days and even some years have been worse than others there are some common threads that contribute toward each of our choosing the winning path. One of the keys to this success has been veterans training, knowledge of teamwork, and group support contributing to reaching goals. Thus, veterans training and consequently learning to deal with adversity and to focus on the mission, or become outcome-oriented were a significantly positive factor. Other threads were hospital rehabilitation time with fellow veterans (or peers) facing similar challenges contributed in a positive manner to his progress, and linking-up with similar minded individuals, as well as having an opportunity to work and to give back to other disabled veterans and disabled people generally. Finally, he asked for our support in efforts to continue the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA's) work as a leader in the United States and throughout the world in providing rehabilitation assistance and saluted what we have accomplished.

This years Braintrust awards were given to the following exceptional African Americans and veterans who are physically challenged;

rehabilitation services providers; supportive personal, home and community care providers and disability advocates: Associate Minister Clyde Sims, Jr.; Larry Hughes; Lee Williams; Hope Cooper; Pastor Jerry Cochran; Alvin Roberts; George Brummel; Judge Hughey Walker; Robert Coward, Jr.; John Walker, MSW; Leon Wilson, MSW; Odell Brown; Dr. Wilbert Tatum; William 'Bill' Demby; Webster Anderson; Kater Cornwell; Carl Brashear; Oliver Kuykendall; Robert Mountain; Winnie Jackson; Staff Sgt. Hilliard Carter; Thomas Duncan, Jr.; Robert White; Dr. Paul Cooke; Robert Muller; Edween Jackson; Tom Brown; Eugene Goodman, Sr.; Henry Tillman, III; Terence Goodman; Horace Grace; Jack Marshall; Henry Verner; the National Veterans Wheelchair Games; Department of Rehabilitation, Social Work & Addictions University of North Texas (UNT); Disabled Business Persons Association (DBA); Roosevelt Institute (Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation); World T.E.A.M. Sports; The Rural Institute, University of Montana; Center for Research on Women with Disabilities; and Howard University Research and Training Center for Access to Rehabilitation and Economic Opportunity.

Further, I would like to acknowledge the following individuals and groups for their support: Dr. Ura Jean Oyemade Bailey, Arthur Barham, Robert Blackwell, Ethel Briggs, Constance Burns, Pastor Jerry Cochran, Morocco Coleman, DC Center for Independent Living, Rusty Denman III, Eastern Paralyzed Veterans of America (EPVA), Rep. Lane Evans (D-IL), Venessa K. Franklin, Wayne Gatewood, Jr., Sgt. Maj. Isaac Gillard, Jr., USMC, Ret., Eddie Glenn, Ph.D. Doctoral Fellow, Anthony Hawkins, Dr. Charles Johnson, Col. Clarence Johnson, USAF, Dr. William Lawson, Paul Leung, Ph.D., James Love, Roy Martin, Sandra McClellan, Ruby Miller, Minority Veterans of Texas (MVT), Singer Melba Moore, Delores Monye, National Council on Disabilities (NCD), Jan Northstar, Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), Col. Pete Peterson, USA, Ret., Clyde Poag, MSW, Bay Area Western PVA, Eda Robinson, Janet Sims-Wood, Ph.D., Wayne Smith, Wallace Terry, Clifton Toulson, University Legal Services, Marilyn Valiant, Alexander Vernon, Dr. Sylvia Walker, Dr. Celia Williamson, Joann Williams, Julius Williams, Michael Handy, and Rev. Arthur Wright.

Let me also say, as Ranking Democratic member of the House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, I have been on the House committee for ten years, or my entire time in Congress. I am on the committee because I feel it's the right thing to do. And as we prepare for war, I remind my colleagues we cannot forget the men and women that have already paid their dues while serving this great country. During each Veterans Day (which is my birthday) we wrap ourselves in the flag. But how you can really tell, how much we love and support veterans are how we treat you in the budget! So as a female giving you some love, it's not the words, it's the deeds. Consequently, I work very hard to make sure we honor our nation's obligation by being here to listen to your concerns and find out how we can make things better for you. So in this heightened time of patriotism that we are concentrating on the military, the example is how we treat the people who have already served, or been through it. So I am committed to make sure that we honor our words with our deeds. We have a

contract with our veterans and we have to make sure that the check that was written never comes up insufficient funds!

Lastly, I would like to thank Ron Armstead, Executive Director who was instrumental in putting together this Braintrust. And I would certainly be remiss without thanking the members of our Congressional staffs Jolanda Williams, Daisy Hannah, Beverly Gilyard, and Nick Martinelli who worked so hard to make this event a success. Again thank you.

GOD is good, all the time. All the time, GOD is good.

And GOD Bless America.

30 YEARS LATER: REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF BLOODY SUNDAY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2002

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in remembering one of the most tragic days in the history of Northern Ireland. It was on January 30, 1972, that British soldiers opened fire in a brutal show of force against Irish Catholic protesters which left 13 dead and a number of others wounded. Following the example of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the demonstrators had been engaged in a peaceful protest against a repressive system which deprived them of basic rights in their own country.

As a member of the House International Relations Committee who has visited Northern Ireland a number of times to monitor the Orange Order parades and document civil rights violations against the Catholic residents of Garvaghy Road, I understand the historical roots of the conflict and the intense passions of those on both sides of the divide.

The tragic events of September 11th in our own Nation have drawn us closer to the people of Northern Ireland and other countries where fear of violence and personal harm is a fact of daily life.

As we stand in solidarity with the people of Northern Ireland, I believe the United States should do everything in our power to ensure the success of the peace process which was moved forward through the work of former President Clinton's special envoy, Senator George Mitchell.

In order to continue progressing towards a future of peace and reconciliation, it is important that the disturbing questions of the past be put to rest. Therefore, the new investigation into Bloody Sunday must be far-reaching and complete. There remains a strong sense of outrage regarding the original inquiry into Bloody Sunday, when Lord Widgery's probe hastily concluded that the violence against unarmed civilians was justified.

Mr. Speaker, the history of our nation is intertwined with that of Northern Ireland, and it is fitting that as we remember the victims of Bloody Sunday and their families, we continue to support the cause of peace and justice in Northern Ireland.

IN HONOR OF HORACE SMITH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Horace Smith from my home State of Ohio who in many ways exemplifies the qualities of our great citizens. Horace Smith was a man greatly committed to our community and its people.

Mr. Smith, born August 12, 1917 in Knoxville, Tennessee, moved to the area 45 years ago. Among his honorable achievements, Mr. Smith received numerous awards as a Staff Sergeant serving in the U.S. Army during World War II. He received the medal for Good Conduct, the American Theater Medal, and Four Bronze Stars.

Horace Smith was dedicated to his job at Virden Lighting for 20 years before retiring in 1978. In addition to his strong dedication to his job, he committed his time to numerous organizations in Cleveland. Mr. Smith was a devoted member of the Morning Star Baptist church where he served as both a Trustee and Leader of Boy Scout Troupe No. 436. Furthermore, he was a member of the 32nd Degree Mason, the Shriners King Solomon Lodge No. 18, and Bezaleel Consistory No. 15.

While serving the people of Cleveland as their mayor, I was honored to have Mr. Smith as a member of the Cleveland Planning Commission. He served Cleveland in countless ways including over 30 years as Precinct Committeeman 8-B, a member of the Cuyahoga County), Democratic Party Executive Committee, and a member of the board of Directors of Glenville Y.M.C.A. Mr. Smith also volunteered his time with other local officials during political campaigns including former Congressman Louis Stokes, former Mayor Carl Stokes, and former Mayor Michael White. It has been a great honor for all of us to work with Horace Smith.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Staff Sergeant Horace Smith, a highly honored man devoted to our community for over 45 years. His achievements and service to the community, have earned him great respect by his family and all of us in the community.

HILLIARD DELIVERS "STATE OF RURAL AMERICA" SPEECH BEFORE PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2002

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, The State of Rural America is akin to most third world countries. I see poverty everywhere. The Alabama Black Belt, the Mississippi Delta and many reservations, are suffering in far greater degrees than the rest of America in this economic recession.

Agricultural America is suffering in a far greater degree than the rest of the nation. During the Great Depression of 1929, the Deep South suffered earlier than other parts of the nation and more severely.

The reasons for this suffering in rural America are many, but the lack of jobs and economic infrastructure are the primary reasons. Most Americans who live on small farms do not get their income primarily from them—they get it from jobs in the cities and towns, and there are too few jobs in rural areas, and when they exist, they tend to pay poorly.

To deal with this long-time suffering, Congress needs to concentrate on rural development like never before. We need to create increased incentives to bring industry and jobs to rural America. We must realize that small farmers and independent producers recycle wealth into their communities, while large, absentee farmers may not. Investments made in small and independent farmers and businesses stay in the rural areas and grow.

We need to increase educational opportunities there, so that the children do not hit dead ends in their development. We need to see that the children get fully nutritional meals—it is one of the cruelest ironies and greatest injustices in America that the children of farmers are often undernourished.

We need to increase programs that support cooperative arrangements between farmers, making them more sustainable as they work together, purchase and sell together.

Rural areas need micro-loans—they have small economies and the businesses are small. However, we need to make the micro-loans more usable, and the Small Business Administration's micro-loan program needs to be expanded to make the loans available up to \$50,000, rather than the \$35,000 cap, which is presently active.

The 8A program of the Small Business Administration has been essential in supporting business development in rural areas. It is in danger of being destroyed by the present administration, which has already published proposed rules which will make it unusable. We absolutely must defend the 8A program!"

NUTRITION

"The Food Stamp Program is one that provides a market to many farmers and nutrition to many poor people. The current minimum of \$10 is too low, and shows a lack of concern for the hungry Americans who live in the richest nation in the world. People on Food Stamps should get at the very least \$120.00 per month.

Further, the Food Stamp Program must be extended to legal immigrants. These workers are legally here, they contribute not only labor but also pay taxes to the American economy, and they should be able to access sufficient food for themselves and their children.

The Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) should be funded sufficiently to meet the needs of the pregnant women and infants in this nation—this means that it must not be flat-funded in this recession, but expanded. However, the diet it provides, while necessary, is not sufficient in all ways, and is supplemented efficiently by the farmers market nutrition program, which makes available fresh fruits and vegetables necessary for the healthy development of our next generation. It must not be cut to make it seem that food stamps are being maintained.

Finally, we must deal with the crisis affecting black farmers. In 1910, at the worst of times for black Americans since slavery, 100,000 black farmers were landowners. Today there are only about 10,000 farms owned by black farmers—a drop of 90%! We