

Saddam Hussein, this administration has failed to implement an adequate plan to win the peace. This Administration has failed to level with the American people and the Congress about the true costs and duration of the ongoing war in Iraq. The American people and their Representatives in Congress deserve true and honest presentation of the facts, especially on such weighty matters of war and peace. Before the Administration comes back to Congress with another request for more funds, I want to see an honest assessment of the duration and costs of the operations in Iraq and a realistic plan for a lasting peace in that troubled region of the world.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I would prefer that the House could act on amendments to address this conference report's shortcomings, but we were not given that option. Despite my reservations, I will support this bill because it is the best option we have before us to win the peace in Iraq. I will support this bill on behalf of the people of North Carolina's Second Congressional District and the men and women in our armed forces.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO FIRE  
CAPTAIN FRANK NEMICK**

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 4, 2003*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen from my district. Fire Captain Frank Nemick recently announced his retirement from the Pueblo Fire Department. For his selfless dedication and many years of service, I am honored to pay tribute to Frank here today.

From the time he was a young boy, Frank always wanted to be a firefighter. He joined the Pueblo fire department in 1964 and served at Station 4 in Bessemer. Over the years, he worked hard and quickly advanced up the ranks. Frank has dedicated his life to helping the citizens of the Pueblo community. Whenever someone was in trouble or in need of assistance, Frank was always ready to come to their rescue. His enthusiasm and dedication are infectious, and he has influenced several members of his family to follow him into a career as a firefighter.

Mr. Speaker, for thirty-nine years Frank Nemick selflessly served his community and his neighbors, and he will retire as a Captain from Station 10 at Pueblo Memorial Airport. His hard work and dedication are truly an inspiration. As he prepares for his retirement, I am honored to join with my colleagues in thanking Frank for all his hard work and in wishing him all the best in the years to come.

**IN HONOR OF THE 2003 DALLAS  
VETERANS DAY PARADE AND  
PARADE GRAND MARSHALL HON.  
SAM JOHNSON**

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 4, 2003*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2003 Dallas Veterans Day Parade

and the Parade Grand Marshall, our friend and colleague Congressman SAM JOHNSON (Texas-3rd). We are honored to be here alongside our proud veterans and their caring supportive families who have made their country proud time and time again. It is important to recognize our veterans today. However, veterans should be honored everyday for their selfless sacrifices, not just simply only on Veterans Day.

The 2003 parade will pay special tribute to the 30th Anniversary of the return of Prisoners of War from Vietnam. Dallas CAN! Academy has prepared a special float in honor of these Vietnam POWs. In addition to the return of the Vietnam POWs, the 100th Year of Flight and the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Korean War are also given special recognition in the parade.

The 2003 Dallas Veterans Day Parade is also proud to welcome home and honor our nation's latest veterans. Today we pay tribute to many of the fine men and women that served in combat during military Operations Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Iraqi Freedom in Iraq and that have safely returned home. During this critical and turbulent time for our world, we continue to pray and ask for the blessings of our servicemen and woman who are currently serving in Afghanistan, Iraq, and throughout the rest of the world in service to our beloved nation.

We would like to congratulate our colleague Congressman SAM JOHNSON for serving as the Parade Grand Marshall for this outstanding annual Dallas tradition. Honoring a great American hero like Congressman SAM JOHNSON is especially appropriate with the Parade's special tribute to the 30th Anniversary of the return of our POWs from Vietnam. Congressman JOHNSON, after graduating from Southern Methodist University, began his 29 year career with the United States Air Force. Our colleague flew 62 combat missions during the war in Korea and was shot down on his 25th sortie during Vietnam. Sam was captured and held as a prisoner of war for over 7 years, with half of this time being spent in solitary confinement. His courage and strength serves as an inspiration to our veterans and current servicemen and woman, and we are proud to serve with him today in the House.

The Parade's military keynote speaker, Lieutenant General Thomas P. Stafford is a veteran astronaut and we are delighted to hear his remarks. General Stafford went into space on two Gemini missions and later commanded Apollo Ten. General Stafford served as the U.S. Commander for the Apollo-Soyuz rendezvous in 1975.

We would like to thank one of our favorite native sons for being with us here today for the Parade, General T. Michael "Buzz" Moseley, Vice Chief of Staff for the United States Air Force. General Moseley is a loyal Aggie alum, having served in the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M. He is a distinguished officer and aviator, and is a true leader for the Air Force.

We appreciate the assistance of current military units that will be participating in the parade all of the local business and community leaders for their financial support. Thank you Congressman JOHNSON for your service to America, and God Bless our current men and women in uniform and all those that have preceded them in service to the country.

**NATIONAL CEMETERY EXPANSION  
ACT OF 2003**

SPEECH OF

**HON. ANDER CRENSHAW**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1516—because it keeps a commitment, a sacred commitment to the men and women of our military.

As a country we honor our veterans for their service, their commitment, their sacrifice.

Our veterans did not serve to become heroes. They did not fight because they enjoyed battle. They went to war because this country asked them to go to war. They served to defend our freedom.

This supreme dedication deserves supreme recognition.

Mr. Speaker, Florida has almost 2 million veterans and only four veterans cemeteries. One is full. One only accepts cremated remains. The other two are at least half a state away from my district. This leaves no option for Northeast Floridians who served without question.

Veterans want this cemetery. Veterans need this cemetery. Veterans deserve this cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased this House is acting.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO HUGH  
THACKABERRY**

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 4, 2003*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to rise and pay tribute today to a remarkable man from my district. Hugh Thackaberry of Fruita, Colorado, a fine man and devoted citizen, was wounded many years ago in service to our nation. I am proud today to bring his valor, courage, and patriotism to the attention of my colleagues here today.

Hugh was a squad leader in the Army's 2nd Infantry Division during the Korean War. In May of 1953, Hugh was injured in battle in North Korea's Chorwon Valley. After being removed from the battlefield, Hugh was transported to a mobile field hospital. At one point during Hugh's recovery, the hospital was overcome with American casualties. Although injured, Hugh selflessly climbed from his bed to render aid to his fallen countrymen. This action epitomizes the integrity and self-sacrifice that defined Hugh's service to his country. For his bravery, Hugh was awarded the "Wharang Distinguished Military Service Medal" by the government of South Korea.

Recently, the United States awarded Hugh the Purple Heart, recognizing his many sacrifices for his country. I am proud to have the privilege of presenting him that medal for his honorable service.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise and pay tribute to the heroism of Hugh Thackaberry. His personal sacrifice and patriotism are an illustration of the spirit of a great American. I am extremely proud and honored to recognize

a national Hero. Thanks Hugh for your service.

REAUTHORIZING CERTAIN SCHOOL LUNCH AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR FY 2004

SPEECH OF

**HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2003*

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, as the House takes action to extend authorization of School Lunch and Child Nutrition Programs, I wish to take this opportunity to raise an important issue relating to achieving greater nutritional benefits for the children of this nation.

Today we face a continuing challenge in improving the quality of the American diet, particularly among our nation's children as we see an alarming increase in obesity that leads to coronary heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes. As Congress considers comprehensive reform of School Lunch and Child Nutri-

tion Programs in the near future, it is imperative that federal nutrition services provide the fundamental tools to promote lasting health through sound nutritional choices.

The U.S. Surgeon General reports that fruit, juice and vegetable consumption are a central part of a commitment toward better health and provide protective effects from most cancers, heart disease and obesity. Unfortunately, most children and adults do not meet the recommended guidelines of five servings a day of fruit and vegetables, with only 15 percent of elementary students and a quarter of adults consuming the recommended requirement. Unbelievably, one of our major nutrition programs, the Women's, Infants and Children's (WIC) program, does not even allow participants access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

The Healthy America Act (H.R. 2592), bipartisan nutrition legislation that I have sponsored, is aimed at promoting better health and the prevention of chronic diseases by expanding and enhancing policies that encourage the consumption of fruits, vegetables and juices in schools and in the WIC program. Particularly among needy Americans, school feeding and other nutrition programs often provide the pri-

mary opportunities for consumption of nutritionally valuable foods. This legislation would provide students and WIC participant's greater access to fruits, vegetables, and juices in federal feeding programs and expand the extremely successful Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Program nationwide.

Current federal nutrition guidelines also must be revised so that they are consistent with current dietary and nutritional science for some of the neediest Americans, including expectant and nursing mothers, infants and children. The WIC program is nearly 30 years old and has changed little during that time. The Healthy America Act would require that dietary guidelines be revised regularly in keeping with modern dietary science and allow WIC participants access to fresh fruits and vegetables currently prohibited under the program.

As Congress continues to consider long-term reauthorization of Child Nutrition and School Lunch Programs in the coming year, I urge adoption of these critical provisions in the Healthy America Act to give the children of this nation the access to nutritional benefits they deserve.