

back home. We couldn't be there, but Bob Hope was. He knew the sacrifices our men and women made and he let our brave men and women know that we supported them back home.

Bob Hope is already missed.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the most beloved and recognizable talents in the world. Bob Hope is regarded as a gifted entertainer, with an unmistakable ability to bring laughter and joy to persons of all ages; however, he was also an ambassador of hope to our men and women overseas.

It is with great honor that I stand before you today, and bring to the Floor, House Resolution 3011, a resolution cosponsored by all of my colleagues from California. This legislation will honor Bob Hope's many contributions to veterans, active duty troops, the field of entertainment and the greater Los Angeles community, by naming the Burbank, CA, Main Post Office for him.

Born in Eltham, England, on May 29, 1903, Bob Hope seemed to be destined to entertain. From impersonating Charlie Chaplin in front of the neighborhoods firehouse in Cleveland as a young boy, to celebrating an unprecedented 60 years with NBC in 1996, Hope's entertainment persona has been evident in every decade of the 20th century.

An avid golfer, Bob Hope had been quoted as saying, "Golf is my profession. I tell jokes to pay my green fees." Most notably, he developed and hosted the Bob Hope/Chrysler Classic, a pro am tournament held annually in Palm Springs, CA. Over four decades later, the Classic draws the most famous pros and celebrity amateurs, and it has gone on to raise over \$35 million for the Eisenhower Medical Center and 70 other various charities.

What separated Bob Hope from other beloved celebrities was his unwavering commitment to bringing smiles and hope to American servicemen and servicewomen overseas. For nearly six decades, during times of war and peace, Hope traveled to countless countries to entertain the troops. Affectionately referred to as "G.I. Bob," Bob Hope became a fixture on the U.S.O. stage.

In May of 1941, Bob Hope performed for U.S. Troops at March Field, CA, beginning a legendary tradition of military performances. During World War II, he performed almost all of his weekly radio shows from American military bases around the U.S. and in the theaters of war. In his support of our troops, he traveled to England, Ireland, Africa, Sicily, and the South Pacific. After the war, he continued his commitment to freedom and humor with a Christmas show for troops supporting the Berlin airlift. During the 1970s, he brought joy to weary soldiers with Christmas shows at bases or veterans' hospitals throughout Vietnam. 1983 took him to Beirut, and in 1987 he traveled around the world to entertain troops in the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans.

His globetrotting commitment to entertainment is unsurpassed, in peacetime or in war. The Navy has honored him with a class of ships in his name. Not to be outdone, the Air Force named a C-17 *The Spirit of Bob Hope*. When I was in Iraq in August, I visited a commissary named after Bob Hope and saw first hand how much his visits to the troops meant to them. Our Nation's only honorary veteran, Bob Hope's legacy will be that of a wartime and peacetime soldier, always fighting to bring

a smile and a piece of home to U.S. troops around the world.

John Steinbeck once said of Bob Hope, "It is impossible to see how he can do so much, can cover so much ground, can work so hard and be so effective."

Former Burbank mayor Michael Hastings said to Hope, "He was as large in this community as he was in the world, and I think Burbank has been a great beneficiary." It seems only fitting that a city that served such an instrumental role in Bob Hope's life, return that honor by naming its historic post office after the entertainer.

Hope's ties to the city of Burbank, CA were numerous. In 1973, he was named the city's honorary mayor, and in 1989, the city renamed a portion of Catalina Street near NBC studios to Bob Hope Drive. In April of 1993, those studios were dedicated in honor of Hope's 90th birthday and his more than 50-year association with the network. Donating more than \$1 million to the Providence St. Joseph Medical Center Foundation in Burbank, Hope also helped raise money to build a veteran's monument in the city, by performing at the Starlight Bowl in 1987.

By naming the Burbank, CA Main Post Office for Bob Hope, we will remember him for his talent and honor him for his extraordinary impact on the lives of our troops. With the release of his very first feature film, "The Big Broadcast of 1938," "Thanks for the Memory," became Hope's signature song. Earning an Academy Award, the song will forever remind us of the legendary Bob Hope. The classic Hope song ends with the words, "Aw' fly glad I met you, cheerio, and toodle-oo and thank you so much."

We thank you Mr. Bob Hope, for all the memories.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of naming a post office for Bob Hope near his hometown of Toluca Lake. This is a small tribute for a man who has given so much to our country.

Bob Hope was a man who knew no boundaries. He certainly did not heed geographic borders, performing for soldiers in all corners of the world. Starting in 1941, he headlined USO shows in the South Pacific, Africa, Europe and the Middle East, entertaining millions of soldiers and bringing laughter to the most desolate places on Earth.

Bob Hope did not recognize boundaries of time, charming audiences of civilians and soldiers for over sixty years. His first "last Christmas tour" was in 1972, yet into the 1990's he could be found performing for troops in Saudi Arabia during "Operation Desert Storm." No other entertainer has given so much for so long.

Bob Hope's life also eclipsed the boundaries of entertainment. His career covered every field of entertainment, from vaudeville to Broadway, radio to television and film to stand-up. His signature song "Thanks for the Memories" won an Academy Award. Although he never won an Oscar himself, Bob Hope hosted the Oscars a record 18 times and was awarded two honorary Oscars.

On May 29, 2003, America mourned Bob Hope's death at the age of 100. Although he starred in more than fifty films, he may be most remembered for his role as an honorary veteran. This honor, the only one ever awarded, was bestowed on him for his commitment to our armed services. While America could

never repay Bob Hope for his service to our country, H.R. 3011 will continue a fine tradition of honoring an exemplary citizen. I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WHITFIELD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3011.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BOB HOPE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 357) honoring the life and legacy of Bob Hope.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 357

Whereas Bob Hope was born Leslie Townes Hope on May 29, 1903, in Eltham, England, and immigrated to the United States in 1907 at the age of 4;

Whereas Bob Hope entertained America on the vaudeville circuit, the Broadway stage, and in over 1,100 radio shows, 75 movies, and 475 television programs;

Whereas for more than 5 decades Bob Hope entertained the Nation's troops overseas with the United Service Organizations (USO), putting on shows during World War II, the Korea War, the Vietnam War, and the first Persian Gulf War;

Whereas during his lifetime Bob Hope donated more than 1 billion dollars to hospitals, charities, and civic organizations;

Whereas Bob Hope received the Congressional Gold Medal in 1962, in recognition of his service to his country and the cause of peace, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1969, in honor of his gifts of joy to all the American people;

Whereas Bob Hope's commitment to the Nation's troops was so great that he was the first person ever to be recognized by the United States Congress as an honorary veteran;

Whereas Bob Hope received the Distinguished Service Medal from each branch of the Armed Forces;

Whereas Bob Hope was awarded 5 special Oscars, the George Peabody Award, and more than 50 honorary degrees; and

Whereas, on July 27, 2003, America was greatly saddened by the death of Bob Hope: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) honors Bob Hope for his legendary career as an entertainer, decades of dedicated service to the men and women of the Armed Forces, and his many philanthropic and humanitarian acts; and

(2) expresses condolences on his passing to his wife Dolores, their children, and grandchildren.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution, of which I am a very proud cosponsor, honors the life and legacy of Bob Hope. He dedicated his life to the Nation he loved, and with House Resolution 357 we in Congress can honor his life.

Bob Hope not only entertained America, he contributed to the welfare of our society through his generosity. He donated more than \$1 billion to hospitals and charities and civic organizations. He donated his time, and he risked his life for the benefit of his fellow citizens serving in the Armed Forces.

Throughout his life, he gave of himself to others. He represented the United States and its citizens selflessly. This Nation is blessed to have had the pleasure of knowing him. "Bob, thanks for the memories."

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER), the sponsor of this well-deserved resolution, and I commend him for his work on the resolution.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, and I rise today as the co-chair of the Congressional USO Caucus to mourn the loss of the legendary entertainer Mr. Bob Hope, who recently passed away July 27 at the age of 100.

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), who is the co-chair of the Congressional USO Caucus, and I drafted this resolution soon after Mr. Hope's death in July. Incidentally, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) regrets he is not able to be present today for this resolution. However, he has submitted remarks for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Bob Hope had an illustrious career which included more than 1,100 radio shows, 75 movies, and 475 television programs. He has received numerous accolades, as we have already heard this afternoon, including five special Oscars, the George Peabody Award, and more than 50 honorary degrees. For his distinguished service, he has received the Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded in 1969 in honor of his gifts of joy to all the American people. Most notably, Mr. Hope will be remembered as a selfless entertainer who was beloved by our Nation's Armed Forces.

Mr. Hope told jokes and entertained our Armed Forces overseas and at home for more than five decades. He headlined the USO shows during World War II and the Persian Gulf Wars, as well as in Korea and Vietnam. For his unmatched commitment to our Nation's Armed Forces, Mr. Hope received the Distinguished Service Medal from each branch of the Armed Forces and is the only person, the only person to ever be recognized by the United States Congress as an honorary veteran.

Mr. Hope's legacy continues today as our troops overseas are treated to a variety of entertainment headlined by

this country's star performers. As a matter of fact, Drew Carey, Bruce Willis, Wayne Newton, and others have completed USO tours in Iraq. The tour recently visited 13 camps, more than 7,300 troops, with four performances, and signed over 3,000 autographs. From visits by NFL Cheerleaders to comedians, to singers, Bob Hope was the catalyst for their participation. These celebrities are truly committed to continue USO tours, even in places such as Iraq. Our troops truly appreciate the participation, and it makes their difficult service to our Nation more comfortable.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Hope loved the USO and, more importantly, loved the American soldier. Bob Hope and the USO's commitment to be America's link with her men and women in uniform have withstood the test of time. With the continued dedication of the USO legion of volunteers and charitable support from individuals and corporations, the USO will provide its touch of home for as long as we have those in service to our country.

So to Bob Hope and the USO, I say, "Thanks for the memories."

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the son of a stonemason and an aspiring concert singer, Bob Hope had a career that stretched across the decades. His casual careers included a butcher's delivery boy, a soda clerk, shoe salesman, pool hustler and boxer, but it was the stage where he was most at home.

Bob Hope began performing in vaudeville in the 1920s, performing what he called songs, patter, and eccentric dancing. He made his Broadway debut in 1933 with the musical *Roberta*. He appeared in the 1935 production of the *Ziegfeld Follies* and starred with the legendary Ethel Merman in a production of Cole Porter's *Red Hot and Blue*.

In addition to his work on the stage, Hope landed a profitable stint hosting the popular Pepsodent show on NBC Radio. His program would air in some form or another from 1938 until the 1950s. Bob Hope's radio fame led him to Hollywood, where he appeared in his first film, *The Big Broadcast of 1938*. He starred in more than 50 films, but he is best known for the road movies with Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour.

Though Bob Hope never won a Best Actor Oscar, he has been awarded two honorary Academy Awards and a humanitarian award. He made his first appearance on television in 1947 when he headlined the inaugural broadcast of KTLA, the first TV station on the West Coast.

□ 1530

In the early 1950s, he appeared frequently on "The Tonight Show" with Johnny Carson and alongside Lucille Ball on her sitcom "I Love Lucy."

Beginning in 1953, Hope hosted an annual Christmas television special, many of which were broadcast internationally for the sake of the United

States troops stationed around the world. During World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars and even during peacetime, Bob Hope toured with a number of USO shows, entertaining U.S. troops and earning the title of USO's Ambassador of Goodwill.

Over his lifetime, Bob Hope has been awarded more honors than any other entertainer, an achievement that earned him a place in the "Guinness Book of Records."

Since 1934, Bob Hope has been married to Delores Reade, whom he met when they appeared together on Broadway in "Roberta." The couple has four children.

Our condolences go out to the Hope family and his legion of fans.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 357.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SCHROCK). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, on July 27th, America mourned the loss of one of its greatest citizens when Bob Hope passed away at the age of 100. Our Nation came to know Bob Hope for his great career that spanned stage, screen, and radio. But it was his unrivaled commitment to our troops that made him an American hero. Hope headlined USO shows during World War II and the Persian Gulf War, as well as in Korea and Vietnam. Bob Hope is recognized by the Guinness Book of Records as the most honored entertainer in the world. He has been honored by the entertainment industry, the educational community, every branch of our armed services, and the United States Congress. He has had more than 2,000 awards and citations for humanitarian and professional efforts including 54 honorary doctorate degrees, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

In 1997, by an act of Congress, Bob Hope was made an "honorary veteran." Upon receiving the award, Hope said, "I've been given many awards in my lifetime—but to be numbered among the men and women I admire most—is the greatest honor I have ever received."

As a combat veteran myself, I was proud to welcome Bob Hope among our ranks. Bob Hope was a great American. He will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have been able to work with my friend and colleague, Mr. MILLER, as a co-author and lead cosponsor of this resolution. He and I are the founding Members and co-chairs of the Congressional USO Caucus. I also have the benefit of serving on both the House Armed Services Committee and the House Veterans Affairs Committee with Mr. MILLER. As the 137 Members and Senators of the Congressional USO Caucus, it is my hope that we will be able to support the mission and goals of the USO in Congress in the spirit of Bob Hope.

I encourage my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues today to honor and remember the legacy of one of the greatest entertainers, humanitarians, and patriots this country has ever known, Bob Hope.

Whether it was his early vaudeville routines, his many movies, or his numerous television specials, Americans always knew they could count on Bob Hope for a good laugh. But perhaps more impressively, Bob Hope selflessly dedicated himself to nearly 50 years of entertaining our men and women in uniform. It is estimated that 'G.I. Bob' performed for over 10 million American soldiers between World War II and Operation Desert Storm, an astonishing number that speaks to the depth of his dedication to our troops. In 1997, in recognition of his unflinching commitment, Congress unanimously voted to name Bob Hope an Honorary Veteran—the first individual so honored in the history of the United States.

I was privileged to have known Bob Hope, and have many memories of time spent with him and his wonderful wife, Dolores, and their family. When you were in his presence, you could not help but be in awe of an individual who was virtually unparalleled in his commitment to the United States of America.

During one of his many commencement addresses, Bob Hope reminded graduating seniors that they would soon take up the torch of freedom and knowledge and that, someday, they would pass that torch, burning stronger and brighter, on to others. Bob Hope carried that torch for over 100 years and has passed on to all of us a flame that continues to burn as a shining example of the virtues of humor, love, and patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join in honoring the life and legacy of Bob Hope.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support adoption of H. Res. 357. I congratulate the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) for shepherding this through the committee process, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 357.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

JUDGE EDWARD RODGERS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2075) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1905 West Blue Heron Boulevard in West Palm Beach, Florida, as the "Judge Edward Rodgers Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2075

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JUDGE EDWARD RODGERS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1905 West Blue Heron Boulevard in West Palm Beach, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Judge Edward Rodgers Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Judge Edward Rodgers Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I will defer to my friends on the other side of the aisle to speak on this worthwhile legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am representing the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) as a member of the Committee on Government Reform, and I am pleased to join the gentleman in consideration of H.R. 2075, legislation naming a postal facility in West Palm Beach, Florida, after Judge Edward Rodgers.

H.R. 2075 was sponsored by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) on May 13, 2003. The bill has met the Committee on Government Reform policy, and has been cosponsored by the entire Florida delegation.

Edward Rodgers has lived in West Palm Beach since 1950 when he married West Palm Beach native Gwendolyn Baker. Mr. Rodgers began his career as a teacher, later becoming an assistant principal. In reaction to the injustices of teaching in a segregated society, Mr. Rodgers became an attorney, graduating from Florida A&M University Law School in 1963.

He went on to become the first black county prosecutor and the first black judge in Palm Beach County. Judge Rodgers served on the bench for 22 years before retiring in 1995. On his first run for office in 1999, Judge Rodgers won a seat on the Riviera Beach City Council, where he presently serves as council chairman.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Rodgers has spent a lifetime working hard to assist those in need, championing the rights of those with drug addictions and those who are suffering from mental illness. Judge Rodgers has used his legal and judicial talent to improve his town, establishing a Saturday drug court, working as a mediator and court-ap-

pointed special master in arbitration and investigating back-room judicial appointments. Passage of H.R. 2075 maintains our tradition of recognizing those very special and deserving individuals.

I applaud our colleague for seeking to honor Judge Edward Rodgers in this manner, and I urge the swift passage of H.R. 2075.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS).

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me this time, and I also thank the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for participating and allowing this to come to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2075, a bill to name the Riviera Beach U.S. Post Office in honor of Judge Edward Rodgers. Eddie was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and moved to West Palm Beach, Florida, in 1950, where he met his bride and now-deceased wife, who was also a friend of mine.

Although he studied political science as an undergraduate student, he became a teacher schooling soldiers at segregated Roosevelt High School in West Palm Beach. Before being promoted to assistant principal, Eddie found himself in the position of arguing before the school board for equal pay for black teachers, but support was not there. The tyranny of segregation at that time caused him to go to law school at Florida A&M University where I had the good fortune of meeting him and his wife and his children. They all came to law school together.

The reason I know that story very well is I was in Judge Rodgers' class, one of six of us that graduated in that class from Florida A&M University. He went on to become Palm Beach County's first black prosecutor and then Palm Beach County's first black Court of Competent Jurisdiction judge. He would serve in the civil, criminal, and probate courts before retiring in 1995, after 22 remarkable years on the bench.

His accomplishments are numerous, and I have outlined some of them which I will include for the RECORD. He retired in 1995 and then really did not retire because he went on to seek elected office in Riviera Beach and went to work to restore his hometown, which he loves so much, as president of the Riviera Beach City Council.

Eddie Rodgers is a man that is known for his compassion, for his fairness, and his strength. He is a man that is respected and loved by his peers. In the entire community of Palm Beach, throughout the State of Florida, and this Nation, he finds himself a loved individual. I am honored to recognize a humanitarian activist, a former colleague, but most importantly, a great friend by naming the Riviera Beach Post Office in his honor. I obviously would urge the adoption of this bill. I