

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 25, 26, and 27, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

CONGRATULATING DR. IRVIN
HAMLIN**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Irvin Hamlin, M.D. of East Millinocket, Maine who is set to retire after practicing medicine for over 48 years in the Katahdin Region.

After serving his country as a medic in World War II, Dr. Hamlin returned to the states and attended Colby College in Waterville, Maine and completed his medical training at the Tufts University Medical School. Upon graduation from medical school, Dr. Hamlin had a brief internship in Springfield, Ohio and then moved to East Millinocket in 1955, where he has remained ever since.

Dr. Hamlin has always exemplified the qualities of superior citizenship; his dedication to his patients and his community should serve as an example to others. Always one to bring a smile to his patient's faces, Dr. Hamlin's good humor and practical jokes are renowned throughout the region; but his compassion is his most outstanding quality. I have felt this part of his caring in my life when he attended to my own father.

It is always with some lingering sadness that I pass along my best wishes for the retirement of an individual like Dr. Hamlin. Though his retirement is well deserved it also signifies that the Katahdin Region is losing one of its most valued and experienced physicians. While his presence as a physician will be sorely missed; the extra time to spend with his family and fishing in area lakes and streams is long over due. I only ask that he leave some fish for the rest of us to catch.

The Millinocket Regional Hospital for which he worked for so many years will honor Dr. Hamlin next Thursday, July 1, 2004. I am sure the people of the Katahdin region will turn out in droves to congratulate him and thank this wonderful man who has spent so many years serving them.

After 48 outstanding years of dedicated service, it is my great pleasure to congratulate Dr. Hamlin and thank him for his tireless service.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SHEVCHENKO MONUMENT**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, four decades ago, on June 27, 1964, the Ukrainian

American community marked a significant event—the unveiling of a monument to the Great Kobzar, Taras Shevchenko. Taras Hryhorovich Shevchenko, the great Ukrainian poet, artist and thinker, the revolutionary-democrat, and the ardent fighter against tsarism and serfdom. He is considered the great son of the Ukrainian people. As the autocratic government of tsarist Russia attempted to erase Shevchenko's name from people's memory and suppressed all attempts to immortalize in sculpture the image of the poet of genius, the people could not forget this man. The first monument in the country, the bust in marble, to the great Kobzar was set up illegally in 1899 in Kharkov. On March, 24, 1935, it was a great holiday for the people in Kharkov as they joined together for the unveiling of the first legal monument of Shevchenko.

Almost 30 years after the people of Ukraine celebrated their monument, the Ukrainian Americans were able to have a holiday of their own. Through hard work, generosity, and dedication, the Ukrainian American community was able to honor their country's hero with a monument in the Nation's Capitol. Over 100,000 attendees participated in the festivities 40 years ago dedicated to the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko monument. The Ukrainian American community is fortunate to celebrate this significant milestone 40 years later. I am proud to represent an area of Chicago that we call "Ukrainian Village." I want to honor this special day with my constituents and praise the Ukrainian community, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA), the U.S.-Ukrainian Foundation and all the organizations involved in honoring the 40th Anniversary of this special monument.

Mr. Speaker, this monument stands for more than just honoring a great man but also as a way to never forget the struggles and the human rights violations by the former Soviet regime and political repressions against those who struggled for Ukraine's liberation.

REMEMBERING A SOUTH CAROLINA
HERO, THOMAS CAUGHMAN**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on June 9th, one of Lexington, South Carolina's most beloved sons, Army Specialist Thomas Caughman, was lost, when he was killed in a terrorist attack while serving in Iraq.

As Thomas wrote from the field in Iraq, "freedom isn't free." Sadly, his family, friends and fellow South Carolinians have learned this lesson in a painful and personal way. Thomas Caughman was the son of proud parents Hampton and Jane Caughman of Lexington, South Carolina.

Thomas will forever be an American hero for defending the American people in the War on Terror. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest regrets to the family of Thomas Caughman, and the entire Wilson family sends their thoughts and prayers.

I request that the following article from The State newspaper be placed into the RECORD, in remembrance of the fallen hero.

[From the State, June 19, 2004]

WAR IN IRAQ: LEXINGTON BIDS FAREWELL TO A
FALLEN HERO

(By Chuck Crumbo)

When he wrote home, Army Spc. Thomas Caughman would close his letters with these words: "Freedom isn't free."

On Friday, family and friends honored the 20-year-old Lexington County soldier who paid the ultimate price.

About 1,000 crowded into the pews and lined the walls of Red Bank Baptist Church, and another 200 to 300 waited outside in the sweltering heat, as Caughman was remembered as a joyful and religious young man who made others around him feel special and loved.

A large crowd was expected. Caughman was a member of one of Lexington County's best-known families, with ties to banking, retailing and the religious community.

Nearly an hour before the service, traffic was backed up a quarter of a mile on S.C. 6, which runs past the church in the heart of the Red Bank community. After the church parking lot filled up, some mourners had to park across the street in the lot of St. James Lutheran Church.

The turnout would have delighted Caughman, said the soldier's uncle, Glenn Day, who offered personal remarks during the service.

"If he could say something to me right now and come up and do that little backhand on your chest . . . he'd say, 'Look at that crowd I got for you,'" Day said to laughter.

Caughman, a 2002 graduate of Lexington High School, died June 9 while patrolling a Baghdad neighborhood for bombs used to attack U.S. troops.

The Army said Caughman's armored vehicle was struck by rocket-propelled grenades and small arms fire. Two other soldiers in his vehicle also were wounded seriously.

Caughman was assigned to Army Reserve Company C of the 291st Engineer Battalion, based in Spartanburg. He transferred to a Pennsylvania combat engineer unit when it was called up for active duty.

Caughman is the first fatality of the Iraqi war from Lexington County and the 21st member of the armed services with ties to South Carolina to die in the conflict.

Friday's service was a mix of sweet sentiment—about a son, brother, nephew, cousin and soldier—and a dose of unabashed patriotism.

Just after the service started, the Rev. Robert "Butch" Powell asked mourners to salute some 60 members of the U.S. military who attended the funeral, including four dozen members of Caughman's Reserve unit.

Led by the fallen soldier's parents, Hampton and Jane Caughman, mourners stood and offered a thunderous ovation that lasted for 40 seconds.

Later, pictures of Caughman flashed on a screen at the front of the church while country singer Toby Keith's recording of "American Soldier" was played over the public address system.

The pictures covered Caughman's life from toddler to soldier.

There were shots of Caughman as a child at birthday parties, pedaling his red tractor, riding horseback, playing youth league baseball and fishing at the family pond.

There also were pictures of Caughman at his high school graduation flanked by his parents, shots of him and his buddies posing with a buck they had bagged, and images of him in his Army desert togs at the wheel of a Humvee.

Caughman's parents said he loved children and especially relished the time he could spend with his cousins at family outings.

One of those cousins, 6-year-old Hannah Frye, honored Caughman by standing before

the packed church and flawlessly singing Lee Greenwood's patriotic hit, "God Bless the USA." During the service, Day often referred to his nephew's ever-present smile.

"Every time I close my eyes, I see that smile and that smile tells you a lot about a man's spirit," Day said. "I take great pride in being Thomas Caughman's uncle."

The Rev. Powell recalled one of his last conversations with Caughman, before the soldier headed for Iraq. Caughman believed it was his responsibility to fight for the freedom that his family, friends and fellow Americans enjoy, Powell said.

"He told me, 'I'm not married, I don't have any kids. I'm going for those who can't. I'm going because it's right,'" Powell said.

Referring to Caughman's writing "freedom isn't free" in his letters, Powell said, "there is a cost to be paid for freedom and he willingly paid that cost."

"Thomas Caughman was a hero, and so are the others who are still over there. Don't forget them in your prayers."

After the service, mourners filed outside to the church cemetery, where Caughman was laid to rest in a family plot near his grandfather, Raymond B. Day, the church's pastor for 36 years. Caughman received full military honors and was awarded posthumously the Bronze Star for meritorious service and the Purple Heart.

Brig. Gen. Thomas Bryson, deputy commander of the 81st Regional Readiness Command, presented the U.S. flag that draped Caughman's casket to the soldier's parents.

And then, after a final prayer, Hampton and Jane Caughman rose from their seats, stepped to their son's casket and gently patted and rubbed it.

Caughman's 17-year-old sister, Lisa, and his girlfriend, Lindsey Hendrix, followed. Each laid a rose on top of the casket and gave it a soft kiss.

Before the service, Toyanna Frye, who is married to one of the soldier's cousins, talked about Caughman's desire to serve and how he touched others' lives.

"It makes you look at your life and how we need to serve others," Frye said. "I imagine that it was a wonderful day in heaven when he came home."

CONGRATULATING TYLER TAPPENDORF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tyler Tappendorf of Belleville, Illinois on winning the National Peace Essay Contest in Illinois.

As my colleagues may know, the essay contest is sponsored by the United States Institute of Peace, an independent, non-partisan federal institution that promotes research, education and training on the prevention, management and peaceful resolution of conflict. First conducted in 1987, the essay contest is the Institute's primary outreach program to high school students.

Contestants this year were asked to analyze the process of rebuilding societies after conflict. Tyler's essay, *Rebuilding from Past Conflicts*, was selected as the best from the state of Illinois. Tyler attends Belleville East High School and plans to attend Valparaiso University and study actuarial science and Spanish.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Tyler the best of luck in the future and again congratulate him on this

great accomplishment, and I am entering his essay into the RECORD so it can be enjoyed by others.

REBUILDING FROM PAST CONFLICTS

From the sheer numbers of a post-war death toll to the immense destruction of buildings and infrastructure, conflicts leave their mark on the world. The work that continues once the fighting has stopped determines whether more problems will erupt or whether an ultimate peace will triumph. This post-war reconstruction is often a complex and difficult process. From the players in the rebuilding to the system of governance, each aspect of reconstruction impacts the final outcome. Though some attempts have failed and others have succeeded, humankind can learn a great deal from past reconstruction efforts. The analysis of the aftermath in Japan after World War II and the reconciliation in Rwanda following the 1994 genocide suggests that plans for successful rebuilding must include a branching network of peacekeepers, an effective system of justice, and an impartial system of governance.

On August 15, 1945, the largest war in the history of the world reached its end onboard the U.S.S. *Missouri* after the United States unleashed on Japan the world's most powerful bombs. According to W. G. Beasley, with the swipe of a pen, the Japanese handed over power to the United States beginning a seven-year occupation feared by many Japanese as the end to their country, but ultimately recognized as "a fresh beginning" (214).

Embarking on what political scientist Robert Ward calls "the single most exhaustively planned operation of massive and externally directed political change in world history," the United States commenced reconstruction with trials of war criminals (Nardo 91). These trials quickly eliminated outside cries for revenge. Concurrently, new officials removed old leaders from the country, and the occupational government forced Emperor Hirohito to resign his position and denounce his supposed godliness (Dilts 294). This eradication of opposition laid the cornerstone for a smooth reconstruction.

Along with the United States' system of justice, the means of governance also helped assure the success of the reconciliation process. W.G. Beasley noted that though the United States controlled the country, it chose to govern indirectly through a modified body of Japanese leaders (215). The government also avoided unpopular laws, therefore evading much opposition (216). In conjunction with this, the U.S. also reassured safety and the betterment of the people. This not only initiated future friendliness, but also generated cooperation by the Japanese people (Dilts 294). In ruling through the country's own people and recognizing the citizen's views, reconstruction planted democracy while still maintaining support of the people.

Together with fair governance, a primary country controlling the process eased the reconstruction. As noted in Modern Japan, numerous countries such as Britain, China, and the Soviet Union would have an influence in the reconstruction, but the large majority of the power fell into the hands of the United States and General Douglas MacArthur (92). This separation between major and minor influences resulted in easier governance along with fewer disputes over insignificant details. By simply gathering the world's suggestions and channeling them through one enforcer, the reconstruction leaders simplified the process.

With a system of justice, a fair and respected government, a purpose of overall improvement, and one major peacekeeper

backed by other nations, the peacekeeping process reached its ultimate goal on April 28, 1952. With over fifty nations present, a treaty granted Japan freedom to pursue democracy peacefully and prosperously. Over fifty years later, Japan reigns as a world power while still remaining a peaceful, democratic nation.

Similar to Japan, Rwanda faced a massive reconstruction following its 1994 genocide. Unfortunately, its outcome proved to be less successful. In April 1994, the murder of Rwanda's Hutu president, coupled with an unsettled past, instantly incited Rwanda's two tribes—the Hutu and Tutsi—to violence. As reported by Bitala, the Hutu, with revenge in mind, murdered nearly 800,000 Tutsi in a span of about three months (6). Though the Tutsi also murdered many Hutu, the numbers of their killing was significantly lower than the genocide carried out by the Hutu (Santoro 11). The violence only reached its end after the Tutsi-led government, the RPF, gained control of the capital (11).

In a 2001 issue of *World Press Review*, Michael Bitala also noted that almost immediately the remaining Tutsi pleaded for the RPF to implement a system of justice (6). These requests forced Rwanda's minister of justice to lock up over 100,000 suspects, and, consequently, Rwanda's prisons immediately became overcrowded and unsanitary (6). In order to achieve actual justice, leaders derived a new system called "gacaca" in which small village courts would hear cases. Discussed in *The New Republic*, here at the gacacas the killers would face a panel of village leaders who would decide their fate (11). Though the plan began over three years ago, Rwanda has since made little progress (11). Many killers refuse to admit their crimes, many villages simply do not use gacacas, and many RPF leaders discourage the tribunals (11-12). Though the new system of justice in Rwanda can accommodate the masses, it unfavorably plots killers versus victims therefore destroying any hope of fair trials.

Together with a poor justice system, the government, led by the RPF plays unfairly to the Hutu, disrupting hopes of reconciliation. From its beginnings in 1994, the RPF-led government quieted nearly all resistance to its policies. According to Santoro, the totalitarian regime even hindered the planned gacacas (12). In mid-2003 the first election with more than one political party was held in Rwanda, yet despite this apparent improvement, election fraud in all forms belied the progress proving once again the authoritarianism of the government (Coleman n. pag.). Without a government willing to benefit all people of the reconstruction, little progress can be made.

The division of authority among participants in Rwanda's reconciliation also has hindered its success. As written by Fedarko, immediately following the genocide, French troops served as protectors to the survivors (56). Following this the German government agreed to lead the process for gacacas (Santoro 11). Numerous non-governmental organizations (NGOs) played a similar role throughout the peace process as well (11). All these forces coupled with the Tutsi-led government created an overload of influence without one primary overseer. No government—besides the RPF—was in complete control. Without one dominating mediator, the process was delayed and complicated.

Rwanda, despite its many efforts, has not reconciled completely. Although no formal fighting has since broken out, the Hutu and Tutsi tribes still stand divided inside the country's borders. Until Rwanda can establish an effective system of justice along with an unbiased government, little progress will occur.