

IN HONOR OF WOMEN IN THE
ARMED FORCES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues today to honor the thousands of courageous women of the United States Armed Forces. In particular, I am pleased to honor the 5 courageous women who were chosen to be honored by the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues at the 7th Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. These 5 women are:

Command Sergeant Major Debra Strickland of the United States Army;

Master Chief Storekeeper Kelly D. Williams of the United States Navy;

Chief Master Sergeant Margaret C. Burgess of the United States Air Force;

Sergeant Major Barbara J. Titus of the United States Marine Corps;

Senior Chief Store Keeper Corzetta "Cozy" Callaway of the United States Coast Guard.

I join my colleagues in commending these women for their bravery and self-sacrifice.

Today, women are making great contributions to our military. There are approximately 212,000 women serving the United States in the Armed Forces, including 33 women generals. For the past 10 years, women have served in combat positions. As women become a larger presence in all areas of the United States military, like their male colleagues, they are risking their lives for our country. As of April 30, 18 United States women soldiers have died in Iraq. This is a higher number of female casualties in any war since World War II. We all owe a great debt to our servicewomen who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Today, as many women in uniform are deployed overseas, it is especially appropriate to honor them and show that their service to our country is greatly appreciated and respected. It is an honor for me to recognize the worthy accomplishments of these particular 5 outstanding military women, those servicewomen who have died in service to our country, and all of the women who currently serve or have served in the United States military.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND JAPAN AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. HIRO KURASHINA

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the beginning of relations between the United States of America and Japan. One hundred and fifty years ago, Commodore Perry opened the doors of a country and started a relationship that would eventually grow into an alliance between two of the largest economies in today's world. A country which had largely isolated itself from the rest of the world, Japan,

in a very short span of a century and a half, now has a strong international presence as a strong ally of the United States and advocate for freedom and democracy in the world.

Today, America and Japan enjoy strong trade relations, economies that support each other, and equally as important, social and cultural ties that bridge the Pacific Ocean and span differences in languages and custom. The alliance between Japan and America is strong and stable. We both fiercely defend freedom and democracy and we both promote human rights in the world.

The friendship between America and Japan is magnified and continually strengthened by its peoples and their willingness to work with each other for the common goal of improving the quality of life for all citizens of the world. Both America and Japan freely extend helping hands to each other and to the most needy of the world. Both America and Japan use their combined economic might to cure disease, feed the hungry and explore the unknown in search of greater knowledge and resources.

In these efforts certain citizens of both of our great nations shine and become role models for all of other citizens to emulate. Dr. Hiro Kurashina is such a man. Motivated by the desire to make a better future by learning from the past, Dr. Kurashina, a native of Japan, has devoted many years to the development of the Micronesian Area Research Center, the premier archive and repository of the history of the Pacific Islands and its people. Dr. Kurashina's work has helped to ensure that the story of the islands will always be preserved and promoted among its peoples and shared with the world.

Through these efforts, Dr. Kurashina has created a strong bond between Japan and the islands of Micronesia and through his efforts, the University of Guam has become an active participant in the growth of knowledge about this region and its people. Dr. Kurashina has contributed greatly to making the University of Guam a valuable resource for Guam, Micronesia, and the world at large.

I consider it an honor to take this opportunity to praise Dr. Kurashina for his work and to thank him for all that he has done for our islands and people and all that he has done to continue the strengthening of the bonds between Japan, America and the islands of the Pacific.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on May 18, 2004, I missed a series of rollcall votes in the House of Representatives because of a family obligation that required my presence in Arizona. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall Vote Nos. 188, 189 and 190. I would have voted "no" on rollcall Vote No. 187.

IN OPPOSITION TO INCREASED
FUNDING FOR NATIONAL MIS-
SILE DEFENSE

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, last week, I joined several distinguished experts in the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) to commend them for the public release of their very timely, and much-needed study on the oversold and misguided National Missile Defense. It is entitled "Technical Realities: An Analysis of the 2004 Deployment of a U.S. Missile Defense System".

Sadly, Congress keeps shoveling ever greater amounts of taxpayer funds into this wasteful, dead-end program that adds nothing to our real national defense. In FY 2003, President Bush requested \$7.8 billion, Congress authorized \$7.78 billion and appropriated \$7.62 billion. In FY 2004, the President requested \$9.1 billion, Congress authorized \$9.08 billion and appropriated \$8.9 billion. Now, in FY 2005, the President has requested \$10.2 billion. This bill authorizes that full amount, an increase of \$1.1 billion or 13 percent more than the current level. It includes funding for the initial deployment of an untested national missile defense system based in Alaska and California.

To put it bluntly, our country can't afford spending upwards of \$10 billion per year for a bogus missile defense program.

First of all, many of our Nation's leading physicists view midcourse defenses as absurd. They have long believed mid-course defenses are easily defeated and won't work for fundamental physics reasons.

Second, the truth is pure politics is driving this deployment. On December 11, 2002, the last intercept test of the missile defense system failed. No tests have taken place since then. Nevertheless, on December 17, 2002, President Bush announced his decision to deploy missile defenses in 2004.

Sometime after the President's announcement, the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) cancelled or postponed every test scheduled since the speech. Nine tests have been cancelled.

Despite these cancellations, the schedule for deployment has actually moved up. President Bush simply announced deployment "in 2004." Pentagon official subsequently set a deadline of September 30, 2004. The MDA has stated "as early as this summer" for initial operations. Bush Administration officials still maintain that this is an "eventdriven" program, where results of tests and simulations determine how the program progresses.

Instead, it seems to be schedule-driven. A return to the "rush to failure" approach that Lt. Gen. Larry Welch warned about during the Clinton Administration.

The current focus of the SDI Program is wrong. As we have witnessed in other national security matters, the Bush Administration appears hell-bent on deploying missile defense, regardless of whether it works. Before taking office, George W. Bush campaigned on the issue of missile defense. As has been highlighted in Richard Clarke's book and elsewhere, before the 9/11 attacks, the foreign and defense policy of the Bush Administration

was focused not on terrorism, but on missile defense.

Post-9/11, while it should be clear that the real threat is terrorism, the missile defense program has only sped up, and funding has steadily increased. Regrettably, this bill is now brought to the House under a restrictive and no amendments pertaining to the SDI have been made in order to allow debate and votes to cut funding for missile defense or calling for realistic, operational testing before deploying more interceptors. Apparently, no dissenting votes will be tolerated and this Congress will do nothing to stop the Bush Administration from declaring some system operational some time this year.

Many SDI supporters argue that any missile defense is better than none. However, the current situation we face maybe worse than nothing. While the currently constituted SDI system will offer no real defense, Bush Administration officials often claim it will be highly effective and will give the President "more options." But it will not work well enough to affect our military posture and will only make potential enemies nervous and lead them to take offensive steps to overcome it. It may push Russia and China to maintain, improve and expand their nuclear arsenals.

When weighing the pros and cons of rushing to judgment on SDI deployment, we would do well to remember the advice and counsel of Richard Feynman, one of our Nation's greatest thinkers and most distinguished scientists: "For a successful technology, reality must take precedence over public relations, for Nature cannot be fooled."

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF
KELLY SHEA GALLO

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kelly Shea Gallo, the beloved wife, mother and teacher who lost her young life to breast cancer on May 3, 2004. Throughout her illness she was an inspiration to others, remaining strong despite the ordeal she was undergoing. Shortly after being declared cancer free, the disease recurred and she died at a San Francisco hospital, surrounded by her family.

Kelly Shea Gallo was a sixth grade teacher, a basketball, volleyball and softball coach and

a swimming teacher. As the San Mateo Times said of her, "she brought cheer into the lives of those she met. Her infectious smile brightened classrooms and endeared her to the dozens of pupils who had the honor of sharing even a moment of her brief life." The Principal of Taylor School, where she taught, remembers her as the culture and spirit of the school, a teacher who had a unique and natural rapport with her students.

Kelly Shea Gallo was born in San Francisco and was raised in South San Francisco and Millbrae. She was a graduate of Mercy High School, California State University, Chico, and earned her teaching credential from San Francisco State University.

Kelly was the loving mother of Mia, age 7, and Chloe, age 3, and the devoted wife of Mark Gallo, whom she met and married in 1995. She leaves behind her loving parents, her brothers and her sister, as well as aunts, uncles and cousins.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest sympathy to Kelly Shea Gallo's family. She was a treasure and a shining light and will be missed by all who knew her. Our community will long remember her as an extraordinary educator and a good and great woman.