

the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

REMARKS FOR SERGEANT WILLIAM E. HALL, AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on February 3, 1953, the Headquarters of the 40th Infantry Division declared that Sergeant William E. Hall (US54024606, Infantry, United States Army, 224th Infantry Regiment) distinguished himself by heroic achievement near Kumhwa, Korea, on the 16th of June and 17th of June 1952. As Sergeant Hall's platoon advanced up an enemy-held hill, the enemy who was waiting in ambush, let loose with a murderous attack. Many casualties were sustained, including Sergeant Hall, who suffered painful wounds. With complete and utter disregard for his personal safety, Sergeant Hall fully exposed himself to enemy fire in order to rally and encourage his men. All radio communications had been knocked out by enemy fire, but Sergeant Hall courageously remained exposed to enemy small arms, automatic weapons, and mortar fire in order to maintain communications by voice and call for reinforcements. The courage, outstanding devotion to duty, and determination displayed by Sergeant Hall under extremely hazardous conditions were directly responsible for maintaining vital communications and resulted in the arrival of needed reinforcements. Sergeant Hall's outstanding courage while risking his life was inspiring to his men and reflects great credit upon himself and the United States Army. Sergeant Hall entered the Federal service from Texas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JEFF FLAKE**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position on rollcall votes 177, 178, and 179. I was regrettably absent from the chamber on May 17 during rollcall votes 177, 178, and 179. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 177, "yea" on rollcall 178, and "yea" on rollcall five.

CONGRATULATIONS, ANTHONY F. HEISLER

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anthony F. Heisler of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on his commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army.

Lt. Heisler is a recent graduate of the George Washington University where he re-

ceived a dual Bachelor of the Arts in German Languages and Literature and in History. A resident of Northeast Philadelphia, Lt. Heisler had always aspired to join the Army, and it is his work in college as a cadet in the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) of Georgetown University of which he is most proud.

In his capacity as a cadet, Lt. Heisler was responsible for the oversight of over 80 Army cadets. For his service, Lt. Heisler has won numerous awards, including the Lieutenant Harry W. Apraker, Jr. award, which is given to the cadet who contributes the most to the mission accomplishment of the Georgetown University ROTC program. Upon his commissioning, Lt. Heisler has been assigned to the Field Artillery branch of the Army.

I am eternally grateful to Lt. Heisler for his service to the United States, and I wish him continued success as he begins his career in the United States Army.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the history of our great Nation the cause of freedom has not come easily, but it has come to those who have the will to attain for themselves and for their countrymen. Our Nation has been blessed to have great leaders and visionaries who crafted the Constitution on a new independent Nation. Later, similar strength was needed to eliminate the scourge of slavery. Today, we continue the struggle to make sure that all men and women can taste the sweet nectar of freedom. While we rightfully praise and celebrate the great leaders and visionaries who created and shaped this Nation, let us never forget that even their great work would have fallen short had it not been for the millions of soldiers willing to surrender their life to give the cause of freedom to others.

It was Edmund Burke who once aptly stated: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." The birth of our Nation itself was due to good men who refused to submit to an unjust rule. Time after time, in battle after battle American men and women have not fled from mortal danger, no instead they have rushed towards it. Our brave soldiers built this Nation, first with independence, then with the righteousness of eliminating slavery, and finally in the last century they built this Nation in the eyes of the world, not only as a superpower, but as a Nation that values humanity and kindness over the tyranny of others. It has been said that the generation that came back from fighting World War II was in fact the 'greatest generation' and I would be hard pressed to disagree. Our brave soldiers went to Europe and the Far East to save massacred peoples; they had no choice but victory. Even now, we look back in pain and imagine the horror that could have been had they not been successful. They came back from this war to end all wars and raised a new generation of Americans. They created the greatest middle-class ever seen in the history of the world. Their domestic suc-

cess ensured a great future for our Nation, their success abroad ensured life and liberty for millions around the world.

I see this same courage and strength in the eyes of our current generation of soldiers. They bear the burden of a new world, in which the greatest threats against our life and freedom are often unseen. They also bear the hope of a Nation and a world that clings to the hope of peace and stability. It was the great statesman Adlai Stevenson who said: "Patriotism is not a short and frenzied outburst of emotion but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime." It is clear that the torch has been passed from the 'greatest generation' to a new generation of men and women willing to dedicate their lives to protecting ours. Our Nation is truly blessed in so many ways, but our soldiers continue to be the greatest protectors of our blessings.

Perhaps the greatest literary reminder we have of the sacrifice our soldiers make in battle is the poem In Flanders Field written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, MD of the Canadian Army:

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place, and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from falling hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

This poem describes the feelings of Lieutenant Colonel McCrae after the battle of Ypres in 1915. Our soldiers go to war knowing that they may not come back; they go to war knowing their comrades may not come back with them, and yet they do not relent. The courage of our Armed Forces can not be questioned, their dedication can not be taken lightly; truly their sacrifice must be honored dearly.

During this Moment of Silence I want to acknowledge the brave soldiers from my home city of Houston who died fighting for our nation in Iraq and Afghanistan:

Sp. Adolfo C. Carballo, 20, Houston, Texas, Died: April 10, 2004, Baghdad, Iraq; Pfc. Analaura Esparza Gutierrez, 21, Houston, Texas, Died: October 1, 2003, Tikrit, Iraq; Sp. John P. Johnson, 24, Houston, Texas, Died: October 22, 2003, Baghdad, Iraq; Sp. Scott Q. Larson, 22, Houston, Texas, Died: April 5, 2004, Baghdad, Iraq; Sgt. Keelan L. Moss, 23, Houston, Texas, Died: November 2, 2003, Al Fallujah, Iraq; Pfc. Armando Soriano, 20, Houston, Texas, Died: February 1, 2004, Haditha, Iraq; Cpl. Tomas Sotelo Jr., 20, Houston, Texas, Died: June 27, 2003, Baghdad, Iraq; Staff Sgt. Brian T. Craig, 27, Houston, Texas, Died: April 15, 2002, Afghanistan.

The names of those brave soldiers and all soldiers who have died fighting for our nation will always be synonymous with the cause of freedom. It takes that rare individual, who in fact does not see themselves as an individual, but as a piece of a greater mission. I hope and pray for the safe return of our soldiers fighting abroad, I cherish and honor our veterans who served before. Let us take this Memorial Day to heart, for everything we love and hold dear in this great nation of ours was

possible because our brave soldiers were willing to defend it. I leave you now with an powerful poem on the subject of our brave soldiers and veterans from the great American poet Walt Whitman:

DIRGE FOR TWO VETERANS

The last sunbeam  
Lightly falls from the finish'd Sabbath,  
On the pavement here, and there beyond it is  
looking,  
Down a new-made double grave.  
Lo, the moon ascending,  
Up from the east the silvery round moon,  
Beautiful over the house-tops, ghastly, phan-  
tom moon,  
Immense and silent moon.  
I see a sad procession,  
And I hear the sound of coming full-key'd  
bugles,  
All the channels of the city streets they're  
flooding,  
As with voices and with tears.  
I hear the great drums pounding,  
And the small drums steady whirring,  
And every blow of the great convulsive  
drums,  
Strikes me through and through.  
For the son is brought with the father,  
In the foremost ranks of the fierce assault  
they fell,  
Two veterans son and father dropt together,  
And the double grave awaits them.  
Now nearer blow the bugles,  
And the drums strike more convulsive,  
And the daylight o'er the pavement quite  
has faded,  
And the strong dead-march enwraps me.  
In the eastern sky up-buoying,  
The sorrowful vast phantom moves  
illumin'd,  
'Tis some mother's large transparent face,  
In heaven brighter growing.  
O strong dead-march you please me!  
O moon immense with your silvery face you  
soothe me!  
O my soldiers twain! O my veterans passing  
to burial!  
What I have I also give you.  
The moon gives you light,  
And the bugles and the drums give you  
music,  
And my heart, O my soldiers, my veterans,  
My heart gives you love.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. BURTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of Memorial Day and to honor three fallen soldiers from the Fifth District of Indiana who so bravely sacrificed their own lives in Iraq so that Iraqi citizens may one day share in the same freedoms as citizens of our great Nation.

America collectively grieves at the loss of her sons and daughters, but we cannot fully appreciate the enormity of the losses their family and friends have suffered. All we can do is remember that the price of our liberty bears an enormous cost. I am reminded of the words of General George S. Patton, who commanded the U.S. Third Army in the Second World War: "We should not mourn these brave men, but rather thank God that such men lived." It is the determination and willing-

ness of these young men and women to defend our Nation that safeguards all our freedom. We should not and will not soon forget our sons' and daughters' heroic service.

Private First Class Deryk Lyell Hallal (Marine Corps; April 7, 2004), Private First Class Christopher E. Hudson (Army; March 21, 2004), and Sergeant Jarrod W. Black (Army; December 12, 2003) from the Fifth District of Indiana will forever be remembered in the hearts and minds of their family and friends. These three soldiers gave their lives helping free an enslaved people while protecting the world from the scourge of terrorism. We are grateful that there are men like these who are willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for our great Nation. Memorial Day will forever serve as a reminder of their sacrifices as well as all of the past, present, and future heroes who have fought and will so bravely fight to protect our Nation.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, in times of great sorrow and confusion I often turn to the Bible for comfort and guidance.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 teaches us, "For everything there is a season, And a time for every matter under heaven . . . A time to be born, and a time to die; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; A time for war, and a time for peace."

I hope and pray that soon we will see a time for peace around the world. Brave men and women answered their country's call for duty and paid the ultimate sacrifice. They died as heroes in honorable service to our country, and words inadequately convey our sorrow.

Across Washington State, 13 families grieve over the loss of loved ones in Iraq and Afghanistan. On behalf of the nation, the House of Representatives paused recently for a moment of silence to recognize and honor our fallen heroes.

We can honor our soldiers by remembering their names and reflecting on their contributions to our lives and to our communities. Join me in honoring these brave men and women.

Second Lieutenant Benjamin J. Colgan, 30, from Kent; First Lieutenant Michael R. Adams, 24, from Seattle; Staff Sergeant Cody Prosser, 28, whose mother lives in Seattle; Specialist Jacob R. Herring, 21, from Kirkland; Specialist Jeffrey R. Shaver, 26, from Maple Valley; Lance Corporal Cedric E. Burns, 22, from Vancouver; Specialist Justin W. Hebert, of Arlington; Private First Class Duane E. Longstreth, 19, of Tacoma; Private First Class Kerry D. Scott, 21, of Mount Vernon; Specialist Robert T. Benson, 20, of Spokane; Sergeant Jay A. Blessing, 23, of Tacoma; Sergeant Curt E. Jordan, Jr., of Green Acres; and, Staff Sergeant Christopher Bunda, 29.

America is richer because of their service. America is poorer because of their loss.

The Gospel of John 14:27, offers comfort in the words of Jesus, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Kim Bigley who was recently killed in Kosovo.

Kim Bigley was an employee of DynCorp International which was serving with the United Nations as international police officers. Kim and other members were fired upon by a Jordanian police officer for unknown reason and she and two others were killed in the resulting firefight.

Kim Bigley was a 47-year-old who lived most of her life in southern and Southwestern Illinois. She was the former warden of the Shawnee Correctional Center, and had just completed her first day of job orientation when she was killed. She is survived by her parents, Jim and Janice Bigley of Greenfield; sons, Casey Morrow of Springfield and Quinn Morrow of Decatur; daughter, Karly Morrow of Paducah; and a brother, Joe Bigley of Sherman. My thoughts and prayers go out to her families and loved ones. Ms. Bigley gave her life in an effort to improve the lives of others. This sacrifice should never be forgotten.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to dedicated soldiers, marines and citizens from my district that paid the ultimate price while serving our country.

Next weekend, our Nation will commemorate Memorial Day. All too often we forget the purposes of our special days we set aside to celebrate. Memorial Day is much more than a three-day weekend that marks the beginning of summer. This day, originally known as Decoration Day, has a long history dating back to the Civil War, commemorating the sacrifices of our armed forces. During this Memorial Day it is fitting that we make a special effort to honor and acknowledge those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defending our freedom and the freedom of others in Afghanistan and Iraq.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of Private First Class Chad Bales, Private First Class Ricky Morris, Specialist Robert Arsiaga, Specialist Israel Garza, Corporal Daniel Amaya, and Private First Class Clayton Henson. These gentlemen served our country with courage and dignity. There is no greater valor than sacrifice in the name of freedom.

I pray for the safe return of all of our servicemen and women and thank them for the sacrifice they make every day defending our country.