

will be laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. Major Eddie Whitehead, a respected Vietnam veteran who proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps for 28 years, will be laid to rest today among other great American heroes at Arlington National Cemetery. On February 25, 2005 Major Whitehead lost his battle with cancer, and all who knew and loved him will miss him, including his wife Bonnie, son Eddie Jr., daughters MitziLynn Keegan and Christian Thijm, sister Mitzi Datre, and grandchildren Derek and Casey Jene. Let us pause to remember him and thank an American hero.

IN MEMORY OF OFFICER JAMES
DANIEL JONES

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I pay tribute today to the life of James Daniel Jones. James was a man of great integrity and character, who honorably served both his country and his community.

James passed away on May 10, 2005 at the age of 75. He was born in Minden, Louisiana, but in 1957 made his home in Barstow, California, where he resided until his passing. James married Louvern Redwell in 1953, and they had seven children, including my good friend Brian Jones.

James honorably served our country throughout his life. He was drafted into the United States Army in 1951 and served for 2 years and was honorably discharged. He went on to spend 32 years as a civil employee of the U.S. Marine Corps.

In addition to serving his country, James also served the people of his community. He volunteered at the Mojave Valley Senior Citizen Center and provided transportation for the sick and the elderly. He also was active in the lives of the youth in the community, as an East Barstow Little League coach. He also had a deep relationship with Christ, and was an active member of the Union Missionary Baptist Church.

James was preceded in death by his parents, Eli and Freelove Jones; his brother, Andrew Jones; and his three sisters, Donnie Jones, Lorean Stewart and Ella Mae Andrews.

He is survived by his beloved and dear wife of 52 years, Louvern Jones; his sister, Mary Helen Smith; his brother, Eddie Jones; and his seven children, Loretta Johnson, Shirley Sherrod, Donny Jones, Donie Elliott, Jennifer Jones-Scott, Vivian Brooks and Brian Jones. He is also survived by twelve grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to pay tribute to James Jones, a man who improved the lives of those he knew. James will be missed by many in his community, but he will certainly not be forgotten. He leaves behind him a legacy of caring and compassion, of unselfish dedication to his community and his country.

TRIBUTE TO JENNY PHILLIPS

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to pay tribute to a woman who has made an incredible difference in the lives of my fellow West Virginians. Jenny Phillips has served honorably as the West Virginia USDA Rural Development Director, and is retiring with a record of accomplishment that deserves our thanks and praise. Our State has many assets, as well as many needs. Jenny has a unique ability to bring people together for a common cause, to bring the resources of the Federal Government to partner with communities to solve problems and build for the future. Whether it was basic necessities such as water and sewer lines and affordable housing, or visionary projects such as high-speed internet access to bring health care, education and high-tech jobs to rural areas, Jenny delivered for West Virginia. We are taught to always leave a place better than we found it. Jenny Phillips has been the embodiment of those values in her life and career. All West Virginians and Americans thank her for her exemplary service and send our sincere best wishes for her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MIHAN LEE

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mihan Lee, an 11th-grader who lives in my Congressional district and attends Georgetown Day School. Recently, she competed against nearly 5,400 middle and high school students nationwide in an essay contest titled "Lincoln and a New Birth of Freedom." Her essay, "A New Country, a New Century, a New Freedom" earned her grand prize honors. The contest was held to commemorate the opening of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. Mihan, a 17-year-old, second-generation Korean-American, read her award-winning prose during the dedication ceremony.

Although Mihan's essay was not specifically about President Lincoln, she captured his message of freedom and courage in a story about her great-grandfather, who lived in Korea under Japanese colonization.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Mihan Lee and wish her continued success in the years ahead. I submit her essay for the RECORD.

A NEW COUNTRY, A NEW CENTURY, A NEW
FREEDOM

My understanding of freedom is inextricably tied up with my understanding of language. My great-grandfather, in 1940s Korea, was arrested for putting together the first Korean dictionary, when the language had been banned by the Japanese government. My great-grandfather believed that words, the medium by which we formulate and share ideas, can bind and break the very ideas they express if the language is that of an oppressor. He fought for the freedom of his people to express ideas in their own words; in so doing, he defended their very right to have ideas.

As I prepare for all the freedoms and responsibilities of adulthood, I remember these definitions of freedom I have inherited, and strive to make ones of my own—not only as the first generation of my family born in a new country, but also as an American youth at the birth of a new century. Sitting in the hall between classes, my friends and I discuss the faults of our school's administration, the right to same-sex marriage, the justification for the Iraq War. We feel it is our right to know and evaluate our surroundings, to speak and have our ideas responded to.

I believe that freedom in the 21st century means the liberty of individuals, regardless of age, race, gender, or class, to express themselves in their own words, and to use those words to shape history. We celebrate it, and yet we never stop fighting for it. I am Korean-American, I am young, and I am free. I speak—not always articulate, not often right, but always in my own words. I speak, and I listen.

LETTER TO PRESIDENT BUSH REGARDING LUIS POSADA CARRILES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today 20 Representatives sent to President Bush the following letter regarding the asylum application of terrorist Luis Posada Carriles and the extradition request from Venezuela:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We are writing to urge you to oppose the application for asylum by Luis Posada Carriles, and to support the request for extradition to Venezuela, where he is a fugitive from justice.

Posada, a CIA-trained Cuban exile, is one of only two prime suspects in the bombing of a Cuban civilian airliner, which killed all 73 people onboard on October 6, 1976, according to FBI investigators and declassified documents. The plane had originated in Caracas and was bound for Cuba, with a stop in Barbados. The bomb went off as the plane was leaving Barbados.

In addition to the Cuban airline bombing, Posada is implicated in an act of terrorism that took place on American soil, here in Washington, DC. On September 21, 1976 former Chilean government minister Orlando Letelier and his American associate, Ronni Moffit, were killed by a car bomb near Sheridan Circle. The bombing was one of the worst acts of foreign terrorism on American soil to that date.

Carter Cornick, a retired counterterrorism specialist for the FBI who worked on the Letelier case, said in an interview that both the airline bombing and the Letelier bombing were planned at a June 1976 meeting in Santo Domingo attended by Posada in addition to others. Mr. Cornick said that Posada was involved "up to his eyeballs" in planning the attacks. At the time of the bombings, Venezuelan police found maps and other evidence in Posada's Venezuelan home that tied him to the terrorist acts. Furthermore, a recently declassified 1976 F.B.I. document confirms Posada's presence at two meetings in the Anauco Hilton Hotel in Caracas where the airline bombing was planned.

Posada, a dual citizen of Venezuela and Cuba, and a former Venezuelan intelligence agent, was jailed in Venezuela for the airline bombing, but then escaped from prison in 1985 while awaiting trial.

After escaping prison, Posada continued to terrorize civilians, and even boast publicly about his crimes. In a 1998 interview with the New York Times, he claimed responsibility for organizing a series of bombings aimed at Cuban hotels, department stores and other civilian targets during the summer of 1997. The bombings killed an Italian tourist and injured 11 other human beings.

Perhaps realizing he had not helped himself or his cause, Posada later retracted his statements.

In November 2000, Posada was arrested in Panama for preparing a bomb to explode in the University of Panama's Conference Hall, where Fidel Castro was going to deliver a speech. Hundreds of people were expected to attend this event, and had Cuban intelligence not uncovered the plot beforehand, there would have been massive civilian casualties. Posada was convicted in a Panamanian court only to be pardoned by Panamanian President Mireya Moscoso just days before she left office in August 2004.

Moscoso's successor, Martin Torrijos, criticized the pardon, aptly noting, "For me, there are not two classes of terrorism, one that is condemned and another that is pardoned."

Similarly, in 1989, when the Justice Department was considering the asylum request of Posada's fellow Miami militant, and suspected co-conspirator in the Cuban bombing, Orlando Bosch, then-Associate U.S. Attorney General Joe D. Whitley said, "The United States cannot tolerate the inherent inhumanity of terrorism as a way of settling disputes. Appeasement of those who would use force will only breed more terrorists. We must look on terrorism as a universal evil, even if it is directed toward those with whom we have no political sympathy."

Aside from the United States' foreign policy regarding Cuba, our stated, official national security policy against terrorism is unequivocally clear.

On September 19, 2001, Mr. President, you eloquently reaffirmed our national policy against terrorism: "Anybody who harbors a terrorist, encourages terrorism, will be held accountable. I would strongly urge any nation in the world to reject terrorism, expel terrorists."

On August 26th, 2003 you said, "If you harbor a terrorist, if you support a terrorist, if you feed a terrorist, you are just as guilty as the terrorists." The National Security Strategy of the United States, released in 2002 stated, "No cause justifies terror. The United States will make no concessions to terrorist demands and strike no deals with them. We make no distinction between terrorists and those who knowingly harbor or provide aid to them."

Not only must the United States reject the asylum application of Luis Posada Carriles, a known international terrorist, but Posada should also be returned to Venezuela for a proper adjudication of the case against him. Posada was a dual citizen of Venezuela and Cuba, he plotted terrorist crimes from Venezuela, including the bombing of the civilian airline flight that had originated in Venezuela, and he escaped from a Venezuelan prison. As a sovereign nation, Venezuela has the right to pursue justice in this case.

Posada's lawyer Eduardo Soto has objected to his client's return to Venezuela, arguing that he could be tortured there. To satisfy such concerns, the United States should abide by its standard policy on these matters, which according to William Haynes II, general counsel of the Defense Department, "is to obtain specific assurances from the receiving country that it will not torture the individual being transferred to that country." If this policy is applied in the transferring of prisoners to Syria, Morocco, Egypt

and Jordan, all countries whose abusive practices have been documented and condemned by the State Department's annual human rights report, then the United States must surely apply this policy to Venezuela, a nation with a Constitution that specifically prohibits torture and provides for the prosecution of officials who instigate or tolerate torture.

Many innocent victims who happened to be Cuban died at the hands of Posada, in a crime similar to that which killed innocent American victims on September 11, 2001. It is not only inconceivable to imagine the possibility of granting this terrorist asylum, but also of denying justice to all of the victims of his crimes. Such actions would go against everything that your Administration has claimed to stand for in the "War on Terrorism." It is our hope that for the sake of all the families of terror casualties in the United States and around the world that Luis Posada Carriles is not granted asylum in the United States, and that he is rightfully extradited to Venezuela where he will finally face justice.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Kucinich, Raul M. Grijalva, José E. Serrano, Barbara Lee, Cynthia McKinney, Maurice Hinckley, John W. Oliver, Bobby L. Rush, James P. McGovern, Edolphus Towns, Donald M. Payne, Sam Farr, Lane Evans, Bennie G. Thompson, Carolyn B. Maloney, Ed Pastor, Tammy Baldwin, Sheila Jackson Lee, Lynn Woolsey, Maxine Waters.

IN RECOGNITION OF GEN. PETER PACE, CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride in honoring an extraordinary individual, Marine Corps General Peter Pace, who was recently nominated to serve as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the United States Armed Forces. General Pace was raised in Teaneck, New Jersey, one of the largest municipalities in the Congressional District that I am privileged to represent. General Pace has risen to become the first Marine to lead the Joint Chiefs of Staff, an honor that he has earned through decades of hard work and determination. His story is a source of inspiration to every resident of the Garden State.

The son of an Italian immigrant, Peter Pace was born in Brooklyn, New York, and moved to Teaneck with his family the following year. After settling down in a home on Hillside Avenue, Peter quickly became involved in local youth athletics. While attending Teaneck High School, Peter worked hard and achieved academic excellence, which resulted in his acceptance to the United States Naval Academy in 1963.

Upon graduation from Annapolis and successful completion of The Basic School in Quantico, VA, Peter Pace was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division in the Republic of Vietnam and served as a Rifle Platoon Leader. After returning from his combat duty in Vietnam, Peter served in a number of different staff and command positions, including Head of the Infantry Writer

Unit at the Marine Corps Institute, Security Detachment Commander at Camp David, White House Social Aide, and Leader of the Special Ceremonial Platoon.

In April of 1971, Peter was promoted to the rank of Captain, and was later assigned to a Security Detachment in Thailand. In the late 1970's, then-Captain Peter Pace held the position of Operations Officer and Division Staff Secretary at Camp Pendleton in Southern California, where he later served as Commanding Officer of the 2n Battalion, First Marines Division following his promotion to the rank of Major in June of 1980. After heading up a Marine Corps Recruitment Station in Buffalo, NY and attending the National War College, Major Pace was promoted to the rank of Colonel in October of 1988, and advanced to the rank of Brigadier General in April of 1992. He was then appointed as President of the Marine Corps University before assuming various other commands. In recent years, as Vice-chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Pace has been instrumental in shaping the Pentagon's efforts in the war on terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in giving our heartiest congratulations to General Peter Pace, the new Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the United States Armed Forces, and a proud example of the Teaneck Public School System. His remarkable achievements and tireless service to his country, the United States Marine Corps, and his fellow servicemen and women clearly are a tremendous source of pride for all Americans and especially all his friends and family from New Jersey.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, due to obligations in South Carolina, I unfortunately missed recorded votes on the House floor on Monday, May 16, 2005.

I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 171 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 627—Linda White-Epps Post Office), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 172 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H. Res. 266—Peace Officers Memorial Day), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 173 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 2107—National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Maintenance Fund).

IN HONOR OF ALICE YARISH

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Alice Yarish of Marin County, California, who died at the age of 96 on May 9, 2005. Alice was a fixture of the Marin community for many years, known as much for her outspoken and occasionally flamboyant personal style as for her crusading journalism.