

Assembly (the general against, ironically, a 26 year Republican incumbent).

It was Howard Elinson's ideas that were instrumental in electing Congressman HENRY WAXMAN Congressman HOWARD BERMAN, Congressman Mel Levine Congressman Julian Dixon State Senator Herschel Rosenthal, State Assemblyman Burt Margolin, State Assemblyman Terry Friedman and countless others.

And it was Howard Elinson who inspired the strategy and direct mail efforts that led to the election of Mayor Tom Bradley in 1973.

But Howard Elinson's life was much more than about politics. As a devout and Orthodox Jew his faith came first. And imagine this dark suited, yarmulke wearing, fast-talking man writing the "early 60's seminal study" of voting behavior for his Ph.D. thesis. He conducted lengthy and open-ended interviews, drawing out in their homes 50 white working class voters in Bell, California—the then-place-of-entry of the vast immigration from Oklahoma, the mid-west and the South to Southern California.

These Christian and working class people had perhaps never before met a Jew—and certainly not a readily recognizable Orthodox Jew. Yet they opened their hearts to this amazing man. They trusted him—no matter how "New York" he spoke, no matter how foreign he might have looked. That was the uniqueness, the special nature of Howard Elinson.

Perhaps inspired by his faith, or by his innate decency, Howard Elinson affected the lives of everyone who knew him. Many dozens of interns, staff, and budding politicians that came through HENRY WAXMAN's office sought Howard Elinson's advice and counsel—both personal and career. Hundreds of young people confused by the conflicts between a traditional religious life and modernity sought Howard Elinson's advice on how to cope—"who better to ask?" Children flocked to him—no child was unworthy of his attention, his sense of playfulness, his devotion to the child's value as a human being. No one in need (whether for a religious cause or in personal need) was turned down for a contribution. Howard Elinson's generosity was open ended and well known.

The untimely death of Howard Elinson was not just a loss to his family and friends, but to the people who have had in him a champion of a tolerant, liberal, and more humane America.

IN HONOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA'S
DELEGATION TO THE 2005 YMCA
YOUTH CONFERENCE ON NA-
TIONAL AFFAIRS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the South Carolina delegation to the 2005 YMCA Youth Conference on National Affairs. The Youth Conference on National Affairs brings together some of the best and brightest students from across the country. YMCA Youth and Government seeks to teach teenagers the process of learning about government through hands-on experiences

and in-depth learning at state conferences throughout the country.

The YMCA Youth Conference on National Affairs will be held the first week of July in Black Mountain, NC, and I am proud of each and everyone of the delegates that will be representing the Palmetto State.

Viki Alvarez—Riverside High School, Greer.

Dustin Atkins—Liberty High School, Liberty.

Morgan Bauserman—Riverside High School, Greer.

Martha Bordogna—Spartanburg High School, Spartanburg.

Lucy Bullock—AC Flora High School, Columbia.

Stephanie Dunaway—Riverside High School, Greer.

Jason Hill—Riverside High School, Greer.

Stephanie Hoo—Southside High School, Greenville.

Samantha Jaeger—Riverside High School, Greer.

Quentin James—Mauldin High School, Mauldin.

Hart Moede—Wren High School, Powdersville.

Leah Nakom—Spartanburg Day School, Spartanburg.

Eric Novak—Porter-Gaud School, Charleston.

Megan Novak—Mauldin High School, Mauldin.

Niti Parthasarathy—Governor's School for the Arts, Greenville.

Asha Purohit—Porter-Gaud School, Charleston.

Dave Raheja—Riverside High School, Greer.

Paul Richardson—Spartanburg High School, Spartanburg.

Monica Ryskamp—Riverside High School, Greer.

Rebecca Street—DW Daniel High School, Clemson.

Meg Turlington—Southside High School, Greenville.

Kyle Warren—Greenville High School, Greenville.

Kyle Williams—AC Flora High School, Columbia.

I wish the delegates all the best for a great conference, and continue to thank them for their keen interest in improving our government and public service.

HONORING LENORE CROUDY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am truly happy to rise before you today to recognize the accomplishments of a woman who has selflessly devoted her life to education and public service. On June 24, civic and community leaders will join the "Lifetime Friends of Lenore Croudy," and honor Ms. Croudy as she celebrates her retirement from Flint Community Schools after 39 years.

It is difficult to imagine what the Flint area would be like had it not been for the influence of Lenore Croudy, an influence which began in August 1960, when she moved here from Atlantic City, NJ. A graduate of West Virginia State College and later Eastern Michigan University, Lenore started her relationship with Flint Community Schools as a teacher, and continued that relationship with roles such as

Instructional Specialist, Assistant Principal, Assistant Dean, and Coordinator for Learning Improvement Services, among others.

Lenore's long and distinguished educational career includes the coordination of several local and county-wide multicultural education conferences for middle school and high school students, as well as the first state-wide conference for educators. She has been at the forefront of numerous presentations and conferences on behalf of Flint Schools, the Urban League, the YWCA, the NAACP, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and many others. On July 1, Lenore will begin her fourth term as a member of the C.S. Mott Community College Board of Trustees, where she has served as Chair since 1995.

Lenore's dedicated work on behalf of others has been acknowledged on countless occasions. Examples of this include 2005 Administrator of the Year from the United Teachers of Flint, Exemplary Role Model for Youth by the Flint Professional Black Nursing Association, Mother of the Village Award by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and an Outstanding Citizenship Award given by the Michigan House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I, along with many others in Genesee County and the State of Michigan, have benefited from Lenore Croudy's intelligence, insight, and vision. She has always been more than an advocate for education; she has been a fighter, for she believes that a strong educational background is the basis toward improving the quality of life. As a former teacher, I applaud her efforts, and I am proud to call her my colleague, my constituent, and my friend. I ask the House of Representatives to please join me in congratulating Lenore on her retirement, and wishing her the very best in all her future endeavors.

HONORING CHARLIE RANGERS, COMPANY C, 75TH INFANTRY

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2005

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor members of the Charlie Rangers, Company C of the 75th Infantry. The Charlie Rangers are celebrating a reunion in D.C. and will gather later today at the Vietnam Memorial. As a member of the Charlie Rangers 75th Infantry who served with these fine and extraordinary men, and as a guy who did nothing special myself in Vietnam, I can attest that the men of Charlie Rangers are very special Americans.

Company C came into being after the Army realized the need for special capability elite forces. Rather than create an entirely new unit designation, the Department of the Army designated the 75th Infantry as the successor of the legendary 5307 Composite Unit which served with distinction during WWII. The Charlie Rangers built on the formidable legacy of Merrill's Marauders by providing reconnaissance, surveillance, target acquisition and special type combat missions.

True to its motto of *Sua Sponte, or Of Their Own Accord*, Company C Rangers during their service in the Vietnam War, penetrated behind enemy lines without cover. Acting by themselves, Charlie Rangers slogged through

enemy positions gathering critical and valuable information on major infiltration routes.

The Rangers operated in vast, inhospitable terrains throughout Vietnam. Their prowess, coupled with boat patrols, night ambushes, and stay-behind infiltration techniques were instrumental in thwarting members of the Viet Cong and NVA. According to historical accounts, this company, comprised of merely several hundred men, was able to keep vast numbers of North Vietnamese Army troops occupied, thereby potentially saving numerous American troops.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of this incredible company, the Charlie Rangers, and I am honored to have been able to serve in a small way alongside such professional and selfless soldiers. I know my colleagues join me in applauding them for a job well done and share my wishes for a memorable reunion.

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF CLINTON, IOWA

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2005

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the sesquicentennial celebration of Clinton, Iowa—a community I am very proud to represent in Congress.

One hundred and fifty summers ago, the Iowa Land Company purchased the site of the town and named it in honor of DeWitt Clinton, a former New York governor.

A number of energetic entrepreneurs worked hard to help fuel Clinton's early growth. They rooted the city along the banks of the beautiful Mississippi River; and when a railroad bridge crossing the river was completed a few years after the town was established, the lumber industry boomed.

Logs were floated down the river from Minnesota and Wisconsin to Clinton's sawmills and distributed along the river to other flourishing communities. Clinton was known as the sawmill capital of the country from the late 1850s to around 1900.

The huge log flotillas on the river of Clinton's early days must have been an impressive sight. If you visit Clinton's Eagle Point Park today in the same area, you might see families enjoying a picnic or barges carrying Iowa's bounty down the mighty Mississippi.

Today, Clinton remains full of industrious people determined to make the most of their community's strengths. Clinton's leaders are looking forward to creating even more opportunities for local workers. And every time I meet with a group of Clinton residents, I am always impressed with their incredible enthusiasm and pride in their community.

In another 150 years from now, I am sure Clinton will still be home to the same brand of wonderful people, living in a vibrant, active city by the river.

Happy birthday, Clinton!

DOWNING STREET MEMO HEARING

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, last week, House Democrats, led by Judiciary Committee Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS, convened a hearing to investigate the so-called "Downing Street Memo." Because I am disappointed with the continued unwillingness of Congress to exercise an adequate level of oversight over the intelligence operations of the Executive Branch, I was therefore pleased to learn that someone was willing to pose questions that have for too long gone un-asked.

As you may know, Mr. Speaker, I serve on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. I believe that the Downing Street Memo, which is essentially minutes of a July 2002 meeting of the British Prime Minister and his cabinet, justifies exploring the underlying rationales for the Iraq War. It documents a loyal ally's assertion that the architects of the Iraq war used suspect evidence to support a pre-determined policy. Its authenticity has not been questioned. Such documentation deserves to be probed.

Because of prior commitments, I attended this meeting for about 20 minutes. I later learned through news reports that, after I left, one of the witnesses at the hearing, former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Analyst Ray McGovern, offered repugnant personal viewpoints. Alleging that the war was the product of a U.S.—Israeli partnership to "dominate" the Middle East, Mr. McGovern's statements were insulting, unsubstantiated, and defamatory. There is no justification or excuse for implying that the war in Iraq was the result of any action on the part of the state of Israel, its people, or the American Jewish community. The decision to invade Iraq was the decision of President Bush and a majority of Congress. Ascribing such motives to the pro-Israel community is not simply defamatory—it is anti-Semitic. Mr. McGovern should apologize.

Mr. Speaker, I have been one of the more outspoken members of this body regarding the intelligence that this president used to justify using force against Iraq, how the war has been carried out, and the post-war occupation. I reject Mr. McGovern's statements. His remarks only encourage those who seek to blame Israel and Jews in general for all that ails them. His remarks shed no light on the issue. In fact, they undermined the values of community and equality, which all Americans hold dear.

Sixty years after the end of the Second World War, it is a shame that one of its most notorious sentiments—anti-Semitism—has yet to be eradicated. Each of us has a role to play in combating anti-Semitism whenever and wherever we see it. As a member of the Congressional Task Force Against Anti-Semitism, I ask each of my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, to confront anti-Semitism whenever it arises.

I hope that Mr. McGovern's offensive and misguided rhetoric does not obscure the purpose of the hearing on the Downing Street Memo. Congress should investigate the extent to which the Bush Administration used questionable evidence to justify a predetermined war. Failure to do so would be an abandonment of our oversight responsibility.

THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO EXTEND AIRLINE WAR RISK INSURANCE POLICIES

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2005

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce legislation that will extend war-risk insurance coverage for our Nation's airlines for 3 years, through August 31, 2008.

In the aftermath of the September 11th attacks, commercial insurance providers invoked their 7-day cancellation clauses on war-risk insurance policies held by U.S. airlines. With the absence of a commercial war-risk insurance market, the Federal Government was forced to step in. Less than 2 weeks after the attacks, Congress authorized the Federal Aviation Administration to begin offering war-risk insurance to airlines, and that authority has been extended a number of times, but is now set to expire on August 31 of this year.

We need to extend the FAA's ability to issue war-risk insurance policies for the financial sake of the U.S. airline industry, which lost approximately \$9 billion in 2004. This program is not a bailout. First of all, it is actually a revenue raiser for the Federal Government. Second, it is considerably more expensive than the war-risk insurance policies held by the airlines prior to September 11th. Four years ago, the airline industry paid a total of approximately \$20 million in premiums per year. Last year, they paid over \$140 million. However, this is much more reasonable than the over \$600 million the Air Transport Association estimates they would have to pay on the open market. This massive jump in premiums could mean the difference between solvency and bankruptcy for many of our struggling airlines. In addition, the commercial insurance policies that exist still contain the 7-day cancellation clause that would allow the insurers to cancel policies in the face of an enhanced threat.

Should the airlines be unable to obtain war-risk insurance policies, they would be forced to stop operating. This would be a crippling blow to not only the aviation industry itself, which employs over 15,000 people in New Jersey alone, but also to the entire United States economy.

Airlines are still a prime target for terrorist attack, which makes war-risk insurance both an absolute necessity and something that can not be offered by the commercial market at a reasonable price. This bill would help our struggling airline industry without costing the Federal Government one cent, and I urge my colleagues to support this small but crucial piece of legislation.

HONORING DR. CLAUDE H. ORGAN, JR.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and achievements of Dr. Claude H. Organ, Jr., M.D. of Oakland, California. An internationally renowned surgeon and medical educator, Dr. Organ was the second African American to serve as president of