

**A PROCLAMATION THANKING
ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS
DAVID E. DAVISSON FOR HIS
SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY**

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Army PFC David E. Davisson is serving the United States in South Korea as an office administration specialist of the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade; and

Whereas, Army PFC David E. Davisson is to be commended for the honor and bravery that he displays while serving our Nation; and

Whereas, Army PFC David E. Davisson is demonstrating a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence, and outstanding service;

Therefore, I join with the family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in thanking Army PFC David E. Davisson for his service to our country. Your service has made us proud.

**TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL
ABRAHAM TURNER**

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the outgoing Commanding General of the United States Army Training Center at Fort Jackson, SC, for his service to God and country, and his dedication to family and career. His leadership role at one of the military's largest training facilities has been greatly appreciated. BG Abraham Turner will be leaving his post this month to become Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Training in Fort Monroe, VA, and the men and women in uniform at Fort Jackson owe a great debt of gratitude to this model soldier.

Since receiving his commission through the Reserve Officers Training Corps at South Carolina State University in 1976, Brigadier General Turner has earned some of the highest accolades of any Army officer. His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Combat Infantry Badge and the Expert Infantry Badge.

Brigadier General Turner previously served in numerous positions at Fort Bragg, Fort Benning and West Point, where he was a Regimental Tactical Officer. He also served as Assistant Chief of Staff, C3, Operations, Coalition Forces Land Component Command at Camp Doha, Kuwait. His numerous combat assignments have included a 1989 deployment in Operation Just Cause in Panama, a year-long deployment in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm that ended in 1991, and, most recently, a deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom, where he served as part of C3, Coalition Forces Land Component Command.

Brigadier General Turner is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced

Courses, the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and the United States Army War College. He earned a bachelor's degree in Music from South Carolina State University and a master's degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg University. He and his wife Linda are the proud parents of three lovely children: April, Creighton and Jessica.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and my colleagues to join me today in honoring Brigadier General Turner, who embodies all the virtues of individual courage and sacrifice in defending global freedom for which the U.S. Army is so well known. I know he will continue to build an enviable legacy at Fort Monroe with the same fortitude and charisma that led him to such a successful tenure in his native South Carolina. I thank him for his service—at home and abroad. I am proud and we are fortunate to have him in the top ranks of our armed forces.

**TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR WILLIAM
OGRODOWSKI**

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Monsignor William Ogradowski, marking the 30th anniversary of his ordination to the Catholic priesthood.

This June, the Monsignor will celebrate the 30th anniversary of his ordination in 1975. For the last 30 years Monsignor Ogradowski has been a symbol of strength and a source of inspiration for not only the congregations of Saints Peter and Paul and Saint Francis Cabrini, but the entire Beaver County community as well. In order to mark this special occasion, parishioners met at Saints Peter and Paul in Beaver for an anniversary mass, followed by a dinner reception at Saints Francis Cabrini in Center Township. The Monsignor, joined in celebration by 14 fellow priests, commented that his favorite part of the priesthood was interacting with people.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Monsignor. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such a principled clergyman as Monsignor William Ogradowski.

**COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE
SCIENCE AND INNOVATION**

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I have just read the very disturbing cover story from the most recent edition of Fortune magazine. The cover headline reads: "America the 97 Lbs. Weakling?" The cover shows a picture of a strong China punching a weak Uncle Sam.

The facts in the article should sound the alarm across our country.

America is falling behind.

As chairman of the appropriations subcommittee with jurisdiction over NASA, NSF,

and the Office of Science and Technology Policy, I have had the opportunity to meet with leading groups of people who represent the science and technology sector in our nation.

Many will tell you that America is in a stall, and even more will tell you that America is in a decline, when it comes to global competition in science and technology.

None of these groups will tell you that America is doing well in this critical area.

The Fortune article points out that U.S. students have fallen behind.

America currently ranks 28th in the world in mathematical achievement among 15-year-olds.

The U.S. is graduating fewer and fewer engineers, with an estimated 70,000 this year, while China will graduate 600,000 and India 350,000. This is the generation we will look to to create a newer and better Internet, develop energy saving automobiles, or build a better iPod.

This is an issue directly tied to America's economy, and could well determine how—dare I say if—we maintain our quality of life and our very way of life.

Let me share with you a few more statistics: Patents awarded to U.S. companies/scientists—Down; Nobel prizes won by U.S. scientists—Down; scientific papers published by U.S. scientists—Down.

U.S. investment in research and development has stayed flat for the last three decades while growing significantly in places like China, India, Brazil and Israel. U.S. students are behind their counterparts in other countries in math and science, and some Asian countries are graduating more than four times as many engineers. U.S. 12th-graders ranked near the bottom of math and science testing scores, according to the third International Math and Science Study.

The proportion of U.S. graduates in science and engineering has declined 10 percent from 1994 to 2001 while the total number of undergraduate degrees awarded in the U.S. has increased 14 percentage points. The U.S. now awards more MBAs than math, science and engineering degrees. Ten years ago, Boeing produced nearly 60 percent of the world's commercial aircraft. Today, Boeing produces less than 40 percent.

This news should be the wake-up call to spur us into action to help America get back on track to keep our country as the world's innovation leader.

INVESTMENT IN INNOVATION

We must invest in innovation. Our Nation needs a commitment to fund its "Innovation Budget."

I have written the president about this issue and asked him to work to triple the Nation's innovation budget for Federal basic research and development over the next decade.

America needs to be mobilized, much like it was after Sputnik in the late 1950s.

The White House has to provide leadership. I believe Congress will support the effort.

Congress two years ago fulfilled the commitment to double NIH budget to jump-start work on medical research to help find cures to debilitating and fatal diseases. A similar commitment for the innovation budget should be made.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

Congress has laid the groundwork for addressing the innovation deficit through a provision in the supplemental appropriations bill

passed in May that directs the Department of Commerce to work with business and industry groups to hold a conference this fall in Washington on science and innovation, and where the United States is headed.

Among the participants will be the Council on Competitiveness, the Business Roundtable, the National Association of Manufacturers and the American Electronics Association.

EDUCATION IS KEY

Education is key to our Nation's commitment to innovation and technology prominence. I have been pleased to work with Representatives BOEHLERT and EHLERS—two members who have been leaders in Congress on promoting science and technology issues—on legislative solutions.

My proposal to forgive interest on student loans for math, engineering and physical science majors is in the higher education reauthorization bill now moving through the House.

Education and the Workforce Chairman BOEHNER and Representative MCKEON of the committee have been very supportive of efforts to advance the loan interest provision, and I thank them for their work.

The genesis for this legislation was from the book, *Winning the Future*, by former Speaker Newt Gingrich, who has done a good job of outlining America's challenge to remain the world's leader in innovation and technology.

I am hopeful that this legislation will attract more students into the science and engineering fields by offering to forgive the interest on their college loans. We must fill the critical shortage of math, science and engineering students in the United States.

The provision allows up to \$5,000 in interest to be forgiven on federally backed government loans if science majors agree to work in their field for five years upon graduating.

RESEARCH IS ALSO KEY

The House, through passage of the FY 2006 Science-State-Justice-Commerce bill, has supported funding for science education and research: \$4.38 billion for National Science Foundation (NSF) research and related activities, an increase of \$44 million above the president's request.

This is the Nation's largest resource pool for basic scientific research across all fields: \$807 million for NSF's education programs, which is \$70 million above the request; \$169 million for NASA education programs, which is \$2 million above the request; \$28.9 million for a new consolidated education program for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The measure also encourages the National Science Board to establish a commission to present recommendations for broad Federal action to address the crisis in science and math education.

Mr. Speaker, it is critical that administration's FY 2007 budget include a significant investment to respond to this crisis and I urge members to make their support known.

I also urge members to read the latest article in *Fortune* if they have not done so.

All is not lost, but America is at a crossroad. It's time to roll up our sleeves and get to work on this issue, and respond to this challenge through the commitment of the administration and Congress and the American people. America's future is at stake.

GOOD HOPE PICNIC

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the residents of Lone Star, SC who are coming together on Friday, August 12, 2005 for the 90th annual Good Hope Picnic. This historic event began on the second Friday of August in 1915, and has continued on the same day every year since.

The Good Hope Picnic was founded by black farmers in this Calhoun County town as a way to market their crops. It became a holiday for many black farm workers whose white employers gave them the day off to attend the picnic.

Today, the Good Hope Picnic is a family reunion for many Lone Star residents who have moved away. Over the years, this once thriving community has lost its vibrancy and its jobs. There are few opportunities for children who grew up here, and most must leave to find work and a better quality of life for their families. Yet Lone Star remains their home, and families plan their annual vacations to come home for the Good Hope Picnic swelling the population of that small community by as many as 400–500 people on that day.

I have spent a lot of time in Lone Star during my service in Congress. I am proud to have brought a new baseball field to the community, and am currently working on funding to build a new community center. Plans are moving forward on the Briggs-DeLaine-Pearson Connector that will bring new opportunities to this area in hopes that many of those who consider Lone Star home can reconnect with their families and once again find vibrancy in their native community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the members of the Good Hope Picnic Foundation, who are descendants of the picnic's original founders. They are continuing a proud tradition that reflects the heart and hope of the Lone Star community.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN C. BALMERT

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Stephen C. Balmert of Cranberry Township, PA on receiving a Discover Card Tribute Award Scholarship, sponsored by Discover Card in cooperation with the American Association of School Administrations. Mr. Balmert has been honored for his exceptional community service and solid academic performance.

Stephen was one nine students statewide that was awarded a scholarship in the amount of \$2,500. Each year Discover Card offers over \$1 million dollars in scholarships to 459 high school students who have displayed strong dedication to academics as well as service to their respective communities. This scholarship is the largest of its kind in the entire country. The Discover Card Tribute Award Scholarship Program has been dedicated to

enhancing American students' educational experience and opportunities by providing funds for students to help them pay for any form of higher education.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring Mr. Stephen C. Balmert. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute the achievements of citizens like Stephen whom make our District great.

CONDEMNING THE RECENT ARREST OF DISSIDENTS IN CUBA BY THE AUTHORITARIAN CASTRO REGIME

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Mr. MACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for freedom in the face of fascism on the island of Cuba. Last Friday, advocates of liberty who simply wanted to hold a peaceful demonstration against the Castro government, were surrounded and thrown into jail—all for expressing their personal views.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation was founded on the principle of freedom of speech. As Americans, we should find it particularly appalling when such a basic and fundamental human right is abridged by a tyrannical regime right here in our neighboring waters.

At a time when freedom is on the move around the world, it is a shame to see the flame of liberty snuffed out by such despots like Cuba's Fidel Castro and Venezuela's Hugo Chavez.

I call on our European allies to stand with the United States and condemn the egregious abuses of human rights in Cuba and the copycat abuses in Venezuela. Mr. Speaker, now is not the time to turn our backs on those who seek freedom and democracy. Now is the time to find ways to promote freedom, security and prosperity for all people and for the United States to continue to stand firm against totalitarian regimes.

IN HONOR OF DR. JOSE MANUEL RODRIGUEZ DELGADO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, August 8th is the 90th birthday of an outstanding American scientist who deserves to be recognized and remembered. I wish to recognize Dr. Jose Delgado's scientific achievements and contributions to our understanding of the brain and human behavior. He has been a pioneer in the exploration of brain function, including how our minds work based on electrical and chemical studies in many animal species.

Dr. Jose Delgado was born in Ronda, Spain. At the age of 22 he joined the Republican army fighting against Franco as a military doctor, and toward the end of the Spanish Civil War was interned in a concentration camp from which he escaped twice and was