

HONORING THE 322ND MEDICAL BATTALION OF THE 97TH INFANTRY DIVISION IN WWII

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, at a time when we are humbled and saddened by the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina along the Gulf Coast, I would like to take a few minutes to salute and honor the men of the 322nd Medical Battalion of the 97th Infantry Division. They served during World War II and are meeting in Nashville, Tennessee on September 17, 2005 for a reunion.

After completing training in Texas, Louisiana, and Missouri, the 97th Infantry Division was sent to Camp San Luis Obispo, California to receive amphibious training in preparation for deployment to the Pacific for operations against the Japanese. In the fall of 1944, the Division was notified that it would be sent to the Far East in December. However, with the high number of American casualties during the Battle of the Bulge, the 97th was ordered to the European Theatre of Operations for the final assault on Nazi Germany.

They arrived in Europe in March of 1945 and participated in the reduction of the Ruhr pocket. The 97th captured Solingen and Düsseldorf as well as other small towns in Germany. Later, the 97th was transferred to Patton's 3rd Army where they participated in the liberation of Czechoslovakia. The 97th Infantry was credited with firing the last official shot in the European Theatre of Operations during World War II.

After the surrender of Germany, the 97th returned to the States and in September left for the Pacific where they had been scheduled to take part in the invasion of Japan before the Japanese formally surrendered on September 2, 1945. The 97th went on to perform occupation duty in Japan until its final deactivation in March of 1946.

These brave young men not only helped to finalize the end of the war against Nazi Germany but went on to begin the peace process in Japan. I salute them for a "job well done."

RECOGNIZING BILL STIGLITZ AS THE 101ST PRESIDENT OF THE INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS & BROKERS OF AMERICA

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. William G. Stiglitz III, on his selection as the 101st president of the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America, IIBA. Bill has been an important part of Louisville's business community for the past 35 years and I pause today to congratulate him on this honor.

Bill prepared for his professional career by attending Centre College, from which he grad-

uated in 1968. Upon completion of his studies, Bill served in the U.S. Army, including 14 months in Vietnam with the 35th Engineer Battalion. In 1970, Bill joined his uncle, English Miller, at the insurance firm of Miller & Scholtz. During Bill's career in Louisville, he has been a leader in his industry and within our community. In 1987, he served as the president of the Independent Insurance Agents of Kentucky. Bill has also served as president of the Leukemia Society of Kentucky. Bill and his wife Pat have two children, Garrett and Kate.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Bill on this honor. I wish him the best of luck during his term as president of the IIBA.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES E. "TED" HERGET, JR.

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Charles "Ted" Herget, Jr., a Baltimore businessman and philanthropist who has served on the Villa Julie College Board of Trustees since 1975, and has chaired the Board since 2002. In his 30 years of service to Villa Julie, Ted Herget has been instrumental in helping build the college into a highly regarded institution of higher learning in the Baltimore area.

In those first years, Villa Julie was a young institution that awarded only associate degrees. Since then, its 400 students have grown to approximately 2,500 students, and Villa Julie now confers four-year degrees, specializing in career-focused and adult-accelerated programs.

As co-founder and principal of Asset Strategy Consultants, Ted Herget has used his financial acumen to benefit Villa Julie College. He was the first chairman of the finance committee and in that role stressed the need to invest the college's money for the future. He also helped to develop the benefit structure and retirement plans that are still in place.

In addition to his work with Villa Julie, Ted Herget has a long history of civic leadership. He has served on numerous boards in the Baltimore metropolitan area and is recognized as a committed and dedicated community leader.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the enormous impact that Ted Herget has had on the success and growth of Villa Julie College. Many people are responsible for Villa Julie's achievements, but Ted Herget certainly tops the list.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on Tuesday, September 6, 2005. Had I been able to, I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 360, rollcall vote No. 454, and "yea" S.J. Res. 19, rollcall vote No. 455.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ANTI-PRICE GOUGING ACT OF 2005

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Anti-Price Gouging Act of 2005, legislation that makes price gouging during a time of a national disaster a Federal crime. I am joined by Representatives DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, LINDA SÁNCHEZ, JERROLD NADLER, MARTIN MEEHAN, SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, BENNIE THOMPSON, WILLIAM JEFFERSON, ADAM SCHIFF, JOE CROWLEY, WILLIAM DELAHUNT, ZOE LOFGREN, GENE TAYLOR, CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, DIANE WATSON, BOBBY SCOTT, ED CASE, BERNIE SANDERS, MIKE CAPUANO, DENNIS KUCINICH, BOB FILNER, DAN BOREN, JIM McDERMOTT, GEORGE MILLER, JOHN LARSON, AL GREEN, JULIA CARSON, CAROLYN KILPATRICK, CAROLYN MALONEY, EMANUEL CLEAVER, ANTHONY WEINER, BARBARA LEE, BETTY MCCOLLUM, LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, JAY INSLEE, and JOSÉ SERRANO.

Every time a major disaster occurs, we are confronted with scarcity of resources that often results in exorbitant prices for necessary resources such as gas, food and water. While some adjustment to prices may be necessary, unconscionable increases in price are unfair and harmful to consumers, who, at a time of national disaster, are already dealing with significant personal losses. It is unconscionable for the same gasoline that sold for \$2.50 per gallon on one day, to be marked up to \$3.50 on the next day. Similarly, a hotel room that was promised at \$80 per night on the phone; should not be raised \$200 per night upon arrival. These instances of price gouging have been occurring throughout the country, even in areas far removed from the direct damage caused by Hurricane Katrina.

Currently, at least 13 States—Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia—have laws that specifically address price gouging in the event of a declared emergency. Unfortunately, there is no Federal statute addressing the issue.

When we have unprecedented natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, and price gouging that harms consumers across the Nation, we need Federal law enforcement available to support the States. As a result, the Anti-Price Gouging Act of 2005 would make it a violation of the Antitrust Laws for a supplier to charge unconscionable prices for necessary goods or services once a state of emergency has been declared by the President.

This legislation is not only extremely important now, at a time of national disaster, but it is also mindful that we cannot sit around and wait for disaster to strike before putting in place mechanisms that will help consumers in their times of need. I hope the Congress moves quickly to enact the Anti-Price Gouging Act of 2005.