

In short, Mr. Speaker, we should remember history but not be misled by myths.

Here is the full text of the editorial in today's Rocky Mountain News:

[From the Rocky Mountain News, May 11, 2005]

#### PRESIDENT GOES TOO FAR

President Bush has taken surprisingly little heat—but deserves more—for his remarks in Latvia in which he equated President Franklin Roosevelt's conduct at Yalta with Neville Chamberlain's appeasement of Adolf Hitler in 1938 and the division of Poland by Hitler and Joseph Stalin in 1939.

"The agreement at Yalta followed in the unjust tradition of Munich and the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact," Bush said. "Once again, when powerful governments negotiated, the freedom of small nations was somehow expendable. Yet this attempt to sacrifice freedom for the sake of stability left a continent divided and unstable."

But Yalta did not leave the continent divided. The continent was already divided because Soviet armies were encamped in much of Eastern Europe and were not about to budge. It is true that Yalta's promise of free elections for Eastern Europe, given Stalin's record, amounted to the height of naivete, wishful thinking or cynicism. But even so, there is a vast difference between engineering oppression (Munich and Molotov-Ribbentrop) and sugar-coating its existence on the ground.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

##### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the American Public Works Association's National Public Works Week. From May 15 until May 21, the APWA will be sponsoring the National Public Works Week in a concerted effort to highlight the importance of the United States public infrastructure and public works services. It is my intention today to honor these agencies that are essential to the well-being of our country.

Too often we take the many contributions of public works and services for granted when they are so intricately woven in to the daily fabric of our lives. From the roads we travel to the clean tap water we use for drinking, public works pervade every facet of our lives. Our communities rely upon the public works agencies that provide the water, sewers, roadways, public buildings and waste collection to ensure that the communities we live, work and play in are safe.

The public works that operate in our neighborhoods and cities require maintenance by a staff of public employees. The staff that diligently design, build, maintain, and repair the public works projects are the invisible hands, or the people behind the scenes, that have dedicated themselves to the service of our communities. These hardworking individuals deserve the greatest of respect for the commitment they have shown in serving our communities' welfare.

In my own state of West Virginia, the influential hand of the public works and services reaches deep into the foundation of our state's economy. I have advocated vigorously for access to clean water sources for citizens as

well as effective waste water treatment sites to preserve the streams of my state. The Public Service Commission's Water and Wastewater division offers seminars that trained 220 utility employees about its new Water and Sewer rules last year alone. The PSC's transportation division regulates gas pipeline safety and regularly inspects reports of weakening infrastructure and leaks. Just last year they completed pipeline failure investigations of a ruptured pipeline in Wyoming County as well as an incident at Rocky Fork, WV.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending their own public works and services employees for the duties they perform. The services they provide are essential to our nation's well-being. The National Public Works Week provides us an opportunity to do so, and we should take it.

#### HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PATRICIA COUGHLAN

##### HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the contributions of Patricia Coughlan, who is the recipient of the "Tribute to Women Award," the Suburban Republican Women's Club highest honor.

Since 1985, Ms. Coughlan has been an active member of the Suburban Republican Women, formerly known as the Livonia Republican Women and Western Suburbs Club, an august organization in which she has served in a variety of senior leadership positions. One of the major accomplishments of Ms. Coughlan's hard work has been the creation and publication of the informative and inspiring Suburban Republican Women's Club newsletter, for which she currently serves as Editor-in-Chief.

It is an honor to pay homage to Ms. Coughlan, whose participation in shaping the political process has helped ensure representative government by inspiring others to play their full parts within our Nation's continuing experiment in democracy. Her devoted, compassionate leadership in our community has advanced the cause of democracy in our country, and exemplified America's innate humanity.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere appreciation to Patricia Coughlan and hope my colleagues will join me in honoring and thanking her for her contributions to our community and country.

#### TOTALIZATION AGREEMENT CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL ACT 2005

##### HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, The United States entered into a Totalization agreement with Mexico on June 29, 2004. This agreement, like 20 others currently in force, is an effort to reconcile time worked in another country—under a different tax code and pension system—with time worked here at home, to

ensure workers have the proper amount of credits for their lifetime contributions to their retirement.

The Social Security Act allows for these types of agreements, but, unfortunately, it has a flawed mechanism for Congressional approval. Frankly, there are serious questions about whether the statutory approval process for Totalization agreements is even Constitutional.

Under current law, the President negotiates an agreement with another country, and then submits it to Congress for approval. Congress then has 60 days during which either the House or Senate are in session to consider the agreement and to disapprove it if necessary. The problem is that if one House of Congress passed a motion of disapproval, precedent suggests that it would be ruled an unconstitutional legislative veto.

The bill I'm introducing today will correct that. Since Totalization agreements are similar to trade agreements, I have proposed changes to the Social Security Act that will allow for an expedited consideration of any agreements for congressional approval, like we do for trade agreements. It would also require an actual affirmative vote for the agreement to take effect, rather than the current 60-day rule where if neither house acts, the agreement is deemed as accepted. A 60-day use-it-or-lose-it process does not respect the responsibilities of this House in drafting the laws of the country.

We need to protect the role of the legislative branch as the law-making body of this land. Current law does not do this, but my bill, the Totalization Agreement Congressional Approval Act 2005, will.

#### TERRORIST REWARDS ENHANCEMENT ACT

##### HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Terrorist Rewards Enhancement Act. This bill will assist in our fight against terrorism around the globe. Currently, the terrorist rewards program run by the State Department assists in our hunt for terrorists by promising a cash reward or other type of reward for information leading to the arrest of some of the world's most deadly terrorists. This program has been very successful in the past in apprehending key people including Mir Amal Kansi, a terrorist who had murdered two CIA employees and injured three others in a 1993 shooting outside CIA headquarters in Virginia.

Under current law, the U.S. may not pay a reward to an officer or employee of another government. In January I traveled to Pakistan, where I meet with a number of government officials. At the strong suggestion of Pakistan's ISI and IB Intelligence and Police bureaus, I believe the President should be able to pay such a reward to anyone having information leading us to the greatest terrorists. If there is anyone, anywhere, even if they work for a Pakistani government agency, who has information about the whereabouts of Osama bin Laden, we should be doing all we can to apprehend him.

With the capture of Al-Qaeda's number three man, Abu Farraj al-Libbi, last week, we are closing in faster and stronger than ever in the Waziristan region of Pakistan. We need to provide our State Department and intelligence officials with all the possible tools to aid in the capture of the world's number one terrorist. The Terrorist Rewards Enhancement Act will provide one more of these tools.

RECOGNIZING FLINT/GENESEE  
COUNTY NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to stand before you today to recognize the Flint/Genesee County Neighborhood Roundtable, a group of men and women committed to improving the quality of life for residents of my hometown, Flint, Michigan, and Genesee County. On Saturday, May 14, civic and community leaders will join the Roundtable to honor fallen neighborhood leaders James Dover II, Melvin McFadden, Adele Smith, C.J. Beasley, Virginia Brown, Genevieve Donnelly, and Guy Rogers.

The Flint/Genesee County Neighborhood Roundtable was formed in 1995, the result of a state initiative known as Communities First. The goal of Communities First was to bring together neighborhood groups and organizations working to improve their areas, providing networking opportunities and the chance to share thoughts, ideas, and strategies toward making their towns a safer and better place in which to live.

In its 10 years, the Roundtable, in conjunction with the University of Michigan-Flint Outreach, the Neighborhood Violence Prevention Collaborative, the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, and the Community Coalition, facilitated the Technical Assistance Training Institute, where future community leaders were trained in coalition building, grant writing, and other subjects designed to strengthen their skills. Many of the Institute's graduates can now be found working with the Roundtable and the Neighborhood Violence Prevention Collaborative, helping others identify potential grants and assisting with many neighborhood projects.

Other partnerships the Roundtable has established have addressed issues including health, youth violence, race relations, and the environment, among many others, and its members can frequently be found on the boards of local and state organizations. In addition, the Roundtable serves as a member of the Prevention Research Center of Michigan's Community Advisory Committee.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I consider it my duty and my privilege to work to promote, protect, defend, and enhance human dignity. I am pleased that the efforts of the Flint/Genesee County Neighborhood Roundtable make this task easier. Their mission to provide training and share information to enable residents to empower themselves, and to develop strong neighborhoods and form partnerships to be a collective voice and positive force in our community will improve Flint and Genesee County for years to come.

I ask my colleagues to please join me acknowledging their success.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL  
POLICE WEEK

**HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Police Week and the thousands of police officers who serve our communities. A life of public service is not always an easy path, and so I thank the officers and their families who sacrifice so much to keep us safe. Just the other day, James Billings, the Chief of Police for the City of Pueblo in my district, visited the office to discuss crime and drug issues, including recent developments involving the Community Oriented Policing Services, COPS, program. His visit underscored to me the importance of those who work in law enforcement and the difficulties they face each and every day.

To that end, we should take the time to recognize and thank those who work so diligently to protect our families. It is not enough though to simply thank them; it is important that we continue to ensure funding and other necessary support is available for these brave men and women so they might do their jobs unimpaired.

This is why I strongly support the COPS program and urge the congressional leadership to increase, not cut, its funding level. COPS is designed to help police departments hire the officers they need to keep our streets safe, to purchase the equipment so crucial to their work, and to help ensure these stations can pay the overtime and build the support systems they need to allow their officers to do the jobs they carry out so nobly. Funding cuts to the program are unacceptable—a decrease in COPS funding means a decrease in the number of officers on the streets of our communities.

For that very reason, I am also a co-sponsor of a resolution calling for the creation of a Peace Officer's Memorial Day, which would honor those officers killed or disabled in the line of duty. I believe one of our greatest duties is to keep our communities, and our families, safe. Giving police officers the support they need and the recognition they deserve is one of the best ways to serve those we represent.

RECOGNIZING THE ARTISTIC  
TALENTS OF LINDSAY KILROY

**HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous artistic ability of a young woman from my Congressional District, Lindsay Kilroy of Woodland Hills High School. Lindsay is the winner in the 2005 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania's High School Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery."

Lindsay's piece, entitled, "Self Portrait Reflection," is an impressive portrait in acrylic paint of a young woman's face.

Lindsay's artwork was selected from a number of outstanding entries to this year's competition. I am certain that her family is proud of her artistic talents as well as this accomplishment.

It gives me great pride and pleasure that Lindsay's painting will be representing the 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania in the national exhibit of high school students' artwork that will be set up in the United States Capitol in the coming weeks. The winners of the Congressional Art Competitions held in each Congressional District will be displayed in that exhibit.

I encourage my colleagues as well as any visitor to Capitol Hill to view Lindsay's artwork, along with all of the other winning artwork that will be on display throughout the next year. It is truly amazing to walk through this corridor and see the interpretation of life through the eyes of these young artists from all across our country.

I would also like to recognize all the other participants in this year's 14th Congressional District High School Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery." I would like to thank these impressive young artists for allowing us to share and celebrate their talents, imagination, and creativity. The efforts of these students in expressing themselves in a powerful and positive manner are no less than spectacular.

I hope that all of these individuals continue to utilize their artistic talents, and I wish them all the best of luck in their future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. JOSEPH B.  
BLAKE OF DENVER, COLORADO

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2005*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Joseph B. Blake of Denver, Colorado, for his commitment to entrepreneurship, economic development, education and improving the quality of life in one of America's fastest growing communities—Denver, Colorado.

Modern achievement in the West involves two credos: hard work and public service. The ethic of hard work has driven our economy since the early discovery of gold, and the ethic of public service—helping neighbors build a barn or establish a hospital—is what has made our communities thrive. In Colorado, there are few individuals who embody the values of hard work and public service as does Joe Blake.

Since 1999, Joe Blake has held the position of President and CEO of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber represents over 3,000 businesses and over 300,000 employees in the Denver metropolitan area. This position gives Joe a vital leadership role in the economic direction of the State of Colorado. When he first arrived as head of the Chamber, Joe brought new and innovative ideas with him. He spearheaded a program to educate corporate leaders from around the country about the favorable business atmosphere of the Denver region. Joe Blake's work helped create an economic expansion in Colorado that defined the "Tech Boom" of the late