

all the wonderful possibilities that is America. Their ambitions, their braveness, their pioneering spirit helped build our economy, helped build our culture and, more than anything, contributed to our history.

I think it is significant to note, certainly, that one-half of the signers of the U.S. Declaration of Independence and at least 11 United States Presidents have been of Scottish ancestry. They were pioneers, of course, but they also had an ability and the desire to work hard.

Some of the great Scottish Americans include Alexander Hamilton, one of the architects of our Constitution and the first Secretary of the Treasury; John Paul Jones, the father of the United States Navy; Andrew Carnegie, one of the most successful businessmen ever, renowned for his charitable activities; Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone; Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong, who both captured the imaginations of the entire world by floating above it and exploring what no person had ever explored before.

In fact, the term 'Great Scot' is meant to express oneself in the presence of something extraordinary. I think I speak for all Americans of Scottish heritage and lineage when I say that the Scots brought a spirit of freedom and rugged individualism that found fertile soil in America.

On a final note, I might add that it was the Scots, of course, who originated the game of golf, and it is well known that, less than 1 hour after golf was invented in Scotland, that the first golf joke was heard.

Mr. Speaker, Scots are usually members of a clan, from the term 'clanna' which means "group function as a family," coexisting, succeeding and overcoming as a family. Today, we pay tribute to all Scottish Americans who have strengthened our American family.

I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, from time to time, it is important that we acknowledge our individual histories and the characteristics that define us as Americans. Last month, we celebrated African-American History Month. Today, I am very happy to stand with the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCINTYRE) and the other 56 cosponsors of H. Res. 41. This bill recognizes the outstanding achievements and contributions made by Scottish Americans to the United States by expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a day should be established as National Tartan Day.

Scottish Americans have played important roles in the growth and development of this Nation. Three such Scottish Americans are John Witherspoon, Andrew Carnegie and Alexander Graham Bell. John Witherspoon immigrated to the United

States in order to become the sixth President of Princeton University. He was a member of the ratifying convention that made New Jersey the third State to ratify the Constitution of the United States. He also is identified with the Common Sense Philosophy, which is considered to be of importance in the development of our national life.

Andrew Carnegie came to the United States not as an educated man but as a poor immigrant. His vision and business acumen earned him a fortune in steel during the industrial revolution. Carnegie used his wealth to establish one of the largest philanthropic foundations in the United States. Much of his collected fortune was spent to establish over 2,500 public libraries and to support institutions of higher learning and public education. By the end of his life, Carnegie gave away \$350 million.

Inventor Alexander Graham Bell, like Carnegie, was primarily self-educated, and he, too, accomplished much during his life. Graham is best known for inventing the telephone, though he explored the realm of communications and engaged in a great variety of scientific activities.

Almost a decade ago, Congress recognized the influential role of the Scottish community in our country by making April 6, 1997, National Tartan Day. April 6 was chosen because it commemorates the signing of the Declaration of Arbroath, which asserted Scotland's sovereignty over English territorial claims and influenced our own Declaration of Independence.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I want to take this moment to thank the originators of this bill for their leadership and want to reiterate my strong support for H. Res. 41. Our Scottish citizens have made a tremendous impact on the development of this Nation, and all of us are proud of them.

Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let me just close by, first of all, thanking the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for his words and especially thanking our colleague from North Carolina (Mr. MCINTYRE) for his great leadership on this legislation. I thank you for your noting the origins of the great game of golf in Scotland. As one who loves golf, and you mentioned golf jokes, I might just tell you that when I come in from playing golf and people ask me how I did, I just tell them unbelievable, and they can take it anyway they want to then.

I think this is important legislation, and I will tell you why. There are very few countries that have as close ties as the United States and Scotland. We have mentioned many of those ties and much of that heritage here today. But until this day and until this legislation, those close ties between Scotland and the United States have not been

recognized in any way by the United States House of Representatives. And so I urge my colleagues to support this very important resolution.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many achievements and contributions that Scottish-Americans have made to the United States. I have long touted the importance of immigration as a source of strength for our Nation, and I am gratified to see the Scottish-American immigrant population be recognized by this House Resolution.

Scottish-Americans have made significant contributions to American society and have played an influential role in the history of our country. Not only was Alexander Hamilton, one of our founding fathers, a Scottish-American, but at least eleven U.S. Presidents were also of Scottish descent. Among the ranks of proud Scottish-Americans were almost half of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and two of the first Supreme Court Justices. Andrew Carnegie, one of this country's most successful entrepreneurs and philanthropists, came to this country as a poor Scottish immigrant.

To honor the contributions of Scottish immigrants, it is appropriate that Congress recognize April 6 as "National Tartan Day." The recognition by Congress that immigrants of all backgrounds contribute immeasurably to our success as a nation is a sentiment to which I could not more strongly agree.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the achievements of the Scottish-American community. On behalf of this body, I express my support for establishing April 6 as "National Tartan Day" and congratulate the Scottish-American community on their numerous contributions to our Nation.

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 41.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS OF UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS ON 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF BATTLE OF IWO JIMA

Mr. KLINE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 119) recognizing the contributions of the United States Marine Corps and other units of the United States Armed Forces on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima during World War II.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 119

Whereas 2005 marks the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima, in which the United States Marine Corps and other units of the United States Armed Forces assaulted and captured the island of Iwo Jima during World War II;

Whereas the United States success in capturing Iwo Jima was a crucial victory that provided a location for necessary airbases to eventually win World War II in the Pacific theatre;

Whereas, in recognition of the particularly hazardous battlefield conditions experienced by the Marines and other members of the United States Armed Forces on Iwo Jima, Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet, Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz stated that "Among the men who fought on Iwo Jima, uncommon valor was a common virtue."; and

Whereas more than 70,000 Marines participated in the Battle of Iwo Jima, of whom 17,372 Marines were wounded and 5,931 Marines made the ultimate sacrifice, giving their lives to secure the cause of freedom and the United States victory in the battle: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima; and

(2) recognizes and commends the members of the United States Marine Corps and all other members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the Battle of Iwo Jima for their sacrifice and contribution, with particular honor given to those members of the Armed Forces who gave their lives in defense of freedom during the Battle of Iwo Jima.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KLINE) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KLINE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KLINE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

Mr. KLINE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA), the original sponsor of House Resolution 119.

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, today is a day on which we are reminded of how much we owe to the men and women of the Marine Corps who 60 years ago took an island in the Pacific at great personal cost of life and limb beyond that which we today could even begin to imagine. Of the 70,000 Marines who participated in the invasion of Iwo Jima, one in four were wounded, some 17,000. Of them, nearly 6,000 lost their lives. The invasion began on February 19. By February 23, we had declared that we had taken the island. But that was the beginning, not the end, of Iwo Jima. It continued for 31 more days. It was not until March 25 that the island was truly safe from foreign fighters. That battle, one of the longest for an island in the Pacific, has led to many stories, many movies, each glorifying what was one of the toughest battles of the war. Now, 60 years later, we are

prepared to honor once again this unique sacrifice.

If not for the taking of Iwo Jima, the war could have gone on for months or even a year longer. If not for the taking of Iwo Jima, it was very clear that the Marines would have had to fight island after island around it for much longer. The Japanese knew this, and they defended this small island as their last hope of retaining their position in the Pacific.

I appreciate the Speaker taking this up today. I appreciate, most importantly, Members of Congress supporting H. Res. 119 to remind the men and women, the last of this generation who are still with us, that we appreciate their sacrifices of World War II and particularly to my Marines at Camp Pendleton in my district who are today deployed primarily in Iraq and serving our country once again at great risk of life.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

During World War II, the island of Iwo Jima was strategically located. It contained three airstrips which had been used to stage kamikaze attacks on American ships. The island was home to three airstrips which had been used to stage kamikaze attacks. Allied generals believed that, if captured, the kamikazes would have to operate from Okinawa and Kyushu while at the same time providing American fighters airstrips close enough to Japan to escort B-29s during missions on the mainland.

Iwo Jima became the first native Japanese soil invaded by Americans in World War II, with approximately 60,000 Americans and 20,000 Japanese participating in the battle. On February 19, 1945, U.S. Marines landed on Iwo Jima at 8:59 a.m., after 10 weeks of bombing from carrier-based planes and medium bombers. A total force of 70,000 Marines were assembled for the invasion against a force of 27,000 Japanese. What followed was some of the most vicious fighting of the entire war. On an island barely 8 square miles in size, the Japanese forces constructed over 800 pillboxes and 3 miles of tunnels. The volcanic ash on the island severely complicated landings.

On February 23, 1945, Mike Strank, Harlon Block, Franklin Sousley, Ira Hayes, Rene Gagnon and John Bradley raised an American flag atop Mount Suribachi. The raising of this flag was captured forever by photographer Joe Rosenthal, and today, it stands immortalized less than 2 miles away from this Capitol.

Approximately one-third of all Marines killed in action in World War II were killed at Iwo Jima, making Iwo Jima the battle with the highest number of casualties in Marine Corps history with 7,000 killed and 13,000 wounded. Twenty-seven Congressional Medals of Honor were awarded in the battle, more than were awarded to Marines and Navy in any other battle in our country's history. After the capture of

Iwo Jima, more than 30,000 American airmen's lives were saved when more than 2,400 disabled B-29 bombers were able to make emergency landings at the Iwo Jima airfield after making bombing flights over Japan.

□ 1045

In 1968 the island was returned to Japan, and remains of Marines from the Third, Fourth and Fifth Divisions were brought back to the U.S. for burial. Today, Madam Speaker, we remember these young men and women who fought for their country and made the world safe for their children.

Madam Speaker, I commend my colleague on this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KLINE. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Madam Speaker, I also stand in support of House Resolution 119. My father served as a pilot of a landing craft during the Battle of Iwo Jima, and it is an honor and a pleasure to recognize the sacrifice and contributions of the United States Marine Corps and other services on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima.

I had the honor of meeting a humble hero of the Battle of Iwo Jima sometime ago back in my district when we dedicated the Medal of Honor Memorial at the Riverside National Cemetery. His name is Bob Bush, and he received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his service as a medical corpsman with the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, on May 2, 1945. His citation reads like a scene from a John Wayne movie, but it is all true:

"Fearlessly braving the fury of artillery, mortar, and machine-gun fire from strongly entrenched hostile positions, Bush constantly and unhesitatingly moved from one casualty to another to attend the wounded falling under the enemy's murderous barrages. As the attack passed over a ridge top, Bush was advancing to administer blood plasma to a Marine officer lying wounded on the skyline when the Japanese launched a savage counterattack. In this perilously exposed position, he resolutely maintained the flow of life-giving plasma. With the bottle held high in one hand, Bush drew his pistol with the other and fired into the enemy's ranks until his ammunition was expended. Quickly seizing his discarded carbine, he trained his fire on the Japanese charging pointblank over the hill, accounting for six of the enemy despite his own serious wounds and the loss of one eye suffered during his desperate battle in defense of the helpless man. With the hostile force finally routed, he calmly disregarded his own critical condition to complete his mission, valiantly refusing medical treatment for himself

until his officer patient had been evacuated, and collapsing only after attempting to walk back to the battle aid station."

Madam Speaker, his humility is typical of those who braved the sands of Iwo Jima, and I proudly support this resolution offered by my good friend from California.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO).

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 119, recognizing the many contributions of the United States Marine Corps and other U.S. Armed Forces on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima. I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) for introducing this important resolution.

Iwo Jima stands out as one of the defining moments in the Battle of the Pacific and is one of the defining moments in the history of the United States Marine Corps. The Marines fought in World War II for over 3½ years, yet in the span of just 1 month in Iwo Jima, they suffered nearly one-third of their total deaths. This heroic sacrifice ensured the freedom and liberty that we enjoy today.

The people of Guam have a special understanding of the kind of valor and heroism demonstrated by the U.S. Marine Corps during the Battle of the Pacific in World War II, for it was the Marines who led the charge in the liberation of our own island from the Japanese occupation. The Marines, fighting in defense of freedom, brought hope to the Chamorro people of Guam in a time of great oppression and fear. Last year I joined nearly 50 Marines who took part in the liberation of Guam in laying a wreath at the Arlington National Cemetery to honor their great sacrifice and courage on behalf of our grateful people.

I will be joining the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EVANS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) on a trip to Iwo Jima to pay tribute to the U.S. Marines for this, the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima. The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EVANS) is not able to make it to the floor to speak on this resolution as he is currently in a veterans hearing in the Senate, but I do know that he, too, is very supportive, and will include his statement for the RECORD.

Mr. KLINE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, today we recognize the contributions of the United States Marine Corps, an organization which I was proud to serve for 25 years in active duty. We also honor every member of the United States Armed Forces on this the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima.

Sixty years ago, U.S. Marines invaded the small Pacific island of Iwo Jima. Most Americans associate this event with the powerful Pulitzer Prize-winning image of the Marines raising a

flag above Mount Suribachi. What many Americans may not realize, however, is that the emblematic photo, which has become a symbol of American bravery and victory, does not capture the first flag-raising at Iwo Jima that day.

Two different groups of heroes planted American flags at Iwo Jima on Mount Suribachi on that day in February of 1945, and the achievement of both groups provided and continues to provide inspiration to defenders of freedom everywhere.

The sole survivor from either flag-raising group is Minnesota's own Charles Lindberg. On that seminal day in February, Corporal Lindberg and five fellow Marines reached the base of Mount Suribachi after several days of fighting and thousands of casualties. The next morning the battalion commander, Colonel Chandler Johnson, sent them to the summit with an American flag and orders, "If you get to the top, raise it."

And raise it they did. The flag raised by Corporal Lindberg and his fellow Marines provided an immediately recognizable image of victory and became an inspiration to all who saw it. In describing the reaction to their flag raising, Corporal Lindberg states, "Boy, then the island came alive down below. The troops started to cheer, the ships' whistles went off. It was quite a proud moment."

Perhaps sensing the significance of the moment, a commander below ordered a second group to raise a larger, more stable flag in its place. Four hours after the first flag-raising, Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal captured the image of the second flag-raising, which is now recognized throughout the world. The second raising and the photograph which captured it complemented the efforts of Corporal Lindberg and his fellow Marines and enabled Americans at home, as well as the world, to share the same symbol of bravery and victory with the victorious Americans on Iwo Jima.

Both of these groups deserve our gratitude, as do all the men and women who served on Iwo Jima and elsewhere during World War II. The symbol of the flag over Iwo Jima reflects the enduring triumph of freedom and democracy, the very things for which our men and women in uniform continue to fight today.

We have much to learn from the tenacity and dedication of the brave heroes of World War II, and I am grateful for this opportunity to recognize their efforts today.

And to you, Corporal Charles Lindberg, from one Marine to another, I salute you from the floor of the House of Representatives in admiration and gratitude for your courage, bravery, and valor. Semper Fi.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KLINE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, there were so many of our colleagues today who intended to come down and speak on this very important subject and express their admiration and praise for those Marines on Iwo Jima 60 years ago; but as has been mentioned, some of them are involved in a joint hearing on veterans affairs and doing the work that brought them here.

I would like to thank my colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD), for the discussion today and urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Iwo Jima Resolution.

For all who bear its scars, the battle for Iwo Jima still looms gargantuan, unbelievable, devouring. It is not measurable by any past battles. The battle of Iwo Jima is unique in its own setting.

First, it was the longest aerial campaign of World War II. Incredibly, this ferocious bombardment had little effect. Hardly any of the Japanese underground fortresses were touched.

Four miles long, shaped like a pork chop and covering 7½ miles, Iwo Jima had no front lines and no rear lines—every inch of the island was a battleground and a graveyard. U.S. Marines—Active and Reserves, were forced to take one of the most heavily fortified objectives in military history.

Over 110,000 Marines in 880 ships took part in the operation. Over 7,000 Marines and 20,000 Japanese soldiers lost their lives fighting the fiercest Marine Corps battle of the Pacific Theater in World War II.

For America, it was the front door step to the Japanese homeland and the beginning of the end to an awful war. For the 22,000 Japanese defenders, Iwo Jima was the defense of their very hearths and homes as if it were a part of Tokyo.

The island's defenses were built and fortified over a period of several years. There were complex, subterranean levels, some two stories down.

Heavy fire made it impossible to land men in an orderly manner and confusion reigned on the beaches. From these the defenders could approach the Marines on the surface virtually anywhere, through warrens, spider holes, caves, and crevices.

Japanese soldiers were given a direct order to each kill ten Marines—and for a large part of the battle, they were meeting their quotas. Some 2,300 Marines were killed or wounded in the first 18 hours of the operation.

At great cost, the Marines would take a hill only to find the same enemy suddenly on their rear or flank positions. The enemy was nowhere and everywhere, especially at night. The Japanese were not on Iwo Jima—they were in it!

Madam Speaker, war is hell, and Iwo Jima was the devil's living room.

Historians have described the U.S. attack as "throwing human flesh against reinforced concrete." In the end, the battle was won inch-by-inch by the tenacity of the foot soldier. One in three Marines on Iwo Jima would either be killed or wounded, including 19 of 24 battalion commanders. Twenty-seven Marines and naval medical corpsmen earned the Medal of

Honor—more than in any other battle in history—13 of them posthumously.

Madam Speaker, the bravery demonstrated on Iwo Jima has become the standard to which all Marines now aspire when in combat. The battle has come to define a Corps with a rich tradition and colorful history. It underlies the Marine Corps' core values of honor, courage and commitment.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution.

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the American patriots who fought bravely and triumphantly in one of the most iconic battles in our Nation's history.

Sixty years ago, thousands of men left their homes and families to fight for our security, liberty, and democracy. They fought, not because they had to, but because they chose to—choosing to confront an enemy they could not see, in a place they did not know.

Over 450 Navy ships unloaded 75,000 American soldiers onto the tiny Pacific island of Iwo Jima and faced a blistering assault from an entrenched and virtually invisible Japanese army.

Despite the massive geographical advantage of the Japanese and the loss of almost 2,500 soldiers on the first day alone, our soldiers marched fearlessly forward to meet their hidden enemy.

After 36 day's, victory was in hand but not before 7,000 Americans and 20,000 Japanese were killed.

This image of victory over adversity is ingrained in our history through the symbolic, yet evocative image of six American servicemen planting a salvaged American flag on top of Mount Suribachi in Iwo Jima.

Though the battle lasted twice as long as expected, the commitment of our men and women in uniform to the ideals of freedom and peace never wavered. Their steadfast belief in themselves and our Nation remains a beacon of selflessness and sacrifice for all Americans.

For those who still defend our country and those who fight for the principles upon which this Nation was founded, the men and women of Iwo Jima provide an opportunity for hope.

Their actions will forever stir our hearts and rouse our belief in the human spirit. It is because of this that we will always be thankful to the soldiers of Iwo Jima.

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, as 2005 marks the sixtieth year since the battle of Iwo Jima, it is appropriate that the House take this opportunity to recognize the sacrifice of the Marines who fought and died in that great battle.

Winning the battle of Iwo Jima was among the most significant victories of the U.S. Marines during World War II. In the Pacific, Iwo Jima was the critical air base from which Japan's fighters prevented American bombers from reaching their targets in mainland Japan. Because Japanese commanders understood the strategic importance of defending the island, it was protected by more than six hundred blockhouses, pillboxes and gun positions. For the Japanese, Allied control of Iwo Jima meant allowing the enemy a base from which to attack the Japanese mainland, an outcome that they were committed to preventing at all cost. After more than six months of Allied aerial bombardment of the island, on D-Day, February 19, 1945, U.S. Marines invaded Iwo Jima, raising the first American flag on Mount Suribachi 4 days later. Despite raising the flag on February 23, the bloody fighting continued

for 31 more days until the last pocket of resistance was eliminated on March 25.

More than 70,000 Marines participated in the invasion of Iwo Jima. Before the battle ended 17,372 Marines were wounded and 5,931 Marines made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom in securing the Allied victory. Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz said, "Among the men who fought at Iwo Jima, uncommon valor was a common virtue." Our Nation owes each of the men who fought and died at Iwo Jima its deepest gratitude.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent the fine Marines of Marine Corps Camp Pendleton. I am privileged to serve these exceptional Americans every day and to have the opportunity to continuously witness their selfless service and constant devotion to our nation. In 3 days Members of this body will travel to Iwo Jima to participate in the formal commemoration of the battle and of the example of courage and determination set by those who fought there, which Marines today strive ever to follow. As we gather in that solemn place to reflect on the immense sacrifices made there, the House, by passing this resolution will have done its part to honor our nation's commitment to those Marines never to forget the value of their sacrifices. I urge the adoption of this resolution.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 119, a bill to recognize the contributions of the United States Marine Corps and other units of the United States Armed Forces on the 60th Anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima. By capturing this isolated, eight square mile island in the Pacific, the men and women of our Armed Forces ensured victory in World War II. U.S. control of Iwo Jima removed the island as a staging ground for kamikaze attacks, ensured that B-29 bombers would continue to fly missions to mainland Japan and allowed U.S. planes traveling in the Pacific to use the island for emergency landings.

Despite facing 22,000 Japanese soldiers hidden in bunkers inside the hills of Iwo Jima, American soldiers successfully charged through miles of open space to capture control of the island in a little more than a month. Their sacrifices were many. Nearly one in three men were killed or wounded, making the Battle of Iwo Jima the source of one-third of all Marine deaths in World War II. In fact, three of the six men who famously raised the American flag over Mt. Suribachi died during the Battle. Yet Iwo Jima's survivors often refused to acknowledge their heroic service, often citing the friends who died beside them as the only heroes of the battle.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz commented in 1945 that "by their victory, the 3rd, 4th and 5th Marine Divisions and other units of the Fifth Amphibious Corps have made an accounting to their country which only history will be able to value fully." Sixty years later, the United States remains free, Japan is now one of our closest allies and the grandsons and granddaughters of those who served at Iwo Jima are again defending freedom abroad with the same determination and love for their country. I am confident that the Battle of Iwo Jima will continue to be a shining example of American military success for generations to come.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a proud cosponsor of H. Res. 119, which recognizes the contribu-

tions of the United States Marine Corps and other units of the United States Armed Forces on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima during World War II. Truly, this great battle served as a watershed moment for the United States in World War II. After capturing Iwo Jima, the United States Armed Forces were able to have a staging ground for the aerial assault that would help defeat the Japanese Empire. However, this great victory did not come without great sacrifice. More than 70,000 Marines participated in the Battle of Iwo Jima, 17,372 Marines were wounded and 5,931 Marines made the ultimate sacrifice for this Nation in this decisive battle in war, the likes of which the world had never before seen.

Today in this body we take the time to recognize those who fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima and indeed all Americans who fought in World War II. It was Edmund Burke who once aptly stated: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." The birth of our Nation itself was due to good men who refused to submit to an unjust rule; and it is that same spirit that guided those who fought in World War II. It has been said that the generation that came back from fighting World War II was in fact the 'greatest generation' and I would be hard pressed to disagree. Our brave soldiers went across the world to far away places like Iwo Jima to save massacred peoples; they had no choice but victory. Even now, we look back in pain and imagine the horror that could have been had they not been successful. They came back from this truly global war and raised a new generation of Americans. They created the greatest middle-class ever seen in the history of the world. Their domestic success ensured a great future for our Nation, their success abroad ensured life and liberty for millions around the world.

The great memory of Iwo Jima is best personified by the picture of six American soldiers raising our national flag amidst this great battle. The picture personified the American spirit in World War II, we struggled against a powerful opponent, but we persevered and did not succumb under the relentless pressure. In the end, we won the Battle of Iwo Jima and World War II, solely through the sacrifice and great courage of our American Armed Forces. We owe them our appreciation and we owe it to them to keep the memory of their heroic actions alive for future generations of Americans.

Mr. KLINE. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KLINE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 119.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT: A LEGACY FOR USERS

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 140 and ask for its immediate consideration.