

HONORING THE ALABAMA NATIONAL GUARD 1165TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 29, 2006*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the men and women of the Alabama Army National Guard 1165th Military Police Company.

The 1165th Military Police Company, based in Fairhope, AL, is the first unit of the Alabama National Guard to be awarded the Presidential Unit Citation. This is the highest award given to any army unit and is the capstone of this highly decorated unit.

The award was given to the 1165th for their service during Operation Iraqi Freedom. For 13 months, the men and women of the 1165th conducted high profile patrols on the streets of Baghdad and trained Iraqi policemen. During their tour, the 1165th suffered many wounded soldiers and lost one fellow soldier, Specialist Christopher Taylor.

Even in times of difficulty, the morale of the 1165th remained high. On Easter Sunday 2004, after packing for the trip home, the 1165th received notice that their time in Iraq had been extended. Their dedication and commitment to the cause of freedom carried them through this time and is just one example—out of many—that speaks to why the 1165th is worthy of the Presidential Unit Citation.

The Presidential Unit Citation is given to a unit of the army forces of the United States for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy. The unit must display such gallantry, determination and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions so as to set it apart from—and, in fact, above—other units participating in the same campaign.

It is an honor for me to rise today and recognize all of the brave men and women of America's armed forces and, in particular, the brave men and women of the 1165th Military Police Company.

May their dedication to the cause of freedom be an example to their families, friends, neighbors and citizens throughout Alabama and across the United States of America.

FREEDOM FOR RAFAEL CORRALES ALONSO

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 29, 2006*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Rafael Corrales Alonso, political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Corrales Alonso is a pro-democracy activist and a member of the 30 November Democratic Party, an island wide movement dedicated to the establishment of a democratic society, in opposition to the Castro tyranny. Unfortunately, those who believe that freedom, and human rights are the birthright of all men and women, are targeted by the tyrant's machinery of repression.

According to Amnesty International, on February 28, 2002, Mr. Corrales Alonso was ar-

rested by the dictatorship. More than 2 years later he was tried on the supposed "crime" of "contempt" and, in a sham trial, Mr. Corrales Alonso was sentenced to 5 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Let me be very clear, Mr. Corrales Alonso is currently languishing in the deprived conditions of the totalitarian gulag for his belief in freedom. The U.S. State Department describes the conditions in the gulag as, "harsh and life threatening." The State Department also reports that police and prison officials beat, neglect, isolate, and deny medical treatment to detainees and prisoners. It is a crime of the highest order that people are imprisoned in these nightmarish conditions simply for their belief in democracy and freedom.

Mr. Corrales Alonso is one of the many heroes of the peaceful Cuban democratic movement who are locked in the dungeons of the dictatorship for their beliefs. They are symbols of freedom and democracy who will always be remembered when freedom reigns again in Cuba. President Bush addressed those brave men and women who spread the light of freedom in the darkest corners of the world when he said, in his second inaugural address, "Democratic reformers facing repression, prison, or exile can know: America sees you for who you are: the future leaders of your free country."

Mr. Corrales Alonso represents the very best of the Cuban people: No matter how intense the beatings, no matter how remorseless the repression, no matter how inhumane the conditions, he will never relent in his belief that the people of Cuba should be and will be free.

Mr. Speaker, it is as inconceivable as it is unacceptable that, in the 21st century and only 90 miles from our shore, brave men and women are locked in grotesque dungeons because they believe that all people have basic human rights. It is a profound embarrassment for mankind that the world stands by in silence and acquiescence while political prisoners are systematically tortured because of their belief in freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law. My colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Rafael Corrales Alonso and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

TRIBUTE TO COUNCILMAN DR. TURNER M. SPENCER

**HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 29, 2006*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great citizen of the Commonwealth of Virginia and a true public servant. On June 30, 2006, Councilman Turner M. Spencer will step down from the Hampton, Virginia City Council after 20 years of dedicated service. I would like to take a few moments to highlight just some of Councilman Spencer's achievements.

Dr. Spencer holds bachelor's and master's degrees in Biology from Virginia State University, a master's degree in education from Hampton University, and a Doctorate in Higher Education Administration from the College of William and Mary.

In 1958, Dr. Spencer served his country on active duty for 2 years in the United States

Army, rising to the rank of captain, and he continued his military career with the United States Army Reserves, retiring as a major. Our grateful Nation is indebted to his service.

Dr. Spencer's career in public service began in the classroom. He joined the faculty of Thomas Nelson Community College in 1968, eventually serving as Chairman of the Thomas Nelson Biology Department until his retirement in 2000. Dr. Spencer played an integral part in the education and training of thousands of students in Hampton and surrounding cities.

In addition to his distinguished personal career, Councilman Spencer has had a long and prosperous political career. In 1986, he was first appointed to the Hampton City Council. He has served continuously on the council for the last 20 years, including a term as Vice-Mayor. He has also served his city as Chairman of the Hampton Redevelopment and Housing Authority, and as Chairman of the Hampton Roads Transportation District Commission.

His expertise in transportation, an area of great importance in our State, was recognized when he was elected President of the Virginia Transit Association in 1995. In that same year, leaders from other Virginia localities selected Councilman Spencer to be a member of the Executive Committee of the Virginia Municipal League and President of the League's Transportation Policy Committee.

Councilman Spencer's service to his State has not caused him to neglect his community. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Hampton Roads, and he has served on the Board of Trustees of both Messiah Baptist Church and First Baptist Church, Hampton.

As he prepares to step down from the City Council, I have no doubt that Councilman Spencer will remain active in the community.

Whether it's through his membership in Kiwanis International or the Alpha Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., I expect to see Councilman Spencer continuing to play a role in local and State civic affairs. I once again congratulate Councilman Spencer on his 20 years of service to the citizens of Hampton, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States of America.

COMMENDING OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY ON THEIR COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 29, 2006*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Oregon State University's 2006 baseball team on their College World Series Championship June 26, 2006. This title is a fitting ending to a truly remarkable season for the Beavers. The team has made Oregon proud; this is a victory for fans throughout the state.

I'd like to recognize the individual coaches and players not only for their victory, but also for their teamwork and sportsmanship which undoubtedly contributed to this accomplishment for the team and the university. Head Coach Pat Casey, Coaches Marty Lees and Dan Spencer, Assistant Coach David Wong and Strength and Conditioning Coach Andy Dendas.

Players: Erik Ammon, Sophomore; Darwin Barney, Sophomore; Bret Bochsler, Freshman; Reed Brown, Sophomore; Dallas Buck, Junior; Brian Budrow, Freshman; Mitch Canham, Sophomore; Bryn Card, Freshman; Brett Casey, Freshman; Cory Ellis, Freshman; Derek Engelke, Sophomore; Josh Forgue, Freshman; Cole Gillespie, Junior; Ryan Gipson, Senior; Tyler Graham, Junior; Mark Grbavac, Freshman; Kevin Gunderson, Junior; Koa Kahalehoe, Freshman; Greg Keim, Junior; Jon Koller, Senior; Chris Kunda, Senior; Eddie Kunz, Sophomore; Joey Lakowske, Freshman; Greg Laybourn, Freshman; Lonnie Lechelt, Sophomore; Mike Lissman, Junior; Anton Maxwell, Junior; Jake McCormick, Junior; Shea McFeely, Senior; Jonah Nickerson, Junior; Joe Paterson, Sophomore; Casey Priceman, Sophomore; Sean Rockey, Freshman; Bill Rowe, Senior; Scott Santschi, Senior; Alex Sogard, Freshman; Dale Solomon, Freshman; Michael Stutes, Sophomore; Rob Summers, Freshman; Daniel Turpen, Sophomore; Geoff Wagner, Senior; John Wallace, Freshman.

As the underdog team throughout much of the tournament Oregon State truly impressed us with their resilience. Oregon State is the first team in 16 years to win their first College World Series game and national title in the same season. The support of the community and fans contributed much to the spirit that followed this team through their victory. Of notable credit, Jonathan Casey, son of Coach Pat Casey inspired us all with his unbreakable belief in Oregon State Baseball.

Oregon State is the first Northern-based school to win the College World Series in 40 years, I hope that this is a new trend in athletics throughout Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. Congratulations Beavers on a hard-fought and well-earned championship.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO THOM REILLY**

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 29, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend Mr. Thom Reilly as he prepares to resign as the Clark County Manager, which is one of the fastest growing counties in the country with more than 1.5 million residents, and is accepting the position as Vice Chancellor of the University of Nevada Health Science Services Center for the Nevada System of Higher Education.

Thom began his service to Nevada in 1987, when he took a policy analyst position in Carson City's Department of Human Resources. While working in Carson City, he had the opportunity to serve as Chief of Social Services, and was subsequently promoted to Deputy Administrator.

In 1991, Thom moved to Las Vegas and joined the Division of Child and Family Services, where he oversaw the Child Welfare System in Nevada. Thom left his state position to work for Clark County in 1997. As Director of Clark County Administrative Services, he served as Chief Administrator, and was responsible for administering and planning Clark County's legislative initiatives, franchise agreements, emergency management, policy and

program development, and strategic planning efforts.

In August of 1999, Thom left Clark County to accept a position as Associate Professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, UNLV. He has taught a number of graduate level courses in public administration and social work, and continues to teach on a part-time basis. Thom returned to work for Clark County in 2001, as County Manager and Chief Executive Officer.

Thom holds both a Doctorate and Master of Public Administration degrees from the University of Southern California, USC, a Master of Social Work from Arizona State University, and a B.A. from Memphis State University. He is the author of numerous articles in the areas of health and human services, environmental planning and citizen participation. Thom is also active in numerous community organizations and serves on the editorial boards for the journals Public Administration Review, PAR, and Administration in Social Work.

Recently Thom has been quoted saying, "It's been a distinct pleasure to serve the citizens of Clark County and the members of the County Commission, and I've had some wonderful years here and have worked with a lot of very talented people who take their roles as public servants very seriously. Now I look forward to continuing to serve the people of this state in my new role."

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Thom Reilly on the floor of the House. From the needs of a foster child to the needs of a vibrant and expanding community, Thom has a true gift of serving his fellow man. I am honored to have him as a friend. I commend him for his continued contributions to the state of Nevada and especially the residents of Clark County.

**HONORING LANE JOHNSON ON THE COMPLETION OF HER INTERNSHIP**

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 29, 2006*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many contributions Lane Johnson has made while interning in my Washington, DC, office. A resident of Gallatin, Tennessee, Lane has been a wonderful addition to the office and a great servant to the constituents of Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

This fall, Lane will begin her final semester at the University of Tennessee, where she is majoring in agricultural economics and business. She is a member of Chi Omega, and I understand she is a member of the school's equestrian team. I hope those horses in Knoxville treat her better than the ones in Virginia did.

During her internship, Lane won over the entire staff with her ever-present eagerness and genuine interest in public affairs. She has attended briefings, addressed constituent concerns and served as a friendly and informative tour guide of the U.S. Capitol, providing visitors from Middle Tennessee with a personalized look at a national treasure.

I hope Lane has enjoyed her internship as much as my staff and I have enjoyed her presence in the office. I wish her all the best in the future.

**RECOGNITION OF CORPORAL RYAN J. BUCKLEY**

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 29, 2006*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Cpl Ryan J. Buckley who was recently killed in action fighting for freedom in Baghdad, Iraq.

Corporal Buckley was a 21-year-old from Nokomis, Illinois and was assigned to B Company, 2nd Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He graduated high school in Hillsboro, IL.

Buckley paid the ultimate sacrifice for his country. He is survived by his wife, Tina of Oak Grove, KY; mother and stepfather, Sally and Russell Nation of Hillsboro, IL; his father, Dennis Buckley of Hannibal, MO; a brother, Cody Buckley; a stepbrother, Aaron Nation; a stepsister, Danielle Nation; and many other family, friends and loved ones. I am proud of the service this young man gave to his country and the service his fellow troops perform everyday. Not enough can be said about Corporal Buckley. It is soldiers like him that are risking their lives day in and day out to ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy. God bless them and may God continue to bless America.

**IN MEMORY OF LOUIS JOSEPH**

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 29, 2006*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Fire Chief Louis Joseph of Erwin, North Carolina, who died March 15, 2006. In his passing, Erwin lost one of its most outstanding citizens and a man who was instrumental in his community, county, and State.

One of the area's most beloved men, my friend Louis Joseph, died Wednesday afternoon at Rex Hospital following a battle with cancer he developed from a rare respiratory disease. He was 63. Louis was the longtime Erwin fire chief and coproprietor of Joseph's Department Store in Erwin. He was diagnosed with Wegener's Granulomatosis in October 2004. After 45 years as a firefighter and 30 years as chief, Louis's health forced him to retire from the department last June.

Chief Joseph and his brother George Joseph, Jr. were sons of an immigrant father from Beirut, Lebanon. George Joseph, Sr. came to North Carolina in 1933 to work in his brother's department store in Benson. After a try in the ice cream business, Mr. Joseph, Sr. opened a men's clothing store in 1948, which led to Joseph's Department Store and the first men's clothing store in Dunn, NC. Finally in 1951 Mr. Joseph, Sr. moved his department store east to Erwin where Joseph's Department Store still stands today. Louis and his brother George Jr. both worked at the store after school and eventually took over their father's business. Both sons demonstrated a life