

of the Union. Had I been present for those votes on amendments to H.R. 2082, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, I would have voted as follows: “no” on rollcall No. 337; “no” on rollcall No. 338; and “yea” on rollcall No. 339.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1585) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of my amendment to H.R. 1585, the Fiscal Year 2008 National Defense Authorization Act. My amendment represents a crucial first step in enhancing and expanding critical family support and mental health services for our National Guard and Reserve troops and their families.

I commend Chairman SKELTON and the Armed Services Committee for their work on this bill. I'm glad the committee has recognized the great contributions of our National Guard and Reserve soldiers, and has recognized that readjusting to civilian life can be especially challenging for members of the reserve component. I believe that the establishment of the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program in the bill is a good first step in enhancing family support services for these soldiers, but I believe that more needs to be done for the families of National Guard and Reserve troops, who have too often and for too long been forgotten and left behind.

Members of the National Guard and Reserve are serving our country more than ever in the world's most dangerous places, including Iraq and Afghanistan, and many of them are facing multiple and extended deployments, causing considerable hardships for them and for their families. To cite just one example, in January 2007, members of the Iowa National Guard's 1-133rd Infantry Battalion learned that their tour of duty in Iraq would be extended from April of this year until August.

My amendment, which requires the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study into establishing a pilot program for family-to-family support for members of the National Guard and Reserve, and conduct a study on improving support services for the children of members of the National Guard and Reserve who are undergoing deployment, will help ensure that our reserve component troops and their families receive all of the family support and mental health services they need as they continue to serve our country.

My amendment is consistent with the goals of the Armed Services Committee to enhance support services for our National Guard and Reserve troops and their families, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

HONORING JAMES C. HAGUE, JR.

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the life-long accomplishments of a Coloradan who has served as a role model for achievement and made a substantial impact on our State, Mr. James C. Hague, Jr. On Saturday, February 25, 2007, a group of family and friends met to celebrate the 98th birthday of this truly wonderful and special person.

Jim was born on February 24, 1909 in Plainview, Texas and moved to Dallas, Texas in 1912. After working in the oil refining industry as a helper in 1927, he became a chemist. During the Hoover Administration he worked for the government and was initiated into Pipefitters Local 195 in Beaumont, Texas on May 31, 1937.

In 1939, Jim married his wife Ethel, a union which lasted for 58 years. He has two stepsons, 2 grandsons and 1 granddaughter. He and Ethel moved to Denver in October 1951 at which time Jim transferred his union card to Pipefitters Local 208, a membership still active today. Jim worked at the Rocky Flats Weapons Plant as a pipefitter in the initial construction of the facility.

Jim has always been active in the civic arena. He became a member of the Westminster City Charter Convention in 1957 and, as a result of his participation, Westminster established a City Manager/Home Rule government. Jim assisted in writing the Charter for Westminster which was approved by the voters in 1958. Jim was also instrumental in establishing the Central Colorado Library District for Arapahoe, Adams, Boulder, Denver, Clear Creek, Gilpin and Jefferson Counties. He remained a member of the Library District for 14 years and was Chairman for 12 years.

Jim is an active member of the Adams County Democratic Party; he has walked many miles in precincts and made many phone calls for candidates and was even featured in several commercials for former Senator Tim Wirth. Jim is well known by Democrats throughout the State of Colorado.

Jim is a truly interesting and fascinating person. He has tales to tell of yesterdays and always makes a contribution to today. Our future is much brighter for having Jim Hague in our lives. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him the very best and a long healthy life with much happiness.

AFRICA'S WATER CRISIS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2007

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, yesterday the House Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health held a briefing and hearing on the important issue of Africa's water crisis. We tend to take for granted this basic necessity for human existence, and yet we are told by the United Nations Development Programme that over 1.1 billion people in developing countries do not have adequate access

to safe water. Access to water is closely correlated to basic sanitation, and there too the world is facing a crisis. Some 2.6 billion people live without this second essential aspect of good health.

In its Human Development Report for 2006, the UNDP presents a heavy indictment against the international community, noting that every year 1.8 million children die from causes related to unclean water and poor sanitation. This is equivalent to 4,900 deaths every day, and diarrheal disease is the second highest cause of death in the world for children under 5. This occurs despite the fact that we now have oral rehydration therapy. These numbers dwarf the number of deaths resulting from violent conflict, and yet the UNDP points out that water and sanitation are rarely highlighted as an international concern.

In sub-Saharan Africa—the focus of the hearing—over 300 million people lack access to safe water, and some 460 million do not have access to proper sanitation. These overwhelming numbers hide the even deeper tragedy that it is the poor, both poor individuals and poor countries, who carry the greatest burden. Sub-Saharan Africa loses about 5 percent of its GDP, or about \$28.4 billion each year, to the water and sanitation deficit. This figure exceeds the total amount of aid and debt relief provided to the region in 2003. And most of this loss is suffered by those households that are below the poverty line, those who can least afford to pay the cost. The lack of water also unduly affects women and girls, who in many societies have the responsibility of collecting and transporting water, which can occupy their energy and time for several hours each day.

Beyond the apparent costs in human suffering and loss of life, there are broader social and economic costs as well. Improper water management impacts agricultural and industrial development, economic growth, and the preservation of land, coastal and marine ecosystems. Equitable access to sufficient quantities of safe water is necessary for a secure, peaceful society, and threats to such access can become a source of conflict and even violence.

It is worthwhile to note that, according to the UNDP, the scarcity of water worldwide is not the result of physical availability. The Human Development Report states that household water requirements represent a very small fraction of water use, often less than 5 percent of the total. Instead the UNDP asserts that the source of the problem lies in power, poverty and inequality. Households in high-income urban areas of Asia, Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa have access to several hundred liters of water each day through public utilities, while slum dwellers and poor households in the rural areas of those same countries have access to far less than the 20 liters a day per person required to meet the most basic human needs. The same analysis is said to apply to the areas of agriculture and industry. Income levels and access to water and sanitation systems are key elements. UNDP explicitly rejects the notion that the global water shortage is due to population increases.

Fortunately, the United States Government is acting to provide more safe water and proper sanitation to the poor of the world. Thanks to the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor

Act of 2005, authored by our good friend Congressman EARL BLUMENAUER who we welcomed as a witness at the hearing, the provision of affordable and equitable access to safe water and sanitation in developing countries is a legislative component of our country's foreign assistance programs.

I have learned that the lack of access can be addressed by relatively simple means by an amazingly few but deeply committed people. I learned this first-hand when I was in Uganda last year and met Robert Wright from Living Waters International. I often emphasize the importance of faith-based organizations in meeting the global health needs of the world, and Living Waters is a Christian ministry that implements water development through training, equipping and consulting. Robert was living a comfortable life in my home state of New Jersey when he decided to move himself and his family to the remote regions of Uganda to assist the poor. He went to a school operated by Living Waters to learn how to drill a well to provide water for the hospital he was building. Although he was suffering from a bout of malaria, he drove several hours to Kampala to inform our delegation of the work of Living Waters and to press the need for water for the peoples of Africa. Therefore, I was particularly pleased to welcome Mr. Malcolm Morris, the chairman of Millennium Water Alliance, which represents a number of partners including Living Water International, who informed the Subcommittee of the work being done by faith-based organizations on this issue.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. FRANKIE CRUZ, MS. JADE CRUZ, AND MR. CHRISTOPHER CRUZ

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to SFC (Ret.) Frankie Salas Cruz for his service to his community. I commend the United States Army on Fort Hood for dedicating a Family Readiness building in honor of Sergeant Frankie Cruz. Sergeant Cruz and his 2 children, Jade Christine, and Christopher Frankie, tragically passed away on February 14, 2007 after a terrible car accident.

Sergeant Cruz was born on September 20, 1958 in Tamuning, Guam, the loving son of Juan Camacho and Luisa Borja Cruz. Sergeant Cruz was dedicated to public service from his earliest years. Many fondly remember his service as a Scoutmaster for Troop 200 and to the First Baptist Church of Lampasas, Texas. After graduating from Guam Vocational-Technical High School, he completed his Associates Degree from the University of Maryland in 1984.

During college, Sergeant Cruz, began his distinguished service to the Nation. He completed 3 years of Reserve Officer Training Corps, ROTC, leadership training then enlisted in the U.S. Army. He retired from the Army after 22 years of honorable and faithful service to our Nation. Most notably, Sergeant Cruz served our Nation honorably during the First Gulf War in 1991 and, most recently, in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

It is only appropriate that the Army name this facility after Sergeant Cruz to honor his 22 years of dedicated service. Employees and friends throughout his career note Sergeant Cruz's "can do" attitude with every project or task he was assigned. In fact, at the time of his passing, Sergeant Cruz had embarked as team lead for a \$39 million base building rehabilitation project. The respect and admiration everyone had for Sergeant Cruz will be eternally memorialized at this building on Fort Hood.

Sergeant Cruz's daughter Jade, and son Christopher, will also be remembered fondly. Jade was born on April 12, 1988 in Fort Eustis, Virginia. Her beauty, energy and vitality were just some of the attributes that made her an accomplished athlete and cheerleader. Beyond her athletic prowess, Jade took her academics seriously and was a student at Central Texas College at the time of her passing.

Christopher was born on September 7, 1989 in Fort Eustis, Virginia. Christopher will be remembered as an accomplished scholar and member of the Junior National Honor Society. Like many other in his generation, Christopher volunteered many of his hours toward various goodwill projects. Also, much like his father, he was a highly decorated Boy Scout earning the highest rank of Eagle Scout. Christopher's talents also transcended into music. He was the drum major in the Lampasas Marching Band and played the saxophone in the high school jazz band.

The tremendous accomplishments of Jade and Christopher are reflective of their father's love, care and passion for his children. Learning of these accomplishments makes their passing even more difficult to bear. I take solace in that the memory of their love, passion and hard work will always be on display for the Fort Hood community.

I join the people of Guam and the Fort Hood community in mourning the passing of Sergeant Frankie Cruz and his children, Jade and Christopher. I offer my condolences to their wife and mother, Mrs. Linda Cruz, Sergeant Cruz's other sons and their extended family. I thank Sergeant Cruz for his admirable service to our Nation in times of great difficulty and to the support his children provided. The Cruz family can all be proud of their family's achievements and strength.

CELEBRATING 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MRS. LILLIAN BIJOU (THORTON) REVORD

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2007

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent who has led a remarkable life. On Sunday, Mrs. Revord's family and friends will come together to celebrate and observe her 100th birthday, celebrating the rich life of Mrs. Lillian Bijou (Thorton) Revord.

Over the course of her life, Mrs. Revord has truly seen the history of northern Michigan unfold before her, while she herself led a life rich in experience. As a child, Mrs. Revord attended the Methodist Church in Morristown, Michigan. The church has now been removed as an historical site to Grayling, Michigan, but the church gave her a strong anchor of faith to guide her.

In the spring of 1918, Mrs. Revord first moved north to Michigan's Upper Peninsula, U.P., specifically, Grand Island in Alger County. While young Lillian was just 12 years old on Grand Island, her father worked as a teamster for a logging company and her mother did the camp's laundry and cooking. In the fall of 1918, Lillian and her family moved to the mainland so that she and her sisters could attend school.

On the mainland, in Munising, Michigan, a few years later, Lillian met Orville Revord. As she tells it, Lillian and her best friend, Leta, were walking down the Munising City Dock. Some young men were nearby and one of them took note of Lillian's pigtails by commenting, "Well, if this one isn't a cute bunch of 'Onion Tops!'" This teasing remark was the first interaction between the two, who started dating when Lillian was 15.

In 1924, Orville and Lillian eloped and were married in Rapid River, Michigan. Lillian was 17 and Orville was 20. Lillian's friend, Leta and Lillian's cousin James served as witnesses. There were no wedding showers or receptions, Lillian did not have a special wedding dress (just a satin dress she had made for herself for the 4th of July) and the couple's wedding gifts were a pair of pillow cases from Leta and a week's board and room from Lillian's sister, Zeph. As Lillian recalls, the Reverend Kitchen performed the ceremony. Before the ceremony, the Reverend looked up over his spectacles to say to the young couple, "Do you two kids know what you are doing?" Nonetheless, Orville and Lillian were married. Apparently the two did "know what they were doing," as their marriage would ultimately produce five children and last 66 years. As Lillian says, "We had nothing to start a long married career with, but we had our love and commitment and our marriage endured for better or for worse and both categories got a good workout!"

One of the challenges Orville and Lillian would face during the course of their marriage was the Great Depression, which hit five years after they were married. Orville's job on the railroad was whittled down to two days a week and the young couple, already working to raise two children, was surviving on \$11.52 every two weeks. Their two sons, Orville Jr. and Billy, would sit on the sidewalk waiting for their father to come home from work swinging his lunch bucket, which held a piece of a sandwich that Orville Sr. had saved from lunchtime for the two brothers to share. Despite these challenges, the Revord family would persevere and persist during these dark times, a testament to the love and commitment between Orville and Lillian and of their faith.

Throughout her entire life, Lillian has remained a passionate lover of art and an active painter. She was the first Munising artist to be hired by the Munising Woodware and was the last to be laid off, following the financial demise of her employer. Lillian's artwork has been cherished by locals and visitors to Munising, alike. Today, one can occasionally stumble upon one of her painted antique woodenwares on the Internet, for a considerable price. Lillian also worked for some time as a telephone operator for the Munising Telephone Company, until electronic switching was innovated.