

projects. Current projects range from economic and social development in Africa to the financing of media companies. Among them: Vardo Entertainment; Mindtree; Urbintel; and VuVango Media. Mr. Flowers has financed the public works of Clarence B. Jones, worked as a former draft speech writer and counsel to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and assisted with future film projects like Pilgrims Progress, Clara Ward, the Shea Foundation, and a gospel reality pilot for Black Entertainment Television.

Mr. Flowers is a member of various boards in the religious, political and business communities. Among them are: the Insight Broadcasting Corporation; the Atlantic Union of SDA Executive Committee; the Atlantic Union Adventist Media/3 ABN; Northeastern Academy Alumni; Northeastern Conference Youth Advisory Committee; Elmer H. Blackburn Regular Democratic Club; Harlem Advent Care Center; Daly Day Academy; and the Northeastern Conference Junior Basketball League.

Mr. Flowers holds a Bachelor's of Science Degree from Oakwood College and is currently in the last semester of the St. Johns' University MBA Program. Mr. Flowers is an ordained Elder at City Tabernacle SDA Church and a former Associate Coordinator and current Master Guide in the Bronx/Manhattan Pathfinder Association. He is married to Dr. Alicia Massop-Flowers.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the distinguished accomplishments and achievements of Mr. Flowers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this extraordinary gentleman.

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

**HON. JOHN S. TANNER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 15, 2007*

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I recently led a bipartisan House delegation to NATO Parliamentary Assembly meetings in Madeira and Lisbon, Portugal, and to additional meetings in Tunisia and Morocco from May 24–June 3. The co-chair of my delegation was the Hon. PAUL GILLMOR. In addition, Representatives RALPH REGULA, JO ANN EMERSON, JOHN SHIMKUS, ELLEN TAUSCHER, DENNIS MOORE, TOM TANCREDO, JOHN BOOZMAN, BARON HILL, BEN CHANDLER, KENDRICK MEEK, and CHARLES MELANCON, and staff, worked to make this a highly successful trip in which we examined a range of NATO and Mediterranean security issues.

The NATO Parliamentary Assembly, NPA, consists of parliamentarians from all 26 NATO member states. In addition, members of parliament present from such associated governments as Russia, Georgia, Croatia, and Afghanistan join discussions and debates over the key issues of interest to the alliance. The NPA thereby provides a forum for elected officials to analyze issues that NATO discusses in Brussels. Delegates have the opportunity to learn first-hand the views and concerns that other countries have over the key security issues of the day. An invaluable aspect of the meetings is the chance to meet and come to

know members of parliaments who play important roles in their own countries in shaping the security agenda that their governments debate at NATO headquarters. These contacts can endure through a career, and can provide an invaluable private avenue for insights into each ally's particular views on an issue.

The key issues before NATO today are Russia, missile defense, and the conflict in Afghanistan. Each of these was on vigorous display at the NPA meetings. Russia under Putin is following an increasingly assertive policy in its use of energy supplies as a political lever, and in efforts to intimidate neighboring states such as Estonia and Georgia. It was clear from our meetings that not only the United States and NATO, but the European Union as well, are concerned about Moscow's posture on a wide range of issues. The Bush Administration's missile defense proposal for Europe was also a central subject of discussion. While many governments accept in the abstract the need to consider such a defensive system in an era of missile and nuclear proliferation, the meetings revealed a wide array of views among the allies on the efficacy and timeliness of this particular system. The United States has approximately 25,000 troops in Afghanistan, of whom 17,000 are engaged in NATO's International Security Assistance Force, ISAF, fighting the Taliban.

Portugal hosted the NP A meetings in Madeira. Before the opening sessions, the delegation had a detailed briefing and discussion with Ambassador Victoria Nuland, the U.S. representative to NATO. She very ably prepared us for the nuances of the discussion of the issues that would be debated in the NPA sessions. There followed another private meeting with NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, who gave an overview of member state perspectives on the most controversial issues confronting the alliance; he later addressed the NPA's plenary session. The Prime Minister of Portugal also addressed the plenary, and emphasized the importance of Mediterranean security issues, which were a recurrent theme in our trip.

There followed 2 days of NPA committee meetings. There are 5 NPA committees. In each, parliamentarians present reports on issues before the alliance, which are then debated by all members of the committee who may make counter-arguments or suggestions for amending a report. We divided our delegation so that U.S. Members were present in each committee meeting.

I chaired the Economics and Security Committee, which heard reports on the Republic of Georgia's progress towards democracy and its increasingly close association with NATO, on defense resource management, and on economic developments in East Asia. Representative BOOZMAN was the co-rapporteur of this last report, which he very ably presented, and which aroused an interesting discussion. Rep. BOOZMAN noted the growing commercial interests of the United States and its allies in East Asia, and the political and security implications of this growing web of economic connections. The Committee also heard a provocative and interesting presentation by Lawrence Korb of the Center for American Progress. He discussed the U.S. defense budget debate, and the effects that the Iraq war is having on U.S. military capabilities around the world.

The NPA Political Committee, of which Rep. CHANDLER is a vice-chairman, heard several

reports that touched off sometimes contentious debates. Most notable were exchanges between the Russian delegates and their counterparts from NATO parliaments over the cyber attacks on Estonia's government and business electronic systems, in all probability launched in retaliation for Estonia's relocation of a Soviet-era war memorial. There was also a report by a Canadian delegate on the conflict in Afghanistan. Backed by her U.S. colleagues, she called for a reduction in caveats—restrictions that some allies place on their forces in Afghanistan—and a greater sharing of the combat burden among member states.

The Defense and Security Committee also heard a report on Afghanistan that concentrated on military operations there. Representative SHIMKUS then gave a clear, succinct, and analytical presentation on his report on the NATO–EU security relationship. He called for better coordination between the 2 organizations so that member governments might pool and share resources more smoothly as NATO and the EU work more closely together in such missions as Afghanistan and Kosovo. His report was well-received, and led to an interesting debate. Representative TAUSCHER is a vice-chair of one of the Committee's subcommittees.

The Science and Technology Committee heard reports on climate change and on the transformation of warfare brought on by the increasing use of computers and other high technology. A report by a Russian delegate set off a broad debate on the administration's missile defense proposals. The concerns of Moscow were clearly, if ideologically, laid out by the Russian delegate, with responses from a range of European delegates. Representative TAUSCHER provided a clear and concise congressional perspective on missile defense after a presentation on the issue by a U.S. Department of Defense official.

The Committee on the Civil Dimension of Security heard reports on a range of issues, the most interesting of which was the protection of critical infrastructures. The issue of the recent cyber attacks in Estonia was again raised; vulnerability of communications and other electronic networks in allied states is likely to become a matter of growing debate in the alliance. Representative EMERSON is a vice-chair of one of the Committee's subcommittees.

The rapporteurs will present updated drafts of their reports during the next NPA meetings, which will occur in Reykjavik, Iceland, October 5–9, 2007.

The delegation also met with a member of the Afghan parliament who is an observer delegate to the NPA. We discussed NATO operations, the narcotics trade in Afghanistan, and governance issues with him.

The delegation next went to Lisbon on May 28–29 for meetings there and visits to 2 military bases. After a briefing by U.S. Ambassador Alfred Hoffman and his staff, the delegation visited the NATO Joint Command just outside Lisbon. Joint HQ Lisbon is an allied mobile command that becomes a sea-based command in the initial stages of operations ranging from peacekeeping to war fighting. It is a reflection of NATO's ongoing transformation into a lighter, more mobile military structure able to counter crises around the world. Joint HQ Lisbon currently provides the headquarters structure for the NATO mission in Darfur.

The delegation then visited the NATO Joint Command for Combined Air Operations Center, CAOC, which has highly sophisticated electronic systems that monitor all air traffic off southwestern Europe, northwestern Africa, and in the western Mediterranean. The CAOC can scramble aircraft to counter any potential aerial threat to the region.

The delegation again picked up the themes of Mediterranean security in Tunis on May 30–31. Tunisia is part of NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue, in which NATO governments join a number of Arab governments along the Mediterranean coast and Israel to discuss and begin to train for counter-terror and counter-proliferation efforts. Bilaterally, Tunisia is also an important friend of the United States in countering terrorist threats in North Africa. At the same time, some Members raised concerns about the need for the Tunisian Government to make greater progress on the road to democracy.

In 1942–1944, 2,841 American soldiers gave their lives in the effort to defeat German and Italian forces in the North African theater during the Second World War. The delegation visited their resting place in the North African Cemetery, managed by the U.S. American Battle Monuments Commission. While we tend to think of U.S. cemeteries in the Second World War theater as being located in Europe, the cemetery outside Tunis is a monument to the brave soldiers who gave their lives in the strategically critical and often extremely difficult battles that weakened Germany's lines of defense and supply in preparation for the conclusive battles of 1944–1945 in Europe. Accompanied by other members of the delegation, I laid a wreath at the cemetery's central monument. Members of the delegation then walked to individual graves of fallen soldiers from their states. This was perhaps the most memorable and poignant moment of the delegation's trip.

After a briefing by U.S. Ambassador Robert Godec, the Members had a lengthy and highly informative meeting with the Tunisian President, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, where we discussed the key issues in U.S.-Tunisian relations, as well as matters of Mediterranean security. There followed meetings with the Foreign and Defense Ministers, where issues of U.S.-Tunisian cooperation and U.S. military assistance were discussed in detail. These meetings provided a precise, focused discussion of how the United States and Tunisia might work more closely together on security issues. The delegation also visited the Tunisian parliament.

On June 1–2, the delegation went to Rabat for meetings with Moroccan officials on security issues. Morocco has experienced an increase in Al Qaeda activity; the Madrid train bombings of March 2004 were largely carried out by Moroccan Islamist extremists. Morocco, which is on a path of moderate democratization, is one of the United States' oldest allies, and was the first government to recognize U.S. independence.

After a briefing by U.S. Ambassador Thomas Riley and his staff, the delegation held meetings with the Moroccan Defense Minister and with upper-level officials in the Foreign Ministry. The focal points of these discussions were Morocco's participation in NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue, and U.S.-Moroccan bilateral efforts to counter proliferation and terrorism. We also visited the Moroccan par-

liament for a meeting with the chamber of deputies' leader, comparable to our Speaker of the House.

The U.S. Air Force Reserve elements from Scott Air Force Base piloted our aircraft and security for it was provided by members of the United States Air Force Reserve from Andrews Air Force Base. Our military personnel provide a quiet but invaluable service in ensuring safety and an efficient schedule for U.S. congressional delegations, and this group of service men and women was no exception. I thank them for their hard work and their dedication to duty.

CONGRATULATING UCLA ON ITS  
UNPRECEDENTED 100TH NCAA  
TITLE

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 15, 2007*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of the UCLA Athletic Program which recently won its 100th championship, making it the first Division I school to do so.

The UCLA men's tennis team won the first NCAA championship for the Bruins in 1950 and the last 57 years have been witness to an unprecedented record of success. These championships have not been confined to just a few sports. Some of the multiple championships include 19 men's volleyball, 16 men's tennis, 11 men's basketball, 10 women's softball, 8 championships for both men's track and field and men's water polo, and 5 championships for women's gymnastics, women's track and field, and women's water polo. The list of Bruin athletes who contributed to the school's history of victory is a roll call of the greatest athletes of our time: Lewis Alcindor, Arthur Ashe, Evelyn Ashford, Jimmy Connors, Gale Devers, Mitch Gaylord, Florence Griffith-Joyner, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Karch Kiraly, Jackie Robinson, Bill Walton, and others.

This record is not just the result of exceptional athletes. These championships also reflect the philosophies of great Bruin coaches like basketball icon John Wooden and volleyball legend Al Scates. Their commitment to hard work, discipline, and sportsmanship has created a legacy of victory unparalleled in college sports. Additionally, the contributions of all the students, alumni, and staff have been instrumental over the years in helping UCLA achieve 100 championships.

The 100th championship came from the Women's Water Polo team which won its third consecutive NCAA Division I championship on May 13, 2007. The Bruins, coached by Adam Krikorian, finished 28–2 and have been 90–6 over the past three seasons. Courtney Mathewson scored three goals and Jillian Kraus added two more as the Bruins beat rival Stanford. Kelly Rulon was selected as the tournament's Most Valuable Player. Rulon, Mathewson, and Kraus were joined by Emily Feher and Kacy Kunkel as members to the NCAA All-Tournament First Team.

On behalf of the UCLA graduates in the House, I congratulate the Women's Water Polo team for its most recent championship and I commend the Bruins for being the most accomplished athletic program in NCAA history.

A TRIBUTE TO KEITH DOSREIS,  
JR.

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 15, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Keith "Suede" DosReis, Jr. Keith grew up in Brownsville, Brooklyn, and has always had the ability to hold an audience captive. He began a career in entertainment at the age of 5. He attended State University of New York at Albany where he pledged Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity.

Keith DosReis, Jr., has appeared in 16 commercials, two of them with legendary actor and comedian William "Bill" Cosby. Though making the commercials was fun, Keith's passion lies in hosting live events. Among his most popular was the national collegiate step show tournament, "StepCorrect."

Keith DosReis has become a sought after personality to host events throughout the New York Tri-State area as well as colleges nationwide. His hosting of national events has led to his latest endeavor of managing artists which is a natural outgrowth of his entrepreneurial and managerial experience that were derived from his days with HBO Sports.

Keith DosReis is now the Program Coordinator for the Forster Laurie Police Athletic League Center in Queens, NY. This gives Keith an opportunity to provide new programs for our youth while at the same time bestowing upon them his knowledge of the entertainment industry.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Keith DosReis for his accomplishments and achievements.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this artful entertainer.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNIVER-  
SITY OF THE DISTRICT OF CO-  
LUMBIA GRADUATE PROGRAMS  
ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 15, 2007*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the University of the District of Columbia Graduate Programs Act that amends Section 326 of the Higher Education Act to provide federal Historically Black College and University (HBCU) grant funding to the qualified graduate programs at the University of the District of Columbia.

The University of the District of Columbia (UDC) is the District's only public university and institution of higher learning. An open admission institution at the undergraduate level, the University has consistently and historically provided higher education opportunities to D.C. residents at low and affordable costs. The University justifiably prides itself on its vital role in educating the leaders of the next generation by producing theoretically sound and practically skilled graduates, ready to undertake careers in service in both the public and private sectors.

UDC also is one of the Nation's oldest HBCUs, but the university did not receive federal funding as an HBCU until 1999. When