

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I was unable to make the following roll call votes on September 4, 2007:

H.R. 694, the Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act. On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, a Amended, I would have voted "nay."

H.R. 3020, the Microloan Amendments and Modernization Act. On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, I would have voted "aye."

H.R. 2669, the College Cost Reduction Act of 2007. On Motion to Instruct Conferees, I would have voted "aye."

IN HONOR OF JIMMIE WHITE

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero, Jimmie White from Yuma, Colorado. Jimmie volunteered to serve in the United States Military in the late 1960's. He was part of the MCB 10 Construction Battalion of the Seabees. He served two tours in Vietnam. The first tour (1968) was in Quang Tri during the Tet Offensive. His second tour (1968–1969) was at Camp Haines with detachments to Dan Nang, Dong Ha, An Lo, LZ Sally, Phong dien, Phu Bai (all close to the DMZ), and he supported efforts at Hill 937 (Hamburger Hill). During his time of service, Jimmie received the following commendations and medals: Good Conduct, Marine Commendation, Vietnam Service Medal, 2 Stars and a Presidential Citation from the late President Lyndon Johnson.

Jimmie came home, married and started a business. He and his wife Carol raised 4 children, Michelle Hewitt, Jeannine White, Tony White and Dawn Chancellor, and he never forgot his brothers and sisters who served and died for this nation. Jimmie has served as Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander for VFW Post 3378 in Yuma for a number of years. During his time as active Commander he has seen the establishment of a Color Guard that serves those who have died and reminds the living of the sacrifice of our military men and women around the globe at all times. Jimmie also gave a great amount of time and effort to draw attention to the healthcare needs of the Veterans living in northeast Colorado. A Community Based Outpatient Veteran's Clinic has now been approved with plans to open this fall in Burlington, Colorado. It serves as a reminder of what one man's persistence can accomplish. Some of the proudest moments of Jimmie's service with the VFW have come from his work with Roger Lair and Tom Valle. Together they have seen the beginnings of a Young Marines Chapter in Yuma, they have helped handicapped Veterans attend community events, and they have participated in a Veteran's Day meeting at the local middle school for Yuma area Veterans. One of Jimmie's crowning achievements, with the com-

bined efforts of many, was the completion of a new Veteran's Memorial built at Veteran's Park in Yuma, Colorado. Fully paid for with private donations, it was dedicated this past July 4, 2007 to a large crowd of proud American citizens.

Jimmie White comes from the heartland of America and when the time came for him to serve, he volunteered. When time came for him to sacrifice, he did so without question. When the call came for him to hoist the colors of this nation, not on the battlefield around the globe, but in the heart and soul of his community, Jimmie White served Yuma County and the State of Colorado well. Our precious veterans are heroes who have left their homes to defend our nation, and then returned to be valued members of their communities, showing their children and grandchildren how to live meaningful lives of service. I want to take this brief moment to honor Jimmie White for the sacrifices that he made and his continued commitment to all of those who serve our great nation in the profession of arms. I applaud Jimmie for his courage and selfless dedication to duty. Jimmie truly is the embodiment of all the values that have molded America into the great nation it is today. May God bless Jimmie and his family, may God bless our precious veterans, and may God bless America.

CY HO

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great man, a businessman, a leader, and a great corporate citizen in our South Texas community: CY Ho, who is currently CEO and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of AMFELS, a major international corporation, and an enormous component of the Port of Brownsville in South Texas.

He will be leaving South Texas shortly, and we will miss him very much.

CY Ho is a highly respected entrepreneur who is very much a part of the South Texas community through his contributions to worthy causes. He is the picture of international free trade and corporate diplomat.

CY was born and raised in Singapore as that nation was emerging onto the world stage as a major player in the international economy. He was educated in the United Kingdom in naval architecture, later earning his MBA at UK's Brunel University as a chartered engineer.

Widely regarded as a global expert on naval and marine architecture and engineering, CY is a man of extraordinary vision and understanding of global business.

In 1981, he began with Far East Livingston Shipbuilding, Ltd. (FELS) as manager of the engineering department, then moved to Corporate Development Manager by 1994. By 1996, he was the Assistant General Manager of Keppel FELS Ltd.

In August 2001, CY left Singapore Keppel FELS Ltd. to come to Brownsville, Texas, to serve as President of the American division of the company, AMFELS. Just 3 months later, he was also serving as CEO and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Keppel AMFELS designs, builds and repairs ships, barges, and offshore drilling rigs; they also fabricate steel pressure vessels, all of which represents a dynamic and important component of the industrial complex at the Port of Brownsville, located at the front door of North American trade.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, I ask you to join me in wishing CY Ho the very best as he moves on, leaving many good friends here in South Texas as he continues his work back in Singapore.

THE PASSING OF CONGRESSMAN CHARLES VANIK

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, just before Congress returned to session this week, our Nation lost a gentleman who served with distinction in this body for 26 years and whose name became forever associated with the human rights struggle in the former Soviet Union.

Congressman Charles Vanik served his constituents of the Cleveland, OH, area from 1955 to 1981. In 1968, he voluntarily gave up his seat in a district that had become primarily African-American to allow my good friend and our former colleague, Mr. Louis Stokes, an opportunity to serve in the Congress. It says something for Mr. Vanik's reputation as a conscientious and hard-working Member that he could switch to a nearby district, defeat a long-time incumbent of the other major party, and return to Congress.

I did not know Mr. Vanik personally, but as Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I am particularly familiar with his contribution to the struggle to allow Soviet Jews to leave the Soviet Union and emigrate to Israel.

In the early 1970s, Soviet Jews who wished to emigrate to Israel faced government harassment and even prison terms in one of the many labor camps stretched along the eleven time zones of the Soviet Union. This issue became especially acute in 1972 when the Soviet government announced it would level an onerous "education tax" on Soviet Jews who wished to emigrate. As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Trade of the House Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Vanik stepped up to sponsor an amendment to the Trade Reform Bill of 1974 introduced by Senator Henry Jackson of Washington State. This amendment linked awarding Most Favored Nation trade status to a nation's record on unhindered emigration for its citizens. President Nixon and Mr. Kissinger didn't like it, but it was a law whose time had come.

In the years that followed its passage, through détente and the tense days of United States-Soviet relations in the early 1980s, the Jackson-Vanik Amendment became a powerful symbol of the Congress' determination to see that the Soviet Union lived up to the Helsinki Accords.

Today, Madam Speaker, the Cold War is over, the Soviet Union is happily no more, Jewish citizens of Russia, the successor state to the Soviet Union, are free to emigrate to Israel or any other nation that will grant an entry visa.

Ironically, Congress has not yet fully “graduated” Russia from the provisions of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment. I do hope that, regardless of the many difficulties in relations with Russia that we are now experiencing, we will be able to do so in the near future. I am sure Chairman Vanik would agree with me.

Madam Speaker, although I was not acquainted with Chairman Vanik, I know that he left a legacy of deep respect when he retired from this august body. May we all serve our constituents, our Nation, and all those with whom we share this planet as conscientiously as he did.

FY08 DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS EXPLANATIONS

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, in accordance with House earmark reforms, I would like to place into the RECORD a listing of congressionally directed projects in my home State of Idaho that are contained within the report to the fiscal year 2008 Defense appropriations bill.

I'd like to take just a few minutes to describe why I supported these projects and why they are valuable to the Nation and its taxpayers.

The report contains \$3 million for a technology entitled Vacuum Sampling Pathogen Collection and Concentration. Developed by Microbial-Vac Systems in Jerome, ID, the advanced “Vacuum Pathogen” collection and concentration systems are critical to continued advancement of the Department of Defense’s applications for manual and robotic sample acquisition and traceability of biothreat agents in food safety and environmental settings. Expansion and centralization of facilities, manufacturing, distribution, and infrastructure support capabilities will provide improved and more economically feasible commercial production capacities, emergency supply storage and expanded quality control capabilities. These measures are critically needed to supply sufficient numbers of the steriley packaged pathogen collection and rapid processing technology to fill military and civilian emergency immediate and long-term needs during pandemic outbreaks, hostile attacks and post-incident remediation/decontamination monitoring and verification procedures. Improved national defense and food security will be realized by initial second-generation technology development of precise sample location and traceability, robotic field collection and automated rapid processing interfacing capability development. This project has received Federal funding in previous fiscal years.

This project was requested by Microbial-Vac Systems in Jerome, ID.

The report contains \$2 million for the Idaho Accelerator Center, IAC, at Idaho State University's, ISU's, Small Accelerators and Detection Systems for Defense Applications program. Ongoing work at IAC suggests that transportable accelerators can now be developed to actively identify suspected nuclear materials/packages in the field, neutralize biological/chemical agents when discovered, decontaminate areas where bio/chem agents

may have been released, and detect explosives and contraband in a variety of challenging circumstances. The IAC and the ISU academic community, in collaboration with scientists and engineers from the private sector and national laboratories, has been involved in developing technology for the remote detection of hazardous materials and contraband for more than 15 years. Through these associations the IAC has devised non-intrusive means to identify the contents of containers of various kinds that may contain fissionable material, radioactive material, explosives, hazardous material—biological or chemical—and contraband—FREHC—for homeland and national security applications. This project has received Federal funding in previous fiscal years.

This project was requested by Idaho State University in Pocatello, ID.

The report contains \$2 million for a program entitled Systematic Hierarchical Approach to Radiation Hardened Electronics, SHARE. Lack of consistent reliable performance of integrated circuits, IC, used in space communication, surveillance, and guidance systems continues to be a potentially debilitating problem for the military services. The problem has been aggravated by the rapid and unsettling contraction of the industrial base needed to design and produce the specialized electronics that must perform in applications requiring high reliability in a challenging radiation-charged environment. As one of the principal users of radiation hardened, RadHard, electronics, the U.S. Air Force is pursuing domestically fabricated technologies that will ensure a ready and economical capability for producing radiation hardened microelectronics using advanced commercial processes. SHARE has been identified by the Air Force as a critical capability that will enable collaboration among circuit designers, simulation software vendors, and foundries under the direction of SEAMS Center AFRL at Kirtland AFB, NM. This project has received Federal funding in previous fiscal years.

This project was requested by American Semiconductor in Boise, ID.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide a list of congressionally directed projects in my region and an explanation of my support for them.

(1) \$3 million for Vacuum Sampling Pathogen Collection and Concentration; Microbial-Vac Systems.

(2) \$2 million for Small Accelerators and Detection Systems for Defense Applications; ISU.

(3) \$2 million for Systematic Hierarchical Approach to Radiation Hardened Electronics, SHARE; ASI.

TRIBUTE TO MR. GEORGE O. JACKSON DE LLANO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. George O. Jackson de Llano, a noted photographer who is well-regarded for his excellent photographic exhibits of cultural life in Mexico.

Mr. Jackson de Llano was born on October 2, 1941 in Houston, Texas. He has a heritage rich in Mexican culture as a descendant of

Manuel Maria de Llano, who was Mayor of Monterrey and later Governor of the Mexican state of Nuevo Leon. Mr. Jackson de Llano spent much of his youth in Laredo, Texas, when his great-grandfather, Ruben Villarreal, a silver miner in northern Mexico, relocated his family there during the Mexican Revolution. He attended The University of Texas at Austin and graduated in 1961.

Mr. Jackson de Llano did not directly set out on his photography career; he first was an entrepreneur as a successful restaurant owner. In 1971, Mr. Jackson became the associate director of a Houston art gallery that featured prominent American artists of the 19th and 20th centuries. He made the decision to explore his life through his love of photography in 1977 by making consecutive trips to Mexico. He became a full-time photographer in 1984 and was increasingly fascinated by folk culture in Mexico, particularly their festival celebrations which are prominently featured in his photography. He created The Essence of Mexico Project, which was a historical collection of photography featuring Mexican indigenous folk culture that spanned the last ten years of the 20th century. This collection of photographs is featured at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the wonderful creativity and dedication Mr. George O. Jackson de Llano has shown in his photography. He has contributed a great deal to the preservation of indigenous folk culture in Mexico through his photography. I thank you for this time.

HONORING ETHIOPIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES AND THE ETHIOPIAN COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTER

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor San Jose-based Ethiopian Community Services and Oakland, California-based Ethiopian Community & Cultural Center for their joint efforts in organizing a celebration of the Ethiopian New Year and Millennium.

During this celebration, the community will share its centuries-old traditions and culture including its alphabet, calendar, music, arts, food and coffee. In addition it will give others an opportunity to experience this rich and diverse historical event and explore and make new friends.

The celebration of the Ethiopian New Year and Millennium is occurring in my congressional district at the Guadalupe River Park in Downtown San Jose, CA. Because of the rich diversity of San Jose, it is a special honor to further emphasize the open minds and warm hearts of the constituents I represent. I commend both organizations for their hard work in this glorious event and extend my warmest wishes for many more years of cooperation and success.