

For nearly 50 years, Mrs. Ruff-O'Herne kept her tortures to herself, too ashamed to admit her horrid experiences even to the people closest to her. In 1992, however, after seeing reports of other comfort women who were speaking out about the atrocities they endured, she decided to make her memories public.

Her 1994 autobiography, *50 Years of Silence*, which was later adapted into a widely-praised and award-winning documentary film, explains in excruciating detail her life in the so-called "comfort station." That she survived this ordeal speaks volumes about her strength, courage, and spiritual convictions.

In the years since she brought her story to public attention, Jan Ruff-O'Herne has been granted honors by Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, Queen Elizabeth, and Pope John Paul II, in recognition of her efforts to support the human rights of women around the globe.

On February 15, the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment of the Committee on Foreign Affairs will convene a hearing entitled "Protecting the Human Rights of Comfort Women." Jan Ruff-O'Herne has been invited to share her story with members of the subcommittee.

Thousands of the comfort women of World War II survive today. They are seeking a formal apology from the government of Japan, which has been unwilling to accept responsibility for violating the human rights of these women.

Madam Speaker, last month I introduced a resolution, H. Res. 121, which calls on Japan to formally and unambiguously apologize and acknowledge the tragedy that the comfort women endured under its Imperial Army during World War II. Not only should Japan's Prime Minister issue a public apology, Japan must take responsibility unequivocally.

The Japanese government owes such an apology to brave women like Jan Ruff-O'Herne.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in tribute to Jan Ruff-O'Herne and the hundreds of thousands of comfort women who endured unspeakable tortures during World War II and who continue to fight for the human rights of all people more than 60 years later.

TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN CLOSS
WALFORD

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Carolyn Closs Walford on the occasion of her promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel after 20 years of service in the U.S. Army.

LTC Walford is known to many of my colleagues, because she has served in the Army's House Liaison Division for more than 3 years. Many of us have had the good fortune of working with her on a wide variety of legislative initiatives and programs. She has also coordinated 14 Congressional Delegations to Iraq, more than any other Legislative Liaison currently assigned to the Chief of the Legislative Liaison Office. LTC Walford coordinated official visits I made to Morocco, Israel, and Egypt, and I can therefore attest from first-

hand experience to her professionalism and commitment to duty.

LTC Walford was born and reared in Louisburg, NC. She is the daughter of the late William L. Closs and Fannie S. Closs, the youngest in a large and loving family of ten. Her oldest brother is 30 years her senior and her oldest sister is 18 years older.

LTC Walford is not the first in her family to honorably serve in this Nation's armed forces, although she is the first generation of her family to serve in an integrated military. Her father, SSG William L. Closs, served in WWII during the Normandy Campaign with the 443rd QM Trucking Company. He was awarded the Purple Heart for his bravery and commitment to duty.

LTC Walford was a daddy's girl who joined the Reserve Officer Training Corps, ROTC, while attending Winston-Salem State University. She was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Signal Corps upon graduation and accepted a reserve commission in the Army Reserve. She completed the Signal Officers Basic Course at Ft. Gordon, GA, relocated to Washington, DC, to pursue a fulltime career in the private sector while fulfilling her military commitment in the Army Reserve and completing her graduate studies. LTC Walford later made the decision to branch transfer to the Quartermaster Corps, a branch more fitting to support the Army Reserve mission of combat service support. LTC Walford held various positions while serving as the "Citizen Soldiers," to include Company Command, Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General of the 352d Civil Affairs Command, Host Nations Support and a variety of logistics assignments. LTC Walford deployed and served seven months in Southwest Asia during Operation Desert Storm.

The Chief, Army Reserve requested her assistance in the start up of a new unit in 1999, the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program, LOGCAP. LTC Walford's civilian expertise in contracting and her logistical background made her a prime candidate to help facilitate this new unit. Once again, she answered the call to serve and became a fulltime active soldier. She has served in the Army's Guard/Reserve, AGR, Program since 1999.

LTC Walford has received numerous awards throughout her career, including the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Accommodation Medal, the Office of the Secretary of Defense Badge, and the Army Staff Badge. She is a graduate of the Army's Command and General Staff Officers Course, The Quartermaster and Civil Affairs Advanced course, and the U.S. Army Paratrooper School.

This soldier's unique skill set and extraordinarily diverse level of experience both in the public and private sector has been a tremendous asset to our great country. She is a pillar of strength for our Army, her fellow comrades-in-arms, and for her family and friends. My best wishes go out to LTC Walford on her well-deserved promotion, and to her husband, Raymond L. Walford, and her entire extended family on this important occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. NORWOOD. Madam Speaker, had I been present on rollcall vote No. 74, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 75, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 76, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 77, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 78, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 79, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 80, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 81, I would have voted "no"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 82, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 83, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 84, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 85, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 86, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 87, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 88, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 89, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 90, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 91, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 92, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO THE WYOMING BOARD
OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEERS AND PROFESSIONAL
LAND SURVEYORS

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mrs. CUBIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Wyoming Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors. This board has been serving Wyoming for 100 years by certifying engineers in order to ensure their competence and the highest level of training.

In 1907, when Clarence T. Johnston became the Wyoming State Engineer, there was no national or State certification process for workers. Realizing that many engineers were not trained for their positions, and thus were providing sub-par workmanship, he proposed to the Wyoming State legislature a bill to mandate registration of engineers and to create a board of examiners.

Wyoming became the first State with an engineer licensure law in 1907. Soon after, the Nation followed step; and in 1920, the organization now known as the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying was born. This organization has created licensure standards and professional ethics for engineers countrywide.

Through its licensure regulations and training, the National Council ensures the safety of our Nation's infrastructure. Engineers design our buildings and bridges, they develop our

technology, and they manufacture our machines. All U.S. citizens are affected by their work, and ensuring public safety through the guarantee of quality products is a noble cause.

I am proud to represent the first State to create accountability for engineer workmanship. I commend the Wyoming Board of Registration for their continued service, and congratulate them once again on their 100-year anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO JIM MACK

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, the manufacturing sector plays a pivotal role in the economic success of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as well as that of the Nation. The pre-eminent association that represents the producers of U.S. advanced manufacturing technology equipment, promotes manufacturing equipment sales both at home and abroad, and tries to shape legislation important to the manufacturing community is AMT—the Association for Manufacturing Technology, led by its President, John B. Byrd III.

For the past 32 years, the voice for AMT on Capitol Hill has been the tireless, knowledgeable, and ardent advocate for the association's legislative and regulatory goals, James H. Mack. Jim served AMT as the vice president for Government Relations for 27 years and most recently as vice president—Tax and Economic Policy. He has also been an important aide to former Illinois Governor Richard B. Ogilvie and public affairs manager for Illinois Tool Works in Chicago.

After earning his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Wisconsin, Jim demonstrated a life-long commitment to the manufacturing technology industry and its employees—providers of the vital equipment that has made our Nation the manufacturing leader in the world.

As Jim retires from this phase of his career, I wish to acknowledge the achievements of a man so many of us know and admire. Let he be considered merely a master of the Tax Code wearing a smile that always includes a pipe, let me add that I know him to be trustworthy, an honest broker, and all around decent and caring individual.

Hats off and continued success to a great American, Jim Mack.

TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 150th Birthday of the First United Methodist Church in Champaign, Illinois. This sesquicentennial celebration marks not only a significant moment for the church, but also a significant moment in

the community, culture and history of Champaign.

The First United Methodist Church was first recognized as a Methodist Episcopal church on December 7, 1856 by the Illinois Annual Conference; however, the contributions of the Church go further back to 1793. With its rich history and loyal dedication to serving the community, the Church has been a vital influence in the shaping of the fine citizens of Champaign.

Officially recognized in 1856, the First United Methodist Church began with holding Sunday services in a brick schoolhouse nearby. Started with a small loyal following, the Church grew to record highs of 4,163 members. As its size and congregation grew, so did their devotion to the community.

The First United Methodist Church has been steadfast in providing a positive influence to the entire community of Champaign. Members of the Church have active roles in mission programs both local and international, volunteered in local service projects, and helped run local food banks.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the 150th Birthday of the First United Methodist church as well as their 150 years of accomplishments and noble servitude for the city of Champaign.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE EDWARD WILLIAM BROOKE III CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, Senator EDWARD KENNEDY, the Massachusetts delegation, Congressional Black Caucus Chair CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK, and I are proud to introduce the Edward William Brooke III Congressional Gold Medal Act. Senator Edward Brooke has been much honored as an outstanding two-term Senator (1967–1979) who is still remembered for his courage and independence on the difficult issues of his time—from the Vietnam War to his leading work in the passage of the Fair Housing Act of 1968. President Bush awarded Senator Brooke the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2004. At 87, his autobiography, *Bridging the Divide: My Life* tells the Senator's remarkable story. That story began here in the District of Columbia, where Senator Brooke was born and raised, and graduated from Dunbar High School and Howard University. Senator Brooke rose to the rank of captain in the segregated 366th Infantry Regiment in the U.S. Army, and won a Bronze Star Medal and the Distinguished Service Award. His autobiography reads like a personal and political adventure of a man born in the segregated capital, a city with no local elected officials or Members of Congress, who went on to become the first African American official elected statewide, when he won election as Attorney General, the second highest office in the state, and the only Republican to win statewide election that year. In 1966, Senator Brooke became the first African American elected by popular vote to the Senate of the United States. "Trailblazer" does not aptly describe the courage it took for an African American to run, much less win state-wide office as

a Republican in a predominately Democratic state, where 2 percent of the population was African American.

I take special pride and pleasure in introducing this bill in the House, along with the Massachusetts delegation and the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus. My Massachusetts colleagues justifiably claim Senator Brooke as a son of Massachusetts. We in the District concede that Massachusetts voters also deserve credit in refusing to allow racial barriers, that still remain formidable in most states, overwhelm Senator Brooke's qualifications for high office. However, I hope that Massachusetts citizens will forgive the residents of the Senator's hometown if we insist that Edward William Brooke III be counted the adopted son of Massachusetts. Senator Brooke's family, the District of Columbia Public Schools, Howard University, and the proud African American community both sheltered and prepared him for his remarkable life and service to the people of Massachusetts and the Nation.

We are especially grateful for the Senator's devotion to H.R. 328, the District of Columbia Fair and Equal House Voting Rights Act of 2007. Senator Brooke has worked devotedly for passage of the pending legislation. While in the Senate, he never forgot that his hometown had no Senator and needed him, too. Speaking on the Senate floor for passage of the Voting Rights Amendment in 1978, Senator Brooke made it clear, as he does today, that this matter also was personal for him. He said, in part, "My enthusiastic endorsement of House Joint Resolution 554 is based primarily on fundamental concepts of liberty and justice, but my support and interest are also intensely personal, for my roots are in Washington, D.C. I was born and raised here. I attended and graduated from Shaw Junior High School, Dunbar High School, and Howard University. For as long as I can remember, I have fought, along with family and friends and colleagues, to attain the goal of providing for the citizens of the District of Columbia the same rights and privileges that other citizens throughout the Nation have enjoyed." Because the Congressional Gold Medal is the highest honor that Congress can bestow, it is necessary that at least 290 Representatives and 67 Senators sign on as cosponsors. I urge every Member of the House and Senate to become cosponsors before the end of Black History Month on February 28th.

RAISING THE BAR: PIONEERS IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION

Born October 26, 1919, Edward Brooke was the first African American elected to major statewide office in Massachusetts (Attorney General, 1962) and the first African American elected and re-elected to the U.S. Senate (1967–79) by popular vote. His father, Edward Brooke, Jr. was a graduate of Howard University School of Law (1918) and served as an attorney for the Veterans Administration for 50 years—an exceptional achievement for an African-American person at that time.

Brooke attended public schools in Washington, DC, and graduated from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in 1936. When he entered Howard University he originally planned to be a pre-med. major, but he changed to Sociology because he found the coursework more interesting. His professor of Political Science at Howard was diplomat, statesman and Nobel Prize winner, Ralph Bunche.

After graduating from Howard and the Reserve Officers Training Corps in 1941, he was