

their dedicated, unselfish, and professional service, commitment, and sacrifices to the State of Nevada and the United States during more than five years of deployments to and in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.”.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING EDWARD DAY COHOTA, JOSEPH L. PIERCE, AND OTHER VETERANS OF ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER DESCENT WHO FOUGHT IN THE UNITED STATES CIVIL WAR

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 415) honoring Edward Day Cohota, Joseph L. Pierce, and other veterans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent who fought in the United States Civil War, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 415

Whereas soldiers of Asian and Pacific Islander descent fought bravely and honorably during the United States Civil War;

Whereas Edward Day Cohota was among the soldiers of Asian descent who fought in the Civil War;

Whereas as a small child, Mr. Cohota stowed away in the ship Cohota, leaving Shanghai, China, in 1845;

Whereas Mr. Cohota enlisted in the 23rd Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry;

Whereas during the Civil War, Mr. Cohota fought valiantly in the fog-bound Battle of Drury's Bluff;

Whereas Mr. Cohota proved his courage at Cold Harbor;

Whereas Mr. Cohota served in the United States Army for 30 years;

Whereas Joseph L. Pierce was also among the soldiers of Asian descent who fought in the Civil War;

Whereas Mr. Pierce enlisted in the 14th Regiment, Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, in 1862;

Whereas Mr. Pierce fought at Antietam and in the Battle of Gettysburg; and

Whereas many of the soldiers of Asian and Pacific Islander descent who fought in the Civil War, including Edward Day Cohota and Joseph L. Pierce, were denied rightful recognition of their service: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes and expresses its appreciation for the courageous and loyal contributions made by soldiers of Asian and Pacific Islander descent during the United States Civil War; and

(2) recognizes and honors the 2 most documented of those soldiers, Edward Day Cohota and Joseph L. Pierce, for their distinguished and dedicated service to preserving and maintaining the Union.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ELLSWORTH) and the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. DRAKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of House Resolution 415, which honors Edward Day Cohota, Joseph L. Pierce, and other veterans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent who fought in the United States Civil War.

Despite generations of exclusion and discrimination, Asian Pacific Americans have served in our American forces with loyalty and dedication since the time of our Civil War. Unfortunately, many of their stories too often do not receive the attention, recognition, or credit they fittingly deserve. The stories of Mr. Cohota, Mr. Pierce, and other veterans of Asian Pacific Islander descent who fought in our Civil War are a few of such stories.

Edward Day Cohota, the best-documented Asian veteran of the Civil War, was found as a small child stowed away in a merchant ship bound for Massachusetts from the port of Shanghai, China, in 1854. The captain of the ship, Sergeant S. Day, discovered the half-starved child two days from port and adopted him as his own. Named after the merchant ship, Cohota, Edward Day Cohota spent the next several days sailing with Sergeant Day and Mrs. Day until Sergeant Day and his family retired to Gloucester, Massachusetts, in 1857.

When the Civil War broke out, Cohota joined the 23rd Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, and fought bravely in the Battle of Drury's Bluff near Richmond and at the Battle of Cold Harbor. Mr. Cohota went on to proudly serve in the United States Army for 30 years.

In 1935, he died in Hot Springs, South Dakota, still a foreigner in the only homeland he had ever really known, as he had been denied American citizenship after the passing of the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882.

Joseph Pierce is another Asian Pacific Islander who served in uniform during the American Civil War. At age 21, Pierce enlisted in the 14th Connecticut Infantry in August 1862. Connecticut ship captain Amos Peck found Pierce adrift in the South China Seas and brought him home where he was raised with the rest of the Peck family and the family's children. The 14th Connecticut Infantry unit participated in the Battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862, and he also fought with them at the Battle at Chancellorsville in May 1863. The 14th was also at the Battle of Gettysburg where they helped repel Pickett's Charge that fateful day.

Since the Civil War through today's current conflict in Iraq and Afghani-

stan, Asian and Pacific Islanders continue to honorably and bravely serve our Nation in uniform.

We in Congress recognize and express our sincerest appreciation for the courageous and loyal contributions made by soldiers of Asian and Pacific Islander descent during the Civil War. We honor their distinguished and dedicated service in preserving and maintaining the Union and are proud of the rich diversity of our heritage.

I thank my colleague from California (Mr. HONDA) for bringing forward this bill, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. DRAKE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I might consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 415, which recognizes the service of two remarkable Asian Civil War veterans and also pays respect to all participants of this war with Asian and Pacific Islander heritage.

Arriving in America as a stowaway aboard a ship from China, Edward Day Cohota enlisted in the 23rd Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, in the early years of the Civil War. He fought in the Battle of Drury's Bluff in Virginia on May 16, 1864. His wartime service continued at the Battle of Cold Harbor in Virginia on June 3, 1864. After the war, Mr. Cohota continued to serve for a total of 30 years active duty in the United States Army.

Joseph L. Pierce enlisted in the 14th Regiment, Connecticut Voluntary Infantry, in 1862 and fought on America's bloodiest day, September 17, 1862, in the Battle of Antietam. After managing to avoid being one of the 23,000 casualties of that battle, he continued to distinguish himself on the battlefields at Gettysburg where his unit helped to repulse Pickett's charge.

These two soldiers are but two of the Asian and Pacific Islanders who served their adopted Nation so well in the Civil War.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, Mr. HONDA of California, for introducing this resolution. I would like to encourage my colleagues to give their appreciation to these volunteers whose service has not been fully recognized. Therefore, I urge a "yes" vote on House Resolution 415.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my friend and colleague, the Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA).

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues from Indiana and from Virginia for their wonderful support and recognition.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 415, a resolution I introduced which recognizes and honors Asian Pacific Islander American soldiers who fought during the United States Civil War.

Recent historical research has uncovered evidence of over 250 soldiers of Asian and Pacific Islander descent who served in the Union and Confederate forces during the United States Civil War.

I have introduced H. Res. 415 to recognize and honor Edward Day Cohota and Joseph L. Pierce, as well as the numerous others veterans of API descent who bravely fought in the United States Civil War. These two men, both of Chinese ancestry, are explicitly named in this resolution as the most-documented and researched veterans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent in the U.S. Civil War.

In comparison to the total population in the United States, a disproportionately high percentage of soldiers of API descent are listed on both the Union and Confederate rosters. By volunteering to serve in the Armed Forces of their adopted homeland, they risked their lives and declared their allegiances as vigorously as any other community.

Instead of honoring and recognizing their service, our country denied these veterans the ability to naturalize through the bigoted laws enacted during this period.

I believe that for their contribution to our Nation's history, and the injustices done to them despite their patriotism, veterans of API descent who fought in the U.S. Civil War are worthy of recognition by the United States House of Representatives.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, without whose efforts this resolution would not be possible. In their own words, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance has been "committed to achieving passage of this resolution because national historic recognition was the least our country could do posthumously for an important, special group of unsung heroes." The Chinese American Citizens Alliance has worked arduously on behalf of these veterans and their families for years, and their work pays off today as the House considers this resolution.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I am pleased that this resolution is on the floor today. The families of these veterans and community supporters have waited a very long time for these brave soldiers to be honored by our government, and I urge my colleagues to support this small effort to recognize the contributions made by Asian Pacific Islander Civil War soldiers.

Mrs. DRAKE. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, at this time, I have no further speakers and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TSONGAS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ELLSWORTH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 415, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THE USS "FARENHOLT" IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC DURING WORLD WAR II

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1248) recognizing the service of the USS *Farenholt* and her men who served our Nation with valor and bravery in the South Pacific during World War II, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1248

Whereas the USS *Farenholt* (DD 491) was launched on November 19, 1941, by Bethlehem Steel Company in Staten Island, New York, and commissioned on April 2, 1942, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard;

Whereas the *Farenholt*, a 1620-ton Benson-class destroyer, sailed from San Diego on July 1, 1942, for the Pacific;

Whereas the *Farenholt*, known as the "Fightin' F", participated in the invasion of Guadalcanal on August 7, 1942, which marked the first American land offensive of the war;

Whereas the *Farenholt*, a flagship for Destroyer Squadron 12, served as an escort for the carrier, the USS *Wasp*, which on September 15, 1942, was attacked by two enemy submarines;

Whereas, as the *Wasp* sunk, the *Farenholt* rescued 143 survivors;

Whereas the *Farenholt*, during the Battle of Cape Esperance on the night of October 11, 1942, exhibited tactical might by joining an American force that successfully intercepted and defeated enemy destroyers and cruisers;

Whereas, during the Battle of Cape Esperance, the *Farenholt* helped to sink an enemy destroyer, despite having received three hits and having her torpedo tube rendered inoperative, which left three of the *Farenholt's* crew dead and 43 wounded;

Whereas, during the Battle of Cape Esperance, the *Farenholt* remained afloat despite the amount of water that flooded aboard the ship due to the severe damage inflicted by the three hits;

Whereas the crew saved the *Farenholt* from sinking by shifting oil, water, and top-side weight to starboard, thus bringing the holes created by direct shell hits out of the water and saving the *Farenholt* so she could fight another day;

Whereas on the night of February 17, 1944, the *Farenholt* steamed up the St. George Channel and bombarded Rabaul, Solomon Islands, a stronghold of the enemy;

Whereas Rabaul was heavily fortified and hosted approximately 100,000 enemy troops;

Whereas during the Rabaul raid, the *Farenholt* fired 214 salvos and inflicted heavy damage on shore installations at Rabaul and sunk two merchant ships;

Whereas General MacArthur said of the February Rabaul raid, "Heartiest congratulations to you and all concerned in Rabaul air strikes. The relentlessness of the attacks and their effectiveness have aroused admiration and enthusiasm everywhere. The daring and successful destroyer raids were also splendid in every way and were conceived

and accomplished in the best Farragut manner";

Whereas one week later, on February 25, 1944, the *Farenholt* participated in a similar raid, this time at Kavieng which drew heavy fire from the shore, and the *Farenholt* was damaged on the starboard side and, once again, her men saved the ship;

Whereas the men of the *Farenholt* accounted for two Navy Cross awards, two members of the crew were awarded the Silver Star Medal, five members of the crew were awarded the Bronze Star Medal, eight members of the crew received Letters of Commendation, and approximately 46 Purple Hearts were awarded for the members of the crew who were killed or wounded in action;

Whereas the men of the *Farenholt* and their loving spouses, widows, and children celebrated their 16th reunion in Fort Collins, Colorado, in 2007, and will celebrate their 17th reunion in Santa Clara, California, on September 17, 2008 through September 21, 2008; and

Whereas the men of the *Farenholt* represent the bravery and selfless sacrifice of the greatest generation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes and commends the courageous and honorable men who served aboard the USS *Farenholt* in the South Pacific during World War II for their selfless service to the United States; and

(2) recognizes the contributions of the USS *Farenholt* and her crew in protecting America and its freedoms during World War II.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ELLSWORTH) and the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. DRAKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1248, which honors the crew of the USS *Farenholt* for their brave service in the South Pacific during the Second World War. I would like to thank my colleague from Colorado, Congresswoman Marilyn Musgrave, who introduced this resolution with me.

A 1,620-ton Benson-class destroyer, the USS *Farenholt*, affectionately known as "the Fightin' F," was launched from Staten Island, New York, on November 19, 1941. The *Farenholt* sailed for the Pacific in July of 1942, participating in the invasion of Guadalcanal as the flagship for Destroyer Squadron 12 and escort for the carrier USS *Wasp*. On September 15, 1942, when the *Wasp* was surprised and sunk by two Japanese submarines, the *Farenholt* rescued 143 of the survivors.

The *Farenholt's* greatest test came the following month in the Battle of Cape Esperance, when the ship helped