

By the time the war ended, 38 women pilots had lost their lives while flying for our country.

These valiant women have never received the full recognition that they deserve for their wartime military service to America. Their example paved the way for women who today fly every type of aircraft.

My daughter-in-law, Lindsay, flies F/A-18 fighter jets for the Marine Corps thanks to these courageous women. Of the 1,102 WASPs trained during World War II, only 300 of these women pioneers are still alive today.

Madam Speaker, the time is now for us to honor these women with this body's highest honor, the Congressional Gold Medal. As such, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill, and I urge its prompt consideration.

HONORING FORMER STATE SENATOR CONSTANCE WILLIAMS

(Mr. SESTAK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the fortitude, forbearance and intelligence of former State Senator Constance Williams, who brilliantly represented the 149th Legislative District of Pennsylvania from 1997 until 2001. She then was victorious in a special election and was elevated to Pennsylvania senator, serving with distinction the 17th Senatorial District of Pennsylvania from 2001-2008.

Connie, a leader who chose to devote her energies to political life in support of her district's citizens, served in that post until she retired at the peak of her powers and abilities just last year.

Throughout her career in public life, Connie always led by example and never lost sight of the fact that political leaders are, first and foremost, public servants. She was a tireless and revered champion of so many issues, from women's rights and equality to strong public schools, and her embrace of the principles of honest, good governance earned her respect and admiration throughout the community and across the political spectrum.

When asked about her life in politics, Connie had the best and, perhaps, the only appropriate response: "I love working with and for people," she said.

Senator Constance Williams remains a vibrant figure in Pennsylvania politics today, and is a deserving example of future leaders to embrace.

THE RELEASING OF INTERROGATION MEMOS HAS MADE US LESS SAFE

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, the selective release of memos on the enhanced interrogation methods of the previous administration has made us less safe.

Four former CIA Directors, as well as the current Director, advised against releasing these memos.

As ex-CIA Director Michael Hayden recently said, "If you look at these documents that have been made public, it says 'Top Secret' at the top. The definition of 'Top Secret' is information which, if revealed, would cause grave harm to the United States' security." Furthermore, General Hayden said that the use of these interrogation techniques against these terrorists made us safe.

The release of the top secret memos were motivated by politics, pure and simple. They were designed to embarrass, not to protect. So much for President Obama's promise to look forward, not backward. These memos never should have been released.

As another former CIA Director, Porter Goss, recently wrote, "We can't have a secret intelligence service if we keep giving away all the secrets."

HONORING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF TROOP B, 1-98TH CAVALRY REGIMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD

(Mr. CHILDERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave men and women of the Troop B, 1-98th Cavalry Regiment of the Mississippi National Guard.

These soldiers of Company B, based in Booneville, Mississippi, were deployed in January of 2005 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. After extensive training, Company B has loyally served our Nation in the past, and will leave soon to once again protect freedoms abroad.

I would like to call attention to the very nature of the Mississippi National Guard and of their fellow units in Mississippi as well as in other States. These weekend warriors are prepared not only to serve abroad but to assist in domestic situations when called upon, all the while working everyday jobs and supporting their families.

I thank my colleagues for keeping Troop B, 1-98th Cavalry Regiment of the Mississippi National Guard in their thoughts and prayers as these heroic men and women redeploy to the Middle East. Please join me in honoring Troop B 1-98th for their continuing service to America.

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DEBT DAY

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, Debt Day is the day on which the government runs out of money in a given year and all of the government spending for the rest of the year is borrowed money.

For 2009, Debt Day fell on April 26, this past Sunday. This is an astonishingly early day in the year to run out of money. Last year, it was August 5. So in 4 months, this Congress and this administration has shattered all previous records for debt levels, moving Debt Day up in the calendar over 3 months from last year. President Obama and this Congress make the Bush deficit look trivial.

Friends, this is the most valuable and expensive credit card in history, a Member of Congress voting card. This Congress has taken out their credit cards and saddled our children and grandchildren with debt, mortgaging their future.

Since the first of the year we've spent \$350 billion in TARP, billions in auto bailouts, \$787 billion in stimulus, \$410 billion in omnibus, \$3.5 trillion in the budget—mostly borrowed money—all of this debt dumped on future generations.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, President Obama reaffirmed his commitment for comprehensive immigration reform in an interview on Univision. The President believes "that it is in the interest of everybody, and in the interest of the U.S. economy over time, for us to resolve this issue in a comprehensive way."

The immigration crisis is not a problem to be left to solve tomorrow or sometime in the future. I support President Obama as he reiterates that we need to "resolve the issue in a comprehensive way that provides a pathway to legalization but also deals more effectively with our borders." He has created hope and the change that this country really believes in.

We cannot ignore the 12 to 14 million undocumented immigrants working beside the rest of us every day. Thousands of young children who are U.S. citizens are being left stranded to fend for themselves as an immigration system is tearing them from their parents.

I urge my colleagues and House leadership to work with the CHC and President Obama to support a comprehensive immigration reform that respects all families.

STOP THIS SPENDING

(Mr. NEUGEBAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, Mr. President, I think it's time to listen to the American people. I recently received a letter from one of my constituents. They said, "I have a job, a family, a mortgage and, yes, I have indulged in the credit card mess, but my husband and I have been working diligently over the last 13 months to reduce our debt. My husband took on a

part-time job to help in the matter. I have also gone back to college to further my education.

“Our lives are crazy with work, school, family, teenagers and obligations, yet we manage to pay our bills and make sure Uncle Sam receives his fair share. We have scaled back luxury items to achieve the goal of one day being debt free. We have a budget for our personal finances, and when the money is gone, we stop spending.

“The idea of Congress and our President has of spending money that does not exist is absolutely insane. What kind of message are we sending to our children when our government cannot even balance its own budget and abide by it?”

Madam Speaker, Mr. President, listen to the American people: Stop this spending.

CLEAN GOVERNMENT

(Mr. HIMES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIMES. Good morning, Madam Speaker.

I rise this morning to address the importance of clean government and to urge my colleagues to support a number of measures that will come before this House to help assure that clean government.

Citizens deserve and expect to know that their elected representatives are acting purely in their best interests and they, particularly in this moment of crisis, should know that we act exclusively without conflicts of interest.

I am proud to cosponsor legislation that would prohibit Representatives in this House from taking campaign contributions from those for whom they have made appropriations requests. And I am proud to cosponsor a bill introduced by my good friend and fellow Connecticut Representative John LARSON. The gentleman's bill will make huge strides in removing the money that so sullies our politics. The American people deserve no less, and I urge my colleagues to support these bills as they approach the floor of this House.

STUDY FINDS MEDIA ACT AS SHILL FOR OBAMA

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, network news programs gave President Obama over three times more coverage than President Bush at the same time in their presidencies, according to a new study by George Mason and Chapman Universities. During President Obama's first 50 days in office, the three network evening news programs devoted over 1,000 stories lasting almost 28 hours to President Obama—about half of their entire newscasts. By contrast, President Bush received less

than 8 hours of network news coverage at the same point in his Presidency, less than one-third as much. There is no reason to think the first 100 days are any different.

Furthermore, 58 percent of all network news evaluations of President Obama and his policies were favorable while only 33 percent of evaluations of President Bush were favorable. These numbers aren't even close.

Americans need the media to report the news objectively; not act as a shill for a Democratic President.

PRICE OF INACTION ON BUDGET IS TOO HIGH

(Ms. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today we will have the opportunity to vote on the budget resolution, a budget which makes a sound investment in our Nation's future. I especially want to applaud the health care provisions in the resolution that will put us on track for improving access to quality health care for all Americans.

It is vital that we pass this bill with the reconciliation instructions intact so that we can achieve comprehensive health reform this year. The price of inaction is way too high. Fortunately, the steps we will begin taking through the budget resolution reconciliation instructions will yield very positive rewards.

This includes reform of the broken Medicare reimbursement system. The budget addresses problems with geographic variations in spending in health care. It invests in proven nurse home visitation programs for at-risk first-time mothers. And it improves the women, infant and children nutrition program.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting “yes” on the budget resolution.

ARE WE SAFER?

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, a lot of hype has occurred about the first hundred days of the new government. The question to be asked is, is America safer today than a hundred days ago?

Well, the government has determined to close Guantanamo Bay prison in spite of evidence these terrorists still want to harm us; the United States is considering canceling the development of the most advanced fighter in world history, the F-22; foreign computer hackers have gotten into the Defense Department system; North Korea launched its first ballistic missile while we did nothing but object; the United States now wants to scrap its missile defense system in Poland because the Russians are complaining, even though the system was designed to protect us from Iranian missiles, not the Russians.

The little fellow from Iran, Ahmadinejad, still boasts of nuclear destruction of Israel while mocking our President behind his back; Homeland Security leaked vital intelligence about national security; the defense budget is going to be cut so the new government can spend money on its own pet projects.

Hopefully, the new government will change this dangerous trend and remember the first duty of government is to protect the American people.

And that's just the way it is.

YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, under Chairman SPRATT's leadership, the Congress is poised to pass a budget resolution. But unfortunately it's likely to be a party-line vote. The Republicans are asking us to trust them, they have a better way. The only sane response to that is, You gotta be kidding.

You had 8 years to manage this country's budget and you blew it. In fact, you took a \$5.6 trillion projected surplus and turned it into \$5.8 trillion of deficits. It's the worst fiscal management over a Presidential administration in American history. And now they want us to trust them?

In fact, we have stayed afloat by borrowing. And now our biggest debtor is the Communist Chinese dictatorship. They own more American debt than anyone else.

We have had more Americans unemployed, more Americans in poverty, and more Americans without health insurance. This budget needs to pass for the sake of the American people. We need to look back and realize who the American people can trust to be fiscally responsible.

HONORING THE BOY SCOUTS OF PENNSYLVANIA

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Boy Scout program that has positively impacted the lives of thousands of young people in central Pennsylvania.

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the Nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations in the world. 2009 marks the 75th anniversary of the Seven Mountains Boy Scout Camp and the 80th anniversary of Juniata Valley Boy Scout Council.

Madam Speaker, I am proud of the scouting program that has made such a difference in the lives of young men and women for eight decades. For nearly a century, the BSA has helped build