

May 15, when he renewed investment prohibitions against the Burmese military regime that began during President Clinton's term in office.

The United States is not alone in using sanctions as part of a diplomatic strategy to help promote change in Burma. The European Union renewed its Common Position on sanctions; and Canada, Australia, and New Zealand and others have unilaterally imposed their own restrictions.

Aung San Suu Kyi and the other legitimate leaders of Burma have also called on the world to impose sanctions on their own country, just as Desmond Tutu and the leaders of the struggle to end apartheid in South Africa called for sanctions on South Africa in the 1980s.

We must maintain our sanctions against the junta in Burma, and I call on all my colleagues to vote for the renewal of the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act.

And with that, Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, we have no further speakers; and in support of this resolution, I would yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CROWLEY. I thank the gentleman from Texas. Madam Speaker, at this point in time, we have no further speakers.

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of H. J. Res. 56, a resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act, P.L. 108–61. I am proud to have once again introduced this legislation this year with the gentleman from New York, Mr. CROWLEY.

In 2003 Congress passed the Burmese Freedom & Democracy Act, legislation that I co-authored with my friend, the late Tom Lantos. President Bush signed this bill into law and we have reauthorized these import restrictions every year since. The legislation bans imports from Burma and the issuance of visas to those officials affiliated with the State Peace and Development Council, SPDC, the military junta that rules Burma and brutally represses its people. This law also bans U.S. financial transactions that involve individuals or entities connected with the SPDC.

These sanctions are critically important to keeping the pressure on the Burmese junta. The government continues to have one of the worst human rights record in the world and routinely violates the rights of Burmese citizens, including the systematic use of rape as a weapon of war, extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests and detention, torture, as well as slave and child labor. The Burmese regime has destroyed more than 3,000 ethnic villages, displaced approximately 2,000,000 Burmese people, more than 500,000 of which are internally displaced, and arrested approximately 1,300 individuals for expressing critical opinions of the government. And it continues to detain Aung San Suu Kyi, the head of the National League for Democracy and the democratically elected leader of Burma, on bogus charges that she violated the terms of her house arrest. She is currently on trial and faces up to five additional years of confinement.

We must continue to stand with the Burmese people and expose the despicable and

reprehensible actions of the SPDC. Sanctions are critical to putting pressure on the junta. Last year Congress passed and President Bush signed into law Tom Lantos Block Burmese JADE Act, P.L. 110–286, which bans the importation of Burmese gems into the United States and freezes the assets of Burmese political and military leaders. But we still need others to follow ours and the EU's lead. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, ASEAN, and the United Nations Security Council, UNSC, must impose multilateral sanctions against Burma's military regime including a complete arms embargo.

Finally, it is my hope that the new Administration promptly completes its policy review toward Burma, implements all the provisions of the Tom Lantos Block Burmese JADE Act, appoints a Special Coordinator for Burma, and supports the establishment of UNSC Commission of Inquiry on Burma.

I urge adoption of the resolution.

Mr. CROWLEY. I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the resolution, H.J. Res. 56, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL CHILDREN AND FAMILIES DAY

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 534) supporting the goals and ideals of "National Children and Families Day."

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 534

Whereas research shows that a supportive and encouraging family is critical to raising strong and resilient children;

Whereas strong healthy families improve the quality of life and the development of children;

Whereas spending time engaging in family activities supports the development of healthy and well-adjusted children;

Whereas families are of many compositions and sizes, it is the strength and support of the family that is essential to child rearing;

Whereas families play critical roles in the care of children, and in their children's health care, this is particularly true for children with special needs;

Whereas mental health plays a central role in child development, families should be encouraged to cultivate environments that are safe and secure, supportive, and that contribute to high-confidence and high self-esteem;

Whereas it is essential to celebrate and reflect upon the important role that all families play in the lives of children and their positive effect for the Nation's future;

Whereas the fourth Saturday of June is "National Children and Families Day", a day set aside to recognize the importance of children and families; and

Whereas the country's greatest natural resource is its children: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives supports the goals and ideals of "National Children and Families Day".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 534, the resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Children and Families Day. The strength of our Nation relies heavily upon the future success of today's children. To ensure this success, families across the Nation work hard to instill resiliency, health and wisdom in their children.

This bill was introduced on June 11 and was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The committee reported the bill by unanimous consent on June 10, and it comes to the House floor today with bipartisan support from over 56 cosponsors.

Madam Speaker, American families together make tremendous sacrifice each day to ensure the quality of their child's development. Families play a critical role in the care of children, including their health and developmental needs. Families, including those with children of special needs, should be encouraged to create safe and secure and supportive environments to foster confidence and self-esteem.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 534 gives us the opportunity to celebrate and reflect upon the role that all these families play in developing well-rounded, well-educated children and the positive outcomes this creates for the Nation's future. We sincerely thank them for their contribution to our country.

And with that, Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 534, supporting the goals and ideals of National Children and Families Day.

Families have long played a critical role in the development of America's youth and well being of our society as a whole. With this resolution, we celebrate those who create a positive family atmosphere and for the many families who commit to the challenging task of raising healthy, productive young men and women.

□ 1900

Over the years, we have learned that the families who provide ethical and moral guidance are the linchpins of our Nation. We depend on our families to encourage education, arouse curiosity, and cultivate safe, supportive environments that contribute to self-confidence.

At this time in history, our youth are increasingly exposed to undesirable influences and because of that it becomes all the more important for family units to pull together as a team, listen to one another, and to work through life's issues.

By spending time engaging in family activities such as volunteering for community service projects, children can learn that service to others benefits all those who participate, either those who need assistance or those who volunteer to serve them. Creating these strong family environments will ultimately result in a new generation of well-rounded leaders for our country.

By celebrating National Children and Families Day on the fourth Saturday in June, the country recognizes the importance of families as well as our country's greatest natural resource, the children of our Nation.

I find it interesting that today, July 21, was my mother's birthday. To be able to ask to speak on this is special to me. She passed away in 1995. I miss her dearly. I would encourage my colleagues to stand up and support this legislation.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. At this point I would take great pleasure to yield 5 minutes to the lead sponsor of this resolution, the gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS).

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Thank you, Mr. LYNCH and Mr. CHAFFETZ. I'm really excited to be here today to rise in support of my resolution, House Resolution 534, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Children and Families Day.

On a note, I would just say to Mr. CHAFFETZ, part of what moved me in introducing this resolution with my colleague from Michigan, CANDICE MILLER, was the relationship that I have had with my own family and parents and grandparents and extended family, recognizing the very special role that families play in the lives of children and growing them and nurturing them, and especially in sometimes a very troublesome world.

I'd like to thank Chairman TOWNS for the leadership in the Government Oversight and Reform Committee and for his support of this resolution. I'd also like to thank all the cosponsors of the resolution from both sides of the aisle—all of us who recognize the value of families and the importance to our children. Particularly, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) herself soon to be a new grandmother, who understands the role that she has

played in her own children's lives and soon to be in a grandchild's life.

House Resolution 534 brings together a really diverse group of Members to recognize and celebrate the role that families play in the development of our greatest natural resource and the future of our Nation—our children.

National Children and Families Day is an opportunity to recognize the importance of families in raising children. Families, however they're defined, improve the quality of life and social development of children. It's within the family unit that a child first learns how to interact with others and how to cope with challenges.

Children's early development depends largely on their parents, extended family, and other caregivers. As such, children thrive when they're raised in an environment of close, dependable relationships that provide love, nurturing, security, and encouragement.

All areas of a child's development—cognitive, social, and physical development—are interconnected. Physically, families play critical roles in the care of their children, meeting nutritional needs and keeping them out of harm. Socially and psychologically it's important to consider how we create an environment that will foster socially well-adjusted children—one who's in good mental health.

Cognitive development is linked intimately to psychological welfare, and this forms the foundation upon which future progress is constructed. These are the things that happen within families.

National Children and Families Day is also a day to celebrate families. It's a special day to highlight the importance of spending time engaging in family activities that support the development of healthy and well-adjusted children.

Families that spend time together help cultivate familial bonds that lay the foundation for a child's later development, well into adulthood. It teaches them how to become good parents themselves.

We have worked with the National Children's Museum, which I'm excited to say will be located in Maryland's Fourth Congressional District that I represent, just outside of Washington, D.C., and the Association of Children's Museums to encourage special events and activities that will highlight the value of spending time together and to celebrate this annual event.

The local children's museums provided my son and me easy access to venues where we could spend time together learning to care about and improve the world. As a single mother, the museums provided us with excellent exhibits and activities that assisted us in strengthening our relationship.

While the composition of families has changed over times, families remain the foundation of our national child-rearing structure and are critical to raising strong and resilient children.

Today, families range widely from single-parent families, to extended families, to even extended families that care for children of our deployed servicemen and women—some of those families where both parents in fact are deployed and the extended family becomes the nurturing grounds for those children. We have experiences all across this country in which family compositions are nurturing and enriching environments for their children.

We see families and their children every day here in the Nation's capitol visiting these historic sites in Washington and surrounding counties. In this context, allow me to share with my colleagues a "Top Ten" places for families and children in the Washington region. You can find that on Web sites across this country, including the National Children's Museum.

This resolution will serve to remind us how valuable family activities are in the lives of children. The joy of participating in family activities, however small or large, will remain with a person for his or her entire life.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. LYNCH. I yield the gentlelady 1 additional minute.

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. This resolution is designed to reinforce the value of this investment of familial time with an annual commemoration.

In conclusion, I urge you to support House Resolution 534. This resolution honors families of all compositions that are based in a foundation of love and care and in relationships that foster environments in which children can grow, learn, thrive, and mature.

National Children and Families Day recognizes dynamic families and their role in successfully raising our country's future.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I have no other speakers at the moment. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I just ask all Members to support the gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS) and her resolution, and I yield back the balance of our time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I also urge the Members to support the passage of H. Res. 534, and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 534.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONRAD DEROUEN, JR. POST OFFICE

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2972) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 West Edward Street in Erath, Louisiana, as the Conrad DeRouen, Jr. Post Office.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2972

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONRAD DEROUEN, JR. POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 West Edward Street in Erath, Louisiana, shall be known and designated as the “Conrad DeRouen, Jr. Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Conrad DeRouen, Jr. Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I now yield myself such time as I may consume. As chairman of the House subcommittee with jurisdiction over the United States Postal Service, I'm pleased to present H.R. 2972 for consideration. This legislation will designate the United States Postal Service Facility located at 115 West Edward Street in Erath, Louisiana, as the “Conrad DeRouen, Jr. Post Office.”

Introduced by my colleague, Representative CHARLES BOUSTANY of Louisiana, on June 19, 2009, and reported out of committee on July 10, 2009, by unanimous consent, H.R. 2972 enjoys the support of the entire Louisiana House delegation.

Born on February 12, 1921, Conrad “Snookie” DeRouen graduated from Erath High School in 1937, and subsequently attended Vanderbilt University, graduating with a master's degree in health and physical education.

At the age of 21, Conrad DeRouen volunteered for service in the United States Marine Corps and was commissioned as a second lieutenant at Quantico, Virginia. Following additional training at Camp Pendleton, Second Lieutenant DeRouen was deployed to the Asiatic theatre during World War II, serving with the 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Division.

In July of 1944, after serving overseas for a few months, Second Lieutenant

DeRouen was involved in the Battle of Saipan in the Marianas Islands. Regrettably, Second Lieutenant DeRouen was gravely wounded in the neck by enemy forces and subsequently died from his wounds at the age of 23.

In recognition of his distinguished service, Second Lieutenant DeRouen posthumously received the Navy Cross, awarded for extreme gallantry and risk of life in actual combat with an armed enemy force and going beyond the call of duty.

As noted by the accompanying citation, Second Lieutenant DeRouen, despite his wounds, “gallantly refused to be evacuated and remained steadfast in his station until he collapsed from pain and blood loss.”

Additionally, the citation noted that, “By his initiative, courage, and devotion to duty throughout these hazardous operations, Second Lieutenant DeRouen upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.”

Madam Speaker, Second Lieutenant Conrad DeRouen's life stands as a testament to the bravery and dedication of the heroic men and women who have offered the ultimate sacrifice in service to our Nation.

Let us together honor this distinguished Marine through the passage of this legislation to designate the West Edward Street Postal Facility in his honor.

I urge my colleagues to join Mr. BOUSTANY, the lead sponsor of this resolution, in supporting H.R. 2972.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. I yield such time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY).

Mr. BOUSTANY. I thank my friend and colleague from Utah and my friend from Massachusetts for this courtesy.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 2972, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 West Edward Street in Erath, Louisiana, as the Conrad DeRouen, Jr. Post Office. I'd like to thank the Oversight and Government Reform Committee for bringing this bill to the floor.

Today, it's really a distinct honor for me to celebrate the life of United States Marine Corps Reserve Second Lieutenant Conrad C. DeRouen, Jr., an extraordinary hero in World War II.

A native of Erath, Louisiana, a small coastal town in my district, DeRouen graduated from Erath High School, then went on to Southwestern Louisiana Institute, and subsequently received a master's degree from Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee.

He married Marguerite Domingues of Abbeville, Louisiana, and at the age of 21 he volunteered to serve in the United States Marine Corps.

□ 1915

While fighting against the Japanese forces in Saipan, Mariana Islands, on July 3, 1944, Lieutenant DeRouen endured continuous exposure to enemy

fire in order to guide tanks into areas of combat; and when the communications systems failed, DeRouen seated himself behind the turret in order to continue the resistance.

In another assault on Japanese forces later on July 8, 1944, Lieutenant DeRouen, despite being wounded in the neck by shrapnel from an enemy grenade, refused to leave his post with the 1st Battalion to seek medical assistance and, instead, continued to fight at his station. DeRouen eventually collapsed due to pain and loss of blood and was carried off the field of battle by his comrades. He finally succumbed to his wounds on his ship and was buried at sea.

Lieutenant DeRouen's actions were an inspiration to the marines he fought beside and were a contributing factor in the success of the campaign in the Mariana Islands. Because of his heroic death at the age of only 23 years of age, he was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross for his bravery in a combat zone, the second highest decorated Medal of Honor. Today I join the town of Erath in honoring this fallen hero with the dedication of their post office to the name of Second Lieutenant Conrad C. DeRouen, Jr. for being the highest decorated veteran in its history, a real hero and someone we should all honor.

As we honor Lieutenant DeRouen today, we also must recognize our present-day heroes in Iraq and Afghanistan, those who have fallen and those who continue to fight, and we thank them as well as their families and the families of all of our troops who put on a uniform.

I now ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time, but I will continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. It's an honor to stand and rise in support of H.R. 2972 and the great American hero that we know as Conrad DeRouen. I appreciate bringing this to our attention, and we look forward to having this post office named after him. It's the least we could do from a country that's so grateful.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2972.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.