

optimistic about Africa's future. We know we will make mistakes; we will struggle, and at times we will fall. But we will get up and move forward."

In international affairs, Bongo said U.S.-Gabon relations are "very good," adding, "We would like more progress on the economic front and are working on a trade agreement with the U.S. government."

Acknowledging Gabon's new responsibilities on the U.N. Security Council, Bongo said, "We are going to work very closely with the United States and all the permanent members of the Security Council to make sure that the world is a better place." He had earlier addressed the Security Council, which Gabon chairs for the month of March.

Speaking to the press after her private meeting with the African leader, Secretary Clinton said, "I want to recognize President Bongo's efforts to improve government efficiency, eliminate waste and fight corruption."

"We know, as the president knows, that economic progress depends on responsible governance that rejects corruption, enforces the rule of law, provides good stewardship of natural resources and delivers results that help to change people's lives for the better."

"We stand ready to support Gabon as it further strengthens its democratic institutions and processes," Clinton said.

The secretary added, "We are very supportive of Gabon's efforts to diversify its economy, widen the circle of prosperity and create new opportunities for its people. Gabon is participating in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative and taking other steps that will give confidence both to international investors but, more importantly, to the people of the country."

Speaking two days before the State Department issues its annual human rights report, Clinton said: "I also want to applaud the leadership that Gabon has shown in combating human trafficking. We have forged new partnerships with the Justice Department, and Gabon is moving toward ratifying the U.N. protocol. This is one more example of the reform-minded leadership that President Bongo is bringing to his country."

"We've come a long way," Bongo responded. "We've gone through a democratic process, and now we are moving forward. Good governance, [the] fight against corruption, diversity [in] our economy and our partners. This is what we're doing."

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5136) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 5136, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011.

Each year, Congress acts to authorize national defense spending. Matters of defense spending have been one of my highest priorities throughout my time in Congress. Especially during times of war, we, in Congress, have the utmost obligation to ensure our service men and women have the adequate re-

sources they need to serve both honorably and safely. Moreover, we must remember our retired and wounded service men and women and ensure that they receive the benefits and care respectful of their heroic sacrifices.

There are many provisions of this \$567 billion authorization to be proud of. This bill strengthens four pivotal national objectives including, but not limited to, counterterrorism efforts, missile defense, nuclear nonproliferation, and benefits and care to our nation's service members and their families.

Some provisions that particularly stand out are the funding authorizations that support the President's agenda in Afghanistan. This bill takes steps to address prior shortfalls of our efforts in Afghanistan under the Bush Administration. Specifically, the bill outlines resources that will give U.S. commanders in the field the tools they need for success, as well as the means to forge meaningful strategic partnerships with neighboring nations so as to both facilitate victory and a swift and safe return for our brave service men and women. The bill also furthers the President's efforts to secure the nuclear arsenals across the globe. If Cold War politics have taught the world one thing, it is that nuclear proliferation could lead to dangerous situations. H.R. 5136 makes significant strides in aligning our defense policy with 21st century challenges, including facilitating a mobile missile defense system and regulation of nuclear arms. I believe Congress must do all that it can to ensure that the development of nuclear technologies is globally regulated and transparent. This bill, in funding key programs like the Department of Energy's Global Threat Reduction Initiative and Department of Defense's Cooperative Threat Reduction Program, takes important steps to ensuring that weapons grade nuclear materials do not end up into the hands of terrorists and dangerous states.

I am proud to speak to the funds authorized for the benefits and care of our military servicemembers and their families. A nation with the best military in the world should provide the best care in the world. Among its many provisions, H.R. 5136 provides a 1.9% pay raise to our troops, increases imminent danger pay, and expands college loan repayment benefits. Furthermore, the bill includes a "pre-separation" counseling program to help provide discharged servicemembers and their spouses with financial and job assistance. Especially in these tough economic times, it is important to promote financial literacy efforts across the board so as to better educate and inform average Americans of their financial and professional options.

Finally, I am extremely encouraged by language included in the final Defense Authorization bill that recognizes the harmful implications of poor nutrition as it pertains to national security. As Chairwoman of the Healthy Families and Communities Subcommittee, I have been very active in efforts to increase access to child nutrition programs. It is important that Congress recognize the vast impact proper child nutrition has on our nation. H.R. 5136 includes a sense of Congress that hunger and obesity are impairing military recruitment and must be properly addressed. I am proud to lead efforts to improve access to important initiatives like direct certification systems, and the national school lunch and summer food services programs. The language in this bill regarding obesity underscores the vast and

grave consequences an unhealthy nation can have.

Again, Mr. Chair, I support the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011. I commend both Chairman IKE SKELTON and Ranking Member HOWARD MCKEON for their hard work in putting together a tremendous piece of legislation that, in my opinion, adequately supports our active and retired service men and women.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICANS IN WARTIME IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the National Museum of Americans in Wartime (the American Wartime Museum), which will break ground later this year in Prince William County, Va. This museum is being built to honor all Americans who have served or presently serve our country in any branch of the United States military from World War I forward.

It will tell the stories and recognize the contributions and sacrifices of the brave men and women who dedicated themselves to defending and preserving our Nation's freedoms through their service in the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, the Reserves and the National Guard.

The museum will offer a unique interactive history of major conflicts from the 20th and 21st centuries and focus on educating young Americans about wartime experiences and the sacrifices made by those Americans who "answered the call" in service of our nation.

The American Wartime Museum is the culmination of a partnership between private and government entities. The Museum will be built on a 70 acre site that has been generously donated by the Hylton family of Prince William County. It will feature a large collection of vintage and modern operational military vehicles, some of which will be used for demonstrations and reenactments. There will be large outdoors "Landscapes of War" with authentic replicas of battle scenes. Visitors will be able to hear, touch and experience military vehicles, aircraft and naval vessels. The planned National Veterans Visitor Center will offer special services and activities for veterans including opportunities for military reunions and the ability to record oral histories for future generations of Americans. Visiting the Museum will be truly interactive and will not only educate but actually provide a very realistic sense of the experiences of those who have served in uniform.

This project enjoys broad, bipartisan support from the Prince William Board of County Supervisors, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States Congress. George Mason University is a key partner in this endeavor, which will provide new academic and research opportunities for students, historians and the public. The leadership team of the museum includes Craig Stewart, President and CEO; Allan Cors, Chairman of the Board of Trustees; former Virginia Governor and U.S. Senator Chuck Robb; a Medal of Honor recipient

and other distinguished veterans; military historians, authors and journalists; and prominent business leaders.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues join me in recognizing the vision and dedication of those individuals and organizations that have worked together to create The American War-time Museum. This museum will educate, inspire, and most importantly, honor all who have served our great nation in uniform.

And as we celebrate Memorial Day this weekend, I also ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our sincerest appreciation to every man and woman who has answered the highest call of duty by serving our country in the United States military. Their sacrifice, honor, and selfless dedication to the defense and protection of our country is deserving of the utmost respect and gratitude of every American.

IN HONOR OF MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM ROBERT AND BETTY CAMPBELL

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. and Mrs. William Robert "Bob" and Betty Grigsby Campbell of Franklin, Tennessee. They are long standing residents of the community which I represent and have raised five children in the area. Their children have added twelve grandchildren to the family tree and it is one of their grandchildren that have notified me of this special year of celebrations, the occasion of their 80th birthdays and their 60th wedding anniversary.

Bob grew up in Nashville, TN as the eldest son of a printer and secretary. He attended Vanderbilt University before owning his own business. Betty grew up in the Grigsby family home in Elkton, TN. Her family farmed the home place that was surrounded by cotton fields. Her father was an engineer and her mother was actively involved in the Methodist church and community.

Bob and Betty met on a blind date. They wed in a double wedding ceremony with Betty's sister, Dorothy (Mrs. John Brevard), who also resides in Franklin, TN. Bob and Betty settled in Nashville, TN and their children Bobby, Cindy, Nicky, Cathi and Chuck were born and have fond memories of camping and taking family vacations to Florida in the back of many station wagons. As their children moved on, Betty worked caring for children at their church and Bob continued to develop his small business.

During their retirement they have enjoyed traveling with their friends both throughout the country and internationally. They continue to be active members of the Baptist Church, while Bob maintains his small business restoring antique furniture. They regularly see their grandchildren who are spread from California to Louisiana to Washington, DC. Their grandchildren tell me they are looking forward to enjoying many more holidays with their "MaBet and Papa" in Franklin.

It is clear that the world in which Bob and Betty were born in 1930 was quite a different world than what their grandchildren experience today. But they have taught their children and

grandchildren traditions that stand the test of time. Bob and Betty have been role models for their family in Southern hospitality and grace. They have taught the generations that true character is shown by commitment to each other, responsible engagement in community, dedication to God and strong family ties. These values last throughout time, throughout the economic turmoil and throughout the latest fad. I have no doubt that the Campbell family will continue to carry on these traditions for the rest of their lives due to the strong foundation provided by Bob and Betty.

I want to congratulate Bob and Betty on their banner year and wish them and their Campbell Clan good health, safe travels and much more shared laughter.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LEE HALE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lee Hale, the recipient of the NASSP/Virco National Assistant Principal of the Year Award for the state of Florida. Mr. Hale is a dedicated educator whose professionalism and innovative ideas have helped many students in my district succeed, and it is a great privilege to recognize him on this day.

Mr. Hale began his career in education after graduating from Samford University with a degree in Business Administration. After subbing at various schools in Okaloosa County, he was hired to teach at Choctawhatchee High School. Mr. Hale taught Alternative Education and Business and Technology courses for ten years all the while pursuing a Master's degree in Education, Global Leadership and Administration from Jones International University. While teaching during the day and advancing his own education through online courses, Mr. Hale made himself available to help struggling students recover credits by coordinating the Choctaw Academy. Mr. Hale's hard work did not go unnoticed, and in 2007, he became an Assistant Principal of Choctawhatchee. Most recently, Mr. Hale is pursuing a Doctor of Education, Curriculum and Instruction from the University of West Florida.

Lee Hale is well-deserving of Florida's Assistant Principal of the Year award, and it is apparent throughout his community leadership positions and continuing professional development activities. Mr. Hale leads Sunday School and coaches youth baseball and still makes time to attend workshops, such as the Florida Educational Technology Convention, so that his students are well prepared for the future.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress it is an honor to recognize the efforts and accomplishments of this outstanding educator. My wife Vicki and I congratulate Mr. Hale on his award and thank him for his 15 plus years of teaching service.

HONORING DR. LYNN WOLAVER

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Dr. Lynn Wolaver, who was inducted into the Ohio Senior Hall of Fame on May 24, 2010.

Dr. Wolaver's contributions to his country and the community are invaluable. A former member of U.S. Army and World War II veteran, he flew in C-47 aircraft in the European Theater of Operations. Following his military service, Lynn devoted himself to public service, holding positions as a member of the Fairborn City Planning Board, City Council, Deputy Mayor and Mayor of Fairborn. He has been an active member of the Fairborn Chamber of Commerce, Fairborn Rotary Club and the American Region. He currently serves on numerous local boards and committees, applying his knowledge and expertise for the betterment of the region.

Along with his natural penchant for service to his country and civic engagement, Dr. Wolaver has an extensive academic background. He studied at the University of Illinois, The Ohio State Extension at Wright Field and at the University of Michigan, where he received his doctoral degree. Dr. Wolaver spent nearly 40 years as an employee at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Springfield, OH, holding various positions, including Dean for Research Emeritus at the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. During his time at Wright-Patt, Dr. Wolaver taught and conducted research in the areas of navigation, astrodynamics, bio-engineering and systems analysis, and he has authored over 60 technical papers on these topics. His academic achievements have earned him induction into prestigious honorary societies, and various honors and awards, including the Fairborn Chamber of Commerce's Ed Duncan Distinguished Citizen Award, Fairborn Chamber of Commerce President's Award and University of Illinois Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Finally, as a husband, father of two and grandfather, Dr. Wolaver has demonstrated the importance of balancing various obligations and activities with the needs of family.

Thus, with great pride, I congratulate Dr. Lynn Wolaver for his lifetime of remarkable achievements and his unparalleled contribution to our community.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5136) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes: