

I share Troop 463's pride in being nominated as a "Super Troop" for four years, three of which have been consecutive. The Super Troop honor is bestowed upon the Troop which exemplifies the best in Scout Spirit, competitive edge, good attitude and demonstrates a positive example to others.

Madam Speaker, the young men of Boy Scout Troop 463 have shown dedication to their peers, their community, and their cause. The Troop's accomplishments reflect the best values of Scouting and should not go unnoticed.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT
GENERAL R. STEVEN WHITCOMB

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it has come to my attention that Lieutenant General R. Steven Whitcomb will retire after 40 years of service in the United States Army on October 1, 2010. He has served his country well and will be sorely missed.

Lieutenant General Whitcomb graduated from the University of Virginia in 1970 with a Bachelor's degree in History. From there, he went on to receive degrees from the California University of Pennsylvania, the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and the United States Army War College. He was commissioned through ROTC and entered the U.S. Army as an Infantry Officer.

First stationed at Fort Bragg in North Carolina, he steadily rose through the ranks and excelled at each assignment he was given. From combat operations in Desert Shield/Desert Storm to Operation Joint Forge to Operation Iraqi Freedom, he effectively led our men and women into battle and never forgot that the Army's most precious assets are those who wear the uniform of our Nation's military. Throughout his career he consistently showed his dedication to the youngest members of the U.S. Army. As a professor and a mentor for ROTC, he made sure the young cadets of the U.S. Army were well-trained with high morale and in excellent physical condition.

At the Pentagon, Lieutenant General Whitcomb served several roles including Executive Officer for the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army and Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans. He ended his forty years of distinguished service as the Inspector General for the Office of the Secretary of the Army.

Madam Speaker, throughout his lifetime of service, Lieutenant General R. Steven Whitcomb has shown uncommon professionalism and dedication to the mission of the United States Army. I wish him the very best in his well-earned retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House Floor during yesterday's three rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 1472, H. Con. Res. 126, and H. Res. 1219.

RECOGNIZING THE 36TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY'S ILLEGAL INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, tonight I join my colleagues on the House floor to remember the 36th anniversary of Turkey's illegal occupation of Cyprus.

On July 20th 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus in violation of international law and at great cost to the citizens of Cyprus. Turkish troops established a heavily-armed force which occupied the northern part of Cyprus and continues to occupy close to 37 percent of Cyprus' territory. The invasion forced nearly 200,000 Greek Cypriots to flee their homes—making one-third of the Cypriot population refugees in their own country.

Today, Turkey continues to illegally occupy northern Cyprus with a force of 43,000 troops. This unbelievable number of troops amounts to almost one Turkish soldier for every two Turkish Cypriots. This military occupation flies in defiance of international pressure to achieve a peaceful settlement.

Beyond the military occupation of northern Cyprus it is important to consider the mass colonization which has resulted in 160,000 Turkish mainland settlers illegally living on property owned by Greek Cypriots or even U.S. citizens. Once again this illegal colonization comes despite international pressure on Turkey to take action to stop the illegal occupation and ensure the return of properties to their rightful owners.

In fact, since 1974 more than 75 resolutions have been adopted by the U.N. Security Council and more than 13 by the U.N. General Assembly calling for a withdrawal of Turkish troops and the return of refugees to their rightful homes. However, the Turkish government continues to remain defiant, plainly ignoring these calls to withdraw.

In recent months we have continued to see Turkey pursue policies that not only hurt its relations with nations that should serve as true democratic allies, but also policies that hurt regional relations and stability. I have been an outspoken opponent of Turkey's irresponsible regional relations, which in many ways negatively affect the U.S. Whether it is the illegal blockade on its border with Armenia, the failure to take proper recourse to investigate a domestic group that incited a deadly incident with Israeli troops, their continued violations of Greek airspace or their illegal occupation of northern Cyprus, Turkey disrespects international law and regional partners of the United States.

There comes a time when the United States must say enough is enough and take principled steps to prevent further destabilizing actions. As a member of the Hellenic Caucus, I have long advocated for the withdrawal of Turkish forces from northern Cyprus and called on Turkey to support a settlement that comes from the Cypriots themselves.

The United States must do its part to foster a united Cyprus. It is in the best interest of the

United States, and I believe all involved parties to ensure that the goal is a reunified Cyprus where Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots live together in peace and security. A successful settlement effort must build on the work towards a bizonal, bicommunal federation with political equality that represents U.N. Security Council resolutions. In the end, Cyprus must have a single sovereignty and single citizenship which all Cypriots can enjoy.

Now is the time for Turkey to show that they are willing to take a sincere approach to allowing a peaceful resolution to the dispute. The leadership in Ankara must show that the will and support behind a peaceful settlement is in the best interest of Turkey and that it is fully supported. Without such a signal by the government of Turkey, a final settlement will continue to dwindle as Turkish settlers pursue the policies of their home nation.

It is now thirty-six years since the illegal Turkish invasion and subsequent occupation of Cyprus. However, the resolve has never been greater to ensure that Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots alike benefit from a united nation that affords them the stability and security that all citizens deserve. The Government of the Republic of Cyprus has shown their willingness to work constructively with the Cypriots towards a reunified island. It is time for Turkey to do the same.

Last Congress, I introduced the bipartisan American Owned Property in Occupied Cyprus Claims Act. Through this legislation, Americans who are being denied access to their property and even their ancestral homes will finally be able to seek restitution. I am currently working with different stakeholders to strengthen this bill before reintroduction.

Madam Speaker, as we remember the 36th Anniversary of Turkey's illegal invasion and occupation of Cyprus, I remain hopeful a united Cyprus can become a reality. However, the United States can not be complacent in this goal.

COMMEMORATING THE 36TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today, on the thirty-sixth anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus, to sadly commemorate this tragic event. Turkey's illegal occupation has continued for far too long. After decades of stagnation, the situation in Cyprus demands a just and comprehensive solution.

Throughout my tenure in Congress, I have passionately, aggressively, and persistently called for an end to the devastating artificial division of the island of Cyprus. I have been an outspoken critic of Turkey's obstinate beligerence on this issue and a supporter of what seems like countless bills and resolutions pleading, urging, and demanding a just and peaceful resolution.

My voice has been just one in a rising chorus of international leaders asking Turkey to end its occupation and help facilitate a solution that is amenable to all Cypriots. Since Turkey's 1974 invasion, numerous United Nations resolutions have condemned Turkey's

actions and called for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Cyprus. Turkey remains the only nation to recognize the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The consensus of the world community is apparent—Turkey's control over the island's future is unjust and must end.

As we and other nations work to forge a path towards a free and unified Cyprus that fulfills the needs of all its citizens, we should give special attention to the refugees who have been yearning to return to their homes in safety. A solution must be found that respects the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and provides to all Cypriots the dignity to which they are entitled. Difficult problems rarely have easy solutions—and Cyprus is no exception. Only a Cypriot state that reflects the needs and consent of all its people will be able to thrive. The international community—including Turkey—must help facilitate this transition. I hope Istanbul will find the political will and courage to at last be part of the solution.

Thirty-six years is far too long for this tragedy to continue in search of a solution we know is possible. We who live every day in a nation of different ethnic backgrounds and divergent religious beliefs know coexistence and self-governance is possible, and that pluralism is no pipedream. The citizens of Cyprus yearn for a government of, by, and for the people and deserve it as much as any of us.

HONORING GEORGE
STEINBRENNER

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of George Steinbrenner. While he is readily associated with the accomplishments of the New York Yankees under his ownership, I would like to recognize his incredible contributions to the Tampa Bay area.

In the 1970s, Mr. Steinbrenner chose to call Tampa his home, but he did much more than just reside there. While George Steinbrenner's name is apparent throughout the Tampa Bay area—prominently displayed on the Yankees spring training stadium—his generosity and contributions reach much further than the eye can see.

Much of Mr. Steinbrenner's generosity revolved around bettering the lives of youth. In 1981, he developed the Gold Shield Foundation to assist dependents of fallen law enforcement officials and firefighters both in their immediate time of need and with higher education costs.

He is also widely known for his contributions to the Boys and Girls Club, youth baseball organizations, the Pediatric Emergency Center at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital, and numerous other organizations across the region.

I had the privilege of knowing Mr. Steinbrenner, and his impact on our community is immeasurable. Through his contributions, countless lives have been changed for the better. The effects of his generosity are sweeping and the effects will likely be visible for generations to come.

It is my honor to recognize Mr. Steinbrenner before the House of Representatives for his

great generosity in building Tampa Bay communities.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOYCE
ROGERS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant, Mrs. Joyce Rogers.

A long-time Brighton, Michigan, resident until her passing late last year, Joyce Rogers was a tireless public servant, devoting much of her time to the betterment and economic development of the Brighton community. As executive director of the Greater Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce, Joyce Rogers played an integral role in rebuilding the business organization into the area's most important political and business networking organization. Through her efforts, Brighton was able to transform into a thriving business community, attracting new residents and customers to the area. Joyce Rogers was a pioneer in Michigan, forging the way for what we know today as economic development.

In addition to her work as a small business advocate, Joyce Rogers always remembered her role as a woman leader, taking time to serve her community by acting as a mentor to Brighton business women. Joyce Rogers not only supported women in small business, but also encouraged them to become involved in public service and politics in the Brighton community.

Joyce raised 5 successful sons, was an active participant in area charities, touched countless lives and helped change our community for the better. She lived every day believing that you could make a difference through hard work, respecting others and believing if you set your mind to it you could accomplish it. She was a leader in every aspect of her life and leaves a strong legacy of accomplishment and kindness to others. She is to be commended for her contribution to her family, her community and to the State of Michigan.

LA COUNTY VETS RESOLUTION
INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution with my California colleague Representative MCKEON and members of the Los Angeles delegation to honor the service and sacrifice of Los Angeles County soldiers and their families.

In the midst of two of the longest engagements of U.S. forces in American history, our troops are enduring some of the most challenging and dangerous conditions imaginable.

More than 6,000 Angelenos are now deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq, serving with honor while enduring hardships and lengthy separations from their loved ones. Since the two wars began, more than 100 county resi-

dents have been killed in battle. More than 1,200 have suffered physical wounds, and many more suffer from PTSD.

They fight a war unlike those of their predecessors, against an enemy who targets and brutalizes its own citizens—innocent women and children—to advance its agenda.

While the enemy is cruel, our troops practice restraint. Where the enemy levels schools, clinics and businesses to demonstrate its power, our troops show even greater strength by helping to rebuild them. They do this to build trust and win the confidence of the people of Iraq and Afghanistan—the people who must ultimately stand up and fight for their own countries.

This generation of troops shows a level of bravery and discipline every day few of us possess in the face of grave danger, and they face those risks to protect their fellow Americans.

Thousands have returned home with physical and emotional wounds. Some heal, but other wounds remain with them and their families for a lifetime.

We declare our support for providing veterans and their families with the best medical care, and our support for veterans' continuing education, vocational training, and opportunities to enter new careers as civilians.

We support efforts to break the cycle of homelessness that haunts so many veterans, and to prevent more from suffering the same fate.

We encourage all Americans to show their support and enduring gratitude for our returning troops, many of whom face a difficult adjustment to a life not at war.

They answered a call for service in the midst of two brutal wars. We owe them and their families a great debt. Our resolution today is but a small testament to their dedication and valor.

HONORING THE LATE ARNOLD
FRIBERG

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the late Arnold Friberg, a proud Utahn and world-renowned artist. Mr. Friberg passed away July 1, 2010 at 96 years young, just nine days following an agreement to create the Arnold Friberg Museum of Art. The Utah Cultural Arts Foundation will manage the museum and ensure the masterpieces of Mr. Friberg will be enjoyed by generations to come.

Mr. Friberg's patriotic depictions of General George Washington, his sketches for the famed "The Ten Commandments" movie, and his paintings of individuals and events from The Book of Mormon will forever be remembered in this newly created Museum.

In preparation of what became Mr. Friberg's defining artistic moment, Mr. Friberg traveled to Valley Forge, in the dead of winter, to identify with the bitter conditions General George Washington and the Continental Army experienced during the winter of 1777–1778. As Mr. Friberg put it, "Art to me is a service, to bring enrichment to people's lives. That's why I want my art to be perfectly understood. One of the