

of America, and the politicians responsible for its policies. The most demeaning day for me was just a few days ago when my supervisor ordered me to fill out EPA's "Request for Leave" form to "request" my own furlough days. This sequestration was never supposed to happen. It is unfair and unreasonable. But it has happened anyway.

I am happy that Air Traffic workers and other co-workers throughout the federal government have by now been exempted from furloughs. It pains me terribly that no similar consideration is expressed for those of us who are charged with caring for the environmental, economic, health, housing and other equally important concerns of the American people.

Finally, I would like to thank your staff for listening to me and submit this letter for your consideration.

Sincerely,

HERIBERTO LEÓN.

HONORING COL. SCOTT W. GORDON

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2013

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of an exemplary public servant, Col. Scott W. Gordon. After over thirty years of service, Col. Gordon is retiring at the end of August from the United States Army.

Col. Gordon was born in Utica, NY and grew up in Youngstown, OH. He earned his undergraduate degree in Zoology from Miami University in Oxford, OH in 1973 and went on to earn his masters in entomology from The Ohio State University in 1976. He was awarded a Ph.D. in Microbiology from Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO in 1993.

Col. Gordon joined the military in 1984 after being employed as a medical entomologist by the Vector-borne Disease Unit of the Ohio Department of Health. Throughout Col. Gordon's thirty years of service to his country, he worked in several distinguished capacities within the United States Army. Col. Gordon's work and dedication is exhibited through the numerous awards and decorations he has accrued throughout his three decades of service.

Since joining the military, Col. Gordon has remained active in entomological research as a member of numerous professional organizations including the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, The American Mosquito Control Association, and the Entomological Society of America. Col. Gordon has authored or co-authored over 20 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

I want to extend my warmest and sincere thanks to Col. Scott W. Gordon for his many years of service to his country. His long and illustrious military career will not be forgotten and I would like to wish him congratulations and all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
CHARLOTTE TASHJIAN AARON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Charlotte Tashjian

Aaron, who passed away on June 7, 2013 at the age of 97. Charlotte's thoughtfulness, generosity, and overwhelming love for others will be greatly missed.

Charlotte was born into a family with very strong Armenian roots. The Tashjians immigrated to the United States to escape the Armenian Genocide. They settled in Madera, California, and ran a small family business, "Simon Cleaners." After Charlotte graduated from Madera High School, she decided to stay close to home and work for her parents.

Charlotte's faith in God and her religion were extremely important to her. For over 50 years she was a part of the Fidelis Society, and served as a choir member at the First Armenian Presbyterian Church in Fresno, California for almost 70 years. Charlotte was singing in the choir when she saw the love of her life, Isaac, for the very first time. Isaac and Charlotte got married, and raised three beloved sons: James, Edward, and Richard.

For Armenians, family is everything, and Charlotte loved her family dearly. She leaves behind her sons and daughter-in-laws: Heather, Kris, and Nancy; her grandchildren: David, Michael, Janelle, Stephanie, Steven, John, Kirsten, and Danielle; and her brother Ed and her sister-in-law, Wilma.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Charlotte Tashjian Aaron. Charlotte will undoubtedly be missed many, and she will always be in the hearts of those who love her deeply.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2013

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding one missed vote on June 12, 2013.

Had I been present for rollcall 217, On Motion to Recommit with Instructions for the Swap Jurisdiction Certainty Act, I would have voted "aye."

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1960) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2014 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Chair, it has been over 10 years since the start of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and I fear we are still not properly addressing traumatic brain injury, also known as "the signature injury of the war." I would like to thank Chairman MCKEON and Ranking Member SMITH for their commitment to this issue in recent authorizations. I would also like to thank Mr. THOMPSON for his co-sponsorship of my first amendment.

Over the last few years, Congress has continued to emphasize the importance of this issue and has made funds available for the identification and treatment of brain injuries in our soldiers. It is important these funds be used wisely to ensure that our men and women in uniform are getting timely and proper care. A January 2012 GAO report highlighted the need to coordinate TBI and psychological health activities within the Department.

In the National Defense Authorization for FY 2013, Congress mandated that the Secretary of Defense submit a plan to Congress that would improve coordination and integration of the programs that address traumatic brain injury and psychological health of members of the Armed Forces. Specifically, this report would require the identification of gaps in services and treatments, a plan for addressing any gaps or redundancies and identifying an official to lead the implementation of any changes. This report is due in July of this year, and my amendment underscores the importance of this mandated report, and strongly urges the Secretary to deliver it to Congress within the appropriate timeframe.

My second amendment addresses the continuing issue of identification of traumatic brain injuries. Although the Department of Defense has made a strong commitment to identifying, and treating those men and women who have suffered a traumatic brain injury while serving our Nation, there are still problems with screening our troops.

In June 2010, a memorandum issued by the Department of Defense made a 50-meter distance from an explosion the criterion to identify, refer, and treat members for potential traumatic brain injury in theater. However, the Department of Defense has yet to address those service members who may have been exposed to a blast prior to that time. Many of these soldiers remain on active duty and we must ensure they are tested and treated. My amendment mandates a report on how the Secretary of Defense will identify, refer, and treat possible traumatic brain injuries with respect to members of the Armed Forces who served in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom prior to June 2010. This is a vitally important report for ensuring the health of our troops. I ask that my colleagues support these amendments for those service members who are struggling with invisible wounds.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. DANA ROHRABACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1960) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2014 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Madam Chair, included in this en bloc package is an amendment I offered that relates to Pakistan. It adds,

as a condition of aid to Pakistan, that Islamabad must not use the funding we provide to its security forces for purposes of domestic repression of ethnic and religious minority groups as it has in the past.

The State Department's 2012 Country Report on Human Rights in Pakistan states, "The most serious human rights problems were extrajudicial and targeted killings, forced disappearances, and torture, which affected thousands of citizens in nearly all parts of the country." Members of the Pakistani military as well as police are involved in these lethal abuses of human rights.

Repression of minority groups is systemic. Human rights organizations have reported that many Sindhi and Baloch nationalists were among those missing. Non-Sunni religious practitioners, Christians, Ahmadis, and Shia Muslims, are attacked with impunity.

There are already four conditions in the core bill and my amendment simply adds a fifth requirement to prevent the misuse of our aid. Thank you, Madam Chair, for accepting my amendment.

SALUTING SERVICE ACADEMY STUDENTS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2013

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary group of 21 students who have been chosen as the future leaders of our Armed Forces by the prestigious United States service academies. These brave young men and women will commit the next four years to diligently study and rigorously train to become our Nation's defenders and protectors. I am proud to see such a fine group of young adults earnestly pursue a world-class education and a lifetime of service. I have no doubt they will represent the Third District of Texas well.

As we keep them and their families in our prayers, may we never forget the commitment they are making now and will make in the future to preserve the freedoms we all hold dear. These students are the cream of the crop. They embody the best of their generation, a generation full of courage, honor, and integrity; a generation with a deep sense of duty to uphold America's belief in democracy, liberty, and justice for all.

Young men and women, I salute each one of you for your dedication to this great country and thank you from the bottom of my heart. God bless you and God Bless America.

The name and hometown of each appointee follows:

THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SERVICE ACADEMY BOUND STUDENTS—CLASS OF 2017

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Bryan Lawrence Driskell, from McKinney, graduate of McKinney Boyd High School; Hunter Logan Hill, from Richardson, graduate of Jesuit College Preparatory School; Benjamin Darrell Legband, from Dallas, graduate of Trinity Christian Academy; Zachary David Missimo, from Dallas, graduate of Prestonwood Christian Academy; Chandler Avery Myers, from Garland, graduate of Naaman Forest High School; Darrius Anthonye Parker, from Allen, graduate of Allen High School in 2012 and the U.S. Air

Force Academy Preparatory School in 2013; Cortland Shonell Tolbert, from McKinney, graduate of Allen High School in 2012 and the U.S. Air Force Academy Preparatory School in 2013; and Russell Howard Williams, from McKinney, graduate of McKinney Boyd High School.

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

John-Charles Cheng Arion, from Plano, graduate of Coram Deo Academy; Kim Anh Do, from Murphy, graduate of Plano East Senior High School; Phillip Thomas Metcalfe, from Plano, graduate of Plano East Senior High School; and Victor Vinh Truong, from Garland, graduate of Garland High School.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

Aaron Michael Anderson, from Frisco, graduate of Frisco High School in 2012 and the U.S. Military Academy's Preparatory School in 2013; Nicholas Martin Bergstein, from Parker, graduate of Plano East Senior High School; Kaleb Samuel Fields, from Plano, graduate of Trinity Christian Academy; Frank Yilong Lin, from Plano, graduate of Centennial High School; Anthony Park, from Plano, graduate of Plano Senior High School; Matthew Daniel Salazar, from Plano, graduate of Plano Senior High School; Blair Dillon Swanner, from Frisco, graduate of Centennial High School; and Samantha Lee Todd, from Plano, graduate of Plano Senior High School.

UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

Ha-Young Daniel Rhee, from Plano, graduate of Plano East Senior High School.

IN HONOR OF THE WHAYNE SUPPLY COMPANY'S 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2013

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Wayne Supply Company in Lexington, Kentucky, and to congratulate them on their 100 Year Anniversary.

Wayne Supply Company, headquartered in Louisville, was founded by Roy C. Wayne, Sr. in 1913. He was the only employee during the company's infancy, and sold items such as light engines, pumps, and bicycles. Twelve years later, he began what would become a very long-term relationship with Caterpillar, and today the company employs over 1,300 people, operating 15 facilities in 12 cities in Kentucky and Indiana.

Wayne Supply Company is well-known for its equipment sales, rental and service offerings throughout Kentucky, but is also contributes to our Commonwealth in other ways.

Wayne Supply has installed and services power stations and generators at medical centers to ensure that power is supplied to the hospital during power outages, and provides the same service to broadcasting stations so that these radio stations can continue to operate during power outages. Wayne Supply also supplies and services hybrid school buses throughout the state.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Wayne Supply Company on 100 years of successful business. I would also like to extend my personal appreciation to the Wayne Supply Company and all of its employees for all that they have done and continue to do for our community our the Commonwealth.

CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL FOR RABBI ARTHUR SCHNEIER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, together with my bipartisan colleagues Reps. CHARLIE RANGEL, ELIOT ENGEL, BRIAN HIGGINS, NITA LOWEY, JERROLD NADLER, and MICHAEL GRIMM, I am introducing a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Rabbi Arthur Schneier, in recognition of his pioneering role in promoting religious freedom and human rights throughout the world for over half a century.

Born in Vienna, Austria, in 1930, Rabbi Schneier lived under Nazi occupation in Budapest during World War II and came to the United States in 1947. He has been the Spiritual Leader of the Park East Synagogue in New York City since 1962.

A Holocaust survivor, and the Founder and President of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, Rabbi Schneier has devoted his life to overcoming the forces of hatred and intolerance.

He has been a pioneer in bringing together religious leaders to address ethnic or religious conflicts. For example, in Bosnia in 1997, he convened government and religious leaders to promote healing and conciliation between Orthodox, Muslim and Jewish communities. In the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia he worked with the Orthodox Patriarch and the Turkish Government to hold the Peace and Tolerance Conference in 1994 and address religious and ethnic tensions in that area. In the former Yugoslavia, he mobilized religious leaders to halt the bloodshed of the early 90's, holding the Religious Summit on the Former Yugoslavia and the Conflict Resolution Conference to build support and consensus among religious leaders of different faiths. Since the early 1980s, he has led delegations of religious leaders to China to open a dialogue on religious freedom.

I hope my colleagues will join us in honoring this distinguished pioneer of religious freedom with a Congressional Gold Medal.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF HURST COUNCILMAN CHARLES SWEARENGEN

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 14, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Charles Swearengen for his 30 years of service as the councilman for Place 1 of the City of Hurst, Texas.

Charles has spent nearly a half-century of his life serving Hurst. Prior to taking the oath of office as a councilman in 1983, Charles served 18 years on the Hurst Parks and Recreation Board in which he spent 13 of those years as the chairman.

Throughout his years of service to the City of Hurst, Charles has been a pivotal influence in the development of recreational projects in the city. Under his guidance, the city has opened two aquatics centers, renovated a