

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT
AARON KLIATCHKO

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Master Sergeant Aaron Kliatchko, who proudly served his country during two World Wars and was awarded the Prisoner of War Medal, Purple Heart Medal, and the Medal of Freedom. He was killed in action on December 31, 1944. Master Sergeant Aaron Kliatchko, the "Rabbi of Cabanatuan," was honored with a formal military funeral on Friday, June 29, 2018 at Arlington National Cemetery.

Kliatchko was born in 1887 to an Orthodox Jewish family. As a teenager, he was forced to serve in the Russian Imperial Army during the Russo-Japanese War, where he was taken prisoner by Imperial Japan. After the war, Kliatchko migrated to the United States and enlisted in the Army, becoming a U.S. citizen in July 1913. After moving to the Army Corps of Engineers in 1914, Corporal Kliatchko deployed to the Philippine Islands in November 1915, where he served the duration of World War I. He was honorably discharged in 1919 and remained in the Philippines until World War II.

When the Japanese invaded in December 1941, Kliatchko volunteered as an American intelligence agent. By March 1942, Kliatchko was fighting the invading Japanese on the Bataan peninsula. There, he reenlisted with the Army Corps of Engineers as a Master Sergeant. He was in Bataan for the U.S. surrender on April 9, 1942. Once again, Kliatchko was a prisoner of the Imperial Japanese military, surviving the Bataan Death March and two prisoner of war camps. He led his fellow prisoners and brothers in arms in Jewish services and funerals, earning himself the title "Rabbi of Cabanatuan."

On December 13, 1944, Kliatchko and 1,600 prisoners were forced to board the Japanese "hellship" *Oryoku Maru*, destined for slave labor in Japan. After it was sunk near Subic Bay by American bombers, the survivors, including Kliatchko, were forced on-board two other hellships to continue the voyage north. Kliatchko succumbed to wounds received during the ordeal on December 31, 1944, aboard the *Brazil Maru* as it arrived in Takeo Harbor, Formosa. His final resting place is unknown.

In 1948, Master Sergeant Kliatchko was posthumously awarded the Medal of Freedom. Like so many immigrants who came to America, his service and sacrifice embodies their unique commitment to liberty and democracy. God bless him always.

HONORING MRS. GLORIA
RICHMOND JACKSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Gloria Richmond Jackson.

Gloria Richmond Jackson came into this world on a windy day in March of 1957. She is the eleventh of thirteen children born to Floyd and Earnestine Richmond. She spent her early years on the Adams Plantation, three miles southwest of Lambert, Mississippi in Quitman County.

She left the State of Mississippi in 1972, and spent 33 years living in Louisiana, Texas, California and Illinois. In 2005, the Lord led her back to Lambert to work with the youth; but the true blessing of her return was the loving and nurturing relationship that developed between her and her mother who passed away July 17, 2011.

Jackson's mission quickly led her to become immersed in community work. In June 2005, she began working with the youth at the North Delta Youth Development Center in Lambert. As Director of The Children's Village Project, she encouraged them by sharing her story of trials and triumphs in an attempt to assist them with healthy development.

Jackson is proud of her southern upbringing and credits a lot of her accomplishments as a direct result of having a wonderful mother. She describes her mother as being, "Mississippi Strong." Her mother wasn't afraid to get involved with the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's. She worked with others to help get African Americans registered to vote in Quitman County. She even defied the Superintendent of Education's warning, that if any of the school bus drivers participated in a Freedom March with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., they would be fired. She marched, but kept her job as a Bus Driver for the elementary school in Lambert.

Mrs. Earnestine Richmond's positive impact wasn't limited to only a few of her children: Her first-born daughter, Tressie Richmond Woods, in 1965 became the first African American to work as a Loan Officer for the Quitman County Farmers Home Administration, located in Marks, Mississippi.

Her daughter, Evon Richmond Ector, participated in the now famous, "Poor People's Mule Train March to Washington" in 1968.

Her daughter Mae Richmond Mosley was the first African American to become Vice President of Human Resources for Briggs and Stratton Engines Corporation in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from 2003 to 2007 when she retired.

Gloria Richmond Jackson, her youngest daughter, was the first African American to attend Lambert Jr. High School in 1969. Five of Mrs. Richmond's sons have owned businesses: Edgar Richmond (Automotive Repair Shop) Chicago, Illinois. Benjamin and Leo Richmond, co-owners (Bar and Lounge) Chicago, Illinois. Charles Richmond (Vending Machine Service Company, St. Louis, Missouri) and a Home Health Service Company with locations in St. Louis and Kansas City, Missouri. James Richmond currently owns an Automotive Towing Service in Wellston, Missouri.

Jackson was appointed to the position of Town Clerk for Lambert, June 13, 2016. Prior to her appointment as Town Clerk, she was employed with Youth Opportunities Unlimited, Inc. of Lambert, Mississippi for eight years. There she worked as a Data Research Associate and Abstinence Educator in the Quitman, South Panola and Coahoma Municipal School Districts.

Her career with American Airlines began at O'Hare Airport in Chicago, Illinois in 1989; it

spanned for over fifteen years. She started out at American while working evenings in Facilities Maintenance, concurrently attending Catherine Business College at night. After graduation, she was promoted to Ticket Counter Agent, two years later she was promoted to Sales Support Representative, and later she accepted the position of City Ticket Office Sales Representative until 2001. At that time she returned to Chicago O'Hare Airport to fill a position as Premium Service Representative in the very same office where she once worked as a janitor (Facilities Maintenance). Following a seven-year leave from American Airlines, she returned to work at AA in 2012, commuting from Lambert to Chicago for seven months. She retired May 13, 2013 after fifteen years of dutiful service.

Jackson is a Baptist Minister and Assistant Pastor, Sunday School Teacher and Lecturer at Pleasant Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Lambert, Mississippi under the leadership of Pastor Reginald Griffin.

She is a Published Author, "Leaving Lambert" (a painful journey to joy in God from a small Mississippi town) Inspirational Speaker, Certified Abstinence Educator, Data Researcher and Retired Premium Service Representative.

Jackson also entered into the political arena where she ran for Quitman County Tax Assessor and also ran for Chancery Clerk. She remains engaged in community activities, writing, her church ministry and mentoring the youth of Quitman County.

In December 2010, Jackson married Robert L. Jackson, Mississippi State Senator for District 11. They have a blended family of six children, eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Gloria Richmond Jackson for her dedication in serving her community.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF
PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN
AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) and to congratulate the recipients of its Annual Awards of Excellence. Founded in 1989, the mission of GOPIO was battling human rights violations committed against persons of Indian origin. Today, while that mission continues, GOPIO has also broadened its mission to include pooling resources of persons of Indian origin for the benefit of not only themselves and their Indian homeland, but also the communities they currently reside in.

Indian-Americans have made countless contributions to the United States in the fields of business, education, medicine, science, technology, and public service while preserving and sharing their culture in a manner that promotes tolerance and mutual understanding.

Many of our awardees tonight have been at the forefront of those efforts. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the following individuals:

Dr. Ravi Chaudary—Science and Technology

Dr. Ram Reddy—Entrepreneur

Dr. Prashanth N. Bharadwaj—Education

Mr. Jay Mandal—Journalism

Dr. Rajesh Mehra—Medicine

Ms. Swati Sharma—Arts and Culture

Northern Virginia, which I am proud to represent in Congress, is blessed by its diversity. We are home to more than 40,000 people of Indian descent and (one of) the largest number of Asian-American, including Indian-American owned small businesses and tech firms in the nation. This diversity enriches our entire community and contributes to our region being considered one of the best places in the country in which to live, work, raise a family, and start a business.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all of the recipients of the GOPIO Awards of Excellence on their accomplishments. I commend them for their service to their communities and to our nation, and I wish them success in all their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO A BORDER SECURITY EXPERT

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the professional achievements and service of my go-to border security guy and friend, Mr. Paul Anstine.

Paul has a long history of putting his country first. He served over seven years as a United States Marine, completing two tours in Iraq. But his service did not end there.

Paul found his way to the House of Representatives in 2007 with a determination to make this country safe from those who seek to do us harm. Paul spent the past eleven and a half years working in the halls of Congress, starting as a scheduler for my former colleague, Candice Miller of Michigan. Paul eventually worked his way up to become the Staff Director for the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security, also known as BMS, a position which he has masterfully held for the past seven and a half years.

Paul's role as Staff Director transcended beyond his leadership in conducting oversight of the Department of Homeland Security and crafting thoughtful, pragmatic legislative solutions. Paul's positive demeanor, data-driven mindset, and work ethic made his presence not only a valued component of the committee but also in my day-to-day role as Chairman. Paul served as a subject matter expert, confidant, and trusted senior advisor whose counsel I always held in the highest regard.

His expertise helped to inform new Committee members and elevate discussions at briefings and hearings. Paul's talents were most notably on display in his role crafting countless border and maritime security bills. Paul was also the lead author for over ten bills that were signed into law, including the first ever authorization of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the critical Visa Waiver Program Improvement and Terrorist Prevention Act. During his tenure, he also coordinated nu-

merous trips overseas and to the southwest border where he provided contextual information and expert analysis of the complex situation at the border to Members and Congressional staff.

Paul has left an outstanding legacy on the Committee especially with Steven Giaier, Jason Miller, Chad Carlough, Matt Coughlin, Keith Robinson, Mary Rose Rooney, Kris Ensley, Emily Trapani, Kris Carlson, Steve Roth, and Matthew Fournier, who he affectionately refers to as "Team BMS". Paul's quick wit, political savvy, and ability to see humor in all things will be missed profoundly.

Today, I am honored to be able to put the spotlight on him. I am hopeful that Paul's next chapter will allow him to spend more time with his wife, Rosella, and his two young boys, Alexander and Lucas. I know Paul's friendship and counsel will remain constant, and that his service to this Nation does not end here.

I thank Paul for everything, and I am excited to see what he will accomplish next.

CORPORAL ROSS BLANK

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable courage of Corporal Ross Blank, a law enforcement officer in Brush, Colorado.

On April 28, a man stole a semi-truck in Logan County, Colorado, and he proceeded to rampage through the town of Brush and the surrounding areas. With the police in pursuit, the semi-truck wrecked anything in its way—destroying cars, injuring several civilians, and nearly killing a police officer.

In the midst of this chaos, Corporal Blank began pursuing the semi-truck through town. He soon realized that the situation was becoming serious enough that he must resort to lethal force to stop the semi-truck. From his police car, Corporal Blank began firing at the truck's tires. As the chase led into open country, he then moved alongside the cab and fired several rounds at the driver, but even this did not stop the suspect. Later, Corporal Blank confronted the truck from the parking lot of a middle school. As the truck bore down on him, Corporal Blank bravely fired round after round after round through the truck's windshield. He escaped just before the semi-truck smashed into his patrol car. Undeterred, Blank grabbed his ammunition from the wreckage of his car and continued pursuing the truck on foot until the driver was eventually caught.

For his heroism, Corporal Blank was recently honored by Brush Police Chief Travis Anderson at a ceremony packed with town residents. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join the people of Brush in thanking Corporal Blank for his courage, quick-thinking, and dedication to protecting the people in our community.

HONORING KINGSLEY OWUSU
OTOO AND DORIS TOLEDO

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kingsley Owusu Otoo and Doris Toledo for becoming QuestBridge College Prep Scholars, which is a national award that is given to low income youth.

Gainesville High School selected Kingsley and Doris from their junior class in recognition of their academic achievements and strong character.

As QuestBridge College Prep Scholars, Kingsley and Doris can interact with and receive feedback from college admission officers at the QuestBridge National College Admission Conference. This award also gives the chance for these two students to apply for the Quest for Excellence Award, which covers expenses for laptops and reimburses students for their college applications.

Because of receiving this award, Kingsley was selected to attend a summer program at Emory University this August, and Doris was selected to receive tele-mentoring from an Amherst College student.

I am proud to honor Kingsley Owusu Otoo and Doris Toledo for their excellent academic achievements and wish them the best of luck as they further their academic careers.

HONORING HER HOLINESS YUGA
NAYAKI KARUNAMAYI AMMA

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Her Holiness Yuga Nayaki Karunamayi Amma, known simply as "Amma" to her many admirers, for her exemplary efforts in bringing peace and understanding not only to the people of India, but to all nations.

Born as Sri Vijayeshwari Devi in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, Amma was drawn to a spiritual existence and spent most of her young adult life absorbed in prayer and meditation. After a period of intense reflection, Amma began a life of advocacy for the poor and disenfranchised, publicly speaking throughout India on the issues of nonviolence, equality, and respect for all people regardless of gender, religion, race or social status. Her teachings have led her across the globe, speaking to countless followers and performing humanitarian work wherever the need is greatest.

To realize her vision of a more just world, Amma and her organization offer a host of services to underserved men, women and children in the United States, India and Africa. These services include organizing and providing, among other things, free medical care, clean water, free education, free food, leprosy care, and wheelchair distribution. Amma believes in pursuing sustainable development that enable families trapped in poverty to give a better future to their children.

Amma is beloved by many as a Hindu saint, and has a large following in my district. Her