

our decisions on agriculture and water resources but also help us better predict and protect ourselves from natural disasters like flooding and landslides. To improve these estimates, this bill directs NOAA to partner with the National Academies to review current practices for estimating precipitation and identifying research needs in order to improve these forecasts.

Additionally, the legislation requires NOAA to update its maximum precipitation estimates within 6 years of the National Academies report and every 10 years afterward.

Finally, this bill directs NOAA to develop and publish a national guidance document for Federal and State agencies, meteorologists, and other users to follow when performing probable maximum precipitation studies.

The commonsense steps in this bill will provide tremendous benefits across the country. Communities will benefit from access to better data as they make key decisions about creating and updating infrastructure to address extreme weather events, including flooding.

This will make a real difference across America. My home State of Oklahoma is home to thousands of dams. Many of these structures are in need of repair and modernization, and the communities responsible for these dams rely on accurate data to ensure we are prepared for future rainfall. Too often, we have had to rely on out-of-date data to make these critical decisions, which will not be the case if the PRECIP Act becomes law.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of the legislation, and I will thank Chairwoman SHERRILL for her work on this important topic. I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I have seen Congresswoman DEBBIE DINGELL of Michigan's 12th District, in her waders, moving around her district, including Dearborn, in flood-ridden neighborhoods. This is a crisis.

It is important to pass the PRECIP Act, as introduced by the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Ms. SHERRILL), co-led by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

This is a remarkable piece of legislation that will make a huge difference to this country.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I once again thank Representative SHERRILL for sponsoring this important legislation. Better precipitation estimates will improve the way we do business, manage infrastructure, and prevent losses during natural disasters.

This is a smart and practical bill that ensures we have accurate data from NOAA on precipitation. It also ensures NOAA will update its estimates more frequently so communities can use timely data to make crucial decisions.

I appreciate my colleagues' work on this important topic, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, in closing, H.R. 1437, the PRECIP Act, is of great merit. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STEVENS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1437, as amended.

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. ROY. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

#### UNITED STATES ARMY RANGERS VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1872) to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1872

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act".

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Treasury; and

(2) the term "United States Army Rangers Veteran of World War II" means any individual who—

(A) served in the Armed Forces—

(i) honorably;

(ii) in an active duty status; and

(iii) at any time during the period beginning on June 19, 1942, and ending on September 2, 1945; and

(B) was assigned to a Ranger Battalion of the Army at any time during the period described in subparagraph (A)(iii).

#### SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In World War II, the Army formed 6 Ranger Battalions and 1 provisional battalion. All members of the Ranger Battalions were volunteers. The initial concept of Ranger units drew from the British method of using highly trained "commando" units and the military tradition of the United States of utilizing light infantry for scouting and raiding operations.

(2) The Ranger Battalions of World War II consisted of—

(A) the 1st Ranger Infantry Battalion, which was activated on June 19, 1942, in Northern Ireland;

(B) the 2d Ranger Infantry Battalion, which was activated on April 1, 1943, at Camp Forrest, Tennessee;

(C) the 3d Ranger Infantry Battalion, which was—

(i) activated as provisional on May 21, 1943, in North Africa; and

(ii) constituted on July 21, 1943, and concurrently consolidated with the provisional unit described in clause (i);

(D) the 4th Ranger Infantry Battalion, which was—

(i) activated as provisional on May 29, 1943, in North Africa; and

(ii) constituted on July 21, 1943, and concurrently consolidated with the provisional unit described in clause (i);

(E) the 5th Ranger Infantry Battalion, which was activated on September 1, 1943, at Camp Forrest, Tennessee;

(F) the 6th Ranger Infantry Battalion, which was—

(i) originally activated on January 20, 1941, at Fort Lewis, Washington, as the 98th Field Artillery Battalion; and

(ii) converted and redesignated on September 26, 1944, as the 6th Ranger Infantry Battalion; and

(G) the 29th Ranger Infantry Battalion, a provisional Army National Guard unit that was—

(i) activated on December 20, 1942, at Tidworth Barracks, England; and

(ii) disbanded on October 18, 1943.

(3) The first combat operations of Army Rangers occurred on August 19, 1942, when 50 Rangers took part in the British-Canadian raid on the French coastal town of Dieppe.

(4) The 1st Ranger Battalion, under the leadership of Major William O. Darby, was used in full strength during the landings at Arzew, Algeria, during the North African campaign. Due to the success of the Rangers in several difficult battles, particularly at El Guettar in March and April of 1943, 2 additional Ranger Battalions were organized in North Africa.

(5) During the North African campaign, the 1st Ranger Battalion was awarded battle honors for its actions in Tunisia. On March 20, 1943, the Battalion penetrated enemy lines and captured the position Djebel el Ank in a nighttime attack, taking more than 200 prisoners. Two days later, the battalion was attacked by the 10th Panzer division of the German Afrika Korps and, despite heavy losses, continued to defend its position. The following day, the 1st Battalion counter-attacked to clear high ground overlooking the positions held by the Armed Forces. These actions demonstrated the ability of the Rangers to fight in difficult terrain and the courage to endure despite being outnumbered and exposed to heavy enemy fire.

(6) The 29th provisional Ranger Battalion was formed from volunteers drawn from the 29th Infantry Division stationed in England in the fall of 1942. The Battalion was activated on December 20, 1942, and accompanied British commandos on 3 small-scale raids in Norway. Nineteen members of the 29th Ranger Battalion conducted a raid on a German radar site in France on the night of September 3, 1943. After that raid, the 29th Ranger Battalion was disbanded because new Ranger units, the 2d and 5th Battalions, were being formed.

(7) During the summer and fall of 1943, the 1st, 3d, and 4th Ranger Battalions were heavily involved in the campaign in Sicily and the landings in Italy. The 1st and 4th Ranger Battalions conducted a night amphibious landing in Sicily and secured the landing beaches for the main force. The 3d Battalion landed separately at Licata, Sicily, and was able to silence gun positions on an 82-foot cliff overlooking the invasion beaches.

(8) During the invasion of Italy, the 1st and 4th Ranger Battalions landed at Maiori with the mission of seizing the high ground and protecting the flank of the remainder of the main landing by the United States. Enemy forces in the area were estimated to outnumber the Rangers by approximately 8 to 1. Despite these odds, the Rangers took the position and held off 7 enemy counterattacks.

(9) After the invasion of Italy, Rangers continued to be used, often in night attacks, to seize key terrain ahead of the advancing Allied forces. At the Anzio beachhead, the majority of the 1st, 3d, and 4th Ranger Battalions sustained heavy casualties after being cut off behind German lines. The Rangers had planned to infiltrate German positions under the cover of darkness and make a dawn attack on a critical road junction but were pinned down by enemy tanks and an elite German paratrooper unit. After 12 hours of desperate fighting and a failed relief attempt, the majority of the Ranger force was killed, wounded, or captured. Only 6 Rangers from the 1st and 3d Battalions, out of more than 767 men, returned to friendly lines. The 4th Battalion, which had been in reserve, also suffered 60 killed and 120 wounded out of 550 men. These 3 battalions were inactivated and the survivors were transferred to other units.

(10) In the United States, and later in Scotland, the 2d and 5th Ranger Battalions were formed to undertake operations in Western Europe. Those Battalions were engaged on D-Day, assaulting German positions at the Pointe du Hoc coastal battery, and remained in combat through September of 1944. Specifically, Rangers in the 2d Battalion, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel James E. Rudder—

(A) overcame mines, machine gun fire, and enemy artillery while scaling the 100-foot high cliffs at Pointe du Hoc;

(B) held against intense German efforts to retake the position; and

(C) after reaching the top of the cliffs, moved inland roughly 1 mile and sustained heavy casualties while searching for, and ultimately destroying, a German heavy artillery battery.

(11) During June, July, and August of 1944, the 2d and 5th Ranger Battalions were engaged in the campaign in Brest, which included close-range fighting in hedgerows and numerous villages. Later, in operations in Western Germany, the Battalions were frequently used to attack in darkness and gain vital positions to pave the way for the main Army attacks.

(12) During the final drive into Germany in late February and early March 1945, the 5th Ranger Battalion was cited for battle honors for outstanding performance. Under the cover of darkness, the unit drove into German lines and blocked the main German supply route in the sector. The Germans attacked the position of the Rangers from both sides, resulting in heavy Ranger casualties during 5 days of fighting. As a result of the actions of the Rangers, the main Army attack was able to overcome German defenses more easily, occupy the vital city of Trier, and reach the Rhine River.

(13) The 6th Ranger Battalion operated in the Pacific. In the most notable exploit of the 6th Ranger Battalion, in January and February of 1945, the Battalion formed the nucleus of a rescue force that liberated more than 500 Allied prisoners, including prisoners from the United States, from the Cabanatuan prisoner of war camp in the Philippines. With the help of local Filipino guerrillas, the Rangers, led by Lieutenant Colonel Henry A. Mucci, demonstrated extraordinary heroism by infiltrating Japanese-held territory to reach the prisoners of war and prevent them from being killed by the Japa-

nese. After a 25-mile march at night through the jungle, the unit killed all Japanese sentries with no loss of life of the prisoners of war. The unit successfully returned to American lines having lost only 2 soldiers killed and having another 2 wounded.

(14) The 1st Ranger Infantry Battalion—  
(A) participated in the campaigns of—  
(i) Algeria-French Morocco (with arrowhead);

(ii) Tunisia;  
(iii) Sicily (with arrowhead);  
(iv) Naples-Foggia (with arrowhead);  
(v) Anzio (with arrowhead); and  
(vi) Rome-Arno; and  
(B) for its contributions, received—

(i) the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) and streamer embroidered with “EL GUETTAR”; and

(ii) the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) and streamer embroidered with “SALERNO”.

(15) The 2d Ranger Infantry Battalion—  
(A) participated in the campaigns of—

(i) Normandy (with arrowhead);  
(ii) Northern France;  
(iii) Rhineland;  
(iv) Ardennes-Alsace; and  
(v) Central Europe; and  
(B) for its contributions, received—

(i) the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) and streamer embroidered with “POINTE DU HOE”; and

(ii) the French Croix de Guerre with Silver-Gilt Star, World War II, and streamer embroidered with “POINTE DU HOE”.

(16) The 3d Ranger Infantry Battalion—  
(A) participated in the campaigns of—

(i) Sicily (with arrowhead);  
(ii) Naples-Foggia (with arrowhead);  
(iii) Anzio (with arrowhead); and  
(iv) Rome-Arno; and  
(B) for its contributions, received the Pres-

idential Unit Citation (Army) and streamer embroidered with “SALERNO”.

(17) The 4th Ranger Infantry Battalion—  
(A) participated in the campaigns of—

(i) Sicily (with arrowhead);  
(ii) Naples-Foggia (with arrowhead);  
(iii) Anzio (with arrowhead); and  
(iv) Rome-Arno; and  
(B) for its contributions, received the Pres-

idential Unit Citation (Army) and streamer embroidered with “SALERNO”.

(18) The 5th Ranger Infantry Battalion—  
(A) participated in the campaigns of—

(i) Normandy (with arrowhead);  
(ii) Northern France;  
(iii) Rhineland;  
(iv) Ardennes-Alsace; and  
(v) Central Europe; and  
(B) for its contributions, received—

(i) the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) and streamer embroidered with “NORMANDY BEACHHEAD”; and

(ii) the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) and streamer embroidered with “SAAR RIVER AREA”; and

(iii) the French Croix de Guerre with Silver-Gilt Star, World War II, and streamer embroidered with “NORMANDY”.

(19) The 6th Ranger Infantry Battalion—  
(A) participated in the campaigns of—

(i) New Guinea;  
(ii) Leyte (with arrowhead); and  
(iii) Luzon; and  
(B) for its contributions, received—

(i) the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) and streamer embroidered with “CEBU, LUZON”; and

(ii) the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation and streamer embroidered with “17 OCTOBER 1944 TO 4 JULY 1945”.

(20) The United States will be forever indebted to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II, whose bravery and sacrifice in combat contributed greatly to

the military success of the United States and the allies of the United States.

#### SEC. 4. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal in honor of the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II, the gold medal shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution, where the medal shall be—

(A) available for display, as appropriate; and

(B) made available for research.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Smithsonian Institution should make the gold medal received under paragraph (1) available for display elsewhere, particularly at other locations associated with—

(A) the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II; or

(B) World War II.

(d) DUPLICATE MEDALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under this section, at a price sufficient to cover the cost of the medals, including the cost of labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

(2) PROCEEDS OF SALES.—The amounts received from the sale of duplicate medals under paragraph (1) shall be deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

(e) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act.

#### SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDAL.

(a) NATIONAL MEDAL.—The gold medal struck under section 4 shall be a national medal for the purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For the purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under section 4 shall be considered to be numismatic items.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GARCÍA) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, I rise in strong support of S. 1872, the Army Rangers Veterans of

World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act. This bill honors the service of the men of the U.S. Army Rangers whose courageous actions in the European, North African, and Pacific theaters during World War II were essential to ensuring victory for the Allied Powers.

At the onset of World War II, there were no U.S. Army units capable of performing highly specialized raiding missions like that of their British Commandos counterparts. To resolve this, Brigadier General Lucian K. Truscott, Jr., proposed the creation of Army Ranger Battalions to General George Marshall. These small, highly specialized, and independent units drew upon existing American expertise, using light infantry units for raids and scouting.

Captain William O. Darby was selected as the 1st Ranger Battalion commander due to his experience in amphibious training and operational experience in both cavalry and infantry. Darby immediately went about recruiting volunteers, 473 of whom became the 1st Ranger Battalion.

Thereafter, the 2nd through 6th Ranger Battalions were formed, along with the 29th provisional Ranger Battalion, comprised of members of the Army National Guard.

The 1st Ranger Battalion was given the initial mission of taking part in the British and Canadian raid in Dieppe in France, making them the first American troops to see ground combat in Europe. Following this raid, the 1st Ranger Battalion operated primarily throughout North Africa and Italy, where they and members of the 3rd Ranger Battalion played a crucial role in the operational success of the Battle of Anzio.

The 29th provisional Ranger Battalion participated in several smaller raids in Norway and France and was then disbanded due to the new formation of the 2nd and 5th Ranger Battalions, who took part in campaigns in France, Belgium, and Central Europe, including Alsace, Brest, and most famously, the invasion of Normandy on D-day.

The 3rd and 4th Ranger Battalions conducted missions across Italy, while the 6th Ranger Battalion engaged in combat in the Pacific theater, primarily in the Philippines and New Guinea. The 6th Ranger Battalion is best known for its part in the rescue of more than 500 prisoners of war in the raid of the prison camp at Cabanatuan, which is the largest rescue operation in American history.

Following the war, all seven Ranger Infantry Battalions received the Presidential Unit Citation for their extensive contributions to the Allied war effort, and I believe their heroism ought to be recognized and rewarded further still.

I urge my colleagues to support S. 1872, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise, too, in support of S. 1872, the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act. I thank my friend from Illinois for managing the time today and also thank Senators ERNST and DUCKWORTH for their work on the Senate side in originating this bill and Representatives here in the House, CROW, MILLER-MEEKS, and WALTZ for their work on the House companion, H.R. 3577.

Madam Speaker, to become an Army Ranger is a distinct honor. Those who have the privilege of donning the tan beret are proven warriors whose commitment to our freedom knows no bounds. These warriors embody the Ranger motto: "Rangers Lead the Way."

The 75th Ranger regiment is so well-known that it is hard to believe that the United States had no official units organized to carry out such specialized missions prior to World War II.

But when America entered the war, conventional wisdom changed, and it became clear that special operation units were essential to an Allied victory.

The first Rangers were trailblazers, whose work influenced our Nation's approach to special operations across all branches of the military. On May 26, 1942, Brigadier General Lucian Truscott, the U.S. Army liaison with the British Combined Operations headquarters, proposed to Army Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall that "we undertake immediately the organization of an American unit along British Commando lines."

In short order, a cable was sent from the War Department to Major General Russell P. Hartle, the commander of U.S. Army forces in Northern Ireland, to authorize the activation of the first-ever Ranger unit.

The idea was to disseminate volunteer units with the British Commandos to become combat tested in special operation warfare and eventually to return to their original American units and share their newfound combat knowledge.

□ 1530

It was Truscott who bestowed the title, "Rangers" on these brave soldiers. Truscott said: "I selected 'Rangers' because few words have a more glamorous connotation in American military history.

"It was therefore fitting that the organization destined to be the first of American ground forces to battle Germans on the European Continent in World War II should be called Rangers—in compliment to those in American history who exemplified such high standards of individual courage, initiative, determination, and ruggedness, fighting ability and achievement."

In just a few weeks after Truscott's original proposal, the First Ranger Infantry Battalion was activated 19 June 1942. Five more Ranger battalions followed, as well as a provisional Army

National Guard unit known as the 29th Ranger Battalion.

The newly formed Ranger battalions had an immediate impact on the Allied war effort. The first battalion, then led by Major William O. Darby, was an integral part of the North Africa campaign, so much so that the battalion was awarded battalion honors for its actions in Tunisia spearheading Operation Torch.

Bill Darby was a hero in my home State of Arkansas. Brigadier General Bill Darby was born and buried in Fort Smith, Arkansas. And Darby, for all his leadership, proudly represented that Ranger uniform and Ranger leadership. He was killed in action in Italy at age 34 in April 1945.

Darby and those early Ranger units were able to overtake enemy troops where the Axis forces held every advantage, including that of just sheer numbers. Our debt can never be repaid to those who have chosen to wear the cloth of this Nation. But today, we can honor this very special group of volunteer soldiers, those very first Ranger battalions who, during the Second World War, set the tone for the modern Ranger regiments.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GARCIA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time until Mr. HILL yields back.

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON), a distinguished member of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for yielding, and I thank everyone who has had a hand in taking time to create this bill, to create this Congressional Gold Medal, to recognize the limited number of World War II Army Rangers that we have still alive with us today, and, frankly, to honor the service of each and every one of them.

The heroism and legacy of the Army Rangers go back to the Revolutionary War. Since we have fought, we have recognized the Ranger tactics and Ranger units that inspired the creation of the Rangers in World War II. So it is an incredible honor to have gotten the chance to complete the school and to serve in the 75th Ranger Regiment.

After the Civil War, more than half a century passed without formal Ranger units in America. Mr. HILL just highlighted the history of how that was created, but from their very first engagements in North Africa, it was clear the difference that they could make on the battlefield.

The 3rd and 4th Ranger Battalions were trained in Africa by Darby. It is hard to think that such a young man who lost his life, gave his life in battle for our country, created such a legacy that has continued today. They began a tradition of wearing the scroll at

that time, and it has officially been adopted by today's Ranger battalions.

The Second and Fifth Ranger Battalions participated in the D-day landings on Omaha Beach, Normandy, at Pointe du Hoc, and that is where the motto formally was coined: "Rangers Lead the Way."

They conducted missions, to include scaling cliffs there, overlooking Omaha Beach. They destroyed German gun emplacements, and they trained fires on the beachhead.

The 6th Ranger Battalion operated in the Philippines. Our colleague already highlighted their famed largest rescue of more than 500 POWs in that battle.

The 75th Ranger Regiment owes its heritage to the China-Burma-India theater as Task Force Galahad on October 3, 1943. It was during the campaigns in the China-Burma-India theater that the regiment became known as Merrill's Marauders after its commander, Major General Frank Merrill.

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

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Madam Speaker, the Ranger battalions were deactivated at the end of World War II, and we know of all their achievements since then. But it is fitting that we take this Gold Medal as an opportunity to honor the service of our World War II Army Rangers.

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

I urge that our friends across the aisle and on this side of the aisle support this important bill to recognize those few Army Rangers who are still living and recognize the work of the establishment of the Ranger Corps in our Nation.

Madam Speaker, I am so grateful that WARREN DAVIDSON was here today. Because of WARREN's work on the House Committee on Financial Services and in this body, truly he is the embodiment of "Rangers Lead the Way." His reflection on the formation of the regiments makes us all think back to that historic anniversary of D-day and President Reagan's speech at Pointe du Hoc when he paid tribute to those Rangers, "the boys of Pointe du Hoc."

Madam Speaker, there were, at that time, at the 40th anniversary, a whole row of Rangers, still living at Pointe du Hoc, who sat in front of President Reagan to hear him pay tribute to these brave men who scaled the cliffs at Normandy. Now, so many years later, we have lost so many more.

Madam Speaker, I thank my friends in the Senate for this bill and for my friends in the House who worked on it. I urge all of the House to vote unanimously to support this Gold Medal to recognize the Greatest Generation of Army Rangers.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GARCIA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Iowa, Senator ERNST, for sponsoring S. 1872, along with my colleague, the gentleman from Colorado, Congressman CROW, for introducing its companion version in the House.

The Army Rangers veterans of World War II deserve this accolade for their tireless courage, grit, determination, and dedication to their country. The heroism they demonstrated throughout the war made an incalculable contribution to the Allied victory. They are truly the embodiment of their motto: "Rangers Lead the Way."

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on S. 1872, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GARCIA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1872.

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. ROY. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

#### FAIR HIRING IN BANKING ACT

Mr. GARCIA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5911) to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act and the Federal Credit Union Act to expand employment opportunities for those with a previous minor criminal offense, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5911

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fair Hiring in Banking Act".

#### SEC. 2. FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE ACT.

Section 19 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1829) is amended—

(1) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) EXCEPTIONS.—

“(1) CERTAIN OLDER OFFENSES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to an individual, subsection (a) shall not apply to an offense if—

“(i) it has been 7 years or more since the offense occurred; or

“(ii) the individual was incarcerated with respect to the offense and it has been 5 years or more since the individual was released from incarceration.

“(B) OFFENSES COMMITTED BY INDIVIDUALS 21 OR YOUNGER.—For individuals who committed an offense when they were 21 years of age or younger, subsection (a) shall not apply to the offense if it has been more than 30 months since the sentencing occurred.

“(C) LIMITATION.—This paragraph shall not apply to an offense described under subsection (a)(2).

“(2) EXPUNGEMENT AND SEALING.—With respect to an individual, subsection (a) shall not apply to an offense if—

“(A) there is an order of expungement, sealing, or dismissal that has been issued in regard to the conviction in connection with such offense; and

“(B) it is intended by the language in the order itself, or in the legislative provisions under which the order was issued, that the conviction shall be destroyed or sealed from the individual's State or Federal record, even if exceptions allow the record to be considered for certain character and fitness evaluation purposes.

“(3) DE MINIMIS EXEMPTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to such de minimis offenses as the Corporation determines, by rule.

“(B) CONFINEMENT CRITERIA.—In issuing rules under subparagraph (A), the Corporation shall include a requirement that the offense was punishable by a term of three years or less confined in a correctional facility, where such confinement—

“(i) is calculated based on the time an individual spent incarcerated as a punishment or a sanction, not as pretrial detention; and

“(ii) does not include probation or parole where an individual was restricted to a particular jurisdiction or was required to report occasionally to an individual or a specific location.

“(C) BAD CHECK CRITERIA.—In setting the criteria for de minimis offenses under subparagraph (A), if the Corporation establishes criteria with respect to insufficient funds checks, the Corporation shall require that the aggregate total face value of all insufficient funds checks across all convictions or program entries related to insufficient funds checks is \$2,000 or less.

“(D) DESIGNATED LESSER OFFENSES.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to certain lesser offenses (including the use of a fake ID, shoplifting, trespass, fare evasion, driving with an expired license or tag, and such other low-risk offenses as the Corporation may designate) if 1 year or more has passed since the applicable conviction or program entry.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(f) CONSENT APPLICATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall accept consent applications from an individual and from an insured depository institution or depository institution holding company on behalf of an individual that are filed separately or contemporaneously with a regional office of the Corporation.

“(2) SPONSORED APPLICATIONS FILED WITH REGIONAL OFFICES.—Consent applications filed at a regional office of the Corporation by an insured depository institution or depository institution holding company on behalf of an individual—

“(A) shall be reviewed by such office;

“(B) may be approved or denied by such office, if such authority has been delegated to such office by the Corporation; and

“(C) may only be denied by such office if the general counsel of the Corporation (or a designee) certifies that the denial is consistent with this section.

“(3) INDIVIDUAL APPLICATIONS FILED WITH REGIONAL OFFICES.—Consent applications filed at a regional office by an individual—

“(A) shall be reviewed by such office; and

“(B) may be approved or denied by such office, if such authority has been delegated to such office by the Corporation, except with respect to—

“(i) cases involving an offense described under subsection (a)(2); and

“(ii) such other high-level security cases as may be designated by the Corporation.

“(4) NATIONAL OFFICE REVIEW.—The national office of the Corporation shall—