

site of his audacious escape from slavery to join the United States Navy in the War of the Rebellion, we noted the absence of any statues for the Black veterans of that conflict. Contrarily, we noted the many Confederate statues throughout the country, a phenomenon made graphic today as some have been pulled down, relocated or destroyed. In Wilmington in 2003 I said:

"... There is little or no mention or acknowledgment of the black military involvement in this effort, the 'holiest of all causes' as William B. Gould called it, to obtain the New World's central political and legal achievement."

Statues cannot be viewed as neutral and they do not exist in a vacuum. They project the memories of the past and the values associated with them. Their oldest confirmed examples of stone and portrait are said to be before recorded history, 35,000 to 45,000 years ago. When the time capsules contained within this statue are opened, one hundred and two hundred years from now, it may be that William B. Gould's values, expressed in war and in peace here in Dedham, will in some way shape or promote the discussions of future generations.

Of course, it was my father, William B. Gould III, raised here on the Boston-Dedham boundary line, who truly lit the spark for this day. It was he who bequeathed the cadence of the Civil War, its' principles, music, literature and knowledge of its military battles as part of our upbringing. It was he who found the diary itself here in Dedham. It was he who manifested an ever courteous reverence toward my great uncles who had fought in France in World War I. It was he who kept the name alive.

On this Memorial Day weekend, we remember the first William B. Gould's service to the United States and his well-written words at sea in 1865. "We were born under the Flag of the Union and we never will know no other," he said in response to ideas which abounded before and during the War about Black colonization in Africa, while pursuing Confederate vessels near Southampton, Great Britain. "My sentiment is the sentiment of the people of the states", he said. And for my great grandfather, this flag was the "Flag of Right" and "the Flag of Equality."

This day marks honor for that commitment and for those previously forgotten. For until my father discovered the diary and the citizens of Dedham took notice of it three years ago, William B. Gould had been forgotten. To be forgotten was illustrative of what I described a number of years ago, i.e., "... the old order against which my parents had struggled. In their day the struggle was against hopeless odds—hopeless because all who possessed African blood were isolated, ridiculed, despised—and thus regarded as unfit for occupations and work that the white man was willing to perform." It was the forgotten who, in the words of the Book of Common Prayer, "travail" and are "heavy laden." This is what William B. Gould had in mind when, in his diary, he railed against the tearing of "benighted Africans" from their "loved homes on the free plains of Africa's shores" to be "transferred to the Wilderness of America so that they would become "... the Hewers of the Wood and Drawers of Water to clear their Land, to Build their Citys and feed their Mouths?"

I cannot speak for what William B. Gould would say about the current discussion and debate on recompense or reparations and what form, if any, they should take. But today we can experience firsthand the exhilaration of victory at sea as well as on land, the conclusion of what, in his Second Inaugural Address President Lincoln called "the bondman's two hundred and fifty years

of unrequited toil" and "every drop of blood drawn with the lash."

In 2023, these wounds still exist in our country today more than one hundred and sixty years after William B. Gould's service. For his generation of family and war comrades, who were ever devoted to full freedom and equality, surely today he would want us to repair the inequality in our country, as he did through his work, with great care and honesty. As St. Mary's parishioners know today, he was a smart, capable and practical craftsman who worked with his mind as well as his hands. He would be, as he was then, promoting that which is compatible with Lincoln's overriding goal to "bind up the nation's wounds" so that we may live with equity in dignity with respect for one another.

Thank you, Dedham, Massachusetts, for this honor to William B. Gould. God bless you in your efforts to reflect upon the past and affect the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to address my vote for H. Res. 311.

This resolution will encourage the State of Israel to continue its diplomatic efforts within the Middle East and North African (MENA) region and beyond. In recent years, Israel has succeeded in establishing diplomatic relations with several nations around it. I continue to be supportive of the efforts by the State of Israel to work toward normalization of relations with its neighbors and improve the stability of the region. The resolution also describes several aspects of U.S.-Israel policy, which I continue to support, including the 10-year Memorandum of Understanding and maintenance of our bilateral relationship. It is for these reasons that I voted in favor of this resolution.

However, I am disappointed that the resolution did not include an explicit affirmation of a two-state solution nor the eventual goal of peace with the Palestinians. A similar bipartisan resolution marking the 70th anniversary of the founding of Israel included these affirmations. These statements are long-standing aspects of U.S. policy, including the Biden Administration's current policy, and are core principles for a successful peace process.

I will continue to support a two-state solution and the peace process needed to achieve that goal.

REMEMBERING THE SIKH GENOCIDE OF 1984

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and mourn the thousands of innocent Sikh lives that were stolen over the course of the Sikh Genocide. Thirty-nine years after the onset of the Indian government's military operation to decimate the holy city of Amritsar, the scars of genocide remain ever present in the Sikh community across the

globe. Yet, even in the face of numerous tribulations and outright hate, the Sikh community continues to rise above and uphold their principles of humility, compassion, and generosity.

The Sikh Genocide began in June of 1984 with Operation Blue Star, a military operation targeting the Harmandir Sahib, also known as The Golden Temple Complex, lasting ten days. For days, innocent worshippers that were celebrating a Sikh religious holiday were trapped inside the gurdwara. Deprived of food and water, deprived of their right to worship, and deprived of their basic human rights. Thousands of innocent Sikh worshippers were murdered in Operation Blue Star. Today, the bullet holes scarring the Golden Temple Complex serve as a heart wrenching visual, forever reminding all who visit of the atrocities that occurred.

Tragically, Operation Blue Star wasn't the end of this genocide, but only the beginning. The horrendous military operation was immediately followed by a sharp uptick in human rights violations targeting innocent Sikhs across India. Over 40 other gurdwaras were attacked across the Punjab province. And the attacks on innocent Sikhs persisted for seven years.

We cannot forget the thousands of innocent people who were persecuted. We follow the lead of the Sikh community, who now commemorate these 10 days by holding special prayer services in honor of the innocent lives which were lost. I offer a moment of silence to honor the innocent people harmed over the course of the Sikh Genocide. May we never forget the atrocities that occurred.

HONORING THE CREW OF UNITED STATES COAST GUARD CUTTER "JOSEPH DOYLE" (WPC 1133) COURAGE DANS LA TEMPETE

HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the crew of the United States Coast Guard Cutter *Joseph Doyle* (WPC 1133), on its 4th year of commissioned service in Puerto Rico.

Commissioned in a patriotic ceremony on June 8, 2019, in San Juan Puerto Rico, Cutter *Joseph Doyle* is the 33rd Fast Response cutter in the USCG's fleet and joined a fleet of seven fast response cutters under the operational control of U.S. Coast Guard Sector San Juan, Puerto Rico. Immediately it began to conduct Coast Guard missions including Counter-Drug, Alien-Migrant Interdiction Operations, and Search and Rescue throughout a 1.2 million square mile area of responsibility spanning Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and much of the Eastern Caribbean.

Cutter WPC 1133 is named after Joseph O. Doyle who started serving as the Keeper of the Charlotte, New York Life Saving Station, in 1878, and became one of the most admired and courageous keepers of the United States Lifesaving Service recognized by awarding him the Gold Life Saving Medal. Inspired by his example and guided by the ship's motto "Courage Dans La Tempete" or "Courage in the Storm" the crew of the cutter *Joseph Doyle* endeavors to ensure that local and federal laws are upheld on the high seas and all

waters over which the United States has jurisdiction.

From June 2021 to July 2023, Lieutenant Commander Charles “Chuck” Wilson served as the Commanding Officer of USCGC *Joseph Doyle*. Under the leadership of LCDR Wilson, his crew executed six search and rescue cases resulting in four lives saved, interdicted six narcotics smuggling ventures, 431 illegal migrants, 22 traffickers and seized or disrupted 2,000 kilograms of cocaine and 1,500 lbs. of marijuana worth a combined street value of \$75 million. Notably, *Doyle* rescued 27 migrants from the cliffs of Isla Monito, a small island West of Puerto Rico, after a human smuggler stranded them.

The *Doyle*’s commitment to serve the Nation extended beyond law enforcement by engaging in bolstering International Engagements and Partnerships, by conducting training exercises with foreign naval and law enforcement forces that allowed them to execute surface warfare formations, mock boarding, Law Enforcement exchange to stop dangerous human smuggling and narcotics trafficking ventures at sea. The commitment to serve the *Doyle*’s crew extended to conducting Service Outreach and Recruitment events, which provided excellent support to the Commandant’s mission to recruit Coast Guard men and women who represent the diverse communities in the United States Coast Guard.

Please join me in honoring the crew of the United States Coast Guard Cutter *Joseph Doyle* (WPC 1133), on its 4th year of commissioned service in Puerto Rico, and commend them for their contributions to our Nation, deserving of national and congressional recognition.

HONORING THE ALLIANCE FOR
THE VISUAL ART (AVA) GALLERY
AND ART CENTER

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the AVA Gallery and Art Center in Lebanon, New Hampshire.

The AVA Gallery and Art Center’s tireless dedication to the arts has fostered a love and fascination for the visual arts in New Hampshire and beyond for decades. Through the AVA Gallery and Art Center’s programming for artists and patrons of all ages, they have enriched the lives of countless New Englanders and have nurtured our creative spirit.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire’s Second Congressional District, I thank the AVA Gallery and Art Center for their continuing efforts to promote the important values of art and culture and for being a part of what makes the Granite State such a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family. I am honored to recognize and congratulate them on 50 years of incredible work, and I wish them many more.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE BRIDGE
CORROSION PREVENTION AND
REPAIR ACT OF 2023

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I reintroduce the “Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act” with Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA). I thank U.S. Senators Robert P. Casey, Jr. (D-PA) and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) for sponsoring the companion legislation.

Our bipartisan, bicameral legislation would require all federally funded bridge projects to use certified contractors for any corrosion control work and employ industry-recognized standards for corrosion mitigation and prevention. Specifically, our legislation would prompt State, county, and municipal transportation departments to employ qualified, trained corrosion control professionals who have completed federally registered apprenticeship programs.

In July 2021, the House passed my “Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act” as Section 1116 of former Chairman Peter A. DeFazio’s (D-OR) “Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation (INVEST) in America Act,” of which I was a cosponsor. While it was ultimately not included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58), I continue working to build upon Chairman DeFazio’s work on corrosion prevention policy and promoting apprenticeships.

In the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117–81), I secured Section 813 (Office of Corrosion Policy and Oversight employee training requirements) directing the U.S. Department of Defense to make use of federally registered apprenticeship programs for training military personnel, civilian employees, and military construction contractors on anti-corrosion activities. Under my amendment to the FY2022 NDAA, the DOD’s Office of Corrosion Policy and Oversight Employee Training Requirements is charged with coordinating this work.

Under the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Congress and the Biden Administration are making the largest federal investment to modernize our nation’s infrastructure since the Interstate Highway System was established in 1956. America’s corrosion professionals and union painters are ready, willing, and able to do the job.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members of the House to cosponsor the Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RED HILL
HEALTH IMPACT ACT

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Red Hill Health Impact Act, a crucial piece of legislation to address the health implications of the recent fuel spill at our military’s Red Hill Underground Fuel Facility above Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

My bill, which I jointly introduce with my Hawaii colleagues, Senators BRIAN SCHATZ and MAZIE HIRONO and Congresswoman JILL TOKUDA, aims to protect the health of individuals affected by that inexcusable incident, particularly those who lived or worked in a residence or other building served by the water system at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

Red Hill is unlike any other bulk fuel storage facility in the world. Built during World War II, its twenty underground tanks have the capacity to store up to 250 million gallons of fuel. But it is constructed and was operated at a location immediately above the main aquifer for the City and County of Honolulu that provides water to hundreds of thousands of Hawaii residents, servicemembers and visitors.

Although the community has raised concerns about these tanks for many years, in 2021 an estimated 20,000 gallons of fuel leaked from one of the tanks into the aquifer. The contaminated water was then withdrawn from the aquifer and fed into the JBPHH and distributed to thousands of mostly-but-not-exclusively military homes, offices and businesses. Many became ill as a direct result, and many more fear for longer term health impacts not immediately apparent.

Though the Secretary of Defense has since ordered the defueling and decommissioning of Red Hill, a process now underway, the Red Hill incident has had a profound impact on the lives not only of the directly affected individuals and families, but the Hawaii community at large. The contamination of Oahu’s main water aquifer has raised persistent concerns about the potential long-term health implications to exposed individuals.

Our Red Hill Health Impact Act takes essential steps to address these concerns and ensure that impacted individuals receive the support and services they need over time. One of its primary provisions is establishing a registry where concerned individuals can sign up to facilitate outreach and collect comprehensive data on the health implications of exposure to petroleum-contaminated water. This registry will provide invaluable information and allow us to identify additional research needs to better understand the effects of such contamination on our health.

The bill further calls for an epidemiological study that will assess potential health implications for impacted individuals over at least twenty years. This study will provide us with critical insights into the long-term health effects of exposure to petroleum-contaminated water and enable us to develop targeted interventions and support systems to mitigate any adverse health outcomes for those affected.

To ensure transparency and accountability, the Red Hill Health Impact Act requires annual reports on the study and its findings to be provided to the appropriate Congressional committees, enrolled members and the public. Open communication and access to information are paramount in addressing the concerns and needs of the impacted individuals and the broader community.

It is our duty to ensure that those affected by this incident are not left to face their health concerns alone after the immediate crisis passes and Red Hill closes. I therefore urge my colleagues to support the Red Hill Health Impact Act, thus prioritizing the well-being of the impacted individuals and recognizing the lasting impact the Red Hill incident has had and may have on their lives.