

General Staff College or the National War College, helped us to bridge the gaps. Personal relationships and a common professional understanding turned those differences into strengths.

We, in this country, have put tremendous effort into our professional education systems. The pay-off for that investment has been a consistently high quality of officer leadership. I would also tell you that our noncommissioned officer education system is equally the finest in the world and it has produced the very finest NCO Corps in the history of our army.

In the gulf war, one of the take away lessons was that our technological and materiel superiority made us successful. Those who fought the war would give you a slightly broader lesson. As one division commander proclaimed, we could have traded equipment with the Iraqis and still beat them in 100 hours. That may sound like vain boasting, but his point was that our professional education system and the professionalism of our soldiers and their leaders were the foundations of our warfighting prowess—not technology.

That has always been true. In the Army we do two things every day—we train soldiers and we grow them into leaders. Some of that work happens in our operational units. Some of it happens in quiet moments when our officers and soldiers can read about their profession, its history, its methods, and its doctrine. But the foundation of it all resides in our professional schools.

I'm glad that you have all come to study with us. I appreciate the value that you bring to our professional education system. I thank you for breaking bread with us tonight. And though I don't look forward to our joining ranks on a future battlefield, I do look forward to the trust and confidence that we will build together as professional soldiers.

Thank you and God bless you.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCIS CARROLL
OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Francis R. Carroll of Worcester, Massachusetts. A veteran of the United States Navy, for over 32 years Mr. Carroll has worked as a staunch advocate for small businesses in developing and administering health insurance products, programs, and benefits, as well as donating his time in extensive public and community service.

Throughout his life, Mr. Carroll has assisted others through his professional career and charitable activities. His professional career includes currently serving as the CEO and Chairman of the Small Business Service Bureau, Inc. (SBSB), a nationwide organization with over 50,000 small businesses and self-employed members. Formerly, he was the president of the SBSB China Trade Group, which led small business trade delegations and conducted studies of the public health systems of the People's Republic of China and the People's Republic of Vietnam.

In addition, Mr. Carroll has been a presidential appointee to the National Advisory Council, U.S. Small Business Administration and the U.S. State Department Trade Development Agency. He was also a founding

member of the Democratic National Committee, Small Business Council and a delegate to the White House Conference on Small Business, appointed by Massachusetts Governor Edward J. King and U.S. Senator JOHN KERRY. In 1984, Mr. Carroll was one of 25 chosen from the United States as an Official Observer of the El Salvador run-off election.

Most recently Mr. Carroll demonstrated his commitment to the community as the General Chairman of the Korean War Memorial Committee of Central Massachusetts which sponsored the 50th Anniversary Korean War Spectacular Salute to Our Korean War Heroes at Mechanics Hall in Worcester, Massachusetts. Other causes Mr. Carroll has given hours of service to include the Ireland/Worcester Heart Research Program, the McAuley-Nazareth Home for Boys in Massachusetts and the Living Memorial Hospital in Lien Hiep, Vietnam. He was formerly a member and commander of the Vernon Hill Post 435, American Legion.

For his service, Mr. Carroll has been awarded with the Leo Z. Gordon Humanitarian Award, the American Legion Citizen of the Year Award, and the Cathy Donahue Service Award. He was also an honoree at the Year 2000 Worcester State College Annual Scholarship Tea.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Francis Carroll for his work and service in the Worcester community. He has shown unwavering commitment to the community and deserves our recognition and praise. I wish him the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING RAYMOND C. BURTON

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to honor today Mr. Raymond C. Burton, who will retire at the end of this year, bringing to a close a distinguished career in railroading that has spanned three decades.

When Ray began working for the old Santa Fe Railway in 1963, he could not have foreseen the profound changes coming to the railroad industry. Particularly since 1982, however, when he was elected president and Chief Executive Officer of TTX Company, Ray Burton has been on the cutting edge of those changes.

Under Ray's leadership, TTX has led the way in innovation, design, and deployment of the equipment needed to construct today's modern, intermodal transport network. It was this exceptional leadership that twice earned him the Railway Age "Railroader of the Year" award—making him one of just three individuals to be so honored.

This past July, Ray Burton was promoted to the post of Chairman and CEO of TTX, a fitting reward for a man who has led his company—and his industry—into the 21st Century well equipped to meet the challenges ahead. Ray will be missed when he retires, but the seeds he planted will continue to bear fruit for many more years to come.

CELEBRATE INDIA'S 53RD YEAR
OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege for me to pay tribute to the Chicago's Federation of Indian Associations for its invaluable work honoring India on the occasion of the 53rd anniversary of India's independence.

The Federation is enriched by the diversity of member organizations who have found a common mission in promoting the Indian community and honoring India. The Federation is strongly committed to serving the Indian community and works tirelessly to meet this goal.

To celebrate the special occasion of India's 53rd year of independence, the Federation will host more than twenty-five thousand visitors from Indiana, Michigan, Iowa and Wisconsin to witness a spectacular parade carefully planned to showcase India's rich cultural heritage. The India Independence Day Parade will be celebrated on Saturday, August 19th. The parade will feature colorful floats each representing various states of India. The parade will honor India's rich heritage, including its music, costumes, fashion and dance. The Federation will also host a Millennium Banquet and Cultural Program on Friday, August 18th to celebrate this special occasion.

I congratulate and recognize Chicago's Federation of Indian Associations for their commitment, dedication and service to the Indian Community.

NATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING
WEEK—SEPTEMBER 10-16, 2000

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, the face of aging has changed dramatically. Americans are living longer, more active lives. Involvement in independent activities such as work, hobbies, and social life can add quality—and years—to a senior's life. Yet, while independence and control over their lives is as important to seniors as their physical and mental health, many people avoid planning for senior housing until a pending crisis, putting their own freedom of choice at risk and straining family relationships. Just as people have learned to plan ahead for their financial retirement, it should become commonplace to plan for long-term housing and care.

In recognition of National Assisted Living Week, September 10-16, please join me in inviting all seniors to take the time now to talk openly with their families about their senior housing options and preferences, just in case supportive housing ever becomes necessary for them.

We all value the right to live in our own homes as long as possible and to make our own decisions. Americans must plan ahead in order to protect their preferences and maximize their lifestyle options later. There is a rich variety of senior housing and care options to choose from, so it's important to become fully educated.

One of these options, assisted living, has become a cornerstone for senior care. An assisted living residence is a special combination of housing, personalized supportive services and health care designed to meet the needs—both scheduled and unscheduled—of those who require help with activities of daily living.

I urge all Americans to learn more about assisted living and how seniors can age in a loving home-like environment with dignity and independence.

CONSUMER ACCESS TO A RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OF TRADE ACT

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Consumer Access to a Responsible Accounting of Trade Act of 2000.

This bill aims to sever the funding link that has enabled the murderous rebels in Sierra Leone and Angola to wage their wars against civilians; that has helped bring a thug to power in Liberia; and that is sustaining eight nations fighting in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

This has been a top priority for a coalition of 70 human rights organizations, led by Physicians for Human Rights, and it has become an urgent matter for the diamond industry, whose tokens of love face being exposed as symbols of butchery.

The industry and activists both support a plan to block diamonds mined in conflict zones from entering the legitimate diamond trade. Many details remain to be ironed out, but the industry is working on that. Unfortunately, they are running into intransigence from some segments of the industry and some nations. Because of the nature of the system they have devised, substantial participation is necessary to make it work.

My bill aims to support the industry's efforts and expresses the Sense of the Congress that some effective system of preventing smuggled diamonds from being traded as blood-free ones is urgently needed and directing the Administration to make this a higher priority. The bill also encourages technology that will find a more traditional approach to this problem. Finally, it implements embargoes imposed by the United Nations and takes steps to make them more effective.

Mr. Speaker, we owe passage of this bill to innocent Africans—both those caught in the wars over diamonds, and those who depend on the legitimate trade in South Africa, Botswana, and Namibia and will be hurt by a consumer backlash against the blood trade.

But we also owe it to Americans to pass this bill.

American consumers play a significant role in the diamond trade, because they buy 65 percent of all diamonds. They clearly have no intention of supporting brutal wars—after all, their intention is to buy tokens of love and commitment—but that is precisely what they are doing.

American taxpayers also deserve better: they have funded more than \$3 billion in humanitarian relief to the people of these four nations who are caught up in war—at the same time rebels there have earned \$10 bil-

lion to pay for weapons and material to keep the same wars going.

The CARAT Act aims to empower Americans to lend their consumer might to efforts to bring peace to Sierra Leone, Angola, Liberia, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. It is measured and responsible legislation that deserves immediate action by the 106th Congress, and I urge our colleagues to support it.

AMERICAN SERB HALL, THE FIRST 50 YEARS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join in the tribute to a true southside Milwaukee landmark, the American Serb Memorial Hall, as the community celebrates the hall's 50th birthday this month.

Located at South 51st Street and West Oklahoma Avenue, on Milwaukee's southside, Serb Hall, as it's commonly known, has been a fixture in the city for the last half century for wedding receptions, banquets, lunches and dinners, political rallies and yes, even bowling leagues. When constructed in 1950, Serb Hall was by far the most complete and modern facility of its kind on the south and southwest side of Milwaukee. The hall was expanded in 1987 to accommodate increasing business and renovated in 1999.

The hall was originally dedicated on September 1, 1950 to honor the local members of the Serbian orthodox faith who served in the American armed forces. 15 of those young men lost their lives in defense of our nation. They are honored today in a full-wall memorial in the lobby of Serb Hall. I was honored to attend the very moving dedication ceremony for that memorial.

Any mention of Serb Hall is not complete without focusing on two very traditional events—the Friday fish fry and visits by political dignitaries. The first fish fry was held at Serb Hall in 1967 and the lunches and dinners continue to this day supplemented by a drive-through window and carry-out service. The line of cars in the drive-through oftentimes circles the parking lot and can even extend into the street during the Lenten season.

Without a doubt, many individuals seeking major political office realize the historical and cultural significance of holding a rally at Serb Hall. From Milwaukee mayors, police chiefs, US congressmen and Wisconsin Governors to United States Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Reagan, Bush and Clinton, all have spoken at Serb Hall either as elected officials or candidates.

It is my pleasure to wish the Milwaukee Serbian community all the best as you celebrate 50 years of Serb Hall success. Best wishes for the next 50 and well beyond.

ACKNOWLEDGING LIFETIME OF PUBLIC SERVICE BY MR. EDWIN BEARSS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Edwin Bearss, a constituent of Virginia's Eighth District, who has recently retired after an impressive forty year career with the National Park Service and distinguished service in our nation's military.

Since the birth of our nation, Virginia has been a cornerstone in American history, especially during the Civil War. The majority of the Civil War's significant engagements occurred on battlefields in Virginia. Ed Bearss illuminated the valuable, living history found on the Civil War battlefields of Virginia and elsewhere in our country. Those who have been privileged to hear Mr. Bearss recount the vivid history of our nation's Civil War consider him a national treasure.

Ed Bearss began his service to our country during World War II as a Marine fighting in the Pacific. After recovering from wounds he suffered during battle in New Guinea, he took advantage of the G.I. Bill and received a degree from Georgetown University, as well as a masters degree in history from Indiana University.

In 1955, Mr. Bearss joined the National Park Service and began to share his knowledge and passion for Civil War history. As a historian at Vicksburg, Mr. Bearss' research led to the discovery of the lost ironclad Cairo and two forgotten Civil War forts. His desire for others to live history by touring battlefields inspired him to preserve the Manassas battlefields from the threat of shopping malls and two different amusement parks.

Mr. Bearss set a new standard in historical research with his diligence and attention to detail. He has shared his research by writing ten books and over a hundred articles. His excellence as the chief historian of our nation's federal parks earned him the Department of the Interior's highest recognition, the Distinguished Service Award.

To many, Ed Bearss' grandest accomplishment was his ability to bring a Civil War battlefield to life. He would dredge facts and stories from his immense store of knowledge and transport listeners back in time to when the actual battles took place. The energy with which Mr. Bearss gave his tours excited others to develop a passion for history. Mr. Bearss' work has helped many people realize the importance of preserving our nation's battlefields and the gravity of the battles fought at those sites. Fortunately for us and future generations, Mr. Bearss' historical gifts have been preserved by filmmaker Ken Burns, who included a number of Mr. Bearss' battlefield narrations in the award-winning PBS series, "The Civil War."

Mr. Speaker and my fellow colleagues, I invite you to join me in honoring a man who has devoted his life to serving his country. Mr. Edwin Bearss should be praised for the passion he brought to the history of our country and the ways he shared that passion. His legacy as an historian and his valuable contribution to the preservation of Civil War history are a tremendous gift to our nation that will last