

consideration the bill (H.R. 3908) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased today to support this important amendment, which will help clean up methamphetamine labs and come to the aid of law enforcement across the country.

Last year, funding was ended for this support program, and the funds were entirely diverted into training. I feel that decision was a mistake. Local law enforcement needs this money directly in order to offset the high costs associated with meth lab cleanups. They need it in order to more effectively fight the war on drugs and clean up the contamination and environmental problems these labs leave behind.

In my own district, individuals like Sheriff Eddie Bass of Giles County in Tennessee have effectively used these dollars in the past. Working in conjunction with the Drug Enforcement Agency, Sheriff Bass has made great strides in reducing the number of methamphetamine labs in Giles County. But cleaning up these labs is expensive, very expensive for rural law enforcement agencies that have limited resources to begin with. Our rural law enforcement officers, like Sheriff Bass need our help to combat this national problem.

Sheriff Bass has already implemented state-of-the-art programs and facilities. I personally have toured the local jail in Giles County and can say from first-hand experience that it is deserving of every accolade as one of the model examples in the state. Now, I also want to provide him, and outstanding officials like him, the ability to continue the model meth lab cleanup programs that they had in place.

We must give officials like Sheriff Bass the support that they need. Otherwise, we will be sending them a message that it may not be financially worth their trouble to stop the production in these labs. Let's instead send a message to drug dealers and producers that we will stand behind the efforts of federal and local law enforcement in the war against drugs in our communities.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support this amendment so that these dollars will once again be able to be used by local law enforcement officials like Sheriff Bass.

VETERANS' HISTORIAN AL KADY PRESERVES CENTRAL NEW JERSEY'S CIVIL WAR HERITAGE

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of two veterans, of two wars, 80 years apart. Aaron Hush is an African-American Civil War veteran buried in South Brunswick. Al Kady is a World War II veteran and the military historian for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9111 who located Hush's burial ground in South Brunswick, NJ. I commend Mr. Kady for his commitment to locating and preserving a significant piece of New Jersey history.

Aaron Hush was a resident of nearby Franklin Township. Upon his death on January 20, 1916, he was laid to rest in the Sand Hills Area of South Brunswick Township, also known as the Thompson Plot.

The Record of Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Civil War has recorded that Aaron Hush served from February 29, 1864 until August 22, 1865, in the 32nd regiment of the United States Colored Troops. He is one of nearly 3,000 New Jersey African-American soldiers to serve in the Civil War.

The Emancipation Proclamation permitted African-American soldiers like Aaron Hush to enlist, be drafted, or receive bonuses to serve as replacements. Records reveal that 2,872 New Jersey African-Americans wore the uniform of the Union Army. There were 469 African-American casualties from New Jersey.

Mr. Kady has brought to life the importance of the Hush burial ground. He has worked tirelessly to ensure that the cemetery is preserved and maintained. He is to be commended for his dedication and hard work. As a veteran of World War II and past commander of VFW Post 9111, he knows the importance of maintaining sites important to our national heritage.

Mr. Kady will present a copy of Aaron Hush's discharge papers to the South Brunswick Township Council on April 11 for display in the township. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to learn about our local heritage, as well as our national history.

Mr. Speaker, VFW Post 9111 military historian Al Kady represents what is right with central New Jersey and the United States of America. His discovery and preservation of Hush's gravesite is a wonderful reminder to the community and the country at large. Kady has served his country in times of great national crisis and continues to do so by preserving history in central New Jersey.

This is an important example of what makes America special. A veteran of one war preserving the memory of a veteran of a different war; our common history bridging our individual differences.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Kady for his hard work and dedication to the preservation of historical landmarks throughout central New Jersey.

SUPPORT FOR THE CRUSADER

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Army's new advanced field artillery system, the Crusader. When fielded in 2008, Crusader will provide unprecedented fire support capability to the U.S. Army.

The DoD budget requests \$355.5 million in Fiscal Year 2001 to continue the development of the Crusader system.

Field artillery is the one combat capability where the United States significantly lags behind its allies and potential adversaries. While the Abrams tanks and the Bradley fighting vehicle is recognized as the best in the world, the U.S. field artillery ranks 9th in the world in terms of systems and the current howitzers is outperformed by at least four more modern foreign systems. With Crusader that balance will be reversed.

In anticipation of the fielding of the Crusader, the Army dramatically reduced its field artillery organization by eliminating six howitzers from each cannon battalion. Additionally, the Army later reduced the number of tanks, infantry fighting vehicles and soldiers in its mechanized divisions. Again, this was done because of the offsetting capabilities of the Crusader advanced field artillery system. Should we not follow through with fielding the Crusader, then all these systems and soldiers would have to be added back to the Army organization and force structure to maintain its combat capability.

In recent testimony before our committee, General Shinseki, the Army Chief of Staff, emphasized the importance of the Crusader to the Army, both its counterattack corps and its transformation forces. He is fully supportive of its development and fielding and was the major architect of its modification to become more supportive of the Army transformation initiative and its objective force. General Shinseki insisted upon the maintenance of its key combat capabilities, (range, rate-of-fire, mobility and survivability) while enhancing its global, strategic deployability. With changes that will reduce the Crusader's weight to approximately 40 tons, two can be airlifted to any theater in the world on a single C5B aircraft. Those two howitzers will provide more fire support capability than six of today's Paladin systems. That six-gun Paladin unit with its 94 soldiers, like the one sent to Kosovo in Task Force Hawk, required 8 C-5B sorties to deploy, while a smaller, but more lethal Crusader capability would include just 31 soldiers and need only 4 C-5B sorties.

Mr. Speaker, the Army needs the Crusader to be developed and fielded without delay to enhance its capability to rapidly and globally respond to threats to the nation's interests and ultimately to win the nation's wars.

TRIBUTE TO THE NEW LOTHROP HORNETS GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Michigan's new girl's highschool volleyball State Champions, the New Lothrop Hornets.

At the start of a long and challenging season, New Lothrop's girl's volleyball team set out to achieve their goal of being the best. They believed in themselves and knew that with their heart, drive and tremendous teamwork the state championship was within their grasp. With the support of their fans and the community these athletes fought a hard battle, never once doubting their amazing ability. With their motto "Together we can," the women exemplified teamwork. Their combining passion for victory made them unstoppable.

At the recent championship match, the Hornets proved victorious and their coach Sheri Warner hoisted the championship trophy for their fans. This tremendous victory was well deserved. They have lead their community to new athletic heights and have become wonderful examples of good sportsman. They may now pride themselves not only with the spectacular honor of being Michigan's top women's volleyball team, but also carrying the title of New Lothrop's first prep volleyball champions.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and the New Lothrop community in congratulating these women on their excellent talents and leadership skills.

THE GAMING INDUSTRY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, you hear many arguments surrounding the gaming industry in America. Some have merit, some do not. Some criticism is deserved, some is not. Mr. Speaker, before I make my statement today I want to make it abundantly clear that while I am not an ardent proponent of the gaming industry nor an ardent foe of the gaming industry, I am an ardent foe of illegal activity in the gaming industry. Furthermore, I am an ardent support of consumer rights and consumer rights is exactly what I intend to discuss today.

At the heart of my comments today is how certain gaming companies treat their patrons and how they conduct business. I believe that the vast majority of casino owners play by the rules, treat their patrons fairly, and provide quality entertainment for individuals and families. I have talked with many of these businessmen over the years who have conducted themselves in such a professional manner. However, there are a few bad apples out there who don't play by the rules and that is just plain wrong.

One such example is the case of Suncruz casino's based out of Florida. Florida authorities, particularly Attorney General Butterworth have repeatedly reprimanded Suncruz casinos and its owner Gus Boulis for taking illegal bets, not paying out their customers properly and has had to take steps to prevent Suncruz from conducting operations all together. In fact, a few years ago the Broward County Sheriffs Office, under the supervision of Mr Butterworth, raided Suncruz ships seizing their equipment.

Mr. Speaker, how Suncruz Casinos and Gus Boulis conduct themselves with regard to Florida laws is very unnerving. But the consumer rights issue is even more disheartening. On December 1, 1998 the Broward County Sheriffs department announced that they had uncovered evidence that dealers on SunCruz ships were "cheating passengers by using incomplete decks of cards." This type of conduct gives the gaming industry a black eye and should not be tolerated.

Mr. Speaker, I want to repeat myself again. The vast majority of casino owners and operators are good honest people, but when an owner or operator stoops to this level to make a buck it hurts the public and it hurts the industry as a whole. I believe we can strike a balance here and our first step is to ensure that the average citizen is not hoodwinked by a dishonest casino operator.

There should be clear codes of conduct that are adhered to by every casino owner and operator. On the Ohio River we have gaming interests that run clean operations and provide quality entertainment. I don't want to see the actions of one bad apple in Florida, or anywhere else to affect the business aspect of this industry or hurt any innocent casino patron in our country.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that steps will be taken by the industry, and in the case of lawbreakers- by the appropriate authorities to weed out the bad apples so that we can protect consumers across the country.

WELCOMING PROBATE JUDGES

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome members and guests of the National College of Probate Judges to the Capitol today.

The National College of Probate Judges is comprised of judicial office holders across the country who adjudicate estates of decedents, who appoint guardians for individuals with incapacities and who hear mental health cases and cases involving persons with developmental disabilities.

Recently, the College promulgated standards and model legislation addressing interstate transfers of guardianships and conservatorships. The College is sponsoring an International Conference on Courts and the Aging to be held in London in July in conjunction with the American Bar Association.

I am particularly happy to welcome Judge Richard E. Burke, president of the College, who resides in New Canaan, Connecticut and is a constituent of mine. I am equally pleased to acknowledge the contributions of the following office holders and members: Judge Mary Sheffield—Rolla, Missouri; Judge Nikkie DeShazzo—Dallas, Texas; Judge John Maher—Kingston, New Hampshire; Judge Haywood Barry—Lebanon, Tennessee; Judge Patsy Stone—Florence, South Carolina; Judge Larry Belskis—Columbus, Ohio; Judge Larry Kay—San Francisco, California; Judge Ray Eubanks—Spartanburg, South Carolina; Judge Frank Riddick—Huntsville, Alabama; and Judge John N. Kirkendell—Ann Arbor, Michigan.

CHRISTIAN EMBASSY 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of Christian Embassy, a spiritual resource to government and diplomatic leadership in Washington. I would like to congratulate its founders, Dr. and Mrs. William R. Bright, and honor them for their commitment to serving those of us who are public servants in our Nation's Capital.

Dr. Bright is also the founder and president of Campus Crusade for Christ, of which Christian Embassy is a part. He has authored numerous books and articles on the Christian life and has received a host of awards, among them the 1996 Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion.

His wife, Vonette, is co-founder of Campus Crusade. Her commitment to prayer for our nation and work in the Kingdom of God is a tribute to their family.

Dr. and Mrs. Bright have spent many hours with political leaders in Washington, offering

encouragement and spiritual counsel. They feel strongly that leaders of integrity are vital in the task of strengthening the fabric of America and ensuring its stability for future generations.

In commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the inception of Christian Embassy, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to the vision and faith of its founders, Dr. and Mrs. William R. Bright.

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN FOR SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AND REAFFIRMING UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARD TAIWAN AND PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 292. On March 18th the people of Taiwan went to the polls for only the second time in their history to elect a national president. The U.S. has been stalwart in its support of democracies throughout the world and it is only fitting for Congress to congratulate Chen Shui-bian and the people of Taiwan for upholding democracy in the elections. In their first transfer of power, the voters have spoken and voiced their support for Mr. Chen.

Holding an olive branch on election night, Mr. Chen stated his desire to invigorate negotiations with mainland China. A peaceful resolution that will preserve democracy in Taiwan must be pursued. I urge the Chinese government to reconsider its rejection of Mr. Chen's proposed peace summit.

China and Taiwan have a unique opportunity to showcase their economic strength in the region. If negotiations are stifled, the economic future of both countries will remain uncertain but political stability will determine their success in the new economy.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. Chen and his party for their historic victory and urge him to continue on the road to peace and ask my colleagues to join me.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE DEVELOPMENTS IN KAZAKHSTAN

HON. MARSHALL "MARK" SANFORD

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to my colleagues attention the nation of Kazakhstan. This young nation has emerged, under the leadership of its President Nursultan Nazarbayev, as a bastion of democracy and free market economics in Central Asia. I am entering into the RECORD two articles written recently by R. Emmett Tyrell, Jr. of the Conservative New Service who just returned from Kazakhstan reporting on that nation's ethnic and cultural diversity, its free media, and its strategic importance to the United States.