

New York State Civil Service Examination, bringing mass attention to the issue of inequality. Madeline and Charles were wed on May 24, 1943.

Although not related by blood, Madeline was part of my extended family who I loved dearly. She was a wise woman who inspired me and supported me in all of my efforts. For that, I am deeply grateful.

Madeline was an incredibly intelligent, sophisticated, and talented individual. She was an African-American woman born in the American south at the turn of the century, a teenager and young woman of the Great Depression, an adult of the pre-civil rights era, and a mentor of the civil rights movement. Undoubtedly, Madeline faced every conceivable challenge of her generation, gender, and as a person of color. However, not only did Madeline survive these difficult and tumultuous times, she triumphed and brought countless others up behind her.

Today, California's 9th Congressional District salutes Madeline DeLoach Franklin, honoring her incredible life and inspiring legacy. We thank her family for sharing this amazing spirit with us, especially her three children, Charles L. Franklin, Jr., Dolores Mercedes Franklin, and Estelle Diane Franklin, her grandchildren, Sharath Smith and Michelle Franklin, Lynnette Franklin and Charles Franklin, her great-grandchildren Brian and David Smith, her daughter-in-law Alexis M. Herman, her grandsons-in-law Jeffrey Smith and Christian Duffus, and a host of additional family members and friends. May her soul rest in peace.

#### INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 295, MORE JOBS FOR VETERANS ACT OF 2009

#### HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the More Jobs for Veterans Act of 2009. Madam Speaker, having the right skills is critical to finding good-paying employment in today's job market. The Assistant Secretary of Labor administers the Veterans Workforce Investment Program, VWIP, a grant program to State and local governments, private, not-for-profit organizations including community based and faith based organizations to fund a wide range of employment and training programs for veterans. Eligible veterans are those with service-connected disabilities, significant barriers to employment, veterans who served on active duty during a war or a recognized campaign or expedition, and recently separated veterans.

It makes no sense to spend millions on State employment placement systems if veterans lack relevant job skills. Unfortunately, funding for training programs such as VWIP, which directly targets veterans, is severely underfunded. This legislation would change that by authorizing \$20 million annually, almost triple today's funding level.

Madam Speaker, the current \$7 million appropriation is a small drop in the bucket towards meeting the skills-improvement needs of today's 651,000 unemployed veterans. This bill would significantly improve education and training opportunities for those who have worn the uniforms of our armed forces.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support the measure.

#### HAMAS IS TO BLAME FOR MOST RECENT CONFLICT IN GAZA

#### HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Madam Speaker, today we are saddened by the loss of innocent lives in Gaza; people being killed and wounded, bodies of children torn apart, all of this is a horror story. If we are serious about ending this tragedy we must be brutally honest, and not give in to ignoring hard truths. In this case the hard truth is that the real blame for this carnage in Gaza is traced to actions taken by Hamas, radical Islamists, and those who supply them with rockets and other weapons.

There was a tremendous opportunity for peace when Israel withdrew its troops from Gaza in 2005. Instead of moving forward and building a Palestinian homeland, irreconcilables have launched nearly 7,000 rockets and mortar rounds into Israel since Israeli troops left.

The hate-filled radicals who launched missiles into Israel—Hamas triggermen, not Israeli pilots—are the ones who are really responsible for the horrible mayhem we are witnessing in Gaza. The radical Islamists ruthlessly and without any remorse did what they knew would bring retaliation and result in the slaughter of their own people. The hatred of Israel in the hearts of these Hamas radicals clearly outweighs their commitment to the safety and well being of their own people. That's a hard fact. And that after shooting rockets into Israel, they hide among and behind non-combatants—women, and children—makes their actions even more despicable.

An honest assessment leads to the conclusion that Hamas doesn't want peace with Israel and has no desire for a two state solution. Hamas wants a war that will destroy Israel. This commitment is the real cause of the current bloodshed in Gaza. Once Israel left Gaza, Hamas should have used its resources, their money, our money, on health care, education, roads and economic development in Gaza. Instead they have chosen death and destruction.

Recently China's representative to the U.N. Security Council voiced concern about, "large-scale Israeli air attacks against Gaza." Now, that takeschutzpah! Many of the rockets fired into Israel "were manufactured in China. These Chinese rockets were smuggled into Gaza after the Sinai border wall was blown up by Hamas in January." Making matters worse the State Department and the White House hasn't mentioned a word about the China connection to the turmoil in Gaza, just as they're mum about Chinese complicity in crimes elsewhere.

Yes, the bloodshed is horrible, and yes, Israel is doing what any other sovereign nation would do. It is protecting its people by retaliation when attacked. Those who shoot rockets into Israel know there will be retaliation, thus they are the responsible party for the bloodshed we are now witnessing. It's the hard truth we can't ignore if we are to someday end this terrible heart-wrenching violence.

#### THE ESCALATING VIOLENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

#### HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I have been closely following the troubling events and escalating violence in the Middle East. We in the United States must continue to stand shoulder-to-shoulder in support of our friend and ally Israel as it defends itself against Hamas' unrelenting rocket attacks from Gaza.

I'm encouraged by the recent cease-fire negotiations underway in the region. The talks must seek to end the intolerable rain of rockets on southern Israel and stop the violence and killing of Israelis and Palestinians. Until a cease-fire agreement is reached, I hope that every effort and scrupulous care continues to be taken to avoid the death of innocent civilians.

I've long believed that the only route to a sustainable peace in the Middle East is through diplomatic means, not military might. The United States must once again take a leadership role and actively engage in the multilateral effort to build a permanent path to peace between the Israeli and the Palestinian people.

#### HONORING ARTHUR HILL

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague from California Mr. COSTA to commend and congratulate Captain Arthur Hill (U.S. Army retired) upon being honored with the Citizen Soldier Award. Mr. Hill was honored on November 7, 2008 at the Fresno City College Veterans Day 2008 Memorial and Dedication Ceremony.

Mr. Hill was born on July 16, 1916. Shortly after the bombing at Pearl Harbor he began volunteering for the Army Engineers, he was 27 years old. He has a background in construction, so in 1942 he was sent to Camp Claiborne, LA to a Special Service Engineer Regiment. On December 23, 1942, Mr. Hill graduated from O.C.S. and the Heavy Equipment School at Fort Belvoir, VA as a Second Lieutenant. At Camp Swift, TX, he was assigned to the 146 Engineer (C) Battalion as the Headquarters Company Commander with the additional duty of Battalion Motor Officer. He held this command, as a Captain, with various additional duties until the end of the war.

During the war his battalion moved to England's North Coastal area of Saunton Sands. They helped build and operate an assault training center of enemy fortifications duplicated during their time overseas. These fortifications were from secret aerial reconnaissance photos of the landing beaches and Siegfried line defenses. This led to the spearheading of the Omaha Beach "D Day" landing at the "H" hour plus 3 minutes across the English Channel on June 6, 1944. The five European campaigns of Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe followed.

After the collapse of Germany, the 146th (C) Engineers, along with other engineer groups of V Corps were assisting with the debris clearance and the restoration of utilities of battered Pilsen, Czechoslovakia. In Pilsen, Captain Hill was named director of the XXII Corps Heavy Equipment School for approximately 65 Czech civil engineers and equipment operators from the V, VII, and XXII Corps. Captain Hill was later given the title of Base Commander at one of several embarkation centers that were responsible for upgrading facilities for pending troop movement. While at the Biarritz American University in Southern France, he learned that he had received a Foreign Award, the Czech Military Medal.

Upon returning home, Captain Hill was discharged on January 8, 1946. He began his civilian life and worked in the petroleum industry for 30 years. He and his wife, B.J. (now deceased), were married for over 50 years. Since April 1992, Mr. Hill has enjoyed his time as a volunteer at the National Legion of Valor Museum in Fresno, California, where he is also an honorary lifetime member. He became the museum Director in July 2001. From 1995–1996, he also served as the American Legion Commander of Fresno Post No. 4.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Arthur Hill upon his achievements. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Hill many years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO I. BERNARD  
WEINSTEIN

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 8, 2009*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the life of Dr. I. Bernard Weinstein for his significant accomplishments as a scientist, professor of medicine, physician, mentor, colleague, advisor, administrator, and humanitarian, who passed away on November 3, 2008 at the age of 78.

Dr. Weinstein was a world authority in the fields of chemical carcinogenesis, cancer treatment and prevention, and a founder of the field of molecular epidemiology. His pioneering discoveries and visionary theories, including the breakthrough concept of “oncogene addiction,” opened up new frontiers in cancer research and led to the development of new, effective, life-saving therapies for patients.

For more than 47 years, Dr. Weinstein was on staff at Columbia University Medical Center, where he also served as Frode Jensen Professor of Medicine, Professor of Environmental Health Sciences; Professor of Genetics and Development; and, for a decade, Director of the Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center. In recognition of his groundbreaking, seminal scientific work, Dr. Weinstein received some of the most prestigious national and international awards in his field. Additionally, he was a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Science, a fellow of the National Foundation for Cancer Research, and he served with great distinction as president of the American Association for Cancer Research. Dr. Weinstein also provided his renowned exper-

tise and wisdom as a valued and respected member of many scientific advisory and editorial boards.

In addition to his scientific discoveries, Dr. Weinstein also leaves a remarkable legacy as a mentor and a teacher, having helped train many generations of leaders in cancer and biological research. Dr. Weinstein guided and inspired scores of devoted students, who mourn the passing of this great scientist and remarkable man. It's a loss also deeply felt by his family, to whom he was so loyal and so loving.

In honor of this great American scientist and his commitment and contributions to the field of oncology, I express my gratitude to Dr. Weinstein for devoting his life to preventing and curing cancer. America mourns his passing while also celebrating his inspiring legacy. He is survived by his son Matthew, his two daughters Claudia and Tamara, and two grandchildren.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ARMED  
FORCES DISABILITY RETIRE-  
MENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF  
2009

**HON. STEVE BUYER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 8, 2009*

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Armed Forces Disability Retirement Enhancement Act of 2009. This measure would simplify and streamline the daunting process injured men and women must endure when navigating the Department of Defense, DOD, disability retirement system. The system is too complex, and it is unfair to confront wounded warriors with such a mess when their focus should be on recovery and their loved ones.

These systemic problems were identified more than 2 years ago when the President's Commission on Care for America's Wounded Warriors and the Veterans Disability Benefits Commission interviewed injured service members, but the problems have yet to be resolved. This bill would ensure that those found unable to serve would automatically receive military retirement benefits based on rank and years of service. This provision would resolve the ‘concurrent receipt’ issue, and it would replace confusing, piecemeal programs.

Those found unfit for service would also automatically receive health and dental coverage. Currently, such eligibility hinges on the findings of a military physical evaluation board. Severely injured servicemembers undergoing the emotional and physical pain of recovery and rehabilitation should not have to endure the added, unnecessary worry as to whether physical evaluation board determinations will grant disability benefits.

It's well past time to eliminate these burdens for those who have already sacrificed dearly for our country. I call upon my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to address this difficult issue now rather than leaving it to future generations to resolve.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF SENIOR CORPORAL NORMAN  
SMITH

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 8, 2009*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Senior Corporal Norman Smith who died in the line of duty on January 6, 2008. An 18-year veteran of the Dallas Police Department, Sr. Cpl. Smith spent his career bravely serving the residents of Dallas, TX. With a heavy heart, I pay tribute to him and the impact he made in our city. My condolences are extended to his family and his fellow officers who are mourning the loss of a husband, father and friend.

Sr. Cpl. Smith, 43, joined the Dallas Police Department in 1991 and most recently served as a member in the Gang Unit for the past 12 years. Deeply committed to stamping out the influence of gangs, he worked tirelessly to free neighborhoods crippled with violence, crime and drugs. He was instrumental in taking back neighborhood blocks long controlled by gangs in Dallas for years. His work in this area is now credited as a textbook case for Federal and local officials working to rid communities of criminal organizations. Throughout his career, he received numerous commendations and was honored as a Dallas Police Department Officer of the Year.

There is no doubt that Sr. Cpl. Smith was not only exemplary of those who choose to serve and protect, but admired and deeply respected by all he met. He will be remembered for his strength of character, respect for all those he encountered and his deep commitment to his police work. He is described by his own Police Chief as having the “heart of a warrior.” Dallas has truly lost a hero, and we will forever remember the positive changes he brought to the community. His life was a testament to all that can be achieved through dedication to public service.

My prayers are with his wife, Dallas Police Lieutenant Regina Smith, and his teenage son and daughter. He first met his wife while she was a young police officer, noting that she was the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. During the time they had together, there is no doubt there was much happiness and a unique shared passion for their life's work.

Madam Speaker, today we mourn the loss of one of Dallas' finest—Sr. Cpl. Norman Smith. Our city is forever grateful for the sacrifice he has made in the line of duty. His legacy will live on in our hearts and in the community he served.

INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO  
AWARD DR. JOSEPH B. KIRSNER  
THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD  
MEDAL

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 8, 2009*

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce this bill to award Dr. Joseph B. Kirsner the Congressional Gold Medal for his