

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD BURR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 261 I inadvertently voted "aye" when I meant to vote "nay".

GORDON "GORDY" WILLIAMS SAN DIEGO'S NATIVE SON LABOR HERO

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gordon "Gordy" Williams, the San Diego County Building & Construction Trades Council's 1996 Retired Labor Leader of the Year.

Gordy Williams, a native of San Diego County, was raised in the great South Bay community of National City. He joined Painters' Union Local 333 at the age of 18. Four years later he was elected to the executive board of his union, where he became its business representative nearly 25-years ago.

Gordy Williams' enormously productive tenure in local 333 caught the attention of the International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades, which soon made him a general representative for the International Union. Gordy also served as delegate to the Building Trades Council for many years, including a term as its president. He also served as an officer of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, as well as the California State Council of Painters.

But Gordy Williams did not stop there. He found the time and energy to serve the community at large—including the board of directors of National City Parks Apartments, a low-income housing complex owned and operated by the San Diego Building & Construction Trades Corporation; the California Regional Coastal Commission; and as a trustee of the San Diego Leukemia Society. He also found the time to be the master chef at the Building Trades Holiday Bowl tailgate parties and the Letter Carriers' Annual Food Drive. And, he has done all this despite health problems which he has faced with great courage.

Mr. Speaker, Gordy Williams is a great man, and a true friend. I join his building and construction trades brothers and sisters in San Diego and around the country in thanking him for his dedication and great spirit, and in wishing him the very best in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI MICHAEL EHRLICH

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents and the members of the Oakland Jewish Center as they honor their Rabbi, an outstanding leader, Michael Ehrlich.

For more than a quarter of a century Rabbi Ehrlich has served the community in a variety of effective positions that included youth leader, teacher, principal, and Rabbi. Imbued at home at an early age with a strong responsibility to serve both individuals and the community, Rabbi Ehrlich received his formal preparation at the Ramaz School and went on to study in a joint program at Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. He was ordained in 1968.

Before coming to the Oakland Jewish Center, Rabbi Ehrlich served at the Conservative Synagogue on Fifth Avenue and as a teacher and principal at the Jewish Center of Bayside Hills. He has been involved in religious and secular training since 1964 and recently retired from the New York City school system after more than a quarter-century of dedicated service.

Rabbi Ehrlich has these many years emerged as a distinguished spiritual leader, an educator and community servant. In all his endeavors he has demonstrated a unique ability to bring people of all beliefs together into a common bond to create that which is both beneficial, supportive and comforting to our community. The tribute from his congregation is a tribute to us all.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me and my colleagues, and rise in honor of this man, who has meant so much to his community, Rabbi Michael Ehrlich.

A TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN LEGION POST 91 FOR 75 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, as a lifetime member of the American Legion myself, it is with great pride that I commemorate the Frederick L. Clark American Legion Post 91 of Mechanicville, NY, in my congressional district. And it is with great humility that I stand here today and try and do justice to all the tremendous service and good this post has done for veterans and their families, as well as the entire community over the past 75 years.

This past year, I had the tremendous good fortune of addressing both the New York State and the National American Legion Convention where I was awarded with the American Legion's Distinguished Public Service Award. Mr. Speaker, it occurred to me that among all the things I've done in this Congress, I literally cherish above all else the time I've spent working alongside the American Legion. Together we've achieved so much on behalf of flag and country.

But Mr. Speaker, those achievements are what makes the men and women of American Legion posts like No. 91 in Mechanicville the true heroes. Not only have they served their country in uniform, but they have served America and their fellow veterans as members of the Legion. A group that is always in the forefront of efforts to develop and maintain adequate veterans benefits and programs.

And as if that wasn't enough, there are the tremendous programs and activities the members of post 91 run on behalf of their community. I'm talking about things like scholarships

and teams they sponsor for the youth in Mechanicville as well as community wide events.

Because of efforts like these, their promotion of pride, patriotism and good citizenship goes unparalleled. And that's why I can't wait to renew the fight for a constitutional amendment to protect Old Glory alongside my fellow Legionnaires from post 91 in Mechanicville, NY.

Mr. Speaker, protecting our flag, watching out for fellow veterans and ensuring a strong national defense may seem like a large and daunting agenda to some. But that's not half of what post 91 in Mechanicville has done. It's hard to even imagine all they have accomplished over the course of 75 years of service. But I know there's no limit to what they can accomplish. That's because this post is made up of patriotic Americans who have served their country and earned the right to call themselves veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and proud members of the American Legion.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all Members join me in paying tribute to all the members of Mechanicville Legion Post 91 for their tireless and selfless devotion to America and their community.

"THE EXPORT PROGRAMS EXTENSION ACT OF 1996"

HON. TOBY ROTH

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced the Export Programs Extension Act of 1996. This legislation provides for a 1-year reauthorization of three vitally important export agencies: the Overseas Private Investment Corporation [OPIC], the U.S. Trade and Development Agency [TDA], and the export programs of the International Trade Administration [ITA], principally the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service.

Each of these agencies generates increased exports by American companies, creating new jobs for American workers. During its 25 year history, OPIC's investment guarantees and insurance have supported \$43 billion in exports, translating into 200,000 American jobs. In its 10 years of operation, TDA has supported \$7 billion in U.S. exports, resulting in nearly 140,000 jobs for U.S. workers. ITA facilitates \$5 billion in U.S. exports annually, which result in 100,000 new jobs every year.

This bill provides a simple extension of authority for these three agencies for 1 year, at levels consistent with the anticipated appropriations levels and the administration's budget request for fiscal year 1997.

The bill further provides that the statutory ceilings on OPIC's investment guaranties and insurance liabilities would be combined into a single overall ceiling on both activities. By making this change in law, the ceiling on OPIC's overall contingent liability is kept at current levels for the upcoming year, while giving OPIC flexibility to meet the demand by U.S. exporters for their assistance to American companies.

In my view, the provisions of this bill represent a workable legislative compromise for the upcoming fiscal year and I recommend to my colleagues that these provisions form the

basis for reauthorizing those important programs before the Congress adjourns for the year.

TRIBUTE TO LEROY PATTERSON

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a good friend of mine, Leroy Patterson, who recently succumbed to cancer. After being on Houston radio for more than 21 years, Leroy was aptly introduced for his show as one of the world's most respected news people. He brought a broad range of programming to Houston's airways with his shows "Community Hot-line," "On the Front-line," "Wake-up Call Black America," and "Sports Time-out." He is not out of the talk-show host mold of today's hate radio. His daily shows reflected his own self-respect and competence. Careful preparation, thoughtfulness and totally objective demeanor on-air were the hallmarks of his work. Constructive community spirit is the lasting imprint that his work left on the entire city of Houston.

His roots grew strongly from his humble beginnings in Marshall, TX, where his parents instilled his positive attitude, wholesome character, and his desire to succeed. He was educated at H.B. Pemberton High School and Tennessee State University. He served in the Air Force and the Air Force Reserve and worked at the U.S. Post Office for a time.

In 1975, he started his work in communication and began broadcasting over the Houston airways. He was the news director and program director at KYOK-AM radio. At KYOK, he started a number of Afro-centric programs, including the "Community Hot Line" talk show. His interests conveyed his own broad spectrum of coverage involving politics, human interest, education, and sports.

In 1980, he joined the KMJQ-FM Majic 102 radio team. After being a member of the team for only a year, he was promoted to news and community affairs director. He found a home at Majic 102 and stayed there for 16 years. In June 1996, because of his health, he took a medical leave of absence and then retired.

After surviving prostate cancer surgery and participating in the million man march, he went through a period of introspection and decided to take an African name—Ambakisyee Jabari. Ambakisyee is a Tanzanian name that means, "God has been merciful to me." Jabari is a Swahili name that means brave. He felt that changing his name was necessary to alleviate my legal of consciousness to a higher plane and to set my spirit free. Indeed, his spirit is free and his consciousness is on a higher level. The comforting sound of his voice and his wonderful soul will be missed by everyone he touched.

His years of radio service to the Houston community earned him many public service awards. Among his awards and recognitions of his accomplishments are the "Kid-Care Family Service Award for helping to change the lives of children throughout the Houston area; West Houston Outreach and Family Counseling Center Award for his outstanding and dedicated community service; Shape Center Greater Houston Educational Task Force

Award for the enhancement of education in the African-American community, the Black United Fund of Houston, Texas; American Cancer Society Award for starting the hotline for prostate cancer; Thurgood Marshall Law School Award; Over-The-Hill, Inc. Award as a person reform advocate; Black Data Processing Award for sponsoring the Houston High School Computer Team Competition; City Wide Club Award for exceptional community service, and many others too numerous to name.

His commitment to public service outside of his broadcasting duties was also widely known. He was a frequent worker and contributor to the Houston chapter of the NAACP as well as the Mount Olive Baptist Church, the South Post Oak Baptist Church, the Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church, the Houston Community Anti-Drug Coalition, and the National Black United Front, amongst others.

Ambakisyee Jabari is survived by his loving wife, Allie, and their four children: Lisa C. Milton, Cessandra J. Johnson, Ronie L. Johnson, and Kenneth R. Johnson.

WELFARE BILL SIGNALS
REVOLUTION

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I want to encourage my colleagues to read the following column by Dick Williams from the Atlanta Journal Constitution. Welfare reform must be implemented if our country is going to continue to prosper. The welfare reform bill which was recently signed into law is an historical achievement that encourages personal responsibility, imposes work requirements and time limits, ends welfare for noncitizens and felons, and moves power and responsibility back to the States and communities. Local solutions to local problems are more effective than wasteful and inefficient Federal bureaucracies. As Dick Williams points out, the welfare system is destroying the Nation by warping the behavior of millions. It must change and that change is better managed by the governments closest to the people:

WELFARE BILL SIGNALS REVOLUTION
(By Dick Williams)

History was made this week, the sort that will go in the textbooks. President Clinton's decision to spit in the face of his party's history and sign the Republican welfare reform bill means the beginning of the welfare state's going out-of-business sale.

It also answers a question first raised two years ago when Newt Gingrich and his Republicans won control of the people's House. Was it to be a revolution? Or was it simply a modest counterrevolution—one that would trim Democratic excesses?

The answer is revolution.

After Reconstruction, Jim Crow and the ascendancy of the nondemocratic elites in Washington, Congress has decided to trust the states to care for the poor, just as the Founding Fathers intended.

Three times Congress, with substantial Democratic support, tried to end welfare as we know it. Twice Clinton refused.

But this president, we know now, will stop at nothing to be reelected. Being re-elected was far more important than party principle,

the so-called 60-year-old guarantees to the poor (with an outcome the New Deal neither envisioned nor would have countenanced).

As we in Atlanta emerge from the emotional peaks and valleys of the Olympics, the welfare picture will begin to emerge. The cynicism of Clinton and his spouse, the former head of the Children's Defense Fund, will be ever more apparent.

The Clintons know we are a conservative nation. They know candidate Clinton's election is inseparable from his pledge to end welfare as we know it. That statement alone made him a different kind of Democrat. He had to spend three years in office proving his campaign was just a trick.

In the meantime, Gingrich had put flesh on the vague Clinton bone. "It is impossible to maintain civilization," he said over and over, "with 12-year-olds having babies, 15-year-olds killing each other, 17-year-olds dying of AIDS and 18-year-olds getting diplomas they can't even read."

Specifics won, stabbing at the national mood. Now with Clinton's promise to sign the transfer of welfare to the states, time limits for welfare recipients and requirements for work after two years on the dole, the most important part of the Contract With America is about to become law.

"Where is the sense of decency?" railed U.S. Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.). "Where is the heart of this Congress? This bill is mean; it is base; it is downright lowdown."

That is Lewis saying that the Democratic governor of Georgia and the Democratic speaker of the Georgia House and the Democratic General Assembly can't be counted on to care for the less fortunate.

Once the Olympic flame has moved on, the Centennial Park bomber is caught and the tragedy of TWA Flight 800 is resolved, such stories will pick up steam. It will take strong will to withstand the misfortunes of others, but the bigger picture is essential. The welfare system was destroying the nation by warping the behavior of millions. It must change, and that change is better managed by the governments closest to the people.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JAMES H. QUILLEN ON HIS
RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. MOAKLEY. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a dear friend of mine and my longtime colleague on the Rules Committee JIMMY QUILLEN.

JIMMY QUILLEN joined the Rules Committee with another dear friend of mine, Claude Pepper, in 1965.

But this year he will be retiring and the entire country will be the worse for the loss of his service.

JIMMY QUILLEN is the longest serving Republican on the House Rules Committee and the longest serving Tennessee Representative in history.

But JIMMY's service merits distinction for its quality as well as its longevity.

He began serving his country as I did, in the Navy in World War II.

He was elected to the Tennessee State House and eventually chosen as speaker of that body.

And in their wisdom, the people of the First District of Tennessee first elected him to Congress in 1963 and every other year thereafter.