

Mr. Rawson served the public in his 19 years of political service, as well as in his dental practice where he received numerous dental awards including Dentist of the Year in 1997. Mr. Rawson has served his community well in his political capacity, and I am sure he will continue to serve even after his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to stand with me today and honor all those State legislators across the country, like Mr. Rawson, who have dedicated so many years to building a better State community, which in turn contributes to a better Nation.

LOSS OF ARMY MAJ. HORST
GERHARD MOORE

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 20, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great American patriot, Army Major Horst Gerhard "Gary" Moore of Los Fresnos Texas, who gave the last full measure of devotion to the country he loved and served when he was killed in Iraq in November.

He was a child of the Army, following both his father and his grandfather in the uniformed services. Roaming the Nation at the whim of the U.S. Army as a child made him yearn for a home in which to grow old with his beloved wife, Raquel Vallejo-Moore.

He came home from Iraq for a while and, before returning to the war zone in September, he and Raquel bought their dream home. Major Moore was killed in a mortar attack in Mosul, Iraq; he never even spent the night in their new home. He felt strongly about getting his family moved in and settled there.

The last conversation with his wife was to wish her happy birthday. Major Moore served with the 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division for about a year, then he was deployed to Mosul, Iraq, in October to replace the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. He served in the Army 17 years and was considering retiring when his tour of duty ended in about 3 years.

Soldiers who knew and served with Major Moore spoke candidly about the human side of this tough soldier. He was known for his kind and caring manner, and his absolute love of Raquel and their 2-year old daughter, Sophia.

Like so many of our soldiers, Major Moore had a mindset that he could do anything. He lived life to the fullest, and often spoke of living in the moment and making the best out of life's challenges.

I want the Major's daughter, Sophia, who is too young now to understand the depth of her father's sacrifice, to one day appreciate that her father loved this country—and her—enough to go in harm's way to protect our democracy.

I ask my colleagues to remember this great patriot, his great sacrifice, and the family he leaves behind in South Texas.

IN HONOR OF NANCY KIST, ESQ.

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 20, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Kist for her outstanding leadership and contributions to her community. Ms. Kist was honored as a distinguished alumna at the Harvest Ball Sixth Annual Saint Dominic Academy Gala on November 13, 2004, in Lincoln Park, New Jersey.

Throughout the years, Ms. Kist has served the citizens of Bayonne in a variety of capacities. She has contributed greatly to the city's development by serving as general counsel of the Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority and as a member of the law department. Among other accomplishments, Ms. Kist was instrumental in the redevelopment of the Military Ocean Terminal, which has become the Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor. She continues to play a leadership role as the current executive director of the Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority, and is known for pursuing all her professional endeavors with enthusiasm and a passion for improving the well-being of the community.

A graduate of Saint Dominic Academy, Ms. Kist developed an early interest in civic affairs and was vice president of the student government in school.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Nancy Kist for her years of dedication to serving the people and city of Bayonne, New Jersey.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818,
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, in my capacity as the ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration, our panel has authorizing responsibilities over much of the legislative-branch portion of the omnibus appropriations bill. Like the rest of the omnibus, the legislative portion is not perfect, but the sundry agencies under our jurisdiction will generally have the resources they need to continue providing their services to the Congress, and to the American people.

Of course, as a procedural matter, I am disappointed that a freestanding legislative appropriation did not become law in a regular process, before the start of the fiscal year. Such a bill, H.R. 4755, passed the House in July and later passed the Senate in plenty of time for conferees to report. I recognize that this was not the fault of the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] or the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. MORAN]. I hope they and all Members have the opportunity to consider the fiscal 2006 bill in a timely, orderly and ordinary process.

With respect to specific agencies under the jurisdiction of my committee, I am pleased that this bill funds a staff fitness facility for the House. This important facility will provide a

way for our employees to remain fit and healthy. None of us can properly discharge our duties without the support of our staffs and the other House employees. This long-awaited facility will be a tremendous addition to the House, making it, as well as our employees, stronger.

I am disappointed that the bill does not include a House provision, authored by the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. KIRK], eliminating funding for the Capitol Police mounted unit. In my judgment, the police have failed to articulate a sufficient rationale for spending hundreds of thousands, millions over time, for this purpose. There is little doubt that the U.S. Park Police can benefit from maintaining a mounted unit, since the Park Police must patrol thousands of acres of parkland in the District of Columbia, much of it well off-road. The Capitol Police faces no such situation, and in fact, will have to spend tens of thousands each year simply to remove the manure from the carefully manicured and fairly small Capitol grounds. Absent a sufficient justification that the Capitol Police mounted unit was worth its cost, I supported the efforts of my Illinois colleague to save the taxpayers' money. I look forward to the important report by the Government Accountability Office, due in March, on this subject.

I share the concerns expressed in the conference report about the ongoing efforts to reorganize the police. I look forward to reviewing the results of the GAO's contributions in this area. The conferees also directed the Capitol Police to review all existing operations and general expenses to determine whether any "outsourcing" opportunities may exist. That term has come to mean the wholesale transfer of jobs overseas, and as a result, its use in the report may disturb many. Naturally, I am eager to review the Capitol Police's report to the appropriators on this subject, and on the USCP's expensive but mechanically unsound Command Vehicle. It seems that these subjects, and many others related to USCP operations and expenses, would make excellent subjects for formal hearings next year in our committee.

In connection with the Capitol Police, I am greatly concerned that several legislative provisions within the jurisdiction of the House Administration Committee found their way into this appropriations bill. In November, I joined my chairman, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. NEY], and the chairman and ranking minority member of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, in a joint letter to the Capitol Police Board directing the Board not to request further such provisions in its future budget requests, and reminding the Board that it should bring proposed legislation to those committees for consideration. Only in this way can the authorizing and appropriations processes work as designed, and for the good of the men and women of the Capitol Police and the people they serve. The Capitol Police was certainly not the only agency within our jurisdiction which asked for legislative provisions in its budget request this year. The others should similarly heed the message we conveyed to the Police Board.

With respect to the Library of Congress, while I am pleased that the Congress will extend temporarily the authorization for the National Film Preservation Board and Foundation, which enabled the funding of this important work for another 2 years, I am dismayed

that separate reauthorization legislation, under the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee and House Administration, has not passed. I trust these committees can quickly address this matter next year. I agree with the conferees, who lauded the work of the Copyright Office with respect to digitizing future and historic copyright records. The Copyright Office, which depends on the public to defray a portion of its expenses, is headed in the right direction in this regard. I also note the continuing good work of the Congressional Research Service, without which none of the Members of either House could do his or her work effectively.

I am hopeful that our committee can authorize a student-loan repayment program for the Office of Compliance. This important tool has helped numerous Federal agencies, including the House, to attract and retain the staff needed to build an effective organization.

With respect to agencies within our committee's jurisdiction and funded in bills other than the legislative appropriations bill, I am glad to see that the conferees agreed to fund the Election Assistance Commission above the amount proposed by the Senate. The \$14 million appropriated will help continue the work started by the EAC to serve as the clearinghouse for Federal elections. Although, the EAC got a late start, with the commissioners not taking office until December 2003, they must continue working to improve the election process. If Congress considers a supplemental appropriations bill next spring, the EAC should consider requesting additional resources.

Yet again, I am not pleased that the majority bypassed the committee and inserted into this bill a provision allowing contributions to campaigns for Federal office to be diverted to campaigns for State or local office. While this may be a meritorious idea, I certainly believe it should have been considered in an orderly process in the committees of jurisdiction, and not simply added to a massive appropriations bill.

Finally, the Smithsonian Institution received an increase of 3.1 percent over the fiscal 2004 budget, an increase of more than \$19 million, but still 2 percent below its request. The funding level was reasonable given the overall budget constraints this year, but, as in the past, will not fund an aggressive approach to the Smithsonian's aging infrastructure and inadequate maintenance. I hope that Congress will soon recognize that its year-by-year, finger-in-the-dike approach to budgeting actually accelerates the deterioration of the physical plant of our nation's greatest repository of knowledge and ongoing research.

Congress last year finally authorized the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which is in preliminary phases of engineering studies, staffing and planning, and which does not yet have a location or director. The \$5 million request to continue the start up process was reduced to \$3.9 million, which will impede the process. The Board of Regents expects to make a site recommendation to relevant committees, including House Administration, late next year.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the hard work of the Appropriations Committee and look forward to working with the committee on matters of common concern next year.

U.S. SLOWS BID TO ADVANCE DEMOCRACY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 20, 2004

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker when we convened for the lame duck session several weeks ago, I shared with our colleagues a very insightful article from the Washington Post by Fred Hiatt pointing out the extreme gap that exists between the Bush Administration's claim that the advancement of democracy is a major goal of its foreign policy, and the almost complete absence of any real activity towards that goal in the execution of that foreign policy.

The elevation of the promotion of democracy to central status in the Bush foreign policy—in contrast to a great extent to the President's scorn about nation-building when he ran for office in 2000—came partly because of the need to find some substitute justification for the war in Iraq, after weapons of mass destruction and the tie to the 9/11 murders were both shown to be without factual basis. So, many of the neo-conservative supporters of the President—some of them actually believing it—argued that overthrowing Saddam Hussein was an essential step towards an administration policy towards implementing democracy in the Middle East.

This has of course proven to have no more factual basis than the weapons of mass destruction or al-Qaida tie. As Joel Brinkley notes in a long article in the New York Times for Sunday, December 4, "When Secretary of State Colin L. Powell and other senior American officials arrive at a summit meeting in Morocco next week that is intended to promote democracy across the Arab world, *they have no plans to introduce any political initiatives to encourage democratic change.*" (emphasis added)

Contrary to those neo-conservatives who predicted that the overthrow of Saddam Hussein would begin an era in which America was hailed for its liberating role, and democracy would become almost infectious, as Mr. Brinkley notes, "Since then . . . the popular view of the United States in the region has grown so dark, even hateful, that American officials are approaching the meeting with caution and with a package of financial and social initiatives that have only a scant relationship to the original goal of political change."

Mr. Speaker, as we begin a new term for President Bush, with Colin Powell no longer available to provide a façade of moderation, the harsher realities of the Bush foreign policy are becoming clearer. Among these are the President's lack of any real commitment to the promotion of democracy as an American foreign policy goal. Joel Brinkley's excellent analysis is further strong evidence of this and I ask, because of the importance of this subject to our national policy debates, that his very useful article be printed here.

[From the New York Times, Dec. 4, 2004]

U.S. SLOWS BID TO ADVANCE DEMOCRACY IN ARAB WORLD

(By Joel Brinkley)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—When Secretary of State Colin L. Powell and other senior American officials arrive at a summit meeting in Morocco next week that is intended to pro-

mote democracy across the Arab world, they have no plans to introduce any political initiatives to encourage democratic change.

President Bush started speaking in 2002 about the need to bring democracy to the Arab nations. Since then, however, the popular view of the United States in the region has grown so dark, even hateful, that American officials are approaching the meeting with caution and with a package of financial and social initiatives that have only a scant relationship to the original goal of political change.

Administration officials and their allies defend the change in strategy, saying the United States should no longer try to take the lead.

"Others have gotten involved in the political side, and that is a good thing," said Lorne W. Craner, who was assistant secretary of state for democracy and human rights until August and now is president of the International Republican Institute, a government-financed organization dedicated to advancing democracy worldwide. But administration officials said some senior officials in the State Department were frustrated by the unwillingness of their colleagues to raise political initiatives at the meeting.

A senior administration official involved in Middle East policy said that if the American program remained largely centered on business and financial initiatives, "that's not good enough." The United States needs "to hold people accountable," he added.

Another official working in the same area added that Arab leaders were "willing to take the aid, but they're not willing to carry out the reform."

Mr. Powell, in a radio interview on Thursday, said he hoped the summit meeting participants would "come to an understanding of the need for reform and modernization in the broader Middle East and North Africa region."

When the State Department set up a news media briefing last month on the Morocco meeting, it assigned Alan P. Larson, undersecretary of state for economic, business and agricultural affairs, to make the presentation. He said the meeting was intended "to create greater opportunities for the next generation in the broader Middle East" through grants and aid to small businesses, networking among regional financial institutions and exchanging "views about how to bring more capital in the region," among other ideas. The United States is involved in most of those efforts through its Middle East Partnership Initiative.

In an interview, Mr. Larson contended that these and other financial proposals would contribute to democratic change, at least indirectly.

"When you help small entrepreneurs, that creates a middle-class part of the social underpinning of a democracy," he said. "We see synergistic links between political and economic initiatives."

He and other officials said more direct discussions of political change would come from the Democratic Assistance Dialogue, a new program administered by Italy, Turkey and Yemen intended to foster discussion of political change. But after an initial organizational meeting in Rome last month, future meetings have not yet been scheduled, said Burak Akcapar, counselor in the Turkish Embassy.

The Middle East Partnership Initiative, which has received \$264 million from Congress since 1993, has a political component. But a study by two scholars at the Brookings Institution, published this week, found that it was "increasingly shifting its resources from democracy promotion and engagement with local volunteer organizations, to the far