

As a senior member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and its subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment I salute the efforts and cooperation between Kagayaki-Kobe and Mrs. Polissa Choueke in their dedication to the betterment of the mentally challenged, in furthering awareness and acceptance for the disabled, in providing both material and personal assistance to those in need, and working together to promote good will in nurturing the friendship between the people of Japan and those of the United States of America through service to others.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S NATIONAL
DAY

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Republic of China's National Day on October 10th. Today I join the Taiwanese people as they celebrate their freedom. Taiwan has peacefully transformed itself from an authoritarian regime to full-fledged democracy. It will hopefully constitute a model for the eventual establishment of a genuine democracy in China.

The United States and Taiwan value human rights, civil liberties, a free press and the rule of law. Our shared values have produced a strong and dependable friendship for over sixty years. Today, the people of Taiwan determine their own destiny and government through free and fair elections.

The Republic of China was one of the first to come to our aid after the events of September 11th attacks and Hurricane Katrina devastations. Taiwan continues to be our ally in the war against terrorism by providing humanitarian assistance in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In honoring the Republic of China, we need to continue to sell defensive weapons to Taiwan fulfilling our commitments under the Taiwan Relations Act. Despite the goodwill that has been gradually built up between Taiwan and China, the possibility of military confrontation continues to exist in the Taiwan Strait. A well-armed Taiwan is the best guarantee to perpetuate peace and stability in the region.

To ROC President Ma Ying-jeou I say "good luck." I remain hopeful that our relations will continue to be strengthened in 2011 and beyond. Certainly, the capable leadership of Ambassador Jason Yuan has helped to further our relations with the government and people of Taiwan.

HONORING GLOS POLEK

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial of Glos Polek, the official publication of the Polish Women's Alliance of America, PWAA. Since its first issue was printed in 1910, Glos Polek has influenced the lives of hundreds of thousands of Polish women and their families in the United States and abroad.

Throughout hundreds of issues, the newspaper documented women's struggle and their plight to attain equal rights within society. The articles and photographs contained in Glos Polek's pages covered the scope of female injustice. They were undoubtedly instrumental in rallying women's voices to collectively demand their right to vote and make their own financial decisions. Glos Polek urged women to pursue higher education, enter into the professional world and, in the face of the global battle, tear down fascism and communism along Poland's path toward democracy and independence. To its core, Glos Polek told the stories of ordinary, everyday women facing the challenges of their time.

A traveling exhibition called "A Voice of Their Own" has been planned to mark Glos Polek's centennial. It is scheduled to open in Chicago in the fall of 2010 and travel to other U.S. cities in 2011 before continuing to Poland in 2012. The exhibit hopes to attract publicity for the newspaper's historic anniversary, generate interest in the PWAA, and increase membership.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing one of the most impactful, longest running and well-respected publications in women's history. Chicago's extensive Polish community has greatly contributed to the city's multicultural identity, and the city is proud to host Polish American organizations like the PWAA. Please join us in making Glos Polek's 100th birthday a successful and meaningful celebration.

HONORING MR. BILL KLING FOR
HIS SERVICE TO AMERICA'S VET-
ERANS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. William "Bill" Kling for his continued service to America's veterans. Mr. Kling's unwavering patriotism and continued dedication to America's heroes are to be highly commended.

Bill Kling served in the Navy during the Second World War. It was during his time in the Navy that Mr. Kling developed an unceasing devotion to his fellow servicemen. For over 35 years since, Mr. Kling has served his fellow veterans living in South Florida through community service and political activism.

Mr. Kling currently serves as the Chair of the Broward County Veterans Council (BCVC), a coalition of 57 organizations in Broward and Palm Beach Counties that operates under a common plan to protect and implement benefits for veterans.

Uniting behind its mission "To Serve and Unite our Veterans," the BCVC has achieved substantial benefits for our veterans under Mr. Kling's leadership. As an advocate for better health care for veterans, Mr. Kling led the drive to build the new state-of-the-art Broward County VA Outpatient Clinic in Sunrise, FL. In addition to a successful campaign for a veterans state nursing home located in Pembroke Pines—a crucial service for veterans living in South Florida—Mr. Kling and the BCVC were also instrumental in delivering a VA hospital to Palm Beach, Florida.

Mr. Kling's leadership has even had a national impact. Mr. Kling and the BCVC are responsible for the implementation of the handicapped parking signs that are now ubiquitous in shopping malls and public areas across America.

Bill Kling's most recent service to America's veterans has focused on national legislation and keeping the BCVC's member organizations informed so that they may act accordingly. Mr. Kling has been an outspoken critic of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy and a leading voice in the fight for its repeal. Additionally, Mr. Kling has been actively working to ensure that military families receive the same benefits as private citizens under America's recent landmark health care reform. Mr. Kling's leadership will help 700,000 young adults whose families are members of TRICARE, which covers military families, become eligible for health insurance coverage.

I have always valued Mr. Kling's insights and advice, and I proudly salute his exceptional service to our nation's veterans and, indeed, to all Americans. Not only is Bill Kling an American hero, Madam Speaker, he is a living testimony to the spirit of national service and a true role model.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,468,173,874,830.08.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,829,748,128,536.28 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING DISCOVERY HOSTAGE
SITUATION

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the actions of the men and women who responded courageously to the recent hostage situation at the Discovery Communications building in Silver Spring, Maryland.

On Wednesday, September 1, 2010, a man entered the Discovery Communications building in downtown Silver Spring, Maryland, taking three people hostage. This individual was holding a gun and possessed four improvised explosive devices, including one strapped to his body. For more than three hours, authorities attempted to negotiate with him to surrender and release the hostages. He was heard to repeatedly state that he was prepared to die. After hearing what was believed to be either a gunshot or an explosive detonating, the law enforcement team shot him and freed the hostages.