

RECOGNITION OF MR. RAÚL
MAGDALENO

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to congratulate one of my constituents who will be honored for his extraordinary volunteerism leadership in the community. Mr. Raúl Magdaleno will be presented with the MillerCoors 2010 Lider of the Year Award at the Latino Cultural Center in Dallas, Texas on Thursday, February 24, 2011.

Raúl Magdaleno was the one among 12 Hispanic leaders chosen for outstanding contributions to his community through volunteerism at Parents Step Ahead/Padres un Paso Adelante. Mr. Magdaleno was selected through an online public voting campaign hosted from September 15 through October 29, 2010. In compliment to his award, Parents Step Ahead will receive a \$25,000 grant for a community leadership project in collaboration with MillerCoors. The focus of Parents Step Ahead is to encourage parents to participate in their children's education.

Although this is a prestigious award, this is not the first honor bestowed upon this exceptional Dallasite. Mr. Magdaleno is a 2004 recipient of the United States Congressional Gold Medal for his more than 29,000 hours of community service. He has clearly demonstrated his dedication to the Hispanic community and leadership ability to serve those in need. At present, Mr. Magdaleno oversees the office of Diversity and Community Outreach for Southern Methodist University's Meadows School of the Arts.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Raúl Magdaleno for his remarkable commitment as a servant leader. He is one that our youth across the nation can aspire towards to make this country a better place to live. In his own words, "Perseverance and determination triumphs over any disadvantage life may bring you."

TRIBUTE TO LEONARD METZGER,
JR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer tribute to Mr. Leonard Metzger, Jr., a beloved and respected member of the South Alabama business community who recently passed away at the age of 81.

To his many friends, Leonard Metzger was a gentleman, an avid outdoorsman, a devoted businessman and booster of the community.

Born in Mobile in 1929, Mr. Metzger graduated from University Military School, UMS, where he was the 1948 Julius Tutwiler Award recipient. He would later serve on the UMS-Wright Board of Directors for 25 years.

He attended the University of Alabama until he was called home to lead the family clothing business, Metzger's, after the death of his father, Leonard Metzger, Sr.

For three decades, Mr. Metzger guided the store and supervised its expansion. He sold

his business interest in the early 1980's and turned his attention to local civic activities, including the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo and the Junior Miss Pageant.

Mr. Metzger loved fishing, duck hunting and telling humorous stories as much as he loved making friends.

His contributions to our community in business and civic activities are many and he will be sorely missed.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I wish to extend condolences to Mildred, his wife of 36 years; his son, Leonard "Lee"; daughters, Nancy, Peggy and Debbie; step-daughter, Marty; sister, Clare; 6 grandchildren, and extended family and friends. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DAVID M.
ALTWEGG

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement from the Department of Defense, I wish to recognize Mr. David M. Altwegg, Rear Admiral (RADM) (Retired) for his more than six decades of dedicated military and federal service to the security of our country. In his most recent assignment, he served as Executive Director at the Missile Defense Agency, where he advised the Director on issues related to the management and operations of one of the most dynamic organizations within the Department of Defense. Mr. Altwegg has made an enormous contribution to the successful development and fielding of a defensive system to protect this nation, American troops deployed abroad, and our allies and friends from attack by ballistic missiles.

Mr. Altwegg enlisted in the Navy in 1947 and after attending aviation electronics training, he earned a fleet appointment to the United States Naval Academy, earning his commission in 1952. He rose through the ranks as a Surface Warfare Officer where he led sailors and Marines through three decades of distinguished military service, retiring from active duty in 1985. RADM Altwegg's passion to serve this great country led him to continue his federal government service for another quarter century as part of the Senior Executive Service. It is to this nation's benefit that Mr. Altwegg decided to pursue a post-navy career in civil service.

Mr. Chairmen, very few individuals demonstrate the passion, patriotism, loyalty and dedication to national security as exemplified by Mr. Altwegg. His accomplishments and leadership over the course of his 24 year senior executive career contributed significantly to the Department of Defense in the areas of complex combat systems development, acquisition reform, and the fielding of a ballistic missile defense capability for the Nation. As a senior executive, he served in positions of increasing responsibility in the Naval Sea Systems Command and the Program Executive Office for Theater Air Defense (later renamed Theater Surface Combatants). He served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Theater Combat Systems before being assigned to the newly formed Missile Defense

Agency where he rose to the position of Executive Director, the senior civilian in this organization.

Mr. Altwegg has been at the forefront of the Department of Defense efforts to improve and streamline the acquisition of complex combat systems for his entire civilian career, but nowhere has he had more direct impact than in his current Missile Defense Agency assignment. He pioneered the portfolio management concept when MDA was formed in 2002 through the consolidation of all Service ballistic missile defense programs under this new Defense Agency. Concurrent with this effort, he revamped the budget development and oversight process for MDA's \$8 billion annual portfolio, and he dramatically improved the detail and applicability of budget documentation for Congress and other national leaders, resulting in bipartisan praise for promoting a much clearer understanding of a very technically complex program of work. His vision for managing disparate systems as a single integrated system, networking air and space surveillance resources to allow the warfighter to take advantage of the full kinematic range of the family of missile defense interceptors, revolutionized the way we think of the DoD Acquisition Model. MDA's early application of spiral development to introduce future capability in blocks became the new lexicon used by the Defense Acquisition University where we train our future acquisition experts.

Mr. Altwegg also championed the re-engineering of the agency's management structure to better administer and support a revolutionary approach to developing and fielding missile defense capabilities. He redefined the Executive Management Council organization around the three core executive management functions of the Director (head of agency, acquisition executive and program manager) improving teamwork, increasing the information flow among senior executives and dramatically reducing decision cycle time. His tireless efforts streamlined staff, improved communication among more than 30 departments, and advanced the interests of the Department of Defense and American taxpayers in more efficiently delivering improved ballistic missile defense capabilities.

Consistent with the President's Quality Management Agenda as set forth in 2002, Mr. Altwegg pushed for better metrics and measures to support all aspects of ballistic missile defense acquisition. When the Office of Management and Budget implemented their Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART), the MDA was included in the first group of government agencies to be reviewed. The MDA earned an unprecedented score of 75 in the first year. This objective assessment by an outside organization was a direct reflection of Mr. Altwegg's ability to set measurable goals for MDA and to communicate a complex strategy and revolutionary spiral acquisition process.

He was also singularly responsible for the agency's implementation of the President's Management Agenda spotlight activity for Budget-Performance Integration, achieving 100 percent integration of the agency's strategic and budgetary goals. He articulated a recurring strategic rhythm where investment, development, testing and fielding decisions are based on periodic reviews of the maturity, progress and balance of the ballistic missile defense portfolio. Strategic decisions on element progress are based on their ability to

meet predefined knowledge points as they proceed through development and testing. Mr. Altwegg initiated and deployed an array of earned value and life cycle management tools to optimize MDA knowledge-based decision systems and criteria, and he spearheaded efforts to evaluate and make informed senior leader decisions based upon cost, schedule, performance and relative merit criteria and metrics. He developed and managed numerous data generation and evaluation systems—including MDA's Integrated Program Plan and supporting management systems and activities—to more effectively manage system wide and component level costs and schedules, balance development and fielding priorities and successfully meet block development and fielding goals.

He has been the central figure in planning and responding to the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) commission's recommendations to consolidate missile defense development activities at Redstone Arsenal in Alabama. He has collaborated closely with the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Service and Department of the Army staffs to ensure MDA's requirements are fully considered. He has personally championed open communication with the workforce to survey employee concerns, develop detailed plans for executing the directed realignments and ensure workforce needs are addressed. He has personally met with Huntsville Alabama Chamber of Commerce and coordinated an informative series of presentations to the staff to minimize anxiety and provide information to families, and he established an advanced detachment of support staff to facilitate the transition of services and functions to our new location.

Mr. Altwegg has been a guiding force for the Missile Defense Agency and the prime author of our long-term strategy to strengthen and maximize the flexibility of the nation's missile defense capabilities. He advocated and succeeded in aligning the agencies missile defense programs to achieve a greater degree of mobility through better networked, forward-deployed sensors and interceptors; and additional layers of increasingly capable missile defenses. He stood at the forefront of establishing MDA as a global leader in ballistic missile defense capabilities. In doing so, he has set and enforced an uncompromising standard of excellence and professionalism among the workforce and has created a "core competency" for our national security structure.

He has tirelessly advocated for the responsible use of scarce resources as well as for effective care and professional development of the civilian workforce; and his sustained accomplishments are deserving of special recognition. Mr. Altwegg, thank you for your service and God bless.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I missed rollcall vote 64. If I had been present, I would have voted "aye."

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. TONKO. Madam Chair. I move to strike the last word.

The cuts contained in these sections to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program—LIHEAP—are dangerous, and I rise to oppose them. The Republican continuing resolution cuts \$390.3 million in funding from LIHEAP's emergency contingency fund for the remaining seven months of this fiscal year. Those are cuts that are made on the backs of the low-income residents, like those I represent in the cold and snowy Capital Region of New York, who struggle to pay for the cost of home heating oil and natural gas.

LIHEAP is a widely supported, essential program that delivers short-term aid to our most vulnerable neighbors, including the elderly on fixed incomes. LIHEAP provides a vital safety net, allowing families and seniors to stay healthy and protected from cold winters and hot summers. It keeps those receiving help from having to make the heart-breaking decision about whether to pay to keep the heat on, or to pay for food and prescription drugs.

The numbers of households receiving assistance reached record levels this year, increasing from 7.7 million to 8.8 million. The rise in participation includes only households that are below the maximum income level—\$33,525 for a family of four this year. The need for the continued support of LIHEAP is clear—the program was only able to help one in five eligible Americans. Four out of five families in need went without this assistance, and were left out in the cold.

The Republican continuing resolution cuts \$390.3 million in funding from LIHEAP's contingency fund. The LIHEAP contingency fund allocates emergency funding to states dealing with emergencies, like cold snaps, heat waves, or spikes in energy prices that force low-income Americans to cut off their heat. So far this year, the Administration has released \$200 million in contingency funds, illustrating the need for full funding of the contingency fund. I do not think we can afford to let seven more months pass and risk another blizzard, or another heat wave, and leave our nation's vulnerable citizens out on their own.

In FY 2010, my home state of New York received about \$57.8 million in contingency funds, but in FY 2011 the state has only received about \$26 million. These CR cuts would mean that New York loses out on about half the contingency fund money it saw during the same period last year. Given the fact that this winter has been comparably cold and seen substantially more snow, my state and my constituents will be losing out tremendously with these cuts.

The continued need for LIHEAP funding is clear to me as I travel around my district and

talk to my constituents. Staff in my district offices help connect seniors and low-income families to LIHEAP for desperately needed assistance. Cutting funding for this program is, in my mind, unconscionable. We cannot leave behind our nation's most vulnerable in the dead of winter.

The Majority is lauding the fact that this bill represents the largest spending cut in the history of our country. If they want to cut funding to satisfy their base, fine. But I will not stand for cutting LIHEAP funding. I will not support budget cuts balanced on the backs of seniors on fixed incomes, struggling to make it through this cold winter. Madam Chair, I urge defeat of this bill.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to this legislation. All of us recognize the need for fiscal restraint, but we should not be doing so at the expense of working families.

Governing is about making difficult choices, making wise investments where we can, while recognizing the fiscal pressures our nation faces. This legislation is an abdication of that responsibility. It would harm our most vulnerable citizens, fail to invest in economic recovery and cost American jobs. For our economy to recover over the long term, American workers need training and education that will enable them to compete in a new global economy. However, the Republican spending bill makes drastic cuts to education, putting a college degree out of reach for more working families.

In my district, this bill will deprive 22,000 working families of nearly \$1,000 in financial assistance from the Pell Grant program. Many of these New Yorkers will have to pay more in tuition. For some, this shortfall may prevent them from completing their degree, altogether.

The cuts to the Pell program are just one way education suffers. Spread throughout my district, there are thirty-two Head Start centers that offer early education to the children of working families. New York City Head Start will lose almost \$30 million in funding. As we look for ways to strengthen our country's economy, cutting services that prepare children for the future seems not just unconscionable, but unwise.

Just as children and young people would be penalized by this legislation, some of our oldest and most vulnerable citizens would be harmed. In the middle of winter, New York City would lose \$4.4 million in funding from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, forcing seniors and working families to choose between keeping the heat on and purchasing groceries.