

power it would eliminate the overlaps, contradictions, and waste of resources in the mandates of the HET and PONI.

Likewise the suggestion of Baroness O'Loan—who served very successfully as Police Ombudsman from 2000 to 2007—for an Investigative Commission that would be a “totally independent investigative fully empowered and fully resourced body with a remit to examine any Troubles related cases involving death up to 2006 . . .” Lady O'Loan's proposal emphasizes the need for an unimpeachably independent agency in order to win the trust of both communities.

In any case Dr. Haass' proposal remains extremely important on all points—those involved most closely in the peace process have expressed their confidence that it accurately reflects the current divisions and positions of the parties, and will likely serve as an important basis for future discussions.

We also heard about the Finucane case and the British Military Reaction Force. These aspects of ‘dealing with the past’ were not covered by Dr Haass' proposal to the Northern Ireland political parties—because they deal with matters that are the responsibility of the British Government.

First, the British Government's failure to conduct the promised inquiry into collusion in the 1989 murder of Patrick Finucane. The British Government has a solemn obligation to initiate the full, independent, public, judicial inquiry that was agreed as part of the overall peace settlement in Northern Ireland during the Weston Park negotiations in 2001. This obligation, which was undertaken by both governments as part of the Belfast Agreement—one of the outstanding diplomatic achievements of recent decades—was an extremely serious undertaking. In order for the peace process to move forward, the British Government must honor it.

While Prime Minister Cameron admitted to “shocking” levels of collusion between the state and loyalist paramilitaries in the murder of Patrick Finucane, and apologized to the Finucane family for it, this does not substitute for a full exposition of the facts behind the British State's involvement in the murder. Rather the steady increase in the amount of evidence being revealed publicly that the British State colluded with the killers has made honoring that commitment more important than ever.

The British Government committed to implement the recommendation of a judge of international standing on six inquiry cases; in 2004, Judge Peter Cory recommended a public inquiry in the case of Patrick Finucane. To date, it remains the only case investigated where the recommendation has not been honored, a situation that is deeply unsatisfactory for many reasons but not least because it is evidently the one where the British Government is most culpable. Conversely, it is also the case in which—until the Prime Minister's announcement in December 2012—there has been the greatest level of sustained official denial by various state agencies.

The many previous denials and time that has passed have drained public confidence in the peace process and diminished respect for the rule of law in Northern Ireland. It must be said that there are those who oppose the peace process and their opposition is dangerous. The failure to address the case of Patrick Finucane in the manner promised by the British Government provides a readily avail-

able propaganda tool for those who would abuse it to further their own ends. In our view, this represents yet another reason why the Finucane case is one of the most important unresolved issues in the peace process.

Second, there is the matter of killings committed by the British Army's Military Reaction Force. From approximately 1971–1973 the British Army ran an undercover unit of approximately 40 soldiers, who operated out-of-uniform and in unmarked cars, mostly around Belfast.

On November 21, 2013, the BBC program Panorama aired a documentary in which former members of MRF broke silence on aspects of the unit's operations, confirming what many had suspected for a long time. The BBC reported that, “we've investigated the unit and discovered evidence that this branch of the British states sometimes . . . shot unarmed civilians.”

The BBC spoke to seven former members of the MRF, and though the men were careful not to incriminate themselves or each other in specific killings, they made plain that, as *The Independent* fairly characterized the report, “The unit . . . would carry out drive-by shootings against unarmed people on the street without any independent evidence they were part of the IRA.”

As one of the former members admitted to the BBC, “We were not there to act like an army unit—we were there to act like a terror group.”

Now the onus is on the British Government to investigate and punish these crimes. The British Ministry of Defense has said that it has referred the matter to the police for investigation. Unfortunately, the BBC reported that “these soldiers were undercover, and what they did has been airbrushed from the official record.”

---

#### LUCERO RIVERA

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 13, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Lucero Rivera for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Lucero Rivera is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Lucero Rivera is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Lucero Rivera for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

---

#### TRIBUTE TO “MAGGIE” SILVER

### HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 13, 2014*

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Marjorie P. “Maggie” Silver Smith, a

female pioneer, entrepreneur and a legend in the American Rail Industry who passed away on March 9, 2014. I was privileged to work with Maggie and was honored to know her both as a good friend and strong advocate for our Nation's railroads.

Maggie was a leader in the American rail business and a most respected member of various railroad infrastructure panels. She came from a railroad family, working with her father at Pinsky Railroad in 1965, and succeeded him as President in 1977 becoming Chairman of the Board in 2000. After her father's death, she was advised to sell the company. However Maggie was determined to run Pinsky holdings because she understood and embraced the changes that were occurring in the railroad industry, especially under the Staggers Act.

Under her leadership, she grew the Pinsky Railroad companies to eight short line railroads and railroad distribution companies serving 200 customers. She was a member and officer on the Board of the American Short Line Railroad Association and also played a leadership role at the Massachusetts Railroad Association and the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association.

Maggie was recognized by all as a knowledgeable, vocal and effective spokesman for the rail industry. Her innovation and good business sense made her one of the most important and significant leaders in the short line industry. She was renowned for being tough but fair, thoughtful and forward thinking, continually encouraging women to enter and succeed in the railroad industry. Her wonderful wit, enthusiasm, energy and presence always had a positive impact, and she will be truly missed.

My deepest sympathy is extended to her husband, Robert; daughters, Anne, Leslie and Lindsey; and sons, John, Marc and James.

I ask all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the distinguished life and service of Marjorie P. “Maggie” Silver Smith.

---

#### HONORING CLAN “BUD” PROFFER

### HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 13, 2014*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Clan “Bud” Proffer who has been a valuable asset to Cape Girardeau County for over 32 years through his dedication and work with the Sheriff's Office in the Patrol Division, as Captain of Field Operations. Bud has shown his commitment to law enforcement by attending many hours of training on Missouri laws, crime investigations, supervisory training, reporting crimes, and countless hours of continuing education. He was appointed to the Cape Girardeau/Bollinger County Major Case Squad in 1983. Bud has served the community and his fellow employees as the Captain of the Field Operations Division for over 27 years.

Bud has shown dedication and commitment to his profession by leading the Sheriff's Office in their endeavor to automate the operations of the Sheriff's Office by obtaining, installing and maintaining computer programs, software and equipment to keep the Sheriff's Office automated for over 25 years. Over the years, Bud has received numerous awards such as the Timothy J. Ruopp Award for Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer in 1987 and again in 2012.

It is with the utmost respect and deepest gratitude that I recognize and thank Bud Proffer for his many years of service to the Cape Girardeau County Sheriff's Office. I wish him health and happiness in his future endeavors and in his retirement. I am grateful that we have such caring members of the Cape Girardeau community; it is my pleasure to recognize his achievements before the House of Representatives.

CELEBRATING THE GIRL SCOUTS  
OF AMERICA

**HON. LEONARD LANCE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 13, 2014*

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Girl Scouts of America as the organization celebrates its 102nd anniversary. More than 60 million Americans, and thousands of young women in my district, have been part of the premier leadership organization for girls.

The mission of the Girl Scouts has been to introduce girls to positive role models and experiences. Activities in science and technology, business and economic literacy, outdoor awareness and team building make them women of courage, confidence and character.

I applaud the Girl Scouts for more than a century of distinguished public service and the girls in my community for their achievements.

MAKENZIE MATTHEWS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 13, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Makenzie Matthews for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Makenzie Matthews is a 10th grader at Pomona High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Makenzie Matthews is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Makenzie Matthews for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

USS BATTLESHIP "TEXAS" CELEBRATES 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

*Thursday, March 13, 2014*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, fittingly titled after the Lone Star State, the USS *Texas* was the most powerful warship the world had seen. Commissioned on March 12, 1914, she participated in the most important battles of the first half of the Twentieth Century, spanning both World Wars and including the invasion of North Africa, Normandy, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the commissioning of this important Battleship named after our great state.

To commemorate her 100th anniversary, the Battleship *Texas* Foundation along with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are throwing a Texas-sized celebration for the Battleship on March 15, 2014 in La Porte at the San Jacinto Battleground Park. The all day festival will feature live music, food, fireworks, and activities for children as well as tours of the battleship. This month, don't pass up a great opportunity to go aboard and get a firsthand look of the last of the great Dreadnought battleships.

As a kid growing up in Spring Branch, I always looked forward to the long days of the hot Houston summers. Long days meant more time to play outside. I didn't know that summers in the other parts of the world were not steamy like here in Houston. (I now those from up north that Houston has two seasons: Summer and August.) Like most kids in the neighborhood, my sister and I played outdoors a good portion of the day and didn't come in til dark. We knew when the porch light came on, we had to be home within five minutes of seeing the "beacon" or there would be consequences. Occasionally, we got to take summer excursions with the family to the battlegrounds, the Monument and of course the Battleship *Texas*. That is where my love for the USS *Texas* began.

As kids, we thought it was "cool" that Texas had its own Battleship. We would pretend to shoot the guns on the ship, run through the countless corridors, nooks and crannies, climb the ladders as far as was allowed and reenact battles on the great battlegwagon. My best friend Pete Cliburn and I would climb from top to bottom of the "Mighty T," firing every gun and squeezing down every port hole along the way. We explored and climbed the ladders to the upper decks as high as we could go. When you reached the top of the ladder of the highest point, you better remember that the metal deck you were about to lay your forearms on was as hot as a cast iron skillet! But, as kids we couldn't care less; we were fighting on the greatest battleship to have ever sailed.

As I grew older, my fondness for the USS *Texas* remained, and I learned more about the amazing legacy of BB 35. Her most notable contributions came in WWII, firing at Nazi defenses during the D-Day invasion at Normandy. Called the "smartest man o'war afloat," the *Texas* was an integral part of many US victories.

As the flagship of the US fleet, the *Texas* was the first of her kind to mount anti-aircraft guns, to use the first commercial radar, to launch an aircraft and to lay claim to the First Marine Division in 1941. At the end of the

War, she made three trips bringing American servicemen home.

On April 21, 1948, the *Texas* was decommissioned and her place in history took root right here in our backyard. School children across Texas saved their nickels to help pay to dry dock the Battleship at the site of the Battlegrounds on the San Jacinto River. As a kid, it was obvious to me why General Sam routed Santa Anna—we had a battleship! It took me awhile to figure out that the Texas Revolution was in the 1800s, and the Battleship *Texas* was used in the 1900s. After all they retired her on San Jacinto Day. While that all made perfectly good sense back then, my love for Texas history in the years to come taught me that they were not one in the same, and General Sam's accomplishments became far more impressive.

Texas still has an "Honorary" Texas Navy. In the 1980s, the Governor of Texas appointed me as an Admiral in the Texas Navy. (Everyone in the Navy is an Admiral.) During my tenure as a judge, the "Mighty T" found its way back into my life, and the lives of offenders I ordered to be "enlisted" into the "Texas Navy." I ordered probationers who were skilled welders, painters, plumbers and electricians to help in the restoration efforts of the Battleship. As one of many creative sentences, this became another effective tool that both served the public and the probationer—a few even went on to be hired by the Parks and Wildlife Department.

During the '80s, the ship needed repairs so it could be taken to Galveston for refurbishing. Several groups helped with the entire operation spearheaded by the Texas Parks Service. The First Texas Volunteers provide major restoration projects and have kept this old ship alive for thousands of visitors each year. The volunteers are working extra hard to prepare the ship for her 100th birthday bash.

Today, the Battleship *Texas* serves as a museum and a reminder of wars long past. In 1948, she was designated a National Historic Landmark. The *Texas* has an onboard museum that details her efforts in our fight for freedom and a history of the sailors that called her their own. The San Jacinto State Historical Park is just a short drive—tour the ship, enjoy the festivities, and relive some history aboard the magnificent USS *Texas*. And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF INTEL  
SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH FI-  
NALISTS KATHY CAMENZIND,  
ESHA MAITI, AND EMILY PANG

**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 13, 2014*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize three finalists for the Intel Science Talent Search: Kathy Camenzind and Esha Maiti from California High School, and Emily Pang from Dougherty Valley High School, all from San Ramon, California in my congressional district.

These bright high school students are among the forty finalists selected from over 1,800 entrants in the Intel Science Talent Search, which is a competition that challenges students to tackle difficult scientific questions.