

Health care providers are also subject to the \$150 million cap. A growing number of health care providers are delivering medical services in a cost-effective manner outside of the hospital setting. Yet, providers like community health clinics, skilled nursing facilities, and ambulatory care facilities are limited by the \$150 million cap per institution in outstanding tax-exempt bonds.

Additionally, as alternative health care facilities and hospitals form integrated health care delivery systems, the \$150 million cap hinders the consolidation of these entities. The cap actually acts as a barrier to these mergers. After a merger, the surviving institutions would have a single, \$150 million limit.

Any bond issuance which exceeded this limit could become taxable retroactively to their date of issuance, an event that would constitute a default under the typical covenants governing nonhospital 501(c)(3) bonds.

I have sponsored or cosponsored similar legislation in past Congresses but I remain hopeful that with the bipartisan support the legislation enjoys that it can move forward in this Congress.

VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC TRIBUTE

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 23, 1996

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay an overdue tribute to the organizers of the Victory in the Pacific ceremony, which was held in Orange County's Pacific Amphitheatre on August 17, 1995.

Orange County is home to some 60,000 veterans of one of the most noble and horrible conflicts, the Second World War. No doubt a large portion of these heroes saw action in the Pacific theater of operations, fighting against the tyranny of imperial Japan. On August 17 of last year, they came together in solemn remembrance of the battles, campaigns, and final victory of half a century ago.

Mr. Speaker, I was unfortunately unable to attend this historic event. However, I was lucky enough to be presented with an honorary program, as well as a news article from the August 25, 1995, issue of *Flight Jacket*, a newspaper published by my Semper-Fi neighbors at Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro. In order to describe this event in the detail it deserves, I ask unanimous consent to enter this article into the RECORD.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay special tribute to the men and women who put together this fine event, especially those members of the Orange County Veterans Advisory Council, chaired by William C. Manes, and the Victory in the Pacific Committee, chaired by Hal Camp. They have done an outstanding service, not only to our World War II heroes, but to all Americans who have ever worn the uniform of our armed services. God willing, we will never take our freedom for granted, because events like this will always remind us of the terrible price we as a nation have paid in the past, and may be asked to pay in the future, in order to ensure our liberty. We will never forget those who fought for freedom, for without them, we as a people would simply not exist.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC

(By Sgt. Matthew B. Fitzgerald)

COSTA MESA, CA.—Veterans, active duty servicemembers, civilians and their family members celebrated America's 50th Anniversary Remembrance of World War II, "Victory in the Pacific," at the Orange County Pacific Amphitheater here Aug. 17.

There are approximately three million veterans in California. About one-third of these veterans, approximately 832,000 Californians, are veterans of WWII—many of whom participated in operations in the Pacific Theater, according to retired Marine Col. Jay R. Vargas, director, Department of Veterans Affairs, California.

"Sixty-three thousand citizens of Orange County served in uniform during World War II," he said.

"This celebration honors the contributions of those men and women, not only in the war, but also and perhaps more importantly, in the post-war period. It is also the result of the hard work they contributed to building peace and prosperity upon their return from the war's battlefields," said Col. Vargas.

Colonel Vargas, who received the Medal of Honor for action in Vietnam, represented Governor Pete Wilson. The Governor proclaimed 1995 as the "Year of the Veteran" in California.

Six guest speakers gave eulogies remembering the six military leaders of the Pacific campaigns. Two of the Pacific commanders honored were Marine Gen. Holland M. Smith, by MGen. Paul A. Fratarangelo, commander, Marine Corps Air Bases, Western Area, and Army Gen. Douglas MacArthur, by Army MGen. Robert A. Lame, commanding general 63rd Army, Reserve Command.

"Holland McTyeire Smith, the epitome of the warrior-Marine, never closed his eyes very long. As 'The Father of Modern Amphibious Warfare,' his eyes, always blazing with the guts and fire of success (hence the name 'Mad'), saw his Marines to victory in the Pacific during World War II," said MGen. Fratarangelo.

Major Gen. Fratarangelo said it was a deep honor for him to be able to share with those who attended the enormous contributions of Gen. Smith to "Corps and country" during World War II.

The day's events also included a wreath-laying ceremony. Thirty-five wreaths in honor of the military leaders were placed on stage by state and national political leaders, military leaders, representatives of the allied governments involved in the Pacific Theater and Medal of Honor recipients from the Pacific Campaigns.

Another honored veteran who attended was Medal of Honor recipient, retired Army Col. Lewis L. Millett, a combat veteran of World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

As company commander of Company E, 27th Infantry Regiment, then Capt. Millett led his 100 men in three days of bayonet assaults against the North Koreans on hill 180, Soam-ni, North of Oson, South Korea, Feb. 4, 5 and 7, 1951.

Colonel Millett told his men, "Fix bayonets and follow me!"

On the third day of fighting, Millett had lost a total of nine of his men, while he and his company had destroyed approximately 157 North Koreans. For these actions, he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

"We had ammo, and when I was charging, I'd be firing, trying to pin the enemy down until I got down in the trenches with them. That's when we used the bayonets," Millett said.

"There were about 20 killed by bayonet alone," he said.

According to Millett, when President Harry S. Truman placed the medal around

his neck, the president told him, "I'd rather have this than be president."

Colonel Millett also received a Silver Star, Bronze Star and four Purple Hearts during his military career.

The Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Band provided the patriotic music for the day. Some of the tunes the band played were the service songs, "Taps," "Stars and Stripes Forever" and the "National Anthem."

"It was good to see veterans still appreciate our country, the lives they lived through the military and share the experiences they have gone through," said LCpl. David B. Amos, tuba player, MCRD Band, MCRD San Diego.

Another guest and veteran who attended was former Army military policeman and bugler first class Fred Hummer, a Fountain Valley, Calif., resident. In 1916, Hummer enlisted in the Army during World War I at the age of 17. He wore a replica of his original WWI Army uniform.

When Hummer enlisted, his recruiter told him that the Army needed buglers, not infantrymen. After joining, Hummer's unit, D Company, 22nd Infantry, was sent to El Paso, Texas, to assist in the capture of Francisco "Pancho" Villa, a Mexican rebel.

Hummer spent the remainder of his four years of service in the Army as a bugler at Fort Huntleyton, N.Y., according to an Army Times article.

For the past 78 years, Hummer has kept the same bugle and plays for veteran's celebrations and memorials regularly.

One veteran who played the cornet for willing ears was Eugene M. Cianflone. He served as a Machinist Mate 3rd Class with Landing Ship Tanks 274 and participated in the invasions of Kwajalein, Marshall Islands with the 2nd Marine Division, and Saipan, Marianna Islands, with the 4th Marine Division.

"I have been playing for over 65 years, and always for veterans," Cianflone said. "This is the one place where they really appreciate the music," he added.

The impact of the war seemed to leave many profound memories in the hearts and minds of those who served.

"From the grim morning hours of Dec. 7, 1941, until the moment of triumph on Sept. 2, 1945, America and her allies waged a valiant struggle for freedom against the forces of despotism," said Governor Wilson, in a letter to the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Committee. "That struggle was waged across an ocean dotted with places known by the then unfamiliar names of Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Saipan, Coral Sea and Bataan. Today, half a century later, those names are synonymous with the valor and sacrifice that are the hallmark of the Second World War."

IN APPRECIATION OF ROBERT D. BLONDI

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 23, 1996

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Robert D. Blondi of Benton, IL. He has touched the lives of those in his community through his dedicated service as a businessman, supporter of the Democratic Party and football referee. Due to ill health he has recently left his position with the Community Building Service, and I join his many friends there in extending my thanks and best wishes for his tireless efforts.

Mr. Blondi was born on August 3, 1922. Beginning his career with Immediate Cleaners,