

Earley said. "I kept waiting and waiting and then I decided, if you want something done, you do it yourself."

MARY THERESE BURLEY—KOREAN WAR

On the morning after her high school graduation in Flint, Mich., in June 1994, Mary Therese Burley marched downtown to the U.S. Army recruiting office and declared herself ready to enlist. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was still fresh in the teenager's mind.

Only 16, she was gently rejected and advised to come back when she was older.

Her résumé included only one summer as a volunteer nurse's aid in her hometown hospital. But what she did have was the desire to nurse the sick and serve her country. Within a few years, she would get her chance.

Burley went on to attend the Cadet Nurse Corps program, and in December 1951, she entered the U.S. Army Nurse Corps as a first lieutenant. In April 1953, she boarded a ship to Korea, where she worked in the 48th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (M.A.S.H.) northwest of Seoul for 15 months.

"I knew I could be of help if I could just get there," said Burley, now a 69-year-old retiree who volunteers at a veterans hospital in Saginaw, Mich.

As an Army nurse, Burley treated mostly soldiers suffering from the deadly viral ailment called hemorrhagic fever, she said. The illness began innocently enough, giving soldiers the achy, feverish, red-eyed symptoms of the flu. But the virus ravaged their kidneys.

"When I got there, it had kind of stabilized . . . but nobody knew how to cure it," Burley said. During her tour in Korea, she worked with what was then one of the medical wonders of the world: an artificial kidney.

"The first patient I saw who went on the kidney was near death when he was evacuated out," she wrote in a reminiscence for the foundation that built the women's memorial. "On his return, the next a.m., he sat up in bed and read a magazine!"

Burley, along with the other two dozen doctors and nurses of her unit, was shipped out of Seoul in September 1954, when the hospital was turned over to Korean troops.

She was reassigned to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where she worked as a medical-surgical nurse and earned her captain's bars. In November 1957, Burley left active duty.

More than four decades have passed since she tended to the sick soldiers of the Korean War. But the sounds, the smells and the sense of that time are still with her.

Gunfire that pierced the still of night. The squat potbellied stoves that warmed the drafty corners of the cement-slab hospital. The noxious odor of the manure used by Koreans to fertilize their fields. The hours she spent crying in frustration that not every boy could be saved.

"I had no idea what it was like, none of us did," Burley said. "All we knew was that we were needed."

Burley plans to attend today's dedication, having earned her place in history in a war thousands of miles away in Asia. But even there she was at home.

"Every morning when you walked out and saw the flag, boy, I tell you," she said. "The hospital was surrounded by American flags on poles and it was so beautiful. That was home."—Sylvia Moreno.

CATHERINE KOCOUREK GENOVESE—VIETNAM WAR

One of the most vivid memories for retired Capt. Catherine Kocourek Genovese is the winter day she abandoned plans to become a teacher and instead worked her way through a throng of Vietnam War protesters to join the Marine Corps.

Genovese was earning a teaching degree at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minn. One day she saw the crowd of students, dressed in black with death masks painted on their faces, taunting a pair of Marines who had set up a recruiting display in the student union.

"It was a moment of clarity," said Genovese, 48, who now lives in Redwood City, Calif. "I had never really thought of joining, but I guess it was always in the back of my mind. I saw the recruiter and said this is it."

Genovese said she was certain she made the right choice by joining the military during a war that had claimed the lives of several high school classmates.

"In my own mind I was more of a rebel by going against my peer group," she said.

Genovese comes from a family with a tradition of military service. Her father was a Naval Reserve officer, and her mother a Navy nurse. One aunt served as a Marine officer and another was a Navy nurse.

"My view of the military for women was that it was a fantastic career," Genovese said. "Those women had more responsibility than other women I knew."

While she never went to the front lines of the war, her service brought rigorous physical training and assignments that tested her resolve.

As a young commanding officer at a base in Twentynine Palms, Calif., Genovese said, she quickly came up against a group of male recruits who refused to salute her. After a quick lesson in Marine etiquette, she said it never happened again.

"These guys were tough," Genovese said. "It wasn't easy to confront a group like that. But after that, even if they were half a block away, they'd salute and say, 'Good morning, ma'am.'"

At 22, Genovese became the first female Marine to pass a pistol marksmanship test and earn the second-highest ranking as a sharpshooter. She broke more ground by becoming the first woman assigned to a weapons training battalion.

Genovese left the service after her husband, a Marine she first saw during Christmas dinner at a mess hall, took a civilian job.

"I wanted to stay in the Marine Corps so badly, but I was married and that came first," Genovese said. "It broke my heart when I had to resign. But my time in the Marine Corps is still the most exciting period in my life."—Maria Glod.

MELISSA COLEMAN—PERSIAN GULF WAR

One hundred and seven days after Army Spec. Melissa Coleman began her service in the Persian Gulf, she found herself captured by the enemy, shot twice in the arm and headed to a Baghdad prison cell. On the way, the Iraqis pulled a hat over her eyes to blind her. Then her seatmate, an Iraqi soldier, kept reaching into her raincoat to touch her breasts.

"Finally, I just reached across and hit him," she said. "Needless to say, he wasn't exactly pleased."

He did, however, leave the 20-year-old alone after that, allowing her to reach her 12-foot-square concrete prison cell in relative peace.

She would spend the next 33 days there, bathing once a week using a garbage can full of hot water.

Coleman was one of two U.S. women prisoners of war during Operation Desert Storm, and one of 41,000 American military women involved in the 1990-1991 engagement, making it the largest deployment of women in U.S. history.

Her job was to transport heavy equipment to the front line. As she was moving a tractor-trailer, her convoy missed a turn, unwittingly driving into the captured Saudi city of Khafji. Iraqi soldiers fired at the vehicle she and fellow Army Spec. David Lockett were in, and as they tried to flee on foot, both were wounded.

While in the Baghdad prison, there were frequent U.S. air raids over the Iraqi capital that left Coleman wondering whether she would get out alive.

"I thought, 'I didn't die by the Iraqi's own hands, but my own people are going to bomb me,'" she said.

She said she later received kinder treatment from her captors. They allowed her to walk freely throughout part of the prison, fed her well enough that she lost no weight—a stark contrast to Lockett and other male prisoners—played basketball and kickball with her, and checked on her after air raids.

Coleman attributed the careful treatment to the fact that she was a woman. "Whenever I was interrogated, the major would just say 'She knows nothing. She's a female,'" she said.

Today, Coleman is married with two children and working on a college degree in San Antonio. She views the experience as little more than a short chapter in her life story.

"For me, it was like, okay, so that happened," she said. "Let's get it over it and move on."—Ann O'Hanlon.

DEATH OF FORMER
CONGRESSMAN JOEL PRITCHARD

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to inform my colleagues here in the House of Representatives that our former colleague, Congressman Joel Pritchard of Washington State, died 12 days ago at his home in Seattle. As some of you may know, he fought a valiant battle with cancer over the last several years, though it affected neither his spirits nor his work as Lieutenant Governor of Washington State.

Joel Pritchard served here in the House from 1972 to 1984, and until his death he retained many of the strong friendships he developed during those 12 years among us. He was clearly one of those members whose exuberance and sense of humor left all who knew him—on both sides of the aisle—with a warm and positive impression. His retirement from Congress in 1984 was certainly a loss for this institution, and his death last week leaves all of his many friends with an even more profound sense of personal loss.

A memorial service was conducted in Seattle last week, at which his family and many friends had the opportunity to reflect on the many happy memories of Joel and on his accomplishments in 38 years of public life. On Thursday, October 30 at 5:00 p.m. we will have a similar opportunity at a memorial service that will be held in the Veterans Committee hearing room, 336 of the Cannon House Office Building.

Joel was a very special friend, and someone who represented the very best ideals of public service. His hallmark phrase was "it's totally amazing what you can do if you don't care who gets the credit," and he was known here as someone who could bring people together on any important issue or cause. In his own selfless way, Joel deserves great credit

for his service here and for the civility he brought to this institution. We will truly miss him.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF HUMANITARIAN, ENTERTAINER
JOHN DENVER

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I mourn a friend and associate. The passing of singer-songwriter John Denver, over the Columbus Day recess, leaves a void in the world of humanitarianism and compassion.

I first met John Denver when we were working to create a Presidential Commission on World Hunger and the both of us were subsequently appointed to that commission by President Jimmy Carter in the 1970's. As a result of that commission's final report, I introduced legislation establishing a Select Committee on Hunger in the Congress. John Denver, along with our mutual friend the late singer-songwriter Harry Chapin, was instrumental in lobbying for the successful adoption of that legislation. Subsequently, the three of us often conferred regarding the problems of hunger and starvation throughout the world, but also the environment and the problems of nuclear proliferation.

All of us who had the honor and privilege of working with John Denver recognized his involvement with ecological concerns and his heartfelt love of humanity. His work on behalf of hunger in the late 1970's and early 1980's was significant, along with that of Harry Chapin, in shining the spotlight of public opinion on the problems of malnutrition.

In the mid-1980's, many performers in show business received publicity for their fundraising efforts on behalf of world hunger. We must not forget that these successful efforts would not have been attempted, yet alone achieved, were it not for the courageous, trail-blazing activities of both John Denver and Harry Chapin.

The December 20, 1976 issue of Newsweek magazine noted that "People write him letters from hospitals telling how listening to 'Take Me Home, Country Roads' or 'Poems, Prayers and Promises' has stopped convulsions or cleared up depressions. A long-distance swimmer navigated the shark-infested Cook Strait of New Zealand by singing Denver songs as she counted her strokes. In Lockport, NY, a woman regained her spirits after a mastectomy by listening to Denver songs all day—especially 'Sweet Surrender'."

Those who are familiar with John Denver's work are not surprised to learn of the amazing impact it has had on so many lives. His gift of expressing empathy and sincere concern were perhaps his greatest contributions.

John Denver has left us with a legacy of goodwill and also of quality entertainment. From his platinum recordings, to his appearances on the silver screen and television, he delighted and inspired audiences worldwide. Throughout his career he selflessly shared the spotlight when working with such stars as George Burns, Placido Domingo, Itzhak Perlman, and Kermit the Frog. Like his humanitarian efforts, his singing, writing, and acting talents will be missed by many.

He started his career with three guitars, an old Chevrolet and less than \$200 to his name. From such humble beginnings, John Denver rose to be counted among the brightest of America's stars. We will all be poorer from his loss.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in continuing to support the causes championed by John Denver and in extending condolences to John's three children, Jessie Belle, Anna Kate and Zachary, to the rest of his family, and to the millions of people whose lives were touched and influenced by this remarkable humanitarian.

STATEMENT OF RECOGNITION FOR
NEW YORK ARTISTS EQUITY ASSOCIATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of New York Artists Equity Association (NYAEA), now celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Since 1947, Artists Equity Association has been a strong advocate for legislation on behalf of visual artists, and has provided services to support the development of the visual arts in our communities. NYAEA not only fights for the future of the visual arts, but places the New York artistic community in the context of history, as a necessary component of society, one that enriches our lives.

New York Artists Equity Association's mission of education, awareness, and support for the visual arts has provided the basis for its constant efforts. By promoting emerging artists in its wonderful Broome Street Gallery, it has successfully integrated those artists into the larger community. By preserving endangered visual art work, it assures the record of our rich artistic past. Through educational outreach, it has developed a new audience which is constantly expanding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend NYAEA, under the leadership of its Executive Director, Regina Stewart, for supporting visual artists at a time when the resources they receive from the government are simply not enough. NYAEA has provided support for many visual artists who otherwise would not have received help. Through referrals, legal services, and health care programs, the Association helps ensure economic stability for visual artists who might otherwise be forced to abandon their talents due to economic difficulties. By providing communication within the community, it helps establish a strong support base for issues relevant to artists' needs.

I stand here today to thank New York Artists Equity Association for all it has done to advocate for visual artists, consistent with the needs of their community. I am proud that NYAEA is in my Congressional District, and that its work reaches far beyond my District to help visual artists in the larger community. I also want to thank one of the Association's Past Vice Presidents, Doris Wyman, who serves on my Arts Advisory Committee, consistently championing the needs of visual artists. Because of my ongoing work with this fine organization and their leadership, I know of their constant efforts to change regressive

policies on the arts and I commend them. For fifty years, NYAEA has supported visual artists and been a passionate advocate for their causes. In the current climate, NYAEA's non-partisan commitment is especially valuable. I salute New York Artists Equity Association for helping to assure a stable artistic community—one that is, and always must be, an integral part of our heritage and culture.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2160,
AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the FY98 Agriculture Appropriations Conference Report. I am pleased that the report protects the peanut program and that it does not eliminate the subsidy for crop insurance for tobacco. It is difficult for many Americans, and many of my colleagues, to understand the profound impact that farming has on our nation. They live in cities where their food appears in supermarkets, not fully understanding the difficult and laborious efforts that brought the food to them. Spend one day on a peanut farm in my district, and you will know the effort that went into that jar of peanut butter. Family farmers are the backbone of America's agricultural community and the peanut program is one of the vital and necessary safety-nets that help protect that community.

The peanut program helps 20,000 American farmers and small businesses compete in the world market, while providing nearly 50,000 American jobs on farms, in processing plants and in related industries. Peanuts are the 12th most valuable crop in the United States and the 4th most valuable oil crop worldwide. In addition, the program provides consumers with an ample supply of one of the safest, most nutritious foods on the market. Because of the program, the United States will be the No. 1 exporter of edible peanuts this year.

The peanut program is no-net-cost program and in fact contains a budget deficit reduction assessment of \$83 million which would have been lost if the program was eliminated.

The program does not reduce consumer prices. Consumer prices have not changed from a year ago, despite the fact farm support prices were cut by 10 percent last year. Consumer prices for peanut butter remain the lowest in the world, at 11 cents a serving, the same price as 1988. Peanut butter prices are lower today than 10 years ago.

The environment is benefited by the program because peanut plants are nitrogen-fixing plants which help restore vital nutrients to the soil in rotation with other crops.

I have had serious questions about the GAO report that seems to be the main source of criticism to the Peanut Program. I do not believe that this report is entirely accurate or an objective presentation of data. It is really designed to give a skewed appearance. The USDA has commented on the "lack of objectivity," the "erroneous assumptions," and "lack of thoroughness" in the report. The GAO has