

Dr. Owen interned at Philadelphia General Hospital, then entered the United States Army Medical Corps in 1943. He remained in the medical corps until 1946, attaining the rank of major. He served in Hawaii, the United States and the Philippines, and after leaving active duty, he remained in the inactive reserves for six years.

In 1946, he opened a general medical practice in Waynesville. In 1947 he "covered" the Canton practice of his older brother Dr. Charles Owen. Meanwhile his own practice grew until he built the present Owen-Smith Clinic in 1954 after being joined by Dr. A. Heyward Smith. In 1962 he was elected to the North Carolina Board of Medical Examiners, serving for six years including the last year as president.

Dr. Owen's career has spanned the time period when he could not get a new car because of war-time conditions and he was paid with chickens and wood, to present-day medicine which utilizes computers, lasers and high-tech surgical procedures. He is a member and founding fellow of the American Academy of Family Practice, life member of the North Carolina Medical Society and the North Carolina Academy of Family Practitioners.

Dr. Owen has been a member of the Wake Forest Board of Trustees since 1954, longer than any living member. He served on the Trustee Athletic Committee as chairman and was also on the Executive Committee. In 1991, Dr. Owen was made a life trustee. For two decades he belonged to the Wake Forest President's Club, and he worked as class agent for several medical classes. Dr. Owen was president of the Bowman Gray Medical School Alumni and earned a citation for distinguished service. In 1989, he chaired the Medical Center Board which encompasses the Bowman Gray School of Medicine of Wake Forest and the North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem.

Active in the First Baptist Church of Waynesville, Dr. Owen has served as deacon, trustee and chaired a variety of committees. He has been a member and former president of the Lions Club, the Waynesville Chamber of Commerce, the "30 Club" and is now a member of the Rotary Club.

Dr. Owen recently retired after fifty-one years in active practice and resides in Waynesville. His wife of more than 50 years is the former Helen Bryan. Their four children are: Elizabeth Owen Taylor, William Boyd Owen, James Griffin Owen and Mary Owen Davis. All four children graduated from Wake Forest University as did his wife, Helen. Helen's father, D.B. Bryan, was Dean of Wake Forest College for 26 years. He is the proud grandfather of eleven grandchildren one of whom is now enrolled at Wake Forest University.

IN CELEBRATION OF AIRLINE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S  
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 31, 1998*

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Airline United Methodist Church in Houston, Texas, on its 50th Anniversary. On

August 30th, Airline Church will celebrate fifty years of faith, love, and friendship. My family has attended Airline Church for many years now, and I want to personally thank the entire congregation for their fellowship and their contributions to our community.

In 1948, forty-four Houstonians gathered under the leadership and vision of Reverend C.E. Clark to form Airline United Methodist Church. Airline today has expanded from its humble beginnings in surplus Army barracks to become a multi-structure facility with a membership of 700 individuals. While Houston and the United States have changed dramatically in the past 50 years, Airline has remained true to its original mission: to be faithful to God and to provide for the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of the community.

The strength and longevity of Airline United Methodist comes from its people, their faith, and the relationships they build within our church family. The United Methodist Women encourages its members to study how the Methodist Church is at work in the world and the United Methodist Men participate in several service projects. Planning for the future, Airline youth fellowship seeks to instill Christian values in our younger members in order to prepare them for the challenges that today's youth face.

Airline United Methodist Church believes that its mission extends beyond the membership to the entire community. In collaboration with other Houston food programs, the Society of St. Stephen's operates a food pantry and serves as a food distribution point. At Thanksgiving, Church members furnish meals to local families, and at Christmas, both children and adults provide presents and meals for families identified by the local school district and for children whose parents are incarcerated. Today, church members have established a multicultural program designed to reach out to a rapidly changing community and our church services are translated into Spanish. In recognition of its evangelism efforts, Airline United Methodist Church has twice been presented with the Copeland Evangelism Award by the Texas Annual Conference.

Airline United Methodist's 50th Anniversary is both a milestone and a beginning. This celebration provides us the opportunity to review what has been accomplished through faith in God and to look forward to all that lies ahead.

THE JUSTICE FOR ATOMIC  
VETERANS ACT OF 1998—H.R. 4368

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 31, 1998*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Justice For Atomic Veterans Act of 1998. This legislation will grant a presumption of service-connection for illnesses which have been identified as being significantly or suggestively increased in persons who have been exposed to radiation risk activities to those men and women who, during the course of their military service, were subjected to unknown doses of radioactive material.

Under present law, veterans who engaged in radiation risk activities during military serv-

ice are entitled to a presumption of service-connection for some illnesses, but must prove causation by "dose reconstruction estimates" which many reputable scientists have found fatally flawed. By VA estimates, only about 50 veterans have been able to show the requisite reconstructed dose to establish service-connection.

It is certainly not these veterans who are responsible that accurate records of their exposure were not kept and maintained. In addition, many veterans have been unsuccessful in obtaining access to even the inadequate medical records relating to their exposure during military service. In some cases, records have reportedly been lost. In other cases, records of radiation-related activities were classified and not made available to the veterans seeking compensation. It is also well known that many veterans were not provided with adequate protection to the radiation exposures to which they were subjected during their military service.

Our atomic veterans were put in harm's way in service to our Nation. But our government failed to collect the data and provide the follow-up that would enable our atomic veterans to effectively pursue claims for the harms which resulted. I agree with the statement in the 1995 final report of the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments:

When the nation exposes servicemen and women to hazardous substances, there is an obligation to keep appropriate records of both the exposures and the long-term medical outcomes.

We failed to keep the records of the exposures of our atomic veterans. They should not suffer for our neglect. Let us right the injustices visited on our atomic veterans since the days of World War II. Presumption of service-connection for illnesses which are likely to be due to radiation risk activity should be enacted. I thank the Members who have agreed to be original cosponsor of this legislation and urge all other Members to support this legislation.

TO DESIGNATE JULY 6TH AS  
"PALOMAR MARKET DAY"

**HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 31, 1998*

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. and Mrs. James Mellos, a couple in my district whose retirement symbolizes the end of an era.

Since May of 1927, the Mellos family has owned and operated the Palomar Market Liquor & Grocery store located at 1802 W. Washington Street in San Diego, California. Mr. James D. Mellos, his brother Mr. Louis Mellos, and his cousin Mr. George Antonopoulos, started this business which the family has successfully owned and operated for 71 years—through the Great Depression, World War II, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, and the Cold War. According to the Alcoholic Beverage Control, the Palomar Market has the unique recognition of holding the oldest off-sale liquor license in the State of California. Mr. James Mellos, Jr. worked at Palomar Market since he was nine years old, continuing a family tradition of serving the Mission Hills Community which lasted over four decades.

In addition to their success at business, James and Hellen Mellos raised three wonderful children. Their oldest son, James D. Mellos, III, has become a successful attorney and has opened up his own law office in Mission Hills. Their middle child, Peter L. Mellos, is completing his masters in Forensic Science and is anticipating attending law school with the goal of working in the San Diego District Attorney's office. Their youngest child, Stella K. Mellos, is currently a hard-working successful paralegal for the downtown San Diego Law Firm of Jeffrey E. Estes & Associates. Like her brothers, she plans to attend law school and become a practicing attorney in San Diego.

Since their children all found success in the field of law, Mr. and Mrs. Mellos decided to sell their store upon retirement and start new traditions. After much searching, Mr. and Mrs. Mellos found another family to take over the business who will continue the Mellos traditions of hard work and excellent service. On Monday, July 6, 1998, the Palomar Market opened under new ownership, bringing the era of the Mellos family business to a bittersweet end.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I hereby declare that hereafter, July 6th will be known to San Diegans as "Palomar Market Day" to commemorate this great piece of San Diego's history.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4276, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, FY 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 1998*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the rule which will govern how we proceed on H.R. 4276, the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations bill. I am grateful to the Rules Committee for allowing the Mollohan amendment to be considered which would restore full funding for a fair and accurate census. The subject of the Census was addressed in Article I Section 2 of the Constitution of the United States as it states, "The actual Enumeration shall be made within three years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of Ten Years." With that goal in mind the Bureau of the Census conducted the first National Census in 1790. The census also places our population in a particular location as of census day so Congress can be reapportioned and the state and local governments redistricted while federal monies can be apportioned.

The ability to use sampling during the 2000 Census will insure that any undercounting which may occur in this census because of sparsely populated regions of states like Texas or hard to count urban populated areas like Houston, can be held to a minimum. Undercounting the results of the 2000 Census would negatively impact Texas' share of federal funds for block grants, housing, education, health, transportation and numerous other federally funded programs.

In 1990, the City of Houston was undercounted by 3.9 percent in that year's Census using the current "head count" method which only recorded 1,630,553 residents. Based on the sampling that was prepared for that Census, but never used it is estimated that over 66,000 Houstonians were missed by the 1990 Census.

African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and American Indians were missed at a much greater rate than whites. The 1990 Census undercounted approximately 4 Million people, about the same number who were counted all together in the first census 200 years ago. Even more troubling, this last census was, for the first time in history, less accurate than its predecessor. The undercount was 33 percent greater than the undercount in the 1980 census.

Mr. Chairman, I will be offering some amendments to this bill.

One of these amendments will increase funding to the Community Relations Service of The Department of Justice. As many of you may be aware, CRS is a Federal agency under the Department of Justice that helps local communities prevent and assuage community racial conflict and violence. CRS worked hard in my homestate of Texas during the aftermath of the recent tragic and brutal murder of Mr. James Byrd, Jr. in Jasper, and CRS was crucial in helping the community to begin healing during the Jasper aftermath and CRS has also been with us during recent rallies opposing the Ku Klux Klan. In fact, when racial conflict threatens peaceful community relations, CRS services are sought by mayors, police chiefs, school superintendents and civic leaders throughout our country.

During 1996 and 1997, more than 500 churches in 13 Southern States were burned or desecrated. CRS has been an integral partner in working with state and local officials in more than 190 communities throughout Texas and the south.

Unfortunately, due to the rise of racial conflict and hate crimes in our country, CRS was forced to decline more than 40% of the requests for assistance made during this year. Because of CRS' lack of adequate resources, CRS cannot respond to some communities who face even the most serious racial conflict and violence.

Currently, CRS operates its entire program with just 41 staff and a budget of just 5.3 million. Between 1992 and 1997, CRS' budget declined more than 80% and its staffing by two thirds, an all time low. My amendment will increase funding to CRS by 2.2 million dollars and will allow CRS to further assist all of our communities in working towards eliminating racial intolerance and conflict throughout America.

The other amendment, that I may offer, is to protect our children from the dangers of handguns by requiring every handgun purchased in this country to have a child protective lock device.

It is a great tragedy that children are accidentally hurt and killed across our country, simply because their parents guns are accessible to their curious hands.

The addition of a handgun lock will allow responsible citizens to obtain guns, however it will not allow those guns to be accidentally fired by a family or neighborhood child who discovers the weapon.

LEGACY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

**HON. JOHN M. SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 31, 1998*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, on August 3, 1846, Abraham Lincoln was elected to the United States House of Representatives from Illinois' 13th Congressional District winning eight of the eleven counties in his district and capturing 56% of the vote against candidates from the Democrat and Liberty parties.

Today, my honorable colleague RAY LAHOOD and I share what was the Lincoln district. Ray has nine of the counties and I have two including the city of Springfield where Mr. Lincoln lived and was subsequently buried.

Ray and I have a friendly struggle about possession of the Lincoln District. In essence it doesn't really belong to either of us but rather to the people we represent. But the legacy of Abraham Lincoln belongs to us all.

DISAPPROVING EXTENSION OF WAIVER AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO VIETNAM

SPEECH OF

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 1998*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 120, a resolution to disapprove the President's request for a waiver of Jackson-Vanik for Vietnam. The purpose of this Presidential waiver is to allow U.S. companies to receive U.S. government support for trade and investment in Vietnam.

I have the highest regard for Ambassador Pete Peterson and am confident that he will be a force for improving human rights in Vietnam. I have supported the normalization of relations with Vietnam and am blessed to have a strong Vietnamese-American community in my district. This community is not unanimous whether or not Jackson-Vanik should be waived. They are unanimous, however, about concerns regarding the continuing lack of freedom of emigration from Vietnam or about continuing human rights abuses there.

If the Vietnamese government allowed freedom of emigration, the President would not have needed to request a waiver of the Jackson-Vanik law in the first place. Some progress in freedom of emigration is reportedly being made, but serious problems remain.

The Vietnamese government has made some progress with people in the U.S. refugee program, Resettlement Opportunities for Vietnamese Refugees (ROVR), clearing 12,000 ROVR applicants—about 3000 per month for four months—immediately before President Clinton granted the waiver in March. Unfortunately, as soon as the waiver was granted, the approvals slowed back to a trickle—about 300 per month. There are reportedly still 4000 people we haven't been given permission to interview, including some of the most compelling cases. And, while Hanoi recently eliminated an important obstacle to U.S. access to people in ROVR, deeming that ROVR applicants will no longer need "exit permits" from local security police in order to be interviewed by U.S. refugee officers, the U.S. is unfortunately still forbidden to interview anyone whose name is not