

He was the Executive Officer onboard U.S.S. *Truett* (FF 1095) from October 1977 through March 1979. Upon completion of tours at the Naval Military Personnel Command and assignment as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower, Reserve Affairs and Logistics), Admiral Lopez assumed command of U.S.S. *Stump* (DD 978) in September 1982, completing a Persian Gulf deployment in 1983. In November 1984, he was assigned as Special Assistant to the Chief of Naval Personnel (Flag Officer Matters).

Commander, Destroyer Squadron 32, which deployed to the Mediterranean Sea, was Admiral Lopez' next command tour from February 1987 to March 1988. He followed this assignment with duties as Executive Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel and Training) and Executive Assistant to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations. Admiral Lopez was designated Rear Admiral (Lower Half) in July 1989, and served as Deputy Director, Current Operations (J-3) on the Joint Staff. He served as Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense during the Persian Gulf Conflict and from July 1990 to July 1992. He commanded the United States Sixth Fleet and NATO's Striking and Support Forces, Southern Europe, homeported in Gaeta, Italy, from July 1992 to December 1993. He then served as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Resources, Warfare Requirements and Assessments) from December 1993 to July 1996.

Admiral Lopez became Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Europe (London, England) and Commander in Chief, Allied Forces, Southern Europe (Naples, Italy) on 31 July 1996, where he serves today. Additionally, he commanded the Peace Implementation Forces (IFOR) in Bosnia-Herzegovina from July 1996 to November 1996. He arrived in the middle of the IFOR deployment and almost immediately deployed to Bosnia to command the NATO forces in charge of enforcing the Dayton Peace Agreement.

Admiral Lopez has been honored by the Governor of his home state as a "Distinguished West Virginian," and as an "Outstanding West Virginian" by the President of Salem College. West Virginia Institute of Technology conferred upon him the honorary degree as Doctor of Humanities, and the Italian Heritage Festival, in 1989, selected him as "West Virginia Man of the Year." Additionally, in June of 1997, the newly constructed Interstate 64 bridge spanning the Kanawha River near Charleston was named in his honor by the West Virginia State Legislature.

A man of Joe Lopez's stature and vision is rare. He is an individual of uncommon character and professionalism. He will be missed by both his Navy and NATO colleagues. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize him, and to thank him and his wife Vivian for their selfless service to our country.

ATHLETES UNITED FOR PEACE  
AND THE ANNUAL DON  
BARKSDALE "HUMANITARIAN OF  
THE YEAR" AWARD RECIPIENT,  
MARTIN WYATT

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 2, 1998*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, on November 21, 1998, the Athletes United for Peace (AUP) will present the Don Barksdale "Humanitarian of the Year" award to Mr. Martin Wyatt.

Athletes United for Peace (AUP) is a Bay Area nonprofit organization committed to promoting peace, education, friendship and understanding through community programs and events for young people. The organization was established in 1984 after the boycott of the Olympic Games by athletes from the former USSR and the United States.

In 1992, after serving primarily as an international organization during the early years, AUP focused its energy toward providing programs and activities for high-risk youth and young adults throughout the East Bay communities of Berkeley, Oakland and Richmond. The organization continually strives to offer low-income disadvantaged participants programs and events that promote the agency's ideals and serve as health alternatives to criminal activity and antisocial behavior amongst young people.

Each year, AUP serves more than 700 young people between the ages of 7-26 with programs, activities and events that include: mentorship, late-night basketball, academic and sports camps, youth sport camps and clinics, video production training, academic lectures, tournaments and special events. These services are regularly provided in partnership with several public schools, local government and law enforcement agencies, and the local business community.

AUP established the Don Barksdale "Humanitarian of the Year" Award in 1994 as a tribute to the last Oakland philanthropist who devoted his life to help aspiring Bay Area young people through his "Save High School Sports" Foundation (established in 1985) in Oakland, CA. Through Don Barksdale's diligent efforts, the foundation raised more than one million dollars to help fund financially troubled high school sports programs throughout the Bay Area.

Don Barksdale, a sports and entertainment pioneer, broke the color barrier and paved the road for countless other people. In the 1940's and the 1950's, he was the Nation's premiere African American basketball star and was named to the NCAA college basketball All America team (UCLA 1947); selected to compete in the US Men's Olympic Basketball team (London 1948); and played in the NBA All Star game (Ft. Wayne 1953).

Don Barksdale was a trailblazer being the first popular radio disc jockey (KROW and KLX); the first to host a weekly television show (SEPIA REVIEW KRON 4); the first to own and operate a beer distributorship, while integrating the local beverage driver's union in Oakland. He helped thousands of musicians and entertainers break into the entertainment industry by employing them at the Sportsman and Showcase night clubs that he owned and operated in the 1950's, 60's and 70's. Don

Barksdale's impact on the East Bay is unparalleled and recognized through the Athletes United for Peace awards.

The Don Barksdale "Humanitarian of the Year" award recipient is Martin Wyatt, founder of the "Sports Image & Education Foundation." He will be recognized for his dedication and commitment to charitable agencies in the community serving youth. Martin Wyatt, an Emmy award winning television sports anchor/director for ABC TV in San Francisco, is the annual host of his foundations' "Sports Image Award" ceremony that honors men and women in sports who do enormous amount of community work. He has also devoted time serving on the board of directors for the Bay Area Black United Fund and the Oakland Area Black community Crusade for Children.

It is with great pride and honor that I salute the work of the Athletes United for Peace and Martin Wyatt, a deserving recipient of the Don Barksdale "Humanitarian of the Year" award.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6,  
HIGHER EDUCATION AMEND-  
MENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 28, 1998*

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, next week, President Clinton will sign the Higher Education Amendments of 1998, passed unanimously by both the House and Senate earlier this week. This is, on balance, a good bill that will make a real difference in the lives of our Nation's students.

With the Higher Education Act, we have established a proud tradition over the last 34 years of providing opportunities to millions of Americans—giving them the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in their careers and to be active and productive citizens. Above all, we have given these millions of Americans, particularly those with lower-incomes, life options they simply would not have had otherwise. That is something we can all be proud of.

STUDENT INTEREST RATE

This most prominent feature of this bill is the lowering of the student loan interest rate. Under this bill, a student with an average student loan debt of \$13,000 will save \$700 in interest payments. Students with higher burdens of debt will save even more.

This is a good deal for students and for parents who help pay for their children's education.

Unfortunately, this bill continues what I, and many others, consider to be unnecessarily high subsidies to the banks and guaranty agencies that participate in the student loan program. I seriously question the fairness of the burden that, as a result, will continue to fall on our nation's taxpayers.

In this authorization, we have shaved slightly the rate of return to banks. But since we went much further in lowering the rate that students pay, we had to come up with more than a billion dollars to makes up the difference to maintain the hefty profits that banks in the student loan program enjoy. Ironically, a great deal of the cost will be born by students who are least able to afford it, those with loan debt who encounter financial hardship.