

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Aug. 12, 2000]

GULF WAR STANDS THE TEST

This month marks the 10-year anniversary of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, which set the stage for the Persian Gulf War. That war has been dismissed in some circles as either a selfish and misguided attempt by the United States to maintain its dependence on foreign oil or, more cynically, as a chance for then-President George Bush to prove he was a tough guy. It was neither.

In the first place, maintaining access to gulf oil is a perfectly justifiable goal. Maintaining international access to any fundamental economic resource, and ensuring that the sea lanes remain open in one of the world's busiest maritime corridors, are legitimate security interests for the United States.

What many discussions of the Gulf War ignore is that by conquering Kuwait, Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein was working toward dominating the entire Middle East. His next step would probably have been to threaten war against Israel or Saudi Arabia. The outcome of such a regional war could have been catastrophic.

Has Saddam been allowed to retain control of Kuwait—which was a sovereign country, after all—he would have reaped an enormous financial windfall by expropriating that nation's oil. With those funds, he could have strengthened his army, which was already the fourth-largest in the world, as well as his offensive missile program, which we now know included ambitious efforts to produce chemical and biological weapons.

Even before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, Saddam made clear in a speech that he intended to rain down "fire" on Israel—a reference widely interpreted at the time as a threat to bombard Israel with missiles. That threat became reality, of course, during the Gulf War.

The abuses perpetrated by Iraqi forces in Kuwait also demonstrated the ruthlessness of Saddam's regime. Iraqi soldiers killed at least 1,000 Kuwaiti civilians and operated at least two dozen torture sites in Kuwait City. David Scheffer, U.S. ambassador-at-large for war crimes issues, said this week. The Iraqis took thousands of hostages and used many of them as human shields. Saddam's forces, in other words, routinely and openly violated the Geneva Convention.

Additional evidence of Saddam's recklessness came in the final stages of the war, when he ordered his troops to set more than 500 Kuwait well heads on fire and open dozens of others so that more than 7 million gallons of oil spilled into the Persian Gulf.

It's true that, a decade later, Saddam's power is greatly reduced and it's increasingly hard to ignore the suffering of Iraqi civilians due to Saddam's manipulation of the international embargo.

But when it comes to the allies' action against Saddam during 1990-91, the expulsion of his forces from Kuwait was fully justified. Operation Desert Storm prevented Iraq's dictator from spreading instability throughout the Middle East. Stopping that threat was an honorable cause of which Americans can be proud.

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HONORING PAULETTA SMITH

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I commemorate the dedicated public service that

Pauletta Smith has given the City of Los Angeles.

Ms. Smith started her career with the City of Los Angeles on November 27, 1962 as a Clerk Typist with the Los Angeles Police Department. Two years later, she moved to the Bureau of Street Lighting and was promoted to Senior Clerk Typist. In 1975, Ms. Smith returned to the Police Department with the promotion to Personnel Aide and soon thereafter was again promoted, this time to the position of Exam Assistant. Due to her excellent work ethic and can-do attitude, Ms. Smith was again promoted to Administrative Aide in 1981 and, after only two short years, promoted to Administrative Assistant in 1983. Subsequently, her career carried her to the City's Department of Public Works, Department of Transportation, the Department of Telecommunications and the Department of General Services.

Pauletta Smith's diligent work was noticed in every assignment and in 1996 she transferred to the Office of the City Administrative Officer Emergency Preparedness Division as a Management Analyst II. She became an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator in October 1998 to oversee Citywide contingency planning for Year 2000 from which she is now retiring.

Ms. Smith has been an asset to her community, and I wish both her and her family as she joins others an active and enriching retirement.

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A TRIBUTE TO WDAS RADIO

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor WDAS FM and AM Radio, one of Philadelphia's most significant cultural institutions, on its 50th anniversary.

Many of my colleagues recognize that Philadelphia is America's premier music cities. Philadelphia has a history of producing America's music. And since 1950, WDAS has been the sound of Philadelphia.

But this jewel of the airways has been more than entertainment for my neighbors and I. WDAS has also been the soul and the conscience of our city. The FM station is one of the few music outlets that has consistently maintained a commitment to producing hard news for its audience. It has always maintained an unbiased editorial department, and would class news bureau, which has produced journalistic giants like CBS' Ed Bradley or talk radio's Karen Warrington. Whether the story is an election campaign, a major fire or a local tragedy, if it happened in the past 50 years, WDAS covered it.

Mr. Speaker, WDAS AM also serves a major role in the lives of my constituents. It provides in-depth discussion of current events through magazine shows and talk programs. And worship is not left off that station's menu. My dear friend and Pennsylvania State Representative Louise Bishop hosts one of the nation's premier gospel and worship shows on that station. She brings light to the lives of so many people who are shut in and cannot get to services or who attend at a different time.

Most importantly, this station proves that music without questionable lyrics, faith based

broadcasting, news and information do not have to serve as loss leaders on a station's play list. After 50 years of quality broadcasting, WDAS continues to dominate the ratings.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of this station and all my friends who have made its success possible over the years. I know that all my colleagues will join me in honoring this monument to Philadelphia culture.

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IN TRIBUTE TO ESTER GORDY EDWARDS, FOUNDER/CEO MOTOWN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation to celebrate the cultural achievements and monumental contributions to music in both America and around the world as a result of the creative genius and work of Ester Gordy Edwards. On this special occasion, I am honored to present to the 106th Congress, a national treasure who has been one of the most important and influential historical figures of the 20th century in the development of music—Ester Gordy Edwards.

As one of the chief executives and administrators during Motown's first decade, Ester Gordy Edwards, in collaboration with her legendary brother Barry Gordy, was instrumental in the success of Motown through her administrative and talent development skills. She was one of the key architects of marketing the Motown Sound overseas, and helped to bring rhythm and blues, in particular, rhythms and harmonies from gospel music, to millions of listeners in America and around the world.

The "Motown Sound" has brought joy and delight to countless fans, and is a uniquely American art form that will endure the test of time. It is my heart felt belief that because of the work of Ester Gordy Edwards, the music and spirit of Motown will always be with us; because it is music from the heart, it is about love, peace and harmony, it is brilliant, sophisticated, dynamic, and soulful beyond description. Motown music transcends race, class, and culture. This is one of Motown's most profound and powerful historical legacies—promoting brotherhood, humanity, and love through music.

During Motown's first decade, Mrs. Edwards was head of the Artists Personal Management Division of Motown. From her director's position, she guided the career and development of world-famous recording artists, including: Diana Ross, The Supremes, Smokey Robinson, The Miracles, The Temptations, The Four Tops, Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder, Mary Wells, Martha Reeves, and many other outstanding artists and musicians. Simultaneously, Mrs. Edwards directed Motown's International Operations, setting up foreign licenses, and sub-publishers, worldwide. Mrs. Edwards' outstanding administration of these areas greatly enhanced Motown's phenomenal growth into the world's largest independent record manufacturer.

In 1972, when Motown Record Corporation moved its headquarters from downtown Detroit

to Los Angeles, California, Mrs. Edwards remained in Detroit as head of Motown's Public Affairs Division, and CEO of Detroit operations. Ongoing public visits and public demand resulted in the official founding of the Motown Historical Museum, Inc. in 1985.

Ester Gordy Edwards is also Vice Chair of the African American Heritage Association (AAHA) which provided the African American Room in the Ethnic Heritage Center at Wayne State University. She is a former member of the National Board of Directors of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change and a former Trustee of the Founders Society of the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Mrs. Edwards is a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church, Alpha Kappa Alpha and Gamma Phi Delta sororities. She is listed in "Who's Who in America" and "Who's Who in the World." One of her cherished honors is being selected in 1994 "Distinguished Warrior" by the Detroit Urban League, for her notable leadership in the community and lifetime devotion to improving conditions in society. Esther Gordy Edwards is the daughter of the late Bertha and Berry Gordy Sr., widow of the late Michigan State Representative George H. Edwards, and mother of one son, Robert B. Bullock by a previous marriage. She is stepmother to the Honorable Harry T. Edwards, Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia; Verne Edwards DeBorge and Pamela Edwards Matthews.

I am proud to honor my close friend Ester Gordy Edwards today, and am one of many admirers of her dedication to excellence and her desire to enrich and strengthen the African American community. Ester Gordy Edwards is a pioneer of African American music, and will forever be remembered as a distinguished woman who has served as a positive role model for African American youth. She gave hope to millions of African Americans by showing that hard work, dedication to your career, and the quest for excellence can translate into dreams fulfilled and lives enriched.

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HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would ask his colleagues to note that Hispanic Heritage Month begins next week on September 15th. Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated nationally and in this Member's home state of Nebraska from September 15th to October 15th. For Nebraskans, this is a time for us to learn more about an ethnic group which currently comprises 4 percent of our state's population. In fact, the U.S. Census Bureau has noted that Hispanics are the largest minority group in Nebraska.

As this member's colleagues know, individuals throughout this country were involved in the celebration of the Library of Congress Bicentennial and America's richly diverse culture through the Local Legacies Project. One of the projects selected in Nebraska as a "local legacy" was *Nuestros Tesoros*, translated as *Our Treasures: A Celebration of Nebraska's Mexican Heritage*. This project resulted in a soft-cover book that was the culmination of a partnership between the Nebraska Mexican Amer-

ican Commission and the Nebraska State Historical Society. The goal of this was to explore and document the traditional arts, beliefs, and histories of Mexican Americans of Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island, and Scottsbluff. As a result of this project, it was discovered that Hispanics now live in each of Nebraska's 93 counties. It was also noted that while many are recent immigrants working in many of Nebraska's food processing plants, still others are third- and fourth-generation Nebraskans—descendants of those who came to work on the railroads throughout Nebraska or in the sugar beet fields in western Nebraska.

We celebrate each and every one of these individuals who sought the "good life" that Nebraska offers its residents. Therefore, while many events are planned throughout the nation to celebrate Hispanic heritage, this Member would like to note that the following events are a few of those scheduled in Nebraska:

—September 14th, fundraiser in Omaha at El Museo Latino, featuring speaker Jose Cuevas, Counsel-General of the new Mexican consulate in Omaha;

—September 16th, celebration in Omaha sponsored by the City of Omaha;

—September 16th, festival in Scottsbluff sponsored by the Our Lady Of Guadalupe Church;

—September 29th to 30th, festival in Lincoln sponsored by the Hispanic Center; and

—throughout the month, performances by a dance group from Mexico that will tour various communities in Nebraska.

Again, this Member urges his colleagues to join the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month by recognizing and participating in the events that are taking place in their congressional districts and states in honor of those Americans of Hispanic descent.

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HONORING JAMES T. SUBJECT

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate James T. Subject for his 28 years of exemplary service with the city of Los Angeles.

Prior to beginning his career with the City of Los Angeles in 1972, Mr. Subject served two years in the U.S. Army, attaining the rank of Military Police Sergeant with security assignments in West Germany and at the Military Academy at West Point. He was then assigned to the City as a Junior Administrative Assistant in the Elections Division of the City Clerk's Office, where he was soon after promoted to the Assistant Elections Supervisor. In 1975, Mr. Subject was promoted to Senior Administrative Assistant in the Bureau of Sanitation, of the Public Works Department, where he supervised the Administrative Services Section of the Sewage Treatment Division. Two years later he joined the Office of the City Administrative Officer as an Administrative Analyst, and was assigned as liaison analyst with responsibilities for the Harbor Department and the Department of Water and Power.

In 1978, Mr. Subject was promoted to Senior Administrative Analyst and for eight years he was the lead analyst on the Police Department budget. Subsequently, he was assigned

to the Municipal Facilities Construction Program and the City Hall Seismic Rehabilitation Project. Mr. Subject was next promoted to Chief Administrative Analyst in 1997 with the responsibility of supervising the Public Safety Budget Group that which includes Police, Fire, Animal Services, and Building and Safety Department budget liaison assignments. Not long afterwards, Mr. Subject was assigned to supervise the CAO's Finance Group which is responsible for citywide revenue forecasting, budget coordination and administering the City's automated budget system.

For his work in the CAO's Finance Group, Mr. Subject received special recognition from Mayor Richard J. Riordan for his "hard work, dedication, and extraordinary professionalism," with respect to the annual budget process. James T. Subject has been a valuable member of our community and praiseworthy civil servant. Mr. Subject deserves our thanks for his dedicated service to the City of Los Angeles. I wish him and his family the best and I hope that he enjoys the active retirement which he so richly deserves.

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A TRIBUTE TO ANN B. HAGELE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a great Philadelphian, Ann Hagele. For a decade, Ann served older Philadelphians as Executive Director of the Philadelphia Senior Center.

That 50 year old institution is one of this nation's premier service providers for the elderly. Philadelphians are living longer and are more active than ever. Under Ms. Hagele's leadership, the agency expanded its services to meet the needs of today's senior. She instituted financial management and housing counseling, community dining, and programs to help seniors live independently and in good health. She launched a wheel chair-accessible mini-bus service to help clients stay mobile, a fitness-for-life center and a learning center, to improve their physical and mental conditions. And when heat waves threatened seniors' lives, Ann started a fan distribution program that gave out almost 6,000 fans to poor Philadelphians.

Mr. Speaker, Ann Hagele has decided to retire from the Philadelphia Senior Center. Her leadership will be missed, but her legacy will live on. I know my colleagues will join me in honoring her today.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2000

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, due to my presence at a funeral of a close family friend on Wednesday, September 6, I was not able to participate in any rollcall votes that took place on that day. If I had been present, I would have voted yes on rollcall votes #451, #452 and #453.