

was active in the community as well, serving as a member of the Durango Elks Lodge and Masonic Lodge. He served our country in the Navy during World War II as part of the medical corps in the South Pacific. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Callaway was a selfless man, giving endlessly to ensure the well-being of others. His service to this great nation, as well as his 42 years of medical service and countless years of kindness to the citizens of the Durango community, are honorable and worthy of recognition. I am confident that in spite of this great loss, the family and friends of Dr. Sam Callaway can take comfort in the knowledge that each is a better person for having known him. It is with this that I pay tribute to the life of this accomplished and wonderful man.

REPEAL OF THE FEDERAL CHARTER OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives recently voted on H.R. 4892, a bill to repeal the federal charter of the Boy Scouts of America. I voted against the bill, and would like to take this opportunity to explain my reasons.

My vote against this legislation should not in any way be interpreted as a weakening in my support for banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. I deplore discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. I will continue to work to meaningfully expand our nation's civil rights protections for gays and lesbians.

At the same time, I share the concerns raised by others about the policy of discrimination that gave rise to the Supreme Court case in *Boy Scouts of America versus Dale*. Certainly we all recognize the high regard the Boy Scouts of America are held in by millions of Americans. The organization has played a positive role in the lives of millions of young Americans.

In June, a sharply divided Supreme Court held that applying New Jersey's public accommodations law to require the Boy Scouts to admit a homosexual member violates the Boy Scouts' First Amendment right of expressive association. As a practical matter, therefore, the Boy Scouts will be permitted to exclude citizens from participating in their organization solely on the basis of their sexual orientation. I regret the Supreme Court's decision.

Unfortunately, a Congressional review of the federal charter given to the Boy Scouts, and the process the Republican leadership has employed in bringing this bill to the House floor, is not the appropriate venue to address this issue. I am disappointed that the Judiciary Committee did not fulfill its responsibility to hold hearings on this legislation. I strongly believe that the Republican leadership has not properly reviewed the underlying legal and constitutional issues at stake in this bill, and I regret that the bill has been brought up under the suspension of the rules. Under this procedure, members have no opportunity to ask questions or offer amendments. Rather than considering legislation to revoke the federal charter of the Boy Scouts—which in and of

itself will do nothing to protect our society from discrimination—this Congress should be considering substantive legislation to strengthen anti-discrimination laws based on one's sexual preference.

I also believe that Congress should conduct a comprehensive review of its system of granting charters to private organizations. As you know, Congress has chartered roughly 90 nonprofit corporations over the years, including many well-known patriotic, charitable, historical, or educational purpose organizations. I share the concerns of my colleagues that the public may misinterpret the granting of a federal charter as a sign of Congressional or governmental approval of an organization. In 1989, the House Judiciary Committee decided to place a moratorium on federal charters. I believe the Committee should examine whether Congress should allow existing federal charters to lapse, so that Congress is no longer in the business of seeming to endorse private organizations.

Let me reiterate that I believe discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is unacceptable. I will continue to support H.R. 1082, to expand federal criminal law protection to extend to sexual orientation, and I will continue to work for the enactment of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). I believe that the Congress must take concrete steps to revise government policies that would bring about a more inclusive American family, which embraces all of our citizens as individuals worthy of equal protection of the law.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, September 12, 2000, I was unavoidably absent on a matter of critical importance and missed the following votes:

On H.R. 2090 (rollcall No. 460), Exploration of the Seas Act, introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. GREENWOOD, I would have voted "yea."

On H.R. 4957 (rollcall No. 461), to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act to extend the legislative authority for the Black Patriots Foundation, introduced by the gentleman from New York, Mr. RANGEL, I would have voted "yea."

On H.R. 3632, (rollcall No. 462), the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Act, introduced by the gentleman from California, Mr. LANTOS, I would have voted "yea."

On H.R. 4583, (rollcall No. 463), authorization extension for the Air Force Memorial Foundation, introduced by the gentleman from Utah, Mr. HANSEN, I would have voted "yea."

On S. 1374 (rollcall No. 464), the Jackson Multi-Agency Campus Act, introduced by the gentleman from the other body, Mr. CRAIG of Idaho, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING DR. KENT VOSLER

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Kent Vosler. On September 16, 2000 Dr. Vosler will be admitted into the Ohio State University Athletic Hall of Fame. In addition to his contribution to the Buckeye Diving team, Kent was also on the 1976 Montreal Olympic team.

Kent is one of a long list of great Ohio State divers. His accomplishments at Ohio State were many. He was a four time NCAA All-American and a four time Ohio State Scholar Athlete. While a senior in high school he won gold medals in 1 meter diving and in 10 meter platform diving at the national age group championships, and was coached at various times by Ohio State Hall of Famers Ron O'Brien, Vince Panzano and Hobie Billingsley. He later won four National AAU diving championships, was a member of the 1975 Pan American Games American team, and the 1976 Olympic team.

Kent was born December 6, 1955 in Dayton, Ohio but he now considers Eaton, Ohio, in the heart of Ohio's 8th Congressional District his home. He is the only Olympian to ever hail from Preble County, Ohio. All of Ohio is proud of Kent and I congratulate him on his many accomplishments.

HONORING DR. JOE VIGIL

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and an honor to have this opportunity to pay tribute to one of Alamosa's most well-loved and admired coaches, Dr. Joe Vigil, as he prepares to leave Adams State College after a decorated and distinguished 29-year career. Joe has been the embodiment of service and success during his time at Adams State and clearly deserves the praise and recognition of this body as he, his runners and the town of Alamosa, Colorado celebrate his groundbreaking career.

If ever there were a person who embodied the spirit and values that motivate others to achieve success, it is Joe. He has distinguished himself through his exceptional leadership and service that have placed him amongst the elite running coaches in the country. He was voted No. 3 on the list of Colorado's top collegiate coaches in the past 100 years and received the honor of NCAA and NAIAC Coach Of The Year 14 times. He has also served the United States as an international coach on 17 different occasions, including several Olympic Games. Most notably, Joe coached his teams to 18 national championships, accounting for more than 350 All-Americans.

Mr. Speaker, Joe's commitment to his community has been so great that it led the Alamosa City Council to proclaim August 12, 2000, Joe I. Vigil day. Their proclamation reads:

"Whereas Dr. Joe I. Vigil has led Adams State College teams to athletic excellence

over the years, whereas he has successfully coached numerous Olympic and champion athletes, whereas he is an inspiration for recreational runners and a role model for all, whereas he represents Alamosa nationally and internationally as an athletic ambassador, now therefore, I, Charles J. Griego, Mayor Pro Tem of Alamosa, Colorado, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim August 12, 2000, as Dr. Joe I. Vigil Day in the City of Alamosa, Colorado."

As Joe celebrates leaving Adams State College and Alamosa, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you and congratulations on behalf of the United States Congress. In every sense, Joe is a great coach who deserves praise and admiration from all of us. I wish him the best of luck as he continues to pursue his coaching career in Green Valley, Arizona. Joe is one of the nation's best and someone we can all be proud of.

My thanks to him for a job well done.

HONORING ART FURUYA

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Art Furuya, formerly of Nashville, Illinois. While he may no longer reside in my district, there is a valuable lesson we can learn from his story.

When most 17 year olds think of cars, proms and graduation, Art's thoughts turned to defending his country. You see, December 7, 1941, the day Pearl Harbor was attacked, was Art's birthday. The following Monday, Art, who is of Japanese descent, went to enlist in the war effort. He tried to enlist in the Army, Navy and Marines, but none would take him because of his Japanese heritage.

He and his family were separated and were victims of the internment camps. Surprisingly, after suffering that great injustice, the one thing that never left his heart was his love of America.

After leaving the camp, he was finally allowed to enter the Army in 1943 as part of the heavy weapons battalion of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team along with many Japanese Americans. The fact that he had little training and did not know how to put up a tent made little difference to Art. He was eager to serve and fight for the land he loved.

The 442nd may be best known for their "Go For Broke" mantra when they were rescuing about 200 fellow soldiers of the 141st Regiment of the 36th Division. Eight hundred men died in that rescue effort. His company started with 150 men and ended up with 16 after that fateful battle. Art won 2 Purple Hearts for his service.

The 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Combat team, in which Art served, gained a total of 18,143 individual decorations, 9,486 Purple Hearts, and 560 Silver Stars and 7 Presidential Unit Citations. Not a bad record for a group of men that were originally unwanted and deemed suspicious by others.

There has been much written about the "Greatest Generation"—those World War II vets who set forth and saved the world. I don't know if we as a nation can adequately give

thanks for their blood, sweat and sacrifice. In many respects, Art and his comrades symbolize the unyielding human spirit—overcoming any obstacle, no matter how difficult, without the expressed purpose of gaining fame or glory. They were just doing their duty. No more. No less.

To Art Furuya, his comrades in his battalion and to those that never made it home from this great war, you have earned this soldier's respect. Thank you for all your service.

SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING UNITED STATES-INDIA RELATIONS

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I welcome Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee of India—the Prime Minister of a key strategic ally of the United States and an important partner in the struggle against international terrorism. Mr. Vajpayee's government has achieved significant economic development, modernization, and consolidation of democracy in India. These accomplishments are all the more impressive when examined in the context of the terrorism India has to cope with on a daily basis. It is so easy for any government to seize on such a threat in order to centralize power at the expense of personal freedoms. It is so tempting to cite foreign security threats in order to legitimize a military coup. However, New Delhi has elected to fight terrorism and develop India without infringing on the population's democratic rights and freedoms. And this is a major, yet unheralded, triumph of both Mr. Vajpayee's government and the people of India.

To comprehend India's recent achievements one must take a closer look at the terrorist threat posed to India.

Despite undeniable achievements of the Indian security forces, the situation in Kashmir continues to deteriorate. The forces used against India now include a combination of Kashmiri fighters and a growing number of foreign operatives.

The terrorist threat to India goes beyond the disputed Kashmir. Only a couple of weeks ago, Abu Abdul Aziz, one of the key Pakistani-sponsored Islamist leaders publicly defined the ultimate objectives of the Kashmiri Jihad: "Our destination is not Kashmir. Our aim is that all of India be converted into a Muslim state." There was not a word of recrimination or even disassociation from Islamabad.

In examining India's struggle against terrorism, one must remember the unique geo-strategic importance of the Indian sub-continent. North-west India, including Kashmir, is located at the edge of the Arc of Crisis. Stretching from the Caucasus in west, through Central Asia to northern India and the north-western Chinese province of Xinjiang, the Arc of Crisis is emerging as the world's next primary reserves of oil and gas—the Persian Gulf of the 21st Century. The Arc of Crisis is also the continental gateway to China and the Far East. Long term stability in the Arc of Crisis is therefore an indispensable interest of the United States. The long and deep coast-line of the Indian subcontinent are crucial for the stability and safety of the maritime commercial

traffic in the Indian Ocean—mainly between Europe, the Persian Gulf and East Asia. The safety of maritime commerce in the Indian Ocean, as well as the oil fields of the nearby South China Sea, are also indispensable interests of the United States and the West. A friendly India is the key to furthering these U.S. interests.

Hence, India is a bulwark of regional stability and consequently a guardian of crucial strategic and economic interests of the United States and the entire West. The national interest of the United States is to have a strong, democratic and prosperous India as an ally and a partner. India can stabilize the volatile yet crucial region—ensuring that the strategic and economic interests of the U.S.-led West are furthered and not infringed upon. Moreover, the rapid economic development growth of India makes it a most promising trade partner with the United States. For example, India's burgeoning software-developing industry is a major contributor to the U.S. computer industry. In the era of growing globalization, the U.S. can and should benefit from the Indian economic surge. However, to fully realize its potential, India must be free of subversion and terrorism.

Therefore, the terrorism waged against India harm the national security and economic interests of the United States. Ultimately, a strong, democratic, and economically viable India serves and furthers the U.S. national interest. Hence the U.S. should stand side-by-side with India and cooperate in its struggle against terrorism. The U.S. should help the democratic government in New Delhi to continue and maintain the delicate balance between resolutely fighting terrorism and preserving democracy, civil rights and a rule of law for all. So far, the record of Mr. Vajpayee's Government has been both impressive and improving. The United States should applaud India for its reform efforts in the face of terrorism.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ALBERT AUGUST "GUS" KARLE

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to honor Mr. Albert August "Gus" Karle. Mr. Karle, who has served the Waycross-Ware County community for forty-five years, has decided to step down from his position as president of the Waycross-Ware County Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Karle has been a dedicated member of the Waycross-Ware County community for many years. He has worked in the private sector for forty-one years, thirty-six years for the railroad, before retiring and dedicating his time to the Waycross civic arena. Mr. Karle has unselfishly assisted the YMCA, the Downtown Waycross Development Authority, and the Waycross-Ware County Chamber of Commerce, where he served as President for five years before retiring in June of 2000.

The Waycross-Ware county community and myself are proud of Mr. Karle's service and dedication. His leadership and prior activity in both the local civic and church affairs will be greatly missed but certainly not forgotten.