

As Taiwan prepares to celebrate its National Day, let me also take this opportunity to express my best wishes to the Republic of China's new representative in Washington, Ambassador C.J. Chen. Ambassador Chen began his duties here in Washington just two months ago. I am hopeful he will further strengthen the already secure bonds of friendship between the United States Congress and the people of Taiwan.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S NATIONAL
DAY

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, the Republic of China on Taiwan will celebrate its 89th anniversary of its founding on October 10, 2000. As Taiwan's friend, I would like to extend my congratulations to the ROC President Chen Shui-bian and Ambassador C.J. Chen of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Washington, D.C.

In recent days, I have been apprised of Republic of China's campaign to return to the United Nations. I believe that Taiwan should have a place in the United Nations. With its huge financial resources, Taiwan is and has always been willing to contribute to UN causes. Unfortunately, Taiwan is barred from substantive involvement in many international organizations and affairs because of Taiwan's lack of UN membership.

The time has come for the world to recognize Taiwan's true potential as an active player in the international community. To admit Taiwan to the United Nations is the first step for the UN to honor its own principle of universal membership.

On the eve of the Republic of China's National Day, I wish that the Republic of China will one day, hopefully soon, return to all international organizations.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN EDWARD J.
WILLIAMS

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the service of an outstanding South Carolina, Captain Edward J. Williams. I submit the portion of an article, which appeared in the August 27, 2000 edition of the Times and Democrat, of Orangeburg, South Carolina, which outlines the military service of Captain Williams and the recognition that has been bestowed on him, as well as how his devoted family has coped with their loss.

CAPT. EDWARD J. WILLIAMS

Captain Williams' wife and daughters have carried his legacy and name with pride, like a banner, since Williams' plane disappeared over Korea.

Williams was drafted while studying engineering at Howard University. In the early 1940s, he was in the first class for pilots at Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama.

The Tuskegee Airmen were the elite group of black fighter pilots of the 99th Pursuit Squadron.

This squadron was later incorporated into the 332nd Fighter Group and fought during World War II. Approximately 1,000 Americans of African ancestry completed flight training at Tuskegee Army Air Field. Of these, 445 went overseas as combat pilots. They flew in bombing escorts and ground attacks.

The Tuskegee Airmen's record was impeccable. Not one plane escorted by these pilots was ever lost in enemy fire. Combat records indicate they destroyed 251 enemy aircraft, winning more than 850 medals.

Williams served under Benjamin O. Davis Jr. Davis later became a general and died only a few years ago.

Daniel "Chappie" James was Williams' flying partner and Edwina's godfather. James also became a general and now lives in Washington.

Williams flew in Europe during World War II and returned to Tuskegee as a training instructor. There he met wife-to-be, who worked on the base. Mrs. Williams recalls her husband as "caring, courteous, just a man of integrity."

Their first child Edwina was 4 months old and the second Cherryetta was on the way when Williams was called to Korea. Mrs. Williams relates. "They had not anticipated the Korean War. He had been given order to come home for the new baby. But they decided they needed him in the air."

While flying in formation over Seoul, his plane was shot down. The Red Cross brought the news in the form of a telegram to Mrs. Williams. It was March 1951 and he was officially listed as missing in action.

Mrs. Williams remembers the shock and said: "It was a time when we needed support from family, community and it came in various ways. We thank God every day for those who extended a hand and really cared."

Williams' eldest daughter Edwina, says of her father: "He gave the supreme sacrifice by fighting for his country. We miss him because he did not return. Our family has been in a state of flux because just receiving a telegram in the early '50s stating that he is missing in action, there is no closure to whether he is really gone or is a prisoner of war possibly."

Mrs. Williams was presented the Purple Heart Award at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter. She had her two infant daughters by her side. They have remained a close-knit family unit since.

Mrs. Williams said, "I celebrate my husband by being involved and answering the call." She is president of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary, president of the Women's Club, and was voted Outstanding Woman of the Year by the Girl Scouts. She taught music at Claflin College for years. She is still employed at Claflin as chaplain.

Edwina and her sister Cherryetta have carried on the legacy of her father's pioneering spirit. They were among the first blacks to integrate the schools in Orangeburg and Columbia College. "We were following Daddy," Edwina proudly says. "Service is one of the things that my family had done through the years and is evidenced by the fact that my father is not with us because he gave his life in service for the country."

Mrs. Williams believes the Purple Heart medal is "something that he deserved and that he earned because of his commitment, his determination and his desire to make the world a better place to live."

She still considers herself married and the wife of Captain Williams. His memory lives on.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. CHRISTINA EVE

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to pay tribute to one of Miami-Dade County's unsung heroines, Mrs. Christina Eve. On Thursday, November 9, 2000, I will be joining countless friends and admirers, fellow educators and former students who will dedicate the new Christina M. Eve Elementary School to perpetuate her commitment to the thousands of boys and girls in my community.

I am privileged to represent this educator par excellence in the Congress. She symbolizes not only the dignity of a phenomenal lady, but all the virtues of a scholar whose mission in life is to enhance the future of our children. Mrs. Eve pursued her B.A. degree at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina and obtained her Master's degree at New York University. She has also pursued advanced studies at Barry University and at Florida Atlantic University, and has been listed prominently in Who's Who in Education in America, as well as in Who's Who in Black America. This is not to mention honors of distinction awarded by both Florida Governors BOB GRAHAM and the late Lawton Chiles, along with numerous accolades from local, state and national educational associations and community agencies.

Ever since I have known this indefatigable leader, Mrs. Eve has always been at the forefront of ensuring equality of opportunity for everyone in our community, be it in our schools or the various venues of employment. At the same time, her quiet but forceful advocacy in adhering to the tenets of equal treatment under the law not only in the halls of academia, but also in every segment of government agency has now become legendary.

Known for her sterling and resilient commitment to academic excellence and personal responsibility, she has served as the pioneering Black administrator of many public schools in my community. In fact, countless parents and their children have been genuinely touched by her virtual consecration to the success of their families.

The acumen of her intelligence and the guidance of her common sense, enlightened by a deep devotion to her Christian faith, has forged wonderful school programs and activities benefiting our children, many of whom have now turned out to be productive and responsible members of our community. What I admire most about this wonderful lady is her thorough understanding of and sensitivity to the various voices that represent the diverse ethnic and racial groups that together compose the virtual mosaic amalgamation that is known as Miami-Dade County.

Her undaunted efforts in her work in education and her zeal in religiously living her faith have shaped and formed her lifelong agenda. Mrs. Christina Eve truly exemplifies a unique leadership whose courageous vision and quiet wisdom on behalf of our children appeal to our noblest character as a nation.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, the dedication of the Christina Eve Elementary School in Miami-Dade County buttresses the noble legacy she now bequeaths to us as a superlative educator and community leader.