

FLOOR STATEMENT FOR REP.
ELLEN TAUSCHER

HON. ELLEN D. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2001

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, we have mourned. We have remembered. And we have flown the flag.

We have done a lot to honor those lost.

But we can do more to honor the men and women who became some of the greatest heroes in American history on September 11.

Many families are still searching for peace of mind and for how to explain to their children that their moms or dads aren't coming home. One of those people is Deena Burnett, who lost her husband Tom on flight 93. Another is Laurie Hart, whose husband John was in the World Trade Center September 11.

These two men are shining examples of the American spirit, and of our bravery and values as a Nation.

Nothing will ever bring back Tom or John, but we must do everything we can to help their families keep their memories alive.

Deena Burnett would like to hear the recording from flight 93's cockpit recorder. And I believe we owe that to her.

These families know the tape might not give them all the answers they're looking for. But many believe it's the only way to cement in their minds what they already know in their hearts—that their husbands and fathers and best friends died as heroes, selflessly doing everything they could to protect their fellow Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I have urged the FBI to immediately consider letting Deena Burnett hear this tape. For 7 weeks I have waited for an answer. Even worse—so have all those families.

And while Deena Burnett and all these other people have been waiting, someone shared information about their loved one's final moments with reporters. But the families' requests still go unanswered. This is heartless, and it is unacceptable.

The FBI can no longer delay making this important gesture to respect and honor the families of these American heroes.

Please, Mr. Speaker, help us give these families the best holiday gifts they could receive—the memories of those they lost.

**U.S. CONGRESS MUST SUPPORT
AMERICAN STEEL INDUSTRY**

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2001

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, since 1998, foreign governments have been masterfully proping up their inefficient domestic steel producers. The result to the United States has been disastrous. In three years, 26 domestic steel companies have either been forced into bankruptcy proceedings or shut down altogether, amounting to 40 percent of America's former steel production capacity. The number of American workers who have lost their jobs, due to no fault of their own, stand at 28,000 and rising. Currently, foreign steel making cor-

porations produce 300 million metric tons per year—nearly double the annual U.S. consumption.

Unfortunately, this problem is nothing new. Ever since the United States began to abandon its protective anti-dumping laws, American steel and steelworkers have been hung out to dry. In 1980, there were 547,500 American steelworkers; today there are 211,300.

This problem hits too close to home for the residents of my Congressional district. For example, last week, LTV Corporation petitioned a federal bankruptcy judge to close its coke plant at 11600 S. Burley in Chicago. This closing alone will send 3,500 employees in the Chicago area a pink slip just in time for Christmas. Last month, Acme metals of Riverdale shut down and resulted in 1,100 unemployed steelworkers.

Perhaps more damaging to my district is the fact that retired pensioners risk losing their negotiated benefits and health insurance. In 1993, when U.S. Steel closed its Southworks plant on 89th Street in Chicago, hundreds of my constituents were forced into early retirement. Today, they worry their retirement pensions will not be subject to another broken promise. Locally, 4,600 former LTV and Acme employees will join their ranks, hoping that their struggling former companies will at least be able to pay out health and pension annuities.

I would like to thank Congressman VISCLOSKEY from my neighboring state of Indiana for bringing forth his Steel Industry Relief legislation to the floor of the House today. As numerous steel companies begin to move from Chapter 11 to Chapter 7 bankruptcy, it is becoming obvious that pension and health commitments will fall with the corporations. His amendment will address the needs of retired workers and allow steel companies to merge and restructure to survive in the predatory world steel market of the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, the Steel Industry Relief legislation will only begin to address the amount of assistance Congress needs to give to the vital domestic steel industry. But it is a good start. Again, I would like to thank my colleague from my neighboring state of Indiana, Mr. VISCLOSKEY, for his thoughtful amendment. His northwest Indiana district may be the most affected congressional district in the nation as a result of closing steel mills. Some congressional districts like mine will be substantially affected by these problems. But in time, all of America will surely suffer if these troubling trends continue. We must protect and support American steel.

**EULOGY FOR HONORABLE JOE
MOAKLEY**

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2001

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make a submission into the RECORD. During the funeral mass for our late colleague Joe Moakley, Monsignor Thomas McDonnell of St. Augustine's Parish in South Boston gave a wonderful and very moving eulogy. I'd like to share his words with the House.

St. Augustine once wrote that if we ever wish to find hope, we must learn to remember.

And it is this remembering that leads to the hope that must be the center of our reflection today as we give our brother, friend, colleague and public servant back to God.

My own memories will, I know, color my words. I remember a political novel about a thinly-disguised mayor of Boston. And years later, I can remember the words of the fictitious Monsignor about his hero. With due adaptation, they apply so aptly to Joe. His words were to the effect that "to die in God's grace, to have loved many and left behind many friends, and to have done a great deal of good—what more needs to be said about any man." Indeed, we might leave our thoughts here, except for one thing. The phrase quoted above overlooks what contributed to Joe's goodness and greatness. It overlooks the Congressman's roots as a South Boston Irish-Italian Catholic American.

There was a spiritual depth in Joe which could easily be overlooked. After his public announcement regarding his disease, he asked to meet with me—and had one question: "What more should I be doing to get ready to meet God?" He had received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and he was given the sacrament of the sick by his friend Cardinal Law. But being the pragmatist he was, he wanted to know if he should be doing anything else.

This question, coming from the deepest part of himself, was a natural one to those of us who were raised in the Catholic tradition—where we were taught that the purpose of our existence was to lead us to spend an eternity of happiness with God. It was a question which took on the aspect of prayer—spoken in the language of the heart. And ultimately, it pointed to the faith-dimension of Joe's life.

Without breaking any confidentiality, I can say that I could only point Joe to the truth which I believe is so important for all of us to recognize: God's infinite, affectionate love that He has for every one of his children—the love about which Isaiah wrote:

Even if a mother would forget the child of her womb,

I can never forget you—

I have carved you on the palm of my hands.

Somehow I believe that at the moment of our death, God who has been supporting us and holding us will simply grasp us gently by the hand and lead us home.

On another level, one of the great saints of the Catholic tradition, St. John of the Cross, wrote: "In the evening of our life, we will be judged upon love." And in this context, Joe would pass with flying colors. There is no doubt that Joe was loved. The outpouring of affection for him was made known to us through the media. For Joe, however, the letters he received from people whom he knew all his life—or people for whom he did favors were equally if not more important.

But we are loved because we love. True Love, as we know, is ever-expansive. And the lists of Joe's loves are as endless as they are impressive. He loved His God, his church, his special and enduring love for his wife Evelyn, his family, his constituents, South Boston, the Democratic Party and his country. In a way, I am reminded of the poet Dante's description of God, whom he described as having His arms wide-open to embrace all who turn to Him. In an analogous way, Joe's arms were open to all who turned to him, especially the poor and the needy. Because we are all made in God's image, we should learn that lesson.

It would be wrong, however, to look at Joe simply in terms of a local politician. I believe his pursuit of justice for those murdered in El Salvador proved that Joe was a true statesman who did not, however, forget his roots. His was a passionate pursuit of justice. And as the first Scripture reading notes, the just are in the hands of God.

I doubt whether Joe ever read Aristotle on his frequent trips between Boston and Washington, but he instinctively embraced the ideas of this Greek philosopher that the vocation of the politician is to strive to make others happy. This idea, combined with the Christian belief expressed in the Acts of the Apostles that Jesus was one who "went about doing good" explains the motivating forces for Joe's political life and successes. As the Gospel points out, there are many ways to our Father's home.

As we have seen in the past few months, Joe exercised a great appeal to so many people. I believe people saw in him 2 virtues for which people are hungry—integrity and authenticity.

But there is something else which also must be mentioned. While Joe was not without fault, his virtues outweighed his faults. It was the visible virtues of his care and compassion which earned him such encomiums as the "voice of the voiceless." I think the key to Joe's personality and his success as a politician is to be found in a few verses written by the poet politician Patrick Pearse. He wrote:

Because I am of the people, I understand the people,
I am sorrowful with their sorrow, I am hungry with their desire:
My heart has been heavy with the grief of mothers,
My eyes have been wet with the tears of children
I have yearned with old wistful men,
And laughed with young men * * *

Because Joe never forgot he was a man of the people, he had an empathy and compassion for them. These virtues likewise are expansive. And Joe's legacy to us was to be a role-model of these virtues. But he also challenges us now—to make these virtues come alive in our hearts. If we do—whatever our vocation is—the world will become a better place. Joe, "good and faithful servant," may you rest in peace. Amen.

NATIONAL PEARL HARBOR
REMEMBRANCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. Con. Res. 44, in commemoration of Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day and to honor those who served their country at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Our nation is now fully engaged in a campaign to eradicate international terrorism. The last two weeks have witnessed a great deal of progress in Afghanistan. Yet, the job is not yet

complete; the Taliban remain in control of their spiritual base of Kandahar and Osama bin Laden remains at large. I can find no greater inspiration for seeing through this campaign to complete victory than the men and women of past generations who served heroically in defense of our nation, especially at Pearl Harbor on "the day of infamy."

One of those heroes was Dorie Miller, an African American mess attendant aboard the USS *West Virginia* when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Dorie Miller was responsible for dragging his ship's commander, who had been wounded by shrapnel, out of the line of fire. Once his captain was safe, he manned a machine gun on the ship's deck. He did so despite the fact that blacks generally did not serve in combat positions or other positions of greater responsibility and thus he had not been instructed in gunnery. With serious bombing and strafing all around him as the American battleship fleet was being decimated, Dorie Miller shot down at least two of the 29 Japanese planes that were lost by the attackers that day.

Dorie Miller continued to serve his country in the Navy during World War II. However, in 1943, he and 654 shipmates were killed in the line of duty when the Japanese sank the USS *Liscome Bay* near the Gilbert Islands.

Unfortunately, Dorie Miller's acts of valor have never been fully recognized, and some of the awards that were bestowed upon him were only given grudgingly. Initially, Dorie Miller's actions were not publicized until three months after the Pearl Harbor attack. Then, he was only given a letter of citation by the Secretary of the Navy—the lowest of awards for duty. Dorie Miller was finally awarded the Navy Cross, but only after a public campaign by civil rights organizations brought about critical attention in the press. However, Dorie Miller was not decorated with the nation's highest honor—the Congressional Medal of Honor. In fact, no African American who served in World War II received the Congressional Medal of Honor until seven Army veterans were given the award in 1997.

Mr. Speaker, as we honor the devotion, dedication and sacrifice of all who served at Pearl Harbor, I can think of no better commemoration than to finally recognize the actions of Dorie Miller. I have introduced legislation, H.R. 1994, which would begin to cure this injustice. The bill would waive the time limitation specified in current law for the awarding of military decorations in order to allow the posthumous award of the Congressional Medal of Honor to Dorie Miller for his heroic actions during World War II. I ask my colleagues to cosponsor my bill and the Armed Services Committee to expedite its passage so that a long-awaited honor may finally be bestowed upon this deserving individual.

TRIBUTE TO HEROS OF THE FIRST
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. HENRY BROWN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2001

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two heroes of

the first district of South Carolina who died in the September 11 attack on our country. Wendy Smalls of Johns Island was working at the International Securities Firm of Canton Fitzgerald on the 104th floor of the north tower of the World Trade Center when the attack took place. She leaves behind a 7 year old son, Tyree who is now living with his grandmother, Ms. Ethel L. Smalls of Johns Island. The community has responded by adding a room to the grandmother's house to expand the living space for little Tyree.

Lyzbeth Glick, daughter of Richard and Joanne Makely of Johns Island, lost her husband Jeremy on United flight 93 that crashed in Pennsylvania. Jeremy was on the phone with his wife moments before taking on the terrorists. He told her that there were three hijackers and "our best chance is to fight these people." He and several others decided to attack the hijackers to keep them from reaching their target. The plane went down and everyone on it died. FBI Special Agent Andy Black said that Jeremy Glick and the others lost their lives but spared countless lives by keeping the plane from reaching its intended target. Jeremy leaves behind his wife and their 12 week old daughter. The heroes of the first district of South Carolina will be missed but certainly not forgotten. We ask God's blessings for these families.

EXPRESSING THE GRATITUDE OF
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TO GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my support to the House Resolution expressing the Congress's appreciation to the General Accounting Office and its employees for enabling the House of Representatives to continue its work during the closing of our buildings as a result of the anthrax attack. The GAO provided office space for and administrative support of the House with little forewarning and its employees stood by, ready to be of assistance providing a warm welcome, that made our transition that much easier. I and my staff were personally pleased to be accommodated in the offices of Mr. McCoy Williams and Ms. Lynda E. Downing for several days providing us the opportunity to continue our work while they were inconvenienced. This sacrifice was and is greatly appreciated.

During these turbulent times, our ability to depend on each other has been essential to an appropriate and expedient response to support and lead the Nation. The GAO is always an important component of our work and its performance during the most recent challenge exceeded all expectations. I thank them for their hard work and dedication.