

PAYING TRIBUTE TO M.A.S.H.  
(MOTHERS AGAINST SADDAM  
HUSSEIN)

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2003*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand before the nation and this Congress to honor a small group of mothers who are working to support the brave men and women that are currently defending our Nation abroad. These mothers call themselves "MASH," Mothers Against Saddam Hussein. They are raising money to support our troops by selling t-shirts that have been embroidered with the group's acronym.

This organization began when a small group of mothers made the shirts and wore them all over my hometown. The idea spread and the t-shirt has now become an amazing phenomenon in the town of Grand Junction, Colorado. The group has even made a special exception for men and brothers who want to express their support, by changing the acronym to read "Men Against Saddam Hussein."

As the major fighting in Iraq has decreased, the women have expressed a special message for our Nation. They do not want the sacrifices of our troops to be forgotten as they continue to stand and fight to secure and rebuild a ravaged country.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this body to express my appreciation for this organization. The "Mothers Against Saddam Hussein" should be proud of their cause, as they ensure that the sacrifices of our brave troops will never be forgotten. I would like to thank MASH for their efforts and encourage them to carry on in their mission.

**OPPOSING FCC'S DECISION**

**HON. JERRY MORAN**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2003*

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I oppose the decision of the Federal Communications Commission to increase the cap on media ownership.

Yesterday, the five-member board of the Federal Communications Commission voted to allow one owner to control more stations within the same market and to allow television networks to acquire more stations. Until today, broadcast ownership rules limited networks to owning no more than a 35 percent share of television households. With this decision, that share rises to 45 percent. The FCC also voted to ease restrictions on media companies owning a newspaper and television station in the same market. These new rules will allow for more mergers and increased media consolidation across the country.

This decision poses a threat to local programming in rural America. National programmers operate from a "one-size-fits-all" mentality and have less interest in the needs of our rural communities. If the networks acquire more of the local television affiliates, programming decisions are less likely to be made by local managers who have personal knowledge of the communities they serve.

At the heart of our democracy is a free and diverse exchange of ideas. Placing the power of communication solely in the hands of a narrow group of media giants will undermine freedom of expression. Columnist William Safire expressed it best, "The diffusion of power through local control, thereby encouraging individual participation, is the essence of federalism and the greatest expression of democracy." Yesterday's decision diminishes individual participation in the democratic process by suppressing one's ability to voice his or her opinion. Having fewer outlets for expression means that only a few voices will be heard: those of the large national programmers.

These new regulations not only threaten to reduce the access to the local news, they infringe upon the ability to maintain an open forum for sharing opinions and ideas—the very democratic principals upon which our Nation was founded.

**TRIBUTE TO CHARLENE BUTLER**

**HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2003*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, teachers are special people, and I rise today to pay tribute to Charlene Butler who, after 37 years of dedicated service, has decided to leave this select group.

Charlene Butler was born and raised in Miami, Florida and is a proud graduate of Booker T. Washington Senior High School. She attended Bethune Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida and earned a Bachelor of Science degree. She went on to obtain her Master of Education degree from Nova University.

Her teaching career began in 1966 at Lorah Park Elementary in Miami, at a time when black educators were traditionally assigned to teach at historically black schools. In 1970, the federal court ordered all schools to integrate and she was transferred to Sunset Elementary School.

In 1984, the staff of Sunset Elementary bestowed one of the highest recognitions a staff can bestow upon a colleague when they named her Teacher of the Year. She remained at Sunset Elementary for 18 years, though throughout her tenure at Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Ms. Butler has taught at Lorah Park Elementary, Sunset Elementary, Phyllis Wheatley Elementary and finally, the Phyllis R. Miller Elementary School, where she presently teaches.

Ms. Butler is an adept, concerned, ardent educator and a champion for the "little ones." Blessed with a keen appreciation for the stages of development of her young charges, she was dubbed the "historian" of her students' accomplishments.

Ms. Butler's dedication, loyalty, compassion, and involvement will be missed at Phyllis R. Miller Elementary School, by parents, colleagues, administrators and students alike.

Congratulations, Ms. Butler, and enjoy your retirement.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL KEVIN RICE

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2003*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a devoted soldier as well as an accomplished scholar and leader. Colonel Kevin Rice has served as the Installation Commander at the Defense Language Institute, Foreign Language Center and Presidio of Monterey since December 2000. Tomorrow, he earns a well-deserved retirement after serving his country honorably for the last 30 years. Throughout his service at the Presidio, Colonel Rice was instrumental in improving the standard of excellence in training our military linguists and in continuing the transition of Fort Ord, the Nation's largest base closure, to civilian use.

Colonel Rice was born in Henderson, Nevada and grew up there and in La Mirada, California. Kevin Rice attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and upon his graduation in 1973, was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Infantry. Colonel Rice is a graduate of the Chinese Program at the Defense Language Institute of Monterey which he would later lead, and he also successfully completed studies at the British Ministry of Defense Chinese Language School in Hong Kong and holds Master's Degrees from both the Naval Postgraduate School and the National War College.

Colonel Rice's military career in the U.S. Army is extremely distinguished and diverse. He started out as a mechanized rifle platoon leader and quickly rose through the ranks while applying his expertise in mechanized infantry, light infantry and airborne special operations units. Prior to his service at the Presidio, Colonel Rice held the position of U.S. Army Attaché to the People's Republic of China. Throughout these assignments, he was repeatedly honored for his outstanding performance with awards ranging from the Meritorious Service Medal to the Army Achievement Medal.

I am extremely grateful to have worked with Colonel Rice on several military construction projects at the Defense Language Institute, including a new classroom facility—Collins Hall—as well as Video Tele-Training Facility. These base modernization projects illustrate Colonel Rice's leadership in making sure DLI, the world's largest foreign language school, employs the most advanced technology to continue as a center of excellence in the teaching of foreign languages.

Moreover, Colonel Rice has presided over the only dual service—Army and Navy—base housing modernization program in the Nation. When complete, the Residential Community Initiative at the Presidio will provide the Central Coast military community with 1,800 units of quality base housing, built to local code, and paid for by the military housing allowance known as the BAH. Without his continued efforts to move this huge undertaking through the bureaucratic process both inside the Pentagon and outside, the RCI wouldn't have come to fruition.

Colonel Kevin Rice and his wife, Kitty, have been active and highly regarded members of the local community who are leaving a lasting legacy of civic involvement and a wide circle of friends who will miss them both. I am