

opens today, will be of invaluable help to all of us, but particularly our young people, to understand where we have been and where we are today.

For the last several years, we have recognized and commemorated many of the significant events and milestones of the 20th century. Sometimes when we look back on the past, we tend to remember "the good old days" and think that day-to-day life in America is much more difficult now than it was before. Without a doubt, our country today, in the infancy of the 21st Century, faces significant challenges. But it does us good to remember that the circumstances and state of the world presented to Truman during his Presidency were extraordinarily daunting.

Like the Presidents who came before and after him, Truman was burdened with the loneliness that goes along with being the Chief Executive. But President Truman's character ensured that he did not shy away from difficult, often politically unpopular, decisions. He once said, "Do your duty and history will do you justice."

America had endured the Great Depression. Along with our allies, America fought a long and costly war against fascism. Although there was an understandable euphoria following victory in World War II, the state of the world prompted Truman to move away from America's established pattern of peacetime isolationism in order to assist European economic recovery through the Marshall Plan and to protect Western Europe under the umbrella of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Almost immediately, Harry Truman was forced to confront the reality of the Cold War, and the struggle of the U.S. and other western democracies was on to stop the spread of communism.

Truman had the courage to stand up to the communist aggression that marked the beginning of the Cold War. The Truman Doctrine made clear that the United States would not stand idly by in the face of communist aggression in Greece, Turkey, and elsewhere. Truman's commitment to the democratic rights of free people was clear as the U.S. provided essential supplies to the people of Berlin during the Soviet blockade.

And fifty-three years ago, President Harry S. Truman made the agonizing decision to use American troops to lead the United Nation's resistance to the communist invasion of South Korea. Over the next three years, more than 54,000 Americans paid the ultimate price, with over 33,000 killed in action. Over 110,000 Americans were wounded or missing in action. In addition, over 228,000 South Korean soldiers and untold numbers of civilians gave their lives.

These stark statistics serve as a reminder to all of us that the slogan "freedom is not free" is more than just a few words. The sacrifices of thousands of American service members purchased the freedom that South Koreans enjoy to this day, a freedom that our military continues to protect.

In many respects, our participation in the Korean conflict has served as model for the way our military operates today. Korea was the first multilateral United Nations operation, and it has become the longest standing peacekeeping operation in modern times. The unfortunate experience of Task Force Smith has taught us the paramount importance of sending forces into battle only when they are adequately trained and equipped. We have also learned that units cannot be thrown piecemeal into battle but must be engaged in a coordinated fashion with air and sea power and with overwhelming force. The lessons of the Korean War, taught at such great cost, have served us well in the conflicts in which we have participated since then, from Viet Nam to the Persian Gulf War

to Bosnia, Kosovo, and the War on Terrorism.

As much as we may be inclined to remember the leaders who ultimately brought us victory in the Korean War—Truman, MacArthur, Acheson, Walker, and Ridgway—it is really the men and women who served so bravely to whom we pay tribute. Without their selfless dedication, valor, and perseverance, the people of South Korea would not be living in a free and prosperous society.

To the veterans of the Korean conflict—those who are with us today, those who never returned home, and those who we have lost in the years since—we say thank you. Each of you who lost friends or family members who died during this conflict understand that their loss creates a void that can never be filled. Three of my close friends—a high school classmate, a Boy Scout buddy, and a friend from Wentworth Military Academy Junior College—were killed in Korea. You were the ones who carried out the orders of the Commander-In-Chief, President Truman, who drew a line in the sand. This line was held by your blood, sweat, and tears. You gave of your youth to stop the spread of communism. I maintain that these fledgling efforts, these supreme sacrifices, were the foundation of our victory in the Cold War, some 50 years later.

I know that you must feel a special kinship with our men and women who today are serving in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. You, perhaps as much as anyone, understand the hardship of fighting a war, a continent away from home, a war to ensure the survival of a nation and a way of life. What they are doing today will set the stage for the next 50 years, and I suspect that, like the Cold War, it may well be 50 years before we know for sure whether we have won the War Against Terrorism and brought peace and stability to the Middle East in the wake of the Iraq War.

We would all do well to live by Truman's advice, "Do your duty, and history will do you justice." The tough decisions made by Truman earned the praise of British Prime Minister Winston Churchill who said to Truman, "You, more than any other man, have saved Western civilization." History has indeed done justice and given evidence to Truman's wisdom, strength, and vision. May what we learn from the past enable us to do our duty today as well.

God bless.

IN HONOR OF THE CLEVELAND-MARSHALL LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AS THEY RECOGNIZE THE HONORABLE DIANE J. KARPINSKI AND HOWARD D. MISHKIND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association as they recognize alumni Judge Diane Karpinski and Attorney Howard D. Mishkind—distinguished alumni of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Class of 1980.

The mission of the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association (CMLAA) is to promote, support and serve the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, its alumni, faculty and students by offering quality education, professional programs, and professional opportunities to assist in career and educational advancement of

every alumnus. Additionally, CMLAA life membership dues fund a vital Student Scholarship Program.

Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Alumni—Judge Diane J. Karpinski and Attorney Howard D. Mishkind, have evolved from law school graduates in 1980, to leaders in the legal profession. Both have raised the bar of excellence in their prospective areas of law and reflect outstanding professional profiles that encompass integrity, expertise, and service to others. While ascending throughout their legal endeavors, Judge Diane Karpinski and Attorney Howard Mishkind have remained committed to supporting the Cleveland College of Law and their community, and have become superior role models for the youth of our community.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Judge Diane Karpinski and Attorney Howard D. Mishkind, as they are duly recognized by the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association for their significant professional achievements and, more importantly, for their service to the College and to our community. I also stand in honor of the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association, for their continued support of educational excellence; for their promotion and support of Cleveland-Marshall College of Law graduates and alumni; and for providing countless students an opportunity to attain a superior law education through the organization of scholarship funds. Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, its faculty, students and alumni have demonstrated academic and professional excellence within all areas of law, earning the highest respect and admiration of our entire community and beyond.

RECOGNIZING LOCAL 375 FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, ATTACK ON NEW YORK CITY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Civil Service Technical Guild, Local 375, for its work on behalf of the people of New York. In particular, I applaud the members for their continuing efforts to rebuild the City's infrastructure after the destruction caused by the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack on New York City.

The 6,800 member local, headed by President Claude Fort, has been a New York City mainstay for decades, building and maintaining vital components of the city's infrastructure. Since its inception in 1937, the local's engineers, architects, scientists, chemists, planners and other technical specialists have designed, constructed, and maintained the City's infrastructure of bridges, highways, subways, sewer and water systems, schools and libraries; they also enforce air, water, fire, and building codes.

Hundreds of members are currently at work on a massive project to add a third water tunnel in the New York City area. The "Third Water Tunnel Project" is a system of sixty miles of underground aqueducts running through Westchester, Bronx, Manhattan, Queens, and Brooklyn. When completed, the tunnel will increase water delivery for the