

often the first person out on the dance floor at school dances. Although he initially seemed to be a very shy, quiet young man, those who knew him spoke highly of his sense of humor. He was famous for the humorous pranks he would play on his baseball teammates.

Private Gonzalez-Rodriguez joined the Marines on August 8, 2001, just months after his high school graduation. He was assigned to the First Supply Battalion, First Force Service Support Group, based in Camp Pendleton. He was sent to Iraq and died in a tragic incident when an ordnance he was handling unexpectedly exploded.

Private First Class Jose F. Gonzalez-Rodriguez was a true patriot and exceptional American who will be greatly missed. His loved ones are in my prayers.

NAGAS OPEN OFFICE IN D.C. TO
FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, as you know, there are many national groups fighting for their freedom from India. We have followed the struggles of the Sikhs to free their homeland of Khalistan for many years thanks to the tireless efforts of Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. Now another of the minority nations that seeks freedom from India has opened an office to represent its interests in Washington, D.C. The people of Nagaland are now represented in a Washington office.

I am happy to see the Nagas open a Washington office. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them. Nagaland is predominantly Christian and the Nagas have suffered under Indian oppression for many years. India has murdered over 200,000 Nagas since 1947. They are a separate nation and people from predominantly Hindu India, but they are victims of India's ongoing efforts to establish fundamentalist Hindu hegemony over the entire subcontinent.

Nagaland is entitled to freedom. Freedom is the birthright of all peoples and nations. The essence of democracy is the right to self-determination and this right has been denied to the people of Nagaland just as it has been denied to the people of the Sikh homeland, Punjab, Khalistan, to the Kashmiri people, and to so many other nations living under the boot of Indian repression. It is time for India to start acting like the democracy it claims to be and settling these matters in a peaceful, democratic manner rather than trying to suppress the people and their natural ambitions by force.

The leaders of Nagaland have tried to establish their freedom peacefully through negotiations, but the Indian government has been unwilling to discuss independence with Nagaland. However, they finally recognized the Nagas as a separate people. This is the first step toward the independence of the Naga nation. Democratic India wishes to retain the right to continue repressing the minorities living under its rule.

That is why the opening of an office representing the freedom struggle of Nagaland is so important, Mr. Speaker. The Sikhs have

had such an office for a long time, and the Kashmiris have also. The more information that can be put out about the brutal, repressive nature of the Indian government, the more success all of the movements for freedom will have. This will also be a significant boost for basic human rights throughout India, where Assamese, Bodos, Dalits (the dark-skinned aboriginal people of South Asia), Manipuris, Tamils, and so many others are being oppressed and killed for struggling for their freedom.

We can help in this effort. It is time to stop American aid to India until it respects basic human rights and to declare our support for the freedom of Nagaland, Khalistan, Kashmir, and all the oppressed nations of South Asia.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert a list of persecution of minorities in India into the RECORD at this time for the information of my colleagues.

PERSECUTION OF MINORITIES IN INDIA

CHRISTIANS

Over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland have been murdered by the Indian government.

Since Christmas 1998, Christians have been the favored target of Indian religious persecution.

American missionary Joseph Cooper was expelled from India for preaching after he was beaten so severely he had to be hospitalized for a week.

Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, and other states have recently passed laws banning conversion to any religion except Hinduism.

Recently in Gujarat the government has been conducting a survey of Christians, asking how long they have been Christians, how long they have been in India, citizenship, and other intrusive questions.

Hindu Nationalists associated with the parent organization of the ruling party have murdered several priests.

Several nuns have been murdered.

A nun named Sister Ruby was forced to drink her captors' urine.

Hindu nationalists have burned churches.

Christian schools and prayer halls have been attacked.

Missionary Graham Staines and his two sons were burned to death while sleeping in their jeep by Hindu nationalists who chanted "Victory to Hannuman," a Hindu god.

A Christian religious festival was broken up by police gunfire.

SIKHS

Indian police have murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984.

52,268 Sikhs are rotting in Indian jails as political prisoners without charge or trial. Some have been there since 1984.

The U.S. State Department reported that the Indian government paid over 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs. One of these was awarded to a police officer who killed a three-year-old boy.

In 1984, the Indian government attacked Sikhism's most sacred shrine, the Golden Temple, and 38 other Gurdwaras throughout Punjab, killing 20,000 Sikhs.

Human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khaira was killed in police custody after he exposed India's policy of secret cremations of Sikhs.

Over 50,000 Sikhs have "disappeared" after they were picked up by the police. They were tortured, secretly cremated, then declared "unidentified bodies" and secretly cremated.

The Indian government paid the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, over \$1.5 billion to generate and support terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir.

Indian forces were caught red-handed trying to set fire to a Gurdwara and some Sikh

homes in a village in Kashmir. Sikh and Muslim villagers overwhelmed them and stopped them.

Indian forces carried out the March 2000 massacre of 35 Sikhs in Chithisinghpura, according to two independent studies.

Over 20,000 Sikhs were murdered by the government in the Delhi massacres of Sikhs while police, on orders, stood by and did nothing.

The Jathedar of the Akal Takht, Gurdev Singh Kaunke, was murdered by the police.

The driver for Baba Charan Singh, a religious leader, was killed when his legs were tied to two jeeps that drove off in opposite directions.

MUSLIMS

2,000 to 5,000 Muslims were murdered in Gujarat last March.

The police stood aside and let the murders happen. They had no orders to stop it.

According to the Hindustan Times, the government pre-planned that massacre.

Over 85,000 Muslims in Kashmir have been murdered by Indian forces.

Hindu nationalists destroyed the most revered mosque in India, the Babri Mosque in Ayodhya, to build a Hindu temple.

India has not kept the promise it made in 1948 to hold a plebiscite on the future of Kashmir.

OTHERS

A Dalit girl was blinded by her teacher after she drank water from the community pitcher.

A Dalit constable went into a temple to take shelter on a rainy day and was stoned to death by the Brahmins in attendance.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR JAMES
"CHOCKS" EWALD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Major James "Chocks" Ewald of the Michigan National Guard for his courageous acts of bravery during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Major James Ewald has been serving his country since 1989 when he entered the Air Force. In July of 1998, Major Ewald joined the Michigan Air National Guard and has continued to fly contingency operations all over the world, including Bosnia, Korea, and Iraq. As a recent graduate of the United States Air Force Fighter Weapons School, Major Ewald has significant knowledge and experience in flying.

On April 8, 2003, Major Ewald flew over Baghdad on an intelligence mission for Operation Iraqi Freedom. During the mission, Major Ewald's aircraft was struck by a surface-to-air missile. Miraculously, Major Ewald was able to gather important intelligence, continue flying his damaged aircraft while notifying U.S. forces about his position, and prepare for a safe ejection and rescue. The bravery and determination of Major James "Chocks" Ewald are to be applauded and commended.

Major Ewald has demonstrated true patriotism and loyalty to America. His service to his country will never be forgotten, and we can all be grateful for the sacrifices Major Ewald has made to protect our precious freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend the gratitude of myself and the entire nation to Major James "Chocks" Ewald for his service to this nation.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the heroic acts Major Ewald has performed while serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

CONGRATULATIONS BEN WENDEL

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ben Wendel of Stanley Middle School. Ben is the Grand Champion of the grades 7/8 Greater San Diego 24 Challenge® Math Program. I want to applaud him for his success.

The 24 Challenge® Math Program is an activity which helps young students learn how to add, subtract, multiply and divide. It has been used in more than one-hundred-thousand classrooms around the world to teach basic mathematics. Becoming the grand champion of such a competition is quite an accomplishment.

During the 2000–2001 school year, more than 640 elementary and middle school classrooms throughout San Diego County received 24® game materials to be used with second-through eighth-grade students. A U.S. Department of Education grant provided for 24 Game Mathematics Club kits to be sent to participating classrooms in San Diego County. The fruits of this small but worthy contribution can be seen in Ben's triumph.

I enjoyed meeting this young man and other competitors at this local program within my district. It is truly a pleasure to meet these bright students and their families.

HONORING U.S. MARINE SPC. PAUL T. NAKAMURA

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the extraordinary life and patriotism of 21-year-old U.S. Marine Spc. Paul T. Nakamura of Santa Fe Springs, California. A brave soldier, he was killed in the line of duty in Iraq on Thursday, June 19 when a rocket-propelled grenade hit the military ambulance in which he was tending to a wounded American soldier. Nakamura joined the Army Reserves because he loved our country and was so proud to be an American. He has provided tremendous service and has made the ultimate sacrifice for his beloved country.

A graduate of Santa Fe High School, Nakamura was a passionate swimmer. He worked as a lifeguard and swimming instructor at the Santa Fe Springs Aquatic Center since he was 17 and belonged to the high school water polo team. Nakamura was also a boy scout and Junior Olympian who earned the respect and friendship of many in his community.

Nakamura's closest friends included the members of his Boy Scout troop and his younger sister, Pearl, with whom he spent countless hours swimming, bowling and shooting pool. Among his close friends and family

members, Nakamura was known as a daredevil, particularly when he was a child. If something was dangerous or frowned upon by adults, Paul Nakamura would want to try it. Once when camping with his Boy Scout troop, he and several of his friends rode their bikes down a steep hill. The other boys pressed on their brakes to slow down, but Paul sped down the hill full speed ahead.

Assigned to the 437th Medical Company based in Colorado Springs, Marine Spc. Nakamura was deployed to the Middle East in February. The last time he spoke to his family was on Father's Day. He continually reassured his family of his safety, and they knew he did not want them to worry. But knowing that their son always put others before himself, Nakamura's parents, Paul and Yoko, did worry about his safety. They remain extremely proud of him, knowing that he died helping others.

His family misses him greatly. Nakamura's father, a veteran of the Korean war, gave his departing son his old Army dog tags and told him to bring them home safely. Sadly, Paul Nakamura will never be able to do this. My prayers and deepest condolences are with the Nakamura family and his loved ones left behind.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS ON HOW TO WIN THE PEACE IN IRAQ

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a Resolution that is similar to an amendment that passed unanimously in the Senate last week. My Resolution encourages the President to reach out to our allies in NATO, the United Nations, and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) for help in post-war Iraq. I believe that we can achieve our goals in Iraq, but not without the full cooperation of the international community.

My Resolution urges the President to do two things.

First, consider requesting assistance from NATO to raise a force for post-war Iraq similar to Afghanistan, Bosnia, and Kosovo. Even though some NATO members, Great Britain, Spain, Italy and Poland, are already contributing troops to our effort in Iraq, American troops make up 90 percent of coalition forces.

And second, consider calling on the United Nations member states to provide both military forces and civilian police to aid in promoting stability and security in post-war Iraq. Conditions in Iraq continue to pose a serious threat to U.S. and coalition forces, who are being attacked between 10 and 25 times a day. Increasing the number of troops and police from other countries will reduce the risks to U.S. and coalition forces currently in Iraq. International armed forces and police must assume some of the responsibilities for maintaining law and order in Iraq while a domestic police force and reformed military is trained and established. Pentagon officials estimate that it will take a year to train one division of 12,000 Iraq troops.

My Resolution also calls on the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,

along with other international and nongovernmental organizations to provide assistance to the coalition partnership in Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, it's time to move past any negative feelings concerning countries that opposed our attempts to secure a U.N. endorsement for the war. We must repair our strained relations with our allies. We will only be successful in post-war Iraq, and in the global war on terrorism, if we restore our relationships with these nations.

Our ultimate goal for the Iraqi people is a multi-ethnic, multi-religious Arab state that is capable of self-rule. This goal can only be achieved with the help and support of the vast global community.

Mr. Speaker, United States and coalition forces managed to liberate Iraq in a mere 3 weeks, and I would certainly be remiss if I did not take the opportunity to commend those brave men and women for their efforts to date. However, the goals we have set, from restoring critical infrastructure, to establishing an interim government, to maintaining law and order in Iraq, simply cannot be achieved alone. We've won the war, now we have to win the peace.

TRIBUTE TO THE 28th ANNUAL NAACP ARMED SERVICES AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS AWARDS DINNER

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the NAACP for its perseverance in ensuring equity and justice for all men and women of color who have served and are currently serving in defense of this nation. The rich history of African-American participation in the United States military is as long as the existence of the principles of this great country.

It is a history that extends back to the Revolutionary War when Crispus Attucks, an enslaved person of African descent, was the first to die while confronting British soldiers in the Boston Massacre. It is a history where the road was not always clear but was most certainly filled with the obstacles of bigotry and stereotypes. Collective organization yielded the NAACP—a beacon of hope for equal protection under the law, and a tireless advocate for the advancement of African-Americans and all people of color.

Since its inception in 1909, the NAACP has maintained an impeccable track record with regards to its ability to confront issues involving civil rights. As early as 1917, the NAACP exerted pressure on the War Department to establish a training camp that resulted in the commissioning of more than 1,300 black officers during World War I. The NAACP has led a consistent and unwavering effort to provide equal opportunity to African Americans in the military.

The 28th Anniversary of the Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs Awards Dinner is a culminating event in that it recognizes those consistent and unwavering efforts by awarding individuals within the Department of Defense who have made significant contributions to promoting equal opportunity and civil rights. This combination, challenging discriminatory