

COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RUDDICK TROWBRIDGE POST NO. 73 OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Ruddick Trowbridge Post No. 73 of the American Legion, based in Monticello, New York, which is commemorating the 80th Anniversary of their Post. It is with great pleasure that I join the Post in honoring their present and former commanders and auxiliary presidents on the occasion of this significant milestone.

Named in honor of Ruddick Trowbridge, who was killed in action during World War I in France on August 10, 1918, the Ruddick Trowbridge Post was established in 1923, when its first commander, Sylvester Smith, entered office. The Post was later chartered on June 7, 1930. Since the Post was established, forty-five men have served as commander.

The Ruddick Trowbridge Post has continued to work to ensure that the tremendous contributions and sacrifices made by this nation's veterans are remembered and recognized. In addition, the Post has maintained an active role in the community. The Post has provided scholarships to deserving local students, recognized scouts for their achievements, donated flags to community organizations and municipal governments, and honored deceased veterans by decorating their graves. The Post also holds and participates in ceremonies for Memorial Day, National POW/MIA Day in September and Veterans Day.

As part of the American Legion, which boasts a membership of more than three million veterans and currently includes approximately fifteen thousand posts worldwide, the Ruddick Trowbridge Post has actively promoted the values and focus on community service that define the American Legion organization. I am proud to express my appreciation and great respect to the members of the Post for their distinguished record of service to this great nation as well as the significant contributions they have made to our local communities.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to submit these remarks in honor of the 80th Anniversary of the Ruddick Trowbridge Post No. 73 of the American Legion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Friday July 25, 2003, I had to return to Houston for urgent business, and missed a number of votes.

I would like the RECORD to reflect that, had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

On rollcall No. 447, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 448, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall No. 449, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 450, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall No. 451, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 452, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall No. 453, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 454, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall No. 455, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 456, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall No. 457, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 458, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall No. 459, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATIONS TO MISSOURI FARM BUREAU FOR REACHING 100,000 MEMBERS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to congratulate the Missouri Farm Bureau for reaching an all-time membership high of 100,000 Missourians. During the last decade, Missouri Farm Bureau membership has grown steadily and will exceed 100,000 by the end of its membership year on August 31, 2003.

Missouri Farm Bureau was first organized in 1915 and was the first such state Farm Bureau to be organized in the Nation. Today, Missouri Farm Bureau is the state's largest farm organization and has offices in each of Missouri's 115 counties. Missouri Farm Bureau also plays an integral role in working with its partners around the country as a member of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Through the years, Missouri Farm Bureau members have worked to develop grassroots agriculture policy. Their advice is critical to Members of Congress' developing an agriculture strategy that will most benefit Missouri producers. Reaching a milestone of 100,000 members is truly an outstanding accomplishment and is the result of a lot of hard work on the part of Farm Bureau leaders throughout the Show Me State.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Missouri Farm Bureau President Charlie Kruse and all 100,000-plus members of this farm organization for their work on behalf of American agriculture. I know that all my House colleagues will join me in congratulating them on a job well done.

UN CAN PICK UP PIECES IF U.S. WILL LET IT

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, upon my return to the United States after a

week in the Republic of Cape Verde, which is the ancestral home of many of my constituents, I was pleased to read that the President, in a long overdue move, is seriously thinking about significant UN involvement in our administration of Iraq. Unfortunately, both past history and the description of current efforts fail to give me confidence that the administration is ready to do this in the serious way that is required for success.

The importance of this being done appropriately was recently underlined in an extremely cogent article from one of our most experienced foreign policy experts. Jonathan Moore is a man who began his career working as a key aide to the late Eliot Richardson, himself one of the most distinguished and thoughtful practitioners of foreign policy in recent history. Jonathan Moore has broad firsthand experience in international affairs, and has also been a thoughtful scholar. He served America at the UN under President George H.W. Bush, and he is now an advisor to the UN Development Program on Post Conflict Reconstruction. On Tuesday, August 26, as I was leaving the country, I read the attached article by him in the Boston Globe and I was struck by how well he put the case. As might already be clear from his having begun his work with Eliot Richardson, Jonathan Moore's active political career was as a Republican, which is relevant only to refute any suggestion that there is even the slightest hint of partisanship in his strong critique of the administration.

Few Americans have earned a right to a hearing on this subject more than Jonathan Moore, and I know of no one who has made the case for the appropriate policy to be followed in this difficult situation more cogently. I ask that Jonathan Moore's incisive article be printed here, and I earnestly hope that the administration will heed him.

[From the Boston Globe, Aug. 26, 2003]

UN CAN PICK UP PIECES IN IRAQ IF U.S. WILL LET IT

In the aftermath of last Tuesday's bombing of United Nations headquarters in Baghdad, the United States finds itself in a terrible bind largely of its own making.

Following the successful fighting and takeover, the United States held the initiative as it turned to the immediate postwar challenges of occupation: establishing security, tending to humanitarian relief, getting basic public services functioning, and undertaking efforts to build a democratic nation and to begin serious reconstruction. Now the momentum may have shifted against the United States, putting it in a perilous position.

In all the time building up to the war, the United States insisted on its objective of regime change and its vision of a stable, democratic Iraq exerting a salutary influence on peace and progress in the Middle East. The problem is that the administration did not heed sensible, professional warnings of the inherent dangers and obstacles that would be faced and cautions about the enormous investments that would be required to pull it off. Instead, the administration proceeded by itself in an arrogant and ill-prepared manner.

While the problems the United States has encountered since the war was declared over could not have been predicted with certainty (and who would have wanted to), some were probable, all were possible, and none, even occurring together, should have come as a surprise.

Two factors in the current situation are predominant: establishing and maintaining security in Iraq and the role of the United