

recognizing a crucial part of our diversity: the vast history and legacy that African Americans have contributed to the founding and building of our Nation.

In 1915, Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, which shortly after its creation, began a campaign to establish Negro History Week. In 1926, the second week of February was chosen to recognize the contributions of African Americans to American society. In 1976, this week of observance was expanded to a month and became African-American History Month.

Each year, the Association, now known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, designates a theme for the Black History Month observance. This year's theme, "Before Brown, Beyond Boundaries, Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka" marks one of the most seminal moments in the fight for equal rights in this country—the Supreme Court's May 15, 1954 ruling that "[i]n the field of public education, the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place."

It was a ruling that was met with violent resistance and created enormous upheaval. A number of States adopted policies of "massive resistance" seeking to avert compliance with the Court's decision. Many went so far as to adopt resolutions calling for the State Government to interpose itself, *parens patriae*, between its citizens and the Federal government's efforts to impose desegregation.

But in the years that followed Brown, inspired by the framework for progress that the Court had provided, our civil rights leaders and the movement they created never backed down. They instead redoubled their heroic efforts often in the face of great risk of personal harm.

From the refusal by Rosa Parks to move to the back of a public bus, which ignited the Montgomery bus boycott, to efforts of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and many others to secure civil rights and desegregate public facilities, to efforts of the NAACP to clarify and expand the First amendment's protections related to free association, Brown's effects were felt across the Nation and beyond the sphere of public education.

And, of course, Thurgood Marshall—who I should note was born in Baltimore and attended Frederick Douglass High School—was at the center of these efforts. After graduating at the top of his class at Howard Law School, Marshall came back to Baltimore and, after working with NAACP to accomplish the landmark result in Brown led the legal fight thereafter to extend its precedent throughout the civil rights arena. After leaving the NAACP, Marshall put his convictions, determination, and legal prowess to work as a Federal judge, then Solicitor General, and ultimately the first African-American

Justice on the Supreme Court. There, he was, as Justice William Brennan remembered him, the "voice of authority . . . the voice of reason . . . [a]nd a voice with an unwavering message: that the Constitution's protections must not be denied to anyone and that the Court must give its constitutional doctrine the scope and sensitivity needed to assure that result."

At the beginning of the last century, our Nation was a vastly different place than it is today. The country was divided along racial lines and racism was accepted and institutionalized. African Americans were not allowed to vote, and the opportunities available to African Americans were few.

Today, thanks to the visions of a few and the sacrifices of many—and in significant part thanks to the lasting effects of Brown—that situation has changed. After much hardship, African Americans have made great strides in many areas and now participate in every sector of our society. Throughout the past 100 years, African Americans have made remarkable contributions to the Nation and the world as mathematicians, scientists, novelists, poets, politicians, and members of the armed services.

Through the lessons and struggles of the last century and the trying first few years of this century, Americans have shown the world how people of all races, colors, religions and nationalities create the fabric of our Nation, a fabric that is richer because of our differences. This month, we honor the special contribution African Americans have made to that fabric.

But there is much work left to be done. When in 1981 the City of Baltimore unveiled a statue to Marshall, the Justice told the gathered crowd "I just want to be sure that when you see this statue, you won't think that's the end of it. I won't have it that way. There's too much to be done." So we take the occasion of African-American History Month to celebrate the steps that we have taken toward equality, but also to remind ourselves of how far we have to go.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES:
PRIVATE DWAYNE TURNER,
101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION, U.S.
ARMY

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the heroic service of Pvt Dwayne Turner, 23, a combat medic in the United States Army, from Indianapolis, IN. Private Turner is a member of the U.S. Army's 3rd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, which came under grenade and small arms attack in Baghdad, Iraq on April 13, 2003.

According to U.S. Army Sgt Neil Mulvaney, the convoy was under a heavy amount of fire from Iraqi resistance forces. During the attack, a grenade struck the Humvee in which Private Turner was riding, seriously injuring both his legs with shards of shrap-

nel. Ignoring his injuries, Private Turner bravely fulfilled his duty as a combat medic, selflessly putting the lives and comfort of others before his own. While treating 18 other soldiers' injuries, Private Turner was shot in the arm and leg before Sergeant Mulvaney had to physically restrain him to administer medical treatment for Private Turner's increasingly severe injuries.

When asked by the Associated Press to reflect upon the events of the attack, Private Turner humbly said, "I don't consider myself a hero at all. I just figured everybody was going to go home and nobody was going to die on my watch." However, BG Frank Hemlock's description of Private Turner's actions seems much more fitting: "He is a bona fide hero. He saved two lives without question and patched up 16 other lives."

In honor of the lives he saved through his unhesitating valor, Private Turner has been awarded the Silver Star, an award earned by nothing less than true sacrifice. May this award stand as a reminder to Private Turner that neither his comrades nor their grateful loved ones will soon forget his heroic actions.

As I reflect on Private Turner's service, I am reminded of a quote by Douglas MacArthur: "The soldier, above all other people prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war." The United States will be eternally grateful for the courage and bravery Private Turner exhibited on the field of battle.

I know that all Hoosiers share my deep sense of pride in Private Turner and all of the men and women of our Armed Forces from Indiana who safeguard our country's freedom. My thoughts and prayers are with him as he continues his recovery and begins to make his new goal to become a civilian physician a reality.

INDIANA STATE TROOPER SCOTT
A. PATRICK

Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to and honor the remarkable life of Scott A. Patrick, an Indiana State Trooper who was killed in the line of duty.

During the early morning of December 22, 2003, Trooper Patrick stopped to assist what appeared to be a stranded motorist. Shortly thereafter, Trooper Patrick was gunned down by the assailant and passed away. He was 27 years old.

Trooper Patrick graduated from Kankakee Valley High School in 1995 with an academic honors diploma. While in high school, Trooper Patrick excelled in football and wrestling, earning numerous awards. Those who knew him remember Trooper Patrick as intelligent, industrious, and kind. He attended the University of Southern Indiana on both academic and carpenter's scholarships. While at USI, Trooper Patrick was active in a variety of