## IN HONOR OF WOMEN IN THE ARMED FORCES

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues today to honor the thousands of courageous women of the United States Armed Forces. In particular, I am pleased to honor the 5 courageous women who were chosen to be honored by the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues at the 7th Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. These 5 women are:

Command Sergeant Major Debra Strickland of the United States Army;

Master Chief Storekeeper Kelly D. Williams of the United States Navy;

Chief Master Sergeant Margaret C. Burgess of the United States Air Force;

Sergeant Major Barbara J. Titus of the United States Marine Corps;

Senior Chief Store Keeper Corzetta "Cozy" Calloway of the United States Coast Guard.

I join my colleagues in commending these women for their bravery and self-sacrifice.

Today, women are making great contributions to our military. There are approximately 212,000 women serving the United States in the Armed Forces, including 33 women generals. For the past 10 years, women have served in combat positions. As women become a larger presence in all areas of the United States military, like their male colleagues, they are risking their lives for our country. As of April 30, 18 United States women soldiers have died in Iraq. This is a higher number of female casualties in any war since World War II. We all owe a great debt to our servicewomen who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Today, as many women in uniform are deployed overseas, it is especially appropriate to honor them and show that their service to our country is greatly appreciated and respected. It is an honor for me to recognize the worthy accomplishments of these particular 5 outstanding military women, those servicewomen who have died in service to our country, and all of the women who currently serve or have served in the United States military.

## COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND JAPAN AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. HIRO KURASHINA

### HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the beginning of relations between the United States of America and Japan. One hundred and fifty years ago, Commodore Perry opened the doors of a country and started a relationship that would eventually grow into an alliance between two of the largest economies in today's world. A country which had largely isolated itself from the rest of the world, Japan, in a very short span of a century and a half, now has a strong international presence as a strong ally of the United States and advocate for freedom and democracy in the world.

Today, America and Japan enjoy strong trade relations, economies that support each other, and equally as important, social and cultural ties that bridge the Pacific Ocean and span differences in languages and custom. The alliance between Japan and America is strong and stable. We both fiercely defend freedom and democracy and we both promote human rights in the world.

The friendship between America and Japan is magnified and continually strengthened by its peoples and their willingness to work with each other for the common goal of improving the quality of life for all citizens of the world. Both America and Japan freely extend helping hands to each other and to the most needy of the world. Both America and Japan use their combined economic might to cure disease, feed the hungry and explore the unknown in search of greater knowledge and resources.

In these efforts certain citizens of both of our great nations shine and become role models for all of other citizens to emulate. Dr. Hiro Kurashina is such a man. Motivated by the desire to make a better future by learning from the past, Dr. Kurashina, a native of Japan, has devoted many years to the development of the Micronesian Area Research Center, the premier archive and repository of the history of the Pacific Islands and its people. Dr. Kurashina's work has helped to ensure that the story of the islands will always be preserved and promoted among its peoples and shared with the world.

Through these efforts, Dr. Kurashina has created a strong bond between Japan and the islands of Micronesia and through his efforts, the University of Guam has become an active participant in the growth of knowledge about this region and its people. Dr. Kurashina has contributed greatly to making the University of Guam a valuable resource for Guam, Micronesia, and the world at large.

I consider it an honor to take this opportunity to praise Dr. Kurashina for his work and to thank him for all that he has done for our islands and people and all that he has done to continue the strengthening of the bonds between Japan, America and the islands of the Pacific.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. J. D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on May 18, 2004, I missed a series of rollcall votes in the House of Representatives because of a family obligation that required my presence in Arizona. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall Vote Nos. 188, 189 and 190. I would have voted "no" on rollcall Vote No. 187.

## IN OPPOSITION TO INCREASED FUNDING FOR NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE

### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, last week, I joined several distinguished experts in the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) to commend them for the public release of their very timely, and much-needed study on the oversold and misguided National Missile Defense. It is entitled "Technical Realities: An Analysis of the 2004 Deployment of a U.S. Missile Defense System".

Sadly, Congress keeps shoveling ever greater amounts of taxpayer funds into this wasteful, dead-end program that adds nothing to our real national defense. In FY 2003, President Bush requested $7.8 billion, Congress authorized $7.78 billion and appropriated $7.62 billion. In FY 2004, the President requested $9.1 billion, Congress authorized $9.08 billion and appropriated $8.9 billion. Now, in FY 2005, the President has requested $10.2 billion. This bill authorizes that full amount, an increase of $1.1 billion or 13 percent more than the current level. It includes funding for the initial deployment of an untested national missile defense system based in Alaska and California.

To put it bluntly, our country can't afford spending upwards of $10 billion per year for a bogus missile defense program.

First of all, many of our Nation's leading physicists view midcourse defenses as absurd. They have long believed mid-course defenses are easily defeated and won't work for fundamental physics reasons.

Second, the truth is pure politics is driving this deployment. On December 11, 2002, the last intercept test of the missile defense system failed. No tests have taken place since then. Nevertheless, on December 17, 2002, President Bush announced his decision to deploy missile defenses in 2004.

Sometime after the President's announcement, the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) cancelled or postponed every test scheduled since the speech. Nine tests have been cancelled.

Despite these cancellations, the schedule for deployment has actually moved up. President Bush simply announced deployment "in 2004." Pentagon official subsequently set a deadline of September 30, 2004. The MDA has stated "as early as this summer" for initial operations. Bush Administration officials still maintain that this is an "eventdriven" program, where results of tests and simulations determine how the program progresses.

Instead, it seems to be schedule-driven. a return to the "rush to failure" approach that Lt. Gen. Larry Welch warned about during the Clinton Administration.

The current focus of the SDI Program is wrong. As we have witnessed in other national security matters, the Bush Administration appears hell-bent on deploying missile defense, regardless of whether it works. Before taking office, George W. Bush campaigned on the issue of missile defense. As has been highlighted in Richard Clarke's book and elsewhere, before the 9/11 attacks, the foreign and defense policy of the Bush Administration