

York from 1945 to 1947, he worked as a YMCA and Parks Department instructor, hospital orderly and shipping clerk in New York while studying for the acting and singing career which was the object of his life-long dreams; and

Whereas, Brock first took the stage at the age of 15 in the 1943 Broadway production of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, sang bass with the DePaur Infantry Chorus, joined a traveling cabaret act that played in American and Canadian clubs, and was among the first African Americans to break through in television when he sang on *The Arthur Godfrey Talent Scouts* in 1953; and

Whereas, Brock's film career flowered when he breathed life into some of the most memorable roles in American cinema, playing "Sergeant Brown" in Otto Preminger's *Carmen Brown* in 1954 and "Crown" in the 1959 film version of *Porgy and Bess*, yet these villainous portrayals nearly stalled Brock's career until he garnered his most famous role in 1962, that of the innocent but falsely accused "Tom Robinson" vindicated by Gregory Peck's Oscar-award winning performance in *To Kill A Mockingbird*, henceforth Brock's film characters varied between the noble and the notorious, including "Johnny" in 1962's *The L-Shaped Room* and "Rodriguez" in 1965's *The Pawnbroker*, and more than a dozen other films including *The Incident* (1967), *Soylent Green* (1972), *Lost in the Stars* (1974), *Two-Minute Warning* (1976), *Star Trek IV* (1986) and *Star Trek VI* (1991), in between which Brock had a significant television career, playing featured or recurring roles in *Roots: The Next Generation* (1979), *Battlestar Galactica* (1979) and the musical *Polly!* (1989) as well as scores of guest show appearances and film voice-overs, yet Brock never abandoned live theater, where he starred in such hits as *Othello* (1963), *My Children, My Africa* (1990), and the stage versions of *The Great White Hope* (1971), *Driving Miss Daisy* (1989) and *Lost in the Stars*; and

Whereas, having married Delores "DiDi" Daniels in 1961, the couple sustained a tireless parallel career as advocates for African American drama and craftsmanship, together founding Delbro Enterprises which produced *Five on the Black-Hand Side* (1973), and the PBS documentary *This Far by Faith* (1975), and directing an actors studio specializing in African and African American theater, Brock also became a co-founder of the Dance Theater of Harlem; such artistic leadership garnered numerous honors for Brock Peters including Presidency of the California Arts Commission, induction in the Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame, the Best Actor in a Musical Award from the Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards, nomination for a Tony Award, and receipt of awards from the National Film Society and the Screen Actors Guild, and;

Whereas, Brock Peters, preceded in death by his beloved wife DiDi in 1990, leaves to cherish his memory his beloved daughter Lisa Jo Peters and a host of family, friends, colleagues and fans; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, by U.S. Representative Diane E. Watson, that the outstanding artistic achievements and exemplary civic contributions of Brock Peters be Saluted and Memorialized in the Annals of the Congress of these United States of America, with most sincere condolences to his bereaved family and prayers that his soul may now rest in eternal peace.

Attested this 27th Day of August in the Year 2005.

#### TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

### HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, 2005, Taiwan's National Day, I offer my best wishes and congratulations to the people of Taiwan for building a democratic, peaceful and prosperous island. Taiwan witnessed the first ever peaceful transition of political power in Chinese cultural history in 2000.

Taiwan is also an island with a significant population and a prosperous economy. The two peoples, both Taiwanese and Americans, share a common belief in democracy, the adherence of human rights and the rule of law. I believe it is important that we maintain a free and open relationship. The United States should remain committed to stability in the region. I believe the United States must continue to play a role in guaranteeing the peaceful resolution any destabilizing issues between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China.

It is my hope that there will be enduring peace and stability in the Asia Pacific region, especially in the Taiwan Strait. It is also my hope that both Taiwan and the People's Republic of China will soon resume their dialogue, as it is my belief that negotiation is imperative to any resolution.

#### DAVIS-BACON SUSPENSION LEAVES LOCALS JOBLESS IN GULF

### HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, the indefinite suspension of Davis-Bacon by President Bush has destroyed the hopes of local residents in the Gulf region—many of whom had already lost everything in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Now Gulf residents who work in construction have to contend with wages even lower than those normally prevailing in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and several counties in Florida. As documented by an article which appeared in today's *Washington Post*, the President's suspension of Davis-Bacon and clear preference for political cronies also appears to make Gulf residents last on the list for Katrina reconstruction jobs.

Despite rhetoric to the contrary, the President's actions will prove just as devastating to workers in the Gulf region as the destruction wrought by the hurricanes. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that this *Post* article be printed in the RECORD in its entirety.

[From the *Washington Post*, Oct. 7, 2005]

#### SMALL BUSINESSES LOSE KATRINA CLEANUP CONTRACTS TO LARGE FIRMS

(By Jonathan Weisman)

When Al Knight received notice Friday that his small company's contract to help wire Louisiana's storm-damaged Alvin Callendar Naval Air Station had been abruptly canceled, he could not have known the reverberations would reach Washington within days.

But the plight of little Knight Enterprises LLP has several compelling factors: a minority owned small business in New Orleans losing out to a big, national firm; local workers, mainly African American, first devastated by Hurricane Katrina and then supplanted by out-of-state, low-wage replacements; questions over White House wage policies; and a name that has haunted the Bush administration since the invasion of Iraq—Halliburton. Little wonder that Sen. Carl M. Levin (D-Mich.) highlighted it yesterday as he grilled the Federal Emergency Management Agency's acting director, R. David Paulison, on the Bush administration's hurricane recovery contracts.

After Katrina hit, most of Knight's electricians found themselves with nothing: homeless, jobless and broke. But when Alabama-based BE&K landed a subcontract to help rebuild the naval air station, it turned to Knight for electricians—he says 75, BE&K says 59 at the peak of work.

BE&K was working for Kellogg, Brown & Root, a subsidiary of Halliburton Co., Vice President Cheney's former company.

When BE&K came to him, Knight said he was told his work would run well into the millions of dollars and stretch out as long as 20 months. His men would be paid the prevailing union wage of \$22.09 an hour, plus health benefits.

After three weeks, the initial work was 60 percent completed. Then, on Friday, Knight received a letter informing him that BE&K workers—largely from out of state and, according to Knight, earning \$14 to \$15 an hour without benefits—could take over from there.

Susan Wasley, a BE&K spokeswoman, said Knight's crew was always there merely to augment the company's own staff of 45 electricians. Knight Enterprises was let go because its work was done.

Knight did not blame BE&K for his disappointment. Instead, he pointed to President Bush's decision last month to suspend the so-called Davis-Bacon federal law that mandates that workers on federal projects be paid the average wage of an area, often the union wage. Once BE&K was forced to compete with nonunion companies for KBR contracts, they could not afford the union electricians that dominate Louisiana, he said. "I can tell you this for sure," Knight said. "If Davis-Bacon wage rates were left alone, then you'd have local Louisiana people working on local projects, and we would be working today."