

Dick Tracy comic strip beyond pure entertainment to a model for public service. When Chester Gould put down his pencil in 1977, after more than 40 years, he was fortunate to have the very talented and capable Dick Locher to carry on his beloved comic strip. As a fellow resident of Illinois' 13th district, I am delighted to represent Dick Locher here in this body.

I am pleased to recognize Dick Tracy, an icon of American culture, Chester Gould, the creative genius who brought him to life, and Dick Locher, the great talent who both honors and extends Dick Tracy's legacy. Once again, congratulations, Dick Tracy, on your diamond anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO MARY A. BAIN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mary A. Bain, who recently passed away. Longtime Chief of Staff to Congressman Sidney Yates, Mary was beloved by many of us on Capitol Hill, including me.

It is hard to believe that Mary began her political career in Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Administration—as the Illinois director of the National Youth Administration. She was a dedicated public servant for many years to come, particularly devoted to our dear colleague and my colleague on the Appropriations Committee, Congressman Yates, whom she served in many capacities for almost 50 years. I am sure if Congressman Yates was here with us, he would say it was almost as if they served as co-Members.

As I said when she received the Heritage Defender Award, "Not only did Mary Bain save national treasures, she is a national treasure." She applied her considerable political savvy to preserving America's cultural heritage, and she was always a stalwart for the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Gallery, the Smithsonian Institution, among many others.

Mary Bain helped to break the marble ceiling for all women—she was one of the first women to serve as a Congressional Chief of Staff. She talked about how much she looked forward to seeing a woman become our nation's first Speaker. I am hopeful that next January we can make that dream a reality—and I know that when we do, Mary will be smiling down on us.

When Mary retired in 1998, she was the last of the New Dealers in government, having remained committed to the principles of Roosevelt her entire life. And though she can never be replaced on Capitol Hill, we continue her work to expand opportunity and prosperity to all Americans.

As we pay tribute to Mary, we remember the many people who loved her—particularly her husband Herbert, who preceded her in death, and her daughter Mary Ellen and two grandsons. I hope they can draw comfort from the fact that so many are praying for them and grieving Mary's loss with them.

IN SUPPORT OF A RESOLUTION CALLING ON IRAN TO IMMEDIATELY FULFILL ITS NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION OBLIGATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a resolution calling on Iran to immediately fulfill its nuclear nonproliferation obligations.

On August 31, 2006, Iran rejected United Nations Security Council Resolution 1696 requesting that Iran suspend all uranium enrichment and reprocessing activities, including research and development within 1 month or face economic and diplomatic sanctions.

In a report the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, released that same day, the agency discussed proof of Iran's continued pursuit of its nuclear program, as well as evidence that Iran might be pursuing alternative nuclear activities in secret.

For decades, Iran has been deceiving the IAEA and the international community about the extent and the purpose of its nuclear program. Iran has consistently failed to provide sufficient information about its nuclear capabilities and has failed to fully cooperate with international nuclear nonproliferation laws. Time and time again, Iran has scorned diplomatic and economic propositions offered by the global community.

The United States cannot afford to stand aside now and allow Iran to continue with their pattern of nuclear defiance.

This is why I am calling for this resolution, which calls for the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 1696; asking the Security Council members to move forward quickly and apply appropriate multilateral sanctions against Iran. This resolution also calls upon President Bush to implement and exhaust every diplomatic and economic sanction at his disposal to prevent a nuclear Iran.

Iran's strategic plan is blatantly obvious: With one hand it is stringing along diplomatic negotiations with the world's powers, while the hand behind its back continues to pursue nuclear activities. In doing so, Iran is successfully driving a wedge between the international communities. Iran remains defiant banking on the assumption that the United Nations Security Council will be unwilling to agree on imposing sanctions on their country.

Iran's pattern of insubordination is extremely troubling to me. Even more troubling to me is the reluctance of the international community to unite together and take immediate action against the threat posed by a nuclear Iran.

This past weekend, European Union, EU, leaders met with an Iranian negotiator in an attempt to persuade Iran to suspend its nuclear enrichment. And just last week, top diplomats from the EU-3: Britain, France, and Germany, as well as the United States, met in Berlin for the first time since Iran refused to accept the United Nations deadline to halt its uranium production.

But while these meetings signal progress, they will accomplish nothing if all of the Security Council members do not completely implement resolution 1696. Russia, China, Britain,

France and Germany, and the United States voted for this resolution; now they must champion what it calls for.

The need to implement multilateral sanctions and for the United States to apply all diplomatic and economic sanctions at its disposal against Iran is growing steadily.

Over the years we have seen how Iran's defiance against the international community has galvanized extremist groups in Iraq, Gaza and Lebanon. In the most recent example of the cross-border attack by the terrorist group Hezbollah against Israel—largely financed and supported by the Iranian Government—we saw the devastating impact that Iranian assistance to militia groups can generate.

On the day following the 5-year commemoration of 9/11, our Nation is still vulnerable to terrorist attacks. Allowing a primary sponsor of international terror to advance their nuclear capabilities, burgeons the terrorist threat posed to our Nation.

Iran poses a huge and existential danger to our democratic ally Israel as well. For years, President Ahmadinejad has spewed anti-Semitic rhetoric and has denied the Holocaust's existence. Iran's nuclear intentions are no secret. President Ahmadinejad is on a national crusade of hatred and ultimate destruction against Israel and the United States.

Moreover, in one of the most unstable regions in the world, Iran continues to remain a highly destabilizing force. A nuclear Iran only intensifies the threat Iran currently poses to the security of the entire global community.

Mr. Speaker, let us take a moment to consider the consequences of allowing a repressive anti-Semitic regime with ideological goals, extensive oil production capabilities, and an active sponsor of global terrorism, to possess nuclear powers. The possibilities are endless and progressively more dangerous. A nuclear arms race in the Middle East could break out, or Iran could garner support elsewhere in the Muslim world and successfully advance their radical ideological movement against the West.

Many in the international community had hoped that Iran would realize that advancing their nuclear program makes their country less safe, not more. But Iran made its choice. It has not only failed to meet the demands of the United Nations Resolution 1696, it has defied the resolution and the international community. And now it must pay the price of sanctions.

I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me and co-sponsor this resolution to request that the Security Council members and the United States reply with an immediate and meaningful response to Iran's longstanding pattern of nuclear noncompliance.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS EDWARD AUSTIN KOTH

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, sorrowfully I rise before you today to honor the second sailor from Maryland who died serving his country in the War on Terror. I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the life and memory of an altruistic serviceman from

Towson, Maryland, Petty Officer 2nd Class Edward Austin Koth.

Unfortunately, over 2,500 United States servicemen and women have died in the War in Iraq. Each time a servicemember dies, we are reminded of our gratitude for the Armed Services; these people have built a career around protecting American citizens. The drive and conviction Petty Officer Koth and his peers show each day is commendable.

Petty Officer Koth died as a result of an explosive weapon at Camp Victoria, Iraq detonating. He was assigned to the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 8, serving with Multinational Corps Iraq in Baghdad at the time of his death. He was on his second tour of Iraq with only 3 weeks remaining.

Petty Officer Koth is remembered as a devoted sailor who found extreme pride in saving the lives of innocent people. He protected his fellow servicemen and women, and Iraqi civilians by removing bombs from heavily populated marketplaces. He frequently called or wrote home saying he had neutralized a number of bombs while he was a part of the Army Rangers Unit that drove through Baghdad in Humvees and Bradley fighting vehicles in search of such explosives.

Serving the United States of America was in Petty Officer Koth's blood. Both of his grandfathers and four of his uncles served in the United States Navy. This magnanimous serviceman was ambitious and confident from the time he was young. As the youngest of four children, he was well-known for his courage. This notable trait propelled him toward his future in the Armed Services.

While enrolled in Loyola College, Koth joined the diving team where he excelled greatly. Upon obtaining his degree in information systems, Petty Officer Koth went on to train with dolphins at the Naval School of Explosive Ordnance Disposal in Florida. There his notability as a fearless diver taught him how to take apart underwater mines, a task that prepared him for his naval career of dismantling explosives.

His passion for life made him a champion in the eyes of fellow service men and the women

and Iraqi people. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me today to celebrate the life of Petty Officer 2nd Class Edward Austin Koth. His selfless acts of compassion make him truly worthy of great recognition. He will forever be remembered as a Maryland hero.

CONGRATULATING GEORGE
NA'OPE AS A 2006 NATIONAL
HERITAGE FELLOW

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and congratulate Kumu Hula George Lanakilakeikiahiali'i Na'ope, known in our Hawai'i as "Uncle George," on being chosen as a 2006 National Heritage Fellow, our Nation's highest honor in the folk and traditional arts.

Each year the National Endowment for the Arts awards the coveted National Heritage Fellowships to a select few masters of folk and traditional arts who demonstrate outstanding lifetime achievement and artistic merit. Fellows are carefully selected from among hundreds of nominees based on authenticity, excellence, and significance within a particular artistic tradition. There is no one more deserving than Hawai'i's own George Na'ope to receive this high honor for his contributions to the art of traditional hula and chant.

George was born on February 25, 1928, in Kalihi, O'ahu and grew up in Hilo on the island of Hawai'i. He began his hula studies at the age of 3 and has dedicated his entire life to this ancient art form. Na'ope's first hula lessons were under the tutelage of Mary Kanaile Fujii, the mother of Edith Kanaka'ole, and his studies were directed by his great-grandmother Mary Malia Pukaokalani Na'ope and his grandfather Harry Na'ope. He further studied under Joseph Ila'laole and opened up the George Na'ope Hula School in Honolulu after his graduation from Hilo High School.

George would later go on to a successful career traveling throughout the United States with the Ray Kinney Royal Hawaiian Review, performing regularly at the Tropicana Hotel in Las Vegas. He still found time to obtain his PhD from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and to teach hula in underserved communities.

But his achievements did not stop there. George also served our country for 2 years in frontline combat during the Korean conflict with the X Corps of the American Corps of Engineers. After his return to Hawai'i he was appointed "Promoter of Activities" with the County of Hawaii. While serving in this capacity, he was recognized in 1960 by the Governor of the State of Hawai'i and Hawai'i State Legislature with the designation "Living Golden Treasure".

George Na'ope was a prime catalyst for renewed interest in and study of traditional hula, chants, music, and other aspects of Hawaiian culture. It was also during this time and with George's patronage that the world-famous Merrie Monarch Festival was founded in 1962. This festival honors King David Kalakaua who was nicknamed the "Merrie Monarch" because of his support for music and the arts and his encouragement of the revival of Native Hawaiian traditions like hula and mele. Forty-four years later, the festival is still going strong and has become a must-see for Hawai'i residents and visitors.

A lifelong teacher, George Na'ope has taught the dance of Hawai'i around the world and performed for dignitaries and world leaders. His lasting timeless contributions and influence, through the many students he inspired, as well as the many extraordinary contributions he made to the traditional arts heritage of Hawai'i and our Nation, are truly exceptional and worthy of national recognition.

I close by saying to Uncle George: congratulations on receiving the National Heritage Fellowship and mahalo for all you have done for our Hawai'i and our Nation's cultural heritage. Aloha!