

on a talk show last weekend and said, and I quote, "if we had it to do over again, we'd do exactly the same thing." Is our vice president misleading us again, or does he really believe that our Iraq policy is working? Is this administration so arrogant, so stubborn, so unwilling to admit its mistakes that it wants to continue the occupation of Iraq "exactly" as it has for three and a half years? The Administration's continued failure to level with the American people and learn from its errors is an affront to all of us, but most especially to the memory of the 2,671 brave young men and women who have given their lives for this war of choice. The Republicans have shown that they lack the humility and the vision to change our disastrous course in the Middle East. We've lost not only lives and treasure but our standing in the world as a beacon of freedom and democracy. It is time for a new direction.

[From Washingtonpost.com, Sept. 14, 2006]

#### WHY WE CAN'T SEND MORE TROOPS

(By Lawrence J. Korb and Peter Ogden)

In "Reinforce Baghdad" [op-ed, Sept. 12], William Kristol and Rich Lowry argue that the United States needs to deploy "substantially" more troops to Iraq to stabilize the country. Aside from the strategic dubiousness of their proposal—Kristol and Lowry's piece might alternatively have been titled "Reinforcing Failure"—there is a practical obstacle to it that they overlook: Sending more troops to Iraq would, at the moment, threaten to break our nation's all-volunteer Army and undermine our national security. This is not a risk our country can afford to take.

In their search for additional troops and equipment for Iraq, the first place that Kristol and Lowry would have to look is the active Army. But even at existing deployment levels, the signs of strain on the active Army are evident. In July an official report revealed that two-thirds of the active U.S. Army was classified as "not ready for combat." When one combines this news with the fact that roughly one-third of the active Army is deployed (and thus presumably ready for combat), the math is simple but the answer alarming: The active Army has close to zero combat-ready brigades in reserve.

The second place to seek new troops and equipment is the Army National Guard and Reserve. But the news here is, if anything, worse. When asked by reporters to comment on the strain that the active Army was under, the head of the National Guard said that his military branch was "in an even more dire situation than the active Army. We both have the same symptoms; I just have a higher fever."

Already, the stress of Iraq and Afghanistan on our soldiers has been significant: Every available active-duty combat brigade has served at least one tour in Iraq or Afghanistan, and many have served two or three. Likewise, the vast majority of Army National Guardsmen and Reservists have been mobilized since Sept. 11, 2001, some more than once.

Thus the simple fact is that the only way for Kristol and Lowry to put their new plan into action anytime soon without resorting to a draft—and thereby dismantling the all-volunteer Army, which, as the authors themselves would certainly admit, could be strategically disastrous—is by demanding even more from our soldiers by accelerating their training and rotation schedules. While there is no question that the soldiers would respond to more frequent calls to duty, it is doubtful that they would be supplied with proper equipment and training for their mis-

sion in the near term. Moreover, the long-term toll on the cost and quality of our troops would be threatened by the added strain.

First, the equipment shortage that the U.S. Army faces at the moment is making it difficult to train troops even at current levels. The service has been compensating for this \$50 billion equipment shortfall by shipping to Iraq some of the equipment that it needs to train nondeployed and reserve units. Increasing the number of deployed troops would compound this readiness problem and leave the Army with little spare capacity to respond to other conflicts around the globe that might demand immediate and urgent action.

Second, the long-term costs of leaning even more heavily on our ground troops to fight what is an unpopular war will take its toll on the quality of our Army. At present the Army is compelled to offer promotions to an unprecedented number of its personnel to retain them. Some 98 percent of captains were promoted to major this year, and the quality of the next generation of military leaders will suffer if this process is not made more selective once again.

In addition, even the quadrupling of recruitment bonuses since 2003 has not been enough to attract adequate numbers of talented men and women to meet the Army's personnel goals. Although the Army has accepted more troops with lower aptitude scores and raised its maximum enlistment age, it still must grant waivers to about 1 out of 5 new recruits and has had to cut in half the number who "wash out" in basic training.

While we disagree with Kristol and Lowry's contention that sending more troops to Iraq would bring peace and stability to the country, the U.S. Army and National Guard and Reserve should nevertheless possess the capacity to respond to such a plan or other deployments without undue strain and long-term costs. The solution is to do two things that the Bush administration has not: permanently increase the number of troops in the active Army and fully fund its equipment needs. Let this, not the expenditure of more blood and treasure in Iraq, be the "courageous act of presidential leadership" that Kristol and Lowry desire.

#### TRIBUTE TO LINDA BUTLER COSTIGAN

#### HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I announce the passing my dear friend and colleague, Linda Butler Costigan.

Linda Butler Costigan passed away peacefully on Sept. 6, 2006 at Sutter Roseville Medical Center after a long battle with metastatic breast cancer. She was born on Dec. 20, 1946 in White Plains, NY to the late George and Faye Butler. She is survived by her beloved husband of 42 years, Richard S. Costigan, Jr. (Dick) of Granite Bay, CA and sons, Richard, III and wife Gloria of Granite Bay, CA and Chris and wife Gabby, who now live in Hong Kong.

She was the devoted "Gram" to her three grandchildren, Eric Samuel, Emma Laraine and Andrew Butler, of Granite Bay, CA. She is also survived by her sister, Mary Catherine Butler-Adkins and husband, Frank of Virginia Beach, VA.

Linda spent the first half of her life in Norfolk, VA., but she lived in many places, including Miami, Boston, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Sydney Australia, and Danville, CA, before settling in Granite Bay over 16 years ago.

Though Linda would want to be remembered as a loving wife, mother and grandmother, she made many contributions to the communities in which she lived. In Norfolk, VA she was President of the local Catholic Youth Organization. In Danville, she was president of the St. Isidore's PTA and started a fund raising auction at De La Salle in Concord that is still going on; she replicated that program for La Salle College High school when the family moved to Philadelphia.

During those years, she was very active in Marriage Encounter and served on various boards. She loved college football, becoming a devoted follower of the University of Georgia where Richard and Gloria attended and the University of Alabama where Chris was a wide receiver on the 1989 SEC Championship team. She and Dick would often travel to both schools from California. She was involved in California politics for years, including serving as the State Private Sector Chair of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) for the state of California for a number of years and as the national Private Sector Chair in the early 1990s. For her service, she received the Thomas Jefferson Award.

She ran an event planning company that helped to bring policy makers together with advocates and those impacted by policy decisions. Her clients included Pfizer and Johnson and Johnson. She was also the secretary of the Granite Bay Municipal Advisory Council for a number of years when Dick served as the Chair. She also served on Board of the Arthritis Foundation of Northern California.

In 2001, after her husband became sick, they moved to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina where they thought they would spend the rest of their lives. When she was re-diagnosed with cancer in 2004, they moved back to Granite Bay. She was greatly admired by many and continued to positively touch many lives even in her last days fighting this disease. Her legacy as a devoted daughter, sister, wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, and dear friend will be remembered and cherished by all she touched.

#### HONORING ANNE-MARIE GNACEK

#### HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of my constituents, Ms. Anne-Marie Gnacek upon her retirement after 50 years of managing, designing, and developing simulations to evaluate our Nation's ability to intercept and destroy foreign missiles.

Beginning in 1956, Ms. Gnacek worked for a variety of defense related engineering companies. With the exception of choosing to stay at home to raise her two sons in the 1960s, she has worked continuously on developing software simulations to help develop our Nation's space and missile development programs, including the Navy's Polaris missile and the development of our National Missile Defense initiative.

Most recently, Ms. Gnacek was involved in the independent verification and validation testing of the Ground Based Midcourse Defense System's Battle Management Command and Control and In-flight Interceptor Communications systems, and development of simulation training aid for the soldiers who will operate the system.

Ms. Gnacek also led a team of engineers that developed real time simulations of mission experiments and activities to train astronauts for NASA's SPACELAB 1 and 2 shuttle missions.

Mr. Speaker, this month, Ms. Gnacek will retire after 50 years of exceptional service. Throughout her career, she has devoted herself towards improving our Nation's space and missile development programs and has diligently worked to enhance these vital systems to meet the ever-changing needs of our country.

I rise today to join her colleagues, family, and friends in congratulating her on a job well done. I wish her and her family the very best for the future.

THOMAS J. MANTON POST OFFICE  
BUILDING

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in supporting H.R. 6033 which would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 39–25 61st Street in Woodside, New York, as the “Thomas J. Manton Post Office Building”.

As you know, we lost our dear friend Tom just a few short months ago, and I cannot think of a more fitting tribute to one of the most distinguished Members who ever served in this great House, than to see this renaming become a reality.

The character of Tom Manton's life might be summed up in a few words: he was a man of great commitment, hard-working, an inspiring leader, and he was dearly passionate about the causes he believed in and the work he did on behalf of his constituency.

Manton was a man of great intellect. During seven terms in Congress, from 1985 to 1998, he was an important figure on reauthorization of the Superfund program, which provides for

the cleanup of uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites. However, most of his legislative initiatives were focused on various local issues: stopping the Long Island Rail Road from building a waste-transfer station in western Queens, barring the creation of composting plants for sewage sludge in New York City, and using amendments to the Clean Air Act to aid local businesses. As well, he also sponsored a law that made benefits to permanently injured police officers, on par with payments to officers killed in the line of duty.

This loving husband and devoted father was also a very dear friend and colleague to me through all the years we worked together here in the Congress.

It was my privilege to know him and to work with him on matters involving not only our Nation, but the great State of New York. He combined with his charm, an unlimited energy and the highest integrity and work ethic.

Tom Manton was indeed a well respected and revered Member of this institution who gave of himself diligently, and was ever zealous to carry through to its ultimate conclusion, the cause of those who would benefit from his direction. No one is likely to forget neither the courage of his faith nor the warmth of his friendship.

In Tom's memory, let us move this bill forward.