

one back at home. I am very pleased this Congress has recognized that to some great measure and has done much more this year for our veterans than ever before. But in my district, where the Veterans Administration Hospital remains closed, this notion is particularly poignant of two wars. The closure of this hospital has left many veterans in my district with no choice but to travel long distances either to Shreveport, Louisiana, or Jackson, Mississippi, for hospital care. Though the Veterans Administration has recently announced plans to rebuild a bigger and better hospital in New Orleans, and I applaud the decision for it is the right one, those doors will still not open for a few years, leaving many veterans with few options. The VA has also suffered through a backlog of 6,000 Veterans Administration claims in Louisiana alone right now. The problem is nationwide and it is growing.

So today, with Veterans Day not far off, we honor and recognize our veterans in Louisiana who have paid a high price for our collective freedom. We do this by memorializing them in this significant way and memorializing their sacrifices forever by renaming the Main Post Office Building in New Orleans the Louisiana Armed Services Veterans Memorial Post Office. I urge passage of this bill.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge passage of H.R. 2089, to designate the U.S. Postal Service location at 701 Loyola Avenue in New Orleans as the Louisiana Armed Services Veterans Post Office.

From the Battle of New Orleans in the War of 1812, to the Chinese Bandits who laid the groundwork for U.S. air superiority in the Asian theater in World War II, to LTG Russell Honore's leadership of the military response to Hurricane Katrina, Louisianans have been at the forefront of defending this country from the time of its founding to this very day.

Louisiana's fighters have always been known for being a little tougher, a little wilder, a little crazier, if you will, than their counterparts from elsewhere. It made them perfect for some missions, but not so perfect for others. But the end result always has been that they have been quick in the Bayou State to take up arms whenever their country needed them.

Consider Claire Chennault. In 1937, Chennault, a captain in the U.S. Army Air Corps, progenitor of the Air Force, resigned his commission to go to China on behalf of Madam Chaing Kai-shek to help the Chinese build an air force to fend off the Japanese. He did not leave until World War II ended in 1945. In the interim, he helped organize an air force that featured strategically located airfields and an air raid warning system built from scratch that protected all of what was then known as Free China. Without his work, American air power could not have functioned in China.

Later, Chennault was to describe the air raid warning system as a vast spider net of people, radios, telephones, and telegraph lines that covered all of Free China accessible to enemy aircraft. In addition to continuous intelligence of enemy attacks, the net served to locate and guide lost friendly planes, direct aid to friendly pilots who had crashed or bailed out, and helped guide our technical intelligence experts to wrecks or crashed enemy aircraft.

In other words, something out of nothing. The same as the muskets Louisianans used to fend off the British in New Orleans, and General Honore used to help rebuild Louisiana after Katrina. It is a tradition well worth honoring, and this measure does just that.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Madam Speaker, as a Member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of H.R. 2089, which names a postal facility in New Orleans, Louisiana, after the Louisiana armed services veterans.

H.R. 2089 which was introduced by Representative WILLIAM JEFFERSON on May 1, 2007, was reported from the Oversight Committee on September 20, 2007, by voice vote. This measure has the support of the entire Louisiana congressional delegation.

Madam Speaker, the Louisiana armed services veterans were recognized for their significant contributions to our country early in the 19th and 20th centuries. During the War of 1812, Louisiana's veteran troops, which included French, Spanish, African, Anglo, Creole, and Native American people, under General Andrew Jackson, decisively defeated the British forces on January 8, 1815. This battle forced the British to recognize the United States' claim to Louisiana and helped establish America as a political and military power.

In the 20th century, the famous Louisiana maneuvers held at Fort Polk, Louisiana, in 1940 tested the mettle of future World War II Army Generals Dwight D. Eisenhower and George Patton and the soldiers who served under their leadership. President Eisenhower referred to Louisianan Andrew Jackson Higgins as "the man who won the war." In New Orleans, Higgins designed and built amphibious landing craft that made possible the invasions of enemy-held Pacific Islands and the coast of France D-Day invasion.

Rural southeast Louisiana was native soil for two Marine Corps commanders, General John Archer Lejeune and General Robert Barrow. The Nation's first black woman to earn her stars as a U.S. Army General, Sherian Grace Cadoria, grew up in Marksville, Louisiana.

The Louisiana veterans for centuries have served and defended our country

with exemplary valor and honor. And so, Madam Speaker, I commend my colleague, Representative WILLIAM JEFFERSON, for introducing this legislation and urge its passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2089.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

NATE DETAMPLE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3297) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 950 West Trenton Avenue in Morrisville, Pennsylvania, as the "Nate DeTample Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3297

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NATE DETAMPLE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 950 West Trenton Avenue in Morrisville, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the "Nate DeTample Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Nate DeTample Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he might consume to the author of this resolution, the sponsor of this legislation, Representative PATRICK MURPHY from Pennsylvania.

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois.

I rise today with pride to honor one of our Nation's finest sons. Nathaniel DeTample, Nate to his friends and family, Baby Boy to his National Guard unit, died in Iraq on August 9, 2005. He was 19 years old.

Nate was an Eagle Scout, an Eagles fan, a standout wrestler at Pennsbury High School, and a friend to all who knew him. Today, we pay tribute.

Madam Speaker, the legislation before us today will name the post office building in Morrisville, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, the Nate DeTample Post Office Building.

I am proud that this will be the first Pennsylvania post office named after an Iraq war veteran. His name will appear for all to see at 950 West Trenton Avenue, a sign of the spirit we honor.

Madam Speaker, today we give thanks to Nate and to his family for their service to our Nation. Nate joined the Pennsylvania National Guard to serve. He planned to be a police officer like his dad, but he never got that chance. He was always first in line to wrestling practice and always had a positive attitude. Bucks County Police Chief Ken Coluzzi said Nate was a nice boy and a fine young man who was going to be outstanding. It seems that is who is over there, overseas. There are a lot of outstanding young men and women who just want to do the right thing for their country, outstanding young heroes who put their lives on the line every single day.

□ 1530

Nate served in the Pennsylvania National Guard's Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 111 Infantry, a unit that proudly traces its roots back to the founding of our Nation and the Minutemen of the Revolutionary War, a rich history that Nate honored with his unforgettable spirit.

Madam Speaker, his friend said in tribute that Nate was one of the nicest guys ever. You never saw him down. You didn't have to meet Nate to know what kind of man, what kind of soldier he was.

When it came time for him to be laid to rest, scores of people lined the streets to say goodbye and to give thanks, a true testament to his spirit, his sacrifice, and the impact he had on the lives that he touched.

Madam Speaker, Nate's mom and dad, Kim and Glenn, asked at Nate's funeral that all of us pray for Nate's fellow soldiers and their families. Today, before this great body, with great pride, I repeat their request, and ask that we make it our mission to honor the fallen and stand up for those who are still fighting.

With his service, Nate DeTample showed us true energy, faith, and devotion. His memory will light our world.

In closing, I want to share how Nate signed one of his letters home from Iraq: "Rock Steady, Nate."

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues join me in honoring one of those rocks of our community, Nate DeTample. Rock steady.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

It is an honor for me to speak today about an American hero who showed great bravery and loyalty to his country well beyond his 19 years.

On August 9, 2005, a roadside bomb took the life of Nate DeTample, extinguishing his hopes and dreams, an ending to what, by all accounts, was an exemplary life.

During his high school years, Nate DeTample was remembered as an impressive young man and an extremely nice guy.

His personality was such that he always reached out to others with a handshake and asked how they were doing. He showed great leadership and ability as a wrestler for Pennsbury High School. One of his coaches remembered him as a hard worker and always being the first to practice.

It was Nate's dream to become a police officer, much like his father, Glenn, a detective for the Lower Makefield Police Department. With this dream in mind, Nate joined the National Guard after he graduated and headed off to college at Shippensburg University, where he majored in criminal justice. He was, however, called to serve his country before he could complete his first year of study. Some might have complained, but Nate believed in the mission and served to the best of his abilities.

Upon learning of Nate's death, the flag at the Lower Makefield Police Department was flown at half mast. This was a fitting tribute for someone who paid the ultimate sacrifice for his country and his community. It is also a fitting tribute that we give the post office on West Trenton Avenue in Morrisville, Pennsylvania, his name so that we may not forget his courage, his bravery and the price he paid for us.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in support of this fitting tribute.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Madam Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I'm pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 3297, which names the postal facility in Morrisville, Pennsylvania, after Nate DeTample.

H.R. 3297, which was introduced by Representative PATRICK MURPHY on August 1, 2007, was reported from the Oversight Committee on September 20, 2007, by voice vote. This measure has the support of the entire Pennsylvania congressional delegation.

Madam Speaker, Private First Class Nathaniel E. DeTample was killed on August 9, 2005, in an attack by small arms fire in Beiji, Iraq. The attack oc-

curred while he was investigating a rocket-propelled grenade incident. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 111 Infantry Regiment, Pennsylvania Army National Guard in Philadelphia.

Private DeTample was a wrestler, an Eagle Scout, and a criminal justice major at Shippensburg University. He was deployed to Iraq in March 2005 for the purpose of performing stability and support operations in the Beiji area north of Baghdad. He served his country with honor and distinction.

And so, Madam Speaker, I commend my colleague, Representative MURPHY, for introducing this legislation, and urge its swift passage.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 3297, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3297.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WALLACE S. HARTSFIELD POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3572) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4320 Blue Parkway in Kansas City, Missouri, as the "Wallace S. Hartsfield Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3572

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. WALLACE S. HARTSFIELD POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4320 Blue Parkway in Kansas City, Missouri, shall be known and designated as the "Wallace S. Hartsfield Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Wallace S. Hartsfield Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.