

that are truly the best of the best. It is a rarity in the Coast Guard, as very few units attain this level of outstanding performance. It demands a grade of 90 percent or higher during a rigorous week-long inspection, requiring a combination of exemplary test scores, crew proficiency, superb vessel condition, excellent performance in drills, a successful and progressive unit training program, survival systems readiness and good administrative work by all members. In their line of work, readiness and competence is the difference between life and death.

What makes this feat more impressive is that all 6 boats and their substation, Station (small) Scituate, had to perform at this remarkably high level. I would like to congratulate Commanding Officer Thomas J. Guthlein and the men and women stationed at Point Allerton for their exemplary service:

BMC Michael Dibartolomeo, MKC Kevin Nuzzolilli, BM1 Luis Catala, BM1 Sean Goodwin, BM1 Wayne Lougee, BM1 Christopher Carson, MK1 Robert Chofay, SK1 Michael Murphy, BM2 Phillip Garrett, BM2 James Mankus, BM2 Nicholas Linstrom, BM2 Kleverson Lemos, BM2 Logan Adkisson, MK2 Dominc Michael, MK2 Michael Cella, MK3 Ryan Fahey, FS2 Patrick Kelly, FS2 John Robbins, BM3 Noah Rowland, BM3 Adam Griffin, BM3 Christopher Dangelo, BM3 Matthew Renner, BM3 Jonathan Cunningham, BM3 Jessica Adams, BM3 Glenn Fenstra, MK3 David Northrop, MK3 Manish Moideen, SN Brittany Coyne, SN Daniel Williams, SN Adam Ruffner, SN Roger Souliere, FN Angela Klingler, SN Tony Layne.

It is very fitting that such this particular Coast Guard unit receive this very prestigious award. It is given in honor of Sumner Kimball who established the tradition of training and preparedness years ago off the waters of Hull. Even more remarkable, is the fact that this is the second time that Station Point Allerton has received this award, with the first being in 2002. This award is not just a testament to the station, but it is a tribute to the hard working men and women who serve our Coast Guard and who are willing to put their life on the line to protect the safety of mariners and the integrity of our coast.

COMMENDING THE PEOPLE OF
WASHINGTON FOR SHOWING
THEIR SUPPORT FOR VETERANS

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to stand with our State delegation to recognize an important new program begun in Washington to support our soldiers and veterans.

We must never forget that we enjoy our freedom today because of the courage, commitment, and sacrifice of generations of men and women in uniform. From the beaches of Normandy to the jungles of Vietnam, our troops have willingly and repeatedly stood in harm's way to preserve the values and liberties we cherish.

I know my colleagues who stand here with me today share my commitment to keeping

our promises to America's veterans. But we must also keep our promise to veterans in our communities, and the Veterans Family Fund Certificate of Deposit is a perfect example of just such an effort. It is a straightforward way of raising additional funds to meet the needs of Washington veterans and their families, and to assist our returning troops in making a seamless transition home.

This program represents some of the very best that can come from public-private partnerships. I commend the many participating banks and credit unions for joining with the State VA to make this initiative possible, and I hope that other States will soon follow Washington's lead.

No matter how big or small the effort, we must continue to pursue every available means of supporting our troops. We are the United States of America today, and we are free, because of the sacrifices of these men and women in uniform who put their lives on the line—for us, for their country.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. AMBASSADOR
SPEARMAN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2008

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I pay tribute to the life of Leonard H.O. Spearman, an outstanding individual who served as ambassador to two African countries and later headed an advisory board to historically black colleges, who passed away on January 16, 2008, at the age of 78 in Katy, Texas.

Leonard Hall O'Connell Spearman, Sr., was a native of Tallahassee, Florida, and a 1947 graduate of what is now Florida A&M University, where he played cornet in a band that included saxophonist Julian "Cannonball" Adderley.

At the University of Michigan, he received a master's degree, 1950, and a doctorate, 1960, in clinical psychology. He was a psychology professor and a dean at Southern University in Baton Rouge before moving to Washington in 1970 to work for the old Department of Health, Education and Welfare. He spent 9 years at HEW, helping shape the educational opportunity programs for disadvantaged students, as well as Federal student loan programs.

Later, he served as U.S. ambassador to Rwanda and Lesotho during the administration of President George H.W. Bush.

After leaving his ambassadorial posts, he taught educational administration at Texas Southern until 1998. From 1993 to 2001, he chaired the nonprofit organization, Rural Electrification for African Development, which advocated solar technology in African villages. Dr. Spearman was honored for his work in education and public service by the National Council of Negro Women among other groups.

I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our condolences to the family of Ambassador Spearman, his wife of 57 years, Valeria Benbow Spearman, and three children, Lynn Dickerson of Baton Rouge, Leonard H.O. Spearman, Jr., of Katy, and Charles M. Spearman of Alexandria, Virginia; a brother, Rawn W. Spearman, Sr., of Virginia Beach; two sisters, Olivia Parker of Washington, DC,

and Agenoria Paschal of Miami, Florida; and seven grandchildren.

Ambassador Spearman was a true American hero whose accomplishments are a testament to his humanitarian spirit.

HONORING SIR FRANKLIN MILLER

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate one of my esteemed colleagues and former classmates, Sir Franklin Miller, for receiving honorary knighthood by the British Government. Queen Elizabeth II, during her fall 2007 visit to Washington, DC, awarded Mr. Miller with honorary knighthood—a Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire—in gratitude for his work to strengthen U.S.-U.K. defense collaboration during his career with the Department of Defense and as Special Assistant to President George W. Bush. I am pleased to recognize his commitment to America's security.

Frank and I were both members of the Williams College Class of 1972. After graduating, he served as Communications Officer and Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer aboard the USS *Joseph Hewes*, a *Knox*-class frigate, with deployments in the Mediterranean Sea, Indian and Atlantic Oceans. In 1977, he returned to school and received his MPA from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

His talents at defense studies brought him to the State Department's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs from 1977 to 1979. For 22 years, he served under seven Secretaries in a series of progressively senior positions. His final assignments were twice as Acting Assistant Secretary for International Security Policy and once as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategy and Threat Reduction.

Frank Miller served as Special Assistant to President George W. Bush and as Senior Director for Defense Policy and Arms Control on the National Security Council staff between 2001 and 2005. This made him responsible for Presidential policy initiatives in the fields of nuclear deterrence policy, strategic arms reduction, national space policy, defense trade reform, land-mines, and transforming the American and NATO militaries.

He heroically assumed responsibility for the operation and management of the White House Situation Room immediately following the attacks on the World Trade Center Towers on September 11, 2001. This led him to direct interagency support of both Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

For his distinguished service, he was honored five times with the Defense Department's highest civilian award, the Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Medal. In addition, he has been awarded the Norwegian Royal Order of Merit, Grand Officer, and the French Legion of Honor, Officer. Knighthood is another fitting tribute to Sir Miller's distinguished 31-year career.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me to congratulate Sir Miller for his recent knighthood. We are grateful to Sir Miller for his outstanding commitment and service to improving the security of this country. I wish him