

On August 14, 1944, an Italian prisoner of war was lynched at Fort Lawton following a nighttime confrontation between members of three all-black Army port companies, a company of prisoners in an Italian Service Unit and many other Army personnel. Subsequently, 28 of the 43 African-American soldiers charged in the melee were convicted of rioting; two soldiers were also found guilty of manslaughter. Although the sloppiness of the investigation, coupled with clear racial discrimination, tainted the entire court-martial proceeding, the ruling and the dishonorable discharge of the 28 convicted soldiers stood for more than six decades.

However, following the publication of a scrupulously researched account of the clash and courts-martial by a Seattle author, and the interest of my colleague on the other side of the aisle, Congressman JIM McDERMOTT, the U.S. Army overturned the convictions of the 28 soldiers and granted them honorable discharges. Although the wheels of justice turned painfully slow for 28 African-American veterans, July 24–26 will be a wonderful celebration of their dedicated service to our country and the final corrections of their military records.

Unfortunately, only two of the original 28 soldiers are alive today, meaning 26 Army veterans passed away before an extreme personal injustice was rectified. My hope is that the families of the deceased veterans can find some kind of peace knowing their loved ones service is truly appreciated and honored.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this House with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is July 17, 2008 in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today, Mr. Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,960 days since the tragedy called *Roe v. Wade* was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common. First, they were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone, and each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of

why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government." The phrase in the 14th Amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth.

It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Madam Speaker, it is who we are.

And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

So Madam Speaker, let me conclude this Sunset Memorial in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard it tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies; that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express; and that 12,960 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that it is time that we stood up together again, and remembered that we are the same America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust; and we are still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

Madam Speaker, as we consider the plight of unborn America tonight, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each one of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of innocent unborn children. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny, little American brothers and sisters from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is July 17, 2008, 12,960 days since *Roe versus Wade* first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children; this in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 504, on the Shuler Amendment to H.R. 415, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today, I proudly join in a bipartisan effort with Congresswomen ROSA DELAURO, DEBORAH PRYCE, MARCY KAPTUR, and ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON in introducing the National Women's History Museum, NWHM. This bill directs the General Services Administration, GSA, to house a National Women's History Museum in one of their properties in Washington, DC. NWHM must pay fair market value for the property and reasonable timeframes are included for the transfer of the property and for construction to begin. NWHM will be built and maintained with private funds.

Women's history is largely missing from textbooks, memorials, museum exhibits and many other venues. In contrast, men have hundreds of years of written and available history to reflect upon and use for inspiration. Of the 210 statues in the United States Capitol, only 9 are of female leaders. Less than 5 percent of the 2,400 national historic landmarks chronicle women's achievement and according to a survey of 18 history textbooks, only 10 percent were dedicated to women.

The museums and memorials in our Nation's Capital demonstrate what we value. We have museums dedicated to flight, postage stamps, law enforcement and many other important people and issues of interest, but not to women. This bill would provide women, comprising 53 percent of our population, a long overdue home on our National Mall to honor their many contributions that are the very fabric of our country.

I urge my colleagues to join me in filling this void and honoring our Nation's foremothers by becoming cosponsors of the National Women's History Museum Act of 2008.

RECOGNIZING RWA SLOVAKIA AND HFPJCAVOYSEINU FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE MARCELOVA CEMETERY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the work of Heritage Foundation for Preservation of Jewish Cemeteries, HFPJCAVOYSEINU in preserving Jewish cemeteries in Europe and to offer recognition to RWA Slovakia for their humanitarian contribution to the protection of a Jewish cemetery in Marcelova, Slovakia.

I have the highest respect for HFPJCAVOYSEINU and its efforts to preserve Jewish cemeteries throughout Europe. The Nazis not only destroyed the Jewish population of Europe during the Holocaust, but they left Jewish cemeteries in ruin. The fall of the iron curtain and