

TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY UNIT 278 OF OSAGE,
IOWA

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 278 of Osage, Iowa. The Unit facilitated the Veterans Inspiring Patriotism program as a part of the Joe Foss Institute, and I am honored to submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following commentary from the program in Osage.

“Osage American Legion Post 278 Presents program at Sacred Heart School:

Betty McCarthy of Osage American Legion Auxiliary Unit 278 was the facilitator of the Joe Foss Institute’s program ‘Veterans Inspiring Patriotism’ for Sacred Heart students grades K–6th. Joe Foss achieved international fame as America’s top Marine fighter pilot in World War II with a record of more than 60 missions in the South Pacific and shooting down 26 Japanese Zeroes. His bravery in combat earned him the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Joe’s many lifetime achievements are told in his autobiography ‘A Proud American.’

In 2001, he founded the Joe Foss Institute as a non-profit organization with its mission of promoting Patriotism, Public Service, Integrity and an Appreciation for America’s Freedoms. The ‘Veterans Inspiring Patriotism’ is designed for school children from grades K–12. Through this program, American Flags for the classroom and replicas of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights are made available at no cost to be presented along with the program.

An age appropriate video was part of the presentation which helped the students understand the freedoms established by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Following the video, John Ross, member of Osage Legion Post 278, told of his service in the military and what it means to be a patriot. This was followed by questions from the students.

The presentation ended with John Ross presenting American Flags as well as the laminated copies of the Constitution and Bill of Rights to 5 students, each of whom were wearing the uniforms of the 5 branches of the service. These uniforms were worn by veterans of World War II, Korea and Desert Storm.

McCarthy told of the final tribute, the military rites at the graveside of a veteran, the presentation of the American Flag under which they served and then TAPS was played by a 6th grade student. The program ended with the singing of God Bless America!

Osage American Legion Post 278 and Sacred Heart School are indebted to the Joe Foss Institute for making this program possible.”

INTRODUCTION OF THE JERU-
SALEM EMBASSY AND RECOGNITION
ACT OF 2009

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, forty-two years ago, during the Six Day War of 1967, Israeli troops reunified the city of Jerusalem. Since then, people of all religious faiths have been guaranteed full access to holy sites within the city, and the rights of all faiths have been respected and protected.

In 1995, the U.S. Congress declared that it is the official position of the United States that Jerusalem is, and rightly ought to remain, the undivided capital of Israel. Since that time, the Congress has repeatedly and overwhelmingly adopted multiple resolutions reaffirming this commitment to Jerusalem’s continued status as a unified, undivided city. President Obama has also pledged his personal support for Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. On June 4, 2008, while still serving as a United States Senator, President Obama said that: “Jerusalem will remain the capital of Israel, and it must remain undivided.”

Despite this apparent unanimity, however, the United States has inexplicably never acted to move the United States Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. United States officials do conduct diplomatic meetings and other business in the city of Jerusalem in de facto recognition of its status as the capital of Israel, but the Embassy remains firmly grounded in Tel Aviv.

Every sovereign country has the right to designate its own capital and the United States maintains its Embassy in the functioning capital of every country. The one exception is Israel, a great friend and ally to the United States. The President of Israel, the Knesset—Israel’s Parliament—and the Israeli Supreme Court are all located in Jerusalem; and that is where the Embassy of the United States rightfully should be as well.

I rise today to introduce the “Jerusalem Embassy and Recognition Act of 2009” which mandates the relocation of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, and reaffirms U.S. policy that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital of Israel; for two reasons. First, passing this bill and immediately relocating the United States Embassy to Jerusalem will, in my opinion, send a strong message to the Iranian regime that the United States stands in strong solidarity with the people of Israel—we will not tolerate the mullahs’ constant threats against Israel, and we will not accommodate their pursuit of a nuclear bomb. Second, passing this bill will send a bipartisan message to the Administration that the United States Congress remains strongly committed to Jerusalem’s continued status as a unified, undivided city; a position that President Obama—despite his comments from June 4, 2008—appears to be backing away from.

For example, Presidential Determination 2009–19, which was transmitted by the Administration to Congress just a couple of months ago, renewed a legally required waiver which allows the Administration to continue to delay the May 31, 1999 deadline for moving the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. While the renewal of the waiver

was not unexpected or unusual, the actual text of the waiver message did contain a surprise. The Obama Administration neglected to include a key sentence that the previous Administration had included in previous determinations; specifically: “My Administration remains committed to beginning the process of moving our embassy to Jerusalem.”

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that the crucial omission in Presidential Determination 2009–19 was an inadvertent oversight. Even if it was, I believe it is well past time to revisit the Jerusalem Embassy Act and close, once and for all, the ludicrous waiver loophole that has continued to allow the diplomatic embarrassment of not having our Embassy located in the capital city of Israel to continue for ten years. I strongly urge my colleagues to demonstrate their support for the people of Israel by co-sponsoring this important bill.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican standards on member requests, I am submitting the following information regarding a congressionally directed appropriation project I sponsored as part of H.R. 3326, FY 2010 Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Agency/Account: Department of the Army—RDT&E

Amount: \$1,500,000

Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University, The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH), 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79409

The funding for the Zumwalt National Program for Countermeasures to Biological and Chemical Threats is requested to further the understanding and ability of operational military forces to identify, prevent, and mitigate any threats war fighters may face from biological and chemical weapon agents in any environment at any time.

**INTRODUCING HOUSE RESOLUTION
TO RECOGNIZE THE DYKE
MARSH WILDLIFE PRESERVE AS
A UNIQUE AND PRECIOUS ECO-
SYSTEM**

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution recognizing one of the national capital area’s most unique and cherished wetland and wildlife preserves and to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the legislation that was enacted to ensure its survival.

In 1959, the U.S. Congress passed legislation designating Fairfax County’s Dyke Marsh as a protected ecosystem, for the purpose of promoting fish and wildlife development and preserving their natural habitat. Until that time, the Dyke Marsh, which is the largest remaining freshwater tidal marsh along the Potomac