

established guides for neighborhood desirability based on racial composition. Homogeneous communities for white, northern European background residents were seen as best investment for homeowners and others. Some early zoning laws sought to limit, by race, people who could live in certain communities, as did some practices of the real estate sector. Although the Supreme Court, in its 1917 decision in *Buchanan v. Worley*, struck down these racial restrictions, these racial biases were incorporated into FHA rules and formed the basis for many private agreements to segregate and form racially restrictive covenants.

WW II

Following the Second World War, returning GIs, through the GI bill, were offered a path to homeownership. African Americans and other minority group members were excluded from these GI bill benefits in many communities. The great migration of the middle class to suburbs was largely a white phenomenon, creating segregated white suburbs and large isolated urban minority communities. There was little response by the government or the courts. Most notable, was the Supreme Court in 1948 ended judicial enforcement of racially restrictive covenants in the case *Shelley v. Kraemer*.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

The Civil Rights movement, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s work in Chicago, brought renewed attention to housing discrimination. The federal government, first through executive order then through the Civil Rights Act of 1964, banned discrimination in federally funded housing. By 1961, seventeen states had passed fair housing or open housing laws. It was not until April 1968, following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., that Congress passed the Fair Housing Act.

Also in April 1968, the Supreme Court ruling in *Jones v. Mayer* held that the Civil Rights Act of 1866 prohibited discrimination in private real estate transactions. That law lacked an effective government enforcement mechanism, and covered racial and religious discrimination. Gender discrimination was prohibited in 1974. In 1988, in response to growing awareness of the housing issues faced by families with children and persons with disabilities, the adoption of the Fair Housing Act Amendments established effective government enforcement and extended protections to families with children and persons with disabilities.

Madam Speaker, in light of this long battle for fair housing, I ask that the House pass this bill.

RECOGNIZING BILLIE RAY
HUDDLESTON

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Billie Ray Huddleston was born in Celina on August 23, 1929. His love for church, family, school and community continues even as he celebrates his 80th birthday.

Billie Ray has lived his entire life in Celina, where he attended Celina High School and graduated in 1946. He then attended North Texas State College, now known as the Uni-

versity of North Texas, and graduated in 1950 with a Bachelor of Science. He taught math for 10 years until deciding to farm full time, first with his father and then with his son, and continues to help his son and grandson as needed.

During his farming years, Billie Ray served on the Celina Cooperative Gin Board for 37 years. He has been a longtime director of the Collin County Farm Bureau and for six years served as a director of the Texas Farm Bureau. During part of this time he served on the Southern Farm Bureau Insurance Boards and continues to be involved in federal and state legislative affairs. He also served on the Project 2000 Committee for long-range planning to carry Texas Farm Bureau into the next century. He has been the recipient of many awards, including the Collin County Conservation Farmer of the Year, Denton Wise County Conservation Farmer of the Year, Collin County Farmer of the Year and the Collin County Farm Bureau Pioneer Award.

In 1955, Billie Ray married Jane Merritt and they have four children: Charles and his wife Sherry of Celina, Janet and her husband Randy of Celina, Laurie and her husband Russell of Waco, and Mike and his wife Ingrid of Keller. They are the grandparents of 11 beautiful grandchildren.

During the time his children were in the Celina schools he served for 13 years as a trustee of the Celina Independent School District. He was also a member of the Quarterback Club for many years, serving as captain in 1973.

His civic involvement includes serving on the Celina City Council for 2 terms during which the first Comprehensive Plan was formed, and recently he served on the committee for the current comprehensive plan which is in its final stages. Seeing the need for a public park, he was instrumental in securing the land and negotiating the purchase of more than 40 acres, where a wonderful park was dedicated in 2006 to the City of Celina. In 2002 he and his wife, Jane, were awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Chamber of Commerce "in recognition of their continuous service and support." In July of 1976 he was recognized by The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of Texas for his participation in celebrating the Bicentennial.

Billie Ray has been a member of the First Baptist Church in Celina since 1951 and has served as a deacon for 53 years. He has been such an important and influential member of the Celina community, and his many friends today join his family in wishing a wonderful 80th birthday to this great citizen, Billie Ray Huddleston.

CONGRATULATING THE PLANO
EAST AND PLANO WEST JROTC
ACADEMIC TEAMS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, congratulations are in order. This June, the Plano East JROTC Academic team placed fifth in a competition from schools around the globe in Washington, D.C. Out of 1,645 Army JROTC programs, 72 teams (24

academic/48 leadership) from around the globe competed in Level III of the 2009 U.S. Army JROTC Academic and Leadership Bowl competition, the final level of the Army JROTC Academic and Leadership Championship. Plano East JROTC deserves special recognition for their achievement.

In addition, on March 5th, the Plano East and Plano West Senior High School JROTC Academic Teams earned 1st and 3rd place honors, respectively, out of 198 teams/schools, in the U.S. Army JROTC 5th Brigade portion of the 2009 U.S. Army JROTC Academic and Leadership Bowl competition.

The Panther JROTC Academic Team is comprised of: Team Commander c/1LT Zen Ren upcoming Senior, c/CSM James Untiedt upcoming Senior, c/1SG Amber VanHecke upcoming Junior, c/SSG Sabrina Gibson upcoming Junior. The two alternates were Plano East Senior cadets Mary Walker and Harrison Stone.

Competition questions are based on the SAT, ACT, JROTC curriculum and current events. The test is administered jeopardy-style, via the Internet, with a 30 second time limit for each question. The team members are able to quickly read, discuss, and exchange information before finalizing an answer.

According to Major (Ret) John Napoli, Jr., who serves as the Director of Army Instruction for the Plano Independent School District, "we are proud of the academic accomplishments of all our students. This bowl is one of many ways we challenge our students on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis. Our foremost priority in JROTC is to the academic and professional development of all our students. In the last two years alone our graduating seniors have earned over \$4.5 million in college scholarship monies."

The cadets and the Plano East Senior Army Instructor LTC (R) Bernard Aikens are shining examples of the future leadership and military excellence that you can only find in America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 460, I inadvertently did not vote, but intended to vote "yes."

SEVERELY INJURED VETERANS'
BENEFITS IMPROVEMENT ACT
OF 2009

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, today I join my good friends and colleagues, MIKE MICHAUD of Maine and HENRY BROWN of South Carolina, in introducing the Severely Injured Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2009. This bill will provide increased benefits to our most severely injured veterans.

Madam Speaker, as servicemembers are returning from the Global War on Terror with

more severe and complex injuries than in previous conflicts, the services and benefits that the Department of Veteran Affairs provides must change as well in reflection of their needs.

This bill recognizes this need and provides significant increases for these veterans and their families. The bill increases compensation for catastrophically injured veterans who are in need of regular aide and attendance by fifty percent. Qualifying veterans would receive a monthly payment of \$7,552, and those in need of the highest level of care would receive \$8,642.

We are all aware of the impact of attending to daily personal needs such as bathing and eating can have on family caregivers. Increasing the rate of the aid and attendance benefit for veterans would support family caregivers who experience a loss of income, and allow veterans to remain in their homes.

This legislation would also expand eligibility for aid and attendance benefits to include veterans with service connected residuals of severe traumatic brain injury (TBI). It would permit these veterans in need of constant supervision and assistance to remain in their residences rather than being institutionalized.

More servicemembers of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom are surviving blast head injuries cause by an IED explosion than in any previous war. These servicemembers and veterans may not have any physical disabilities, but may suffer extreme cognitive disabilities as a result. A veteran with severe TIM can require constant supervision and assistance to perform all activities of daily living. However, current law does not provide veterans with severe TBIs with the same level of compensation that is available to veterans with severe physical disabilities.

Further, the bill codifies a U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims ruling that protects non-service connected pension payments for elderly, indigent, and severely disabled or house-bound American veterans. The bill also increases this benefit by ten percent.

It would also authorize veterans with severe burns to receive specially adapted auto grants.

Lastly, the bill honors the recipients of our nation's highest award for bravely by doubling the monthly pension given to Medal of Honor Recipients to \$2,000.

Madam Speaker, this bill makes all of these needed improvements without new increases in direct spending. I urge my colleagues to join me in improving the lives of these veterans by co-sponsoring this bipartisan bill.

SUDAN: U.S. POLICY AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CPA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I would like to share with our colleagues testimony that John Prendergast, co-founder of the Enough Project, gave yesterday before the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health on the critical issue of U.S.-Sudan policy, specifically as it relates to implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). During the Clinton administration John was director of African Affairs at the National

Security Council and special advisor at the Department of State. I respect his views given his long-time involvement in Africa and Sudan.

SUDAN U.S. POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE CPA

Thank you Congressman PAYNE and members of this subcommittee for the opportunity to testify on a topic that will help determine the future of millions of people from Sudan and the surrounding region.

At this subcommittee hearing, members will hear a very different message than that which will be communicated at tomorrow's Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing. Today, this subcommittee's members will hear a bipartisan critique of the current direction of U.S. policy towards Sudan. Rich Williamson, Roger Winter and I all have negotiated extensively with the regime in Sudan, have roughly a combined six decades in working on or in Sudan, and have a very clear idea of what is required for lasting peace to have a chance in that embattled country.

This hearing comes at a moment in Sudan's history fraught with danger and potential. There is no effective peace process for Darfur, but one could be built with U.S. leadership. The CPA is on the brink, but could be salvaged if U.S. engagement deepens. Next year's elections are at risk, but could become an important opportunity to strengthen opposition parties and democratic structures crucial for the referendum and for Sudan's political future. The referendum itself is doubtful, but its prospects could be enhanced with a credible international roadmap.

The major unknown variable that will help determine whether the dangers or the opportunities get maximized is the unresolved internal debate over the direction of U.S. policy towards Sudan. In the absence of any agreement on the policy, U.S. diplomatic engagement has been energetic, for which Special Envoy Gration should be credited. But the substance of this robust engagement has been fraught with missteps, lack of internal coordination, and an overall aversion to pressuring the ruling National Congress Party (NCP). Sustained pressure leveraged by meaningful and focused sticks is the principal tool that has moved the NCP to change its behavior during the 20 years of its authoritarian rule. This substantial track record of empirical evidence of the value of pressure makes the direction of U.S. diplomacy all the more questionable.

There is also a broader inconsistency in U.S. foreign policy when it comes to Sudan. The Obama administration has resolutely worked to craft more formidable international coalitions to isolate North Korea and Iran for important U.S. policy objectives. However, the U.S. is not doing the same for Sudan, despite the existence of a regime there that is responsible directly or indirectly for the loss of two and a half million lives in the South and Darfur.

U.S. GOALS IN SUDAN AND HOW TO ACHIEVE
THEM

In the context of its policy review, the U.S. should spell out clear goals:

(1) U.S. leadership in constructing a more effective Darfur peace process, using as a model the process that led to the CPA involving a lead role for the U.S. and a multilateral support structure that provided international leverage, expertise, and support;

(2) U.S. leadership in supporting the implementation of the CPA, continuing the trend of deeper engagement over the last few months but structuring clear penalties for non-implementation of any of the key provisions;

(3) U.S. leadership in supporting the democratic transformation of Sudan by supporting the electoral process, providing institutional support to opposition parties and civil society organizations, and building the capacity of the Government of Southern Sudan;

(4) U.S. leadership in preparations for the South's referendum in 2011, which will be a make-or-break process for the future of both North and South.

The essential word that repeats throughout all these goals is "leadership." U.S. leadership—multilaterally and when necessary unilaterally—will be an enormously influential ingredient in a successful transition to peace and democracy in Sudan.

But success will require greater leverage than that which presently exists. The debate internally within the U.S. Government in part rests on the degree to which incentives or pressures ought to be favored instruments for changing the behavior of the Sudanese regime, the Darfur rebels, and the GOSS. It is the view of this panel and the activist organizations that comprise the Darfur movement that the way forward should involve deeper diplomatic engagement that is rooted in multilateral pressures and the credible threat of significant consequences for policies or actions by Sudanese parties that undermine peace efforts and lead to worsening humanitarian conditions. In the absence of these pressures, and if incentives are all that are put forward, then failure is guaranteed.

Success will also require the construction of credible and effective processes that allow for the achievement of U.S. policy goals. First and foremost, the glaring lack of an effective peace process for Darfur calls out for greater U.S. leadership in constructing from the existing elements a revitalized process that has the chance of ending Darfur's war. Secondly, the U.S. should intensify its early efforts to revive the CPA and back these efforts with the construction of clear multilateral consequences for violations or non-implementation of key elements of the deal.

U.S. policy must be shaped by the fact that these complex conflicts have a common core: Flawed governance by a center that exploits and marginalizes an underdeveloped periphery. Not only does the CPA provide a roadmap for resolving the longest and bloodiest of these conflicts, but it also offers a framework for the kind of democratic, structural transformation necessary to alter the root cause of Sudan's many recurring conflicts. The successful model of the CPA could and should be replicated in a revitalized Darfur peace process. The U.S. cannot afford to allow the CPA to fail, nor can it allow the continuation of an ineffective Darfur process that obstructs any real possibility of peace.

PRIORITIES FOR CPA IMPLEMENTATION

The troubling reality is that Sudan's North-South peace remains precarious at best. Given the mounting tensions between the North and South and the spate of violence in the South in recent months, deeper international engagement is required. Renewed Sudanese civil war could bring wholesale violence on a terrible scale while further destabilizing the entire region. I will focus the remainder of my testimony on the key priorities for the U.S. Government in CPA implementation.

I am encouraged by recent positive steps by the Obama administration to prioritize CPA implementation and to revitalize international efforts to urge the Sudanese parties to work on an array of outstanding provisions in the agreement in the remaining year and a half. These new efforts should be followed up with an approach that penalizes failure of one of both of the Sudanese parties to implement key provisions of the agreement. The hard work begins now. It is time