

occupied territory and brought in more than 250,000 settlers from the Turkish mainland. Periodic U.N. mediation efforts have failed to resolve the division of the island.

As yet, neither London nor Washington has embraced Mr. Straw's proposal, but it has all the characteristics of a prominent trial balloon. Over the years, numerous members of the foreign policy communities in both Britain and the United States have privately toyed with the idea of imposing a formal partition.

Going down that path would be a mistake—for both practical and moral reasons. The practical consideration is that the U.S. and the leading EU countries already set a dangerous international precedent in 2008 when they encouraged and then formally recognized Kosovo's unilateral declaration of independence from Serbia. At the time, NATO troops occupied Kosovo, preventing Belgrade from doing anything to thwart that secession.

Numerous governments warned that the move trampled on Serbia's sovereignty and created a highly destabilizing precedent. That fear was soon realized when Russian troops implemented the secession of two restless provinces from Russia's small neighbor, the Republic of Georgia.

Now the Western powers may be flirting with the notion of forcibly dividing Cyprus against the will of the Cypriot government and a majority of the Cypriot people. Such a move would reinforce the unhealthy recent precedents set with respect to Kosovo and Georgia—and would encourage nations and movements with secessionist agendas around the world.

The moral case against partitioning Cyprus to curry favor with Ankara is even stronger. Turkey committed an act of aggression when it invaded its neighbor in 1974, and that violation of international law is made worse by the continuing occupation and the colonization effort using Turkish settlers. That should be unacceptable behavior by any country, but it is even more outrageous coming from a NATO member and aspirant to join the European Union.

The tepid reaction over the decades by Washington and its democratic allies to Ankara's rogue conduct on the Cyprus issue is troubling. Those countries should not further reward Turkey's aggression by making the division of Cyprus permanent.

There are other actions the West can take to help repair the fraying relationship with Turkey. In particular, the U.S. must show greater understanding that its policies in Iraq—especially the creation of a de facto independent Kurdistan in the north—create major problems for Ankara because of Turkey's own restless Kurdish population. Likewise, the push for ever tighter economic sanctions against Iran poses major economic and strategic dilemmas for Turkey.

Those issues need to be addressed squarely, and efforts should be made at least to cushion the adverse impact on Turkey. But it would be wrong to adopt the cynical approach of using Cyprus as a convenient sacrificial pawn to ease overall tensions with Ankara. Such a move would betray important Western values and, in the long run, likely undermine important Western interests.

A TRIBUTE TO MS. SHARONNIE M. PERRY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Sharonnie M. Perry.

Ms. Perry was born in the Bedford Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, New York. She is the mother of two sons, DaShawn and Jah-Son. She is also the proud grandmother of Jaylin and Jah-Son, Jr. Ms. Perry is a woman of faith; she believes if you put God at the head of your life and Jesus at the center, you will not fail.

Ms. Perry lives her life by one of her favorite sayings, "I have come to serve and not to be served." In this spirit, she worked as a community activist for over thirty-five years, fought against decentralization of public schools and founded Parents on the Move, a self-help organization for homeless parents and children. Ms. Perry also advocated for affordable housing, education, and employment of New York City's homeless population.

In 1982, Ms. Perry saw a need that became one of her greatest passions to date: HIV/AIDS activism. She has traveled the country to inform people about the health care and services offered to individuals living with HIV/AIDS; she also advocates on behalf of individuals living with this difficult disease. In addition, it should be noted that Ms. Perry is a valued political consultant. In various capacities, she has helped elect countless elected officials at all levels of government.

Ms. Perry attributes her success in life to the Creator, first and foremost; her parents, Dolly and James; family; mentors; spiritual advisors; and friends Father Jim Goode, Bishop Albert Janiison, Carmuela Rodriguez, Annette Robinson and Mama Lola. She also never forgets the ancestors whose shoulders she stands on: Baba MezeeMoyo, Queen Empress Akwcke, Thomas Faulkner, Charles Pinn and all those who have passed this way.

It comes as no surprise that Ms. Perry has been recognized across the country for her commitment to the underserved people in our society. In summarizing her own devotion to family, church and community, Ms. Perry would say, "If I can help somebody along the way, then my living would not have been in vain."

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Ms. Sharonnie M. Perry.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, December 2, 2010, I was not present for 12 recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way: Roll No. 596—"nay"; Roll No. 597—"nay"; Roll No. 598—"yea"; Roll No. 599—"yea"; Roll No. 600—"yea"; Roll No. 601—"yea"; Roll No. 602—"yea"; Roll No. 603—"yea"; Roll No. 604—"nay"; Roll No. 605—"yea"; Roll No. 606—"nay"; Roll No. 607—"yea."

HONORING STEPHEN C. DuBOIS OF TULAROSA, NM

HON. HARRY TEAGUE

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Mr. TEAGUE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent of mine that is very special to me and my fellow southern New Mexicans.

Stephen C. DuBois is a resident of Tularosa, New Mexico. He is 89 years old and is a veteran. But over six decades ago today, Mr. DuBois was stationed in Hawaii, and he survived one of the worst and most cowardly attacks on our Nation in our country's history—the attack on Pearl Harbor.

When the attack occurred, Mr. DuBois was a hospital corpsman in the Navy and was only 19 years old. He was in a tent when the Japanese began their assault. A marine came into the tent and mistaking Mr. DuBois for another marine, he told him, "follow me." Together, they charged on to take control of an anti-aircraft turret.

The marine was surprised at the way DuBois handled the weapon and asked where in the world he had been trained.

Mr. DuBois answered that he had been trained in Newport, which shocked the marine even further. He replied, "Newport? That's where the Navy gets trained!"

To which Mr. DuBois could only reply, "Well, that's what I am, Navy!"

Whether he was a Marine or in the Navy didn't seem to matter much after that. Working with that marine, Mr. DuBois was able to bring down at least two Japanese planes that were attacking Pearl Harbor. While it is difficult to say with any certainty how many more casualties would have been inflicted by those two planes, you can be sure that the gallant actions of Mr. DuBois and his friend did save lives that day.

And while we look back on that terrible day that brought so much pain and anguish to our nation and its citizens, we are also reminded of something else that was proven that day. We are reminded that when placed in tough situations, Americans can be some pretty extraordinary people.

Stephen C. DuBois didn't take that gun for fame or fortune, for glory or for revenge. Instead he did what so many of our sons and daughters have done over time. He did it because he was ordered to. He did it because it was his duty. And by doing his duty, he saved so many lives and really he saved our country.

So today, I want to honor not only those brave Americans that we lost at Pearl Harbor, but all of those brave Americans like Mr. DuBois who protected us and our beloved country. May God bless him and his family and may God continue to bless America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, on December 2, 2010, I was on official leave to attend to a medical matter. I was unable to