

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 85th Anniversary of the founding of the Daughters of Penelope, the leading international women's organization dedicated to promoting the ideals of ancient Greece. Founded November 16th 1929 in San Francisco, California the Daughters of Penelope was established to improve the wellbeing of women through community service and volunteerism. Especially, I would like to honor the Daughters of Penelope District 5 who represent chapters in New Jersey for their tireless efforts to improve the lives of women across our great state.

Nationally, one example of the great work done by the Daughters of Penelope can be found in the Penelope House, a shelter for battered women in Mobile, Alabama. The Penelope House focuses on the prevention of domestic violence through education and public awareness. The Penelope House helps victims of intimate partner violence to gain social and economic independence through shelter, counseling, and advocacy.

Clearly, the Daughters of Penelope deserves our recognition and support as they continue to expand the opportunities, status and well-being of women and their families around the globe. Congratulations to the Daughters of Penelope on reaching such a milestone and I look forward to continuing to see the charitable efforts of such a dedicated group of people.

THE SORROW AND THE HOPE OF
"COMFORT WOMEN"**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an issue which has been close to my heart during my years of service as Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Asia and Pacific. This is the issue of the "Comfort Women" or, as former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton more accurately termed these victims of Imperial Japan's military during the Second World War, "enforced sex slaves."

Of all the actions in my almost twenty-six years of service in the U.S. House of Representatives, one that affected me most was the convening of my first hearing on February 17, 2007 as the new Chairman of the then Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment. The fact that the issue of the 'Comfort Women' was the topic of my very first hearing signified how deeply important this issue was and is to me.

The hearing represented the first official testimony given to a U.S. government entity regarding one of the most egregious war crimes carried out in the Pacific Theater during the Second World War. The compelling and courageous testimony of the three victim witnesses, Ms. Yong Soo Lee and Ms. Koon Ja

Kim from the Republic of Korea, and Ms. Jan Ruff O'Herne from Australia, brought tears to the eyes of many in the hearing room and left no doubt as to the culpability of Imperial Japan's military in the organization and management of comfort stations.

It was a special privilege that then South Korean National Assembly member and now President of the Republic of Korea, Her Excellency Park Geun-hye, was present as a special guest of the Subcommittee at the hearing. The hearing provided an impetus for the unanimous adoption by the U.S. House of Representatives later in 2007, during the 110th Congress, of House Resolution 121. Introduced by my good friend, Congressman MIKE HONDA, H. Res. 121 "expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that the Government of Japan should formally acknowledge, apologize, and accept historical responsibility in a clear and unequivocal manner for its Imperial Armed Forces' coercion of young women into sexual slavery, known to the world as 'comfort women', during its colonial and wartime occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands from the 1930s through the duration of World War II."

In this regard, I wish to draw to the attention of my fellow colleagues the opening of a special art exhibition titled "The Sorrow and the Hope of 'Comfort Women'" to be held in the May Gallery of Mullen Library at Catholic University in Washington, DC. As you may be aware, Mr. Speaker, Pope Francis met with "Comfort Women" survivors during his recent visit to South Korea. The special exhibition, which will be held from November 25, 2014 to January 12, 2015, is being hosted by the National Catholic School of Social Service's Center for International Social Development (CISD) and co-organized by the Washington Coalition for Comfort Women Issues, Inc. (WCCW), whose President is Ms. Christine Choi and Vice President is Dr. Julie Jung-Sil Lee. There will be a seminar held in connection with the art exhibition at Catholic University on November 25, 2014.

I would like to take special note of the fact that one of the artists whose work will be displayed at this exhibition is Eileen Marie Halpin, the daughter of my former staff member Dennis P. Halpin. Eileen graduated summa cum laude in kinetic imaging from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond in May 2013. She also attended the Gobelins School of the Image in Paris, France in the summer of 2013. She is currently working as a freelance artist. Eileen sent her artwork last year to "Comfort Women" survivors residing in the House of Sharing in Gwangju, Korea. This is a facility which I have visited on repeated occasions during my official visits to South Korea as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. I have spent many hours with my grandmas at the House of Sharing, who are examples to me of courage, strength, and the resilience of the human spirit. These women are my heroes, and I count them among my greatest friends in this life.

Mr. Speaker, although I will soon depart from this esteemed body, I will continue to be a strong advocate for closure for the victims of the greatest crime of organized, coercive sexual trafficking in the twentieth century. The overwhelming majority of these victims came from the Asia-Pacific region, a region which I have proudly represented and continue to call home. The current revisionism involving denier

history which has emerged in certain influential quarters in Japan regarding the "Comfort Women" and other war crimes related to the Second World War would never be tolerated with regard to the crimes committed in the European Theater during that war. As philosopher George Santayana famously observed, "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to the Nigerian school girls kidnapped by Boko Haram and the Yazidi women and girls enslaved by ISIL not to forget the tragic historic warning offered by the experiences of the "Comfort Women". It is my sincere hope that this esteemed body will do all it can to ensure justice for women and young girls everywhere. This is my hope forevermore.

RECOGNIZING CHERYL COOK-KALLIO

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cheryl Cook-Kallio for her long service to the East Bay.

Cheryl is a dedicated teacher, with credentials in social science, English, and a supplemental credential in Spanish, in addition to her BA degree in history from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte and her MA degree in history from San Jose State University. Currently teaching classes in Advanced Placement history and government at Irvington High School, Cheryl has taught for over 30 years in the Fremont Unified School District.

For her teaching, Cheryl has received numerous awards. These include the 1997 Teacher of the Year from the Sons of the American Revolution and 2005 Irvington High School Teacher of the Year.

Cheryl's work has gone beyond the classroom as well. She has coached the Irvington High School We the People team since 2000, and her annually successful team won the California State Championship in 2005. She has volunteered as a leader in Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts as well as served on the board of the Amador Friends of Music.

Cheryl also has given back to her community as an elected official; since 2006 she has been a member of the Pleasanton City Council. She has served in a variety of roles in that position, including vice mayor and as a member of the Audit Committee and School District Liaison Committee.

As Cheryl prepares to leave the city council after her current term expires, I want to thank her for all she has done and continues to do for the East Bay. We are a better community because of her tireless efforts.

HONORING DR. DANIEL KRAFT

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Daniel Kraft of Boynton Beach and congratulate him on his retirement

after 34 years of dedicated service to the children of South Florida.

From his days as a volunteer physician with the National Service Corps to his long tenure as a private practitioner in West Palm Beach, Daniel has dedicated his career to improving the lives of children in our community.

His passion for service goes well beyond his practice as a doctor. In his limited free time, Daniel developed the Support Group Network, a computerized database of medical support organizations. Additionally, he is a founding member of the Drowning Prevention Coalition and both a founding member and former President of the Palm Beach County Pediatric Society.

A classical music and piano enthusiast, Daniel enjoys traveling around the world and is fluent in Spanish and French. Daniel has obtained multiple degrees, including a medical degree from Mount Sinai School of Medicine and a Masters of Public Health from Johns Hopkins.

In honor of his invaluable contributions to the children and families of South Florida and on behalf of my district, I am pleased to recognize Dr. Kraft for his amazing achievements and I wish him a long and fulfilling retirement in the company of his wife and three daughters.

HONORING LT. COL. MICHELLE R. BRUNSWICK ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Michelle R. "Shelli" Brunswick for her 29 years of dedicated service to our country. In her most recent assignment, she served as the House Budget and Appropriations Liaison for the United States Air Force. In this role, Colonel Brunswick was responsible for Congressional interaction between the U.S. Air Force and Congressional Appropriations and Budget committees, Members, and staffers. She was the most seasoned Air Force liaison on Capitol Hill and an agent trusted to prepare the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force for Congressional delegation meetings and defense posture hearings with Members of Congress.

In her nearly three decades of active duty military service, Colonel Brunswick held numerous leadership positions that have helped shape Air Force acquisitions and ensured the "tip of the spear" was always sharp. Her duties covered the spectrum of Air Force operations and ranged from managing the careers of service members to serving as a direct representative of the Air Force charged with resolving issues pertaining to the President's Budget.

As a native of Clearwater, Florida, Colonel Brunswick's career in the Air Force began in 1985 after receiving her enlistment through the Basic Military Training program at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. After earning a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management in 1994, Colonel Brunswick received her commission from the Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama in

1997. In 1998, she earned a Master's degree in Business Administration and Management. While her active duty career had many different facets, Colonel Brunswick excelled in every assignment. These assignments included positions as a personnel specialist, project officer, project manager, program integrator, professor, and program chief.

Throughout Colonel Brunswick's 29 years in the Air Force, she always exemplified the Air Force core value of excellence in everything she did. As a testament to this, Colonel Brunswick was a Distinguished Graduate from the Officer Training School, one of a few hand-picked program managers selected Air Force-wide to participate in the Air Force Institute of Technology's Education with Industry at The Boeing Corporation. She was certified in Program Management Level III per the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act, a certified Space Professional Level III by the U.S. Air Force Space Professional Functional Authority, and earned the Project Management Professional certification.

Before joining the Air Staff, she was a Professor of Acquisition Management at Defense Acquisition University, where she co-authored a book on the future of Project Management. She served two deployments with Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq with the Defense Contract Management Agency and completed a joint Operation Enduring Freedom tour in Washington, DC and Cuba with the Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants under the authority of the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Colonel Brunswick became known for her exceptional ability to identify real issues and then move to solve them. As all great leaders do, she led from the front by setting the example for others to follow and has been a stalwart advocate for the Department of Defense. These traits will greatly benefit her and those with whom she serves now and in the future.

During her final tour at the Pentagon, Colonel Brunswick's superior leadership orchestrating and executing Hill appropriations strategy enabled enactment of four Air Force budgets, totaling \$646 billion dollars, from Fiscal Year 2011 through Fiscal Year 2014. As the Air Force acquisition subject matter expert on Capitol Hill to the United States House of Representatives, she shaped the fiscal environment and executed over 400 Congressional events, resulting in broad support for the Air Force's top acquisition priorities including the Joint Strike Fighter, KC-46 Air Refueling Tanker, and Long Range Strike Bomber programs.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Brunswick leaves a legacy of integrity, selfless service, and excellence that is of the highest standard. Her exemplary character and years of service have resulted in a career of which she and her family can be very proud. On behalf of the entire United States Congress, and along with Colonel Brunswick's parents, Marshall and Betty Harris, Doug and Margaret Goodman, and fiancé, Jerry, it is an honor to recognize the career and service of Lieutenant Colonel Michelle R. Brunswick. My wife Libby and I congratulate her and wish Shelli and her family all the best.

KAZAKHSTAN'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend congratulations to the people of Kazakhstan and President Nursultan Nazarbayev on the occasion of Kazakhstan's national holiday—Independence Day. Under the leadership of President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Kazakhstan has reached considerable success in economic development, increased the living standard of its nation and enjoys authority in the region and in the world arena. Promoting the ideals of democracy and progress as well as standing for ensuring comprehensive security and stability, Kazakhstan has become an active member of the global community and America's strategic partner. Successfully hosting the OSCE Summit in Astana, serving as the chair of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and President Nursultan Nazarbayev's personal contribution to promotion of inter-ethnic and religious tolerance demonstrates that in the last twenty three years of independence Kazakhstan has reached great success in its development as a sovereign, stable and a prospering state.

Kazakhstan plays an important role in Central Asia and by far is a rightful leader in the region. The United States is grateful for Kazakhstan's steadfast friendship and solidarity in the Global War on Terrorism, and its adherence to stabilization and rehabilitation of Afghanistan. President Obama highly commended Kazakhstan's efforts in the organization and holding of Iran 5+1 nuclear talks in Almaty in 2013. The dialogue on strategic partnership between the U.S. and Kazakhstan continues to demonstrate the common vision and commitment we share to solve modern challenges. From Project Sapphire and the Degelen Mountain to the closure of an anthrax factory in Stepnogorsk, Kazakhstan has not just talked but has acted and delivered in making the world a safer place.

Kazakhstan has become a state with stable institutions and a dynamic economy. It has become a member of the international community, recognizing its responsibilities both at regional and international levels to maintain dialogue among religions and cultures. Kazakhstan is especially a stabilizing influence in Central Asia.

This holiday is considered a symbol of freedom and independence of our state. During the short historical period the people of Kazakhstan have managed to construct the democratic, legal and economically independent state.

Kazakhstan has launched an ambitious national program to make the country one of the 30 most competitive nations in the world by 2050. President Nursultan Nazarbayev announced the plan on December, 2013 in his annual state of the nation address and laid out wide-ranging reforms.

The nation's new economic strategy, the Nurdy Zhol (Bright Path) announced by President Nazarbayev at a recent state-of-the-nation address on Nov. 11, 2014, serves as a clear vision for efficient and sustainable development in Kazakhstan. In this period of global