

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 301, I inadvertently voted "aye" and intended to vote "no."

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HANDICAPPED ADULTS ASSOCIATION OF CO-OP CITY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, handicapped people are a significant part of our population and a group which deserves our support as they strive for independence. The Handicapped Adults Association of Co-op City in the Bronx is an organization of individuals which has done much to achieve that independence.

HAA was organized in 1971 by individuals who saw the need to unite the fragmented, disabled adult population. They sought to make the changes necessary to improve life for the disabled everywhere. These valiant people worked for adequate public transportation, housing, and employment. Their work has borne fruit in the Urban Mass Transit Act, mandating accessible public transportation, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. I want to join all of my neighbors in Co-op City in congratulating HAA on its 25th anniversary and for its many accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JOHN S. WATSON, SR.

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on June 29 while we were back in our districts for the Independence Day District Work Period, the State of New Jersey lost one of its champions, the Honorable John S. Watson, Sr. A man of many firsts, he chose to use his experiences, talents, and resources to serve the public.

Mr. Watson served six terms in the New Jersey General Assembly beginning in 1981. He served on the assembly housing and urban policy committee and the assembly appropriations committee. His diligent work on the appropriations committee resulted in Mr. Watson being named assembly minority budget officer. In 1992, he was appointed chairperson of the assembly appropriations committee, making him the first African-American legislator to hold such a position.

His tenure in the assembly afforded him the opportunity to author numerous appropriations committee resolutions funding programs in housing, arts, health, education and human services. He sponsored legislation establishing a set-aside program for the acquisition of African-American art—the first in the Nation's history. He also sponsored legislation creating

the New Jersey Pre-College Program for High School Students and the Minority Opportunity Skills Training [MOST] Program. He was also responsible for the legislation which permanently established the State's Martin Luther King, Jr., Commemorative Commission.

Prior to his service in the general assembly, Mr. Watson served ten years on the Mercer County Board of Chosen Freeholders. I had the privilege of meeting him when I served on the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders from 1972 to 1978. Mr. Watson was first appointed to the Board in 1970, where he became the first African-American to be elected freeholder in the history of Mercer County. He went on to become the first African-American to serve as president of any Freeholder Board in the State of New Jersey. He became an active member and leader of the New Jersey Association of Counties and the National Association of Counties.

In 1992, Mr. Watson used his knowledge of the State, its leaders and his coalition-building skills to create the New Jersey African-American Political Alliance. I am honored to serve as chairman of the alliance which is a statewide coalition of political and other leaders that works to influence decisions that affect our communities and secure equity in the political arena. Mr. Watson served the organization with distinction as a vice chairman and was an integral part of many of our successes.

He not only served the people of New Jersey through his legislative work but he was active in many civic organizations including the Trenton Branch NAACP, Junior Achievement, New Jersey Juvenile Delinquency Commission, Trenton State College Equal Opportunity Fund [EOF] Community Advisory Board, and the Delaware-Raritan Canal Commission.

Mr. Watson's work and accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. He holds an honorary doctorate of laws degree from Richard Stockton State College, Pomona, NJ. The Edison State College Institute for Public Policy in Trenton, NJ, was renamed the John S. Watson, Sr., Institute for Public Policy. The newly constructed community center of the Patton J. Hill School in Trenton, NJ, was named in honor of Mr. Watson.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will want to join me as I pay tribute to a man of conviction, commitment and achievement, and offer my condolences to his four children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, PALOS PARK MEMORIAL POST 4861

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the VFW Palos Park Memorial Post 4861 on the occasion of their Remembrance Day. I was able to attend this moving ceremony which was filled with tributes of those who have bravely fought the overseas battles of this country and pledged themselves to defend human rights in time of peace and war. It was an honor for me to speak in front of these great crusaders.

The members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars embody the highest ideals held to man, courage, constancy, and service. The Cross of Malta, the official emblem of the VFW, was selected as their emblem because it was the emblem of men who fought to free the oppressed. Additionally, these men have made a commitment to administer to the sick and needy. For the men of the VFW, the Cross of Malta continues to symbolize the pledge of the original crusaders who pledged to defend human rights in time of peace and war. The VFW continues to honor the pledge of the original crusaders in all that they accomplish. Today, the VFW fulfills their vows of honor by giving aid to worthy comrades, offering a helping hand to widows and orphans and defends the right to life, liberty, and happiness. The admirable qualities that the VFW members embody are truly worthy of recognition.

I would like to pay special tribute to the officers for 1995-96, Gerald E. Brown, post commander; Jack Westberg, past commander; Robert E. Elli, Sr. vice commander; Leon H. Tursky Jr. vice commander; Ted Karamanski, adjutant; Art Mitchell, quartermaster; Ernest Gaul, chaplain; Peter Praght, officer of the day; John A. Barun, service officer; and the trustees, Michael J. McMahan, Arthur Koren, and Walter Fieroh. Additionally I would like to pay tribute to the speakers of this event, Norm Busch, Congressman HARRIS FAWELL, Patrick O'Malley, Jack O'Connor, and the Honorable Donald H. Jeanes, the Mayor of the Village of Palos Park.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Palos Park Memorial Post 4861 on their Remembrance Day ceremony and wish them continued success in all their endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, earlier today during the consideration of H.R. 3755, the Labor/HHS/Education appropriations bill for fiscal year 1997, I missed two votes on amendments to this legislation. At the time those votes were ordered, I was giving important testimony to the Senate Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management concerning legislation regarding the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on the Pelosi amendment, rollcall vote No. 301; and I would have voted "no" on the Lowey amendment, rollcall vote No. 302.

RECOGNIZING BRIG. GEN. PAUL D. MONROE, JR. FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievement of Brig. Gen. Paul D. Monroe, Jr. of the California National Guard. General Monroe is the assistant adjutant general of the California National Guard's Plans and Mobilization Office

and has demonstrated excellence in both his military and community work.

General Monroe began his military career in 1957 upon enlistment into the U.S. Army. He was released from active duty in August 1960 and enlisted in the California Army National Guard in 1961. While serving in the National Guard, General Monroe has held the posts of second lieutenant, signal company commander, signal platoon leader, signal battalion staff officer, and assistant operations officer. He has also held battalion staff assignments in the brigades support battalion. He was appointed to his current assignment as the assistant adjutant general for plans and mobilization in 1994 and was promoted to his current rank as Brigadier general in 1995.

General Monroe's military service has earned him numerous distinctions. Among his decorations and awards are the Army Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal; California State Medal of Merit, and the California Service Medal.

In addition to being a highly decorated military officer, General Monroe has also been an active and valued member of his community. He has chaired the bay area chapter of the March of Dimes and has also volunteered his time with the Easter Seal Foundation, Boy Scouts of America, National Guard Association of the United States, U.S. Army War College Alumni Association, American Business Association, and the Association of Public Administrators.

General Monroe has done an outstanding job of serving our country and local community. His efforts are praiseworthy and he should be commended for all his community and military achievements.

THE CATTLE INDUSTRY
IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1996

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in introducing a vital piece of legislation designed to restore competition and fairness to our Nation's livestock producers. The Cattle Industry Improvement Act of 1996 represents the results of suggestions from farmers and ranchers from across the country and especially North Dakota. This bill consolidates the efforts that have been underway to address the livestock market conditions that have cattle producers receiving the lowest price for their livestock since the Great Depression. In North Dakota, farm income levels have dropped over 20 percent over the past year, mostly due to drops in livestock prices. Congress must act now to preserve a way of life that has been a backbone of this Nation since its beginning.

First and foremost, this bill seeks to lift the cloak of darkness that surrounds so much of the beef industry today by limiting noncompetitive captive supply arrangements and mandating price reporting for cattle sold in the United States. Supply and demand in the free market cannot work if the prices for the majority of cattle slaughtered in this country are never re-

ported. Information is power and our ranchers should have access to the same price information as the giant packers. This bill would give the Secretary of Agriculture explicit authority to require price reporting on all cattle transactions.

Another provision of this bill would require the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a labeling program to let consumers know the origin of the beef they purchase at the meat counter. This bill would require beef of American origin to be labeled as such. Consumers can go to the store and know where their shoes, shirts, and toys come from but not their beef. American consumers want to help their rancher neighbors but right now consumers have no idea if their meat comes from Dickinson, Canada or Mexico.

This bill also directs the Secretary to make funds available from the fund for rural America to new value-added cooperatives designed to help producers access new markets. These cooperatives are examples of a new pioneer spirit taking root across the Nation to produce high-quality beef products and carve out high-value niche markets. This bill would give them a financial boost to make these ventures a reality.

The most important aspect of this bill is that it represents a bipartisan effort to help out the Nations struggling livestock producers. The bill enjoys support from across the political spectrum. This is the right thing to do and the time to do it is now before one more rancher is forced to liquidate his or her herd. I urge my colleagues to support passage of this vital piece of legislation.

FRED WILSON IS HONORED

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, on July 16, 1996, Fred Wilson, Jr., a former civil rights advocate and alderman for the city of New Haven, will be honored with a testimonial dinner. It is my great pleasure to rise today to salute Fred Wilson, Jr.

Fred moved to New Haven from Greenville, NC, in 1950. Upon his arrival, he became involved in the local civil rights movement, leading marches, and fighting to improve the quality of life of New Haven African-Americans. This concern for the African-American community in New Haven led to his involvement in local politics.

His political career began in 1969 when he was elected to the New Haven Board of Aldermen representing Newhallville's 20th ward. He served for three 2-year terms, in many legislative leadership committee positions and was the board of aldermen's first president pro tempore. He was later elected to serve as a representative of the State democratic party to the State Central Committee where he served for 8 years. Finally, he served on the New Haven Democratic Town Committee as co-chairman of the 19th ward for 6 years. He was elected vice chairman of the Democratic Committee and served under Town Chairman Arthur T. Barbieri.

In conjunction with his political service, Fred has been deeply committed to the people of New Haven. He helped create the Newhallville

Neighborhood Corporation which organized afterschool programs for area children. This is only one example of the way Fred has engaged himself in the process of improving the quality of life for New Haven and Newhallville residents. He has always focused on how re-development and city improvement projects would work for the residents.

I am very pleased to join Fred's friends, former colleagues, and family as they honor his lifetime of service to the city and people of New Haven.

TRIBUTE TO BRIG. GEN. PAUL D.
MONROE, JR.

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brig. Gen. Paul D. Monroe, Jr., on the occasion of his retirement from the California National Guard following 38 years of distinguished patriotic service.

General Monroe's military career began in 1957, when he enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was released from active duty in August 1960, and enlisted in the California Army National Guard in January 1961. He was accepted to the Infantry Officer Candidate School in February 1962, and was commissioned a 2d lieutenant on May 1, 1962.

In the 3½ decades since, General Monroe served the California National Guard in a variety of roles. His rise through the ranks of the California National Guard included several staff assignments with the office of the adjutant general. He was appointed to his current assignment as the assistant adjutant general for plans and mobilization in 1994, and was promoted to his current rank of brigadier general on July 28, 1995.

General Monroe has been liberally decorated for his military service. He has been awarded the Army Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the California State Medal of Merit, and the California Service Medal.

General Monroe has been equally active within the community. This includes work with the Bay Area Chapter of the March of Dimes, the Easter Seal Foundation, the Boy Scouts of America, the U.S. Army War College Alumni Association, and the University of San Francisco Alumni Association.

General Monroe has served the California National Guard with great distinction and has earned our respect and gratitude for his many contributions to our Nation's defense. I join with his colleagues in bidding General Monroe a fond farewell and wish him the very best as he moves into the next phase of his life's work and enjoyment.

A lifelong resident of Berkeley, CA, Brig. Gen. Paul D. Monroe, Jr., provides a shining example to the Ninth District and to the Nation of service to colleagues, to community, and to country.