

FATTAH), of the Subcommittee on Postal Service of the Committee on Government Reform for their support in bringing this bill to the floor today. I believe that persons who have made meaningful contributions to society should not only be recognized but memorialized.

The naming of a postal building in one's honor is truly a salute to the accomplishments and public service of an individual. H.R. 4447 designates the United States Postal Service building located at 919 West 34th Street, Baltimore, Maryland, as the Samuel H. Lacy, Sr. Post Office Building.

I am pleased to be able to speak today about my constituent, Mr. Lacy, a true trailblazer and hometown hero in Baltimore's African-American community, this country, and the world. Mr. Lacy has served since 1944 to the present in one of the greatest African-American institutions in the world, the Baltimore Afro-American Newspaper. The Afro, as it is called, is one of the oldest black-owned and operated weekly newspapers in the country.

During World War II, the Afro and other black press documented the heroism of our soldiers, sailors and airmen; valor that the majority press largely ignored. Then, during the Red Scares of the 1950s, newspapers like the Afro were forced to struggle against both financial pressure and attacks by the agents of the McCarthy era. The black press exposed the brutal face of Jim Crow and the fundamental unfairness of segregation. Before Selma and Birmingham, they helped to provide the social and intellectual foundations for protests in the movement toward civil rights.

In the words of "Soldiers Without Swords," Stanley Nelson's 1998 documentary for PBS, the black press "gave a voice to the voiceless." They gave us the news we needed to know when no one else would declare the truth about our lives. For families like my own, new to Baltimore from the fields of South Carolina, the Afro-American Newspaper offered us the vision of a powerful business owned and controlled by black men and women of intellect, education, and courage.

Samuel Lacy is a part of that legacy. He has been a renowned sportswriter and editor for the Baltimore Afro-American Newspaper since 1944. He has worked for 60 years, over half a century, in journalism, working with radio, television, and the print media. And as the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) said, he is still working at 96.

As a sportswriter, he conducted interviews with many great sports figures. However, his unique position as an African-American writer provided for insightful behind-the-scenes stories about Jackie Robinson and other great black sportsmen, unfortunately, because they were often relegated to the same segregated accommodations. Lacy's earnest prose during these times played an important part in the

effort to desegregate major league baseball. His contributions led to his induction into the writers' wing of the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1998.

He also served as a sports commentator for WBAL TV in Baltimore and a sports and managing editor for the Washington Tribune, even covering six Olympic games, including Los Angeles. To this day, at the age of 96, he continues to write a weekly column for the Afro.

Mohammed Ali, the greatest boxer of all times, once said that, and I quote, "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth." Samuel Lacy, as a man and as a member of the African-American press, has paid his rent over and over and over again. As such, I urge my colleagues to support this postal naming bill that salutes a person from my district who has spent his life giving service to others and giving life to life.

Just this weekend, I was with Mr. Lacy at a funeral of John Oliver, Sr., the editor of the Afro-American, who had served for over 47 years.

□ 1730

When Mr. Lacy got up to speak, he talked about how Mr. Oliver had contributed so much to the lives of others. What he did not say and would have been appropriate at that moment to say was that he and Mr. Oliver and many others provided a newspaper so that young boys and girls of African-American descent could look up to them and know that they were going somewhere, that they presented an image, that they presented a business, a family-owned business, that they presented a legacy by which many of us could follow.

Again, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) so much for bringing this bill to the floor. I want to thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), who was very instrumental, and certainly the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), the ranking member, and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), the ranking member of the subcommittee. I know for a fact that Mr. Lacy is looking on, and I know that this act today will not only touch his life but will touch the lives of his family and his friends.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let me express my appreciation again to the gentleman from Maryland for his efforts on this bill but also for his very gracious comments and for his words of thanks; but with all due respect, I would suggest that it is all of us that owe the thanks to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) for his efforts in bringing to us an individual who as he so eloquently stated has done so much and contributed so many times including this very moment. We look forward to many days ahead of additional sacrifice and addi-

tional achievement on behalf of this very worthy gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to join us in supporting this bill.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4447, which designates a U.S. post office located at 919 West 34th Street in Baltimore, Maryland after "Samuel H. Lacy, Sr." was introduced by Congressman ELIJAH CUMMINGS on May 17, 2000.

Samuel H. Lacy, Sr., is a renowned sports writer and editor for the Baltimore Afro-American Newspaper, a position he has held since 1944. He has spent 60 years in journalism, working in radio, television, and print media.

At 96 years young, Mr. Lacy still authors a weekly column for the Baltimore Afro-American Newspaper. He has served as a Sports Commentator for WBAL-TV in Baltimore and a Sports and Managing editor for the Washington Tribune. Mr. Lacy has covered six Olympic Games, including the games in Los Angeles and is most proud of receiving the Frederick Douglass Award for excellence in journalism.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in expressing support for H.R. 4447, which would name a post office after a truly talented and dedicated man, Mr. Lacy. I urge swift passage of this bill.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4447.

The question was taken.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

CONCERNS OF CHINESE AID FOR PAKISTANI BALLISTIC MISSILE PROGRAM STILL UNRESOLVED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, last month disturbing reports surfaced that China is aiding Pakistan's missile development program. In response to this very destabilizing situation, I wrote to President Clinton on July 5 urging that the administration immediately impose sanctions on China. I was encouraged to see that the administration