

the People's Republic of China Should Cease Its Persecution of Falun Gong Practitioners. I urge the immediate release of the organization's leaders and members arbitrarily detained in a nationwide sweep aimed at suppressing the group. When the Chinese government judged the organization of Falun Gong as illegal, and banned all its activities, stories about Falun Gong have made headlines of major news media around the world. The Chinese authorities have launched a crackdown on the practice of Falun Gong on the Chinese mainland.

The suppression of Falun Gong in China has been brutal. It has been systematic. The police used force against the group, reportedly kicking and jumping on the peaceful protesters before removing them. The leaders of the People's Republic of China have arrested, jailed, beaten and tortured thousands of peaceful followers of Falun Gong, a religious synthesis of traditional Chinese physical exercises and Buddhist and Taoist teachings. Adherents to this meditation movement have done nothing more than express their humble belief that people should be kind to one another and work on themselves to change their own lives. They are nonviolent and have not adopted any so-called foreign beliefs. They do not promote nor do they use drugs. They are not a cult. They only want to meditate, take their lives into their own hands and attempt to live productive and peaceful lives.

H. Con. Res. 188 expresses the sense of Congress that the Government of the People's Republic of China should cease its persecution of Falun Gong practitioners. Falun Gong is a peaceful and nonviolent form of personal belief and practice with millions of adherents. There are millions of practitioners in the United States. This is wrong and must be stopped. H. Con. Res. 188 requires that the United States Government use every appropriate public and private forum to urge the Government of the People's Republic of China to (1) release from detention all Falun Gong practitioners and put an end to the practices of torture and other cruel, inhumane, and degrading treatment against them and other prisoners of conscience; and (2) abide by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by allowing Falun Gong practitioners to pursue their personal beliefs.

China should stop persecuting the practitioners of Falun Gong and stop exporting its tactics of terrors.

Therefore, I strongly support H. Con. Res. 188.

IN RECOGNITION OF A GREAT
AMERICAN SOLDIER: MR. ELTON
L. HATLER

HON. ERNIE FLETCHER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to stand here today to recognize a great soldier and a great American, Mr. Elton L. Hatler. On May 2, 1945, Mr. Hatler was serving as a Browning Automatic Rifleman of Company G, Second Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division, action against enemy Japanese forces on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands.

Private Hatler's platoon had been forced to withdraw in the face of heavy enemy fire. Although Private Hatler had suffered wounds from the enemy fire, he refused to leave the side of a Marine whose legs had been blown off below the knee. Private Hatler held off the enemy for three grueling hours, attempting to drag his fallen comrade to the safety of American lines. It was only after the man succumbed to his wounds, and Private Hatler had expended his ammunition, that he abandoned his position.

In a citation directed by the Secretary of the Navy on behalf of the President of the United States, Private Elton L. Hatler was awarded the prestigious Distinguished Navy Cross, stating that "His personal valor and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

The Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs will again honor Mr. Hatler, a resident of Winchester, Kentucky, at a special ceremony on July 26, 2002.

NURSE REINVESTMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased we are here today to pass this legislation that will immediately begin to alleviate the nursing shortage across the nation. I introduced legislation last year to address the nursing shortage because of the tremendous impact the lack of nurses has had in New York and across the country. I am pleased that many of the provisions in my legislation are included in the bill before us today.

Mr. Speaker, the nursing shortage is quite possibly the most important issue in health care. Nurses are on the front lines of the delivery of health care. They provide direct day to day care to patients and are invaluable to our health care system. As the number of nursing vacancies continues to rise, the number of nurses entering the field continues to decline. Statistics have shown that the average age of the nursing workforce is about 44 and that many are leaving the field for more lucrative professions. Enrollment in nursing schools is down as well, which leads many to believe that this is a problem that will only get worse. Compounding the problem, the baby boomer generation will soon hit retirement age and will require more acute care.

For these reasons, the legislation before us today is critically important. Included in the Nurse Reinvestment Act are provisions to create scholarships for nurses wishing to enter the field and loan repayment programs to encourage nurses to continue practicing. In an effort to address the number of nurses leaving the nursing profession, the legislation includes grants for nurses to continue their education while practicing nursing.

Mr. Speaker, nurses deserve these programs and I congratulate everyone involved in this process for their hard work and commitment to this issue. This is truly legislation that will help us all. Everyone at one time or another is in need of care and the first person you see when you get that care is a nurse. So we can all be proud to pass this legislation

today. As a Member of the Subcommittee on Health, I urge all of my colleagues to vote yes.

FLIGHT 93 NATIONAL MEMORIAL
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, on the morning of September 11th, 2001 passengers of United Airlines Flight 93 were getting ready for the long flight to California. Their thoughts may have been consumed with family, friends, or work. What was about to occur on that tragic journey was probably the furthest thing from their minds. As the mayhem of that morning unfolded in New York City and in our nation's capital, the passengers of Flight 93 were about to directly experience the horror for themselves. Four terrorist hijackers had moved all of the passengers to the rear of the plane and attempted to seize control of the cockpit and direct the plane to its destination of destruction.

One can only imagine the fear that rushed through the veins of each passenger on that doomed flight. Like many people, I have wondered, "What would be going through my mind? What would I have done?" The passengers and crew of Flight 93 provided us with their answers. Knowing of the chaos that was taking place on the ground below, these brave individuals decided to push fear aside and control their destinies and our futures for the last time.

Although the outcome was fatal for the passengers and crew of Flight 93, one could only guess at the countless number of lives they may have saved had those passengers not reacted with bravery, courage, and pride. September 11th was a day that showed us how vulnerable we as Americans can be, but the passengers and crew of Flight 93 reminded us of how the greatness of this country can still shine through us, even in our darkest hour.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3917, which establishes a memorial at the crash site of United Airlines Flight 93 to honor the passengers and crew of Flight 93, to always remind us of what it truly means to be an American.

CONFERRING HONORARY CITIZENSHIP
ON THE MARQUIS DE LA-
FAYETTE

SPEECH OF

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. J. Res. 13, a joint resolution conferring honorary membership of the United States on Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, also known as the Marquis de Lafayette.

At a time in our history when we face challenges from enemies who oppose the very ideals that make our nation great, we are reminded of those brave individuals throughout our nation's history who have made sacrifices

to advance American principles of freedom and representative government. Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, the Marquis de Lafayette, was a man who in his affection for the ideal of liberty, made great personal sacrifices.

A citizen of France, the Marquis de Lafayette first demonstrated his passion for freedom when, at the young age of 19, he decided to make a four-month voyage to America to fight alongside Americans during the Revolutionary War. Marquis de Lafayette was assigned to the staff of George Washington with the rank of Major General in 1777 and served with distinction. During the war, he demonstrated great leadership and unrelenting bravery to American troops, as he led Americans to several victories and sustained an injury during the Battle of Brandywine.

General Lafayette not only risked his life for the pursuit of American freedom, but he freely used his position of influence in France to garner additional support for the American war effort. In 1779, he persuaded the French government to fully support America in the war against Britain, which led to the commitment of French troops and much needed supplies to the American army. He also contributed \$200,000 of his personal fortune in support of the colonies during the Revolution. After the war, Lafayette continued to assist American diplomatic relations with France in establishing close relationships with American ambassadors to France, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson.

The most striking of General Lafayette's qualities was undoubtedly his steadfast and fearless devotion to the principle of liberty. Even after the Revolutionary War, Lafayette continued to support and promote the institution of representative government. Upon his return to France, Lafayette was one of the first to advocate a National Assembly, and worked toward the establishment of a constitutional monarchy during the years leading up to the French Revolution. In 1830, he became the leader of a Revolution that dethroned the Bourbons and made possible a constitutional monarch in France. These actions came at a great personal expense to Lafayette as he lost support among the French nobility, was forced to flee the country, and had his personal wealth confiscated. Just before his death in 1834, Lafayette was a vocal proponent of the move to a pure republic in France.

The portrait of the Marquis de Lafayette now displayed opposite President Washington in the United States House chamber is a tribute to his loyalty to America and his vital role in winning our freedom. Lafayette's friendship and affiliations with the most prominent figures in our nation's history, including George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, and John Quincy Adams, and the respect he garnered from them is a testament to his commitment to our nation's founding and its principles.

Mr. Speaker, in light of the events of September 11th, stories of personal sacrifice, bravery, and commitment take on a new meaning and greater importance for all Americans. The story of General Lafayette is one, in particular, that inspires us to continue, in the face of adversity, to fearlessly protect our nation's principles and to advance them globally. In Lafayette's words: "Humanity has won its battle. Liberty now has a country."

AMENDMENT TO FREEZE
MEMBER'S PAY

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, ask the average American working in the private sector about his automatic yearly pay raise and he will look at you like you're crazy. Most Americans don't get an annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), so why should members of Congress?

It is time that we restore the American people's confidence in their elected leaders. It is time we eliminate the automatic pay increases for members of Congress and live by the same standards as the people we represent.

Mr. Speaker, this amendment will freeze Member's pay at its current level and eliminate the annual COLA given to them under the Government Ethics Reform Act. Nothing in this law will prohibit Congress from raising its pay. However, if members of Congress think they deserve a pay raise, then they must vote for it in full view of the American people.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and do what is moral and honorable—If you want a raise, let's have an up or down vote, before your boss—your constituents, the American people.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING
OVARIAN CANCER

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 385, a resolution which states that the Department of Health and Human Services should conduct or support research on certain tests to screen for ovarian cancer, and that health care programs and health insurance plans should cover these tests.

Specifically, H. Con. Res. 385 would encourage the development and wide-spread use of a blood test that would detect ovarian cancer in its early stages, thus significantly reducing fatalities that result from the most lethal form of ovarian cancer. Currently, more than 75 percent of women with ovarian cancer are not diagnosed until they are in the fourth stage of the disease. The new protein-screening blood test would detect almost all ovarian cancers in the first stage of the disease when 5-year survival rates approach 95 percent. This is an extremely important step in helping to eliminate the threat of ovarian cancer. Early detection is critical for survival success and should be everyone's goal.

There are many new cancer screening devices becoming available, and we must use these new technologies to help protect more Americans from the scourge of cancer. I know first-hand the pain that cancer can put a family through. On May 10, 2002 my wife passed away after a very long and difficult battle with colon cancer. I hope that all health insurance plans utilize to the fullest extent existing and promising detection methods for all cancers.

Early detection can go a long way toward sparing other families from the pain of having a loved one suffer from cancer.

IN RECOGNITION OF A GREAT
AMERICAN SOLDIER: MR. RICHARD S. STARKS

HON. ERNIE FLETCHER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to stand here today to recognize a great soldier and a great American, Mr. Richard S. Starks. Mr. Starks served as a second lieutenant, 414th Bombardment Squadron, 97th Bombardment Group, Air Corps, United States Army. He is being honored today for his extraordinary heroism in action over occupied territory in Continental Europe, August 21, 1942.

As chronicled in the official service record dated August 23, 1942, Lieutenant Richard S. Starks was a B-17E bomber pilot on a bombardment mission when his aircraft was attacked by 20-30 enemy fighters at an altitude of approximately 21,000 feet. The cockpit of his aircraft became severely damaged by heavy enemy fire and the co-pilot was fatally wounded. Lieutenant Starks was seriously wounded in the arm, neck and face and his oxygen mask became dislodged. Despite these handicaps, and overwhelming odds, Lieutenant Starks directed the operation of his aircraft and, when physically able to do so, gave material assistance in its operation, to the end that he safely landed his aircraft at a friendly airdrome.

On August 23, 1942, in a citation directed by General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Lieutenant Richard S. Starks was awarded the prestigious Distinguished Service Cross, stating that his "cool courage and heroic action upheld the highest tradition of the military forces of the United States and contributed materially to the success of a mission of vital importance."

The Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs will again honor Mr. Starks, a native of Midway, Kentucky, at a special ceremony on July 25, 2002, at the Aviation Museum of Kentucky.

GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS
LACROSSE TEAM

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Garden City High School Girls Lacrosse Team for winning a fourth consecutive New York State Championship. The athletes, parents, and citizens of Garden City should all be very proud of this enormous accomplishment.

On June 8, 2002, the Garden City defeated East Rochester 8-6 at SUNY, Cortland to win their fourth consecutive Class B Small Schools State Championship. On behalf of the 3rd District of New York, I would like to recognize and honor the following students whose feat this