

"Georgians Make a Difference in National Defense." The editorial was written by Georgia State Senator Seth Harp, Chairman of the Veterans and Military Affairs Committee, and highlights the F/A Raptor Jet Fighter as essential investment to achieve air dominance for 21st Century military operations. The F/A 22 is important to my constituents, nearly 600 of them are working on the program in Columbus, Georgia and the plane itself is being assembled in Marietta, Georgia, but its real importance lies in the safety it provides our fighting men and women, and the security it brings to our national interests.

GEORGIANS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN NATIONAL DEFENSE

Military preparedness is as important today as it has ever been. As the war against Saddam Hussein illustrates, it is incumbent upon the military industrial complex to provide our fighting men and women with the most sophisticated, accurate and state-of-the-art weaponry in the world. When the United States makes the decision to enter a conflict, it faces two challenges: achieve the ultimate goal as quickly as possible; and bring our sons and daughters, fathers and mothers, neighbors and friends home safely.

That is why next generation aircraft, such as the F/A-22 Raptor, deserves the full consideration, funding and support of Congress and the Pentagon. This jet fighter is currently in the testing stage, but with full deployment close at hand, we are about to see a revolution in how battle is waged in the sky.

The F/A-22 is supersonic, allowing our pilots to get to their target, drop their payload, and return to base faster and with a diminished threat of interception. The plane has stealth technology, allowing the jet to enter enemy airspace without detection and, for the first time, giving commanders an opportunity to use fighter planes during the daylight hours at the outset of a campaign instead of relying on the cloak of darkness. It has the most sophisticated avionics and weapon systems in the world, ensuring the dominance of air space by our fighter pilots.

Bottom line: The United States stands on the verge of advancing fighter jet technology to levels unmatched, unimagined and unbeatable by any other nation on Earth.

There is a certain inevitability that the F/A-22 has its detractors. There are those that believe we don't need improvements in fighter jet technology and that we already have air superiority. Still others have pet projects that they want funded with research, development and construction dollars being spent on the F/A-22. And some argue that our national security interests are being met and, in fact, we need to scale back on funding next generation technology.

My response is we can agree to disagree. I believe strongly that if the technology exists to advance the safety and security of our nation and the men and women who fight to protect us, we should aggressively foster the research and development of those opportunities. The F/A-22 is proving itself to be a giant leap in that direction, and Fred Reed said it best in a recent article in the Washington Times: "Many weapons are just incremental improvements over existing designs. Occasionally, however, a weapon makes a major transition, as from propeller power to jet, and becomes a completely new thing. The F-22 was one of these."

Right here in Columbus, nearly 600 of our neighbors are working on the F/A-22 program, and the plane itself is being assembled at the Lockheed Martin plant in Marietta. This jet fighter is an important component to our nation's defense, and we should be

proud that Georgians are leading the effort to bring it from conception to reality. As officials at the Air Force said: "Air superiority saves the lives of America's sons and daughters who we send into harm's way in the air, on the ground and at sea. The F-22 is an essential investment to achieve that air dominance—the key for 21st century military operations." It deserves our support, and those Georgians working on bringing the F/A-22 to the frontlines of our national defense deserve our thanks.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATO PEACEKEEPING IN IRAQ ACT OF 2003

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today H.R. 2112, the "NATO Peacekeeping in Iraq Act of 2003".

Mr. Speaker, our military forces have won a spectacular military victory in Iraq. We now face the challenge of rebuilding a peaceful, prosperous, democratic Iraq. Some argue that winning the peace will be far more difficult than winning the war. I could not disagree more. Although the fighting was brief, and the casualties few, the risks were great and the sacrifices of our armed forces enormous. Let no one minimize our battlefield achievements.

Nevertheless, our work is not done, and we must tackle the post-war challenge we face with the same creativity, intelligence, and commitment as we did the war itself. Although we should not expect that Iraq to become a Jeffersonian democracy overnight, we should expect from our leadership a clear and comprehensive strategy for addressing the pressing political, economic and humanitarian challenges we now face in Iraq.

My most pressing concern in this regard, Mr. Speaker, is the troubling security situation in Iraq. Security is the sine qua non of democratic reconstruction. Without it, there is no rule of law, no safety of property, no prospect of commerce. Without it, we will be unable to take the most basic steps toward building a prosperous, politically liberal Iraq.

These concerns lead me to believe we must have more military "boots on the ground" if we are to secure and rebuild Iraq, including an enhanced military police presence. These need not be—nor should be—the boots of the American military. The United States is not an occupying force, but a liberating one, and we must ensure perceptions reflect that reality. They should be the boots of a broad-based, international security force. And NATO should be at its core, just as NATO has recently agreed to do for the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, Afghanistan.

I have long advocated that the combined forces of our Atlantic Alliance should be deployed to Iraq to carry out the critical stabilizing and peacekeeping missions there. Deploying NATO would increase the number of countries with a direct stake in the success of nation-building in Iraq. It would ease the burden on the current coalition. And, most important, it would mean more security for the Iraqi people. I understand that many of our friends in NATO are prepared to take up the challenge, particularly the Government of Poland.

This bill calls upon NATO to immediately begin contributing peacekeeping and civil order personnel to promote security and stability in Iraq. It also urges the President to use all appropriate diplomatic means to persuade NATO and NATO member nations to formally undertake a major peacekeeping and civil order mission in Iraq. It also authorizes funds to facilitate the deployment of NATO forces.

Thanks to the bravery and skill of our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines, the democratic nations of the world have an opportunity to bring the benefits of government for the people, by the people, and of the people to a land that is a cradle of civilization and one of the most important nations of the Middle East. It is in the interest of all democratic nations to prevent this opportunity from slipping away. The nations of NATO should be in Iraq, on the ground, to ensure this vision of democracy is fully realized.

RECOGNIZING KENTUCKY LANDMARK, FERRELL'S SNAPPY SERVICE

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a Kentucky landmark, Ferrell's Snappy Service in Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

Ferrell's is one of the oldest, most successful small businesses in Kentucky. David Ferrell and his five elder brothers started their hamburger chain in 1930 in Owensboro, Kentucky. The business later expanded to Hopkinsville, Henderson, Madisonville and Cadiz, Kentucky. The Hopkinsville restaurant in the longest running of the chain, opening in 1936 when Franklin Roosevelt was President.

Mrs. Cecil Ferrell still operates Ferrell's in Hopkinsville today. Countless customers including myself look forward to dropping by, having a burger, and visiting with Mrs. Ferrell who is always there to greet you with a smile and good conversation.

Ferrell's Snappy Service has become an institution to its customers and Hopkinsville. After 67 years of service, perhaps one of the most beloved aspects of Ferrell's is how much it has not changed. Ferrell's is located in the same building in which it opened in downtown Hopkinsville. It offers the same menu of hamburgers, chili, pecan pie, potato chips, and cold colas. This has not gone unnoticed by its faithful customers. One customer who moved to Texas returned to Hopkinsville to purchase 200 Ferrell's hamburgers before she returned to the Lone Star State. People from around the world have enjoyed Ferrell's hamburgers including a delivery that was dropped off by a tourist for Prince Charles and Princess Dianna in London. Customers can enjoy a hamburger 24 hours a day, six days a week, and Mrs. Ferrell has often said Ferrell's has been a meeting place for folks through the years who work late shifts or who just want to get together.

Ferrell's Snappy Service is a sound example of the importance and impact small businesses have on our economy. After 67 years of uninterrupted service, Ferrell's has served countless people and provided a great product at a fair price. Those who have been employed there and those who have dined there

know what an impact this small business has had on our economy.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent Mrs. Cecil Ferrell and her family in my congressional district. She and her late husband David have made a positive and long lasting impact on our community, and I am proud to bring their accomplishments to the attention of this House.

HONORING POLICE OFFICERS

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, today many of us will join law enforcement officers from across the country on the west lawn of the Capitol to honor police officers killed in the line of duty. I have a special affinity for our men and women in blue, especially the members of the Chicago Police Department, including my Uncle Les who has been on the force for as long as I can remember.

This year 337 names will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. I find it ironic that as we remember these lost heroes, the Republican leadership refuses to renew the Assault Weapons Ban. Even worse, they will not even allow the bill to be called for a vote in the House. Is this the best way we could choose to honor our fallen officers? Is this how we should remember Donald Marquez, a 20 year veteran of the Chicago Police Department who was gunned down while trying to serve a summons?

Year after year gunshot wounds are the leading killers of police officers on duty. Keeping guns out of the hand of criminals would be an even better tribute, and as a member of Congress I will work hard to make our streets safer. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in this endeavor.

TAIWAN'S PRESIDENTIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in wishing the President of Taiwan, Chen Shui-bian, congratulations and happy third anniversary in office. He has provided leadership to his people in maintaining economic and political growth for his country.

We in the United States appreciate the relationship we continue to develop with Taiwan. In the months and years ahead, I hope this relationship will grow even stronger.

Congratulations, President Chen.

HONORING THE DOUBLE SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Double Springs Baptist Church in

Waynesburg, Kentucky during its 200th anniversary. Located in the eastern part of Kentucky's First Congressional District, Double Springs Baptist's goal of advancing faith in Christ was established at the time of its founding.

The Double Springs Baptist Church was organized in January, 1803 as a meeting house for people in southern Lincoln County, northern Pulaski County and eastern Casey County. From its humble beginnings, the church has been successful in serving the community and strengthening their faith through God.

Throughout the past 200 years, Double Springs Baptist has grown to become a vital part of the local community. This rich heritage is being preserved through the training of new leaders and the creation of new ministries to care for the needs of people.

The new millennium has brought the parishioners of Double Springs great spiritual and structural growth under the care and guidance of Pastor Brad King. Under Pastor King's leadership and with the continued dedication of its members, I am sure Double Springs Baptist will enjoy another 200 years of service to the Lord. Double Springs Baptist is truly a church from yesterday, as well as, a church for tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I extend my warmest congratulations to the Double Springs Baptist Church on this special occasion. With their commitment to faith and service to their community, the staff and members of Double Springs Baptist Church are truly role models for us all. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the church's 200 years of excellence. Thank you for your time and attention, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the opportunity to speak here today.

RECOGNITION OF OWEN'S DELICATESSEN

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Owen's Delicatessen, an outstanding small business with a unique history in my hometown of Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

Owen's is owned and operated by Ms. Francis Lynn Moss. It was founded in 1960 out of a record shop which became an electric shop owned by her parents, Annie Ruth Owen and Lynn Owen. Owen's began its unique food service by selling delicious prune cakes. These cakes became so popular, that Francis and her mother expanded their business into Owen's Delicatessen that specializes in freshly prepared foods and baked goods.

Each day begins with the preparation of baked hams, turkeys, cakes, pies, and brownies. All food is prepared the day it is served, and for 33 years Owen's has met the demands of an ever expanding customer base. Francis prepares most of the food sold at Owen's and she has been fortunate to have a dedicated staff of employees who join her in the early hours of the day to make sure the food is ready for the noon time crowd.

Owen's is best characterized by delicious food served with country charm in a home style environment. Customers dining at Owen's are seated at a kitchen table in a

room filled with antiques collected by the Moss family throughout the years, some of which came from the Moss electric store.

Mr. Speaker, Owen's Delicatessen is beloved by its faithful customers and all who walk through its doors. It is a shining example of the significance and economic impact a small business can have on a community. I am proud to bring the accomplishments of Francis Moss and her employees at Owen's Delicatessen to the attention of the House.

TRIBUTE TO MARY CAMPBELL OF SPRING ARBOR, MICHIGAN: OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Campbell, an outstanding educator and Professor at Spring Arbor University, who has served the youth of the 7th Congressional District and the State of Michigan for over 30 years.

Mrs. Campbell's career has truly spanned the spectrum of education. Her career started in a one-room schoolhouse in Miltonville, KS, in 1960. She has also taught in South Bend, IN and Syracuse, NY before coming to Michigan. Her career in education in Michigan started at Concord Elementary School. After nine years teaching at the elementary level, Mrs. Campbell moved to Concord Middle School, where she taught for 15 years.

Her love of learning lead her to try new and innovative means of teaching and reaching her students. Mrs. Campbell always kept abreast of the latest in educational research and methods. She was an early proponent of team teaching and active learning experiences. She initiated student-led parent teacher conferences at Concord Community Schools, and made sure that her class was about learning and held herself and her students accountable for the goals she set. She was a positive influence in the learning community.

Mrs. Campbell has often expressed her affection for middle school students. She understands the difficult transition from childhood to adolescence, and took an active role in trying to help her students learn to cope with the difficulties in their lives. She often took the time to help prepare her students for real life situations, from teaching students how to dance to help allay their fears the first time they participated in a school dance, to making a presentation in front of an audience during a student-led conference.

As a Professor at Spring Arbor University, Mrs. Campbell provides inspiration and real life experience to the future teachers there. Her influence will prepare them to be successful, innovative, and effective teachers as well.

It is fitting, then, that she has been recognized by her peers as the College Educator of the Year by the Michigan Association of Middle School Educators. As an educator, a professor and a friend, Mrs. Mary Campbell has consistently demonstrated integrity, leadership, and a lifetime love of learning. It is for those reasons that I rise to honor her today.