

water. He helped rebuild countless homes with his financial assistance. Moved by the suffering in his homeland, he created a charitable foundation to further the education and health of poor children in his native land of the Dominican Republic and in his new home, the United States.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons I stand in strong support of this resolution. We must congratulate Sammy for what he is—a model of hard work and perseverance first, a distinguished humanitarian second and a stellar baseball player third.

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 195, Commemorating the 500th Major League Home run, by the great Sammy Sosa of our Chicago Cubs.

With his blast on April 4, 2003 against the Cincinnati Reds at the Great American Ball Park, Sammy joined one of the most exclusive in baseball history, becoming only the 18th player to join the 500 home run club. This club includes such legends as Hank Aaron, Babe Ruth, and Chicago's own Mr. Cub, Ernie Banks.

While proudly representing his beloved native Dominican Republic, Sammy Sosa has become as much a part of Chicago as the stuffed pizza and Navy Pier. His pride in his native roots is but one example of the cultural diversity that makes Chicago the great city it is.

The bat that Sammy used to hit his 500th home run is now on display at Chicago's Field Museum as part of the National Baseball Hall of Fame's roving exhibit, Baseball As America exhibit. I urge all Chicagoans to visit this celebration of how baseball has been woven into the fabric of our nation's history.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GUTIERREZ and my other colleagues for introducing this resolution and bringing it to the floor today. I applaud the first place Cubs and wish them luck this weekend against the New York Yankees, in the Yankees first visit to Wrigley Field since the 1938 World Series. And I wish Sammy luck against Roger Clemens on Saturday, whom Sammy hit his home run off of in 1989. For these reasons, I strongly encourage my colleagues to vote for H. Res. 195.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 195.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

GENERAL CHARLES GABRIEL
POST OFFICE

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1465) to designate the facility of

the United States Postal Service located at 4832 East Highway 27 in Iron Station, North Carolina, as the "General Charles Gabriel Post Office".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1465

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. GENERAL CHARLES GABRIEL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4832 East Highway 27 in Iron Station, North Carolina, shall be known and designated as the "General Charles Gabriel Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the General Charles Gabriel Post Office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1465, introduced by the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER), designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4832 East Highway 27 in Iron Station, North Carolina, as the General Charles Gabriel Post Office. The entire delegation from the State of North Carolina has cosponsored this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, General Charles Gabriel was the 11th chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force. A lifelong North Carolina resident, he graduated with a bachelor's degree from the U.S. Military Academy in 1950 and was commissioned in the Air Force. He subsequently began studying to be a pilot and completed advanced training in December 1951. By August 1980, Charles Gabriel eventually had worked his way up to the position of commander in chief of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe at Ramstein Air Base in Germany. From that position, he was named Air Force chief of staff and moved to Washington, D.C. in July 1982. General Gabriel retired 4 years later on July 1, 1986.

Mr. Speaker, General Charles Gabriel's decorated career in our Nation's Air Force is worthy of commendation by this House. I am proud to be part of the proceedings that honor General Charles Gabriel. I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 1465. I thank my colleague from North Carolina for introducing this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1465, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4832 East Highway 27 in Iron Station, North Carolina, as the General Charles Gabriel Post Office, was introduced by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) on March 27, 2003. It names a postal facility in Iron Station, North Carolina, after General Charles Gabriel. The bill has met the committee policy and has been supported and approved by all members of the North Carolina delegation.

A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and former member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Charles Gabriel was a command pilot and the recipient of numerous military decorations and awards. He retired from the military in 1986. He is indeed one who is deserving of such an honor. I commend my colleague for seeking to honor General Gabriel in this manner.

I urge the swift passage of H.R. 1465.

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

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER), the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. BALLENGER. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, North Carolina has been the home of many brave men and women who have served their country to the utmost of their ability. Today I would like to honor retired General Charles A. Gabriel, who served as chief of staff of the United States Air Force from July 1982 to July 1986 by naming the United States Post Office in Iron Station, North Carolina, in his honor. I have chosen the Iron Station post office because General Gabriel's father worked in the same facility for 44 years.

General Charles Gabriel was born in 1928 in Lincolnton, North Carolina, as one of five children to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gabriel. He graduated from Lincolnton High School in 1944 at the age of 16 and entered Catawba College as a star member of the football program. In recognition of his outstanding academic and athletic ability, he was recruited to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point at the age of 18 where he was named quarterback for the military academy's football team, the Black Knights. He earned his commission and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1950. While on active duty, he continued his education and in 1963 received a Master of Science degree in engineering management from George Washington University.

General Gabriel served a long and commendable career as a combat fighter pilot and later in various staff positions. He was first assigned to South Korea where he flew over 100 combat

missions in the Korean War. He then flew 150 combat missions after being stationed at Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base from 1970 to 1972 during the Vietnam conflict. In 1979 he became the deputy chief of staff of operations, plans and readiness. In 1980 he was appointed commander in chief, United States Air Forces in Europe, and commander of Allied Air Forces Central Europe until his appointment in 1982 as chief of staff of the Air Force.

General Gabriel has received numerous awards and decorations, including the Distinguished Service Medal, the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit. He also has attended both the command and staff school at the Naval War College and the Industrial College of Armed Forces in Washington, D.C.

I ask my fellow colleagues to please join me in tribute to this great North Carolinian by naming the U.S. post office in Iron Station, North Carolina, in his honor.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from North Carolina for introducing this important legislation. I urge all Members to support the adoption of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1465.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 231) supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 231

Whereas the well-being of all people of the United States is preserved and enhanced as a direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement personnel;

Whereas more than 700,000 law enforcement personnel, at great risk to their personal safety, serve their fellow citizens as guardians of peace;

Whereas peace officers are on the front line in preserving the right of the children of the United States to receive an education in a crime-free environment, a right that is all too often threatened by the insidious fear caused by violence in schools;

Whereas more than 147 peace officers across the Nation were killed in the line of

duty during 2002, well below the decade-long average of 165 deaths annually, and a major drop from 2001 when 230 officers were killed, including 72 officers in the September 11th terrorist attacks;

Whereas every year, 1 out of every 9 peace officers is assaulted, 1 out of every 25 peace officers is injured, and 1 out of every 4,400 peace officers is killed in the line of duty;

Whereas section 136 of title 36, United States Code, requests that the President issue each year a proclamation designating May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day in honor of Federal, State, and local officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

Whereas on May 15, 2003, more than 15,000 peace officers are expected to gather in Washington, D.C. to join with the families of their recently fallen comrades to honor those comrades and all others who went before them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day to honor Federal, State, and local peace officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe such a day with appropriate ceremonies and respect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER).

□ 1445

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 231.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana? There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 231, introduced by the distinguished gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY), supports the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources, I am particularly pleased that the House is considering this resolution to honor Federal, State and local law enforcement officers killed or disabled in the line of duty. Right now, there are over 700,000 law enforcement officers serving this Nation. Their sacrifices are among the most valuable that any citizen can give to this country, and sadly, as the text of this resolution states, on average 165 peace officers give the ultimate sacrifice each year while serving their local communities.

On October 1, 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed House Joint Resolution 730 into law during the 87th Congress. This resolution established a Peace Officers Memorial Day on May 15 of every year that could honor the selfless devotion of members of the law enforcement community who are injured or killed in the line of duty. That was

a very meaningful resolution then, and I feel this extremely worthwhile resolution is also very meaningful now.

This year, on Peace Officers Memorial Day, the President led a memorial service on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol that honored the lives of those law enforcement officers lost in the past year. Nearly 20,000 people were in attendance.

Mr. Speaker, peace officers protect every single one of us and literally put their lives on the line every day to protect our homes, families and communities. I hope this resolution can serve as a small reminder to all law enforcement officers that this country appreciates their service.

We have had several tragic losses in my home communities as well. I have worked with City Counsel President John Crawford in the city of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and supported his efforts to build a memorial in Fort Wayne for peace officers and other public servants who have fallen in the line of duty. We can never thank them enough for their service.

Therefore, I urge all Members to support the adoption of House Resolution 231, and I thank my colleague from Colorado for introducing this worthy measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join in support of H. Res. 231, a bill supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day, and to indicate that I was pleased indeed to be a cosponsor of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, in 1961, President John F. Kennedy requested that Congress designate May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which it falls, Law Enforcement Appreciation Week. Since then, each May, police officers from the Nation's Capital to small communities across America pause to honor the sacrifices made by their fellow officers. This year, 377 names were added to the National Law Enforcement Memorial, including 148 who were killed in the line of duty in 2002. The death of a peace officer is a reminder of two things: one, the value of life; and, two, the high cost of peace.

More than 700,000 Americans serve as peace officers and put their lives on the line for us each and every day. To keep the peace, they go into the most volatile of situations. We owe them and their families a debt of gratitude for their service and valor.

The depth of their commitment and willingness to do the job is reflected in this police officer's prayer from the Ellis, Kansas, Police Department:

Lord, I ask for courage: Courage to face and conquer my own fears; courage to take me where others will not go.

I ask for strength: Strength of body to protect others, and strength of spirit to lead others.

I ask for dedication: Dedication to my job, to do it well; dedication to my community, to keep it safe.