

and women who have been granted citizenship based on their service in the U.S. armed forces and who have died in the line of duty would be authorized to seek permanent resident status on an expedited basis. Then, unlike other people seeking legal immigrant status, these family members would not be required to meet financial thresholds which indicate that they would not immediately be public charges.

Most of the American public is unaware of these provisions. Enacting such excessive inducements for joining the U.S. military is a step in the wrong direction, particularly if it results in this country increasingly depending upon what could come to be thought of and called "foreign mercenaries" to serve in the armed forces. This practice has too many similarities to the mercenary forces of the Roman Empire in its decline as Roman citizens themselves became unwilling to serve in the Roman legions. Imagine, too, the reactions of foreign nations that begin to see our military personnel as serving almost solely to gain citizenship for themselves and their families.

Mr. Speaker, this Member encouraged his colleagues to vote against the Rodriguez motion to instruct.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL HAWTHORNE L. PROCTOR UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE ARMED SERVICES

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize Major General Hawthorne Proctor as he prepares to retire after 35 years of distinguished military service.

Major General Proctor received his commission in 1968 as a distinguished military graduate from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in Greensboro, N.C. He then continued his education with a master's degree in Public Administration from Central Michigan University in 1976. His military schooling includes the Quartermaster Basic and Advanced Courses, the Command and General Staff College, the Army War College, and finally Executive Management Development Training at the University of California at Berkeley.

Major General Proctor's military career began with his assignment to the 25th Infantry Division. From there he served as Chief Production Management Branch at the Defense Industrial Supply Center; and as a company grade officer he served as Platoon Leader and Assistant Brigade S-4 at Fort Ord, California.

As Major General Proctor rose through the ranks he held command posts all over the world from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Uijongbu, Korea and Bangkok, Thailand. He also held the prominent positions of Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics and Operations, U.S. Army Material Command in Alexandria, Virginia and 46th Quartermaster General and Commander at the Quartermaster Center and School. Since July 2001 he has held the illustrious post of J-3, Chief of Logistics Operations at the Defense Logistics Agency.

Major General Proctor has been recognized many times for the excellence and profes-

sionalism with which he has performed his duties. He has been awarded the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, with three oak leaf clusters, and the Bronze Star Medal. Moreover, in recognition of his notable career Major General Proctor was inducted as a distinguished Member of the Quartermaster Regiment in 1994.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to commend Major General Proctor on his accomplishments for the dedication and distinction with which he served his country. I ask all my colleagues to join in congratulating the long and successful career of this great patriot.

TRIBUTE TO THE GERMANIA HOSE COMPANY ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the Germania Hose Company in Duryea, Pennsylvania as it celebrates its 100th anniversary this Saturday, September 27, 2003.

Germania Hose Company was incorporated in 1903. As this company of volunteer firefighters approaches its centennial celebration, it continues to provide their community with the highest quality of service and protection. This all-volunteer company prides itself on a staff of over 60 members both active and retired. With approximately 35 active firefighters and fire police ranging from the age of 18-70, the Germaine Hose Company repeatedly holds successful annual fundraisers such as picnics and pancake breakfasts to help subsidize costs.

On this upcoming milestone for this fire department, I would like to recognize some of firefighters the Germania Hose Company considers its founding fathers. Paul Komenski, George Orenich, Henery Lewandowski, Charles Bartlow, Jim Steer, Mike Kosik, Ed Slatky and Ed Murzinski. Their founding fathers both living and deceased provided the initial training and support that has continued their reputation of tradition and excellence to the community.

Heading this volunteer fire company is Fire Chief, Mike Shovlin. Under his guidance and assistance, members of the fire company respond to more than 200 calls per year that range from structure to grass fires. They also run Mutual Aid assists to neighboring towns. In addition to fire fighting they also have a Scuba Search and Rescue Team that consist of 8 certified divers and the latest state of the art search and rescue equipment.

On their upcoming day of celebration, I would like to remind all House Members of the critical role firefighters and rescue personnel play in protecting our families and communities. Their profession, a dangerous and volunteer service, provides the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania the safety and security that so many take for granted.

Mr. Speaker, on their 100th anniversary, I pay tribute to both the effort and positive impact that the Germania Hose Company, Fire Chief Mike Shovlin and all the volunteer fire-

fighters have on their community in Duryea and all of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, September 23, 2003, I was detained in Baltimore while assisting my constituents in dealing with the devastating damages from Hurricane Isabel.

While estimates on the economic damages are not yet available, we do know that the hurricane damaged or destroyed 3,300 homes on the eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay displacing thousands of Marylanders. It caused over 1.34 million Marylanders to lose power. All of Baltimore County's 70 marinas were destroyed, devastating a \$225 million dollars a year industry. Thousands of businesses, including ISG's Bethlehem Steel plant, are flooded ruining their daily operations.

Today, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, Governor Robert Ehrlich, and I toured an area of Baltimore County that experienced extensive damage. After viewing the damage and I encouraged Secretary Ridge to expedite efforts to assist Maryland's Second Congressional district. It is important that the Federal, State and local governments work together.

Hurricane Isabel devastated Maryland's Second Congressional District and I was there assisting my constituents in their discussions with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Small Business Administration to help re-establish their homes and businesses.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. JAMES PIERCE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two exceptional members of my community, Mr. and Mrs. James and Susie Pierce, and to congratulate them on reaching an exceptional milestone. On September 22, 2003, this inspiring couple celebrated their 75th Anniversary, surrounded by family and friends.

Married in 1927, they moved in 1932 from Georgia to the Booker T. Washington Housing complex in Jersey City, NJ, where they still reside. James was 19 and Susie was 15.

Mrs. Pierce has served New Jersey for many years as a Licensed Day Care provider for the State.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierce have been members of Emmanuel Pentecostal United Holy Church since 1932, amassing 72 years of devotion and service. Susie served as Trustee for 40 years, President of the Ushers for 47 years, Women's Day Chairperson for 30 years, Hospitality Committee for 30 years, Acting Church Treasurer for 3 years, and YPHA for 12 years. She has been both a fieldworker for the New