

in the region." I fully agree with this statement, and feel that it is important to recognize that the spread of freedom and democracy in the region is of great benefit to the entire world, not just Israel. The spread of democracy will directly lead to the spread of peace. There has not been one instance in modern history where a democratic government has gone to war with another democratic government—not one. Achieving such a peaceful existence is of monumental importance to the United States, Israel, and all other nations opposed to violence and terror tactics.

While I certainly do not expect each of my colleagues to agree with me on the question of whether or not we should have entered this war, I do urge all Members of Congress to think carefully about the potential effects that their statements may have, both on the war and on other subjects of a sensitive nature.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LAY KHIN KAY

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Lay Khin Kay, co-founder and chief medical director of QTC Medical Services, Inc., for dedicating the past 23 years of her career to the development of medical claims technology.

Dr. Kay's career began in Burma when she obtained her Doctor of Medicine degree from the prestigious Rangoon Institute of Medicine. She came to the United States to further her education and obtain certification as a Board Certified Internal and Occupational Specialist. Dr. Kay devoted years of service performing disability evaluations at the Social Security Administration where she identified a major disconnect between traditional medical evidence development and rating requirements. The medical evidence collected by an evaluating physician rarely met the expectations of ratings requirements; consequently, long delays and appealed cases increased.

In 1981, Dr. Kay co-founded QTC Medical Services to develop a rating-driven disability evaluation protocol, and worked to educate thousands of evaluating physicians. As technology progressed, Dr. Kay continued to develop new techniques to improve the evaluation process. She created QTC's Medical Knowledge Library, which serves as the main database for KMEP (Dr. Kay's Medical Evaluation Protocol), a web-based application designed to help physicians generate disability medical examination content. Instead of using a standardized physician examination guide, KMEP software produces claimant-specific, protocol-based, field-level evaluation worksheets. These worksheets ensure that each physician will completely and accurately address every medical issue of the claimant according to the corresponding disability program's standards.

In 1997, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) awarded its first performance-based contract to QTC to conduct a pilot program that was established by Congress to perform compensation and pension examinations (C&P) for veterans filing disability claims through VA. QTC now performs about 50 percent of the VA's C&P exams through 10 of its regional of-

fices. In 2003, the KMEP application aided the QTC examining physicians in the production of over 69,000 disability exam reports with near-perfect adequacy ratings.

Dr. Kay's efforts have given disabled veterans a simplified evaluation process, which eliminates the need for retraining, costs less money, and produces timelier quality reports. Thank you, Dr. Kay, for your innovative and cost-effective contributions to the veterans' claims disability process.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARTA AND CHARLIE PETERSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today and to pay tribute to the service of Marta and Charlie Peterson to Mesa Verde National Park. Recently, after over thirty years of dedicated service to our nation park system, the couple announced their retirement. They leave behind a great legacy of dedication and commitment to our lands and I am honored to recognize their service before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Marta and Charlie joined the park service in 1969 on separate journeys. They met while working at adjacent parks in their first year and married soon after. Together they have worked in nine National Parks, acclimating to the changing conditions and terrain, finding happiness in each and every park. After seven years at Mesa Verde National Park, Charlie retires as the chief ranger and Marta retires as the administrative assistant to the park superintendent.

Charlie and Marta's dedication to our National Parks is evident through the numerous awards and recognition they have received over the years. Charlie received the Department of Interior's Medal of Valor and the park service's Harry Yount Award. The Medal of Valor was given for his role in saving his friend from drowning. Working as scuba divers cleaning drains to improve the flood conditions, his friend was pulled into the drain, only to be saved by Charlie. The Harry Yount award honors rangers considered by their peers to be the top rangers in the National Park Service.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Marta and Charlie Peterson before this body of Congress and this nation today. They have provided years of dedicated service to our national parks. I thank them for their hard work and service, and wish them all the best and happiness in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO CLIFFORD BARNETT CROWLEY

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a distinguished citizen and friend to many in my Congressional District, Mr. Clifford Barnett Crowley, who passed away on July 6 of an extended illness at the age of 92.

Mr. Crowley was a native of Houston County, Alabama where he and his wife, Donnie Vernell Wilkinson, established a family farm. Crowley was well known for his ingenuity and keen ability to adjust to change in agriculture. This skill earned him state wide distinction as Alabama Peanut Farmer of the Year in 1969 and 1970.

Crowley was an active member of Pine Hill Free Will Baptist Church in Dothan, serving as a Sunday School teacher, deacon and trustee. He was also much beloved for his participation in a local musical group which entertained fellow seniors, family and friends.

I offer my condolences to Mr. Crowley's wife and extended family. We have lost a valued and much respected member of our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Chairman, on July 7, 2004, I inadvertently voted "nay" on an amendment to the fiscal year 2005 Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary Appropriations bill (H.R. 4754). I respectfully request the RECORD reflect that I supported the Paul Amendment withholding funds from the United National Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and intended to vote "aye" on rollcall vote No. 333.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LANCE CORPORAL MANUEL ADRIAN CENICEROS

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lance Corporal Manuel "Manny" Adrian Cenicerros, United States Marine Corps, a member of the Regimental Combat Team 1 Headquarters Company, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Manuel Adrian Cenicerros was born on November 15, 1980. He was a good son to his mother Angela De La Cruz and a loving husband to his wife Elizabeth. He enjoyed life and lived it to the fullest. His hobbies included drawing and playing the trumpet. Manuel and Elizabeth dreamed of starting a family some day. They lived in East Los Angeles, just a few blocks from my office, before he was deployed.

Manuel epitomized what every man should be—a good son and loving husband, a caring friend and considerate neighbor, a good-hearted young man who enjoyed life and strived to ensure that others did as well.

For love of our country, and to protect its freedoms, Lance Corporal Manuel Adrian Cenicerros volunteered to participate in a convoy mission, not knowing that it would be his last unselfish act of honor and courage. On June 26, 2004, he was killed in an explosion in the Iraqi Province of Al Anbar. Manny was laid to rest on July 6 in Santa Ana, the city of