

Letterkenny Army Depot in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. Colonel Guinn, a native of San Bernardino, California, will have served as Commander of Letterkenny for an unprecedented 3 years on July 18, 2005.

While most Commanders assume posts for only 2 years, Letterkenny has been fortunate to have Colonel Guinn as Commander for 3. On July 29th, 2005, Colonel Guinn will complete his command duty and pursue another endeavor to add to an already impressive career of service to his country. He has commanded the 123rd Main Support Battalion, 1st Armored Division in Bosnia, Croatia, and Germany. Highlights of his honors include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal, the NATO Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.

Devoted to Letterkenny's mission of supporting the Global War on Terror, Colonel Guinn ensures the best equipment is available to field units throughout the world but especially in Afghanistan and Iraq. Colonel Guinn's concern and care for his soldiers enhances the effectiveness of their missions and has established a new level of commitment among the troops.

However, what makes Colonel Guinn remarkable is not only his outstanding military credentials and devotion to country, but also to his immediate community. He has taken personal interest in the economic growth of Chambersburg and the surrounding area of Franklin County Pennsylvania. As Letterkenny transitions into the 21st century it has ceded some of its unused land to Franklin County to be used for private enterprise. Colonel Guinn has been there every step of the way with a spirit of cooperation and mutual support for the developing Cumberland Valley Business Park.

Colonel Guinn takes his leadership beyond the gates of Letterkenny by personally participating in community events and pro-actively informing and educating the surrounding community as to the efforts of the Army Depot. A good neighbor in the truest sense of the word, Colonel Guinn ensures the community is welcomed onto the installation by way of annual picnics, Armed Forces Day activities, and provides recreational land for the Cub Scout Program.

I know Chambersburg and all of Franklin County join me in grateful thanks for the spirit of service, patriotism, and dedication Colonel Guinn, his wife Karen, and their two daughters have inspired and provided to so many. My best wishes to him on the completion of his tremendous service at Letterkenny Army Depot.

HONORING KEITH WOOD MEURLIN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to draw the attention of the House to the retirement of Keith Wood Meurlin from the position of vice president and airport manager of Washington Dulles International Airport. He will leave his position at the end of March.

Keith has helped Washington Dulles grow from an airport that was used by few to an airport that is well respected world-wide. I re-

member attending an event on the runway of Dulles Airport when I was first elected to Congress. Last year alone 22.9 million passengers traveled through Dulles Airport.

As airport manager, Mr. Meurlin directed operations, maintenance, and commercial activities at Dulles, which employs nearly 17,000 people and is one of the busiest in the country in terms of aircraft operations. During Keith's tenure as airport manager, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) has invested nearly \$1.5 billion in expanding the airport facilities in the late 1990's and is currently undertaking an additional \$3 billion construction program to keep pace with current and future growth.

Mr. Meurlin came to the Washington airports in 1977 following his active duty in the United States Air Force. He began his service as an airport operations officer and successively advanced through the organization in engineering and maintenance and operations management positions before becoming the airport manager in 1989.

Mr. Meurlin helped guide Dulles after the September 11 terrorist attacks and has helped lead the way as the airport and the aviation industry have grown since that time. Last year at Dulles saw a passenger increase of almost 35 percent compared to 2003.

Keith has been extensively involved in the community. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Greater Reston and the Loudoun Chambers of Commerce; Board of Directors of the Loudoun County Convention and Visitors Association; member of Leadership Fairfax; the Board of the United Way for both Loudoun County and the National Capital Area; and is the past chairman of the Heart Association of Northern Virginia.

He was also the recipient of the 2000 Citizen of the Year award from the Loudoun Rotary and the 2002 Tower of Dulles Award from the Committee for Dulles.

In addition to his service with MWAA, Mr. Meurlin has continued his military service in the Air Force Reserve where he has attained the rank of major general, the highest rank a traditional reservist can achieve.

I wish Keith and his family the best as he retires from MWAA and again thank him for his efforts to make Dulles Airport the thriving aviation center it is today.

INTRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND ECONOMIC CONVERSION ACT OF 2005

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I am again introducing the Nuclear Disarmament and Economic Conversion Act, NDECA, as I have done since 1994. I have introduced this bill every year based on a ballot initiative passed by D.C. residents in 1993. NDECA will require the United States to disable and dismantle its nuclear weapons when all other nations possessing nuclear weapons enact laws to do the same. NDECA further provides that when U.S. nuclear weapons are dismantled, the resources used to support nuclear weapon programs would be diverted to our growing human and infrastructure needs, such as

housing, health care, Social Security and the environment.

This year's introduction of this bill has special meaning because this is the sixtieth anniversary of the U.S. bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Only the United States has used an atom bomb, but today the number of nations with this capability has grown dangerously and continues without effective intervention by the Bush administration.

In addition to the economic cost of nuclear weapons, the weapons have increased as a destabilizing force in world affairs. North Korea, at least in part in response to stepped up aggressive talk and U.S. policies, has responded in a dangerously paranoid fashion by announcing that it is expanding its nuclear capabilities and even that it now has a nuclear weapon, although these claims have not been entirely verified. Iran also appears to be pursuing greater nuclear capability and is resisting inspections. India and Pakistan have moved back from the precipice of several years ago but each remains poised with nuclear weapons.

This country must lead the world community in redoubling efforts to push back the new surge of nuclear proliferation. Our country would be better able to dissuade other nations who aspire to become or remain nuclear powers if we ourselves took greater initiative in dismantling our own nuclear weapons program. We moved in the right direction when the Senate ratified the Moscow Treaty in 2003, which provides that by 2012 both the U.S. and Russia will reduce their long-range warheads two thirds from approximately 6,000 warheads each to 2,200. However, the administration has failed to build on this effort. According to a recent study, "Securing The Bomb: An Agenda for Action" May 2004; prepared by the Belfer Center, Harvard University Kennedy School of Government: "Total nuclear-threat reduction spending remains less than one quarter of one percent of the U.S. military budget. Indeed, on average, the Bush administration requests for nuclear-threat reduction spending over FY 2002-2005 have been less, in real terms, than the last Clinton administration request, made long before the 9/11 attacks ever occurred."

However, the problem today is far more complicated than nuclear disarmament by nation states. The greatest threat today is from inadequately defended and guarded sites in many countries where there is enough material to make nuclear weapons and many opportunities for terrorists to secure nuclear materials. Astonishingly, because of the absence of Presidential leadership, less nuclear material was seized in the 2 years following the 9/11 attacks than in the 2 years immediately preceding the attacks ("Securing The Bomb: An Agenda for Action", May 2004).

I serve on the Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack Subcommittee of the Homeland Security Committee. I know that threats from nuclear proliferation and available nuclear material are more dangerous in the post 9/11 era than at any time since I first introduced this bill in 1994. The way to begin is closing down nuclear capability here and around the world.

With 45 million people still without health insurance, Social Security without the benefits for the huge baby boomer generation, an economy burdened with a dangerous deficit, and millions of Americans pushed back into poverty during the last 4 years, the time has

come to begin the transfer of nuclear weapons funds to urgent domestic needs.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF WILSON COUNTY JUDGE
MARVIN QUINNEY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Wilson County Judge Marvin Quinney for a lifetime of dedicated public service.

A native Texan, Marvin Quinney grew up in Wilson County. In 1968 he worked with the Texas Department of Safety. Mr. Quinney served his community as a DPS state trooper in Wilson County for 27 years. He also served his country as a Military Police Officer in Vietnam and in the United States.

Providing a valuable service to our courts, Marvin Quinney has spent years as a Court Security Officer at the John Wood Federal Courthouse in San Antonio. He also belongs to numerous trooper organizations and participates in multiple safety projects for the citizens residing in his county.

Marvin Quinney currently serves as the County Judge of Wilson County, and currently serves as the presiding officer of the Wilson County Commissioners Court. He has been instrumental in the growth and infrastructure development of Wilson County, and serves the office with honor and distinction.

Mr. Speaker, Wilson County Judge Marvin Quinney is a credit to his community and a tremendous resource to his country. His concern for the people and his willingness to work hard has enabled him to accomplish great things and help serve the people of his community.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES TO ESTAB-
LISH "NATIONAL TARTAN DAY"
RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENTS
AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF SCOT-
TISH-AMERICANS

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, on behalf of nearly six thousand Scottish-Americans who live in my district, I rise today as a proud cosponsor and in strong support of H. Res. 41. This bipartisan resolution supports the establishment of a 'National Tartan Day' to recognize the outstanding achievements and contributions made by Scottish-Americans throughout our nation's history.

In America's early history, many colonists pursued higher education at universities founded by Scottish settlers. Many of the non-Anglican students who were prohibited from enrolling at other institutions attended these universities where the Scottish-American ideals of universal education, religious freedom and law flourished and became significant influences on the development of our Nation.

In fact, our nation's Declaration of Independence was modeled largely on Scotland's Declaration of Independence, the Declaration of Arbroath, which was signed four and a half centuries earlier. An often overlooked fact is that nearly half the signers of our Declaration of Independence were of Scottish descent.

Throughout our Nation's history Scottish-Americans contributed to diverse areas of American life such as science, technology, medicine, government, politics, economics, architecture, literature, media, and visual and performing arts. President Woodrow Wilson and Andrew Carnegie are two examples of notable Scottish-Americans who excelled in these fields.

These contributions and achievements are celebrated by more than 200 cultural organizations throughout the United States. One of these organizations, the Illinois Saint Andrew Society serves the city and suburbs of Chicago, Illinois by honoring the culture and traditions of Scotland and Scottish-Americans. These organizations provide a valuable service by educating all Americans about the time-honored values and ideals of the Scottish culture.

Madam Speaker, I thank the Scottish cultural organizations for documenting and promoting these contributions, and I am proud to be a cosponsor and support this important resolution.

IN RECOGNITION OF HEATHER
RAY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding young woman in my district, Heather Ray. Heather is a sophomore at Northglenn High School. She was recently honored with the Human Rights Campaign 1st Annual Colorado Youth Award. Heather was selected for her exceptional commitment to diversity.

Specifically, she was instrumental in forming a diversity group at Northglenn High School called "Students Teaching Not Discrimination" or STAND. This organization is designed to give students a safe environment to talk about issues involving sexual orientation, discrimination and the peer pressure that can often lead young people to contemplate dropping out of school, or even worse, suicide.

Heather and her fellow students in STAND have spoken out against the violence and hatred that so many young people are subjected to, and no matter what your position or religious views may be on controversial issues like gay marriage or sexual orientation, I believe we can all applaud this young woman for having the courage of her convictions, and for pursuing a constructive vehicle to explore these issues.

Heather's teacher and mentor, Victoria Bull, describes Heather as an exceptional young person who not only cares passionately about equal right and human dignity but is also tenacious in her desire to affect change. Heather understands the importance of language and insists that those around her take care to make sure their words reflect the values of respect due all human beings. She plans to be-

come a lawyer or a teacher so that she can continue to educate about and defend human rights.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Heather for her commitment to diversity. I join her family and friends in acknowledging her courage and idealism.

SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION
OF THE YEAR OF THE LANGUAGES

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Education and Workforce and the International Relations committees, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 122, Mr. HOLT's resolution to support and encourage the study of languages in the United States.

The promotion and expansion of language studies will ensure our nation's ability to compete in a global marketplace of the 21st Century. The United States needs a skilled workforce in government, national security, the scientific community and business who possess the language and cross-cultural skills to successfully engage our global community.

While colleges and universities across the U.S. provide for the study of languages and employ teachers and scholars in specialized languages, they have not had the resources or the incentives to recruit, retain, and graduate students in specialized languages at a rate equal to the demand. We need more students to study languages for the strength of our economy and for the security of U.S. interests here at home and abroad.

The federal government provides incentives for the study of math, science, and engineering because we have recognized the value of encouraging strong graduation rates in those areas. We should have the same recognition for the value that foreign language proficiency adds to other professional degrees.

At the University of Minnesota, between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004, while fourteen bachelor's degrees in East Asian languages were conferred, zero Masters and PhDs in East Asian languages were conferred. During the same time, zero degrees in Arabic languages were conferred at any level. And, zero degrees were conferred in South Asian languages at either the bachelor's or advanced degree levels.

In contrast, Chinese students as well as men and women from countries in the Middle East, India, and across the globe come, to the United States to study math, engineering, biology, and medicine—in English—their second or even third language. How many Americans have the ability or incentive to live in China and obtain an advanced understanding of the Chinese language? In Japan? In South Korea? The learning gap between the U.S. and countries in Europe and Asia is widening in math and science. Language acquisition is an essential component of our nation retaining our competitive edge.

I commend Mr. HOLT for his leadership on this important issue and, again, offer my strong support.