

HONORING H.E. SUSILO BAMBANG YUDHOYONO, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA AND COMMEMORATING HIS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the first official visit to the United States by Indonesia's new President, the first directly elected President in that nation's history, His Excellency Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. President Yudhoyono is well known to many in the United States from his years of service in Indonesia's military, and as Minister of Energy and Mines. In fact, earlier in his career, President Yudhoyono studied for two years in the United States. But this first official working visit as President is a special occasion, and one worth marking in the United States Congress.

Barely two months into his term, the historic and devastating December 26th tsunami struck off Sumatra's north and western coasts. President Yudhoyono traveled to the hard hit areas immediately, and directed his new Cabinet to take steps to do everything possible to expedite immediate relief and assistance. His team undertook a groundbreaking effort to put together a detailed recovery plan, and develop open, inclusive, and transparent processes for aiding the hardest hit communities. President Yudhoyono has followed through on all three commitments he made to the international donor community to take the necessary steps to develop processes and institutions to assure the world that the generous outpouring of assistance is well managed, free of corruption, and gets to the people who need it the most.

There is no doubt that there will continue to be bumps along the road as Indonesia tackles the many difficult issues that arise in rebuilding and re-establishing communities. I remain hopeful that President Yudhoyono's personal commitment and leadership will keep the process moving forward to ensure a full recovery for all the people who suffered so terribly in the aftermath of the tsunami.

I am also encouraged by many other steps President Yudhoyono has taken to address longstanding issues and needs, including: an aggressive anti-corruption agenda; a plan to address serious infrastructure needs that are the basis for moving forward with his economic agenda to reduce poverty and unemployment; as well as improved cooperation with the United States and others in critical areas, such as counter-terrorism, maritime safety and law enforcement. During his visit, I hope we will learn more about how cooperation in all of these areas will be strengthened in the near term.

Furthermore, as the United States develops and diversifies sources of energy, it becomes increasingly clear that Indonesia holds enormous potential. Yet Indonesia's oil and gas sector is in need of additional investment to reverse declining production trends. The Government of Indonesia is keen on reinvesting revenue streams needed to fund key infrastructure projects as well as health and education programs. I am told that U.S. companies have more than \$6 billion in projects wait-

ing for approval, and that there is a similar amount available for investment in power generation projects—an infrastructure area that needs immediate attention if shortages are to be avoided in the very near future.

I hope President Yudhoyono's visit will help find a way to break the logjam on some of the policy decisions that are needed to allow these investments to be made. To help jumpstart the process, I would also encourage President Bush and his Administration to restart and re-invigorate the bilateral energy talks our governments and business partners enjoyed throughout much of the 1990s.

It is also my sincere hope that our governments will find a way to reverse declining educational enrollment by Indonesian students in U.S. colleges and universities. One of the most effective ways to build bridges between our two nations is through educational exchanges, and at this time when Indonesia's new democratic institutions require the development of management and legal skills, I certainly believe that increasing opportunities for Indonesians to study in the United States should be a top priority.

As my colleagues have heard me say many times, I believe the United States needs to devote more time and attention to broadening and expanding our relationship with Indonesia, the world's third largest democracy and the nation with the largest Muslim population. Increased cooperation and improved relationships in a wide range of areas will help us build a strong bridge across the Pacific, which will benefit and strengthen both of our countries. I look forward to the outcomes of President Yudhoyono's visit and to learning how we in Congress can reinforce and strengthen our ties.

RECOGNITION OF MRS. MARY GUDE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Mary Gude of Dorsey, Illinois. On May 27, Mary Gude will be retiring as a teacher at Trinity Lutheran School in Edwardsville after 30 years of teaching.

Trinity Lutheran School is the only place Mrs. Gude has ever taught. During her years there, she has taught preschool, kindergarten, first and third grades. Most recently, she has been the very beloved second grade teacher. Her second grade classes have been filled with much learning, but also the joy of music and the love of all God's creatures with several classroom pets.

Her second grade classes have annually produced a Second Grade Operetta. These productions are truly a labor of love, taking a great deal of extra time and commitment on Mrs. Gude's part. The shows are enjoyed by all the children of the school, as well as parents and family members.

Mary Gude's years at Trinity have not all been easy. Early in her tenure, she lost her husband to brain cancer and was raising two small children by herself. But God does provide, and in 1980 she married a Lutheran pastor, himself a widower, with two children. Mary Gude and Pastor George Gude together

raised their four children, and she became a part of the family at Emmaus Lutheran Church in Dorsey, where she serves as the choir director yet today.

Today, Mrs. Gude is the proud grandparent of three—two of whom she was able to teach at Trinity. She looks forward to this retirement so she can spend more time with her family, continue to teach piano lessons, and continue to serve as the director of the choir at the church.

Mary Gude has seen Trinity Lutheran School and the hundreds of children who have passed through her classroom as her calling from God. Her kindness, goodness, strength, and love of God shines through in all she does and is forever part of the children who have been fortunate enough to have her as a teacher. In the words of Jesus, in Matthew 25:21, “. . . Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . .”

HONORING THE 761ST TANK BATTALION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 761st Tank Battalion of World War II. On November 8, 1944 the men of the 761st became the first all black infantry unit to see combat. They successfully overtook the towns of Moyenvic and Vic-sur-Seille, which were occupied by German forces.

“Come Out Fighting,” was the motto of the 761st also known as the Black Panthers. Their motto personified their tremendous sacrifice and selflessness in defeating the German army in World War II.

For 183 days, the Black Panthers fought four major engagements across six European nations. Their courageous effort contributed to the overtaking of Tillet, Belgium, a German occupied area that no other armed force could successfully take. The Black Panthers also penetrated the Seigfried Line allowing the 4th Armored Division to cross the Rhine River.

On May 6, 1945, as the easternmost Americans, the 761st ended their combat mission with a rendezvous with the First Ukrainian Army at the Steye River in Austria. The Black Panthers were the first Americans to meet the Russian Army.

In 1978, the Black Panthers were awarded a Presidential Unit Citation, 33 years after the war ended. Their recognition was long overdue.

Their tremendous sacrifices and sense of duty proved to be indispensable to the Allied Forces' war effort against the Axis powers. It gives me great pleasure to rise and join with my congressional colleagues in recognition of this elite battalion.

TRIBUTE TO MR. THOMAS P. INFUSINO

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to the life and work of an

exceptional individual, Mr. Thomas Infusino. Thomas was honored at the Wakefern Food Corporation's annual meeting on Thursday, May 19, 2005.

Over the past thirty-four years, Thomas Infusino has worked tirelessly on behalf of his investors, employees, and clients. His commitment to his business, the food distribution industry, and the community at large has left an indelible mark on the lives of many, demonstrating the difference one dedicated person can make. It is only fitting that we honor Thomas Infusino, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on Earth.

Thomas served in the United States military during World War II, primarily stationed in Italy and Africa. Upon his return he quickly became a part of the Northern New Jersey community and has raised a family in our wonderful state. Thomas has truly made a name for himself as an innovative entrepreneur with a propensity for giving back to the community.

Tom has been chairman and CEO of Wakefern Food Corporation, a retailer-owned cooperative of the wholesale merchandising and distribution arm for ShopRite supermarkets, since 1971. He is also the owner and president of the Nutley Park ShopRite located in Nutley, NJ.

Mr. Infusino's philanthropic spirit has been recognized by an array of organizations. Tom was honored by the Cooley's Anemia Foundation and subsequently given the Lifeline Award for his efforts. Additionally, Tom continues to work closely with the Lautenberg Center for General and Tumor Immunology, which sponsors the annual Thomas Infusino Prize. He also serves on the Board of Governors for the National Conference for Community and Justice as well as retaining a seat on the Board of Directors of the New Jersey Food Council.

The job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing the efforts of individuals like Thomas Infusino.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the members of the Infusino family, and myself in recognizing Thomas Infusino for his outstanding service.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JERRY KLECZKA FOR HIS LEGACY TO PUBLIC SERVICE EDUCATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Congressman Jerry Kleczka, an esteemed Member of this body who represented Wisconsin's 4th Congressional District for over 20 years. More specifically, today I want to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments for which he is being honored in Milwaukee this coming weekend.

My colleagues listening here on the floor today know Congressman Kleczka, my predecessor, as a champion of the causes of working men and women. A spirited and tenacious advocate, he fought for so many reforms, from legislation to protect senior citizens in public housing, to affordable and accessible healthcare and a strong Medicare program, to the rights of workers, and the rights of citizens to privacy in a digital age, just to name a few.

When he decided to leave Federal elective office in 2004, Congressman Kleczka left behind an additional legacy that will endure for many years to come. In 1984, he independently offered to host an individual intern in his Congressional office. From that single internship grew an entire program which, over the last twenty years, has developed into a remarkable center for public service education, Marquette University's Les Aspin Center for Government in Washington, D.C. As a result, over 700 students with an interest in public service have interned in nearly 100 congressional offices and in multiple federal agencies.

Jerry was there for the Center's internship program from the very start as its stalwart champion, advocate, and host of so many of its interns. Of the countless students to which he offered the opportunity for congressional experience, many have gone on to fine careers in public service and two have even won elective office, Wisconsin State Assemblyman Pedro Colon and Milwaukee County Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic. He was awarded the Center's Founders Award in 1999 and has served on its Board of Visitors since 1996.

In addition to all his prior work on its behalf, last year Congressman Kleczka made a remarkably generous donation to Marquette's Les Aspin Center which has made possible the establishment of an entirely new program through which students will study state and local government in Milwaukee starting this summer. With this selfless act he has permanently endowed the cause of public service learning throughout Milwaukee and at Marquette and created a legacy that will last for years to come.

This weekend, Congressman Kleczka's efforts will be properly recognized. On Sunday, May 22, Marquette University will award him an honorary doctorate of laws to acknowledge him as a champion of the D.C. intern center and the benefactor of a new Milwaukee institution that will foster the desire for public service among our best and brightest closer to home. I ask my colleagues to join in congratulating Jerry on receiving this well-deserved honor.

HONORING RICHARD F. CORDELL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding gentleman, Mr. Richard F. Cordell of Flushing, MI. This Friday, members of the Rotary Club of Flint will pay tribute to Mr. Cordell, as he celebrates 42 years of service as a Rotarian, and 25 years as Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Club.

Born and raised in Toledo, Ohio, Dick Cordell began his long history of service to others by serving his country in World War II following his graduation from the University of Toledo. Dick piloted a B-26 as a member of the U.S. Air Force, earning the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. After the war, Dick worked as a salesman for IBM. During this time, he met and married Ruth, his wife of 58 years. When Symplex purchased Dick's division at IBM, he was transferred to Flint where he was appointed District Manager.

Dick began his distinguished career with Rotary International on September 1, 1963.

After memberships on various committees and participation in many projects, Dick was elected President of the Flint Rotary Club from 1974-1976. He also served as District Governor from 1984-1985. Since 1980, he has operated as the Flint Club's Executive Secretary/Treasurer, a position he enjoys due to the constant positive interaction he experiences from his fellow Rotarians. In addition, Dick and Ruth plan to attend this year's Rotary International Convention, which will be their fifteenth.

I am appreciative of Dick Cordell's many years of leadership and for the untold number of individuals he has assisted, both personally and indirectly. He truly personifies the Rotary motto: "Service Above Self," as well as the Rotarian philosophy of truth, fairness, goodwill, and mutual benefit in all professional actions.

Mr. Speaker, as a Rotary Club fellowship beneficiary, I can attest to the unwavering support toward the community exhibited by its members, and I am grateful for people such as Richard Cordell. I ask my colleagues in the 109th to please join me in recognizing his accomplishments, and wishing him the best in all his future endeavors.

HONORING GENE TORRES

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifetime achievements of Southwestern golf legend Gene Torres, a resident of the Las Vegas community in my home state of New Mexico. Gene spearheaded the golf program at New Mexico Highlands University while simultaneously winning over 80 professional tournaments and raising a family.

Born in Colorado, Gene was fascinated with golf since he was a youngster and qualified for major tournaments in high school. Early in his career he set the course record of 16 under par for 52 holes at the University of New Mexico-North golf course. Gene interrupted his golf career in 1957 to join the Navy and serve his country aboard the USS *Shangri-La*. After his tour of duty with the Navy concluded, Gene returned home to become the premier amateur golfer in Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico in the early Sixties.

A pillar of the Las Vegas community, Gene has called New Mexico his home since 1962. Well-known and respected, Gene served 42 years as a Professor of Physical Education and manager of the New Mexico Highlands University golf course, which he helped design. Gene instructed thousands of Northern New Mexico students and started the golf team at Highlands University. In the absence of golf scholarships, Gene often used his own money to pay the team's tournament expenses. Despite financial challenges, Gene's golf teams won over 60% of their matches.

In 1970, Gene joined the PGA where he earned the title "The Rock", for his solid performance. He is said to have consistently hit one of the longest and straightest balls in golf. Gene won the New Mexico Open four years in a row, a feat no one else has accomplished to date, and the PGA Life Time Achievement Award. He was named the Southwest Section