enemies positions gathering critical and valuable information on major infiltration routes.

The Rangers operated in vast, inhospitable terrains throughout Vietnam. Their prowess, coupled with boat patrols, night ambushes, and stay-behind infiltration techniques were instrumental in thwarting members of the Viet Cong and NVA. According to historical accounts, this company, comprised of merely several hundred men, was able to keep vast numbers of North Vietnamese Army troops occupied, thereby potentially saving numerous American troops.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of this incredible company, the Charlie Rangers, and I am honored to have been able to serve in a small way alongside such professional and selfless soldiers. I know my colleagues join me in applauding them for a job well done and share my wishes for a memorable reunion.

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF CLINTON, IOWA

HON. JIM NUSSE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2005

Mr. NUSSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the sesquicentennial celebration of Clinton, Iowa—a community I am very proud to represent in Congress.

One hundred and fifty summers ago, the Iowa Land Company purchased the site of the town and named it in honor of DeWitt Clinton. The Iowa Land Company purchased the site of the town and named it in honor of DeWitt Clinton, Iowa—"a community I am very proud to represent in Congress.

A number of energetic entrepreneurs worked hard to help fuel Clinton’s early growth. They rooted the city along the banks of the Mississippi River; and when a railroad bridge crossing the river was completed a few years after the town was established, the lumber industry boomed.

Logs were floated down the river from Minnesota and Wisconsin to Clinton’s sawmills and distributed along the river to other flourishing communities. Clinton was known as the sawmill capital of the country from the late 1850s to around 1900.

The huge log flotillas on the river of Clinton’s early days must have been an impressive sight. If you visit Clinton’s Eagle Point Park today in the same area, you might see families enjoying a picnic or barges carrying Iowa’s bounty down the mighty Mississippi.

Today, Clinton remains full of industrious people determined to make the most of their community’s strengths. Clinton’s leaders are looking forward to creating even more opportunities for local workers. And every time I meet with a group of Clinton residents, I am always impressed with their incredible enthusiasm and pride in their community.

In another 150 years from now, I am sure Clinton will still be home to the same brand of wonderful people, living in a vibrant, active city by the river.

Happy birthday, Clinton!

DOWNING STREET MEMO HEARING

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, last week, House Democrats, led by Judiciary Committee Ranking Member John Conyers, convened a hearing to investigate the so-called “Downing Street Memo.” The memo, written by Mr. McGovern, offered repugnant personal viewpoints. Alleging that the war was the product of a U.S.—Israeli partnership to "dominate" the Middle East, Mr. McGovern’s statements were insulting, unsubstantiated, and defamatory. There is every reason to suspect that the war in Iraq was the result of any action on the part of the state of Israel, its people, or the American Jewish community.

The decision to invade Iraq was the decision of President Bush and a majority of Congress. Ascribing such motives to the pro-Israel community is not simply defamatory—it is anti-Semitic. Mr. McGovern should apologize.

Mr. Speaker, I have been one of the more outspoken members of this body regarding the intelligence that this president used to justify the war-risk insurance policies. Congress should investigate the extent to which the war-risk insurance policies held by the airlines prior to September 11th. Four years ago, the airline industry paid a total of approximately $9 billion in premiums. Last year, they paid over $140 million. However, this is much more reasonable than the over $600 million the Air Transport Association estimated they would have to pay on the open market. This massive jump in premiums could mean the difference between solvency and bankruptcy for many of our struggling airlines.

In addition, the commercial insurance policies that exist still contain the 7-day cancellation clause that would allow the insurers to cancel policies in the face of an enhanced threat. Should an airline be unable to obtain war-risk insurance policies, they would be forced to stop operating. This would be a crippling blow to not only the aviation industry itself, which employs over 15,000 people in New Jersey alone, but also to the entire United States economy.

Airlines are still a prime target for terrorist attack, which makes war-risk insurance both an absolute necessity and something that can not be offered by the commercial market at a reasonable price. This bill would help our struggling airline industry without costing the Federal Government one cent, and I urge my colleagues to support this small but crucial piece of legislation.

HONORING DR. CLAUDE H. ORGAN, JR.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and achievements of Dr. Claude H. Organ, Jr., M.D. of Oakland, California. An internationally renowned surgeon and medical educator, Dr. Organ was the second African American to serve as president of