

PAYING TRIBUTE TO STAFF
SERGEANT EMMANUEL LEGASPI

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Staff Sergeant Emmanuel Legaspi, who died of injuries sustained in Tal Afar, Iraq on May 7, 2006.

Sergeant Legaspi had lived in the United States for only a year when he signed up with the Army. At 32, he was much older than the typical recruit. But for the native of the Philippines, military service was a opportunity to show how much he appreciated a chance at life in America. Sergeant Legaspi, who was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Friedberg, Germany, was injured, and later died, when his unit came under enemy small arms fire during combat operations. For his valor, Sergeant Legaspi was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Staff Sergeant Emmanuel Legaspi. Sergeant Legaspi made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while fighting the War on Terror and defending democracy and freedom.

THE ISSUE OF CRIMINAL ALIENS,
HOW THEIR DEPORTATION AFFECTS THEIR
HOMELAND

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD an editorial from the New York *CaribNews* newspaper dated May 16, 2006 that draws attention to the "long-standing and thorny problems" associated with the deportation of criminal aliens and the resulting initiatives needed to re-integrate them into the society of their Caribbean homeland.

The article addresses Caribbean born individuals who have broken the law in the United States and subsequently banished back to their homeland. There are varying opinions surrounding the re-integration of criminal aliens. Some feel that their return is creating serious problems while others blame the situation on the United States and other country that deport them.

Mary Kramer, the U. S. Ambassador to several Caribbean nations believes that the deported criminal aliens are no real threat to the Caribbean states and are in fact productive law-abiding citizens. She also asserts that the criminal aliens are not playing a significant role in the upsurge in crime in the Caribbean. Grenada's Prime Minister, Dr. Keith Mitchell shares his opinion that in the criminal enterprise Americans have imparted all of their bad ways on the aliens and then deport them back to their regions as hardened criminals. P.J. Patterson, former Prime Minister of Jamaica cautions Ms. Kramer against relying on the U.S. statistics and conclusions reached by U.S. researchers. In this article he shares a concern about the relationship maintained by criminal aliens and gang members abroad.

In the article, the editor offers several solutions to solve the problem of coping with deported criminal aliens. Similar pilot programs have been developed and implemented in other countries. Based on the statistics, there will continue to be an influx of criminal deportees to the Caribbean. If other well-to-do nations are truly interested in the economic and social development of the island-nations they should be prepared to assist financially in the re-integration process for Caribbean criminal aliens.

Mr. Speaker: I submit this interesting and informative editorial from the *CaribNews* newspaper for submission to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the New York *CaribNews*, May 16, 2006]

CRIMINAL ALIENS: AN EDITORIAL

Just when everyone thought that the question of why undocumented immigrants should stay in the United States was the only item on the table for discussion, we have been jolted back to reality to deal with a long-standing and thorny problem: criminal aliens.

From London, Ottawa, Toronto, Kingston and Bridgetown to New York, Washington and other cities, we are being forced to focus our attention once again on the deportation of persons who have broken the law in the countries to which they have emigrated from the Caribbean.

The trouble is that in deporting immigrants who have committed crimes in the U.S., Canada and the United Kingdom, are creating serious problems for their friends and allies in the Caribbean.

That issue is at the root of a dispute involving the U.S. Ambassador to several nations in the region—Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent.

It seems as if Mary Kramer, America's top diplomat to those island-nations, has convinced herself that not only are the criminal aliens no real threat to the Caribbean states but they are productive law-abiding citizens in their homeland.

Nothing can be further from the truth.

Granted, some of them have become productive citizens. Also true, the U.S. has a responsibility to protect its borders and its people from persons, whether native born or immigrants from disrupting the society. And it can do that by enforcing its law.

But to ignore the hard reality of what's happening in the Caribbean, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana, included, is akin to burying one's head in the proverbial sand by pretending that choirboys and girls are being shipped to the region.

That's unreal.

According to a news agency report, Kramer believes that the deportees are not playing a significant role in the upsurge in crime in the Caribbean. In addition, she wants to get the word out that the U.S. was "not deporting people who go to the U.S. as very small children and learn bad behavior."

The evidence indicates otherwise. Many of the persons deported to Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, St. Lucia, Guyana, Haiti, Barbados and their neighbors left the U.S. as underage children and were sent back as hardened criminals. Just as bad they had lived in the U.S. for so long that on their return they knew no one and nobody knew them, a point made by Grenada's Prime Minister, Dr. Keith Mitchell, when he addressed Grenadians at a recent town meeting in Brooklyn. "They are sending people from America and they got all of their bad ways in America and Canada and they send them back to the region," was the Dr. Mitchell put

it. "Each time you notice a problem home involving young people there is someone from North America (involved in Grenada)."

It's clear that criminal aliens are causing problems, serious problems in the English, French, Spanish and Dutch-speaking nations and territories in the Caribbean.

It's also a fact, an awful reality that far too many of the deportees are involved in criminal behavior in the region. To deny that, as Kramer seems to have done is to engage in ostrich like conduct. The mistake she made was relying entirely on the statistics which U.S. funded surveys have unearthed.

P.J. Patterson, until recently Jamaica's longest-serving Prime Minister, cautioned the Ambassador against relying on the data and the conclusions reached by the researchers.

"I don't think that one can look at it only in narrow statistical terms," Patterson told this paper. "I say that because very often, especially in areas connected to drugs those who return get involved in leadership of gangs that maintain relationship with gangs that operate abroad and really influence the criminal activities that are taking place in particular communities in which they return."

Cabinet ministers from St. Lucia, St. Kitts-Nevis, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Dominica have all made essentially the same complaint. Kramer should stick to the line taken by senior U.S. State Department officials and members of the U.S. Congress who have told Caribbean nations that American authorities are simply following the law and that's not going to change. To try to defend the bad bit of legislation and its damaging consequences on the Caribbean by denying the obvious isn't going to solve the problem.

The solution isn't difficult to figure out. The countries deporting the criminals and those being forced to accept them should sit down and work out a reasonable policy that (1) ensures only Guyanese are deported to Guyana, Haitians to Port au Prince, Jamaicans to Kingston or Dominicans to Santo Domingo and so on; (2) Caribbean nations are given a reasonable amount of time to find out if the deportees are their nationals before they are put on a plane back home; (3) Caribbean states must accept the awful truth: U.S. lawmakers and the Bush Administration aren't going to change the law to stem the flow of deportees; and (4) a resettlement scheme funded by the U.S. and Caribbean nations should be undertaken to ease the re-integration of the deportees back into their birthplaces. Such programs have been developed and implemented on a pilot basis in a few countries and if the organizations involved are to be believed they seem to work. A re-integration effort is needed not only for detainees from the U.S. but from Canada and the United Kingdom and those countries must help too.

Just last week, Tony Blair, the British prime Minister, fired his Home Secretary, Charles Clarke because his ministry had failed to deport criminal aliens after they had completed their jail sentences. The criticisms showered on the head of the Blair government and the public's demand that something about people who enter Britain and then commit crimes were so strong that they are bound to trigger a flood of deportees to the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific.

Of the 77,000 inmates in British prisons, 10,113 of them are from foreign countries, including nearly 2,000 from the Caribbean.

The outcry should serve as a warning to the Caribbean, expect more criminal deportees on your shores and it also cries out for some help from the rich nations. If, as they

say, they are interested in the economic and social development of the island-nations then they should be prepared to help, not to undertake the total resettlement and reintegration effort but offer a helping hand.

COMMENDING DORIS WOOD-LITTLETON FOR HER SERVICE TO THE WOMEN OF THE FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mrs. Doris Wood-Littleton of Saraland, Alabama, for her service to women of the First Congressional District of Alabama. Mrs. Wood-Littleton is the founder and executive director of the Home of Grace for Women, Inc. For over 30 years this organization has helped women overcome their drug and alcohol addictions and reinstate them into community life.

Doris Wood-Littleton, a native of Mobile, recognized in the early 1970s that there was no place in the area for women to go to overcome their drug and alcohol addictions. Doris graciously opened her own home in Saraland to assist those in need of this form of service. Six years later, there were too many women seeking her assistance than she could accommodate.

Soon, a twenty-six acre piece of land, the former location of a private school, was purchased and the buildings were renovated to house the Home of Grace for Women. In 1993, a new complex containing an office and chapel was constructed. The facility also boasts two new halfway houses for graduates of the Home of Graces programs, and in the year 2000, the Hannah House for Pregnant Women was finally completed.

The Home of Grace for Women states the purposes of its ministry are to help women overcome addiction and to offer weekly aftercare programs for graduates. During its 32 years, over 11,000 women have been enrolled in Doris's program. This comprehensive, 12-week program includes chapel services, Bible studies, counseling, and physical exercise. All of these services, combined with the love and support of Doris and her staff, have helped the Home of Grace for Women achieve astounding results.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Mrs. Doris Wood-Littleton and to commend her for her service. Due to her tireless efforts and compassion, Mrs. Doris Wood-Littleton has made the Home of Grace for Women a wonderful place to help those in need. With her continued work and dedication to the women of the First District of Alabama, the Home of Grace for Women will certainly thrive in the years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT JOHN GRIFFITH

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sergeant John Griffith, who

was killed in action May 5, 2006, while trying to rescue other soldiers in the mountains east of Abad in the Kunar province of Afghanistan.

Sergeant Griffith's Chinook helicopter, to which he was assigned as a door gunner, crashed and none of the 11 men aboard survived. Sergeant Griffith was in the Nevada Third Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry).

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Sergeant John Griffith. Sergeant Griffith made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while defending democracy and freedom.

CONGRATULATING LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AT EUNICE BASEBALL TEAM

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Louisiana State University at Eunice Bengal baseball team on their recent victory in the National Junior College Athletic Association, NJCAA, championship.

The championship tournament culminated June 2, 2006, in Millington, Tennessee. The Bengals' 3-0 win over defending champion Grand Rapids Community College garnered the NJCAA Division II trophy. This is the first national championship for LSU at Eunice.

The Bengal baseball program should be lauded for the success it has seen in the five years since its establishment. The team's appearance in the 2006 tournament marks the second time in the program's brief history that the Bengal baseball team has placed in the national championship. In 2004, the Bengals placed third in the NJCAA Championship in their division.

In addition to the championship title, the Bengals were proud to bring home an individual honor bestowed upon one of the team's high-achieving members. During the series, sophomore Brett Durand pitched 26 straight innings without allowing a single earned run. His performance earned him the Most Valuable Player award.

The baseball team's achievements on the field parallel the accomplishments of the school's educators and administrators, who are realizing their goal of positioning Louisiana State University at Eunice as the premier two-year college in the state,

I would like to thank the head coach Jeff Willis and his players for their hard work and dedication. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Louisiana State University at Eunice baseball team and wishing the Bengals the best of luck in their future endeavors on and off the field.

COMMENDING THE DUPONT CORPORATION FOR ITS CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO BOTH ITS EMPLOYEES AND THE MOBILE COMMUNITY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the DuPont Corporation for its dedication not only to its employees but to the community that its Axis, Alabama, plant serves.

This DuPont plant, in my congressional district, has not experienced a lost day of work due to injury since 1989, and it was named one of the three safest manufacturing plants in Alabama by Governor Bob Riley in 2005.

Recently, one of the two production lines at the plant was discontinued. As a result, fewer workers are necessary; however, rather than laying off these employees as many corporations in this situation would, DuPont is maintaining 100 percent employment.

This decision exemplifies DuPont's dedication to its employees. By training each employee to perform a variety of tasks, workers can be transferred to do other work within the plant. This multi-faceted training is uncommon in the United States, but it greatly increases the value and usefulness of each worker. Both DuPont and its employees have benefited from this practice, which should serve as an example to other corporations.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District, it is my great honor to express my district's gratitude to the DuPont Corporation for this decision and its continued commitment to our community. I wish the company many more years of success at its Axis plant, as it is expected to return to full production in December. I know DuPont's employees and their families join me in expressing our appreciation for the company's magnanimity in this situation and its dedication to the workers of Alabama's First Congressional District.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BILLIE BATES

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Billie Bates, who was recently honored in Boulder City, Nevada with a mayoral proclamation naming the 13th of May Billie Bates Day.

Mrs. Bates, who is now in her 94th year, was born and raised in Aldrich, Missouri. At the age of 24, while working as a school teacher, Billie met and married Russell Bates in July of 1936. In 1942, Billie, her husband, and her two children, Cornelia and Laurel Jean, moved to Boulder City, Nevada.

While working on the Hoover Dam Project, Billie's husband was injured and Billie had to return to the workforce. Billie began work for the Bureau of Reclamation and became the longest serving executive secretary in the local bureau's history. She served underneath six