

Together, we have transformed this Agency over the last 10 years into a cohesive and professional team that efficiently and effectively supports and serves the Congress; an Agency which will continue to do so for generations to come. It is the people of the AOC that are the heart of this organization and I am so very proud to have led the AOC team through these challenging years of growth and change. I want to thank each person for their dedication and commitment to excellence. There are some people here tonight who have gone on to other places—I thank you for your service to the AOC and the Congress. There are also many of you here tonight who will continue on with our mission, working with our Chief Operating Officer Stephen Ayers and the next Architect of the Capitol to continue our efforts as good stewards of these national treasures. I wish you all well and I know that you will continue to make me proud going forward.

I would also like to congratulate and thank Michael Shane Neal for this truly sensitive portrait, including his rendition of Thomas Ustick Walter's Dome, and the Frederick Law Olmsted lantern as the framing elements of this work.

These were, of course, designed and built by those who went before us—but they speak strongly to the continuity of the Congress as our country has continued to grow, and the needs of the Capitol have continued to evolve.

When Shane and I discussed possible settings for the portrait, he photographed many alternative locations, but we ultimately agreed that the symbolic action of my descending the steps into the new Capitol Visitor Center with the Dome and the lantern in the background would enhance this sense of continuity.

I thank you, Shane, not only for being the fine artist that you are, but also for your patience during multiple sittings and the gracious hospitality you and Melanie extended to Roz and me on our visit to your studio in Nashville. I also would like to extend a special thank you to our Curator, Barbara Wolanin, for assisting with the initial selection of Shane and for lending her keen eye throughout the process.

As I look around this stately room that has itself witnessed so many historic events, I see the faces of many people who have been so important to me as Architect of the Capitol, as a member of the Congressional, Washington, D.C., and professional architectural communities, those who have been my friends for decades, as well as members of my family who have blessed me with their love and support through both good and difficult times. And, I thank you personally, Senator Warner, for being here this evening and for having championed my candidacy what seems like so many years ago as Chairman of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee.

At a wonderful moment like this, I can't help but think of those who have gone before. . . . of my father who worked nights in the Post Office. We often talked of things past and the possibilities of the future when he came home from work at 5 a.m., and I was still awake cramming for exams. My soft-spoken mother supplemented the family income as a bookkeeper, and enriched our lives through her artwork and her dreams.

I think of Roz's Mom and Dad, who lost so many loved ones in the Holocaust, our grandparents who immigrated here—who came through Ellis Island seeking a better life. I think of their financial struggles and personal sacrifices and the value they placed on strong family ties and education, and am forever grateful for the legacies they have left to Roz and me, our children, and grandchildren.

It is humbling to stand here today and to recognize and appreciate the fact that Roz and I have taken part in the flow of our nation's history in some small way. I am truly honored to follow in the footsteps of the first nine Architects of the Capitol as we unveil this portrait and see it donated by the United States Capitol Historical Society to the collections of the United States Congress.

Thank you all so very, very much.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CAPTAIN JASON HAMILL

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to CPT Jason Hamill, U.S. Army, 31, who grew up in Salem, CT.

Nearing the completion of a year-long tour in Bagdad, serving with E Company, 3rd Battalion, 67th Armored Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, TX, Captain Hamill died of injuries sustained when his military vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device.

Known for his sense of humor and as a bit of a mischief maker, he was a proud family man. He followed in his father's footsteps serving in the military with a deep, strong sense of purpose and belief in what he was doing. Prior to entering the Army, Captain Hamill was a member of ROTC at the University of Connecticut earning the respect of his fellow members and classmates, as well as his engineering degree. He lived as a true patriot and defender of our great Nation's principles of freedom and justice serving in Afghanistan and Kosovo in addition to Iraq.

Captain Hamill is a true example of the powerful American spirit that permeates this Nation's history. He served as a messenger of high justice and idealism in the best tradition of American principles and patriotism. I am both proud and grateful that we have the kind of fighting force exemplified by Captain Hamill serving in the Persian Gulf—and the strong families back at home sending their love and support.

He was a credit to his family, his community, his service, and his country. Our Nation extends its heartfelt condolences to his wife, Karen, who he just married last year, and his parents, Sharon and Richard. We extend our appreciation for sharing this outstanding soldier with us, and we offer our prayers and support. You may be justifiably proud of his contributions which extend above and beyond the normal call of duty.

CORPORAL ADAM A. GALVEZ, USMC

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, today I rise in solemn tribute to CPL Adam A. Galvez of the Marines who gave his life in the service of his country during the global war on terrorism.

Over the past few weeks, I have had a chance to talk with Adam's mother Amy and his father Tony. They are wonderful people who are truly proud of their son. In speaking with them, I quickly learned just what a hero Adam was.

A lot of people use that word "hero" today without thinking about what it really means. I like to define it as an individual doing extraordinary things that serve the greater good. Adam's actions clearly fit the bill.

For example, I understand that a month before his death, Adam was wounded while outside a building with several fellow marines after a suicide bomber detonated an explosive device. The explosion caused the building to collapse. Yet, instead of tending to his own wounds, Adam, began to dig, while under fire, for his fellow marines trapped in the rubble.

That is the mark of a true hero.

Accordingly, I am proud to say that the Salt Lake City Council unanimously voted to name a street in my hometown the "Adam Galvez Street." I cannot think of anything more appropriate.

I also want to acknowledge East High School sophomore Junior Cruz, who as part of his Eagle Scout project came up with the idea of "Adam Galvez Street" and saw it through to its fruition.

I am blessed to live in a great State in the greatest country in the world. When I learn about the lives of young heroes such as Adam Galvez, I am reminded that our true greatness lies in the sacrifice of such noble and brave service members.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS DANIEL G. DOLAN, USA

Mr. President, on this the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, I rise to pay tribute to a young American who gave his life to ensure that our nation will never be attacked again. That young man's name was PFC Daniel G. Dolan.

Just 1 month before his 19th birthday, Private First Class Dolan joined the Army during a time of war. No doubt due to his professionalism, Private First Class Dolan was assigned to the 3rd Brigade of the 2nd Infantry Division which, of course, is the elite 1st Stryker Brigade. This professionalism was also recognized when he was awarded, posthumously, the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Combat Infantry Badge.

We, as a nation, are truly blessed to have such young men and women who are willing to serve. Private First Class Dolan's life was short, but from what I have read it was full. I understand that he was an avid hockey player and fan who played for Roy High School and was part of an amateur hockey association. I also been told that standing up for what is right is something that Private First Class Dolan did since childhood, standing up for his little sister and the other children in the neighborhood. Most of all he was a wonderful son to his parents Tim and Fay Dolan.

I believe that his sister Michelle said it best: "Everyone was proud of him. He just wanted to serve his country, to be there for his country. . . . I think he was scared when he went to Iraq, but he really wanted to go and serve us all."

Such words can only describe a hero.

SECOND LIEUTENANT SCOTT B. LUNDELL, UANG

Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to a true American hero, 2LT Scott B. Lundell. Such a description is appropriate to describe Lieutenant Lundell, who was killed in an ambush while training an Afghan Army patrol in Oruzgan Province, Afghanistan.

Lieutenant Lundell was by all accounts a first-rate officer. He had risen through the ranks, first enlisting in 2004 at the age of 32 in the Utah National Guard's 19th Special Forces Group and then graduating from Officer Candidate School.

Lieutenant Lundell truly felt a calling to serve, especially after the events of September 11, 2001. I have read that his wife Jeanine remembers that he was not satisfied supporting the war from home but wanted to make a difference overseas, so much so that he did not wait for the next deployment of his unit. Instead he volunteered for his final assignment, training the Afghan military. Upon learning of his passing, Lieutenant Lundell's brother-in-law said, "He did not die doing what he loved—he died doing what he felt passionately about."

Lieutenant Lundell believed in the righteousness of cause so much that when the youngest of his four children was born he named her Liberty.

I am humbled that I had the honor to represent such a patriot in this august body.

MAJOR MARTA MALTBY, USAR

Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to MAJ Marta Maltby, who died of natural causes during her deployment with the 328th Combat Support Hospital at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.

This was the second time this intensive care nurse had deployed overseas during a time of war to care for our Nation's wounded. Major Maltby also deployed with the 328th during Operation Desert Storm. Accordingly, she was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

Recently, I was able to spend some time with Major Maltby's mother, during an Army Reserve ceremony that, in part, honored the major. I deeply appreciated this opportunity because I was able to learn just how caring and remarkable a person Marta was, as a daughter, wife, and as mother to two grown children.

As I said at that ceremony, Major Maltby, and the rest of her unit, took a glimmer of hope and made survival and recovery a reality for hundreds of our servicemembers. These are also words that describe a true hero.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Maltby family during their time of grieving. May they find solace in knowing that the country appreciates the selfless dedication of their wife, daughter and mother, MAJ Marta Maltby.

RECONCILIATION PROGRAMS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, in fiscal year 2004 I initiated a new fund in the

Foreign Operations Appropriations Act entitled "Reconciliation Programs." This fund is managed by the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation. In fiscal year 2006 it was funded at \$15 million, and its purpose is to support reconciliation programs and activities "which bring together individuals of different ethnic, religious and political backgrounds from areas of civil conflict and war." Our intent is to support initiatives of organizations representing groups of people who have been in conflict with each other to promote better understanding and reconciliation.

This is a global program, and the funds have been allocated to support activities in countries in Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Middle East. For reasons that should be obvious, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is the focus of many organizations in that region that seek to bring representatives of both peoples together to build trust, improve understanding, and find common solutions to the roots of the conflict.

There are dozens of conflicts in the world, and \$15 million is too little money to support all the meritorious reconciliation proposals. This is particularly true in the Middle East. USAID has funded several organizations that bring together Israelis and Palestinians, but funding constraints make it impossible to support every deserving organization. This unmet need is the subject of a recent op-ed in the Palestine Times which poses some important questions. I ask unanimous consent that the article by Rabbi Michael Cohen, who has done extraordinary work in this area, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Palestine Times, Dec. 5, 2006]

PALESTINIAN PERMITS AND NGOS (Rabbi Michael M. Cohen)

The day after Israel observed the 11th anniversary of the murder of Yitzhak Rabin Haaretz summed up the Arab-Israeli conflict, "After more than six years of continuous fighting, neither side appears to have given up the basic assumption that at the beginning of the Intafada. The Palestinians and the Israelis are both still convinced the other side understands only force."

The latest cease-fire in Gaza, shaky at best with Qassam Rockets still being fired into Israel, is a move in the right direction to quell the use of force by both sides. The truth is that for the past year we have not been moving closer to peace between Israel and the Palestinians. King Abdullah has said more than once that unless there is tangible movement towards peace in the upcoming months this conflict will be cursed to go on for decades.

The Talmud teaches a very profound lesson about the use of force and power. In separate moments the prophets Daniel and Jeremiah question how mighty is God. The Talmud responds with equal audacity by stating that God's might can also be found and experienced when God decides to withhold his might and power! This is a lesson too often lost in this holy corner of the world.

There are scores of NGOs across Israel and the Palestinian Authority working together that understand that force will never translate peace into reality. In the ebb and flow of diplomacy these NGOs provide the only ongoing constant to strengthen the majority of Israelis and Palestinians who desire peace. At one time these organizations could apply for Wye River and Israel Arab Peace Partners Program grants from the US government. These have been cut from the US Budget so, for example, organizations of the Alliance for Peace in the Middle East (ALLMEP) are limited where they can find funds.

When attempts are made by ALLMEP to create a separate fund for NGOs working to end the Arab-Israeli conflict they are told by Congress that countries like Israel, Jordan, Egypt, etc. already get billions in US aid, while other areas of conflict get much less. The only way to create such a fund would be to reduce aid, much of it military, to those countries. One question that was not asked recently of Prime Minister Olmert when he was in Washington was, "Would you be willing to have a few million dollars that Israel receives shifted to support organizations that work towards reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians?" At present the United States is spending \$200 million a day for the war in Iraq. Give these NGOs in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict a few hours worth of that spending, and we would see the Palestinian-Israeli conflict end in less than a year.

One of the key ingredients to reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians is the ability to meet each other. For years now the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies, the premier teaching and research program in the Middle East where future Arab and Jewish leaders are prepared to cooperatively solve the region's environmental challenges, has been unable to get permits for Palestinian students outside of East Jerusalem to study on its campus. This includes students who wish to, "learn to use the environment as an approach to peace-building between Palestinians and Israelis."

At present the Arava Institute has put together a coalition that includes the office of U.S. Ambassador Richard Jones, USAID, Members of the Knesset Orit Noked and Ami Ayalon, the Middle East Division of the Israel Foreign Ministry, and Gisha: the Center for the Legal Protection of Freedom of Movement. This coalition is working to challenge the Israeli policy of not issuing any new study permits for Palestinians, who have security clearance, and who wish to study in Israel. This policy flies in the face of the Agreement on Movement and Access that was signed last year by the United States, Israel, and the Palestinian Authority. Another question not asked of Prime Minister Olmert, "Are you willing to end this blanket policy of no new study permits for Palestinians to study in Israel?"

The author David Grossman, who lost his son Uri during the war this past summer, poignantly addressed 100,000 Israelis who gathered on the anniversary of Rabin's murder in Rabin Square. Turning to Prime Minister Olmert he said, "We have no choice and they have no choice. And a peace of no choice should be approached with the same determination and creativity as one approaches a war of no choice. And those who believe we do have a choice, or that time is on our side do not comprehend the deeply dangerous process already in motion."

Prime Minister Olmert reached out to Palestinians a few days ago when he spoke at the grave of Ben-Gurion and reiterated his call for the establishment of a Palestinian State next to Israel. We have had enough of words. What we need is peaceful action to