

HONORING LORRAINE C. MILLER,
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Lorraine C. Miller of Fort Worth, Texas on her appointment as Clerk of the House of Representatives on Tuesday, January 30, 2007.

As Clerk of the House of Representatives, Mrs. Miller's responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, the Page Board, congressional travel reports and disclosure forms, the voting system, and oversight of the legislative operation of the House floor. She has worked at the highest levels of government, which have contributed to her leadership abilities and knowledge of management. The role of the Clerk is demanding and requires someone with great intellect. Mrs. Miller will bring strength and diversity to the Office of the Clerk as the first African-American woman to hold this top House position.

Mrs. Lorraine Miller first worked in the House for Representatives for U.S. Congressman Jim Wright (D-Fort Worth) when he was Majority Leader. She moved on to work for then-Speaker Tom Foley (D-Washington), U.S. Congressman JOHN LEWIS (D-Georgia), and finally for current Speaker NANCY PELOSI. Mrs. Miller also worked as Deputy Assistant to the President of Legislative Affairs for the House of Representatives during the Clinton Administration. She additionally held positions at the Federal Communications Commission and the Federal Trade Commission.

It is with great honor that I recognize Mrs. Lorraine C. Miller for decades of hard work and selfless dedication. I want to join her friends and family, both in Fort Worth and in Washington, in congratulating her on this prestigious milestone. She has been an inspiration and role model to many, and I am proud to represent her in Congress and look forward to working with her.

INTRODUCTION OF LTC JAMES
MEGELLAS MEDAL OF HONOR
BILL

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I am reintroducing legislation to honor a true American hero by awarding him the Medal of Honor. Sixty-two years ago this past Sunday, on January 28, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge, then Lt. James Megellas led his platoon of the 82nd Airborne Division on a surprise and devastating attack on a much larger advancing German force, killing and capturing a large number of the enemy and causing others to flee. In an act of fearless courage, Lt. Megellas single-handedly destroyed an attacking German Mark V tank with two hand-held grenades. He then led the charge of his men and seized Herresbach, Belgium, during this fierce action of the Battle of the Bulge. Due to his aggressive, fearless and superior leadership, Lt. James Megellas inspired his men to excel.

After serving four years as a rifle platoon leader during World War II, including many combat jumps into Italy and Holland, James Megellas left the active Army and served for 16 years in the Army Reserve. He retired after 20 years of service as a lieutenant colonel.

His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Star Medals, two Bronze Star Medals, two Purple Hearts, and he is credited with being the 82nd Airborne Division's most decorated officer. During World War II, General James Gavin selected one 82nd officer—Lt. James Megellas—to receive the Military Order of Wilhelm Orange Lanyard from the Dutch Minister of War on behalf of his division.

To this day, James Megellas continues to inspire. In February 2006, 61 years after that momentous battle, James "Maggie" Megellas set foot on a battlefield with fellow 82nd Airborne Division soldiers, this time in a current theater of war—Afghanistan. James Megellas was impressed with what he saw of the paratroopers and their work. He listened to their stories of the past year of deployment and shared with them his own experiences during World War II. "Maggie" continues to inspire by speaking to groups across the country about his experiences and is planning to observe his 90th birthday in Iraq this March with the 82nd Airborne troops.

I urge my colleagues to recognize James "Maggie" Megellas by supporting this bill to authorize and request the President to award him the Medal of Honor for his acts of valor on January 28, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge. As time goes by, true heroes should not be forgotten, so please join me in honoring this outstanding American hero.

HONORING COLONEL PAUL M.
KELLY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of a true American hero. Colonel Paul Kelly, of Stafford, Virginia, and a former member of the South Carolina Army National Guard, died in Baghdad when the Black Hawk helicopter he was in crashed.

Colonel Kelly served as a South Carolina guardsman from April 1986 until June 2001. During his tenure, he held key leadership and staff positions within the aviation program rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Colonel Kelly later transferred to the Virginia Army National Guard, with which he was serving at the time of his death. To date Col. Kelly is the most senior officer to die in the Iraqi theater of war. He was a mentor to many coming up through the ranks of military service.

Colonel Kelly would have celebrated his 46th birthday today. According to the Dayton Daily News, Colonel Kelly was nicknamed "the Senator" because he was always shaking soldier's hands, no matter their rank.

Colonel Kelly is survived by his loving wife Maria, his two sons, Paul and John, his parents, John and Mary Rose, and his five siblings. Colonel Kelly honorably served America and his family. My thoughts and prayers are with them all.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th.

HIRE A VETERAN WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. THELMA D. DRAKE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mrs. DRAKE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to lend my support for House Concurrent Resolution 5—supporting the designation of "Hire a Veteran Week."

In each and every generation, a class of men and women stand out amongst their peers for their courage, their dedication and their patriotism. They have willfully defended our Nation and our principles when they were threatened, all the while reminding us about what is good about our Nation through their compassion and their citizenship. Although they have accomplished great things while in uniform, I support this measure not for what they have done to protect our past, but for what they are capable of doing to build our future. Our veterans have gained the kind of working skills and on-the-job training that is beyond comparison. They possess the qualities that any employer would find desirable: dedication, commitment and honor. I hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting House Concurrent Resolution 5 and help bring attention to this worthy endeavor.

IN MEMORY OF LIEUTENANT
GENERAL WARREN D. JOHNSON

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, LTG Warren D. Johnson of Winnetka passed away on January 23, 2007, leaving behind a legacy of personal contributions to his family, colleagues, and the nation.

General Johnson was born in 1922, in Blackwell, Oklahoma. He entered military service in April 1942 and graduated from officer candidate school with a commission as second lieutenant in November 1942. He was first assigned to advanced training for the B-17 and then sent to Tokyo, Japan where he served from December 1946 until June 1949 as a personnel officer in the Pacific Air Command and the Far East Air Forces.

Johnson was next assigned as a B-36 crew member with the 11th Bombardment Wing of Carswell Air Force Base, Texas. There he began his long association with Strategic Air Command. At Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas from May 1955 to July 1959 he served as a B-47 aircraft commander and director of operations for the 70th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing.

General Johnson was assigned as chief of transportation at Torrejon Air Base, Spain and in January 1962, became commander of the SAC base at Sidi Slimane, Morocco.

In 1963, he became deputy director of Eighth Air Force Headquarters at Westover Air Force Base, Massachusetts. In 1966, Johnson became commander of the 380th Strategic