

Command and Staff College, and an assignment at the U.S. Air Force Academy as Air Officer Commanding of Cadet Squadron 29. He retired from the Army at Fort Hood, Texas on October 1, 1989.

In March 1991, as a newly elected Congressman, I was wise enough to hire Sam as my primary contact for the military and veterans communities in what was then District 11. Sam excelled in that role and became the District Director in January 1996. As a local veterans leader, his counsel and advice have been indispensable over the years.

Among many other accomplishments, Sam played a key leadership role in the successful fight to save the Waco VA hospital from closure and helped make it into a national center of excellence. The massive modernization of Fort Hood in the 1990s had Sam Murphey's fingerprints all over it. Countless soldiers and their families have benefited from Sam's hard work to make dramatic improvements in barracks, housing, and training facilities at Fort Hood. Sam was also instrumental in opening Gray Army Airfield to commercial aviation, providing land for the Central Texas Veterans Cemetery and Tarleton State's upper level institution in Killeen.

As a district director, it goes without saying that Sam is very active in local community affairs, but he also spends much of his free time to give back to the community. He continues to serve as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Heart O' Texas Federal Credit Union. He is a past president of the University of Central Texas Alumni Association, and has taught government and business classes at the University of Central Texas and Central Texas College as a member of their adjunct faculty. He is a past chairman of the Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and served 6 years as Commissioner on the Harker Heights Planning and Zoning Commission. He is a co-founder of the Harker Heights Economic Development Corporation and is a past president of the Central Texas—Fort Hood Chapter of the Association of the United States Army and of the Central Texas Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. He is a graduate of Leadership Temple and Leadership Killeen and is a co-founder of the Leadership Belton program. He was recently named Chairman of the Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee.

Sam and his wonderful wife Peggy, his much, much better half, are retiring at the same time to enjoy their beautiful family together in Harker Heights, Texas. Peggy is retiring after a career of service to the soldiers and families at Fort Hood, a place that I had the privilege to represent for 14 years and is very close to my heart. The Good Lord has blessed Sam and Peggy with two children, Steven and Kathleen and five grandchildren, Samantha and Steven Murphey, Hartley, Elle and Sophia Corsi.

May the Good Lord continue to watch over them and as Sam is fond of saying, "bless their little hearts."

Thank you, Sam for your personal friendship and for your service to the people of Central Texas and the citizens of our Nation. We wish you and your family all the best in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO GARY PLAYER

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 26, 2007

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to carry on a tradition started by the late Congressman Charlie Norwood, whose death this year was a great loss to Georgia and the U.S. House of Representatives. Each year on the eve of the Masters golf tournament in his hometown of Augusta, GA., Congressman Norwood would honor a golfer of great acclaim before his colleagues in the House.

This year, that tribute belongs to Gary Player, a world-renowned golfer whose accomplishments extend far beyond the links. In April, Mr. Player will tee up at the Augusta National for the Masters tournament for the 50th consecutive year, a remarkable achievement of longevity in any career. Few events in sports compare to the grace and beauty of the Masters tournament, and for a half century, Mr. Player has played an important role in one of the most cherished and most watched sporting events in the world.

Gary Player's record is the envy of countless golfers. It includes 159 victories worldwide. He holds nine major championships including: three Masters, three British Opens, two U.S. Opens and one PGA Championship. In addition, he has won the World Match Play Championship four times.

Outside the game of golf, Mr. Player has dedicated his life to family—he is celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary this year—and to serving the underprivileged.

In 1983, he established the Gary Player Foundation to address the education crisis in South Africa. The Player family started the Blair Atholl School—complete with a primary school of 400 students, a pre-elementary school for 75, a community resource center and a sports complex. The foundation ensures high-quality education, a nutritional feeding scheme and basic medical care for each child. Besides his foundation, Gary Player hosts the annual Nelson Mandela Invitational Golf Tournament, one of the largest charity events in South Africa. To recognize his many achievements, Gary Player was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws from the Saint Andrews University in 1995.

Gary Player has lived an incredible life and he doesn't take those blessings for granted. He has said, "I have been so lucky with golf, with my family, with my health, all I can be is thankful." Let us wish him continued luck and thanks for his accomplishments on and off the course. Mr. Player, good luck in Augusta.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DHS SAFE ACT TO ENHANCE THE SECURITY OF DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY BADGES, IDENTIFICATION CARDS, UNIFORMS, AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 26, 2007

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, today I have introduced, together with my colleagues from the Committee on Homeland Security, Chairman Thompson of Mississippi and Mr. Rogers of Alabama, legislation that will prevent terrorists or others with bad intent from posing as Homeland Security officials or officers. This common sense bill will require the Department of Homeland Security to make sure that sensitive material—badges, identification cards, uniforms, and protective gear—is made in the United States. As these items would be vulnerable to theft in transit, it just makes sense to make sure they start and stay in America.

When the Department of Homeland Security buys identification cards overseas, there is no system in place to ensure that they are not stolen and misappropriated by terrorists, who could then pass into restricted areas with fraudulent credentials. In countries with less robust ethical and management standards for business, manufacturers might even be willing to sell uniforms or badges to the highest bidder. The men and women who serve in positions that protect our security are put at risk by a policy that does not secure these materials, and the practice of purchasing them overseas without appropriate safeguards must end.

It is certainly not uncommon for cargo to be hijacked or lost, particularly in the staging areas at our Nation's ports of entry. The potential theft of uniforms, badges, or ID cards by the truckload pose a clear threat. These items are meant to serve as validation that those charged with securing our country are who they say they are; misappropriation is unacceptable.

This legislation will not slow down the Department at all with regard to purchases; it merely ensures that sensitive materials are kept securely inside the United States when appropriate. The bill contains a waiver for small purchases and for material that will be used outside of the United States. It gives the Department the flexibility to procure materials outside of the United States if necessary and as long as steps are taken to prevent misappropriation.

This legislation is focused and targeted at the area of greatest risk in procurement. I urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to support it.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 28

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services
Strategic Forces Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Strategic Forces Program in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2008 and the future years Defense Program, with the possibility of a closed session in SR-222 following the open session.

SR-232A

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook.

SH-216

9:45 a.m.

Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of Labor.

SD-124

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine reducing government building operational costs through innovation and efficiency, focusing on legislative solutions.

SD-406

Finance

To hold hearings to examine risks and reform, focusing on the role of currency in the U.S.-China relationship.

SD-215

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the future of the Coast Guard Dive Program.

SR-253

Rules and Administration

Business meeting to consider S. 223, to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

SR-301

Appropriations
State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the United States Agency for

International Development and foreign assistance programs.

SD-138

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the United States Navy.

SD-192

Aging

To hold hearings to examine affordable drug coverage that works for Wisconsin, focusing on preserving senior care.

SD-562

11:45 a.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 193, to increase cooperation on energy issues between the United States Government and foreign governments and entities in order to secure the strategic and economic interests of the United States, S. 613, to enhance the overseas stabilization and reconstruction capabilities of the United States Government, H.R. 1003, to amend the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 to reauthorize the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy, S. Res. 30, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the need for the United States to address global climate change through the negotiation of fair and effective international commitments, S. Res. 65, condemning the murder of Turkish-Armenian journalist and human rights advocate Hrant Dink and urging the people of Turkey to honor his legacy of tolerance, S. Res. 76, calling on the United States Government and the international community to promptly develop, fund, and implement a comprehensive regional strategy in Africa to protect civilians, facilitate humanitarian operations, contain and reduce violence, and contribute to conditions for sustainable peace in eastern Chad, and Central African Republic, and Darfur, Sudan, and the nominations of Paul J. Bonicelli, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, Curtis S. Chin, of New York, to be United States Director of the Asian Development Bank, with the rank of Ambassador, Eli Whitney Debevoise II, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Sam Fox, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to Belgium, Zalmay Khalilzad, of Maryland, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations, Margrethe Lundsager, of Virginia, to be United States Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund, Katherine Almquist, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, Douglas Menarchik, of Texas, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development. (Re-appointment), and Ford M. Fraker, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Appropriations
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for United States Forest Service.

SD-124

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Space, Aeronautics, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine transitioning to a next generation Human Space Flight System.

SR-253

3 p.m.

Appropriations
Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of the Treasury.

SD-192

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine No Child Left Behind Reauthorization, focusing on effective strategies for engaging parents and communities in schools.

SD-430

3:30 p.m.

Armed Services
Personnel Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine active component, reserve component, and civilian personnel programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2008 and the future years Defense Program.

SR-232A

MARCH 29

9:15 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian trust fund litigation.

SR-485

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2008 and the future years Defense Program, with the possibility of a closed session in SR-222 following the open session.

SD-106

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine an update on Iran; may be followed by a business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-419

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Business meeting to markup S. 163, to improve the disaster loan program of the Small Business Administration.

SR-428A

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of AMVETS, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Gold Star Wives of America, Fleet Reserve Association, the Retired Enlisted Association, Military Officers Association of America, and the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of David James Gribbin IV, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Transportation.

SR-253

Environment and Public Works	2 p.m.		APRIL 10
Business meeting to consider S. 801, to designate a United States courthouse located in Fresno, California, as the "Robert E. Coyle United States Courthouse", S. 521, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse and customhouse located at 515 West First Street in Duluth, Minnesota, as the "Gerald W. Heany Federal Building and United States Courthouse and Customhouse", the Public Buildings Cost Reduction Act, the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, and the nominations of Roger Romulus Martella, Jr., of Virginia, to be Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Bradley Udall, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation.	Judiciary	Business meeting to consider S. 236, to require reports to Congress on Federal agency use of data mining, S. 376, to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, S. 849, to promote accessibility, accountability, and openness in Government by strengthening section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), S. 119, to prohibit profiteering and fraud relating to military action, relief, and reconstruction efforts, S. 621, to establish commissions to review the facts and circumstances surrounding injustices suffered by European Americans, European Latin Americans, and Jewish refugees during World War II, and S. Res. 108, designating the first week of April 2007 as "National Asbestos Awareness Week" and to discuss the possibility of the issuance of certain subpoenas in connection with investigation into replacement of United States Attorneys.	10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). SR-253
SD-406			APRIL 11
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs			9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine issues relative to Filipino veterans. SR-418
Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee			10 a.m. Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs To hold hearings to examine the availability and affordability of property and casualty insurance in the Gulf Coast and other coastal regions. SD-538
To hold hearings to examine eliminating and recovering improper payments, focusing on the Office of Management and Budget report entitled "Improving the Accuracy and Integrity of Improper Payments".	2:30 p.m.	Closed business meeting and hearing regarding certain intelligence matters. SH-219	Rules and Administration To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Smithsonian Institution. SR-301
SD-342	Intelligence		APRIL 17
Finance			10 a.m. Judiciary To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Justice. SD-106
To hold hearings to examine clean energy from the margins to the mainstream.			APRIL 25
SD-215			2 p.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Veterans Affairs, focusing on mental health issues. SR-418
Judiciary	10 a.m.		APRIL 26
To continue hearings to examine Department of Justice hiring and firing of United States Attorneys, focusing on preserving prosecutorial independence.	Appropriations Legislative Branch Subcommittee	To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Office of the Senate Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, and the United States Capitol police. SD-138	10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Science, Technology, and Innovation Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine clean coal technology. SR-253
SH-216			

MARCH 30