

apprehending several terrorists in Germany who were bent on killing large numbers of Americans and Germans.

Just last week, this House and the American people took time to commemorate and to remember the tragic loss of life of almost 3,000 American lives killed 6 years ago in the cowardly attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Due to the cooperation of the intelligence agencies in the U.S. and Germany, many Americans are alive today who might well have suffered a similar fate in just the past few days who, quite likely, would have been killed or injured in explosions masterminded by extremists who care nothing for innocent civilians that they are intent on destroying.

We are fortunate, Mr. Speaker, to have allies in Europe who are working with us in this important fight against terrorism as well as our own intelligence community that is working around the clock to protect not only Americans but people around the world.

This resolution expresses to both our friends in the Federal Republic of Germany and to the hardworking people of our intelligence agencies the profound thanks and gratitude for saving American lives.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALDOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALDOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 639, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AWARDING A CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO MICHAEL ELLIS DEBAKEY, M.D.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1154) to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1154

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D. was born on September 7, 1908 in Lake Charles, Louisiana, to Shaker and Raheea DeBakey.

(2) Dr. DeBakey, at the age of 23 and still a medical student, reported a major invention, a roller pump for blood transfusions, which later became a major component of the heart-lung machine used in the first successful open-heart operation.

(3) Even though Dr. DeBakey had already achieved a national reputation as an authority on vascular disease and had a promising

career as a surgeon and teacher, he volunteered for military service during World War II, joining the Surgeon General's staff and rising to the rank of Colonel and Chief of the Surgical Consultants Division.

(4) As a result of this first-hand knowledge of military service, Dr. DeBakey made numerous recommendations for the proper staged management of war wounds, which led to the development of mobile army surgical hospitals or MASH units and earned Dr. DeBakey the Legion of Merit in 1945.

(5) After the war, Dr. DeBakey proposed the systematic medical follow-up of veterans and recommended the creation of specialized medical centers in different areas of the United States to treat wounded military personnel returning from war and from this recommendation evolved the Veterans Affairs Medical Center System and the establishment of the Commission on Veterans Medical Problems of the National Research Council.

(6) In 1948, Dr. DeBakey joined the Baylor University College of Medicine, where he developed the first surgical residency program in the City of Houston, and today, guided by Dr. DeBakey's vision, the College is one of the most respected health science centers in the Nation.

(7) In 1953, Dr. DeBakey performed the first successful procedures to treat patients who suffered aneurysms leading to severe strokes, and he later developed a series of innovative surgical techniques for the treatment of aneurysms enabling thousands of lives to be saved in the years ahead.

(8) In 1964, Dr. DeBakey triggered the most explosive era in modern cardiac surgery, when he performed the first successful coronary bypass, once again paving the way for surgeons world-wide to offer hope to thousands of patients who might otherwise succumb to heart disease.

(9) Two years later, Dr. DeBakey made medical history again, when he was the first to successfully use a partial artificial heart to solve the problems of a patient who could not be weaned from a heart-lung machine following open-heart surgery.

(10) In 1968, Dr. DeBakey supervised the first successful multi-organ transplant, in which a heart, both kidneys, and lung were transplanted from a single donor into 4 separate recipients.

(11) In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed Dr. DeBakey to the position of Chairman of the President's Commission on Heart Disease, Cancer and Stroke, leading to the creation of Regional Medical Programs established "to encourage and assist in the establishment of regional cooperative arrangements among medical schools, research institutions, and hospitals, for research and training."

(12) In the mid-1960's, Dr. DeBakey pioneered the field of telemedicine with the first demonstration of open-heart surgery to be transmitted overseas by satellite.

(13) In 1969, Dr. DeBakey was elected the first President of Baylor College of Medicine.

(14) In 1969, President Lyndon B. Johnson bestowed on Dr. DeBakey the Presidential Medal of Freedom with Distinction, and in 1985, President Ronald Reagan conferred on him the National Medal of Science.

(15) Working with NASA engineers, he refined existing technology to create the DeBakey Ventricular Assist Device, one-tenth the size of current versions, which may eliminate the need for heart transplantation in some patients.

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the

presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design, to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D., in recognition of his many outstanding contributions to the Nation.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 2 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

SEC. 4. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 5. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck pursuant to this Act.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section 3 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this bill, H.R. 1154.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be the original sponsor of this bill. However, Mr. Speaker, I would like to make it conspicuously clear that to award this Congressional Gold Medal to the Honorable Michael DeBakey, many other persons are to be thanked.

I would like to start by thanking the chairman of the Financial Services Committee, my chairman, Chairman BARNEY FRANK, for helping us to expeditiously get this bill out of committee. I would also like to thank the majority leader, STENY HOYER, for the outstanding work that he has done to get this bill to the floor; my colleagues, Congressman MICHAEL BURGESS and the Congressman who is with

me right now, Congressman BURGESS is en route, Congressman JOHN CULBERSON. They have both worked with me, Mr. Speaker, to help us acquire the necessary votes, 290, and I assure you we have acquired more than 300 votes, to get this bill to the floor. The Texas delegation has worked with us and deserves an expression of appreciation. The 313 cosponsors in the U.S. House, the leadership of the U.S. House of Representatives, and of course we would like to thank Senator KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, and the Members of the Senate for what they have done with this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Gold Medal has many judges. In fact, 535 people act as judges with reference to the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal. Each Member of the House, 435, and each Senator has a vote. Each one judges the merits of a candidate for a Congressional Gold Medal.

I want you and all others to know, Mr. Speaker, and I understand this and I guess I want people to understand that I understand, that it is not easy to get 290 Members of the House and 67 Members of the Senate to agree. However, with Dr. Michael DeBakey, I found that it was a labor of love, and I found all of the Members that we approached to be most receptive to having this medal be accorded the Honorable Dr. Michael DeBakey.

Let me at this time explain what a Congressional Gold Medal is. It is the Nation's highest and most distinguished civilian award. It was originally awarded to military leaders and later became a civilian medal. It is the congressional equivalent of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Each medal is unique, and it will be coined by the United States Mint and designed by the United States Mint. There will be duplicates made in bronze, and they will be available for public consumption.

The Congressional Gold Medal has been awarded approximately 134 times to approximately 300 individuals. Some noted recipients include the first President of our Nation, George Washington; General Andrew Jackson; the Wright Brothers; Thomas Edison; Sam Rayburn, a former Speaker of this august body; sir Winston Churchill; Robert Kennedy; Lady Bird Johnson; Mother Teresa; Nelson Mandela; Rosa Parks; Pope John Paul II; the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King; and Coretta Scott King. And the last recipients were the Tuskegee Airmen.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank God for Dr. Michael DeBakey. He is truly one who epitomizes the American Dream. Born the oldest of five children, his parents were of Lebanese descent. He was born in my home State, New Orleans, Louisiana. And, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that he had his residency at Charity Hospital, the hospital where I was delivered, and I am currently researching to find out if it is entirely possible that I might be a person who was delivered by the Honorable Michael DeBakey.

He received his degree from Tulane Medical School. He was on the faculty of Baylor University from 1948 to 1993. He chaired the department of surgery at Baylor. He was the president of Baylor College and also a chancellor.

Mr. Speaker, the Honorable Michael DeBakey has earned the right to receive a Congressional Gold Medal. He served his country during World War II, helped to develop the mobile army surgical hospital units known as the MASH units. We probably would not have a MASH TV series if not but for the Honorable Michael DeBakey.

He helped to develop and establish the VA hospitals. He helped to establish the current Veterans Affairs medical system. He established the field of surgery in the area of strokes. He led the movement to establish the National Library of Medicine. He performed the historic multiple transplantation procedure. He was a leader in the development of the artificial heart. He operated on more than 60,000 patients in Houston alone. He has published more than 1,600 articles. He has been awarded 57 honorary degrees. He helped to establish health care systems around the world, in Jordan, Morocco, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and Spain, to name a few.

Dr. DeBakey is a great citizen not only of the United States of America but also of the world. He has been a humanitarian par excellence, and he has helped both rich and poor alike.

Mr. Speaker, if we did not have a Congressional Gold Medal, we would have to create one to honor the Honorable Dr. Michael DeBakey. On his 99th birthday, I am proud to say, we called him to let him know that we had reached the 290 signatures necessary in the House. And his comments were, "I am so grateful that I am a citizen of the United States."

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is my singular honor to stand before the House today to support H.R. 1154, a bill that Mr. GREEN is the lead author of, which he has coauthored with Mr. BURGESS and I and other members of the Texas delegation, which Senator HUTCHISON has carried in the Senate, to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Michael DeBakey.

AL GREEN and I are proud to represent the Texas Medical Center in Houston, the largest assembly of medical institutions and hospitals, learning facilities in the world, and certainly the greatest collection of medical talent, human talent in the entire world. And Dr. Michael DeBakey has had an impact on medicine based out of the Texas Medical Center that just simply cannot be overstated. And my friend AL GREEN has spoken so eloquently and so well of many of Dr. DeBakey's accomplishments. I could not agree more that if the Congres-

sional Gold Medal did not exist, it certainly should be created just for Dr. Michael DeBakey.

He is an educator, surgeon, innovator. As Mr. GREEN has said, Dr. DeBakey comes from Louisiana, the oldest of five children. He was born in 1908. And it is important for people listening to know that this great good man is 99 years old, in great good health, is still active, and is, I hope, watching this afternoon.

He received both his bachelor's, his master's, and his medical degrees all from Tulane University in New Orleans and completed his internship at the Charity Hospital and his residency at the University of Strasbourg, France and Heidelberg, Germany.

At the age of 23, and still a medical student, he reported a major invention, the roller pump for blood transfusions, which later became a major component of the heart-lung machine used in the first successful open heart operation. And while Dr. DeBakey was still a resident in surgery, he invented a blood transfusion needle, suture scissors, and a colostomy clamp while still a student. He is also credited with inventing and perfecting countless other medical devices, techniques, and procedures that have saved untold number of lives and led to healthy hearts for millions of people throughout the world. The man is truly a pioneer in ways that I think most people may or may not know. He is a modest good man, and I just can't tell you how proud I am to be here and to be a part of this tonight.

When he returned to the United States in 1937, after completing his European studies, Dr. DeBakey accepted a position on the faculty of Tulane University's School of Medicine Department of Surgery. And although he had already achieved a national reputation as an authority on vascular disease and had a promising career as a surgeon and teacher, Dr. DeBakey volunteered for medical service during World War II, joined the Surgeon General's staff, and rose to the rank of colonel and chief of the surgical consultant's division.

His firsthand knowledge led Dr. DeBakey to make a number of recommendations to properly stage the management of war wounds, which led to the development of the MASH units that we are all so familiar with because of the television show, and today the survival rate of soldiers in the field is remarkable. If they are injured or wounded in combat and defense of this Nation, the surgical attention they get from those mobile army surgical hospitals is a direct result of Dr. DeBakey's work in World War II. And for this contribution, Dr. DeBakey earned the Legion of Merit in 1945.

After World War II, Dr. DeBakey recommended the creation of specialized medical centers in different parts of the United States to treat wounded military personnel returning from the war; and from this recommendation, Dr. DeBakey's ideas led to the creation

of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center System. He also proposed a systematic follow-up of veterans, as he had done so with soldiers in the field, which led to the establishment of the Commission on Veterans Medical Problems of the National Research Council and an extensive VA Medical Center Research program. And in 2003, in honor of Dr. DeBakey's accomplishments, with the help of my friend AL GREEN and SHEILA JACKSON-LEE and other members of the Houston delegation, the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Houston, Texas, was renamed the Michael DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

In 1948, Dr. DeBakey moved to Houston and started at the Methodist Hospital in Baylor College of Medicine in the Texas Medical Center. Shortly after he arrived, he secured commitments to improve the institutions and quickly developed the first surgical residency program in the city of Houston. Guided by his vision, Baylor College of Medicine is today one of the most respected health science centers in the Nation and in the world.

In 1969, as Al mentioned, Dr. DeBakey was elected the first president of the Baylor College of Medicine, and today he is chancellor emeritus of the Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. DeBakey has been crucial to the growth of the Methodist Hospital in the Texas Medical Center.

At Methodist, Dr. DeBakey performed many of his groundbreaking surgeries, including the first removal of a carotid artery blockage in 1950.

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Today Dr. DeBakey is a senior attending surgeon at the Methodist Hospital.

Convinced that there must be a way to improve existing methods of vascular surgery, Dr. DeBakey went out on his own and purchased fabric from a Houston area fabric store, using a craft he had learned from his mother as a child. Dr. DeBakey created the first Dacron prosthetic artery on his wife's sewing machine. Intensive studies and testing followed, and with the collaboration of a research associate from the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Sciences, a knitting machine was developed that produced the first seamless artificial artery in history called Dacron tubes.

In 1953, Dr. DeBakey performed the first successful procedures to treat patients who suffered aneurysms leading to severe strokes. He later developed a series of innovative surgical techniques for the treatment of aneurysms enabling thousands of lives to be saved in the years ahead.

During Dr. DeBakey's tenure as a member of the Task Force on Medical Services of the Hoover Commission, he initiated the concept and led the movement to establish a national facility for valuable and historical medical papers and artifacts. His efforts led to the dedication on June 12, 1959, of the Na-

tional Library of Medicine housed at the National Institutes of Health. Today the National Library of Medicine is the world's largest and most prestigious repository of medical archives.

In 1964, President Johnson appointed Dr. DeBakey to the position of chairman of the President's Commission on Heart Disease, Cancer and Stroke, which led to the creation of the Regional Medical Programs established "to encourage and assist in the establishment of regional cooperative arrangements among medical schools, research institutions and hospitals for research and training."

In 1964, Dr. DeBakey also triggered the most explosive era in modern cardiac surgery when he performed the first successful coronary bypass in history. That's an extraordinary achievement, and everyone should focus on that. Dr. DeBakey was, once again, paving the way for surgeons worldwide to offer hope to thousands of patients who might otherwise succumb to heart disease.

Two years later, Dr. DeBakey made medical history again when he was the first to use, successfully, a partial artificial heart to solve the problems of a patient who could not be weaned from a heart-lung machine following open heart surgery.

And in the mid-1960s, Dr. DeBakey pioneered the field of telemedicine with the first demonstration of open heart surgery to be transmitted overseas by satellite, a technique that is today used extensively in Iraq. When soldiers in the field are injured and brought into the hospital and they need medical care, physicians in the Texas Medical Center, which AL GREEN and I are so proud to represent, are able to view those procedures live via satellite, of the x-rays, of the CAT scans and the procedure itself being done in Iraq. A doctor sitting in Houston, Texas is able to help observe and offer advice on that procedure to help save those soldiers' lives. And that technique was first pioneered by Dr. DeBakey back in the mid-1960s.

In 1968, Dr. DeBakey supervised the first successful multi-organ transplant where a heart, both kidneys and a lung were transplanted from a single donor to four separate recipients. In 1968.

In 1969, President Johnson bestowed on Dr. DeBakey the Presidential Medal of Freedom with Distinction.

Dr. DeBakey has always focused on education and bringing young people into the field of medicine and strengthening and expanding the reach of our medical schools. And in 1962, he supported an educational outreach program that led to the creation of Houston High School for Health Professions, now recognized as one of the best high schools of its kind in the United States. And in 1996, Houston's High School for Health Professions was renamed the Michael E. DeBakey High School for Health Professions in honor of this great, good man.

And he was recognized by President Reagan in 1985 with the National Medal of Science.

In 1999, Time Magazine chose Dr. DeBakey as one of the 100 Great Americans of the 20th Century and honored him for his pioneering work and innovation in cardiovascular surgery and the artificial heart.

Dr. DeBakey continues his pioneering research today. Working with NASA engineers, he refined existing technology to create the DeBakey ventricular assist device for patients with dying hearts. This device is one tenth the size of current versions and restores the cardiac output of a heart to normal function in order to relieve the patient's failing heart and could eventually eliminate the need for heart transplant in some patients. And, in fact, the technology that Dr. DeBakey was able to develop for the ventricular assist device is very similar to and helped NASA in developing the fuel pumps for the space shuttle, which to this day the space shuttle fuel pumps on those engines are able to move more fuel, more fluid more rapidly than any other pump ever invented. And Dr. DeBakey's work was a key part of that.

I have a particular soft part in my heart. As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I do my best to avoid spending money. The starting answer is no, unless it's medical or scientific research. And when it comes to medical or scientific research, that's our Nation's insurance policy and the investment that we make. And the research that's done at the Texas Medical Center, other medical institutions around the country and in scientific research and in the space program is truly a part of our national insurance policy. And the research work that Dr. DeBakey has done with NASA has truly led to saving lives and improved technological spin-offs in many other areas as well.

In 1999, Dr. DeBakey was one of eight individuals chosen to commemorate the United Nations' International Day for Tolerance and received the prestigious U.N. Lifetime Achievement Award.

In 2000, Dr. DeBakey was recognized by the Library of Congress, which designated him a Living Legend.

Throughout his many years of public service, Dr. DeBakey has been awarded over 50 honorary degrees from colleges, universities and medical schools worldwide, as well as numerous awards from educational institutions, professional and civic organizations and governments worldwide.

I want to again, Mr. Speaker, say thank you to my colleagues, Representative AL GREEN and Representative MICHAEL BURGESS, for bringing this bill to the House floor, and a special thank you to Chairman BARNEY FRANK for expediting its approval through the Financial Services Committee.

I could not agree more with my friend, AL GREEN. There is no better

way to express the merit of this good man, that if the Congressional Gold Medal did not exist, it truly would need to be invented for Dr. DeBakey. With his extraordinary achievements, his contributions to mankind, to improving the lives and health of not only the people of the United States but of the world, I am proud to join my friend, AL GREEN, in urging the House to support and pass H.R. 1154 to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Michael Ellis DeBakey.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we have been joined by the other lead author of this bill, my colleague and good friend from Dallas, Dr. MICHAEL BURGESS. And I would like, if I could, at this time to yield time to Dr. BURGESS.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I want to come to the floor of the House today to talk and honor the legacy that is that of Dr. Michael DeBakey, the father of cardiovascular surgery, and to encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote in favor of H.R. 1154, the bill to designate a Congressional Gold Medal for the famed Houston heart surgeon.

This bill was introduced by my good friend from Texas, Representative AL GREEN. And Mr. Speaker, we've heard in great detail the number of accomplishments of this singular individual. But, Mr. Speaker, I felt it was incumbent upon me, as one of the very few physicians in the House of Representatives, to come to the floor and talk just a little bit about how Dr. DeBakey forever changed the face of the practice of medicine in this country.

As a fellow physician, Dr. DeBakey's work and medical advancements are indeed legendary. His dedication to healing those around him came not only from his talent as a physician, but his ongoing commitment to medical education, the larger medical community, and indeed, the entire profession, the practice of medicine.

His motto, as always, was "Strive for nothing less than excellence." This motto should be adopted by every one of us in this House and indeed across the country.

His education and his entrepreneurial spirit made him worthy of the Nation's highest expression of appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions.

Dr. DeBakey received his bachelor's and M.D. degree from Tulane University down in New Orleans. While in medical school, Dr. DeBakey invented what became known as the roller pump, later to become a major component in the heart-lung machine used in open heart surgery. Think of that, Mr. Speaker. He was in medical school. He was not yet an M.D. and he devised a revolutionary concept for the engineering of a pump that dealt with a roller mechanism, as opposed to the piston mechanism that resulted in the destruction of red blood cells by the very mechanism that was intended to pump those red blood cells. He had an unusual knack for looking at things in a new light and developing new ideas.

He completed his internship at Charity Hospital in New Orleans. Charity Hospital. Think of that, Mr. Speaker. One of the venerable institutions of medical education in this country; an institution that was unfortunately lost to us just two short years ago to the ravages of Hurricane Katrina. Charity Hospital has turned out a number of medical icons of my generation and the generation before, now lost to us forever.

But it was Dr. DeBakey at his residency in surgery or doing his internship at Charity Hospital to then go on to his residency in surgery at the University of Strasbourg, France and the University of Heidelberg in Germany.

He volunteered for service in World War II and was subsequently named director of the surgical consultants division of the United States Surgeon General's Office. His work during that war led that office to the development of the mobile army surgical hospital, which we now know as a MASH unit. These units were the forerunners of our forward surgical combat teams that have saved so many lives in the present conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Previous conflicts in Korea and Vietnam certainly benefited from the mobile army surgical hospitals, but those forward surgical teams, to be able to deliver the type of care in the battlefield that those critically injured patients need, many of us have traveled to Iraq and seen those hospitals at Ballad and Imbue Sinai in Baghdad, the Baghdad ER. And it's the principles put forward by Dr. DeBakey that are at work at this hour in those centers where our men and women are fighting today.

He helped establish the specialized medical and surgical center system for treating military personnel returning home from war, subsequently known as the Veterans Administration medical center system.

But it was at Methodist Hospital in Houston in the Texas Medical Center represented so capably by my friends from Texas Mr. CULBERSON and Mr. GREEN where Dr. DeBakey performed many of his groundbreaking surgeries, including the first removal of a carotid artery blockage. Mr. Speaker, the year was 1950. That's the year I was born. The first coronary artery bypass graft in 1964, the first use of a ventricular assist device to pump blood and to support a failing heart in 1966, and then some of the first heart transplants performed in this country in 1968 and '69.

He developed a self-contained miniaturized left ventricular assist device pump, again, to assist the diseased left ventricle and allow it an opportunity to either heal, get the patient to surgery, or perhaps provide stabilization leading up to a transplant. This is something that is in use today, and indeed I saw it used on one of my family members a number of years ago.

The techniques used to miniaturize the device's inner workings were developed with engineers working with engineers right next door at the nearby NASA program.

He served as an advisor to nearly every United States President for the last 50 years. He traveled, in 1966 very famously to Russia to consult on the surgery for Russian President Boris Yeltsin. And knowing Dr. DeBakey, I have to suspect he did a good deal more than consult on that surgery.

During his professional surgical career, he performed more than 60,000 cardiovascular procedures, trained thousands of surgeons who practice around the world. His name is affixed to a number of organizations, centers for learning, and projects devoted to medical education and health education for the general public.

But think of this, Mr. Speaker. Dr. DeBakey also underwent an operation that was named for him. Reading in the New York Times on the way up here to Washington last December, I read a story about how Dr. DeBakey had undergone the surgery that he himself had described many years before. In fact, Dr. DeBakey admitted at the time, although he knew he was quite ill, he never called his own doctor and he never called 911.

Now, I'm quoting here. He said, "if it becomes intense enough, you're perfectly willing to accept cardiac arrest as a possible way of getting rid of the pain." That's what he told the New York Times. You just have to marvel at the pragmatism of that individual.

As previously noted by the other two speakers, he did help establish the National Library of Medicine, which is now the world's largest and most prestigious repository for medical archives. Indeed, I will probably use the medline in the National Library of Medicine this evening as I prepare for hearings on the Energy and Commerce Committee tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, as we talk in Congress about the need for improving the practice of medicine, Dr. DeBakey was on the forefront of that, while most of us in this body hadn't even started school yet. In fact, many in this body were not even born yet.

These accomplishments have been honored before. In 1969, he received the highest honor a United States citizen can receive, the Presidential Medal of Freedom with Distinction. In 1976, his students founded the Michael E. DeBakey International Surgical Society.

His contributions to medicine and his breakthrough surgeries and innovative devices have completely transformed our view of the human body and of our longevity and, indeed, of the planet.

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He has been designated a living legend by the Library of Congress, and today we take another opportunity to honor a full and important life by conferring on Dr. DeBakey the Congressional Gold Medal.

I want to thank my colleagues who joined me in cosponsoring H.R. 1154, introduced by Congressman GREEN and cosponsored by Congressman CULBERSON.

Mr. Speaker, imagine a simple country doctor from Louisville, Texas. I got to sit on the phone last Friday with AL GREEN and sing Happy Birthday to Dr. DeBakey on his 99th birthday. What an honor for me, what an honor for America to be able to afford this individual the rightful accolades that he so richly deserves.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to just make a few closing comments, if I may.

Mr. Speaker, as was indicated by Dr. BURGESS, who has worked tirelessly, I might add, to help us get the necessary signatures to bring this bill to the floor, as was indicated, Dr. DeBakey is a living legend. But he is really more than that. He is a person who is loved by many people. The people over at Baylor College of Medicine, the staff, they have worked with us to help us get this piece of legislation through the Congress.

I am honored to tell you, Mr. Speaker, that Mrs. DeBakey is a real asset as well, and we don't want to overlook her.

He is a gentle spirit, a person who is warm, a person who exudes a sense of confidence that is almost infectious. He is a person who is not only a great citizen of the United States, a great humanitarian, but a person who will be remembered throughout history for all that he has done to help humankind.

Mr. Speaker, I will close with a poem, the author whose name is not known to me, but it is most appropriate for Dr. DeBakey:

"While some measure their lives by days and years

Others by heartthrobs, passions, and tears

The surest measure under God's sun

Is what for others in your lifetime have you done."

Dr. DeBakey, we thank you for what you have done, and we honor you today for your great place in history that you will acquire.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as a citizen of Houston, the greatest city in the greatest state of the world's greatest country, and as an original co-sponsor of the legislation, I rise proudly to support H.R. 1154, which authorizes the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D. The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest expression of national appreciation for exceptional service and for lifetime contributions. The medal has been awarded to individuals from all walks of life. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King, Pope John Paul II, the Navajo Code Talkers, Rosa Parks, Frank Sinatra, and Elie Wiesel are among those who have been honored. Dr. Michael DeBakey is exceptionally well qualified to join the list of individuals who have received this most distinguished of honors. As I would like to discuss briefly, Dr. DeBakey is one of the greatest Americans of the 20th Century.

Dr. Michael Ellis DeBakey, internationally renowned physician, is known foremost for his pioneering work as a cardiovascular surgeon.

Although he is widely regarded as "the father of modern cardiovascular surgery" due to his path-breaking introduction of now commonplace procedures such as arterial bypass operations, artificial hearts, and heart transplants, Dr. DeBakey's contributions in fields diverse as military medicine, veterans affairs, and public health policy would place him in the first rank of all the practitioners of the healing arts who ever lived.

Born in 1908 in Lake Charles, Louisiana, Dr. DeBakey received his undergraduate and medical degrees from Tulane University. After receiving surgical training in Europe, Dr. DeBakey returned to the United States and enlisted in the Army at the onset of World War II. His service on the Surgeon General's staff during the war was pivotal; studies conducted by Dr. DeBakey and his colleagues led to the creation of "mobile army surgical hospital" (MASH) units that revolutionized battlefield medicine would go on to save hundreds of thousands of lives in that and subsequent wars. For his wartime contributions to the Nation, Lt. Col. DeBakey was awarded the Legion of Merit Award in 1945.

Following the war, Dr. DeBakey's expertise in the development of specialized medical and surgical center-systems contributed greatly to the design and formation of the Veterans Administration Medical Center System. In addition, Dr. DeBakey played a leading role in persuading the Congress to create and fund the National Library of Medicine, where records of the Nation's medical research activities are stored for the benefit of future researchers.

Dr. DeBakey's arrival in Houston at the Baylor College of Medicine heralded the development of Baylor and Houston's Texas Medical Center into world-renowned centers of medical excellence. As Baylor's Chairman of Surgery and later President, Dr. DeBakey spearheaded efforts to associate Baylor with the TMC's network of hospitals, secured Federal funding for research, and recruited numerous highly-acclaimed faculty and researchers to Baylor. During that time, Dr. DeBakey was also an active and innovative clinician: introducing the Dacron artificial arteries in 1953, the first successful coronary bypass in the early 1960s, and the first successful multi-organ transplant in 1968.

Dr. DeBakey's wisdom has been sought by virtually every U.S. president since Harry S. Truman. He served on presidential commissions during both the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, and thus provided essential support in the passage of the landmark 1965 Medicare legislation. Dr. DeBakey was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom with Distinction in 1969 and the National Medal of Science by President Ronald Reagan in 1987. He currently serves as Chancellor Emeritus of the Baylor College of Medicine and continues to see patients, pursue his research, serve on national advisory committees, and consult on projects to help develop health care systems in the Middle and Far East.

It is for these reasons and more, Madam Speaker, that I led the fight throughout the 107th and 108th Congress to pass legislation naming the Houston Veterans Hospital in my Congressional district after this great American. This effort finally came to fruition in the 108th Congress when the President signed into law Pub. L. 108-170.

The awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. Michael Ellis DeBakey is an ap-

propriate act of recognition from a grateful nation to a person who has devoted his life to improving life in America and around the world. I strongly support H.R. 1154 and urge my colleagues to join me in voting to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D., one of Houston's greatest sons and America's greatest citizens.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1154, a resolution to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D.

Dr. DeBakey has been a dedicated public servant, especially to veterans.

The developments in organ transplant medicine developed by him have enabled millions of people to lead happy and productive lives.

Early in life, he volunteered for military service during World War II, joining the Surgeon General's staff and rising to the rank of Colonel and Chief of the Surgical Consultants Division. His recommendations led to advances in mobility military medicine and earned him the Legion of Merit in 1945.

His work contributed to the ultimate development of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center System and the establishment of the Commission on Veterans Medical Problems of the National Research Council.

Mr. Speaker, I served as Chief Psychiatric Nurse at the V.A. Hospital in Dallas and have 15 years of experience in hands-on patient care.

Medical follow-up after active service is extremely important for our veterans.

Dr. DeBakey's intelligence, dedication and other talents were directed early in his career to assist men and women serving in our military.

For decades, his innovations in cardiovascular medicine revolutionized the field and have forever changed the way surgery is conducted.

Many millions who will never know him have Dr. DeBakey to thank for pioneering surgical techniques that have saved their lives.

Mr. Speaker, as a Texan, I have great pride for our own Dr. Michael DeBakey. It is fitting for the U.S. House of Representatives to honor him in this way.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this legislation to award Dr. Michael E. DeBakey with the Congressional Gold Medal. I would also like to thank my friend and neighbor, AL GREEN, as well as my fellow Texan, Dr. BURGESS, for introducing this bill to honor and celebrate the life and achievements of Dr. Michael DeBakey.

Over the course of his long life, Dr. DeBakey has been a tremendous asset to his long-time home of Houston and has made a considerable contribution to the advancement of medicine. His accomplishments are numerous, both in traditional medicine and military medicine. Dr. DeBakey volunteered for enlistment in World War II where he helped to develop mobile army surgical hospitals. His commitment to military medicine continued with his work to establish both the Veterans Affairs Medical Center System and the establishment of the Commission on Veterans Medical Problems of the National Research Council. In recognition of his service to the U.S. Armed Forces and our country's wounded soldiers and veterans, the VA Medical Center in Houston is formally known as the Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Dr. DeBakey is a medical pioneer in the area of cardiac surgery, which is his expertise. His career is highlighted by a number of "firsts." While still a student, he invented a roller pump for blood transfusions. He performed the first successful coronary bypass; he was the first to successfully use a partial artificial heart; he supervised the first successful multi-organ transplant and then led the way for telemedicine with the first demonstration of open-heart surgery broadcasted overseas by satellite.

Mr. Speaker, this list represents only a snapshot of Dr. DeBakey's service. He also was the first president of Baylor College of Medicine where he developed the fellowship and residency programs at his namesake Department of Surgery. Today, Baylor is one of the jewels of the Texas Medical Center, in large part due to Dr. DeBakey's leadership, and has been the site of countless medical miracles for patients from Texas and around the world. A true testament to Dr. DeBakey's impact is the admiration he has earned from the Houston community, more than 60,000 members of which count Dr. DeBakey as their physician.

Internationally, Dr. DeBakey has been recognized and honored by well over a dozen governments and even inducted into the Academy of Athens, a society founded by Plato. His many awards include the U.S. Army Legion of Merit and the Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded by President Johnson and the National Medal of Science awarded by President Reagan.

I can think of no physician better suited for the Congressional Gold Medal, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill to bestow that honor upon Dr. DeBakey.

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1154.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES TO FILE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON H.R. 1852, EXPANDING AMERICAN HOMEOWNERSHIP ACT OF 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Financial Services be authorized to file a supplemental report on the bill, H.R. 1852.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair

declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CARDOZA) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 3246, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 1657, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 3527, by the yeas and nays.

The vote on H.R. 3096 will be taken tomorrow.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3246, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk reads the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3246, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 225, nays 152, not voting 55, as follows:

[Roll No. 867]

YEAS—225

Abercrombie	Butterfield	DeLauro
Ackerman	Capito	Dent
Aderholt	Capps	Dingell
Alexander	Capuano	Doggett
Altmire	Cardoza	Donnelly
Andrews	Carnahan	Doyle
Arcuri	Castor	Edwards
Baca	Chandler	Ellison
Baird	Clarke	Ellsworth
Baker	Clay	Emanuel
Baldwin	Cleaver	English (PA)
Barrow	Clyburn	Eshoo
Bean	Coble	Etheridge
Becerra	Cohen	Farr
Berkley	Cooper	Fattah
Berman	Costa	Ferguson
Berry	Courtney	Filmer
Bishop (NY)	Cramer	Fortenberry
Blumenauer	Crowley	Frank (MA)
Boozman	Cuellar	Giffords
Boren	Cummings	Gillibrand
Boucher	Davis (AL)	Gonzalez
Boustany	Davis (CA)	Gordon
Boyd (FL)	Davis (IL)	Graves
Boyda (KS)	Davis, Lincoln	Green, Al
Brady (PA)	DeFazio	Green, Gene
Braley (IA)	DeGette	Grijalva
Buchanan	Delahunt	Hall (NY)

Hare	Matheson	Rush
Harman	Matsui	Ryan (OH)
Hastings (FL)	McCarthy (NY)	Salazar
Hayes	McCollum (MN)	Sanchez, Loretta
Hereth Sandlin	McCrery	Sarbanes
Higgins	McDermott	Schakowsky
Hill	McGovern	Schiff
Hinchey	McHugh	Schwartz
Hinojosa	McIntyre	Scott (GA)
Hirono	McNerney	Scott (VA)
Hodes	McNulty	Serrano
Holden	Meek (FL)	Sestak
Holt	Meeks (NY)	Shea-Porter
Honda	Melancon	Sherman
Hoyer	Michaud	Shuler
Inslee	Miller (NC)	Sires
Israel	Mitchell	Skelton
Jackson (IL)	Mollohan	Smith (NJ)
Jackson-Lee	Moore (KS)	Snyder
(TX)	Moore (WI)	Solis
Johnson (GA)	Murphy (CT)	Souder
Johnson, E. B.	Murphy, Patrick	Spratt
Jones (OH)	Murphy, Tim	Stark
Kagen	Murtha	Stupak
Kanjorski	Nadler	Sutton
Kaptur	Napolitano	Tanner
Kennedy	Obey	Tauscher
Kildee	Olver	Taylor
Kilpatrick	Ortiz	Thompson (CA)
Kind	Pallone	Thompson (MS)
Klein (FL)	Pascrell	Tiberi
Kuhl (NY)	Pastor	Tierney
Lampson	Payne	Udall (NM)
Langevin	Perlmutter	Velázquez
Larson (CT)	Peterson (MN)	Walsh (NY)
Latham	Pomeroy	Walz (MN)
LaTourette	Price (NC)	Wasserman
Lee	Rahall	Schultz
Levin	Rangel	Waters
Lewis (GA)	Renzi	Watson
Lipinski	Reyes	Watt
Loeb sack	Richardson	Weiner
Lofgren, Zoe	Rodriguez	Welch (VT)
Lowey	Rogers (AL)	Wexler
Mahoney (FL)	Ross	Wilson (OH)
Maloney (NY)	Rothman	Woolsey
Markey	Roybal-Allard	Wu
Marshall	Ruppersberger	

NAYS—152

Akin	Fox	Miller (MI)
Bachmann	Franks (AZ)	Miller, Gary
Barrett (SC)	Frelinghuysen	Moran (KS)
Bartlett (MD)	Gallegly	Musgrave
Barton (TX)	Garrett (NJ)	Myrick
Biggert	Gilchrest	Neugebauer
Bilbray	Gingrey	Nunes
Billakis	Gohmert	Pearce
Bishop (UT)	Goode	Pence
Blackburn	Goodlatte	Petri
Blunt	Granger	Pitts
Boehner	Hall (TX)	Platts
Bonner	Hastert	Porter
Bono	Hastings (WA)	Price (GA)
Brady (TX)	Heller	Putnam
Broun (GA)	Herger	Radanovich
Brown (SC)	Hobson	Regula
Brown-Waite,	Hoekstra	Rehberg
Ginny	Hulshof	Reichert
Burgess	Inglis (SC)	Reynolds
Burton (IN)	Issa	Rogers (KY)
Calvert	Johnson, Sam	Rogers (MI)
Camp (MI)	Jones (NC)	Rohrabacher
Campbell (CA)	Jordan	Ros-Lehtinen
Cantor	Keller	Roskam
Carter	King (IA)	Royce
Castle	King (NY)	Ryan (WI)
Chabot	Kingston	Sali
Cole (OK)	Kirk	Saxton
Conaway	Kline (MN)	Schmidt
Crenshaw	LaHood	Sensenbrenner
Culberson	Lamborn	Sessions
Davis (KY)	Lewis (CA)	Shadegg
Davis, David	Lewis (KY)	Shimkus
Davis, Tom	Linder	Shuster
Deal (GA)	LoBiondo	Simpson
Diaz-Balart, L.	Lucas	Smith (NE)
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lungren, Daniel	Smith (TX)
Doolittle	E.	Stearns
Drake	Mack	Sullivan
Dreier	Manzullo	Thornberry
Duncan	McCarthy (CA)	Tiahrt
Emerson	McCaul (TX)	Turner
Everett	McCotter	Upton
Fallin	McHenry	Walberg
Feeney	McMorris	Walden (OR)
Flake	Rodgers	Wamp
Forbes	Mica	Weldon (FL)
Fossella	Miller (FL)	Weller