

transport is often referred to as "The Middle Passage." During this transition, many Africans suffered abuses of rape and perished as a result of torture, malnutrition, disease, and resistance. If these individuals survived the trip, their fate was a life of slavery.

I recently visited Ghana. During this trip, I toured the former slave dungeon, Cape Coast Castle. I also had the opportunity to stand in the "Door of No Return" where captives were held with little light, water, and absolutely no toilet facilities. Over 125 million West Africans died during the Middle Passage, and more than one-third of the people captured died within the first 3 years of their life on a plantation. The importance of this legislation lies in the fact that the slave trade and the legacy of slavery continue to have a profound impact on social and economic disparity, hatred, bias, racism, and discrimination. This legislation underscores the fact that the legacy of the slave trade continues to affect people of African descent today. One of the key purposes of this act is to ensure a suitable national observance of the 200th anniversary of the end of the transatlantic slave trade. By sponsoring and supporting commemorative programs, we raise awareness of the transatlantic slave trade and its effects, as well as recognize the experiences of all people during this period in history. I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3432 in creating this commission that would not only celebrate the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade, but also educate citizens regarding a significant part of our Nation's history.

RECOGNIZING THE 2007 NATIONAL LEAGUE CENTRAL CHAMPION CHICAGO CUBS

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the outstanding season put together by the 2007 Chicago Cubs. Last week, my hometown Cubs clinched the National League Central title with a regular season record of 85-77, and tonight they head to Phoenix to take on the National League West Champions, the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Led by Manager Lou Piniella, the Cubs stormed back from an 8½ game deficit to edge out the Milwaukee Brewers for the division title, their first since 2003. In just Piniella's first season at the helm, the Cubs had the biggest win increase in the Majors from last season to this season, winning 19 more games than in 2006.

In a year marked by adversity, the Cubs overcame injuries, some internal strife, and the possible sale of the team to band together with the right blend of strong veterans like Derrek Lee and Aramis Ramirez, young players like Ryan Theriot and Carlos Marmol, and key offseason acquisitions Alfonso Soriano, Mark DeRosa, and Ted Lilly.

I proudly represent Wrigley Field in the Fifth Congressional District, and I am excited to see the return of postseason baseball to the Northside of Chicago.

Carlos Zambrano will set the tone tonight in game one in Arizona, and Rich Hill and Ted Lilly will take the ball after that to lead our Cubbies to victory in the NLDS.

Congratulations are in order to each and every player, coach, and employee of the Chicago Cubs. I wish them all the best of luck against the Diamondbacks, and I look forward to watching them do their best to reverse the curse of the billy goat.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION TO DISAPPROVE USDA RULE ON CANADIAN CATTLE IMPORTATION

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Madam Speaker, on September 18, USDA Issued a final rule that will permit the importation of live Canadian cattle into the U.S. provided they are born after a date determined by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to be the date of effective enforcement of a ruminant-to-ruminant feed ban in Canada. Expanding imports of Canadian livestock and beef is likely to have serious repercussions for the American cattle industry and I, along with my colleague DENNIS REHBERG, are introducing this resolution to disapprove that rule.

Over the past several years, Canada has discovered no fewer than 11 cases of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, BSE, including many that have occurred in cattle born after that country was purported to have implemented a ruminant-to-ruminant feed ban. Given this fact, it is clear that Canada has not taken the necessary steps to protect its herd from the spread of BSE and that a feed-ban date should not be the trigger for allowing Canadian beef into the U.S. Increasing U.S. imports of Canadian cattle and beef at this critical time would have significant negative impact on the economic well-being of American cattle producers, and could seriously disrupt our efforts to expand U.S. beef exports overseas.

Expanding Canadian cattle imports increases the possibility that a future case of BSE in a Canadian animal may be found in the United States. Five of Canada's BSE cases occurred in cattle born after March 1, 1999, the date that appeared in the proposed rule as an appropriate age trigger for importation eligibility. There is a very real possibility that USDA's proposal would lead to the importation of additional BSE-infected animals from Canada, which would destroy years of hard work by the American cattle industry, the administration, and Congress to restore the confidence of our trading partners in the safety of American beef.

Given the uncertainty still surrounding the health of the Canadian cattle herd and the drastic negative repercussions that could befall U.S. cattle producers if this increased trade fosters an occurrence of increased BSE outbreaks in this country, I introduce this resolution today and urge my colleagues to support its prompt passage.

RECOGNIZING THE NAVY UDT-SEAL MUSEUM IN FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, AS THE OFFICIAL NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NAVY SEALS AND THEIR PREDECESSORS

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 1, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of a resolution to recognize the Navy UDT-SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce, Florida as the official national museum of Navy SEALs and their predecessors. As an original cosponsor of this legislation, I would like to express my appreciation for the efforts of my good friend from Florida, Congressman TIM MAHONEY, for introducing this important legislation and the House Leadership for bringing it before the House floor for a vote.

The Navy UDT-SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce, located adjacent to the District I represent, is in close proximity to the birthplace of the World War II underwater demolition teams or the "Navy Frogmen." These "Navy Frogmen" have since evolved into the U.S. Navy SEALs, one of the most elite and distinguished fighting forces in the entire world. This museum is currently the only one of its kind in the world that honors and preserves the Navy SEALs legacy. The museum's mission is essential, and through its daily work to educate the public, continues to recognize the contributions of the brave men and women serving our Nation.

The Navy SEALs are an elite fighting team that have operated in almost every environment known to man—from humid jungles to space stations orbiting the Earth. We owe it to these brave men and women who put their lives on the line every day for the United States' democracy our sincerest gratitude and respect. We owe it to them to memorialize their contributions and their legacy on a national scale.

Since 1985, the Navy UDT-SEAL Museum has been at the forefront of educating our Nation on the historical importance of these special forces. The museum currently contains thousands of artifacts, declassified documents, weapons, and photographs that are a true testament to the courageous exploits of the Navy SEALs and their predecessors.

This legislation before us today would make the museum the Official National Museum for Navy SEALs in the United States. I urge a swift passage of this significant legislation to properly recognize and memorialize the heroic acts of past and present United States Navy SEALs.

TRIBUTE TO ANTONIO MOORE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Antonio Moore, a 16-year-old student at Mt. Vernon Township High School in Mt. Vernon, Illinois.