

surrounding areas: the burnt holes where villages used to be, the mass migrations of the internally displaced, starving children, and victims of rape.

With this knowledge comes a duty to act. As the wars in Chad, Sudan, and Central African Republic become increasingly intertwined, and as the massive displacements continue across the region, the United States and the international community must engage the crisis on a regional level.

This resolution recognizes that reality and calls for a comprehensive strategy to protect civilians, facilitate humanitarian operations, contain and reduce violence, and contribute to conditions for sustainable peace and good governance throughout the region with all nations.

I thank the sponsor of this resolution, Mr. WOLF, for introducing this important resolution, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

TRIBUTE TO D-DAY VETERANS

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a special group of veterans, those that served in Operation Overlord or D-day as it is commonly referred to.

On June 6, 1944, an allied force of over 150,000 American, British, Canadian, Free French, and Polish troops landed on a 50-mile stretch of French coastline heavily-fortified by German forces. President Franklin D. Roosevelt referred to the assault as a "mighty endeavor" as it included more than 13,000 aircraft, 137,000 jeeps, trucks, and half-tracks, 16 million tons of supplies, and the largest armada ever assembled in history with over 5,000 vessels.

Over 70,000 American servicemen participated in the D-day invasion and began what General Eisenhower referred to as the allied march to victory. The allied forces suffered about 9,760 casualties, of which 6,605 were Americans.

World War II shaped the 20th century and forever changed the course of world history. Recognizing the brave men and women of America's Armed Forces that participated in the war is a special privilege. As members of the greatest generation fade into the past, we should work diligently to thank them for their sacrifice as they marched on behalf of freedom and secured the world from tyranny.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill said it best in 1940 while addressing the British people during the Battle of Britain when he remarked, "Never in the field of human conflict has so much been owed by so many to so few." America owes a great debt to its men and women in uniform and by recognizing the contributions of previous generations, we ensure that their sacrifices are never forgotten.

It is with great pride and heartfelt gratitude that I recognize the D-day veterans residing in California's Second Congressional District and all of America's veterans for protecting the values and traditions of our great Nation.

May God Bless America, our veterans, and those currently serving in the Armed Forces.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, on May 14, 1948, the dream of the restoration of a sovereign and independent State of Israel was realized. On that day, a mere 11 minutes following the declaration by Israel's Government, the United States officially recognized the Israeli state—extending a hand of friendship and support which has not once been withdrawn. Today, 60 years following that historic occasion, I rise to commemorate Israel's independence and congratulate the Israeli people on their dedicated efforts toward establishing a flourishing and thriving state.

Israel is currently the only fully established democracy in the Middle East, having free elections, a free press, freedom of religion, and the separation of powers. In addition, Israel is home to several of the leading universities in the world—spurring on its advanced economy with an emphasis in the technology sector. Israel's political, cultural, and economic success has not been easy, however, being attained in the face of war, ongoing terrorist attacks, and unfair boycotts against Israeli businesses.

I first visited Israel with five other members of Congress in 2003 and was struck by the degree to which ordinary Israelis were under the constant threat of terrorist attacks. Homes had bulletproof windows, security guards and metal detectors were necessities in most public places, and the threat of suicide bombings was a daily reality.

I am confident that terrorist attacks and other roadblocks to Israel's security and prosperity will not serve to undermine the resolve of Israel's people. Instead, these attacks will only increase the vigor with which the Israeli people defend their commonly held values of justice, freedom, and democracy.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize the 60th anniversary of the State of Israel, and sincerely hope that Israel will in the coming years finally attain the lasting peace its people have long desired.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2419, FOOD AND ENERGY SECURITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, on May 6, 2008, my vote on the Kind Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2419, the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, rollcall vote 258, was recorded as a "no" vote when I intended to cast a "yes" vote. I wish to clarify on the record my support for the House-passed funding levels for the Grassland Reserve Program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, and Wetlands Reserve Program, as well as the Senate's sod saver provision.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1086, recognizing this week as National Nurses Week. I thank Congresswoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON for her leadership in sponsoring this Resolution so that Congress can honor the nearly 2.9 million hard working nurses across the country.

As we celebrate the fine women and men on the front lines of our health care system, we recognize that registered nurses are vital to quality health care for all Americans. Nurses care for patients at every level—from critical care, chronic disease, to preventative and wellness care. They work in hospitals, doctor's offices, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, schools and provide in-home care throughout the community. Nurses routinely perform some of the most important duties of a patient's treatment.

In this National Nurses Week, I also want to pay special tribute to nurses in my district and throughout South Florida. From our elder population, to working men and women, to our children, nurses help my constituents every day. To honor all that they do, on May 9th, nurses in South Florida will participate in a program entitled, "Nurses Making A Difference Every Day." I can tell you that nurses do make a difference every day and I thank them for their service.

I hope that this program, and the national attention we give to the good work of nurses will encourage more people to consider this noble profession. It is projected that the need for registered nurses will grow dramatically in the coming years, and we must do all we can to support this vital field.

Madam Speaker, nurses exemplify some of the best that this country has to offer. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to highlight their value to our communities and the important role nurses play in providing quality health care to all of our constituents.

HONORING MARCIENE MATTHELMAN OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, the Philadelphia Award is my hometown's most prestigious award for service to the community. Its winners, since 1921, have included scientists, educators, industrialists, religious leaders, orchestra conductors, mayors, authors, philanthropists, and more.

This past Sunday, May 4, 2008, the Philadelphia Award was presented, on its 87th anniversary, to Marciene S. Mattleman, the founder and developer of programs to advance literacy, promote mentoring and college scholarships for low income youth, develop after school programs in underserved neighborhoods, and generally improve the lives of children in Philadelphia. Her triumphs include the Mayor's Office for Literacy, Philadelphia