

the world, has contributed to its rich culture of arts, music, and literature. Economically, Israel is considered to have one of the most advanced economies in Southwest Asia.

Industrially, Israel has managed to become completely self-sufficient despite its lack of natural resources and small size. This has been thanks to its groundbreaking technological advances in agriculture and its hard-working Zionist pioneers. Militarily, despite the country's size, its army is one of the most superior in the world.

Israel is and will continue to be a key and necessary ally of the United States. The cross-Atlantic friendship shared by our countries is critical to both our democracies. I recognize Israel's contributions toward rooting out terrorism and salute its citizenry for their resilience and bravery.

As the state turns the page and moves into a seventh decade of independence, I hope and pray that a future with peace and prosperity for all of the people in the region is on the horizon.

RECOGNIZING THE 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE DIVINE PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the Divine Providence Catholic Church as their parish celebrated their 100-year anniversary on April 27, 2008. The church has served as a foundation for the Lithuanian community in Southfield, Michigan.

The parish came to be when an energetic priest, Kazimieras Valaitis, and the Lithuanian Society of St. George, built a wooden church at Westminster and Cardoni, in what is now considered the deep inner city of Detroit. Not surprisingly, it was named St. George's Lithuanian Church. The number of parishioners quickly outgrew the facility, and in 1917 the parish built a new, brick St. George's in the same vicinity. The parish was the center for numerous organizations and activities of the Lithuanian community in Detroit and had committees actively involved in building, fundraising and general governance.

In the 1940's, as the demographics in Detroit were shifting, many of the parishioners were moving into the suburbs around the city. As a result, in 1949, the parish built a new church at Schaefer and Grand River in Detroit. Because the original St. George's church was still active in the local community, the parishioners chose "Divine Providence Lithuanian Church" as the new name.

In 1967, Divine Providence was informed that the church was to be demolished to make way for the Jeffries Freeway. A new site was selected at 9 Mile Road and Beech Daly, and despite the Vatican's attempt to consolidate the church into a territorial parish, the new complex was dedicated on September 8, 1973. Thanks to the tireless work and dedication of parish committees, and later parish councils, Divine Providence continues to be a cultural center to this vibrant community.

Madam Speaker, Divine Providence has been a beacon of hope for the Lithuanian community. I congratulate them on their 100-

year anniversary and wish them many more years of prosperity.

HONORING FATHER MICHAEL ZUFFOLETTO

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor a truly respected and dedicated public servant. Father Michael Zuffoletto who recently decided to retire, has not only served as a teacher and coach, but he has also served as a chaplain for our brave men and women of the United States Navy. Father Zuffoletto a native of Buffalo, New York has been, and will continue to be, an embodiment of compassion and virtue.

Father Zuffoletto was ordained into the priesthood for the Diocese of Buffalo in 1972, and received his Masters in Educational Administration from Canisius College in 1979. He would go on to teach religious studies at local Catholic schools, and coach various sports teams.

In 1984, Father Zuffoletto reported to Navy Chaplain School. Father Zuffoletto quickly began serving on tours of duty; in fact, Father Zuffoletto has served on over ten different tours throughout the world, including to the coast of Japan, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and the Arabian Gulf. Father Zuffoletto even served as chaplain for President George H.W. Bush during the 50th anniversary memorial of the attack on Pearl Harbor. As a chaplain, Father Zuffoletto oversaw the religious and spiritual formation of thousands of service men and women as well as provided Mass and the sacraments all over the world.

Of his many service awards, Father Zuffoletto is the recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Recently, Father Zuffoletto has also served as Chaplain General of the Navy Order of the United States, chaplain for the Knights of Columbus Council 9486, the Italian Federation, and the John Paul II Foundation of Monterey.

In his free time, Father Zuffoletto has served as an off-ice official for the National Hockey League, the American Hockey League, the East Coast Hockey League and the Atlantic Coast Hockey League.

Father Zuffoletto is remarkable, in every sense of the word, and has shown all of us the importance of true compassion, loyalty, and faith.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of Father Michael Zuffoletto's tremendous contributions to our great nation, I ask this Honorable Body to join me in honoring him, in grateful appreciation for his extraordinary service to the people of Western New York and to the people of this country.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, The following provides information about ear-

marks which I have secured through the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 as reported out of the House Armed Services Committee and which will be considered by the House of Representatives on May 21–22, 2008.

Requesting Member: Congressman Geoff Davis.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Other Procurement, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kentucky Army National Guard.

Address of Requesting Entity: Boone National Guard Center, 100 Minuteman Parkway, Frankfort, KY 40601.

Description of Request: Authorize \$1,500,000 for the Virtual Convoy Operations Trainer (VCOT). During FY 09 the Army National Guard will begin fielding the VCOT, which is an upgraded version of the previous HMMWV and Tactical Truck Convoy Trainer. VCOT fielding is the Army National Guard's number one priority for convoy training procurement. The VCOT has been enhanced to allow convoy soldiers to leave their vehicles and conduct independent dismounted operations that will greatly assist training in the identification and disposition of IEDs on the battlefield. Also, the VCOT allows training on several types of vehicles and with various types of weapons. Without this program, our soldiers will continue to have fewer trainers than needed to train counter-IED drills, immediate action drills and convoy operations.

This authorization will allow the KYANG to purchase a VCOT.

During current operations in Iraq, more soldiers have been killed or wounded during convoy operations than at any other time. The VCOT provides the best convoy training available, and it includes training in dismounted operations and combat actions on virtual terrain that includes Baghdad, Tikrit, Samarra, Kabul, and Kosovo.

Requesting Member: Congressman Geoff Davis.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Other Procurement, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: DRS Technologies, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 7375 Industrial Road, Florence, KY 41042–2911.

Description of Request: Authorize \$2,200,000 for procurement of Multi-Temperature Refrigerated Container Systems (MTRCS). MTRCS is the follow-on generation of refrigeration systems. It provides the capability to transport and store both refrigerated and frozen products in a single container. It consists of an insulated 8' x 8' x 20' International Organization for Standardization shipping container with an engine-driven refrigeration unit that will allow operation on the move. The two compartments are separated by a moveable partition varying proportions of refrigerated versus frozen products resulting in maximum loading of the container.

MTRCS is used principally by subsistence units. It will also be used by medical units for transport and storage of refrigerated medical supplies, including blood products.

The benefit to DOD is more efficient space utilization and reduced transportation requirements. Fewer vehicles will be required to transport food on the battlefield, reducing the number of soldiers exposed to danger from IED's, etc.

The Army Acquisition Objective for MTRCS is 4432 systems, but only 1050 are funded in

the FY08–13 Future Years Defense Plan. This earmark would authorize procurement of an additional twenty systems.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ashland Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 50 E. River Center Blvd, Covington, KY 41012–0391.

Description of Request: Authorize \$300,000 to develop advanced, environmentally-friendly, nano-based rust-corrosion-UV protective spray coatings based upon the Lotus Effect. Such coatings could prevent moisture and associated oxygen from getting to a surface and causing rust or corrosion. These surface-protective coatings would be comprised of materials that are environmentally-benign and durable.

The U.S. military owns vast amounts of equipment and vehicles that see considerable amounts of storage time. This equipment must be either stored indoors or chemically-treated for protection in outdoor storage. Even treatment of equipment for indoor storage adds a significant level of added protection for long-term storage that is non-climate-controlled. Typically, the chemicals used to protect equipment in outdoor storage are not highly-durable thus requiring maintenance and are also typically environmentally noxious or even highly toxic.

Approximately, \$200,000 is for development of the Nano-particle Protectant Systems and \$100,000 is for development of the Dispersion and Delivery systems. A nano-particle protectant “system” is a combination of chemicals that work together to provide the desired protective coating. A dispersion and delivery system is the liquid dispersing system (mixture of liquids) needed to disperse that combination of chemicals. A key element is the equipment to spray the coating on the equipment surface.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ashland Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 50 E. River Center Blvd, Covington, KY 41012–0391.

Description of Request: Authorize \$2,200,000 to continue development of advanced coolant and lubricant systems utilizing nano-particle systems to enhance the capabilities of military ground vehicles and simplify supply logistics. FY09 will be the third year of this project. The focus will be on transition to commercial production and final testing of stable nanofluids with improved cooling and lubrication properties while meeting all environmental requirements and making these processes commercially scalable.

Approximately, \$400,000 will be used to transition production from development to commercial scale; \$1,000,000 will be used for engine and vehicle dynamometer testing; and \$800,000 is for field demonstrations. A dynamometer is a device that absorbs the power of an engine in the absence of a vehicle to move. The test engine to be used is the new production engine for the HMMWV that has been the engine of choice for that vehicle for the past several years. A test cell is a physical

container or room that is properly outfitted for housing an engine-dynamometer combination for controlled and safe operations. Field testing of the nanofluids will occur through use of the HMMWV vehicle with the Optimizer 6500 Turbo-Diesel engine under extreme arctic and desert conditions.

Military vehicles are designed to meet exceedingly strict and arduous cooling, lubrication and overall performance requirements. One of the goals of the Tank Automotive Command is to increase the performance and durability of engines, power trains and their component parts to support Army transformation in the areas of system mobility, durability, reliability and survivability and may ultimately serve to reduce the logistics cost burden for the Objective Force.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: STARCON.

Address of Requesting Entity: 11631 U.S. Route 23; Catlettsburg, KY 41129.

Description of Request: Authorize \$1,000,000 to develop the Cyber Forensics and Tracking Capability (CFTC) tool to support the Department of Defense cyber security operations for protecting digital forensic data for computer and network systems to counter emerging adversary threats. The primary objective of CFTC is preventing emerging cyber adversary techniques, called counter-forensics, whereby the criminal disguises and removes any trace of his illicit and potentially destructive network and computer activities. The CFTC will be demonstrated and tested through field exercises, technology demonstrations and other initiatives. CFTC is envisioned as an important part of the arsenal of cyber security solutions to thwart, track and prosecute adversaries.

CFTC operates in a network-centric environment using existing conventional computing platforms. CFTC is another cyber asset to protect critical systems and networks against increasingly sophisticated adversaries.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Operations & Maintenance, Air Force.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: TiER1 Performance Solutions, LLC.

Address of Requesting Entity: 6 East 5th Street, Suite 400, Covington, KY 41011.

Description of Request: Authorize \$3,000,000 for the Engineering Training and Knowledge Preservation System (ETKPS). The Air Force is facing significant turnover in its senior technical personnel. The Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) could lose as many as sixty percent of its top engineers over the next three to five years.

Preserving the knowledge base is essential to AFMC and will be a massive undertaking requiring processes and tools to capture operational, technical, and critical thinking knowledge. Integrating the ability to capture, store, align, and transfer knowledge to the next generation workforce through a single, secure Web-based knowledge and training portal is necessary. Functionality of this solution must include the ability to track an individual's skills across competencies throughout his/her ca-

reer; evaluate all existing training and compare the cost-benefits of competing training approaches; allow experienced personnel to easily create new training and knowledge content in accordance with pre-defined standards; plug into existing defined competencies and skill requirements and capture knowledge from subject-matter-experts to address these; link novices to experts in real-time through a virtual Web Center; categorize, organize and search all knowledge and information across the enterprise; deliver assessments to determine skill proficiencies; deliver information in a variety of ways—through distance learning, on-line reference systems, technical manuals, job aids, mobile devices and other tools. FY 09 will be year four of this ongoing project.

Approximately, \$50,000 will be used for requirements analysis; \$125,000 will be used for functional design; \$225,000 will be used for enhanced feature development; and \$250,000 is for USAF system integration; \$450,000 is for user acceptance testing; and \$1,900,000 is for USAF selected site development. Requirements analysis is an ongoing rigorous process to ensure the product meets the very specific needs of the Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC). Functional design results in a document used to inform and gain agreement that what is being developed will satisfy the AFMC user requirements. Enhanced feature development results in a prototype developed per the functional design which is presented to AFMC for testing and feedback. USAF system integration establishes proper interfaces between the ETKPS system and existing Air Force IT systems. User acceptance testing is used to evaluate the quality and usability of the product. USAF selected site development will result in the deployment of ETKPS to six Air Force bases insuring consistency across all bases.

These system capabilities will enable AFMC to organize and align information to support on-going training and development of its total workforce. Funding for this effort is critical to AFMC for maximizing the effectiveness and efficiency of retaining existing knowledge capital and for building effective training programs that support the development of new personnel.

BAHA'I LEADERS ARRESTED IN TEHRAN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I continue to be extremely concerned about the treatment of Baha'is in Iran. Recent reports indicate that on May 14, Iranian intelligence agents forcibly raided the homes and subsequently arrested six of seven prominent members of the Baha'i leadership in Tehran. The seventh member of the leadership group was arrested 2 months ago in Mashhad. They have reportedly been taken to the notorious Evin prison in Tehran. Many former prisoners have given horrifying accounts of the abuse, torture, and rape that takes place inside the prison walls.

The Baha'is are Iran's largest non-Muslim religious minority and have faced continuous persecution since the government banned all formal Baha'i activity in 1983. Under President