

narcotics unit and since being elected as the New Hanover County Sheriff in 2002, drug control has been his priority, and he has made major strides in reducing this underlying cause of crime within the community. I am inspired by his courage in the fight against drugs, and I salute him for his many contributions and sacrifices.

Madam Speaker, Sheriff Sid Causey has served in New Hanover County law enforcement for over 39 years and done so with distinction. As he prepares to close the final chapter of his career, I wish Sheriff Causey and his family God's richest blessings. I ask that you join me today in recognition of his impressive career of enduring public service.

HONORING THE WORK OF THE
451ST CIVIL AFFAIRS BATTALION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor to the 451st Civil Affairs Battalion out of Pasadena, Texas, and welcome them home from their most recent deployment in Afghanistan. While they returned last fall, this Saturday, June 6, will be their Welcome Home Ceremony, and I look forward to attending to thank them personally for their service to our country.

As a civil affairs unit, the 451st was broken up into smaller groups across Afghanistan. Over the July 4, 2008 break I led a "Texas" Congressional Delegation visit to Afghanistan with Congressmen MICHAEL MCCAUL, HENRY CUELLAR, and myself. We visited several of the forward operating bases, or FOBs, where members of the 451st were stationed with other units. Because they were so spread out across the country, we were only able to visit a few members of the 451st, but being at the FOBs gave us the opportunity to see how primitive areas of Afghanistan can be, and what an impact the work of the 451st made.

When deployed, whether in Afghanistan during their most recent deployment or in their previous deployment to Iraq, the 451st Civil Affairs Battalion serves as a liaison between the military and the host community to better serve their needs and direct aid, supplies, and expertise. While stationed in Afghanistan, the 451st worked with the Afghan government and international humanitarian organizations to rebuild infrastructure and restore stability in areas devastated by war or natural disasters. The teams also worked with representatives from U.S. government agencies such as the State and Agriculture departments and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

As President Obama refocuses our efforts on Afghanistan, the 451st helped lay the groundwork for bringing security and stability to that country by building trust and relationships among the Afghan population, and I am proud we can say the unit is from Pasadena in Texas's 29th Congressional District. After dedicated service to their country, the members of the battalion have returned home. I have the honor of joining with their friends, family, and community in welcoming them this Saturday, June 6.

BRITTANY GENTRY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brittany Gentry who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brittany Gentry is a senior at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Brittany Gentry is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Brittany Gentry for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

HONORING DAVID J. APPLEBURY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize David J. Applebury a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 145, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

David has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years David has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending David J. Applebury for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

H.R. 2703 AND H.R. 2704

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, some of the most powerful military and intelligence satellites in the world are designed and produced in my Congressional District. They are remarkably formidable tools that daily assist our troops in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere, and are indispensable in learning and thwarting the plans of those who would do us harm.

But imagine, for a moment, what it would be like if one of these satellites were directed on your neighborhood or home, a school or place of worship—and without an adequate legal framework or operating procedures in place

for regulating their use. I daresay the reaction might be that Big Brother has finally arrived and the black helicopters can't be far behind.

Yet this is precisely what the Department of Homeland Security proposes to do in standing up the benign-sounding National Applications Office, or NAO.

Despite objections by the civil liberties community, a series of letters sent by Members of Congress, an established record of opposition by the House Homeland Security Committee and the prior fencing of funds, the DHS has requested funding in the classified annex to its FY2010 budget for the NAO.

The Appropriations Committee has repeatedly expressed skepticism about the need for the NAO, and fenced funding for the office last year. I understand that the Committee intends to send a strong message again this year. I introduce two bills today to stop the Department of Homeland Security from moving ahead with the misguided National Applications Office.

The first bill, introduced with Representative NORM DICKS, prohibits DHS from expending any funds on this office. The second bill de-authorizes the NAO, requiring the Secretary of Homeland Security to close the office immediately.

As proposed, the NAO, housed in the DHS Office of Intelligence & Analysis, the NAO would manage the tasking of military intelligence satellites over the United States—despite the absence of a clear legal framework, legitimate Posse Comitatus concerns, and even though the Interior Department already has existing circumscribed authority to deploy satellites over large-scale public events or natural disasters.

In its current form, the NAO would enable a group of undefined law enforcement and homeland security "users" greater access to imagery collection capabilities of the intelligence community—purportedly to supplement data already available during disasters or to aid in "investigations." It would serve as a clearinghouse for requests by law enforcement, border security, and other domestic homeland security agencies to access real-time, high-quality feeds from spy satellites. Except law enforcement officials haven't asked for the additional capability and major law enforcement organizations do not believe it is necessary.

The new DHS leadership has assured me in my role as the Chair of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Intelligence and Terrorism Risk Assessment that the issue is under review. Although Congress last year withheld most funding for the NAO, the Department has again budgeted for the office (the exact amount is classified) without prior notification of the relevant congressional committees.

Well, not if we can help it.

Today, we introduce legislation to shut down the NAO—period.

TRIBUTE TO ARMY SERGEANT
JUSTIN DUFFY

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Army Sergeant Justin Duffy, a proud son of Nebraska who lost his life earlier this week. Sgt.