

wife returned to the United States and settled in Fargo, North Dakota.

He joined the United States Army at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, during World War II and was honorably discharged. Mr. Villagomez would go on to make a name for himself holding position with the Union Pacific Railroad and the Armour Meat Packing Company in Fargo, North Dakota, where he retired from.

He is fluent in English and Spanish and has a true love and passion for education. He has a son, Jesse Villagomes, Jr., of Ft. Worth, Texas, and a daughter, Maria Antonieta Villagomez, of Corpus Christi, Texas, as well as four grandchildren and three great grandsons.

Mr. Villagomez's hobbies include: gardening, cooking, reading, dancing and traveling.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 100th birthday of Mr. Jesus Gonzalez Villagomez who has lived a happy life and surrounded by family, friends and loved ones.

HONORING JAMES C. KERNAN, JR.

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor James C. Kernan Jr. for his contribution to both our government and local community. Through his commitment to serving others, Mr. Kernan has affected the lives of many, both nationally and locally. For these reasons and many others, I believe he is worthy of recognition.

As a dedicated member of United States Army, James received numerous accolades commemorating his outstanding bravery. Among his many distinctions, James was awarded the Kuwait Liberation Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal with two bronze stars, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal with a bronze star. After leaving the Army, Mr. Kernan continued to serve his country by enlisting in the Army Reserves. For years, James would travel from his home on Long Island to Utica, NY to train at the Elihu Root Army Reserve Center. Once again, James excelled, earning five separate Army Reserve Component Achievement Medals. I am proud to honor James for his 26 years of service in our Armed Forces.

Mr. Kernan's exemplary dedication does not end with his military record. Prior to his retirement in January, James spent thirty-five years as an employee of the Internal Revenue Service. Throughout his tenure, he was promoted through the organization, and received thirteen distinct awards for his accomplishments.

Apart from his lifetime of public service, Mr. Kernan is an invaluable asset to his community. While raising his two sons on Long Island, James, and his wife Ruth, organized countless fundraisers and community events. They dedicated themselves to parent associations, the Our Lady of Victory Elementary School, and the Notre Dame Convent, and accepted the presidency of the Trinity Parents' Club at Holy Trinity Diocesan High School. Mr. Kernan's life's work is a testament to his com-

mitment to developing a strong and healthy community for his children and others, James even acted as a volunteer referee for local little league games. Our children represent our future, and James has touched the lives of generations to follow.

The work of Mr. Kernan is inspiring, and I am grateful to him for all that he has accomplished. It is through the efforts of individuals such as James Kernan that our nation remains strong and prosperous. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing the gratitude of the U.S. Congress for his contributions to society.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MUHLENDORF

HON. PARKER GRIFFITH

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. David Muhendorf, President and CEO of Paper and Chemical Supply, on his recent appointment to the U.S. Chamber Board of Directors.

Throughout the years, David's dedication and commitment to the success of north Alabama have directly contributed to my district's economic success. Small business has always served to be the backbone of our nation, and Mr. Muhendorf's presence on the national economic stage will prove to be a great benefit to our country.

Earlier this year, David was named the 2008–2009 Shoals Citizen of the Year for his development work with the Chamber of Commerce of Northwest Alabama. He has also worked tirelessly for the area's education system with the Northwest Shoals Community College Board of Directors, for our local charities with the Shoals United Way, and for my State's economic development with the Business Council of Alabama.

Madam Speaker, I wish to congratulate Mr. David Muhendorf for his new appointment and thank him for his diligent and determined work for the Tennessee Valley, the State of Alabama and our country.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding authorizations I requested and were included as part of H.R. 2647, National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2010.

A request for the Marksmanship Skills Trainer. The funding would be used for procuring a portable self contained system that allows for multiple scenarios from training to combat skills. This is a multiple user system allowing for high output during times of training constraints. The trainers will be stationed at the various Texas Army National Guard facilities allowing for maximum use for the soldiers. The system allows for ongoing marksmanship training in a simulated environment without the expenditure of ammunition or need to travel to

a weapons range. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Texas National Guard, 2200 West 35th Street, Austin, TX 78763.

A request for the Mobile Firing Range. The mobile firing range is a self contained range that allows for the firing of pistol and rifle systems for the Texas National Guard. Currently there is no opportunity to fire weapons for training or qualification without traveling to a certified range on a military installation. The Texas Army National Guard currently does not have access to any indoor ranges that can be used to fire the M16/M4 which is the current armament for 90% of the soldiers within the Texas Army National Guard. The Mobile Firing Range will allow soldiers to train with their assigned weapons at home station. This system is a training and force multiplier due to the negation of travel and lodging, and staging needed when conducting this training on a military facility. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Texas National Guard, 2200 West 35th Street, Austin, TX 78763.

A request for the Visual Door Gunner Trainer (VDGT). The funding would be used for procuring a VDGTT device that provides door gunnery and crew coordination training for UH–60 Blackhawk crewmembers. The VDGTT also incorporates precision gunnery training to improve target engagement skills. This system is mobile and can be moved between Texas Army National Guard aviation facilities that have UH–60s. The system enables crews to train without leaving home station or flying additional hours. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Texas National Guard, 2200 West 35th Street, Austin, TX 78763.

A request for the Field Deployable Hologram Production System. The funding would be used for completing development of a compact production unit that produces 3D holographic imagery for mission planning and intelligence purposes for U.S. forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. The U.S. Army requests a self-contained, field-deployable EHI production system to accelerate imagery delivery to combat forces. The goal is a more efficient, cost effective production system that provides the deployed war fighter needed planning and intelligence capabilities on a much faster basis. The entity to receive funding for this project is Zebra Imaging, Inc, 9801 Metric Blvd, Austin, TX 78758.

A request for the Compact Pulsed Power Initiative. The funding would be used for the development of explosive- or battery-operated, compact, high-power radiation sources and associated antenna systems capable of destroying electronics used for radars, communications, computer, or remote detonation devices, and others that can disable car engines. The information gained from this research will be significant in furthering our nation's defense capabilities especially in the area of disabling and destroying IEDs. The research for this project will be conducted by Texas Tech University, 2500 Broadway (mail stop 3121), TX 79409.

A request for the Modular Shoot House. The funding would be used for procuring a self contained combat scenario system for team training in a safe 360 degree ballistic, combat simulated environment. The Modular Shoot House (MSH) will be placed on Texas Army National Guard training facilities as determined by training needs of the geographic regions in the state. New combat training tasks will be