

THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF
HOUSE RESOLUTION 121**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SOMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Korean American Voters' Council for their continued commitment to the advancement of the Korean American community and to remind my colleagues about House Resolution 121, the "comfort women" resolution which was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on July 30, 2007.

The Korean American Voters' Council was a strong advocate and key initiator in educating members of Congress on the "comfort women" issue three years ago when House Resolution 121 was passed. The Korean American Voters' Council is a grassroots non-profit organization built up of volunteers who work on constituency development, civic participation, voting rights advocacy, and community education within Korean American communities across the country.

Friday, July 30, 2010, will mark the third anniversary of the passing of House Resolution 121. House Resolution 121 calls upon the Government of Japan to make an official and unequivocal apology, taking responsibility for the Japanese Imperial Armed Force's role in enslaving over 200,000 girls and women of Asia as "comfort women" before and during World War II.

House Resolution 121 was sponsored by my distinguished colleague, Representative MICHAEL M. HONDA, and it was my privilege to serve as a co-sponsor of this bill and to hold the first hearing ever held in the U.S. Congress on this sensitive subject. The hearing was held before the House Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment on February 15, 2007 and paid tribute to those who suffered while acknowledging the past contributions of those Members of Congress like former Chairman Henry Hyde of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and also the late Congressman Lane Evans who also championed this cause.

It has been three years since passage and the resolution clearly expressed a need for a formal acknowledgement and apology by the Government of Japan, through the Prime Minister to the victims of this atrocity. The Government of Japan has had multiple changes in the Prime Minister position and not one has formally acknowledged and apologized for this human rights violation. The victims are running out of time for this apology, as most of them are elderly, and the time is now for the Government of Japan to formally apologize for their past mistake.

I strongly urge the Government of Japan to formally acknowledge and apologize in order to begin the reconciliation process and to create better relationships in the future. Japan cannot move forward by erasing the past and it is of the utmost importance that Japan follows through on House Resolution 121.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO
REVEREND EARLINE MCGREGOR**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, on August 13 a birthday dinner will be held for Reverend Earline McGregor of Kendleton, Texas, to celebrate his eighty-fifth birthday and thank him for his years of community service. It is my pleasure to join the people of Kendleton in wishing Reverend McGregor a happy birthday and thanking him for all he has done for his community, his state, and his country.

Earline McGregor was born on August 26, 1926 in Brenham, Texas. He spent over a year in the army in World War II. After receiving an honorable discharge from the Army, Earline McGregor decided to continue to serve his country by joining the Air Force. After twenty years of distinguished service in the Air Force, he retired with an honorable discharge in 1971.

Since leaving the military, Reverend McGregor has worked as a Metro Bus Driver in Austin and also owned his own landscaping business. Today, Reverend McGregor serves his community by working as an associate minister and Sunday school teacher at Oak Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Kendleton, Fort Bend County, Texas under the leadership of Pastor Pleas Mayfield Sr.

Madam Speaker the parishioners of Oak Hill Missionary Baptist Church, and the entire Kendleton community, are fortunate to have the services of someone as dedicated to public service as Reverend McGregor. It is therefore a pleasure to once again join the people of Kendleton in wishing a very happy birthday to Reverend Earline McGregor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, Monday July 26th, I was unable to cast my votes on H.R. 1320, H. Res. 1504, and H.R. 3101 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote. Last night I was conducting a town hall meeting at the Mahomet Village Hall in Mahomet, Illinois and was unable to travel to Washington, DC in time for the votes.

Had I been present on rollcall No. 467 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 1320, To amend the Federal Advisory Committee Act to increase the transparency and accountability of Federal advisory committees, and for other purposes, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present on rollcall No. 468 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 1504, Recognizing and honoring the 20th anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present on rollcall No. 469 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 3101,

Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING FIRE CHIEF POSEY W. DILLON AND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER WILLIAM DANIEL ALTICE

HON. THOMAS S.P. PERRIELLO

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor two brave firefighters from Rocky Mount, Virginia, who passed away on July 26, 2010.

Earlier this week, Fire Chief Posey W. Dillon and volunteer firefighter William Daniel (Danny) Altice were tragically killed in a fatal traffic accident while responding to a house fire in Rocky Mount, Virginia. While we mourn this heartbreaking event, we are reminded of the risk our first responders assume every day to protect us all. Throughout Franklin County and the 5th District, we are in mourning over the passing of these two courageous men, who committed themselves to the service of others.

Fire Chief Dillon was a man of remarkable faith, who strove to serve his community throughout his life. From 1980 to 2000, he served on the Rocky Mount Town Council, including 8 years as Vice Mayor. In 2006, he was reappointed to the Town Council and re-assumed his position as Vice Mayor two years later. Additionally, he spent 33 years with the Rocky Mount Volunteer Fire Department. During this time, he rose up through the ranks, becoming Chief in 1990, a position he would hold for 20 years. His vision and leadership throughout his 30 years of civic involvement helped shape the town of Rocky Mount and his legacy will continue long after his passing.

Danny Altice began as a volunteer firefighter at the age of 20 and served the Rocky Mount community for over 47 years. During his distinguished career, he spent seven years as Fire Chief from 1977 to 1984, and was awarded the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Service Recognition Award by the Rocky Mount Volunteer Fire Department. He helped teach younger members of the department how to handle difficult situations and could always be counted on for his leadership through challenging circumstances. In becoming a firefighter, he followed in the footsteps of his father, who was a founding member of the Rocky Mount volunteer force. His legacy will be carried on by his brother, who serves as a firefighter in Rocky Mount, as well as his son, who serves in Boones Mill.

My heart and prayers go out to the families of our fallen heroes and to the entire Rocky Mount community, which has lost two of its finest. In remembrance of their sacrifice, I have requested that two flags be flown over the United States Capitol and then presented to their loved ones. On behalf of Virginia's 5th District, I honor the passing of these heroes, and ask that their legacies be remembered for years to come.