

John Real, 90, lives in Ventura, California. A California native, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps after graduating from high school in 1940. He was sent to the Philippines in April 1941 and assigned to aerial reconnaissance at Clark Field with the 2nd Observation Squadron, 27th Bombardment Group, V Bomber Command, 20th Air Force. Real and his unit manned an observation tower on top of Mt. Mariveles, Bataan during Japan's invasion of the Philippines where he tracked Japanese ship movement around the Olongapo Navy Yard. He walked down the mountain to surrender on April 9, 1942 and was stripped of all his belongings before being forced on the Bataan Death March. At the start of the march, he and others were used as human shields by being forced to walk in front of seized American 155mm caliber field guns (Long Toms) that the Japanese were firing at Corregidor. He was a POW at both Camp O'Donnell and Cabanatuan 1. He avoided a certain death at O'Donnell by volunteering for a work detail on Bataan. In September 1943, he was sent to Moji, Japan aboard the Hellship *Taga Maru* (aka *Coral Maru*) via Formosa. At Tokyo 5-B POW Camp in Niigata, he was a slave laborer unloading coal ships for Niigata Kairiku Unso, now part of the Rinko Corporation. After the war, Real received a BA degree in Business Administration from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a MA degree from the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Arizona. POW# 514

George R. Summers, 90, lives in Riverside, California. Born in the Philippines, he grew up in California where he joined the Marine Corps Reserve in February 1941. Activated in June 1941, his unit was sent to Guam in September 1941. Japan invaded the island on December 8, 1941, and he was taken prisoner by the 10th of December. Summers was on the first transport of Allied POWs to Japan, the *Argentina Maru* with 420 American POWs from Guam to Tadotsu on the north coast of Shikoku. After arriving in Japan on January 16, 1942, the POWs were transported to Zentsuji (Hiroshima Branch #1), a POW camp about eight kilometers from Tadotsu. He spent six months there clearing a mountainside to plant apple trees. He was then transferred to Tanagawa Osaka Area POW Command #4B Camp, where he helped to manually tear down a mountainside to build a breakwater for a primitive dry-dock and submarine base. This camp was noted for its severe malnutrition and extremely high death rate of POWs. Six months later, he was sent to Umeda Bunsho Camp in Osaka (Osaka 2-D UMEDA), Japan, where he worked for Nippon Express as a slave stevedore. He was transferred to a total of six POW camps due to American bombings. His last camp was the Nagoya 10-B Fushiki Camp, where he worked as a stevedore slave unloading soybeans from Korea for Fushiki Kairiku Unso until Japan's surrender. After his release, he was hospitalized for six months at the Long Beach Naval Hospital. In retirement, he has focused on real estate investment and his hobbies of collecting Koi fish and exotic birds. POW# 347

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF BEREA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Berea, Ohio. Since 1836, the City of Berea has been an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Known as "The Grindstone Capital of the World," the town's symbol is a grindstone which serves as a tribute to the many grindstones that came out of its quarries. Every year, on Independence Day weekend, a festival named for the grindstones is celebrated by the City of Berea.

Berea is home to several of Northeast Ohio's most important fixtures such as Baldwin-Wallace College, the Cleveland Browns' training facility and the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds. Over the years, Berea has produced a number of notable residents including John Baldwin, Lou Groza, Jim Tressel and former U.S. Secretary of Defense, Neil H. McElroy.

Today, the City of Berea is home to nearly 20,000 residents who are led by Mayor Cyril Kleem. Mayor Kleem was recently elected to his second term in office. There are eight members on the City Council: Mary Brown, Dean Can Dress, Dale Lange, Margarette Kay, Nick Haschka, Jim Maxwell, Cheryl Banaszak and Richard Malott.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Berea and all of its residents.

STOP THE WAR ON COAL ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3409) to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations before December 31, 2013, under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977:

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the Coal Miner Employment and Domestic Energy Infrastructure Protection Act.

Here on the last days of the 112th Session of Congress, we are wasting time debating a bill, whose constituents parts have already been approved by this body.

We've already spent considerable House time debating all five titles of this bill.

And all five titles were rejected by the Senate and have received a veto threat from the President.

Over the past 19 months this body has cast more than 300 votes against the environment.

Just as repeating a falsehood doesn't make it true, passing a bill in the House twice in the same session won't make it a law.

When the history of this Congress is written, it will be known as the least productive Congress in a century, eclipsing even the infamous "Do Nothing" Congress that President Harry Truman confronted more than 50 years ago.

Rather than advance policies that would promote employment, help drought stricken farmers, even address the long-term solvency of Medicare, this House remains stuck on vilifying the Environmental Protection Agency and taking issue with its obligations under the law to protect the public's health.

This week's announcement by Alpha Natural Resources that it plans to lay-off miners and scale back coal production by 16 million tons annually may fuel the argument that EPA is somehow responsible, but even Kevin Crutchfield, the company's chief executive officer, acknowledged that the principle cause was "the result a difficult market in which power plants are switching to abundant, less expensive natural gas."

If natural gas is cheaper to burn than coal, then where is the legislation to ban its use?

How about a war on natural gas?

For decades the coal industry and utilities have been exempted from Clean Air Act regulations.

It took court orders for previous administrations' inactions and the current administration commitment to protecting the public's health that led to today's regulatory climate.

And, while hundreds of miners may lose their jobs because of cheaper natural gas and new Clean Air and Clean Water Act regulations, tens of thousands of Americans, this bill so callously disregards, will be saved from premature deaths, asthma attacks, emergency room visits and missed work and school days each year.

I will vote to protect the lives of thousands of Americans over the few hundred who might lose their jobs.

If the majority truly cares about the fate of these miners, then support a jobs bill that will allow them to rebuild America's infrastructure.

This bill is wrong.

It advances narrow, profit-based interests over the interests of everyday Americans.

It presumes that a cleaner, healthier air and water must be subservient to the interests of keeping this nation's dirtiest power plants and the most environmentally destructive mining techniques free from regulation.

My colleagues, it's a distorted set of priorities advanced by just a fraction of CEOs in the utility and mining industries who refuse to clean up their operations.

We can have cleaner air and more jobs.

And history provides us with proof it is possible.

It's already happened, and I credit George Herbert Walker Bush with having the courage and foresight to put his signature on the Clean Air Act of 1990.

He would be vilified by the current House majority if he signed that bill today.

It's a sad commentary to see so many in this chamber beholden to an industry that prefers to invest in the political process rather than in saving lives by reducing its life-damaging practices.

Few of my colleagues may realize that the coal consuming industries that have underwritten this assault on EPA had an opportunity to collaborate with the Obama administration on a regulatory framework.

They were invited early on during the first year of the Obama administration to sit down and craft a compliance option.

The administration had hoped to craft a deal similar to the historic deal it made with the nation's auto industry on fuel efficiency and tailpipe emissions.