

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed roll call votes 264, 265, 266, and 267. If present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call 264, "yea" on roll call 265, "yea" on roll call 266, and "no" on roll call 267.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on June 1, 2015 I was absent for recorded votes #264 through 267 due to a weather-related flight delay.

I would like to reflect how I would have voted if I were here:

On Roll Call #264 I would have voted yes.

On Roll Call #265 I would have voted yes.

On Roll Call #266 I would have voted yes.

On Roll Call #267 I would have voted no.

CINCO RANCH ALL-FEMALE
TRIATHLON RELAY TEAM**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Katie Rinderknecht, Ava Rinderknecht and Sydney Rinderknecht, for winning the Top All-Female Relay during the 16th Annual Texas State High School Triathlon Championships.

Ava and Sydney are sophomores at Cinco Ranch High School, and Katie is a freshman. These young women were among almost 250 competitors at the Triathlon Championships. Each relay team was required to compete in a 500 meter lake swim, 14 mile bike ride and 3 mile run. Their accomplishment recognizes extreme athletic ability, as well as a strong dedication to the sport. We wish each of these young women luck throughout their academic and athletic careers.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Katie, Ava, and Sydney for winning Top All-Female Relay team at this year's Triathlon Championships.

IN HONOR OF HARLEM
HELLFIGHTER SERGEANT HENRY
JOHNSON RECEIVING A POST-
HUMOUS MEDAL OF HONOR

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Henry Johnson. Sergeant Henry Johnson epitomizes what it means to be a great American hero and patriot. I thank President Barack Obama for posthumously awarding the Medal of Honor to Sgt. Johnson, a New York native and distinguished member of the 369th Infantry Regiment, popularly known as the 'Harlem Hellfighters.' With our nation's highest honor of valor bestowed upon Sgt. Johnson, his legacy will be enduring and highlighted in the annals of history.

As a black soldier living in the first decades of the 20th Century, Sgt. Johnson never saw the accolades he so rightly deserved during his lifetime. He enlisted in the military soon after Congress declared war on Germany in June 1917, and was assigned to Company C, 15th New York (Colored) Infantry Regiment—an all-black National Guard unit, which would later become the 369th Infantry Regiment of the 93rd Division, American Expeditionary Forces. The following year, the 369th deployed to France where Sgt. Johnson fought off advancing German soldiers who were trying to raid his French and American camp. Even as he was wounded 21 times, Sgt. Johnson risked his own life to save a fellow soldier from being captured or killed. Indeed, Sgt. Johnson valiantly held back the enemy force until they retreated.

In addition to earning respect from his fellow American and French soldiers, Sgt. Johnson's remarkable deed of courage inspired other black soldiers like me to salute the flag and serve our country with pride and distinction. As a Korean War Veteran, I learned from Sgt. Johnson and other heroes of the 369th Infantry Regiment who fought in World War I and World War II the true meaning of service and sacrifice for the nation.

Since its inception, the 'Harlem Hellfighters' of the 369th Infantry Regiment have participated in every conflict since World War I, including the battles we fight today. I am honored to belong to the 369th Harlem Hellfighter Veterans' Association based in Harlem of my congressional district. Along with my dear friend Percy Ellis Sutton, Major General Nathaniel James, the first African American Commander of the New York State Guard, Korean War Veteran Donald H. Eaton, Civil Rights Attorney Paul Zuber and William K. Defosset, who served in the U.S. State Department and the New York Police Department were all active members who helped pass my bill in Congress to secure the Federal Charter for the Association. In 2003 when Sgt. Johnson was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, we said we would not stop fighting until Sgt. Johnson was awarded the Medal of Honor. The late Filmmaker William Miles who was also a member and documented the history of the Harlem Hellfighters

in the film, "Men of Bronze" played a huge role in raising the awareness of Sgt. Johnson's heroism. Today is a victorious day for all of us, the people of Harlem, African Americans, our comrades in arms, friends in Congress and the community, as it marks a significant milestone in American history. We are exceedingly proud to see that Sgt. Henry Johnson has finally received the proper recognition he has duly earned.

RECOGNIZING JUDSON HIGH
SCHOOL WOMEN'S TRACK AND
FIELD TEAM**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Judson High School women's track and field team for their second state championship win under the leadership of Coach Renee Gerbich.

On Saturday, May 16th, the Judson Rockets earned their spot as champions when Darionne Gibson, Dominique Allen, Zantori Dickerson, and Mariah Kuykendall won the gold medal in the final event of the UIL 6A state championship in Austin, the 1,600-meter relay. In the last eleven seasons, the team has won nine regional titles and two state championships. Last year, the Judson Rockets became the first women's track and field team in the Greater San Antonio area to win a state title in the UIL's 6A classification.

As well as their triumph in the final event, the team broke the area record for the 200 with senior Kiana Horton's gold medal-winning performance. Kiana Horton, Talajah Murrell, Konstance James, and Kiara Pickens broke the city and school records for the 400-meter relay, winning the silver medal. They were joined at the championship by junior Maia Campbell, who competed in shot put.

Mr. Speaker, this is a momentous occasion for Judson High School and I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize the Judson Rockets for their record-setting victory.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 1, 2015, I was unavoidably detained traveling from Wisconsin due to a weather related flight delay. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following ways:

- 1.) On roll call no. 264 (Dingell Amendment to H.R. 1335)—No
- 2.) On roll call no. 265 (Lowenthal Amendment to H.R. 1335)—No
- 3.) On roll call no. 266 (Democrat motion to recommit to H.R. 1335)—No
- 4.) On roll call no. 267 (Passage of H.R. 1335)—Aye