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If ever there was a place worthy of the prestigious status that only national park status can afford, Mr. Speaker, it is the Black Canyon. But as you know, national parks don't just happen. In this case, it took nearly 15 years, several Congressional Representatives and Senators, innumerable locally elected officials, and a virtual sea of committed citizens in western Colorado.

Included in this group are the good people of Montrose, Colorado. During this long and at times difficult process, Montrose's civic leaders have given tirelessly and beyond measure in the hopes of making the Black Canyon a national park. Again and again these great Americans rose to the challenge, doing everything in their power to fulfill this dream. Without Montrose's leadership and perseverance, none of what we have accomplished would have ever been possible.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I give my thanks to the people of Montrose who played a leading role in making the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park a wonderful reality for Colorado, America, and the world to enjoy.

CONGRATULATING THE BOSTON DEMONS

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article which appeared in the Melbourne Age on October 20, 1999 for the record and to offer my congratulations to the Boston Demons for their outstanding efforts in winning the 1999 U.S. Australian Rules National Championship.

[From the Melbourne Age, Oct. 20, 1999]

BOSTON DEMONS 1999 U.S. NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

CINCINNATI, OHIO (17 October 1999). The Boston Demons Australian Rules Football team today won the 1999 U.S. Australian Rules National Championship by narrowly defeating the Santa Cruz Roos in overtime.

The national championship was host by the Cincinnati Dockers, and consisted of 22 teams from around the country, representing cities such as Nashville, New York, Seattle, Chicago, Denver and San Diego.

The Boston Demons were the defending U.S. National Champions. The national championship, called the Grand Final, was, by some accounts, the most intense game of Australian Rules football ever played in the U.S., with neither side giving any quarter. Santa Cruz played with dedicated intensity, while the Boston Demons yielded nothing. At the end of regular time of two 20-minute halves, the game was drawn at 20 points each. Two five-minute periods of extra time were added, in which Boston kicked a quick

goal. The second extra time period saw a battle of ferocious intensity where the game's outcome was held in the balance. So intense was the last five-minute period that two Santa Cruz players were carried off injured. Neither side backed down. The final score was Boston Demons 4 goals 2 behinds, for a total of 26 points, to Santa Cruz 3 goals 2 behinds for a total of 20 points.

The Boston Demons is composed of expatriate Australians, Americans, Irish, and a Dane. Based in Boston, MA, the Boston Demons have recently had a large amount of media exposure in both the U.S. and Australia because the team highlights the loss of Australian intellectual capital to the U.S. (see: <http://www.theage.com.au/daily/991002/news/specials/news28.html>).

TRIBUTE TO THE BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON AND THOSE WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with an overwhelming sense of pride that I now rise to pay tribute to a truly historic event in the proud and distinguished history of the great State of Colorado: the establishment of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.

As the House sponsor of legislation that redesignated the Black Canyon as a national park, it gives me great joy to describe for this esteemed body's record the beauty of this truly majestic place. In addition, I would like to offer my gratitude to a community of individuals instrumental in the long process that ultimately yielded the establishment of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.

Mr. Speaker, anyone who has visited the Black Canyon can attest to its awe-inspiring natural beauty. Named for the dark rock that makes up its sheer walls, the Black Canyon is largely composed of what geologists call basement rocks, the oldest rocks on the earth estimated at 1.7 billion years old. With its narrow openings, sheer walls, and scenic gorges that plunge 2000 feet into the clear blue majesty of the Gunnison River, the Black Canyon is a natural crown jewel second to none in its magnificent splendor. Though other canyons may have greater depth or descend on a steeper course, few combine these attributes as breathtakingly as does the Black Canyon.

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Included in this group are the good people of Gunnison, Colorado. During this long and at times difficult process, Gunnison's civic leaders have given tirelessly and beyond measure in the hopes of making the Black Canyon a national park. Again and again these great Americans rose to the challenge, doing everything in their power to fulfill. Without Gunnison's leadership and perseverance, none of

what we have accomplished would have ever been possible.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I give my thanks to the people of Gunnison who played a leading role in making the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park a wonderful reality for Colorado, America, and the world to enjoy.

MEN AND WOMEN OF HONOR

HON. HELEN CHENOWETH-HAGE

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE. Mr. Speaker, all of us were alarmed when it was recently reported that American soldiers fired upon civilian refugees during the Korean War. However, what was not reported were the numerous acts of compassion that our fine fighting men and women performed during the Korean War.

One such Marine is Ron Rankin, a Kootenai County Commissioner from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Mr. Rankin wrote a powerful guest column regarding his personal experiences as a young Marine during the Korean War in the October 18, 1999 edition of the Spokesman-Review. In this column he details many selfless actions such as Marines giving their own rations to starving Korean families, as well as a rifle company assisting in the birth of a North Korean baby. I ask unanimous consent that his statement appear in the appropriate place in the RECORD. Furthermore, I urge all my colleagues to read Mr. Rankin's entire column to see that the majority of the fighting men and women who served in Korea did so with honor.

[From the Spokesman-Review, Oct. 18, 1999]
SINS OF FEW NEED NOT OVERSHADOW TROOPS'
ACHIEVEMENTS

(By Ron Rankin)

I felt sick, physically and emotionally, as I read the report. The Forgotten War was finally to be remembered. But of what? For the allegation that an Army company had fired on civilian refugees early in the Korean War.

America was unprepared when the Korean War broke out. We had recklessly downscaled our military since the end of World War II, which may account for the lack of discipline of troops involved in the No Gun Ri incident. Unfortunately, that incident could stain the reputation of many valiant young men who did serve with honor.

A headline that would more accurately reflect the character of our American troops should read, "Tired, over-extended, battle-hardened Marines share rations with refugees."

The Marine Corps has the reputation of having highly-trained, highly-disciplined and highly-efficient combat soldiers. Not generally recognized is that, behind all the bravado, they are real people with real emotions.

The Marine Corps Reserve unit I served with, from the historic landing at Inchon to the epic Battle of the Chosin Reservoir, were young husbands and fathers. Many like me had served a "hitch" in their teens, had been trained and tried and knew what to expect. We had a desire to get the job done and go home to our families.

During the outfitting, processing and shipping out we were all given a package from the Red Cross which included a pocket-size Bible.

This Bible fit the breast pocket of GI dungarees. It had "bullet proof" steel covers front and back. On the front was an American flag. The Lord's Prayer was inscribed on the back. I had a picture of my beautiful wife and seven month old daughter on the inside cover. Every time you took your Bible out, you saw the tiny American flag which reminded you why you were there. The Lord's Prayer gave you the strength to be there. The family picture kept you human under inhumane conditions.

On the 78-mile breakout fight to the sea from the Chosin Reservoir, in 30-below-zero weather, I witnessed acts of unselfish personal sacrifice that are still fresh in my mind after almost 50 years.

Along a torturous mountain road, ragged, and near-starving refugees followed along with the troops and trucks. Over and over, I saw battle-hardened Marines pull out cans of rations carried in their underwear to prevent them from freezing, and hand their food to the freezing families.

The most moving example of wartime compassion I witnessed was when a man and wife with two small children stopped on the road so the mother could give birth. Without hesitation, several Marines from a rifle squad stopped to help. One unrolled his sleeping bag, pulled out the wool blanket liner and tore it in half to make swaddling wraps for a brand new North Korean infant on the road to freedom.

On reaching the sea at the Port of Hamhung, a mass exodus of troops began.

Along with our troops, nearly 100,000 refugees came into this port fleeing the Communism of the north; voting with their feet for freedom. The American Navy could not ignore such desperation and determination. A humanitarian flotilla was assembled consisting of every type of ship that could be brought in before the port was leveled on Christmas Eve 1950. All refugees were rescued.

Conditions were horrible for many thousands of them freezing on the decks of ships at sea. Many of the American troops were on decks too, but far better equipped for the cold than the rag-tag refugees.

The contrast between the American troops and refugees is still indelible in my mind. We were born and raised in a free republic having experienced all the benefits of freedom. We were anxious to return to our homes, families and freedoms. The North Korean refugees were born and raised in a Communist dictatorship, experiencing only repression and tyranny. They were determined to escape such conditions at any cost including life itself.

And what of the 100,000 North Korean refugees? Was it worth the hardships endured for freedom? They and their progeny are now living in freedom purchased with the blood of 54,000 young American sons, husbands and fathers.

There are always a few miscreants in every part of our American society, including, at times, a few American soldiers. However, as Americans, we cannot—we must not—let the indefensible actions of a few blemish the magnificent sacrifices of the many in what, until now, has been called The Forgotten War.

Semper Fidelis.

TRIBUTE TO THE BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON AND THOSE WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with an overwhelming sense of pride that I now rise to pay tribute to a truly historic event in the proud and distinguished history of the great State of Colorado: the establishment of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.

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Included in this group are the good people of Crawford, Colorado. During this long and at times difficult process, Crawford's civic leaders have given tirelessly and beyond measure in the hopes of making the Black Canyon a national park. Again and again these great Americans rose to the challenge, doing everything in their power to fulfill this dream. Without Crawford's leadership and perseverance, none of what we have accomplished would have ever been possible.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I give my thanks to the people of Crawford who played a leading role in making the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park a wonderful reality for Colorado, America, and the world to enjoy.

REA CAREY HONORED FOR HER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AT THE NATIONAL YOUTH ADVOCACY COALITION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rea Carey, founding Executive Director

of the National Youth Advocacy Coalition (NYAC). NYAC is the only National organization solely focused on advocacy, education, and information addressing the broad range of issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered youth. Since the founding of the organization in 1993, Carey has worked with the board and staff to develop NYAC as an organization committed to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered youth leadership, national vision driven by community-based needs, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered youth activism without a broader social justice context.

Rea's list of accomplishments in her six-year tenure is as extensive as it is impressive. Through her leadership, the NYAC's budget has grown from \$80,000 per year to \$900,000 per year, the staff has grown from one to eleven, and the breadth and depth of its work increased as well. Among other things, the NYAC convenes a "National Summit" every year focused entirely on the political, social, and mental/physical health issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered youth. It provides skills building and leadership training for youth, technical assistance to community organizations, fundraising, referral networks, and other many other services.

Rea's large contribution to this success was recognized this year, when she was given an "Award of Excellence" by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Adolescent and School Health for her "imaginative and creative efforts" in helping to educate America's young people about preventing HIV infection.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all my colleagues to join me in honoring Rea Carey. While her good work at NYAC is done, I am sure that her career of good works is only beginning.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, October 21, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.