

for the fine jobs they do each and every day in helping older Americans live more productive and rewarding lives.

LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE
MILITARY AIRFIELD SAFETY

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, earlier today I introduced legislation to authorize the U.S. military to test and evaluate Mobile Expeditionary Accurate Night Vision Compatible Portable Airfield Lighting Systems (MEANPALS). This legislation will allow all branches of the U.S. military to benefit from enhanced vision technologies, which have a proven track record of dramatically improving airfield visibility under any weather conditions.

MEANPALS is a mobile airfield lighting system that provides all the necessary elements to establish a 10,000 foot runway on improved or unimproved airfield landing sites. It utilizes enhanced vision technologies, including laser guidance systems. It provides accurate runway centerline lineup cues along with glide-path lineup information during landing approach to the airfield. My bill authorizes \$1.3 million for the U.S. Army to research, develop, test, and evaluate two MEANPALS at one location that serves both fixed wing and rotor aircraft; \$650,000 for the U.S. Marine Corps to evaluate one MEANPALS for use by Marine aircraft, as well as amphibious landing craft and the direction of ground vehicles; and \$1.95 million for the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard to evaluate MEANPALS at three different locations for use as assault runways and for large commercial airport use.

Enhanced vision technologies such as laser guidance systems have been fully tested and deployed by some branches of the U.S. military, including the U.S. Navy. The technology has proven itself under a myriad of conditions. Enhanced vision technologies represent a dramatic breakthrough in improving flight crew situational awareness during airplane landings—especially in low visibility situations. Laser guidance systems provide pilots with a visual navigation flight path from as far as 20 miles from the runway, with the precision of an advanced instrument landing system. Best of all, the installation of laser guidance and cold cathode technologies to replace or enhance conventional landing light systems will require no additional aircraft equipment. The combination of enhanced vision technologies with the latest ground proximity warning systems will dramatically reduce the number of controlled flight into terrain accidents.

As noted above, the U.S. Navy has deployed enhanced vision technologies on its aircraft carriers. Here's what some Navy pilots had to say about laser guidance systems:

There's no guessing involved. It's light years ahead of what we have.

Response to simple color change puts you on line as far out as 20 miles.

I think the laser line-up is the greatest technical improvement for landing at night ever. It is invaluable for safety, comfort, and efficiency when landing.

I really like the system. It will prove especially valuable on days when weather conditions are a factor in approaches.

Here's what the head of the U.S. Park Police had to say about tests the Park Police helicopter units conducted last year:

The Cold Cathode heliport lights . . . have received very favorable comments by our pilots . . . They have reported that their ability to see and recognize these lights was greatly enhanced compared to the existing incandescent lights . . . In some cases my pilots reported that they could be seen twice as far away compared to the incandescent lighting. During the evaluation period we had to replace all of the incandescent lighting several times while only one of the Cold Cathode lights burned out.

These technologies, especially laser guidance systems and cold cathode lights, have been extensively tested. They are also cheaper to maintain than conventional lighting. For example, cold cathode lights have a lifetime cost of only 20 percent of that of incandescent lights.

My legislation will allow all branches of the U.S. military to benefit from this exciting technology. Mr. Speaker, the deployment of MEANPALS by the Army, Marines and Air Force will save lives and save money. I urge all Members to support this bill.

TRIBUTE TO FBI NATIONAL
ACADEMY GRADUATES

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a young man dedicated to a career of service and protection. On March 26, 1999, Captain Kenneth Duane Donahue of the Greeley Police Department, Greeley, CO., graduated from the 196th session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

Each year the FBI National Academy selects several of our nation's top law enforcement officers to participate in an extensive 11-week training program. Throughout this training, particular emphasis is placed on leadership development. Courses in the program relate to Police management, Behavioral Science, Criminal Law, Law enforcement Communication Arts, Forensic Science, and Health/Fitness. After Graduation, they expect that these officers will be prepared to assume even greater responsibilities and pass on to others the benefits of their advanced training.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Captain Donahue and all of the FBI National Academy graduates. With confidence, I look forward to their leadership in America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. KASICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, April 20, 1999, I was unable to record a vote

by electronic device on rollcall No. 92, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Rosa Parks in recognition of her contributions to the nation. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 92.

Mrs. Parks is not only a pioneer in the struggle for racial equality, she is an example of the courage and determination we all need to overcome adversity. Mrs. Parks is an inspiring symbol to all Americans and is much deserving of the Congressional Gold Medal. I am proud to be a cosponsor of Congresswoman Carson's bill, H.R. 573, and look forward to Rosa Parks receiving this long-overdue honor.

HONORING JESUS SAUCEDO

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues an extraordinary man and friend who retired as the Director of the Guadalupe Community Center on December 31, 1998.

After a decade of traveling between Mexico and various states under the Bracero program Señor Jesus Saucedo first came to Guadalupe, California in 1961. He was joined five years later by his wife Refugia and their children. Once settled in the community, it didn't take long for Señor Saucedo to become a leader in the fight for justice and equality.

In 1969 he became a member and organizer of the United Farm Workers. He began working with businesses to establish training programs for local farm workers and other residents to diversify their skills and expand their opportunities. To this end, he developed his own job training programs and citizenship workshops and made these resources open to whoever needed them.

Mr. Speaker, I am inspired by Señor Saucedo's leadership and commitment to his community. Perhaps his most important accomplishment is his work with the Guadalupe Community Health Clinic. The Clinic has become the centerpiece for the community providing means to the needy, transportation options for the public, educational and recreational resources, and referrals of all kinds for those in need of advice. The impact of his service and vision will never be forgotten by the community of Guadalupe.

Mr. Speaker, I was honored to join the City of Guadalupe this past weekend in celebrating the accomplishments of Señor Jesus Saucedo. He is a man who has devoted his life to community service and I thank him for all he has done through the years.

HONORING DENIS AND CAROLYN
RIBORDY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend two of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished citizens, Denis and