

"yea" on roll call vote 477 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 5173) and "yea" on roll call vote 478 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 5010).

TRIBUTE TO CHAPLIAN (COLONEL)
WILLIAM C. MORRISON, JR.

HON. ROBERT E. WISE, JR.

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to Honor Chaplain (Colonel) William C. Morrison, Jr., who is retiring from the United States Army after 24 years of active duty and to congratulate him on being selected as the new Regional Minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Florida.

William C. Morrison, Jr., has served this great country with dignity, integrity and honor. He is a native of Charleston, West Virginia, and an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

He graduated from West Virginia State College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. He completed his theological studies at Howard University School of Divinity in Washington, D.C. where he earned the Master of Divinity Degree. He also graduated from Golden Gate University in San Francisco, California, with a Master of Business Administration Degree in Management.

Chaplain Morrison received a direct commission into the United States Army Chaplain Corps on June 15, 1976. He is a graduate of the Chaplain Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Division Chaplain Course, Installation Chaplain Course, U.S. Army Drug and Alcohol Abuse Team Training, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the U.S. Army War College. He has served as an Army Chaplain in assignments at Fort McClellan, Alabama, Republic of South Korea; Fort Knox, Kentucky; Washington, DC.; Frankfurt West Germany; and Fort Bliss, Texas. He also served as the Staff Chaplain of the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee for the 1984 Presidential Inauguration of Ronald Reagan and George Bush. During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, he served as the Brigade Chaplain for the 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade.

Before attending the U.S. Army War College, he was the Division Chaplain for the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Upon graduation from the Army War College, he served as the Mobilization, Training, and Military operations Chaplain, U.S. Army Forces Command, Fort McPherson, Georgia. He also served as the Deputy Command Chaplain, U.S. Army Forces Command. Prior to his current assignment as Command Chaplain, U. S. Army Materiel Command, he was the Installation Staff Chaplain, Fort Stewart, Georgia, he is currently serving as Command Chaplain, U.S. Army Materiel Command. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit Medal, Bronze Star Medal, seven awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Com-

mendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal (with three stars), Liberation of Kuwait Medal, and the Air Assault Badge.

I am especially proud of his accomplishments as a distinguished Army Officer and Chaplain from my district in Charleston, West Virginia. His accomplishments speak to his courage, compassion, integrity, and loyalty to his country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this house please join me in recognizing, honoring, and congratulating this outstanding army officer, soldier and clergyman.

CALIFORNIA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I join my colleagues in celebrating California's 150 year anniversary of statehood. This is a monumental time in our history not only as a people from a state but as a constantly growing and ever changing nation. I am proud and honored to be a part of such a special event.

Throughout my life, I have been lucky enough to call the 46th Congressional District in Southern California home. It's experience has been an honor to not only serve my constituents, but enjoy the many opportunities that our state has to offer.

Orange County, California is known the world over for it's performing arts, education and the Anaheim Angels major league base ball team. Anaheim, California is home to Disney Land, the "Happiest Place on Earth" which has entertained families for over fifty years.

For over a century, my state has been a leader and the very backbone for economic opportunity in almost every major field. It is this nations leader in trade and shipping as well as a model for education, environmental initiatives, and the world's largest entertainment industry.

The 46th District in California is culturally diverse and represents the best of what California has to offer. I am deeply honored to represent those from the 46th Congressional District in California, and I will continue my responsibility to all who call Orange County, California home.

HONORING THE HEROES OF THE
44TH INFANTRY DIVISION

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the brave Americans of the 44th Infantry Division. From September 21 to September 24, 2000, the 44th Infantry Division Association will be celebrating the 55th anniversary of the end of World War II at the Midway

Hotel near Chicago, Illinois. This venue is very appropriate, as the State of Illinois contributed over eleven hundred soldiers to the 44th Division. Today, it certainly gives me great honor to remind my colleagues and the American public of the sacrifice these great men gave for the freedom and prosperity that is enjoyed by so many.

Maj. General William F. Dean commanded the 44th Infantry Division of roughly fifteen thousand men, comprising about one-fifth of the 7th Army. On September 15, 1944, the 44th Infantry landed at Cherbourg, France, to relieve the 79th Division that invaded Normandy on D-Day.

Forty days later, the 44th received their first attack from axis forces east of Luneville, France. In midwinter 1944, the 44th Division fought through the Maginot line, as well as the Vosges Mountains in northern France. In fact, the first United States soldiers to reach the Rhine River between France and Germany were members of the 44th Infantry Division. Along the way, the 44th held off several savage assaults from German Panzer divisions. In addition, the 44th was called to relieve two divisions of allied forces that were to be employed in the Ardennes Forest counteroffensive.

In the beginning of 1945, the 44th Infantry Division was forced into a defensive posture, as three German divisions, including the elite 17 SS Panzer Grenadier Division, conducted an all-out attack on United States forces. Amazingly, the brave Americans held off the brutal attack that would have cut off the allied forces in Alsace, as well as the Vosges and Hardt Mountains. In mid-March 1945, the division earned a well-deserved 2-day rest after other allied divisions passed through their fortification for the final assault on Germany. I should note that the 44th had undergone 144 days of continuous commitment.

On March 27, 1945, the 44th finally crossed the Rhine and provided for the capture of Mannheim and Heidelberg. Soon later, the 44th reached the Danube River and joined with the 10th Armored Division. On April 25, 1945, these joint forces captured the ancient German city of Ulm. Finally, the 44th swept into the Austrian Alps, after which Victory in Europe was gratefully won.

Mr. Speaker, the 44th Infantry Division fought for 203 incredible days. They captured over 44,000 enemy prisoners, and destroyed thousands more. During the European campaign, the 44th lost roughly 2,000 men in combat. Since the end of World War II, another 6,000 have passed on. Today, our country is graced with over 5,000 survivors of the 44th Infantry Division. With roughly 1,000 World War II veterans leaving us each day, I am very pleased to see these veterans enjoying the years that they earned so courageously. Mr. Speaker, I hope these brave Americans will continue to relate their incredible experiences gained during the greatest, most noble war ever fought by man.