

"The Tree of Liberty has never been topped by an external whirlwind. Rather, in the past it has perished because a vine which grows in its shadow and under its protection eventually smothers it. In nature this is the work of the strangler fig; in Government, this is the work of Corrupt Political Adventurers. Republics are a tenuous form of Government. Their demise does not come about by a single seismic political event, but rather is initiated by an unchallenged violation of its Founding Precepts. Thus the first successful violation of a State's Tenants of Faith begins the inevitable Decline and Fall of that State. Thus: (1) "Democratic Athens did not fail because of the annihilation of its fleet in 404 B.C. by Sparta. Rather a generation earlier Alcibides, when summoned to appear in Athens to explain the Syracuse Debacle, deserted first to Sparta and later to Persia. (2) "Republican Rome fell, not because Julius Caesar crossed the Rubicon, but because a score of years earlier Sulla violated the Roman Constitution by leading seven renegade legions into the defenseless city. (3) "The First Republic of France succumbed to Bonapartism because a decade earlier the "Incorruptible" Assembly was replaced by the Corrupt Directorate.

"Some 162 years ago, a 28-year-old frontiersman who became our 16th President foresaw such a challenge to our nation's foundation and told us how to respond:

At what point shall we expect the approach of danger? By what means shall we fortify against it? Shall we expect some transatlantic military giant to step the ocean and crush us at a blow? Never! All the armies in Europe, Asia, and Africa combined, with all the treasures of the earth (our own excepted) in their military chest; with a Bonaparte for a commander could not by force take a drink from the Ohio, or make a track on the Blue Ridge, in a trial of a thousand years. At what point then is the approach of danger to be expected? I answer, if it ever reaches us, it must spring up amongst us. It cannot come from abroad. If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of free men we must live through all time or die by suicide. The question recurs, "How shall we fortify against it?" The answer is simple. Let every American, every lover of liberty, every well wisher of this posterity, swear by the blood of the (American) Revolution never to violate the least particular, the laws of the country, and never tolerate their violation by others.—(Abraham Lincoln, The Perpetuation of Our Political Institution, Springfield Lyceum, January 27, 1838.)"

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Rucker and his colleagues believe that the President should resign prior to January 3, 2001, in deference to their beliefs and reading of American history. I believe that this is an old war that distracted the Congress from its business and the nation from its tranquility. Given the President's transgressions, however, it had to be fought, and as a result the President became the second man to be impeached by the House of Representatives. I do not wish to fight this war again, but I have enough respect for Walker Rucker and like-minded men to submit their views on this unfortunate subject in our nation's history for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. PAULINE F. SMITH

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my very special constituents, Mrs. Pauline F. Smith, of Allentown, Georgia as she prepares to celebrate her 78th birthday. It gives me great pleasure to not only wish her a happy birthday, but also to commend her for her outstanding service to her community and country.

Mrs. Smith, a life long Georgian, was born on October 2, 1922 in Tate, Georgia. Although Mrs. Smith's life accomplishments are too vast and rich to fully recount here, highlights demonstrate that Mrs. Smith has enriched and touched the lives of many through her commitment to, and love for, her family, community, and country.

Mrs. Smith was married in 1944 to Mr. Lonnie Smith Jr. and moved to Allentown, Georgia where they raised two children, Sandra and Denise. Beyond her role as loving wife and mother, however, Mrs. Smith has played and continues to play a significant role in her community and in her church, the Allentown Methodist Church.

Mrs. Smith's record of public service is also remarkable, both for its length and quality. In various capacities, from her work in the selective service office to her many years of service at Robins Air Force Base, Mrs. Smith selflessly served her country for 33 years, 3 months, and 3 days.

Therefore, in recognition of her tremendous service and in honor of her birthday, I am happy, Mr. Speaker, to rise today and Join Mrs. Smith's family and friends in wishing her a very happy 78th birthday, and in wishing her many more happy and healthy birthdays ahead.

DEATH OF SETH FOTI

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the Diplomatic Courier Service, U.S. Department of State, lost one of its own on August 23, 2000. Mr. Seth Foti, age 31, lost his life while serving his nation in the line of duty in the Persian Gulf. Seth was one of 143 passengers aboard the Gulf Air flight that crashed in Bahrain on August 23rd. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire Foti family. Seth is survived by his wife Neysha, his father Dominic Foti, his mother DeYann Davis, and step-father Maxwell Davis.

The U.S. Diplomatic Couriers face hardship on a daily basis. Not everyone is qualified for such a highly-sought-after position in public service. Just a few of the challenges with which couriers contend, include constant travel, traversing several time zones, long hours, solitary travel and flight delays. U.S. Diplomatic Couriers are integral in the work of the

Foreign Service. These men and women deliver documents and materials that are vital to U.S. interest and foreign policy goals. It can be dangerous.

The tragic loss of Mr. Foti, the sixth courier killed in the service's 82 year history, reminds us all of the bravery and commitment associated with our Diplomatic Couriers.

Seth was one of the new breed of couriers who recently joined the Diplomatic Courier Service in April 1999. He was a young, bright, energetic man who was willing to accept the dangers associated with a career in the U.S. Diplomatic Courier Service. Seth's supervisor, Mike Meeker, stated the following, "Seth Foti was such a dedicated colleague, professional in every respect. His professionalism was unmatched. He knew how to negotiate his way through the most difficult of airports. Always cheerful, charismatic and well respected by his fellow couriers and those who served with him at our embassy in Bahrain. He loved his parents and step-dad and was so excited about his recent marriage to Anisha."

As Chairman of the House International Relations Committee, I want to extend my sincere condolences to the Foti family and the U.S. Diplomatic Courier Service family. Seth was a true public servant of the people who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. I thank him. The extensive amount of travel is an inherent risk and danger associated with the demanding job of a U.S. Diplomatic Courier. I salute the bravery and commitment that these fine men and woman demonstrate on a daily basis for the U.S. Department of State and the American people.

FREDERICK L. DEWBERRY, JR.
POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, as the Ranking member of the Subcommittee on the Postal Service, I am pleased to join my Government Reform Committee colleague, Congresswoman JUDY BIGGERT (R-IL) in the consideration of H.R. 4451. H.R. 4451, which designates a United States Post Office after "Frederick L. Dewberry, Jr.", was introduced by my good friend and committee colleague, Representative ELIJAH CUMMINGS (D-MD), on May 15, 2000.

Mr. Frederick L. Dewberry, Jr. was born and raised in Baltimore City. He is a graduate of Loyola College and received a law degree from the University of Baltimore. A dedicated and distinguished World War II veteran, Lieutenant Dewberry served in the U.S. Navy, working as a sonar operator on submarines. Returning to Maryland, Mr. Dewberry held the very important post of Chairman of the Baltimore County Council from 1964 to 1966. From 1979 to 1984, Frederick Dewberry was the Deputy Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation. He passed 10 years ago, on July 9, 1990.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift adoption of this measure and commend my colleague, Congressman CUMMINGS for seeking to honor