

apart. Aaron Hush is an African-American Civil War veteran buried in South Brunswick. Al Kady is a World War II veteran and the military historian for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9111 who located Hush's burial ground in South Brunswick, NJ. I commend Mr. Kady for his commitment to locating and preserving a significant piece of New Jersey history.

Aaron Hush was a resident of nearby Franklin Township. Upon his death on January 20, 1916, he was laid to rest in the Sand Hills Area of South Brunswick Township, also known as the Thompson Plot.

The Record of Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Civil War has recorded that Aaron Hush served from February 29, 1864 until August 22, 1865, in the 32nd regiment of the United States Colored Troops. He is one of nearly 3,000 New Jersey African-American soldiers to serve in the Civil War.

The Emancipation Proclamation permitted African-American soldiers like Aaron Hush to enlist, be drafted, or receive bonuses to serve as replacements. Records reveal that 2,872 New Jersey African-Americans wore the uniform of the Union Army. There were 469 African-American casualties from New Jersey.

Mr. Kady has brought to life the importance of the Hush burial ground. He has worked tirelessly to ensure that the cemetery is preserved and maintained. He is to be commended for his dedication and hard work. As a veteran of World War II and past commander of VFW Post 9111, he knows the importance of maintaining sites important to our national heritage.

Mr. Kady will present a copy of Aaron Hush's discharge papers to the South Brunswick Township Council on April 11 for display in the township. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to learn about our local heritage, as well as our national history.

Mr. Speaker, VFW Post 9111 military historian Al Kady represents what is right with central New Jersey and the United States of America. His discovery and preservation of Hush's gravesite is a wonderful reminder to the community and the country at large. Kady has served his country in times of great national crisis and continues to do so by preserving history in central New Jersey.

This is an important example of what makes America special. A veteran of one war preserving the memory of a veteran of a different war; our common history bridging our individual differences.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Kady for his hard work and dedication to the preservation of historical landmarks throughout central New Jersey.

SUPPORT FOR THE CRUSADER

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Army's new advanced field artillery system, the Crusader. When fielded in 2008, Crusader will provide unprecedented fire support capability to the U.S. Army.

The DoD budget requests \$355.5 million in Fiscal Year 2001 to continue the development of the Crusader system.

Field artillery is the one combat capability where the United States significantly lags behind its allies and potential adversaries. While the Abrams tanks and the Bradley fighting vehicle is recognized as the best in the world, the U.S. field artillery ranks 9th in the world in terms of systems and the current howitzers is outperformed by at least four more modern foreign systems. With Crusader that balance will be reversed.

In anticipation of the fielding of the Crusader, the Army dramatically reduced its field artillery organization by eliminating six howitzers from each cannon battalion. Additionally, the Army later reduced the number of tanks, infantry fighting vehicles and soldiers in its mechanized divisions. Again, this was done because of the offsetting capabilities of the Crusader advanced field artillery system. Should we not follow through with fielding the Crusader, then all these systems and soldiers would have to be added back to the Army organization and force structure to maintain its combat capability.

In recent testimony before our committee, General Shinseki, the Army Chief of Staff, emphasized the importance of the Crusader to the Army, both its counterattack corps and its transformation forces. He is fully supportive of its development and fielding and was the major architect of its modification to become more supportive of the Army transformation initiative and its objective force. General Shinseki insisted upon the maintenance of its key combat capabilities, (range, rate-of-fire, mobility and survivability) while enhancing its global, strategic deployability. With changes that will reduce the Crusader's weight to approximately 40 tons, two can be airlifted to any theater in the world on a single C5B aircraft. Those two howitzers will provide more fire support capability than six of today's Paladin systems. That six-gun Paladin unit with its 94 soldiers, like the one sent to Kosovo in Task Force Hawk, required 8 C-5B sorties to deploy, while a smaller, but more lethal Crusader capability would include just 31 soldiers and need only 4 C-5B sorties.

Mr. Speaker, the Army needs the Crusader to be developed and fielded without delay to enhance its capability to rapidly and globally respond to threats to the nation's interests and ultimately to win the nation's wars.

TRIBUTE TO THE NEW LOTHROP HORNETS GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Michigan's new girl's highschool volleyball State Champions, the New Lothrop Hornets.

At the start of a long and challenging season, New Lothrop's girl's volleyball team set out to achieve their goal of being the best. They believed in themselves and knew that

with their heart, drive and tremendous teamwork the state championship was within their grasp. With the support of their fans and the community these athletes fought a hard battle, never once doubting their amazing ability. With their motto "Together we can," the women exemplified teamwork. Their combining passion for victory made them unstoppable.

At the recent championship match, the Hornets proved victorious and their coach Sheri Warner hoisted the championship trophy for their fans. This tremendous victory was well deserved. They have lead their community to new athletic heights and have become wonderful examples of good sportsman. They may now pride themselves not only with the spectacular honor of being Michigan's top women's volleyball team, but also carrying the title of New Lothrop's first prep volleyball champions.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and the New Lothrop community in congratulating these women on their excellent talents and leadership skills.

THE GAMING INDUSTRY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, you hear many arguments surrounding the gaming industry in America. Some have merit, some do not. Some criticism is deserved, some is not. Mr. Speaker, before I make my statement today I want to make it abundantly clear that while I am not an ardent proponent of the gaming industry nor an ardent foe of the gaming industry, I am an ardent foe of illegal activity in the gaming industry. Furthermore, I am an ardent support of consumer rights and consumer rights is exactly what I intend to discuss today.

At the heart of my comments today is how certain gaming companies treat their patrons and how they conduct business. I believe that the vast majority of casino owners play by the rules, treat their patrons fairly, and provide quality entertainment for individuals and families. I have talked with many of these businessmen over the years who have conducted themselves in such a professional manner. However, there are a few bad apples out there who don't play by the rules and that is just plain wrong.

One such example is the case of Suncruz casino's based out of Florida. Florida authorities, particularly Attorney General Butterworth have repeatedly reprimanded Suncruz casinos and its owner Gus Boulis for taking illegal bets, not paying out their customers properly and has had to take steps to prevent Suncruz from conducting operations all together. In fact, a few years ago the Broward County Sheriffs Office, under the supervision of Mr. Butterworth, raided Suncruz ships seizing their equipment.

Mr. Speaker, how Suncruz Casinos and Gus Boulis conduct themselves with regard to Florida laws is very unnerving. But the consumer rights issue is even more disheartening. On December 1, 1998 the Broward County Sheriffs department announced that they had