admitted that the discussion of live American prisoners was not even on the agenda when U.S. officials met with their North Korean, Vietnamese, or Laotian counterparts. Rather, they preferred to focus on the issue of remains recovery as a measurement of cooperation on the MIA issue from those countries. The U.S. government, particularly the last administration, has often appeared to equate activity on recovery efforts, regardless of any subsequent results, with progress on the issue. This is not an insignificant point, the Defense Department has expended a substantial amount of money on remains recovery over the past decade, which begs the following question: Are North Korea, Vietnam, and Laos truly interested in bilateral cooperation on this issue, or are they using it as a source of badly needed hard currency?

This is especially pertinent concerning the case of North Korea. According to the Congressional research service, 298 sets of remains were repatriated from North Korea between 1990–96, and 107 sets since 1996 when joint exhumation efforts began. During the period of 1990–96, the United States paid North Korea $987,000 for their unilateral retrieval efforts. By 1996, the price tag sharply increased—we paid $6.3 million for the 77 sets of remains exhumed through November of last year.

Given that only eight sets of remains have been identified as U.S. soldiers, although ten more are expected to be paid for, we have effectively paid the North Koreans $400,000 per body, an outrageous sum and certainly not evidence of North Korean “cooperation.”

While the Vietnamese were not quite as brazen in their profiteering on the MIA issue, there is considerable evidence that they maintained a mortuary storehouse of sorts of U.S. remains, and doled these out over time. Most analysts, including those at the Library of Congress, agree that if this did occur, the supply of stored bodies was depleted in the early 1990s.

Regrettably, in its rush to normalize relations with Vietnam, the Clinton administration decided to overlook any evidence that Hanoi was holding back on cooperation or attempting to profit from it. This pattern was later repeated when the administration sought the establishment of trade relations. The opportunity to use trade and recognition as leverage to improve and will lead to a further clarification regarding the safe return of any living POW’s who may still be in captivity in Korea or elsewhere.

Americans should always remember the love of country that America’s veterans have shown as well as their personal sacrifices, courage, convictions and dedication to freedom that these individuals have exhibited.

To quote a portion of President Abraham Lincoln’s letter to a mother who lost five sons on the battlefield: “I cannot refrain from tendering to you the thanks of the republic they died to save. I pray that our heavenly father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.”

May it be of some solace to the families and loved ones of our missing and POW’s that there are many of us in the Congress committed to a full and final accounting of our missing.

In light of recent events in New York City, we hope that we will not be faced with a future POW/MIA issue from any resulting military action that we may undertake in Southeast Asia.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

September 21, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment and acknowledge the selfless contributions of an extremely important member of our community. Ms. Marti Duprey has spent the majority of her life caring for and helping others. She has continuously put the well being of others ahead of her own.

Ms. Duprey, a Catholic nun, moved to Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1973 after having spent eighteen years working with the Rev. Jesse Jackson’s “Operation Breadbasket” in Chicago. Her education, consisting of Bachelor’s Degrees in education and social work and a Master’s Degree in counseling, provided her with the proper tools for her work with the community of Glenwood Springs ever since. She provides three very important functions for the residents of Glenwood Springs. Whether it is her involvement in the Defiance Community Theatre, her counseling in the Helping Hands Grief Group or as Program Manager for Mountain Valley Weavers, she unselfishly helps others find ways of expressing themselves in a more self-reliant manner and provides them with outlets that will increase their confidence and happiness.

Marti Duprey provides very important services for the grieving, the disabled and many other members of her community. Her compassion for others makes her a truly valuable member of the Glenwood Springs community. I would like to recognize Ms. Marti Duprey for her wonderful efforts and contributions that have touched the lives of so many. Her acts of care and compassion deserve our recognition and I would like to extend my best wishes and warm regards to her for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RONALD T. FARRAR

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Ronald T. Farrar of South Carolina, on the occasion of his retirement from the College of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Farrar is the epitome of what a college professor should be, and he is respected and loved by faculty and students alike.

In 1986, Dr. Farrar became a professor of history, media law and introduction to journalism at the University of South Carolina, until assuming the position of interim dean in July of 1999. Dr. Farrar’s career achievements speak for his dedicated service as an extraordinary college professor, teacher, administrator, mentor, and respected member of the media.

After earning his Ph.D. in Journalism History from the University of Missouri in 1965, Dr. Farrar went on to serve as a professor/chairman in the journalism departments of Indiana University, the Southern Methodist University, the University of Mississippi, and the University of Kentucky.

Dr. Farrar served as a reporter, news editor, general manager and circulation manager of the Arkansas Democrat, Daily Press, Arkansas Gazette, and Daily Iowan newspapers. From 1957 to 1958, he served as 2nd Lieutenant of the U.S. Army.