

Johnson ended up borrowing \$500 at the Citizens Loan Corporation, using his mother's furniture for collateral. The magazine quickly became successful.

In 1945, John Johnson launched *Ebony*, modeling it after *Life* and *Look* magazines. *Ebony* started as a magazine about achievement and success. John Johnson realized the importance of African-Americans feeling good about themselves, and of their achievements in the context of American society. In his book, *Succeeding Against the Odds*, Mr. Johnson wrote that at the time, "There was no consistent coverage of the human dimension of black Americans in Northern newspapers and magazines. It's hard to make people realize this, but blacks didn't get married on the society pages of major American dailies until the late sixties."

*Jet Magazine* followed in 1951, and continued John Johnson's vision of reporting about the people, history and current events of the African-American community. For example, *Jet Magazine's* Ticker Tape column, authored by Simeon Booker, has been a consistent source of information about current events, and governmental and legislative decisions.

Over the years, John Johnson has helped to present the news and interests of people of color virtually around the world. Today we salute him, and one of his flagship publications—*Jet Magazine*—for being part of our lives for 50 years. All of us look forward to another 50 years of success, and of *Ebony* and *Jet Magazine* continuing to bring the news not only to all of us, but also to future generations.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in honoring Mr. John H. Johnson, Publisher and Chief Executive Officer of the Johnson Publishing Company on the 50th Anniversary of *JET Magazine*—Black America's leading weekly news magazine.

Mr. Johnson is one of the true giants of the American business world, and the publishing industry. In November 1942, as a young visionary, he began publishing the *Negro Digest* with a \$500 loan using his mother's furniture as collateral. Over the years he has built the privately held company into what is widely regarded as the world's largest Black-owned publishing company.

Today, Johnson Publishing Company titles include: *EBONY* magazine, *JET* magazine, and *EBONY* magazine South Africa.

*EBONY* magazine, with a monthly circulation of more than two million, is the largest African American oriented magazine in the country.

Fifty years ago this month, Johnson Publishing introduced *JET*, a national weekly which now boasts a weekly circulation of nearly 1 million. Since 1951, *JET* magazine has firmly established itself as Black America's weekly news magazine. It has done so, primarily, by covering stories about Black life often ignored by the mainstream press, in a timely and relevant manner.

Johnson Publishing Company has provided thousands of opportunities for Black journalists to get their start and move to higher positions.

Mr. Johnson is one of those special individuals in whom there exists not only an immense capacity for service, but also that touch of genius which everybody recognizes but no

one can define. He is also a great man with a great big heart. Since 1958 he has donated more than \$48 million to charitable causes.

So, to John H. Johnson I say thank you for your vision, your wisdom, and your example. Thank you for giving African Americans a voice in the publishing world, and congratulations on fifty years of publication of *JET* magazine.

#### AGRICULTURAL BIOTERRORISM COUNTERMEASURES ACT OF 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask for Members' support for the Agricultural Bioterrorism Countermeasures Act of 2001, H.R. 3293.

The tragic events of September 11 have made all Americans appreciate our freedom and democracy more than ever. As we continue to get our lives back to normal, we must also realize how much this has changed.

Terrorism does not have to be directed towards people; it can be directed at our modes of transportation, our communications infrastructure, or even our food supply.

The United States Department of Agriculture, along with the Food and Drug Administration, is in charge of ensuring that Americans have a safe and abundant food supply.

I would like to make it absolutely clear that because of USDA and FDA Americans enjoy the benefit of the safest food supply in the world. However, USDA and FDA have not had to clearly focus on how to prevent terrorism, bioterrorism, agriterrorism, or whatever term one prefers to use in describing the threats to America's food supply.

Prevention is the key and long-term planning should be the goal to continued food safety. Congress needs to take positive steps to help USDA perform what we ask of it.

Today, I am dropping a bill to help with prevention and long-term planning. H.R. 3293 authorizes money to be spent on USDA's agricultural research laboratories so that there is adequate plant and animal research being performed to combat bioterrorism. Some of USDA's most important research facilities need to be modernized in order for the U.S. to stand ready for our new fight.

The bill also provides money for the Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism, for research to make sure that USDA, the Department of Agriculture, and other law enforcement and emergency preparedness organizations cooperate and have the proper techniques in place in the event of bioterrorism events.

Further, Oklahoma State is authorized to receive a grant to establish a

food safety research center. OSU is the ideal location for a food safety center that is needed in our new struggle. This proposed food safety center will utilize state-of-the-art detection methods to determine the critical points in the food chain, from production, harvest, processing, and distribution, to consumption, where interventions could be applied to eliminate the known hazards for humans.

The Secretary of Agriculture will develop rapid response field test kits that can quickly be deployed to State and local agencies to determine if an act of bioterrorism has occurred. These are intended for quick discovery and to confirm outbreaks of plant or animal diseases, pathogens, or other bioterrorism agents.

The intramural agricultural bioterrorism research and development section of this bill will make USDA's ARS programs focus on enhancing regulatory agencies' response time, encouraging academic and private sector partners to work together to maximize research benefits, strengthening the links with the intelligence community to learn what research needs are most important, and encouraging ARS to work with international operations to control the spread of plant and animal diseases.

The consortium for countermeasures against agricultural bioterrorism is truly valuable. Those colleges and universities that turn out animal and plant doctors will coordinate with the Federal agencies, such as USDA, to develop the long-term program needed to combat bioterrorism.

Furthermore, competitive grants will be provided through USDA which are directed towards the protection of the domestic food supply. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, APHIS, will be authorized to receive more funds to increase inspections at points of origin and to improve surveillance at points of entry. They will also be required to develop new and better techniques of working with State and local agencies to control the outbreaks of plant and animal diseases.

The Food Safety Inspection Service, FSIS, will be charged with enhancing its ability to inspect the safety of meat and poultry products. Like APHIS, FSIS will be expected to work with State and local agencies to create the best possible means of sharing information and technology in order to reach the best results possible.

This legislation is designed for the long-term benefit of producers and consumers alike. Please support H.R. 3293.

#### HISTORIC COMPROMISE ON AVIATION SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.