

continues to be a central part of our Armed Forces. They were not deployed on a distant shore. They were not facing a foreign foe. But they were still defending our freedoms, our families and our homes. We must never forget what risks our defenders assume each and every day.

For their service to our country, we honor the sacrifice of Chief Warrant Officer John Duce, Chief Warrant Officer Eric Larson, Staff Sergeant Robert Ward, Jr., and the 18 members of the 203rd Red Horse Flight who were lost last Saturday, and we offer such comfort as we may to their families. May God bless them and may God bless the great Nation they served.

INTRODUCTION OF MEDICAID SAFETY NET HOSPITAL PRESERVATION ACT OF 2001

(Mr. WHITFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) and I have introduced the Medicaid Safety Net Hospital Preservation Act of 2001. The Medicaid disproportionate share program provides funding for hospital uncompensated care. Payments are made through the Medicaid program and the costs are financed with a combination of Federal and State dollars. The amount of money that any State can spend on indigent care through the Medicaid DSH program is limited by the caps imposed by the Federal Government.

The 1997 Balanced Budget Act affected hospitals to a far greater degree than was ever anticipated by Congress. Rural hospitals have been hardest hit and are struggling to remain financially solvent. In the closing days of the 106th Congress, we passed the Beneficiary Improvement and Protection Act which stopped further reductions in Medicaid DSH spending in fiscal year 2001 and fiscal year 2002. Even though we froze further cuts in those years, the law reinstates the full Balanced Budget Act reduction for most States in fiscal year 2003. Last year's legislation secured only a temporary reprieve.

Therefore, the act that we have introduced will eliminate any further reductions in the program for fiscal year 2003.

□ 1845

TRIBUTE TO LEO FRIGO

(Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, briefly I wish to talk tonight about

a friend of mine by the name of Leo Frigo who died tragically 1 month ago.

It is impossible to sum up his life and his contributions in a minute. The people of Northeastern Wisconsin know that he founded Paul's Pantry in 1983 after retiring as the President of Frigo Cheese. From its humble beginnings, this food kitchen now distributes over 300,000 pounds of unsalable food to the poor each and every month. The food comes from area stores and restaurants.

When Leo began his operation, he would approach restaurants and stores asking for their unsalable food. They denied him. They thought he was crazy. So he began raiding their Dumpsters until they were so embarrassed they had to listen to him.

Leo Frigo, when he retired from Frigo Cheese, could have enjoyed the easy life. He could have rested on his laurels and his good fortune. Instead he chose to be a true compassionate conservative and to serve his fellow man. I will miss him as a friend and all of us will miss him as a great and wonderful leader.

TRIBUTE TO THE 182 WHO STAYED AND FOUGHT ON MARCH 6, 1836

(Mr. CULBERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight very briefly to pay tribute to the memory and spirit of 182 brave Americans and Tejanos who, on this date March 6, 1836 at sunrise this morning, the garrison of the Alamo fell in Texas and but for the sacrifice of those 182 brave citizens of Texas and Mexico who decided to stay and fight the army of a dictator, many of the liberties that we enjoy today might not be present. Much of the Western United States might not be a part of the United States today.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to say here how much we in Texas and I as a Member of Congress appreciate the sacrifice of those 182 brave Americans and Tejanos who chose to stay and fight at the Alamo, and I just want to say God bless each and every one of them and God bless this great Nation.

CONGRESS AND ADMINISTRATION FAIL TO SPEAK OUT REGARDING CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION IN SUDAN

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, in Sudan 2.2 million people have died, mainly Christians, who have been persecuted by the north. There is slavery in Sudan today in the year 2001.

Now the oil companies are going into the Sudan, some traded on the New

York Stock Exchange. An article in World Magazine by Mindy Belz says the following:

"China's petroleum firm reportedly purchased a high tech radar system for the government last year. It was installed last summer, and since then government bombing raids against southern targets, mostly churches and humanitarian relief operations, have increased. The U.N. private humanitarian agencies, local churches and village leaders have confirmed the 152 air attacks."

Oil money listed on the New York Stock Exchange buying radar so they can kill Christians, and this Congress and this administration is not speaking out?

[From the World Magazine, Mar. 10, 2001]

BLOOD FOR OIL
(By Mindy Belz)

Divisions among Sudan's Islamic factions could weaken the regime, but, in the meantime, oil companies are strengthening President Omar el-Bashir's ability to wage war.

Overseas oil consortiums began pumping oil from south-central Sudan in 1999. Farther east, they rapidly explored another oil region and expect to begin yielding oil exports soon. The new trade brings in over \$400 million in revenue for Khartoum, more than enough to finance the war it has waged against south Sudan for nearly 18 years. Experts say one of the reasons that war has been so protracted is that the government has not had enough resources to do battle competently—until now.

Overseas companies currently operate in three oil concessions, all falling in contested areas of southern Sudan. The Khartoum government has said it will lease two more this year. China's state-owned oil business, Chinese National Petroleum Company (CNPC), and the private Canadian firm, Calgary-based Talisman Energy, Inc., are the largest participants in Sudan's fledgling oil trade. They expect south Sudan's oilfields to double their daily output for export—currently at 85,000 barrels—by 2005. During that time Sudan likely will build another oil pipeline, probably east to Ethiopia and through territory currently held by rebels.

Smaller European oil companies, along with Malaysia's Petronas, also have oil operations in south and southwest Sudan. Last month Sudan signed a memorandum of understanding with Russia, opening its way to exporting oil via the Red Sea.

You don't have to tell Americans—at least those who remember gas-ration lines—that oil politics come only in high-test. With Sudan it is no different. The companies already on the ground have made big investments to break in, and they want to protect their holdings. So China's petroleum firm reportedly purchased a high-tech radar system for the government last year. It was installed last summer, and since then government bombing raids against southern targets (mostly churches and humanitarian relief operations) have increased—the UN, private humanitarian agencies, local churches, and village leaders have confirmed 152 air attacks last year. Talisman Energy opened to government forces an airstrip that it built near its oil concession. To compensate, Talisman posts a special page on its website for "Sudan Operating Principles," including information about its efforts to enact a "code of ethics" for operating in a war zone.