

pay and working conditions to bring live entertainment to the troops at US bases in America.

After WWII, the USO also provided entertainment for service men and women internationally, opening up service in North Korea, Vietnam and Thailand. During the 1970s, outreach programs increased as did the number of military families worldwide. Since this time, the USO was signed into law as a United States Charter.

Most recently, the USO has provided services in Saudi Arabia, Dubai, Bahrain, Somalia, Bosnia and Hungary. The USO's commitment to be a link to our service men and women continues world wide with the same determination and dedication which first created this organization. My dear colleagues, please join me in celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the United Service Organization.

RECOGNIZING PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN'S SUCCESSFUL FIRST YEAR

### HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, little more than one year ago, Mr. Chen Shui-bian became the tenth President of the Republic of China. During the first twelve months of President Chen's administration, he sustained the hallmark political and economic reforms that position Taiwan among the most democratic and prosperous places in Asia.

President Chen demonstrated sincerity when seeking meaningful dialogues with his counterparts in the People's Republic of China, and worked hard to maintain peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait. Today, President Chen hopes to improve Taiwan's situation within the global community, and I support his efforts. In the end, his persistence will yield great rewards.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I sincerely congratulate President Chen Shui-bian on a successful first year. As we look forward to an even brighter future, I encourage him to keep up the good work.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, May 21 and Tuesday, May 22 I was unavoidably not able to be present for votes on Roll Call numbers 126 through 134. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Rollcall 126: National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, "yea".

Rollcall 127: H.R. 1185, Extension of Section 245(i) of the Immigration Act, "yea".

Rollcall 128: Capps amendment to H.R. 1, "yea".

Rollcall 129: Graves amendment to H.R. 1, "yea".

### EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Rollcall 130: Hoekstra amendment to H.R. 1, "yea".

Rollcall 131: Dunn amendment to H.R. 1, "yea".

Rollcall 132: Tiberi amendment to H.R. 1, "no".

Rollcall 133: Vitter amendment to H.R. 1, "yea".

Rollcall 134: Passage of H.R. 1831, Relief for Small Businesses Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, "yea".

### HONORING THE NEWARK BOYS CHORUS SCHOOL

### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, tonight the Kennedy Center will feature as part of its Millennium Stage State Days series a very talented group of students from the Tenth Congressional District of New Jersey whom I was privileged to nominate, the Newark Boys Chorus School. I am so proud of these outstanding young performing artists who have traveled to Washington to share their gift of song at one of America's most prestigious theaters.

Known as Newark's "Finest Ambassadors," The Newark Boys Chorus has been heard throughout the world. The chorus has performed with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, the American Symphony Orchestra, the Cathedral Symphony and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. Locations where they have performed include the Lincoln Center, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Carnegie Hall and the White House. With over forty concerts each season, television appearances, tours to Japan, Italy, China, Czechoslovakia, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, the boys have become symbols of Newark's renaissance. The chorus sings for CEOs, Governors and Mayors; they sing in corporate settings, in country clubs and concert halls. They visit museums and libraries, attend plays and symphonies and engage in recreational activities such as skiing, hiking and swimming.

Training for the Chorus School requires hard work and discipline as the boys continue to maintain academic excellence. These outstanding students are sought after by such selective secondary schools as Blair Academy, Peddie, Milton Academy, Pingry School, St. George's, Seton Hall Prep and Science High. The school encourages these students from Newark neighborhoods to reach for the stars. Not only are they outstanding students and performers, they learn to be good citizens with a respect for their community and their environment.

Mr. Speaker, these outstanding youngsters represent the best and brightest of a new generation. Please join me in honoring them as they make their debut at the Kennedy Center.

*May 23, 2001*

HONORING THE LATE SGT. CHRISTOPHER RYAN LAIR

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, on May 18, 2001 Sergeant Christopher Ryan Lair of Parachute, Colorado died before his time. The 22-year-old Marine died in a civilian aircraft near San Diego, California. I stand before Congress to ask that we all pause a moment in honor of Sgt. Lair.

Chris was born in Wheatridge, Colorado in 1979. Chris and his family moved to Parachute, where he graduated from Grand Valley High School in 1997. After graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was stationed at Camp Pendleton, California, where he was Crew Chief in VMLA-169, a Huey/Cobra helicopter squadron.

On May 1, 2001, Chris was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. During his enlistment, Chris had been awarded the Good Conduct Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Flying was his greatest joy. He grew up around airports as his parents owned and operated an avionics shop at Garfield County Airport. He received his pilot's license at the age of 18 and completed his multi-engine certificate in May 2001. He flew every opportunity he had and his goal was to become a commercial pilot after serving in the military.

Mr. Speaker, Sgt. Christopher Lair was truly one of our 'few good men'. It's a tragedy that he died so young and at something he loved to do. I ask that Congress pause a moment to honor him and thank him for his service to our country.

### IN HONOR OF THE SISTERS SERVANTS OF MARY IMMACULATE

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate on the 25th anniversary of its Ministry to the Aged in the Diocese of Cleveland on this 26th day of May.

Though the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate came to Cleveland in 1976, they were founded over 100 years ago in Poland. The Sisters were founded on the principles of apostolic works and have given their time selflessly to the sick, aged, forgotten, and lonely. Their ministry eventually expanded to the United States, and a headquarters was built in Maryland where the Sisters established and managed a home for the sick and elderly.

After arrival in Cleveland, the Sisters quickly clarified their purpose and mission: to minister to the spiritual needs of the elderly of the Polish families and their corporal needs as far as possible; and to educate the families and the community to understand the needs of the elderly and to recognize their respective responsibilities to the elderly.