

flag presence in the international trade. Mr. Moller is a true believer in United States flag shipping and our maritime interests are the better for his support of a U.S.-flag fleet.

I believe that we need new initiatives to stimulate an international U.S.-flag presence. A tax-based methodology, for instance, has been used in other countries to encourage growth in their merchant fleets; we should have similar incentives for American workers to attract talented people to this important industrial base.

I am working on legislation to provide such incentives for our U.S.-flag operations, under the Maritime Security Program. Companies like Maersk are very willing to invest in U.S.-flag shipping and make a contribution to the national security interests of the United States. We must give them encouragement to do so.

I congratulate Mr. Maersk Mc-Kinney Moller on his many personal accomplishments, his longstanding desire to maintain a U.S.-flag presence, and the numerous contributions he has made to foster trade in the foreign maritime commerce of the United States.

HONORING WORLD WAR II  
VETERAN ALFORD LEE GRAY—

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 13, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor World War II veteran Alford Lee Gray of Olathe, Colorado. Alford endured the terrors of the War, including the Battle of Leyte, in order to help ensure a victory on the side of justice. While mere words cannot express Alford's heroism, I am proud to have this opportunity to honor the valor he exhibited during the war.

Even before World War II, Alford was well aware that sacrifice and persistence are sometimes needed for survival. A witness of the Depression, Alford also discovered the necessity of teamwork. He says, "You relied on your neighbor and he relied on you. Without knowing it, I think we took that feeling into the war with us," said Alford in a article from the Montrose Daily Press. Indeed, these lessons seem to have provided him with the means not only to survive, but also to help ensure an American victory. Alford demonstrated remarkable heroism when it was most needed of him.

Before the Battle of Leyte, Japanese Vice Admiral Takeo Kurita expected to stamp out the American resistance, and he armed himself with weapons to complete that feat. Kurita's 18-inch guns, Japanese Zeros, and incendiary bombs destroyed several of American Admiral William F. Halsey's ships, including the U.S.S. Kitkun Bay, on which Alford resided. Then, according to Alford, "A Kamikaze came out of nowhere and exploded on deck," resulting in such terrible damage that the men were given permission to abandon ship. Even in this precarious state, however, Alford and others followed the captain's commands to extinguish the fires and somehow got the ship back to Pearl Harbor. "After the Battle of Leyte, I counted 270 holes punched through the side of our ship. Some of the shells had

gone completely through the Kitkun Bay. I don't know why we were still floating after that fight," said Alford.

In spite of the severe damage to Halsey's ships, American forces destroyed ten Japanese cruisers, four carriers, three battleships, and nine destroyers. Thanks to the teamwork and courage of men like Alford, what the Japanese expected to be an easy victory turned into a cruel defeat. In fact, the Japanese would never recover from this crucial defeat.

In recognition of his valor, Alford Gray has been honored with a Good Conduct Medal, an Asiatic Pacific Ribbon with five stars, a World War II Victory Medal, a Philippine Liberation Medal, and a Presidential Citation. Today, Mr. Speaker, I ask Congress to also recognize and honor Alford Lee Gray for his legendary bravery and sacrifice. He is a great American who plainly deserves the thanks and esteem of this body.

TRIBUTE TO COURTNEY JOHNSON,  
ELIZABETH JACKSON AND ERIK  
GREB

### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 13, 2001*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize three of New York's outstanding young students, Courtney Johnson, Elizabeth Jackson, and Erik Greb. Tomorrow, on June 14th, the women of Girl Scout Troop 1909, Service Unit 19 will recognize Courtney and Elizabeth for receiving their gold awards, and on June 15th, Troop 284 will recognize Erik on his Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

Since the beginning of last century, the Girl and Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of young men and women each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Courtney, Elizabeth, and Erik, and bring the attention of Congress to these successful young men and women on their day of recognition.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 13, 2001*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, for Roll Call Vote No. 161, on final passage of H. Con. Res. 145, condemning the recent order by the Taliban regime of Afghanistan to require Hindus in Afghanistan to wear symbols identifying them as Hindu, I was unable to be present and voting in the Chamber as I was on my way to Connecticut to attend funeral services for Mrs. Barbara L. Bailey, the mother of my predecessor, former Congresswoman Barbara B. Kennelly. Had I been present and voting in the Chamber, I would have joined my colleagues in voting in favor of condemning the Taliban for their atrocious policies.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE  
HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE  
HONORABLE JOHN JOSEPH  
MOAKLEY, A REPRESENTATIVE  
FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
MASSACHUSETTS

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 6, 2001*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 31st a vigil service honoring our friend and colleague JOE MOAKLEY was held at the Massachusetts Statehouse in Boston.

During the service, Father J. Donald Monan and Senator EDWARD M. KENNEDY both gave moving tributes to JOE. I'd ask that both sets of remarks be included at an appropriate place in the RECORD.

VIGIL SERVICE IN HONOR OF JOHN JOSEPH  
MOAKLEY, 1927-2001

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, MAY  
31, 2001

(Homily by J. Donald Monan, S.J.)

"Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

Both here in Boston and in the tiny Central American country of El Salvador, this is the final week of the Easter Season, the season when Christ's death is still fresh in our memories, but when we celebrate in faith our confidence in newly-risen life. In the three short days since Memorial Day, the word of Joe's passing has kindled not only the brilliance of the City's writers and its cameramen; it touched their hearts as well. Every step along the route of his public career, from the streets of South Boston to the halls of Washington, has been faithfully, even lovingly portrayed.

Those portraits I will not attempt to retrace this evening. I believe that there is one reason why Congressman Moakley suggested that I have the privilege of speaking this evening. Joe frequently and publicly said that of all the accomplishments that were his in over forty years of public service, his proudest accomplishment was in bringing to light the truth about the atrocious murders of six Jesuit priest-educators and their