

The Navajo radiomen served from 1942 to 1945, and often the code talkers were in the forefront of the bloody battles of the Pacific. The Japanese never broke the Navajo code or captured a Navajo Code Talker. The code talkers are credited with saving thousands of American lives.

The Navajo Code Talker's work remained classified until 1968 because the Pentagon was unsure whether the Navajo Language might be needed again.

The Navajo Code talkers played an important role in winning the war in the Pacific. They deserve our thanks and support.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H. Con. Res. 174 today to authorize the use of the rotunda to honor and celebrate the heroic work of the Navajo Code Talkers. I thank my colleague from New Mexico, Mr. TOM UDALL, for sponsoring this resolution.

During World War II, about 400 Navajo tribe members served as code talkers for the United States Marines. They transmitted messages by telephone and radio in their native language—a code that the Japanese never broke. Navajo is an unwritten language of extreme complexity and one estimate indicated that fewer than 30 non-Navajos could understand the language at the outbreak of World War II. Navajos demonstrated that they could encode, transmit and decode a three-line message in English in just 20 seconds. Machines of the time required 30 minutes to do the same job.

This resolution does great justice by recognizing the contributions of these great people to our nation's collective security and history.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, in May 1942 twenty-nine Navajos entered boot camp and later went to Camp Pendleton to develop a code that used the Navajo language as its basis. They worked at finding new words or meaning for military terms, which had no actual Navajo translation as well as an alphabetical way of spelling out other words. So began the career of the Navajo Code Talkers who were the secret weapon of the Marine Corps against Japan. Their unbreakable code would play a vital part in the United States ability to win World War II.

The man credited for the idea of a code based on Navajo language goes to Philip Johnston, an engineer in Los Angeles. His father had been a Protestant missionary; therefore, as a child he moved to a Navajo reservation where he grew up and learned the culture and the language. Knowing that the Navajo language had been orally handed down through the centuries was Johnston's main argument for this code. He argued that it was a system that would not have to be changed on a regular basis, and because it had never been written down it could not result in falling into the hands of the enemy.

Ironically, Navajos were subjected to alienation in their own homeland and discouraged from speaking their language yet they still came willingly forward and used their language to defend their country and help develop the most successful military code of the time.

The code was such a success that the Department of Defense kept the Code secret for 23 years after World War II. It was finally de-

classified in 1968. The Code Talkers had been sworn to secrecy, an oath they kept and honored. Imagine these unsung heroes returned home with no special recognition for what they had accomplished and sadly over the years some have died never receiving the honor and accolades that they so deserved.

The time has come for us to recognize the Navajo Code Talkers with a Congressional Gold Medal—the most distinguished honor a civilian can receive. It is for that reason I support House Concurrent Resolution 174, authorizing use of the rotunda to present Congressional Gold Medals to the original 29 Navajo Code Talkers. This honor has been a long time in coming.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 174.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 174.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

Accordingly (at 4 p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

□ 1800

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ISAKSON) at 6 p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on motions

to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Concurrent Resolution 170, by the yeas and nays;

House Concurrent Resolution 168, by the yeas and nays;

House Concurrent Resolution 174, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

#### ENCOURAGING CORPORATIONS TO CONTRIBUTE TO FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 170.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 170, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 391, nays 17, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 211]

YEAS—391

Abercrombie	Bryant	DeMint
Ackerman	Burr	Deutsch
Aderholt	Burton	Diaz-Balart
Akin	Buyer	Dicks
Andrews	Callahan	Doggett
Armey	Calvert	Dooley
Baca	Camp	Doolittle
Bachus	Cantor	Doyle
Baker	Capito	Dreier
Baldacci	Capps	Duncan
Baldwin	Cardin	Dunn
Ballenger	Carson (OK)	Edwards
Barcia	Castle	Ehlers
Barr	Chabot	Ehrlich
Barrett	Chambliss	Emerson
Bartlett	Clay	English
Barton	Clayton	Eshoo
Bass	Clement	Etheridge
Becerra	Clyburn	Everett
Bentsen	Coble	Farr
Bereuter	Collins	Fattah
Berkley	Combest	Ferguson
Berman	Condit	Filner
Berry	Cooksey	Flake
Biggert	Costello	Fletcher
Bilirakis	Cox	Foley
Bishop	Cramer	Forbes
Blagojevich	Crane	Ford
Blumenauer	Crenshaw	Fossella
Blunt	Crowley	Frelinghuysen
Boehlert	Cubin	Frost
Boehner	Culberson	Gallegly
Bonilla	Cummings	Ganske
Bonior	Cunningham	Gekas
Bono	Davis (CA)	Gephardt
Borski	Davis (FL)	Gibbons
Boswell	Davis (IL)	Gilchrest
Boucher	Davis, Jo Ann	Gillmor
Boyd	Davis, Tom	Gilman
Brady (PA)	Deal	Gonzalez
Brady (TX)	DeFazio	Goode
Brown (FL)	Delahunt	Goodlatte
Brown (OH)	DeLauro	Gordon
Brown (SC)	DeLay	Goss