

terrorism. Let me make clear that my bill does not call on the Administration to remove Libya from the terrorism list before it is warranted by the facts and ongoing discussions between our government and officials of the Libyan government.

Second, as my colleagues in the Congress know, I have a lifelong commitment to human rights, and my legislation emphasizes the importance of supporting human rights and democratic values in Libya both through dialogue and through deed. This legislation is unwavering in its commitment to American values of human rights and democracy, but, in the interest of promoting the Libyan model and enhancing international security, we should not put bilateral relations on ice until respect for human rights and democracy have been fully achieved.

Mr. Speaker, it is right and appropriate for the United States to offer proliferators an opportunity to change their policies and benefit from doing what is in their and our best interest. Now we must make sure we follow through on President Bush's pledge that countries which relinquish weapons of mass destruction will find an "open path" to better relations with the United States. That is the spirit that motivated his response to Libyan renunciation of weapons of mass destruction in December 2003, and that is exactly the spirit that motivates the U.S.-Libya Relations Act which I am introducing today.

IN MEMORY OF AL COOK

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, funeral services will be held Monday to recognize the late Al Cook, a gentleman widely admired in South Carolina and a greatly appreciated legislative expert in Washington. Al Cook holds the distinction of being the only person to ever serve as chairman of the House Democratic and Republican Chief of Staff Organizations reflecting the extraordinary political evolution of Southern politics from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party.

The following obituary was published on March 20, 2005, in The Beaufort Gazette of Beaufort, South Carolina.

WILLIAM COOK

William Alpheus "Al" Cook, 79, of Beaufort, husband of Wanda Edwards Cook, died Friday, March 18, 2005, in Beaufort Memorial Hospital.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at Carteret Street United Methodist Church for a burial with military honors in Beaufort National Cemetery.

Mr. Cook was born Nov. 23, 1925, in Patrick, a son of John Edward Cook and Mary Emily Cox Cook.

He was a graduate of the University of South Carolina and received his degree from the University of South Carolina Law School in 1950. While at USC, he was president of Omicron Delta Kappa and a member of the Wig and Robe.

He served in the U.S. Army's 42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division in Europe during World War II and continued with the U.S. Army Re-

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serve, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. He began his professional career on the staff of the Legislative Council for the S.C. General Assembly, and in 1953 he joined the staff of U.S. Rep. John J. Riley. He later worked as an administrative assistant and chief-of-staff for U.S. Rep. Albert W. Watson and U.S. Rep. Floyd D. Spence, all congressmen representing the second congressional district of South Carolina. After moving to Beaufort, he practiced law and was involved in the guardian ad litem program. He was a member of the Republican Party.

Survivors include his wife of Harbor Island; two sons, William A. Cook, Jr., of Beaufort and John Kendrick Cook of Panama City, Fla.; two sisters, Sue Cook of Hampton and Betty Gaddy of Fork; and two granddaughters.

Memorials may be made to Carteret Street United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 788, Beaufort, SC 29901.

Copeland Funeral Home is in charge.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to explain how I would have voted on March 20, 2005 during rollcall vote 90, which was on the motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 686, for the relief of the parents of Theresa Marie Schiavo.

If present, I would have voted "yes" on this rollcall vote.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on official business and missed rollcall 90. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 90 on Monday, March 21, 2005, I would have voted "yea." Like a number of our colleagues, I was unable to attend this emergency session due to the unavailability of commercial air travel within the time constraints.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to vote on rollcall 90.

March 20, 2005

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on this measure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on March 21, 2005, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote number 90. Rollcall vote 90 was on S. 686, a private bill to provide for the relief of the parents of Theresa Marie Schiavo.

Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 90.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, March 21, 2005, I was on official business. Therefore, I was unable to make rollcall vote 90. Had I been here, I would have voted "no" for rollcall No. 90.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to travel delays from my district, I was unable to vote during the following rollcall vote, No. 90. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, due to the short notice provided to Members with respect to rollcall 90, S. 686, relating to relief for the parents of Theresa Marie Schiavo, I was unable to return to Washington, DC from the West Coast in time for today's vote. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, my flight to Washington, DC, in the early morning hours of March 21, 2005 was delayed due to circumstances beyond my control. Consequently, I arrived shortly after the vote on S. 686