

May 23, 2008

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS, Vol. 154, Pt. 8

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storm drainage; information systems; and site improvements. Access for the handicapped will be provided. Heating and air conditioning (54 tons) will be provided with separately-zoned, self-contained units. Anti-terrorism/force protection (AT/FP) measures are included.

Title: Gunfire Detection System for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.

Account: Army RDTE.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Radiance Technologies.

Address of Requesting Entity: 350 Wynn Drive, Huntsville, AL 35805.

Description of Request: \$9 million for a wide angle weapons detection sensor that can detect, classify and locate a variety of weapon fires including Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPGs), MANPADS, small arms, mortars, tanks and artillery. This Weapons Watch (WW) Technology can process these events in near real time (less than a second) and disseminate the information over existing command and control channels immediately. This sensor, detecting from a variety of airborne platforms can cue other sensors or weapon systems to positively identify and neutralize the hostile weapon system. The basic sensor technology has been demonstrated as part of the Oveiwatch ACTD and has also been deployed to support current operations. At less than 30 pounds, it has flown on both manned and unmanned aircraft proving its ability to accurately detect at extended ranges while on the move. The Army Aviation Center is ready to integrate this technology on both manned and unmanned aircraft to provide both enhanced targeting and aircrew survivability. In concert with AMRDEC (Huntsville), PM UAV (Huntsville) and the Directorate of Combat Developments (Ft. Rucker), the contractor will provide simulation software and WW hardware to the USAAVNC for testing and certification through the Aviation Technical Test Center (AATTC). Aviation experts from both the Wiregrass area and Huntsville will develop the techniques, tactics and procedures to fully employ the capabilities of this system.

Title: Study of Warfighting Initiative for Future Technologies and Tactics (SWIFTT-A).

Account: Army RDTE.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC).

Address of Requesting Entity: 6723 Odyssey Drive, Huntsville, AL 35806.

Description of Request: \$3 million will enable completion of a study being conducted with the U.S. Army Air Maneuver Lab, Fort Rucker, AL to develop manned and unmanned air vehicle teaming solutions for current and future war fighter requirements. Additionally, funding will address critical emerging issues in support of Aviation modernization efforts and desired capabilities of Aviation war fighters to expedite the delivery of solutions to the field. Funding will be allocated for the following: (1) upgrade the existing AMBL facility's modeling and simulation tools and infrastructure (10%) and (2) execute local and distributed simulation experimentations (90% labor).

VOLUSIA HONOR AIR GUARDIANS

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, May 17, 2008, 102 Volusia County veterans from the Second World War visited our Nation's Capital as part of the Honor Air program. The trip was made possible through the Rotary Clubs of Volusia County and with the support of sponsors and the 49 Guardian escorts.

It was my pleasure to assist in hosting the veterans during their visit to our Nation's capital. They first stopped at the World War II Memorial to pay tribute to their fellow patriots. In the first visit for all of the servicemen, it was a moving occasion. It was an emotional moment as these heroes stood among the stone columns, fountains and pools that comprise the Memorial.

In the afternoon, the Volusia veterans paid their respects at Arlington National Cemetery. Veteran leaders and I had the privilege to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in a solemn tribute to those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. The day concluded with visits to the Woman in Services Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial and the Iwo Jima Memorial.

As the Congressman from Florida's Seventh Congressional District, it was my honor to play a part in our Volusia County heroes' visit. I would like to acknowledge former U.S. Senator Bob Dole, a fellow World War II hero and Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England who both graciously addressed the group. I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in expressing our appreciation to the 49 Guardians, who through a sense of duty and at personal expense, escorted the World War II veterans on that memorable day.

The May 17, 2008 Volusia Honor Air Guardsmen included:

Joesphine D. Alexander; Stephen E. Aldredge; Jerry L. Autry; Jerry L. Autry, Jr.; Peter D. Bauer; Roger B. Baumgartner; Ken Bradley; Melina Brannon; David Franklin Brannon II; William Herschel Breneman III; Michael W. Brooks; Joseph Bryant; John F. Cheney; John H. Childress; Leslie Stafford Coggins; Robert L. Doyle II; Geoffrey E. Felton.

Thomas B. Fleishel; William B. Flowers, Jr.; Thomas R. Fowler; Eleanor Gustavsson; John Jeffrey Harting; Raymond H. Heffington; Robert Michael Hill; Randall Jackson; Ben F. Johnson; Russell L. Kelton; Candace Lankford; Gerald H. Lyons; Jeffrey A. Malmborg; Jefferson J. Mancinik; William C. Mancinik; James Mazurak; Clair Roach Metz.

Charles Paiva; Albert J. Razzetti; Alessandra Razzetti; Joseph Frank Rudolph; Thomas D. Smith; Brad Strickland; Theodore J. Surynt; Donaldson Paul Taylor; Carolyn Gannt Teal; Parke Stafford Teal; Kevin Thomas; Warren A. Todd; Alexander B. Veech; Gery Walker; and Douglas Allen Wedekind.

HONORING BOB IDEN

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize to Dr. Bob Iden for his 11 years of outstanding service to Lake Highlands High School and his community.

After graduating from Lake Highlands High School, Dr. Iden attended Kilgore College on a football scholarship and finished his bachelor's and master's degree at North Texas University. Upon graduating, he continued to use his athletic background as a coach and teacher for the Richardson Independent School District for nine years. After working for the administration, Dr. Iden was hired to be the principal at his high school alma mater, Lake Highlands High School.

During his eleven years as principal, Dr. Iden's school received numerous honors under his leadership. In 2002, Lake Highlands High School was named a Blue Ribbon School, one of the highest honors a school can receive. In addition to numerous students being named National Merit Scholars, this year one of his students was named a Rhodes Scholar. Dr. Iden has received national recognition in Newsweek and U.S. News and World Report for his achievements, and he has become a tremendously well-respected and valued member of the Lake Highlands community.

This year Dr. Iden will retire from his career in education. I would like to wish Dr. Iden the best of luck in his future endeavors. While his time as an educator has come to an end, the results of his hard work will no doubt continue to be seen for generations to come.

Madam speaker, on behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I am honored to recognize Dr. Bob Iden for his devotion to education and for helping to shape a brighter future for our community and our country.

HONORING BARBARA AND EDWARD COGAN

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Barbara and Edward Cogan, educators who both recently retired after more than 30 years of distinguished service. Day after day they energetically taught our youngsters valuable life skills, while raising their family in the great community of Hacienda Heights, California, and volunteering with programs that have enhanced education throughout the 38th Congressional District.

Barbara Ruth Cogan grew up in the great city of Montebello, California, and began teaching in 1970 at Belvedere Elementary School. She later joined the staff of Basset High School in 1975 after receiving her credential in Special Education. Over the past 33 years there she has worked in the OH (Orthopedically Handicapped) department, providing

tireless support to her students and always strove to ensure that each and every young adult in her classes reached their full potential.

Edward Cogan grew up in East Los Angeles and began his career in the field of mathematics as an engineer in Pomona, California. Starting in 1972 he also began teaching, working in both the Hacienda/La Puente and Los Angeles Unified School Districts, finally retiring from El Sereno Middle School in Los Angeles. His lessons on computer science and programming were years ahead of the internet revolution and provided a generation of students with the inspiration to pursue further careers in technology.

Barbara and Edward also spent many years volunteering in the 38th District. Many of their summers were spent contributing to the programs of the Youth Science Center in Hacienda Heights, an organization dedicated to inspiring people of all ages to discover the excitement of science and technology. Their involvement as parents also extended to countless hours of enthusiastic support to local schools, little leagues, and youth activities.

Madam Speaker, today I would like to personally acknowledge and congratulate Barbara and Edward Cogan for their many years of dedicated work and I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding their efforts as educators. I wish them both continued success, health and happiness in the future.

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HONORING THE ASSUMPTION HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

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**HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 22, 2008*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the outstanding results achieved by the Assumption High School's Girls' Basketball Team who won the Iowa Class 2A 2008 Iowa State Championship.

I congratulate the Assumption Knights for defeating the Mar-Mac Bulldogs 46–27 on Friday, April 29, 2008, at the Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines.

This victory was the result of a remarkable defense that held their opponent to 30 percent shooting in the championship game, and an even stronger offense that shot 61 percent from the field in the second-half of the championship.

From 2004 to 2007, the Lady Knights won 94 percent of their regular season games only to finish just shy of the state championship. But in 2008, the Knights' perseverance was rewarded! They finished a perfect 27–0 and brought Assumption High School its first girls' basketball state championship!

Madam Speaker, I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of Assumption High School. Perhaps Paul "Bear" Bryant, the late, great coach of the Alabama Crimson Tide football team says it best: "Show class, have pride, and display character. If you do, winning takes care of itself." This past season, Assumption High School proved just that.

HONORING A FALLEN  
HEALTHCARE WORKER

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**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 22, 2008*

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, several months ago, the Kingsbridge Heights Rehabilitation Center in the West Bronx unilaterally decided to stop making payments to the health care fund for its employees. Before some of my colleagues "tisk tisk, well that's just the free market at work"—as the Daily News and their award-winning columnist, Errol Louis, pointed out—this center has made \$5.2 million in profits last year and its CAO, Helen Sieger, made \$700,000 in salary—all of it paid for by Medicaid funds, our tax dollars.

Audrey Smith-Campbell and 220 of her colleagues decided they weren't going to take it; they were going to go on strike. Audrey Smith-Campbell was not a union activist or an ideologue. She was for 30 years a certified nurse assistant, caring for our parents and our grandparents, giving them dignity in their most vulnerable moments. She knew she wasn't ever going to get paid what she was worth but she wanted to be paid at least enough to live on.

Audrey Smith-Campbell is dead. She died after having a severe asthma attack because she couldn't afford to pay for her medication when she was on strike. She should be honored for the way she lived—and we should all be ashamed for the reasons she died.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE PENSION PROTECTION ACT ERISA AMENDMENTS OF 2008

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**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 22, 2008*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Pension Protection Act ERISA Amendments of 2008, PPAEA. Although I voted "no" on final passage of the Pension Protection Act, PPA, in 2006 due to a number of provisions, which put thousands of New Jersey jobs and retirees' plans at risk, I do believe there are many beneficial aspects of the law that are helping to protect the retirement plans of working Americans and retirees across the country.

For workers retired from a single-employer plan, PPA provided a better method of ensuring that an employer may continue to offer retirement benefits to their employees by meeting their plan financing obligations. This change made it far less likely that taxpayers would have to step in and pay the bill for thousands of retirees. PPA also provided smaller businesses with a bit more flexibility, by giving some of them a new plan option. One such option is known as the "Defined Small Employer Defined Benefit Plan" or "DB(k)," which I authored. DB(k) relieves employers of the administrative burden tailored for large plans and provides them with the best of both the defined benefit and defined contribution world.

For people who work for or are retired from multi-employer plans, the 2006 law gives those employers—and the funds to which they belong—an opportunity to receive some relief from external circumstances that caused those plans to be in jeopardy; and again, relieving taxpayers of potential liability and obligation.

In 2005, on the eve of the introduction of PPA, the economic forecast predicted an avalanche of more defined benefit plan terminations, placing the solvency of the pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation, PBGC, as well as hundreds of millions of retirees' assets at risk. With several major companies expecting to either eliminate or freeze their defined benefit plans a few years ago, PPA has been instrumental in slowing the decline in defined benefit, DB, plans. Nevertheless, DB plans are still on the decline. Today, less than one in five workers in the private sector—20 million workers—has a traditional defined benefit plan, while 401(k) plans are on the rise, dominating the retirement landscape. Today over 50 million American workers are covered by a 401(k) plan. Whether these plans are adequate to provide the average American worker with a comfortable retirement remains a question we will continue to examine in the coming years.

Solving the problem of providing retirement coverage, which is both affordable and adequate, is a priority of mine, but before we address it, we must first make sure PPA is measuring up to its fullest potential. The purpose of PPAEA is to correct a number of anomalies in PPA, which in many cases, subvert the policy goal of a particular provision. Though most of these anomalies were not intentional, if left uncorrected they have the potential to strip thousands of retirees of a lifetime of savings and force many employers to drop their retirement plan for their current employees.

As I indicated in the hearing I chaired last year in the Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, HELP, I am not interested in upsetting the fundamental agreements of PPA. Rather, I am most interested in vindicating those agreements and making them work better.

With the support of the Chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor and my good friend from California, GEORGE MILLER, and several other colleagues, I look forward to working with Members on both sides of the aisle to help pass a bill to further protect retiree assets, provide employers with a funding method that holds them accountable but provides flexibility, reduce burdensome transaction cost to plan sponsors and pensioners, and provide employers with additional investment tools to ensure that all retirees under their plan receive their promised benefit.

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RECOGNIZING MAYOR WALLACE J. NICHOLS

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**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 22, 2008*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Wallace J. Nichols, who