On June 25, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802, which prohibited discrimination in the defense industry. This historical order was followed in 1942 by a directive that gave African Americans the opportunity to join the United States Marine Corps, a directive that would become one of America's most important advances, not only in terms of our military, but in society as a whole.

Between 1942 and 1949, approximately twenty-thousand African Americans from across the United States were recruited into the Marine Corps. Instead of being sent to traditional Marine training locations, such as San Diego, California, and Parris Island, South Carolina, they were segregated and sent for basic training to Montford Point Camp at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Montford Point remained active until 1949, following President Harry S. Truman's issuance of Executive Order 9981, which ended the practice of segregation in the United States Military.

As the war progressed, the military could no longer deny that these dedicated and skilled Marines were equally as capable of performing their duties and serving their country as any other members of the military. The Marines of Montford Point sought to serve the United States through their military service, and in doing so, their impact spanned far beyond the military and into American society.

While many of the Marines were recognized for their military achievements, one of the highest honors was bestowed on April 19, 1974, when Montford Point Camp was renamed in honor of one of the most outstanding Marines of the camp, Sergeant Major Gilbert H. ''Hashmark'' Johnson. One of the first African American enlistees to join the Marine Corps, Johnson was a distinguished drill instructor and a veteran of both World War II and the Korean War. To date, Camp Johnson remains the only Marine Corps installation named in honor of an African American.

Madam Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring these fine individuals. Let us never forget their service and the sacrifices they made in defense of the United States of America.

HONORING CECIL HINTON

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Cecil Hinton upon being honored with the ''Trail Blazers Award'' by the African American Museum. Mr. Hinton will be honored at the African American History Month Celebration and Banquet on Saturday, February 6th, 2010 in Fresno, California.

Mr. Cecil Clarence Hinton was born in 1902. He was a native of Tennessee and spent his early life in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. Mr. Hinton graduated from Howard University in Washington, D.C. and completed some graduate work at Columbia University in New York.

Mr. Hinton moved to Fresno in 1944, and worked as a United Service Organization center director. He served for nineteen years as a director of the B Street Community Center in Fresno. The center was largely established through his efforts. Under his leadership the center served forty-eight youth groups and fifty-three adult groups through social and recreational programs. The center was rededicated in 1968 and renamed to the Cecil C. Hinton Community Center in his honor.

Mr. Hinton was a member of the National Conference of Social Welfare, the California Conference of Social Welfare, the California Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centers and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. For his efforts and community leadership Mr. Hinton was honored in 1976 by the California State Senate. In 1980, he was recognized and honored by the California State University, Fresno Black Gospel Choir and in 1985 was named a ''Fabulous Fresnan.''

Mr. Hinton was married to Martha Galliard; they raised one daughter, Lois Juantia. They have three grandchildren; Lisa, Jelan and Jenan all living in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Hinton passed away on August 23, 1987 at the age of eighty-five.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Cecil Hinton. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and wishing the best for his family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 49 and 50 I was prevented from voting due to official business in the district. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on both.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. Established on February 8, 1910, the Boy Scouts have provided a positive influence for millions of young men throughout the country and have instilled in them the twelve key pillars contained in the Scout Law, which reads: A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent. Over the past 100 years, we've all known family, friends, and neighbors involved in the Boy Scouts who took these building blocks of leadership to heart and made their communities a safer and better place. The Boy Scout program has reminded the American people of the higher notions of patriotism and good citizenship. With a range of former Boy Scouts such as Buzz Aldrin, Bill Gates, Tommy Lasorda, and Gerald Ford, this program has served to structure the lives of some of our greatest countrymen.

I want to personally congratulate the two Boy Scout Councils in my district, the Northern New Jersey Council and the Patriots Path Council, on this very special anniversary. The dedicated Scout leaders who are involved in these programs have introduced Scouts in New Jersey to exciting explorations and taught them new skills that they will use throughout their life. They have recounted stories of Native American folklore around campfires, taught Scouts the uses of a taut-line hitch and bowline knot, and have provided the Scouts with an opportunity to take on responsibilities and duties to further their maturity into adulthood. There are few greater chances for aiding our country than to help these young men in their efforts to make themselves physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

The Boy Scouts of America owes its tremendous history and over two million Eagle Scouts to an unknown English Scout who helped an American newspaper publisher cross a street in London. That newspaper publisher was so impressed by the Scout's willingness to help that he would later go on to found the Boy Scouts of America. Today, the Boy Scouts of America embrace the social and personal virtues needed in mankind and provide countless opportunities for their Scouts to better our world as a whole. With their example in mind, I hope all Americans will use this opportunity to help a neighbor, volunteer in his or her community, explore nature, or learn more about our great Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately last night I was unable to cast my votes on H.R. 4425 and H.R. 4238 and wish to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Last night, I met with constituents of mine in a town hall forum at the Champaign County Nursing Home and I was unable to arrive in Washington, DC to cast my votes.

Had I been present on rollcall No. 49 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 4425, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2–116th Street in North Troy, New York, as the ''Martin G. 'Marty' Mahar Post Office,'' I would have voted ''yea.''

Had I been present on rollcall No. 50 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 4238, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 930 39th Avenue in Greeley, Colorado, as the ''W.D. Farr Post Office Building,'' I would have voted ''yea.''

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, yesterday I was absent and missed rollcall votes 49 and 50.