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Honoring Commander Leda Mei Li Chong ;
Hon. Pete Sessions of the Texas in the House
of Representatives

Sessions, Pete

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Although Gene has become well known and quite comfortable with the various agencies in California, he has also expanded his horizons. He participated in the California Agricultural Leadership Program and traveled to Africa and visited Nigeria, South Africa, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Egypt to observe the culture, economies and governments of those nations.

His many experiences both here and abroad have combined to make Gene the all around great guy that he is. His family, wife Susan and son Nels, have graciously shared Gene with the community for many years. While I am sure that Gene will not completely retire from public service, I am sure he will be spending more time with his loved ones.

For us, his retirement is bittersweet—although it is well deserved his efforts will be greatly missed. I congratulate Gene Lundquist, and wish his family all the best.

IN HONOR OF STAFF SERGEANT
KIMBERLY FAHNESTOCK VOELZ

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a young woman who made the ultimate sacrifice for her country. Staff Sergeant Kimberly Fahnestock Voelz of Cumberland County Pennsylvania died December 14, 2003 in Iraq from injuries sustained on the battlefield. A Leader of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team, Kimberly was fatally injured performing her duties with the EOD while approaching a suspicious device outside of Fallujah, 40 miles west of Baghdad. She is credited by her superiors as saving countless lives.

Born in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania on August 24, 1976 to Floyd Jr. and Carol (Mardis) Fahnestock Kimberly graduated from Trinity High School and joined the Army after briefly studying at Wilson College in Chambersburg, PA. She was also a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Mechanicsburg.

Serving with the 703rd Ordnance Company, 2nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) stationed at Fort Knox, Kentucky, Staff Sergeant Voelz began her tour of duty in Iraq in September 2003. During her time of service to her country, she was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, two Good Conduct Medals, and a National Defense Service Medal. Sergeant Voelz was also Posthumously awarded the Bronze Star for Valor, the Purple Heart, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal for her service in Iraq. Kimberly was the first female soldier from Pennsylvania to die serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Described as a bright, talented self-starter, Voelz loved what she did, plain and simple. She reenlisted for another 10 years of service shortly before her death. Voelz chose EOD because it was something different, and it took her all over the world. She was often assigned Secret Security detail ensuring government facilities were free of explosives, including events such as the 2002 Winter Olympics and a visit by the late Pope John Paul II to St. Louis.

Staff Sergeant Kimberly Fahnestock Voelz will be honored in a ceremony at Letterkenny

Army Depot in Carlisle, Pennsylvania on May 2nd, 2005. Upon the recent completion of a new security gate, it will now bear Kimberly's name in honor of her service and sacrifice to the security of this nation. It is a fitting tribute that validates both her distinguished work as an Ordnance Soldier and Letterkenny's mission to support national security.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my heartfelt condolences to her husband Sergeant First Class Max Voelz, who was holding Kimberly in his arms when she died from her injuries. To her parents, brothers Chad, Mark and sister Kelly, who proudly and deservedly esteem Kimberly "their hero". We are humbly indebted to them for their sacrifice and a grateful nation honors Kimberly's memory.

COMMEMORATING AFRICA
MALARIA DAY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, whether you are from Minnesota or Mozambique, Kansas or the Congo—we all want good health for our children and ourselves. We all want the opportunity to be free from want and the hope that tomorrow will be a beautiful day, maybe even better than today.

Sadly, for millions of families across the African continent, good health, opportunity and hope are all needlessly diminished or extinguished by malaria.

Now I'm from Minnesota so I know a lot about cold winters and just as much about mosquito filled summers, but in Minnesota our mosquitoes annoy us—they don't make us sick and they don't kill our children.

The human misery and economic destruction caused by malaria in Africa is a reality that must change.

And we have the tools to slow malaria's destruction—bed nets, improved sanitation, improved drug treatments, appropriate pesticide use and a committed global partnership to provide resources and to help strengthen national health systems to fight malaria as well as tuberculosis and HIV infection.

Every year across the African continent more than one million babies, toddlers and children under five years old die from malaria. This unimaginable number of children dying last year alone is equal to every single child under 15 years of age in my state of Minnesota.

One million African children dying in a single year from a preventable disease is beyond comprehension, but in fact it is reality and it is a reality that can and must be changed.

For those of us who are moms and dads, we know small children burning with fever don't scream, they whimper almost silently and they stare into your eyes looking for help. Their voices are not heard.

More than a million African moms stare back into their children's eyes equally helpless. And tragically they watch them die from a disease that can be prevented, treated and defeated, if, if the world comes together with the resources, the determination and the urgency to defeat malaria.

Today we need to hear those one million tiny voices. Today we need to look back into

the eyes of a million mothers with our compassion and our commitment.

The leadership of the United States, along with other donor nations, when partnered with the Global Fund, the United Nations, W.H.O., UNICEF, along with health ministries and health workers across Africa—if we stand together—can transform the helplessness faced by millions of moms into the promise of surviving, thriving children and healthier families.

I am proud of the commitment Congress, the White House and the American people have made and will continue to make to overcome malaria and the suffering and poverty it causes. But there is much more work to be done. On-going American leadership and strong global partnerships are needed for Africa's leaders, health workers and citizens to successfully control malaria.

So, as we commemorate Africa Malaria Day, let me conclude by paying tribute to our partners—the partners we must not forget. They are the heroes who struggle against malaria everyday. They are the community health workers and midwives, the doctors and nurses, the lab technicians and pharmacists. They work in village health centers, urban hospitals and rural clinics and they are saving lives, often times under very, very difficult conditions.

And together—as partners—their work along with our support, our commitment and a collective sense of urgency—we can save lives, keep families healthier and keep entire communities free from malaria's misery.

HONORING COMMANDER LEDA MEI
LI CHONG

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding efforts of and the recent promotion of Commander Leda Mei Chong of the United States Navy.

Commander Chong was born in Kowloon, Hong Kong and calls San Diego, California her hometown. After graduating from the University of California-San Diego with a degree in Applied Mathematics and French Literature, she joined the Navy through the Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate program and received a direct commission as an Ensign in November 1987.

Commander Chong reported to her first assignment at Naval Nuclear Power School, Orlando, Florida as an instructor of mathematics, chemistry, materials engineering, and radiological controls. Her second assignment was as the Administrative Department Head at Afloat Training Group Pacific, San Diego. In 1994 she reported to Naval Postgraduate School as a student in the Systems Technology/Joint C3I curriculum.

Her next assignment was the Navy's Drug Law Enforcement Agency where she was concurrently assigned to the Coast Guard's Telecommunications and Information Systems Command (TISCOM). As the liaison to the Coast Guard, she was responsible for military satellite communications interoperability and policy. Following TISCOM, she moved to Keflavik, Iceland where she was the Deputy Director for C4 to Commander Iceland Defense Force and the N6 for Commander, Fleet Air Keflavik.

Commander Chong completed her tour in Keflavik in the Fall of 2000 and transferred to Washington, DC, to work for the Director of Space, Information Warfare, Command and Control (CNO N6). She was the Navy requirements officer for the Teleports program, for Australia/Canada/New Zealand/United Kingdom/United States (AUSCANZUKUS) allied interoperability, and for Naval Communications and Telecommunications Commands. From 2002 to 2005, she was the Space, C4ISR, and Information Technology Congressional Liaison in the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs. She is currently assigned as a Navy Appropriations Congressional Liaison in the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial, Management and Comptroller).

I have personally known Commander Chong since 2000 when she assisted my office and my staff with our work on Navy cyber security issues. At that time, as she is now, she displayed an extremely high level of professionalism as well as in-depth knowledge of Navy IT and cyber security issues.

Her recent promotion from Lieutenant Commander to Commander is only one instance where her performance has been recognized and I rise here today to express my appreciation for her efforts as well.

Quite simply, the Navy is well served by Commander Chong, as is the staff and members of this body.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JONAS KISBER

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American and a very dear friend of mine, Mr. Jonas Kisber, of Jackson, Tennessee. Jonas just recently celebrated his 75th birthday, surrounded by family and many friends.

Jonas was born into a family of retail merchants. Kisber's Department Store, founded in 1905, was a fixture in Jackson for many years. Everyone in West Tennessee was familiar with Kisber's Store and when the store closed in December of 1991, it was an emotional, as well as economic, loss for the area.

Jonas entered the United States Army in 1952. He served in the Korean conflict, and was honorably discharged in 1954 when he began his career at the family business. Jonas served as President of Kisber's Department Stores, Inc. from 1974 until 1991. He has been involved in many civic and cultural activities. He and his late wife, Jane Louise Greenberg Kisber, were well known in their community and in the State of Tennessee for being available to help when you needed someone you could count on to get a job done.

Jonas was the founding Treasurer of the Episcopal Day School, has served in various offices for the Friends of the Jackson Madison County Library Foundation, was President of the Tennessee Retail Merchants Association in 1976–1977, is a member of the Tennessee Library Association, the Jackson Lions Club, served on the Board of Directors of the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce, and is a past President of the Temple B'nai Israel. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Murray Guard, Inc. He is also currently a member

of the Tennessee Board of Regents, a position previously held by his wife, Jane, and to which he was appointed at the time of her death in August of 2002.

He and his late wife are the parents of three children, Joan Kisber Haskins of Chicago, Illinois, Matthew Harris Kisber of Nashville, Tennessee and Rachel Kisber Obermeier of Bad Soden, Germany. Matt, a former Tennessee State Representative for many years, currently serves as Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. Jonas is also the proud grandfather of three boys and a new granddaughter.

Throughout his life, Jonas has contributed much to his community, his state and his nation. He has never shied away from work when his skills and efforts were needed and could make a difference. It is my high honor to recognize his many achievements and contributions, and to say thanks to him for all he has done through the years to make the City of Jackson and the State of Tennessee a better place in which to live.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MARJORIE CLAGETT

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marjorie Clagett for her dedication to teaching the students at Goodwin Primary School in the Comal Independent School District.

When someone thinks of a teacher, they most often think of someone who is in the classroom lecturing students about reading and arithmetic. Although this is what usually is expected of a teacher, some teachers commit themselves to students in other ways not as frequently seen in the typical classroom setting. Marjorie Clagett is a perfect example of someone who goes the additional mile to educate her students. Not only is she a great teacher to the students but she also serves as an advisor to them in any way she can. She is there for them to talk about any of the problems that they might be encountering in life and it is for this that she truly is a role model to them.

Educated at Upper Iowa University and St. Mary's University, Mrs. Clagett has the knowledge and experience to help the students in her first grade class not only enrich their minds but also enrich their lives. Her dedication to her class is something that teachers around the world should view as an example of how not only to become a leader to students but also a trusted confidant.

Citizens like Marjorie Clagett provide our nation's children with a teacher in the classroom while also being a friend and role-model to them. I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize Marjorie Clagett for her continuing service to the children of the Comal community.

UNVEILING AND DEDICATION OF THE MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY UNIT

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health Care for the dedication of the only Mobile Mammography Unit (MMU) in the area of San Antonio and surrounding counties. The MMU will provide breast health services and education to women who otherwise would either have difficulty accessing or not be able to access these services because of financial, transportation, cultural or other constraints.

The CHRISTUS Santa Rosa MMU will assist those who are uninsured and underserved as well as working women who have difficulty leaving the workplace to get a mammogram. All women who have a positive mammogram will be guided to appropriate medical services for follow up care.

As we know, breast cancer is the leading cancer among white and African American women. Statistically, every three minutes a woman in the United States is diagnosed with breast cancer and one out of every eight women in America will develop breast cancer at some time in her life. However, when breast cancer is detected early, a five-year survival rate is 96 percent.

Today, CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Hospital is proud to begin offering assistance for screening mammograms to the women of South and Central Texas to include uninsured and underinsured women of San Antonio and the surrounding counties. The MMU has partnered with community organizations such as the San Antonio Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Foundation, WINGS (Women Interested in Nurturing, Giving, Sharing), the Alamo Breast Cancer Foundation, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Programs, the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District and many others to provide the full range of services.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I would like to commend CHRISTUS Santa Rosa in San Antonio, Texas for bringing the mobile mammography unit back to the area after three years of not having a unit. I especially want to thank the collaboration of community organizations, the doctors, nurses and staff for their hard work and continued dedication, and wish them well as they continue their life-saving services to the community.

SUPPORTING THE MINUTEMAN PROJECT

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the successes of the Minuteman Project whose efforts have helped shine light on the flood of aliens illegally entering our country each day and the many deficiencies in United States border security.

It is an extraordinary event when citizens take it upon themselves to make a statement in such a profound manner, leaving their families and homes to travel to a remote area of