

Crete. This is a historic event with direct significance to the allies' victory of World War II.

On May 20, 1941, thousands of German paratroopers and gliders began landing on Crete. Both the allies and Nazis wanted Crete because of its strategic location. At that time the British controlled the island. It was a very strong point on the lifeline to India and protected both Palestine and Egypt.

The Nazi invasion force included the elite German paratroopers and glider troops. Hitler felt this was to be an easy victory, yet he is quoted to have said shortly after the invasion, "France fell in 8 days. Why is Crete free?" The invasion of Crete took 11 days. It resulted in more than 6,000 German troops listed as killed, wounded or missing in action. The losses to the elite 7th parachute division were felt so hard by the German Military it signified the end of large-scale airborne operations.

This valiant fight by the Cretan people began in the first hour of the Nazi airborne invasion. In contrast of the European underground movements that took a year or more after being invaded to activate. Young boys, old men and women displayed breathtaking bravery in defending their Crete. German soldiers never got used to Cretan women fighting them. They would tear the dress from the shoulder of suspected women to find bruises from the recoil of the rifle. The penalty was death. The Times (London) July 28, 1941 report that "five hundred Cretan women have been deported to Germany for taking part in the defense of their native island."

Another surprise for the German soldiers who invaded Crete was the heroic resistance of the clergy. A priest leading his parishioners into battle was not what the Germans anticipated. At Paleochora, Father Stylianos Frantzeskis, hearing of the German airborne invasion, rushed to his church, sounded the bell, took his rifle and marched his volunteers toward Maleme to write history. This struggle became an example for all Europe to follow in defying German occupation and aggression.

The price paid by the Cretans for their valiant resistance to Nazi forces was high. Thousands of civilians died from random executions, starvation, and imprisonment. Entire communities were burned and destroyed by the Germans as a reprisal for the Cretan resistance movement. Yet this resistance lasted for four years. The battle of Crete was to change the final outcome of World War II.

The Battle of Crete significantly contributed in delaying Hitler's plan to invade Russia. The invasion was delayed from April to June of 1941. The two month delay in the invasion made Hitler's forces face the Russian winter. The Russian snow storms and the sub zero temperatures eventually stalled the Nazi invasion before they could take Moscow or Leningrad. This was the beginning of the downfall of the Nazi reign of terror.

This significant battle and the heroic drive of the Cretan people must always be remembered and honored. Democracy came from Greece and the Cretan heroes exemplified the courage it takes to preserve it.

Today, the courage and fortitude of the Cretan people is seen in the members of the United Cretan Associations of New York, that is located in Astoria. The association's Chairman Steven Kohilakis and Co-Chairman Charles Marangoudakis, together with the presidents of the member clubs: Emmanuel Taouganakis, Omonia, Emmanuel Velonakis,

Minos, Emmanuel Piperakis, Cretan Brotherhood, George Filippakis, Erotokritos and Aretousa, Marina Pefani, Pasifai, Cleo Aliferis, Cretan Sisterhood, Emmanuel Vlastakis, Filoxenia, John Daskos, Diktamos, Andreas Fiotodimitrakis, Labris, Mr. Polihronakis, Idomeneas and Mr. Berikakis, Kazatzakis are excellent representatives of their Cretan heritage.

I request my colleagues to join me in honoring the Cretans in the United States, Greece and the diaspora.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO SCOTT B. RADCLIFFE ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT, NEW YORK

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 1998

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a truly outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District, Scott B. Radcliffe. Scott recently accepted his offer of appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, and will soon enroll as part of the Cadet Class of 2002.

Scott, who is from Perrysburg, Ohio, will soon be graduating from Perrysburg High School. After graduation, he will begin preparing for what figures to be one of the most exciting, challenging, and educational experiences of his life: his four years at West Point.

While attending high school in Perrysburg, Scott distinguished himself as a talented student. His academic achievements in the classroom are certainly accomplishments of which he can be proud. An honors student, Scott has maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.3, placing him near the top in his class of 315 students.

In addition to his excellent work in the classroom, Scott has proven himself to be a talented and gifted student-athlete. Scott has excelled on the fields of competition throughout his high school career. During his senior year, he was selected as the Captain of the Varsity Football Team and the Varsity Basketball Team. He has also been active in the Perrysburg Show Choir, symphony, and the school musical.

Mr. Speaker, each year, I have the opportunity to nominate several outstanding young men and women from the Fifth District to the nation's military academies. I am pleased that Scott was among those nominated for the West Point Class of 2002. I would urge my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Scott Radcliffe, and in wishing him well at West Point and in the future.

IN HONOR OF PEOPLE'S SELF-HELP HOUSING

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 1998

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an organization that has pro-

vided countless Central Coast families with hope and a home, People's Self-Help Housing.

People's Self-Help Housing is being honored today by the Fannie Mae Foundation for sustained excellence in their work. It is an award of recognition that is justly deserved.

Through the efforts of the good and hard-working individuals at People's Self-Help, more Central Coast families live in places they want to call home. I extend to them my sincerest thanks for their years of dedication, and congratulations for achieving this well deserved commendation for the Fannie Mae Foundation.

People's Self-Help Housing has been providing housing for low income families for more than 25 years. They have produced over 1400 units for low income seniors, families, farmworkers, and other special needs groups. Expanding beyond their original "sweat equity" program, People's Self-Help now handles affordable rental units, property management and complete construction services. They provide well managed properties and ensure that much needed health and education services are available to residents of these communities.

Mr. Speaker, I have known the head of this wonderful organization, Jeannette Duncan, for years and I have seen firsthand the fantastic work that this group does. People's Self-Help helps to fill a glaring need in our bucolic seaside and inland rural communities. Housing is expensive on the Central Coast and finding clean, affordable, quality homes and apartments can be a real struggle for people of limited means or extraordinary needs.

Among their many accomplishments, People's Self-Help has provided farmworkers with national award-winning townhouses in Santa Maria, updated the Victoria Street apartments in downtown Santa Barbara, and provided apartments for seniors in Templeton. Through their creativity and persistence, the Central Coast has filled communities where low and moderate income families find an opportunity to participate in the American dream.

They have done these things by working with developers, banks, local, state and Federal officials. But most of all, they have done this by thinking first and foremost of the communities they serve and the people who so often are forgotten in our society.

This is an example of public-private partnership that works, providing services to communities that need them and opening the doors of opportunity to all.

I commend Jeannette and everyone at People's Self-Help for their years of service and success, and in the recognition that is being bestowed upon them today.

HONORING CALVIN AND MARJORIE BRIGHT

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 1998

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pair of very special friends of mine—Calvin and Marjorie Bright—and to recognize them as they become the first recipients of the Bart Bennett Community Award.

This award, given by the City of Modesto in my district in California's great Central Valley,

is in honor of Calvin and Marjorie's tireless efforts of putting others before themselves and working for the betterment of our community.

Not only are these people pioneers in local housing, they have given back to the community time and time again. Perhaps Community Housing and Shelter Services Executive Director Diana Olsen summed it up the best when she said, "I can't think of anyone else that deserves this award more."

Calvin and Marjorie were volunteering their time and efforts before voluntarism became popular. I'd like to take a moment to focus on some of their achievements. Not only did they establish the Bright Family Foundation which includes the Marjorie H. Bright Scholarship Program for students at California State University Stanislaus, Modesto Junior College, University of the Pacific and San Jose State University and other universities in Utah and Oklahoma; they also sponsor a medical fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine.

Particularly poignant to me is the fact that despite their success, they have never forgotten their roots in helping provide scholarships for students from their high school alma mater, Beggs High School, in Beggs, Oklahoma. I am honored to call Calvin and Marjorie my friends. The Bright Foundation also actively supports the Children's Crisis Center and the Boy Scouts of America.

Calvin formed Bright Development in 1971 in Modesto. The firm has built approximately 3,000 single-family homes, in addition to townhouses, apartments and commercial office buildings. He founded Bright Foods in Turlock in 1956, one of the first frozen prepared food processing plants on the West Coast. Bright Foods and FM Stamper of St. Louis were merged and renamed Banquet Foods in 1966. Banquet was later sold to RCA Victor in 1969.

Marjorie Bright worked actively in the couple's food processing and building businesses. She was the personnel and labor relations manager of Bright Foods and now serves as the general manager of Woodside Management Group. Woodside has more than 100 employees and manages approximately 3,000 apartments.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I stand before the House of Representatives and ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Calvin and Marjorie Bright for their outstanding service to our community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MINDY BACCUS, VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 1998

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Mindy Baccus from Ada, Kansas on being named a National winner in the 1998 Voice of Democracy Scholarship Competition sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary.

Ms. Baccus is a senior at Minneapolis High School and hopes to pursue a career in communications or Law. She has been honored for her scholastic and extracurricular activities and exhibits outstanding leadership qualities. She has again distinguished herself by writing

and orating the best patriotic script in Kansas entitled "My Voice in Our Democracy" for this nationwide competition. Her insight into the importance of each individual's role in our democracy and the eloquence with which she states her ideas, exemplifies the principles this country was founded upon. I am proud to announce that as a result of her hard work, Ms. Baccus has been awarded \$3,500.

The men and women of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary deserve recognition for their generous sponsorship of this scholarship program. I especially commend VFW Post 3201 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Minneapolis, Kansas for their local sponsorship. This year fifty-six young leaders from across the nation received scholarships totaling \$128,500.

I am proud that the VFW have honored Ms. Mindy Baccus with this year's award. I wish Ms. Baccus all the best in her chosen career path and in her studies at William Jewell College.

"MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY"

Ballots! Ballots! Get'em while they're hot! Here sir, have a ballot! What!? You don't want one! You're a US citizen 18 or over, aren't you? Well, then take a ballot. Oh, you think one person can't make a difference? What about you ma'am. You want one, right? After all, women fought for the right to vote for over a century. You'll take advantage of that privilege, won't you? What, you think your opinion doesn't matter. Well, you're wrong. You need to sit down and let me tell you about my voice in our democracy. In fact, all of you need to listen because anyone can have a voice in our democracy as long as they remember what voice truly stands for. My voice is vibrant, overcoming, insightful, confident, and educated.

Never half-hearted, my voice is pulsing with life, energy, and vigor. No one can resist being drawn to my enthusiasm. Whether writing letters to public officials, discussing policy decisions with those around me, or encouraging my peers to become more active in government; I always convey my beliefs with energy and vitality. By doing so, I set an example that others are compelled to follow because everyone can see that I truly believe in what I'm saying. However, regardless of how vibrant my voice is, someone is usually waiting to stifle it.

For that reason, my voice must be overcoming. I know that I must never let others make me compromise what I truly believe. Because so many policies in our society today are controversial, viewpoints often encounter strong opposition, but in order to be as close to a democracy as possible, many diverse opinions must be heard. Obviously, without a voice that's overcoming, having any voice in our democracy would be extremely difficult. Often, fully understanding a situation will help me overcome obstacles.

As a result, I must be insightful. By looking deeply into a situation, I can find details which support my opinion and by pointing out aspects of an argument that others may have missed, I can gain more support for my view. Additionally, thoroughly exploring a policy helps me to make the right decision from the beginning. Soon, others will recognize me as a strong analyst and will gain more respect for my views, even if they don't agree with them. Although my peers may not agree with me, I will never stop believing in myself.

That's why my voice must be confident. If I don't believe in myself, no one else will believe in me either. Regardless of the opposition I face or whether I feel like I'm alone in my views, I can never let myself feel de-

feated. As long as I know I am right and tenaciously defend my opinions, I will never be conquered. Even if I have to write a letter daily for years, make thousands of signs, or vote year after year for the same proposal, I will eventually make a difference as long as I believe in myself. Still, it's hard to be confident if I don't know about the issue.

In order to have a strong voice in our democracy, I must be educated. First, without being informed, I cannot know enough about issues to find the position I want to fight for, and without fully understanding my views, I cannot adequately defend them. Finally, since affairs in a democracy are constantly changing, education can never stop; it must be ongoing. Overall, knowledge is power especially when it comes to democracy.

Vibrant, overcoming, insightful, confident, and educated. Although the use of the acronym V.O.I.C.E. is clever, this actually is what voice truly stands for. I know my voice in our democracy embodies all of these traits and will as I continue to enter adulthood. Everyone has a voice in our democracy; they must simply learn to use it. One person can truly make a difference, and that one person could be me * * * or you. Ballots! Ballots! Get'em while they're hot. Here, would you like a ballot? Of course you would.

AIR FORCE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY REINVIGORATION ACT

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 1998

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I join my colleague Mr. Boehlert in introducing the Air Force Science and Technology Reinvigoration Act, a bill to restore the role of scientific research as a driving force in the decision-making of the United States Air Force. The bill establishes the new positions of Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Science and Technology and Deputy Chief of Staff for Science and Technology. The bill will require minimal expense. The two new positions are similar to positions which once existed in the Air Force. These changes could help reinvigorate Air Force science and technology and help return the Air Force to the spirit of its founding mission—a mission that established and maintained the world's supreme air fighting force.***HD***Background

Scientific investigation, accompanied by the new knowledge it generates and the foundation it lays for development of new technologies, is the cornerstone of air and space superiority. The Air Force as no other military service should recognize the singular importance of science to its beginning and survival. Technology has been an engine that drives the Air Force as an institution. More than the other services, the Air Force is where scientists and engineers must do their work years before the battle begins.

As critical as it is to military aviation, support for science and technology has been feast or famine throughout Air Force history. In times of war or national emergency, science and technology are almost always fully funded and encouraged. However, as soon as the crisis is over, science and technology are de-emphasized until the next crisis. As a result, in the past the United States has found itself technologically behind enemies and allies, and has