

than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Balogh to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Balogh and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE ISMAILI  
GOLDEN JUBILEE

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Dallas Shia Imami Nizari Ismaili Muslim Community for reaching a Golden Jubilee landmark on July 11, 2007.

As a prominent community, the Ismailis have contributed largely to the cultural diversity and economic development in Texas. Under the guidance of His Highness the Aga Khan, the Ismailis are represented in the fields of engineering, science, medicine, education, and entrepreneurship.

In 1967, the first international non-profit institution of the Ismailis was established by the Aga Khan in Europe. Since then the Aga Khan Development Network has grown into nine agencies, globally representing the fields of micro finance, education, economic development, health, and cultural preservation.

These agencies have created 300 schools in the world, educating 62,000 students and employing 5,000 staff. It has opened 200 health centers, caring for nearly 2 million and employing nearly 10,000 staff. It has also opened a university in Central Asia, transformed a park in Egypt, and continues to raise funds for the poor through an annual worldwide Partnership Walk.

The Ismailis are devoted to improving the circumstances and opportunities for the poor around the world. The Aga Khan Development Network serves as a catalyst for these endeavors. Their mandates range from education and health to structural design, disaster reduction, development, and renewal of historic cities.

On behalf of the 30th Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to congratulate the Ismaili Community on their Golden Jubilee. Their efforts towards global humanitarianism make them an invaluable member of the Dallas area.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately last night, September 4, 2007, I was unable to cast my votes on H.R. 694, H.R. 3020, and the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2669 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 847 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 694, the Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act, I would have voted "aye".

Had I been present for rollcall No. 848 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 3020, the Microloan Amendments and Modernization Act, I would have voted "aye".

Had I been present for rollcall No. 849 on the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2669, the College Cost Reduction Act of 2007, I would have voted "aye".

ARMY SERGEANT GARRETT I.  
MCLEAD; SOUTH TEXAN LOST IN  
IRAQ

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, since this House last met, another South Texan from the Coastal Bend area has fallen in battle in Iraq, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this life lost in the service of our nation.

Army SGT Garrett I. McLead, 23, from Rockport, Texas, was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, in Hawaii. While many people across the nation were starting school, enjoying vacation, or just taking advantage of the last weeks before Labor Day, Sgt. McLead was killed on August 22, 2007, in a Black Hawk helicopter crash during a night mission 180 miles north of Baghdad, in Multaka, Iraq, near the city of Kirkuk.

Sergeant McLead is survived by his parents, Patrick and Patty, and by the larger family of Aransas Pass and San Patricio County in South Texas.

Madam Speaker, each time we lose a soldier—a member of our American family—we lose a little piece of ourselves. Each time, it is just unbearable. Let me tell you more about this noble patriot who gave the last full measure of devotion to the nation he loved.

Sergeant McLead drew his strength from his faith, and was a natural athlete, excelling in surfing, tennis and soccer while he was in high school. He also played the saxophone in his high school band. He had a winning smile and a talent for life.

He was an adventure seeker, tempered by the national shock of 9–11. The searing pain of the attack moved him from happy-go-lucky teenager to a determined warrior at warp speed. He deferred a dream of modeling or acting when our nation was attacked on 9–11, and the country called all patriots for service in the U.S. military.

Rather than opting for Hollywood, his handsome face was assigned to Afghanistan in service of finding and tracking down the terrorists who attacked the United States. Iraq was soon opened as a second war, and he served the nation in uniform in Iraq as well. He was close to coming home, but his tour was extended.

Everyone in the greater South Texas community will miss him, but nobody will miss him like his family. We mourn with this family; we lift up our broken hearts in gratitude to his family, and we all want to see our soldiers come home from these wars.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House to join me in honoring Army Sergeant McLead and his service on behalf of the United States, and to offer our thanks and our deepest sympathy to the family of this warrior, who gave the last full measure of devotion to our nation and the United States Army.

TRIBUTE TO MITRE CORPORATION  
IN HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, 5 years ago I rose to thank the MITRE Corporation for nearly two decades of outstanding work in Huntsville, Alabama. Today, I proudly rise once again to congratulate its employees on their 25th anniversary in our community.

MITRE operates federally funded research and development centers that provide government agencies with systems engineering, research and development, and information technology support. MITRE first opened its office in Huntsville in 1982 with only one employee, but has steadily grown to 56 employees.

MITRE has provided objective expertise, analysis, and support to the Army's Aviation and Missile Defense Command, the Missile Defense Agency, NASA, and other programs at Redstone Arsenal and throughout North Alabama. MITRE's Huntsville site is the Corporation's primary center of expertise for the Department of Defense's Battle Management Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence (BM/C3I) program.

On Monday, August 13, 2007, the employees of MITRE gathered to celebrate their 25th anniversary in North Alabama. I rise today to join in their celebration and wish them many more years of success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GENE TAYLOR**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, yesterday, on September 4, 2007, I was unavoidably detained in my congressional district as a result of a mechanical problem which prevented the departure of my scheduled flight from Gulfport, MS. Unfortunately, I missed rollcall votes 847, 848 and 849. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on each of the rollcall votes.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR FRANK  
ORTIS OF PEMBROKE PINES,  
FLORIDA

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, public service is among the most noble and demanding of professions; and excellence in the delivery of public service helps