

Sound waters for the important naval Shipyard in Bremerton. It was named for Admiral John L. Worden, who was the commander of the battleship *Monitor* in the famous Civil War battle with the Confederate ship *Merrimac*. The Fort was later designated as the headquarters for the harbor defenses for Puget Sound, and it was fortified with heavy gun batteries and defensive structures. During World War II, the Fort served as home to the Army's 14th Coast Artillery Regiment and the Washington National Guard's 248th Regiment.

Fort Worden's military role diminished in the 1940's, and it was decommissioned as an active military post in 1953, though various limited Navy and Army functions continued for some years after. It later served as home to a Treatment Center for juvenile delinquents, operated by the State of Washington, before it was finally acquired by the State and turned into a State Park in 1973. The old Fort buildings have been transformed into a Conference Center, and the site offers ample opportunity for recreation and camping. Having been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it now serves as one of the most picturesque and stately locations in the State of Washington. In fact, I am sure many of my colleagues can recall the views of the Fort's classic old white buildings in the feature movie "An Officer and a Gentleman," as Fort Worden served as the film's backdrop in 1981.

Today, Fort Worden remains a gathering place for people from across the Pacific Northwest to come for educational, cultural and arts programs, as well as recreational activities. It is a link to our past; a reminder of the state's very early role in the defense of our nation. I am proud that Fort Worden will be a partner with the Library of Congress on the Veterans History Project, honoring America's war veterans. And I am proud that so much of the military history of the Fort has been preserved, including the Commanding Officers Quarters Museum and the Pacific Coast Artillery Museum.

On the 100th Birthday of Fort Worden, I believe it is appropriate.

Mr. Speaker, to recognize the historical significance of this facility and its ongoing role in the Pacific Northwest.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 131, I was unavoidably detained with other matters. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill Expressing the Sense of the Con-

gress regarding the International Criminal Court.

On Monday, May 6, President George W. Bush directed his representative to inform United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan that the United States "does not intend to become a party to the treaty [the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC)]." President Bush is to be highly commended for renouncing the U.S. signature on the ICC treaty, a bold first step toward protecting American servicemembers and citizens from the possibility of unwarranted and politically-motivated persecutions.

By taking this action, President Bush has put the international community on notice that the United States will defend its sovereignty and citizens from this global court. The Bush Administration correctly pointed out that the ICC has unchecked power that contradicts our Constitution and its system of checks and balances; that the Court is "open for exploitation and politically-motivated prosecutions;" and that "the ICC asserts jurisdiction over citizens of states that have not ratified the treaty"—which seriously threatens American sovereignty.

I applaud President Bush in making it perfectly clear that the United States wants no part of the ICC. He faced enormous pressure from the international community to do otherwise, yet he did the right thing.

But this is only a first step. As Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld stated this week, upon our renunciation of the ICC: "Unfortunately, the ICC will not respect the U.S. decision to stay out of the treaty. To the contrary, the ICC provisions claim the authority to detain and try American citizens—U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, as well as current and future officials—even though the United States has not given its consent to be bound by the treaty." Secretary Rumsfeld added, "When the ICC treaty enters into force this summer, U.S. citizens will be exposed to the risk of prosecution by a court that is unaccountable to the American people, and that has no obligation to respect the Constitutional rights of our citizens."

Undersecretary of State Marc Grossman, explaining the president's decision to withdraw from the ICC, made the following critical point: "Notwithstanding our disagreements with the Rome Treaty, the United States respects the decision of those nations who have chosen to join the ICC, but they in turn must respect our decision *not* to join the ICC or place our citizens under the jurisdiction of the court." There is no indication that Undersecretary Grossman's message has been received.

Therefore, this legislation makes it clear that Congress should take all steps necessary to grant appropriate authority to the president to defend the American people—servicemember and citizen alike—from the threat of arrest, prosecution and conviction by the International Criminal Court.

I am introducing this legislation to also to commend President Bush for his courageous move, to assure the president that this body supports his action to protect the Constitution and American sovereignty. We have all taken an oath to protect and defend the Constitution, and we should stand with the president.

I rise, finally, to encourage the president to remain steadfast in his intention of protecting American servicemembers and citizens from the unchecked power of the International

Criminal Court. This is only the beginning, however, there is much more to be done.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 127, H.R. 2911, Designating the Federal Building located at 5100 Paint Branch Parkway in College Park, Maryland, as the Harvey W. Wiley Federal Building on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 404. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 128, H. Con. Res. 271, Expressing the Sense of Congress Supporting the National Importance of Health Care Coverage Month. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 129, On Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 414, Providing for the disposition of H. J. Res. 84, Disapproval of the Actions taken by the President Under Sec. 203 of the Trade Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 130, on H. Res. 414, Providing for the disposition of H. J. Res. 84, Disapproval of the Actions taken by the President Under Sec. 203 of the Trade Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 131, on Agreeing to the Senate Amendments on H.R. 3525, the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 132, H.J. Res. 87, On Consideration of the Resolution, the Yucca Mountain Repository Site Approval Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 133, H.J. Res. 87, the Yucca Mountain Repository Site Approval Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

CONGRATULATING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF VALLEY BRONZE AND STEWART SPRINGS, LTD.

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the men and women of Valley Bronze and Stewart Springs, Ltd. for their success in receiving the contract to adorn the World War II monument on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Valley Bronze is a foundry located in Joseph, Oregon in Wallowa County in my congressional district, a pristine sliver of the United States whose citizens live and breathe the heritage of the American West.

The successful bid award to participate in the construction of the World War II memorial