

Houston, Texas. The Army turned Kristian Menchaca's life around. It gave him a greater purpose, a higher calling. He leaves behind a wife, a family, and lots of grateful Americans.

The terrorists that America fights in Iraq and Afghanistan, they take no prisoners. They have no POW camps. While the media here is bemoaning some alleged improper events in Guantanamo Bay prison about some captured terrorist that got their feelings hurt while in custody, they would do better to point out terrorists execute their prisoners.

Terrorists kill everybody because terrorists hate everybody that believes in freedom. They kill children, the elderly, the weak, the innocent, and they even murder captured American soldiers.

This enemy we fight in the desert sands of Iraq and Afghanistan are evil villains who oppose our righteous and just cause to proclaim freedom throughout the world.

News reports claim the attackers of the outpost all wore masks to cover their faces. Mr. Speaker, outlaws and bandits of the Old West wore masks to disguise who they were because they, like these terrorists, covered up their wicked intentions of destruction of everything that is good and right.

But like the outlaws of yesteryear, each of these criminals will be hunted, tracked and brought to a speedy end, because the 101st Airborne is on patrol in the hot hills of Iraq.

These terrorists have messed with the wrong people. These American soldiers fear no enemy. You see, they are brothers. They are the Band of Brothers, and while three of them have given their lives for liberty, it will be the wrath of the remaining brothers that these terrorists will experience. The terrorists will be introduced to judgment day.

Shakespeare said of the brothers in Henry V how they will be regarded. He said, "From this day to the ending of the world, but we in it shall be remembered; we few, we happy few, we band of brothers; for he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother."

Tonight, we remember the strongest of those unyielding warriors against terror, three members of the 101st Airborne, these Band of Brothers.

And that's just the way it is.

MINE SAFETY—HONORING THE MINERS OF HARLAN COUNTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this day of June 20, 2006, marks the 1-month anniversary of the mining disaster in Harlan County, Kentucky, where five miners were killed in another mine accident.

I started thinking about the history of Harlan County and in paying tribute to these five brave Americans wanted

to place in the RECORD the fact that these miners are from a region of our country that has been home to generations of coal miners with entire communities dependent on the mines.

While the coal mines have gotten somewhat safer with deaths steadily declining as a result of stricter safety laws passed by the Congress of the United States, coal mining remains one of our Nation's most dangerous professions.

This year has been a particularly deadly year. Our Nation held its breath before learning of the 12 deaths at the Sago Mine in West Virginia, and then we mourned with the families in Harlan County, Kentucky, after learning of the deaths of five miners killed at the Darby Mine in May.

With the year just half over, we have already seen 33 coal mining deaths 6 months into this year.

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The names of Harlan County's most recent fatalities, Roy Middleton, Amon "Cotton" Brock, Jimmy D. Lee, and George William Petra and Paris Thomas, Jr., will now be added to a memorial honoring the ultimate sacrifice made by 1,200 coal miners that were killed in Harlan County since 1912.

Harlan County has been the site of mammoth labor organizing battles between the United Mine Workers strike and the region's coal mining companies. The bloody strikes of the 1930s and 1973 earned Harlan County the nickname "Bloody Harlan." Coal miners from this region know all too well the dangers of this dirty and dangerous business.

The five miners from the Darby mine in Harlan County have joined another 104,574 miners that perished in our Nation's coal mines since 1900. To put this into perspective, this number would be about equivalent to one-third of the entire population of the largest city I represent, Toledo, Ohio. And keep in mind this number only accounts for the actual deaths, not the countless others that have been maimed in our Nation's dangerous mines.

On this 1-month anniversary of these horrific deaths, Congress can point to recently passed legislation. But you know, Mr. Speaker, a couple hours' oxygen won't solve the problem either. This act certainly strengthens the mine safety requirements enforced by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, but what good does the law do for a grieving widow or an orphaned child?

As our Nation struggles with another coal mining tragedy, I would like to place into the RECORD an old coal mining song, "Come All You Coal Miners," sung by Sarah Gunning. Hopefully, some of the words in this song will remind us of those who have laid down their lives for us and the other 110,000 miners that go into the mines every day in this country facing death every single one of those days.

Some of the words of the song read: "They take your very lifeblood, and

they take our children's lives. They take fathers away from children and husbands away from wives. Oh, miner, won't you organize wherever you may be and make this a land of freedom for workers like you and me."

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS).

Ms. WATERS. Thank you very much. I appreciate all of the work that you have done and the attention that you have given to the coal mining issue, and the fact that you have been trying to get this Congress to focus in real and concrete ways. What has happened over the past year is just indescribable, and I think avoidable.

We need to do all that you have told us over the past months that we need to do to ensure safety in the mines, and I just appreciate the fact that you are here representing not only the people in your district in all the ways that you do, but that you have once again focused your time and your energy on this very important issue.

Ms. KAPTUR. Thank you very much, Ms. WATERS. I could have no one that I admire more in terms of her love of community and her complete dedication to those who don't have enough voice in this Congress of the United States. To have that compliment from you means a great deal to me this evening. Thank you.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO RISK OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION CREATED BY ACCUMULATION OF WEAPONS-USABLE FISSILE MATERIAL IN TERRITORY OF RUSSIAN FEDERATION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 109-115)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the emergency declared with respect to the accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation is to continue beyond June 21, 2006. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on June 20, 2005 (70 FR 35507).

It remains a major national security goal of the United States to ensure

that fissile material removed from Russian nuclear weapons pursuant to various arms control and disarmament agreements is dedicated to peaceful uses, subject to transparency measures, and protected from diversion to activities of proliferation concern. The accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to the accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation and maintain in force these emergency authorities to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 19, 2006.

**BLOCKING PROPERTY OF PERSONS
IN CONNECTION WITH SITUATION
IN BELARUS—MESSAGE FROM
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES (H. DOC. NO. 109-116)**

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with subsection 204(b) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(b)(IEEPA), and section 301 of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1631 (NEA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (the "order") blocking the property of persons in connection with the situation in Belarus. In that order, I declared a national emergency with respect to the policies and actions of certain individuals in Belarus, to address the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States posed by the actions and circumstances involving Belarus, as described below. This action follows the issuance of Proclamation 8015 of May 12, 2006, "Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Persons Responsible for Policies or Actions That Threaten the Transition to Democracy in Belarus," in which I determined that it is in the interest of the United States to suspend the entry into the United States of members of the government of Alyaksandr Lukashenka and others who formulate, implement, participate in, or benefit from policies or actions, including electoral fraud, human rights abuses, and corruption, that undermine or injure democratic institutions or impede the transition to democracy in Belarus.

The United States, the European Union, and other allies and partners around the world have repeatedly ex-

pressed support for the democratic aspirations of the Belarusian people and condemned the Belarusian government's human rights abuses, assaults on democracy, and corruption. The Belarusian authorities have resorted to intense repression in an attempt to preserve their power, including the disappearance of four regime critics in 1999 and 2000, which the authorities have failed to investigate seriously despite credible information linking top government officials to these acts.

The undemocratic 2006 presidential election was only the latest example of the Belarusian government's disregard for the rights of its own citizens. Hundreds of civic and opposition activists were arrested—and many beaten—both before and after the vote for exercising their rights. The authorities forcibly dispersed peaceful post-election demonstrations. There is simply no place in a Europe whole and free for a regime of this kind.

The order also takes an important step in the fight against public corruption, which threatens important United States interests globally, including ensuring security and stability, the rule of law and core democratic values, advancing prosperity, and creating a level playing field for lawful business activities. As noted in Proclamation 8015, the persistent acts of corruption by Belarusian government officials in the performance of public functions has played a significant role in frustrating the Belarusian people's aspirations for democracy. This order authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to block the assets of senior-level officials of the Government of Belarus, their family members, or those closely linked to such officials engaged in such corruption.

This, pursuant to IEEPA and the NEA, I have determined that these actions and circumstances constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States, and I have issued the order to deal with this threat.

The order blocks the property and interests in property in the United States, or in the possession or control of United States persons, of the persons listed in the Annex to the order, as well as of any person determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the Secretary of State:

—to be responsible for, or to have participated in, actions or policies that undermine democratic processes or institutions in Belarus;

—to be responsible for, or to have participated in, human rights abuses related to political repression in Belarus;

—to be a senior-level official, a family member of such official, or a person closely linked to such an official who is responsible for or has engaged in public corruption related to Belarus.

The order also authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, after consulta-

tion with the Secretary of State, to designate for such blocking any person determined to have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services in support of, the activities listed above or any person listed in or designated pursuant to the order. I further authorized the Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the Secretary of State, to designate for such blocking any person determined to be owned or controlled by, or acting or purporting to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person listed in or designated pursuant to the order. The Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the Secretary of State, is also authorized to remove any persons from the Annex to the order as circumstances warrant.

I delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the Secretary of State, the authority to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the order. All executive agencies are directed to take all appropriate measures within their authority to carry out the provisions of the order.

The order, a copy of which is enclosed, was effective at 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on June 19, 2006.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 19, 2006.

**HONORING WINSTON-SALEM FIRE
AND RESCUE TEAM**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Winston-Salem Fire and Rescue Team for their tremendous efforts participating in the World Championship Firefighter Combat Challenge. The world finals of this competition were held in Deerfield Beach, Florida, late last year. Over 1,500 firefighters from around the globe, including members from every branch of our military, descended on Deerfield Beach to compete for the right to be called the "best of the bravest."

While wearing full firefighting gear, teams from across the United States raced through obstacle courses that mirrored the real demands and challenges of firefighting. I am proud to say that one of the teams in the competition was made up of six brave firefighters from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, which is located in the Fifth Congressional District. Joining them were 10 firefighters from the adjacent city of Greensboro. This great group is often referred to as "the ambassadors of the State of North Carolina."

Teams competed in several divisions in the week-long competition. Winston-Salem team members Duane