

As another example, the NASA Aviation Safety Program—a partnership with the Federal Aviation Administration, aircraft manufacturers, airlines, and the Department of Defense that is led by Langley—recently tested a new way to predict thunderstorm turbulence.

We can't overlook the importance of military aviation to American freedom, and the importance of Langley to military aviation.

For example, during World War II, Langley used wind tunnel expertise to design modifications to fighter aircraft to improve their performance. Aerial dogfights were mostly contests between technologies, and a small improvement could make the difference between life and death.

Like the rest of NASA, NASA Langley promotes private sector participation with the Small Business Innovation Research program and the Small Business Technology Transfer program. The creation and transfer of innovation is a key goal at Langley. The Center delivers a steady flow of inventions and patents, across a range of technical areas.

In aeronautics and in space flight, Langley's parade of achievements has inspired generations of Americans, and has helped set the pace of American technological advancement. We need places like NASA Langley, and I hope that as we look back over its 90 years and celebrate its achievements, we are mindful of our future and work to maintain a strong and vital aerospace R&D capability at Langley and throughout our nation.

Mr. LAMPSON. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALZ of Minnesota). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 222.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3773, RESTORE ACT OF 2007

Mr. WELCH of Vermont (during consideration of H. Con. Res. 222), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-385) on the resolution (H. Res. 746) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3773) to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to establish a procedure for authorizing certain acquisitions of foreign intelligence, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### FREE AT LAST—DEPUTY SHERIFF GILMER HERNANDEZ

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, Deputy Sheriff Gilmer Hernandez is one of three deputies in Edwards County, Texas. This county is the size of Delaware.

While on duty at night recently in Rocksprings, Texas, an SUV ran a red light. Hernandez pulled the vehicle over. The vehicle sped off and then tried to run down Deputy Hernandez. He shot out the two tires in self-defense. It turned out the vehicle was smuggling nine illegals. One illegal was injured by a ricochet bullet. The Sheriff's Department and the Texas Rangers investigated the shooting and cleared Hernandez. But the Mexican Government demanded prosecution by the U.S. Justice Department, and over a year later the U.S. Attorney's office prosecuted Hernandez for alleged civil rights violations. The nine illegals and the human smuggler were allowed to stay in the United States. Hernandez was convicted and sent to prison. But yesterday he was released from prison and returned home to Rocksprings, Texas as a hero. The community sided with Deputy Hernandez and resents the U.S. Government freeing the human smuggler and the illegals and prosecuting Hernandez for just doing his job. Yet another example of how it seems the U.S. government is on the wrong side of the border war and seems to be the puppet and whims of the Mexican Government.

And that's just the way it is.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### LANCE CORPORAL JEREMY BURRIS, MARINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, Liberty, Texas, is one of the oldest towns in Texas. It was founded in 1831 and named Liberty before Texas was an independent nation in 1836. This town has sent many young men off to war.

Today the town of Liberty laid to rest one of its favorite sons. The streets of this small town were lined with American flags. People came outside their homes and businesses to pay honor and tribute to a hometown hero. Some people stood erect with their hands over their hearts or saluting as the funeral procession went by. As the process passed Liberty High School and the middle school, students from both schools lined the streets with flags, tears and signs that said "Thank You."

Hundreds of citizens in this community turned out to honor 22-year-old Lance Corporal Jeremy Burris of the United States Marine Corps. Mr. Speaker, this is what people in south-

east Texas do when one of their own is killed in combat.

Jeremy was killed on October 8, 2007, while conducting combat operations in al-Anbar Province in Iraq. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 4th Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Marine Expeditionary Force from Camp Pendleton, California.

I've talked to Jeremy's proud father, Brent Burris. He said his son was driving a military vehicle when it was accompanied by two other Marines when the vehicle hit an IED, that's an improvised explosive device, hidden in the road.

Lance Corporal Burris survived the initial blast and helped the other two wounded Marines from the vehicle. Then Jeremy returned to the vehicle to retrieve sensitive equipment when a second bomb detonated and Lance Corporal Burris was killed.

Mr. Speaker, it's not uncommon that our enemy sets a second delayed bomb explosion because they know Marines will always return for their wounded or dead or sensitive equipment from their damaged vehicles. This is how these cowards of the desert conduct war against our troops. They do so remotely. They won't come out in the open and fight because they fear the Marines and the Marine reputation.

General Black Jack Pershing, United States Army, and Commander of the United States forces in World War I, said of the Marines, "The deadliest weapon in the world is a Marine with a rifle." He was correct. Marines are a rare breed with dogged determination and put fear in the souls of our enemy.

Burris was a proud Marine. He was an unapologetic person of faith, and he attended the nondenominational church, Cornerstone Church, where he led worship and praise sessions for youth groups.

He loved Texas. His church pastor said today at the funeral, "No one had better say anything negative about his home State of Texas." And on Jeremy's Myspace page he wrote, "Born and raised in Texas and proud of it."

Lance Corporal Burris believed totally in his mission in Iraq. He said he was not afraid to die, and he joined the Marines a year and a half ago knowing he would go off to war. He told his youth minister "he would rather die young while he was able to give 100 percent than grow old and not be able to give that 100 percent." Amazing man, this young gun of the United States Marine Corps.

In a letter to Jeremy's father, Sergeant Drabicki, Jeremy's section leader in the Marines in Iraq said this about him: "Your son is a hero to all of us, especially me. He touched my heart and my soul in ways that I could never forget. Your son was the most loyal, hard-working, dedicated and selfless Marine that I had in my section, and his loss is felt by all of us. He never complained. He never faltered. He never quit, and it was my honor to lead your son in combat."

Mr. Speaker, I want to say this about the United States Marine Corps. They are the very best at what they do. They always have been. Army Major General Frank Lowe said in the Korean war, "The safest place in Korea was right behind a platoon of Marines. Lord, how they can fight."

Marine Lance Corporal Burris was one of those types of fighting men. They go where others fear to tread. They fight where the timid are nowhere to be found.

Mr. Speaker, this is a photograph of Lance Corporal Burris right before he was killed. And so the bugler has played taps for the final time for this lance corporal of the United States Marine Corps. And as his flag-draped coffin was laid to rest today in the small town of Liberty, Texas, red, white and blue balloons filled the air, a 21-gun salute was fired, and white doves flew into the heavens.

Ronald Reagan said this about the United States Marines: "Some people live an entire lifetime and wonder if they have ever made a difference in the world, but the Marines, they don't have that problem."

Mr. Speaker, Jeremy Burris was one of those Marines. So *semper fi*, Lance Corporal Jeremy Burris. *Semper fi*.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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#### STALLED CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AT KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to say that some people in our Nation are taking notice of what is happening at the Kennedy Space Center with the stalled contract negotiations between USA Alliance, which is United Space Alliance, and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, among the most talented and trained workers in our Nation.

USA Space Alliance is a company that was formed from Boeing and Lockheed, major defense contractors for our Nation, which also have huge space contracts. Their executives are very well paid, and these are companies essential to our Nation's defense.

But what is happening is that in these negotiations, strangely, the new demands that are being asked by these companies of the workers is that they have, the workers will have no pensions. Can you believe this, that workers who are involved in important

NASA programs, particularly as we transition to Aries and Orion programs, that the conditions of work for people at the Kennedy Center will not be the same as they have been since we began the space program?

NASA gets about \$16 billion a year. Without question, the United States of America is the world leader in space exploration. And we are a leader because of the bravery of those who are involved in the work, as well as their intelligence and their fine workmanship and workwomanhood.

We shouldn't do anything to diminish this asset, this national asset, particularly when the Chinese are breathing down our necks and are able to hit targets in space already.

And yet, what we see happening is that the workers and future workers that will be at NASA's subcontractors will not have pensions?

This is very interesting, particularly because the individual running USA, United Space Alliance, Richard Covey, a very well-known American who's been an astronaut in many prior programs, gets about three retirement checks already, may be getting four.

The first one is a public pension that comes from his work and his patriotism in the Air Force of our country. So he gets that check. He gets a government pension from his work in the NASA program. And he had been a part of Boeing Corporation prior to his movement over to USA, United Space Alliance, and he gets a retirement check from that plus all the stock bonuses.

We have heard this before, that the people at the very top take enormous amounts? And the workers who are doing the actual work of retrieving the space launches, getting them ready are told, well, you won't get any retirement. What kind of attitude does that produce on the job in work that is truly dangerous, where lives are at stake, where America should seek the best and want the best and reward the best?

I was thinking today of the Kennedy Space Center named after President John Kennedy, who did so very much to inspire the Nation to treat all people equally and to better themselves, would have this happening at the Kennedy Space Center.

Defined benefit pension plans are the bedrock of retirement security, and over 40 million workers and retirees rely on them. And they give someone economic security to go to work every day and know that your life matters and that when it comes time for you to leave that position that you will have a retirement where you don't have economic worry. What is happening out at Kennedy now is a direct attack on Americans' retirement security. It sends a clear signal that this administration and its NASA administrator and all the subcontractors that it hires, including USA, support the elimination of secure guaranteed defined benefit pension plans, and for no

workers, no pension plans. How's that for a deal? What are we going to do, go back to before 1940 again in this country?

We built a great Nation when America had a system where workers could be confident that their wages would increase with increasing productivity and that their retirement years would be secure. I would just say that the Nation is taking very close notice of an agency that gets a \$16 billion budget whose top executives all get their pensions and now who hire subcontractors who are telling the very people who have their hands on the equipment down at the Kennedy Space Center that, sorry, you don't get the same type of consideration by the Government of the United States.

I would ask Mr. Covey and the folks at USA Space Alliance to pay close attention because Congress is paying close attention.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### 2007 COMMEMORATIVE COINS: LITTLE ROCK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DESEGREGATION AND JAMESTOWN 400TH ANNIVERSARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, public attention 50 years ago, in 1957, was on Little Rock, Arkansas. Everyone in the United States knew of the events that were going on at Little Rock Central High School and in the streets surrounding Little Rock Central High School.

Now this year we celebrate the courage of the Little Rock Nine. Now this year, 2007, we commemorate those events, the desegregation of September 25, 1957, very much aware of the work that we have to do in race relations.

As part of the honoring of these events and the honoring of the courage of the brave Little Rock Nine, this Congress passed a commemorative coin bill. We authorize two commemorative coins each year. The commemorative coin I want to show the Members, it is a beautiful coin. Now, the real coin is not this big. It's a silver dollar. It is a commemorative coin. While it is legal tender, you would not want to use it for legal tender because it costs substantially more than a dollar.

This is the one side. Each star honors one of the Little Rock Nine, the nine stars. And these footprints show young people going to school with no other desire than to get an education. And it says: "Desegregation in Education, 2007, In God We Trust."