

I do not agree with every single detail of his foreign policy decisions, but I certainly applaud his commitment to diplomacy and cooperation as the best way to prevent war, solve international problems and get a dialogue started.

During the G-20 summit in Europe, the President worked hard to restore good relations with our allies, which were stretched to the breaking point by the previous administration's arrogance. He said that America will listen to the concerns of our European friends, and he promised to rebuild our partnership with them.

While he was in London, the President also pledged to work with Russia to reduce both nations' nuclear arsenals, and he announced a new effort to rid the world of nuclear weapons once and for all. And he called for U.S. ratification of the comprehensive nuclear test-ban treaty, which I have been asking for for many, many years.

On his trip to Turkey, Mr. Speaker, the President also reached out to the Muslim world. He said that the U.S. is not and never will be at war with Islam. Those were very welcome words, while he also promised to seek broader engagement with the Muslim world based on mutual interest and mutual respect.

Along these lines, Mr. Speaker, the administration recently stepped up its effort to engage Iran in talks. They agreed to participate in talks with Iran and other global powers about Iran's nuclear program.

When the President attended the Summit of the Americas a little bit later, he pledged to work closely with the nations of the hemisphere on climate change and economic development and to cooperate with Mexico to end the violence on our border.

Most important, however, Mr. Speaker, President Obama called for a new beginning in our relations with Cuba. After a delegation of Members of Congress visited Cuba during the Easter work period, President Obama lifted some of the restrictions that Americans face when they want to travel to Cuba and/or send money to relatives there.

So far the response of the Cuban Government has been very positive. I hope this is a beginning to the end of the 50-year cold war between the United States and Cuba, but I know we have a lot of work to do. These problems probably won't be solved overnight, but we are on the way.

I also have some concerns, concerns with our very own administration about some of their policies. For example, the administration is planning to prolong our occupation of Iraq until at least the end of 2011, and it appears that they could be expanding our military presence in Afghanistan indefinitely.

The lessons of the past 7 years, Mr. Speaker, have made it clear that a military option won't work in either Iraq or Afghanistan. We must, instead, fundamentally change our mission in

both countries to focus on reconciliation, economic development, humanitarian aid and regional diplomacy.

I am, however, encouraged, Mr. Speaker, by the administration's desire to chart a new and better course for America's place in the world.

President Obama is willing to listen, build partnerships and show respect for other cultures. That's a big step forward for making the world a more peaceful place for ourselves and our children.

TOM TANCREDO VISIT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

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. Mr. Speaker, America's colleges and universities are training the future leaders of our Nation. In an academic setting, all viewpoints on matters of public policy deserve the chance to be heard. This tradition of academic freedom must be protected.

Unfortunately, last week at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, students were denied the opportunity to hear a talk by former Congressman Tom Tancredo by protesters who interrupted his speech. Congressman Tancredo had been invited by the University of North Carolina Chapter of Youth for Western Civilization to speak on the topic of in-State tuition for illegal aliens, an issue that has been hotly debated in the State of North Carolina.

Campus police shut down the event after protesters who shouted accusations of racism shattered a window of the classroom where the talk was to be held.

Following the incident, I had the chance to speak with the University of North Carolina Chancellor Holden Thorp by telephone. Chancellor Thorp said he had called Congressman Tancredo to apologize for how he was treated during his visit to the campus. The chancellor also issued a public statement about the incident.

He said, and I quote, "We expect protests about controversial subjects at Carolina. That's part of our culture. But we also pride ourselves on being a place where all points of view can be expressed and heard. There's a way to protest that respects free speech and allows people with opposing views to be heard. Here that's often meant that groups protesting a speaker have displayed signs or banners, silently expressing their opinions while the speaker had his or her say."

That did not happen during Congressman Tancredo's visit.

I commend Chancellor Thorp for extending a personal apology to Congressman Tancredo and for publicly voicing his disappointment that a visitor to the campus was denied the opportunity to express his views.

On behalf of all taxpayers who support North Carolina's public univer-

sities and their system, I also would like to apologize to my former colleague, because it all comes down to one simple point: If our public universities cannot protect freedom of speech on their campuses, who will? While his opposition to in-State tuition benefits for illegal immigrants may be controversial to some, Congressman Tancredo is a respected and knowledgeable leader in the immigration reform movement.

It is a shame that those with dissenting viewpoints prevented others from hearing his comments. I hope disciplinary measures will be taken, as warranted, against any student or professor who participated in disrupting Congressman Tancredo's talk. It is my understanding that the school is working with the students and would like to invite Congressman Tancredo back to campus to speak. In fact, Mr. Speaker, former Congressman Virgil Goode, another opponent of illegal immigration, is already scheduled to speak at the school tomorrow, and I hope that his speech will be protected.

I hope the university will take steps to ensure that future student-sponsored discussions on the university campus at Chapel Hill do not get shut down by those with dissenting viewpoints. We have a right to agree and disagree in this country. But if we cannot protect that at a university, I don't know what the future holds, quite frankly.

Again, in closing, I thank the administrators at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for working to protect the integrity of the university by allowing free speech to be exercised on their campus.

If our men and women in uniform or in Afghanistan and Iraq are trying to protect the freedom in those countries, then let's do what is possible to protect the freedom of different views at our universities and our colleges in America, because they are the future leaders of America, and they have a right to participate with those who agree and disagree.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I ask God to bless our men and women in uniform, and I ask God to please bless America.

HONORING HARRY KALAS

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

Mr. SESTAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and accomplishments of one of the most distinctive voices in all of sports, a true baseball legend, and someone who called the Seventh Congressional District of Pennsylvania home. Harold Norbert "Harry" Kalas, born in Naperville, Illinois, graduate of the University of Iowa and Hall of Fame broadcaster for over 44 years, passed away on April 13, 2009, having lived a life of great distinction.

After graduation, Harry Kalas served in the 25th Infantry Division of our

United States Army in Hawaii. After his service, he began his long and honored announcing career broadcasting University of Hawaii and Hawaii Islanders games for KGU radio.

Harry Kalas was a member of the original Houston Astros broadcast team in 1965 and joined the Philadelphia Phillies broadcast team in 1971, sharing the booth for 26 years with his great friend and fellow Hall of Famer, Richie Ashburn. Harry broadcast the opening of the Astrodome in Houston and both Veterans Stadium and Citizens Bank Ballpark in Philadelphia. Harry Kalas' talents and voice were in great demand throughout his illustrious career.

His many accomplishments included calling University of Houston football, Southwest Conference basketball, Big Five basketball, University of Notre Dame football and NFL games, as well as providing voiceovers for NFL films and numerous commercials.

In 2002, Harry Kalas was the Ford C. Frick Award winner, named after the former National League president and Major League Baseball commissioner and annually bestowed by the National Baseball Hall of Fame to a broadcaster for major contributions to baseball.

Harry Kalas called seven National League Championship Series and three World Series, most recently as the voice of the 2008 World Champion Philadelphia Phillies.

Harry Kalas called all of Hall of Famer Steve Carlton's starts as a Phillie, as well as all of Hall of Famer Mike Schmidt's 548 home runs, making the phrase "that ball is outta here" an often imitated but never duplicated signature home-run call known in Philadelphia and throughout the baseball world.

Harry Kalas was named Pennsylvania Sportscaster of the year 18 times and was inducted into the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association Hall of Fame in 2008.

Harry Kalas was a remarkable husband to his wife, Eileen, and father to his three sons, Todd, Brad and Kane.

Just this fall Harry Kalas had one of the greatest experiences a father could ask for when he shared broadcasting of the World Series with his son Todd. On that day, Harry was the voice of the Philadelphia Phillies, and Todd, who had followed his father's career path into broadcasting, was the voice of the Tampa Bay Rays.

Harry Kalas was more than just a voice. He was also the finest possible husband, friend, father and veteran. In these challenging economic times, with a Nation at war, it is important that we take the time to recognize those who dedicate their lives to make such times bearable, in his case more than bearable.

Harry Kalas was one of those individuals. He will be sorely missed by Americans in every corner of this great Nation. Thank you, Harry, for who you were, an inspiration to us all.

DETAINEES IN THE WAR ON TERROR

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, something happened last week that really bothered me a great deal. President Obama decided to release CIA documents that were top secret because they said that they showed that there may have been some violations of law regarding torture when we were getting information from terrorists. So I would like to talk a little bit about the whole story or as much of it as I could find.

On March 18, the Justice Department told CIA Director Leon Panetta that they were going to recommend to the White House that these memos be released almost completely uncensored. Now, bear in mind these are top secret documents, and when they are top secret like that and labeled that way, that means that there is a security threat, not only to the United States, but to the CIA and the people that did this work for the United States to protect us against terrorism.

Nevertheless, these top secret memos were going to be released. Panetta told Attorney General Eric Holder and officials in the White House that the administration needed to discuss the possibility that the release of the memos might expose CIA officers to lawsuits on allegations of torture and abuse.

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Panetta also pushed for more censorship of the memos, officials said. The Justice Department also informed other CIA officials, seniors over there, of the decision to release the memos, and as a courtesy told former agency directors.

Senior CIA officials objected, arguing that the release would hurt the agency's ability to interrogate prisoners in the future. They also said the move would further tarnish CIA officers who had acted on the Bush officials' legal guidance, and they warned that the action would erode foreign intelligence services' trust, other countries' trust in the CIA's ability to protect their national secrets, current and former officials said.

Now, I hope my colleagues will bear in mind that these were top secret documents, that four former directors of the CIA said it would threaten national security, it would eliminate tactics that were used in the past to get information from terrorists that probably protected American citizens and maybe saved a lot of lives. Even Leon Panetta told them that there was a problem. And former Vice President Cheney last night said on the Hannity show, which I watch quite frequently, that he saw memos that proved that the tactics employed by CIA members on terrorists did protect Americans from a terrorist attack.

Now, if that is the case, and I believe Vice President Cheney when he said

that, I believe those memos that show that there was a real help to the country in protecting us against terrorist attack and probably saved a lot of lives, I believe those memos should be released, and I hope that President, President Obama will take a hard look at this.

He looked at these documents and said they should be released, even though they were top secret, threatened a lot of CIA members and threatened our national security, in my opinion. So since he did that, I think the President ought to release the memos that show that the tactics used by the CIA did save lives and did protect America from attack by terrorists in this country.

If I were talking to the President tonight, Mr. Speaker, I would say that is only fair. If you are going to release the memos and threaten the CIA with lawsuits and everything else because of the tactics that were employed there, if you are going to threaten possibly former Justice Department officials who wrote opinions saying that these tactics could be employed to extract information from terrorists, that we certainly should see the memos that show that the things that they did did protect America and did save lives. I think that is only fair.

In addition, I would like to end by saying that I don't think those who did their best at the CIA or the Justice Department to protect America should be prosecuted for doing their job to protect this country.

ACTING TO MAKE OUR COUNTRY STRONGER

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

Mr. BOCCIERI. Mr. Speaker, it has often been said that leadership is about action, not position. Leadership is about action, not position, and the people from the 16th District of Ohio entrusted me to come to Congress to act, to restore and rebuild our economy, to help create jobs, to transition to a clean energy economy, and to make health care more affordable for all our citizens, and they asked us also to improve education so that every child in America has an opportunity to succeed.

Over this last district work period I had the opportunity to visit some very unique people in my district, for them to hear from their Congress on their corners, and also listen to our leaders back at home who are trying to put our economy back on track. And you know those smokestacks that often sent smoky signals of prosperity and success back home? They are becoming few and far between in the Midwest.

Just last week, Alliance Castings in my hometown announced that 400 jobs would be lost because of the downturn in our economy, and we will lose countless other jobs across our district because of some of the policy decisions