

Now, just this April, the U.S. Treasury froze the assets of Abdul Haq, the leader of this group, the Eastern Turkistan Islamic Party, known as ETIM. This is the same group that the detainees are reportedly affiliated with. The Treasury Department targeted Haq as part of their efforts to shut down the al Qaeda support network. Upon making the designation, Treasury Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence said, and I quote what our Treasury Department said: "Abdul Haq commands a terror group that sought to sow violence and fracture international unity at the 2008 Olympic Games in China."

Few have been more critical of the Chinese Government than I have. But terrorism is terrorism. American citizens were present at the Olympic Games. Terrorism knows no boundaries. It must not be tolerated anywhere. American career government officials risked their lives to capture these people. What if they had not been captured? Would they have then left this terrorist training camp and gone off to wreak terrorism somewhere in China killing innocent men, women and children of China?

Yet the U.S. Congress and the American people are left utterly, and I'm increasingly concerned, in the dark. The administration will not allow any career person from the FBI, from the CIA, or from the Department of Homeland Security to come up and tell the Congress about these detainees. The American people, Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve more. After learning that this decision was imminent, I requested briefings from a number of relevant agencies. But all have told me that Eric Holder, our Attorney General of the Department of Justice, is preventing them from speaking out, speaking to me or other Members, if you will, on this issue.

Why, Mr. Speaker, is the Department of Justice withholding this information from the American people? Why is proper congressional oversight, which American people expect of their elected representatives, now being thwarted? This is not the time to play games. The stakes are too high, not just with regard to this specific group of detainees; but speaking more broadly, our enemy is empowered by perceived weakness. What message are we sending when one branch of government stonewalls another on a matter with undeniable national security implications?

Again, I call on the Justice Department to declassify and release all information regarding the capture, detention and threats posed by these detainees or others that they may consider releasing into the U.S. Any intelligence assessment of these Uyghurs must take into account not only their previous training at terrorist training camps, but their potential subsequent exposure and radicalization while they were at Guantanamo Bay.

Andrew McCarthy, a former Federal prosecutor who led the 1995 prosecution against Sheik Omar Abdel Rahman who was found guilty of planning the

1993 World Trade Center bombing, wrote just today that the administration is playing "fast and loose with the declassification of information."

Mr. Speaker, this information ought to be released to the American people before any decision is made. And with that I thank the Chair.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's support for the naming of this Post Office Building on behalf of Geraldine Ferraro.

At this point, I would like to yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) who is also in her own right a champion of women's rights. So it is appropriate that she speak on this bill as well.

Mrs. LOWEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to rise and associate myself with the remarks of my friend, CAROLYN MALONEY, in support of naming a post office after former Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro.

Geraldine Ferraro was a great role model to thousands of women across this country. Not only is she a mother, not only is she a grandmother, not only is she a wife, but she is telling all of those little girls who are going to school that you can be a great Congresswoman. You can run for Vice President of the United States of America. One day, we will have a woman as President of the United States of America, and Geraldine Ferraro played an important role in preparing the people for that event.

Geraldine Ferraro is a fighter. She stands up for what is right. There are some people who see a problem and just walk on. And I know that my friend, Geraldine Ferraro, whether it was an issue that she had to address in her congressional district or whether she saw a wrong in this great country of ours, she is the kind of person that says, I have got to do something about it. So I'm very proud to have Geraldine Ferraro as a friend.

I know that after the naming of this post office, there are many people who will look at that post office and say, This is a good woman. I am going to lead my life consistent with the principles that Geraldine Ferraro has shared with all of us.

So I thank you all for taking this step to name the post office. And I look forward to working together to ensure that all the principles, all the values, all the commitments that Geraldine Ferraro has made will be enshrined, and certainly she will continue to be a role model for all those young people who come after her.

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of naming the United States Postal Service building located at 46-02 21st Street in Long Island City, New York, the "Geraldine Ferraro Post Office Building," after former United States Representative Geraldine Ferraro.

It is with great pleasure that I support this designation, which commemorates the life of one of New York's most remarkable women. Geraldine Ferraro has had a distinguished career marked with many achievements. She began her career as a New York public school

teacher, while simultaneously earning her law degree from Fordham University at night. She worked as an attorney the Queens New York District Attorney's office, where she helped establish the Special Victims Bureau. In 1978 she ran a successful campaign to represent New York's Ninth District in the United States House of Representatives. Throughout her six years in Congress, she rose quickly through the ranks to become a notable leader in her party. As a result of her success, it is no surprise that in 1984 Walter Mondale selected her as his running mate on the Democratic ticket, making her the first female vice presidential candidate.

Although she did not win the election, she undoubtedly reshaped politics as we know it and paved the way for future women leaders. She has since authored several books and has overcome a battle with multiple myeloma, a dangerous form of blood cancer. She now remains active in politics, weighing in on the issues and candidates that influence and shape our country.

A daughter of Italian immigrants, Geraldine Ferraro has been a trailblazer and role model, not just for women, but for all Americans in search of living the American dream. From congresswoman to vice presidential candidate to author to cancer survivor, Geraldine Ferraro is a true inspiration and deserves to be honored for her achievements through this designation.

Mr. DUNCAN. At this time, I will urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members to support both Member CAROLYN MALONEY, the lead sponsor of this measure, and Mrs. LOWEY, who also spoke on behalf of this measure, in naming this post office after Geraldine Ferraro.

I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 774.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CAROLINE O'DAY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1397) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 41 Purdy Avenue in Rye, New York, as the "Caroline O'Day Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1397

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. CAROLINE O'DAY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 41 Purdy Avenue in Rye, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Caroline O'Day Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other

record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Caroline O'Day Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY).

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1397, which would rename the U.S. post office located in Rye, New York, after former Congresswoman Caroline O'Day. And I would like to thank Chairman TOWNS and the entire New York delegation for their support of this measure. Born in 1875 on a plantation near the rural town of Perry, Georgia, Caroline O'Day's experiences growing up in the post-Civil War South instilled in her a lifelong commitment to world peace and social welfare. The energy and passion with which she gave voice to those in need was the hallmark of her career in Congress.

Caroline O'Day's interest in politics was piqued when during a suffrage parade her husband, Daniel O'Day, reportedly asked his wife why she was not marching herself. Soon, she joined the West Chester League of Women Voters and in 1917 worked with Jeannette Rankin to advance the enfranchisement of New York women 3 years before passage of the 19th amendment.

Together with her close friend, Eleanor Roosevelt, O'Day helped found the Women's Division of the New York State Democratic Committee and was elected chairwoman of the New York delegation to the 1924 Democratic National Convention, becoming the first woman from either major party to hold the position.

In 1934, Caroline O'Day was elected to one of New York's two at-large congressional seats. The second woman in the history of this body to chair a major committee, she quickly became known as a skilled legislator unwilling to compromise her principles for the sake of political expediency.

During her four terms in the House, Representative O'Day was a leading voice for avoiding unnecessary armed conflict and fought to improve the quality of life of underrepresented minorities in the inner city and migrant agricultural workers. In particular, she was deeply troubled by the effects of poverty on at-risk children and tire-

lessly advocated a dramatic expansion, or "national investment," of Federal programs to protect them.

Mr. Speaker, Congresswoman O'Day not only faithfully represented the myriad interests of her constituents from Buffalo to Brooklyn, she put one of the first cracks in the glass ceiling as one of only six women in the House.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, the number of women serving in the House has since risen to 76. And while this does not reflect the percentage of women in the American electorate, through common interests and coordinated effort, this relatively small group has had a significant effect on Federal policy. We women currently serving in this esteemed body stand on the shoulders of pioneering women like Caroline O'Day, whose grit and determination helped them not only overcome gender bias, but lead this Nation through depression and war.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to bring this legislation, which honors the life and service of Congresswoman Caroline O'Day, to the House floor today. And I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to join my fellow Members of Congress in recognizing a former New York Congresswoman and women's rights advocate by designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 41 Purdy Avenue in Rye, New York, as the "Caroline O'Day Post Office Building" for her extraordinary contributions to the State of New York and to American public life.

Born Caroline Love Goodwin in 1869 on a plantation in Perry, Georgia, she was one of four daughters of a socially important family in Georgia. Despite the economic hardships that were widespread during the Reconstruction period, her father's success allowed her and her sisters to attend the prestigious secondary school called the Lucy Cobb Institute.

□ 1300

After graduation in 1886, she briefly studied art in New York at Cooper Union before sailing to Paris, France, where she enjoyed a stimulating life among the great artists of the time.

An independent-minded woman, she supported herself as a freelance artist for the next 8 years. While living in Europe, she met Daniel O'Day, an oil businessman, who persuaded her to abandon her artistic career and return with him to New York in 1901. Although past the age of 30 and beyond the age when most women married in that era, she married Daniel O'Day and moved to Rye, New York.

It was in Rye, New York, where Congresswoman O'Day would start her successful career as a civic activist and politician. Her power of persuasion was so great that although her husband was not politically active, he did become an enthusiastic advocate of women's suffrage and in 1916, after his sudden

death, Congresswoman O'Day began working on issues of social welfare and female suffrage in New York. She became active with the New York Consumer's League, the Women's Trade Union, and the Democratic Party. Through these and other organizations, she became close friends with other prominent social activists, including Eleanor Roosevelt.

After spending many years with a well-known activist working for women's suffrage and multiple organizations, she was urged to run for public office. Congresswoman O'Day first ran and won a seat in Congress in 1934 with the public support of her good friend Eleanor Roosevelt.

As a well-regarded Member of Congress, Congresswoman O'Day worked on a number of labor reforms, particularly for the child labor protections of the Walsh-Healey Government Contracts Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act. She had a lifelong concern for protecting the rights of disadvantaged people.

As an extension of that concern, Congresswoman O'Day sponsored legislation which stayed the deportation of 7,000 illegal aliens. She strongly supported the Federal anti-lynching law, was instrumental in arranging the memorable concert of Marian Anderson in 1939 scheduled for DAR Constitution Hall, and supported expanding the quota for Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany.

In 1940, despite her sickness, Caroline O'Day won a fourth congressional term. Because of declining health, she did not return to Washington, although she did handle some of her House duties from her home. Sadly, on January 4, 1943, the gentlewoman from New York died at her home.

Congresswoman Caroline O'Day may have been best described after her death by Eleanor Roosevelt who wrote, "Her high ideals and integrity were an inspiration to all who knew her or felt her influence, and her generosity touched many people and many causes in which she believed. Her passing is a loss not only to her family but to the world."

It is with great respect and pleasure that I support H.R. 1397.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present for consideration this legislation that will designate the United States postal facility located at 41 Purdy Avenue in Rye, New York, as the Caroline O'Day Post Office Building in honor of a wonderful and dedicated public servant.

Caroline Love Goodwin O'Day was born in the city of Perry in Houston County, Georgia, on June 22, 1875. Ms. O'Day completed her academic studies at the Lucy Cobb Institute in Athens, Georgia, in 1886, and initially chose to pursue a career as an artist, spending 8 years as an art student and painter in Paris, Holland and Munich.

In 1902, Ms. O'Day relocated to what would become her lifelong hometown of

Rye, New York, where she would embark on an admirable and dedicated career devoted to public service. Following her husband's sudden death in 1916, Ms. O'Day became actively involved in the women's suffrage movement as well as a number of other social welfare groups, including the New York affiliate of the National Consumer's League and the Women's Trade Union League, dedicated to improving wages and workplace conditions for both women and children.

In furtherance of her social and community causes, Ms. O'Day also served on the Rye school board and played an integral role in the establishment of the women's division of the Democratic State Committee. In 1923, she was elected by State party leaders to head the women's division as well as serve as chairman of the Democratic State Committee. Then First Lady of the United States, Eleanor Roosevelt, described Ms. O'Day's election to one of the State party leadership positions as "breaking down a major barrier against women in the Democratic Party."

That same year, Governor Al Smith appointed Ms. O'Day to serve on the State Board of Social Welfare, a position that she held for over a decade. In 1924, Ms. O'Day was elected as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention and was elected as chairman of the New York State delegation, marking the first time that a woman had received such an honor from either major political party.

Ms. O'Day proceeded to serve as a delegate for the party's next three national conventions. In 1934, at the age of 65, Ms. O'Day was elected to Congress as a Representative at Large in the 74th Congress. As noted by the author, Paul DeForest Hicks, in his profile of Ms. O'Day that appeared in the New York Historical Association Magazine, Ms. O'Day's 1934 campaign materials "evidenced a commitment for higher standards for wage earners, adequate relief to taxpayers, a sound and enlightened fiscal policy, friendly foreign relations, and advanced opportunities for women in government."

In addition, as recently noted by Rye City Councilman Mack Cunningham, Ms. O'Day's tenure in Congress was marked by a strong interest in social welfare measures. It is noteworthy that she was only the second congresswoman to chair a major committee, the Committee on Election of President, Vice President and Representatives.

On a final note, I would like to mention that, as a New York Representative at Large, Ms. O'Day played a vital role in facilitating the construction of the Rye Post Office that is now the subject of this legislation. In fact, she presided over the post office's ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 5, 1936, and now we stand here some years later seeking to name this post office after Ms. O'Day.

Mr. Speaker, let us honor this dedicated public servant with the passage

of H.R. 1397, and let us follow the leadership of the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) by designating the Rye Post Office in honor of Caroline O'Day. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1397.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1397.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 299) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 4 through 10, 2009, and throughout the year.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 299

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to recognize and promote the important contributions of public servants and to honor the diverse men and women who meet the needs of the Nation through work at all levels of government;

Whereas millions of individuals work in government service in every city, county, and State across America and in hundreds of cities abroad;

Whereas public service is a noble calling, involving a variety of challenging and rewarding professions;

Whereas Federal, State, and local governments are responsive, innovative, and effective because of the outstanding work of public servants;

Whereas the United States is a great and prosperous Nation, and public service employees contribute significantly to that greatness and prosperity;

Whereas the Nation benefits daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals;

Whereas public servants—

(1) defend our freedom and advance the interests of the United States around the world;

(2) provide vital strategic support functions to our military and serve in the National Guard and Reserves;

(3) fight crime and fires;

(4) ensure equal access to secure, efficient, and affordable mail service;

(5) deliver Social Security and Medicare benefits;

(6) fight disease and promote better health;

(7) protect the environment and the Nation's parks;

(8) enforce laws guaranteeing equal employment opportunity and healthy working conditions;

(9) defend and secure critical infrastructure;

(10) help the Nation recover from natural disasters and terrorist attacks;

(11) teach and work in our schools and libraries;

(12) develop new technologies and explore the earth, moon, and space to help improve our understanding of how our world changes;

(13) improve and secure our transportation systems;

(14) promote economic growth; and

(15) assist active duty service members and veterans;

Whereas members of the uniformed services and civilian employees at all levels of government make significant contributions to the general welfare of the United States, and are on the front lines in the fight against terrorism and in maintaining homeland security;

Whereas public servants work in a professional manner to build relationships with other countries and cultures in order to better represent America's interests and promote American ideals;

Whereas public servants alert Congress and the public to government waste, fraud, abuse, and dangers to public health;

Whereas the men and women serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, as well as those skilled trade and craft Federal employees who provide support to their efforts, are committed to doing their jobs regardless of the circumstances, and contribute greatly to the security of the Nation and the world;

Whereas public servants have bravely fought in armed conflict in defense of this Nation and its ideals, and deserve the care and benefits they have earned through their honorable service;

Whereas government workers have much to offer, as demonstrated by their expertise and innovative ideas, and serve as examples by passing on institutional knowledge to train the next generation of public servants;

Whereas May 4 through 10, 2009, has been designated Public Service Recognition Week to honor America's Federal, State, and local government employees; and

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week is celebrating its 25th anniversary through job fairs, student activities, and agency exhibits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends public servants for their outstanding contributions to this great Nation during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year;

(2) salutes government employees for their unyielding dedication and spirit of public service;

(3) honors those government employees who have given their lives in service to their country;

(4) calls upon a new generation to consider a career in public service as an honorable profession; and

(5) encourages efforts to promote public service careers at all levels of government.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?