

same hole, landing on top of him, angrily cursing the enemy. Warren looked up, and it was none other than his good friend Clovis Bryant from Van Buren, Arkansas, who would later become an Arkansas State senator. Warren would serve in five campaigns during his 2 years in Europe, part of that in support of Patton's 3rd Army into the Bastogne area until he was held behind to care for 23 wounded soldiers, all of whom survived thanks to his direct and excellent care. Warren D. Blaylock received the Bronze Star for his service.

While he is just one of many of Arkansas' native sons who served during this very dangerous time, his story is a testament to their bravery, skill and personal sacrifice in the name of freedom. This resolution honors Warren and all of those who fought to bring peace to Europe.

So I would ask all Members of Congress to take pause this Saturday and to remember the great accomplishment of these servicemembers and what the world might have been if not for the bravery, skill and selfless determination to preserve the universal human right of freedom.

I encourage all of my colleagues to thank those servicemembers on the 65th anniversary of their great endeavor for all of the sacrifices made by them and by their entire generation to secure victory and peace for the freedom-loving people of the world.

I would also like to express my appreciation to Chairman SKELTON and to his staff for their assistance in bringing forward this resolution, as well as to Mr. MCHUGH and to his staff so that we might bring this to the House floor in time to honor these servicemembers prior to the 65th anniversary of this great feat. I strongly encourage my colleagues to vote "yes" on this resolution.

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 259, expressing gratitude and appreciation to the U.S. Forces who took part in World War II's D-Day invasion, which led to the end of the war in Europe.

This resolution urges Americans to honor the heroic deeds and immeasurable sacrifices of our Allied troops on D-Day. The passing of the years fails to diminish the tremendous debt we owe to the Greatest Generation for liberating Europe and fighting to preserve freedom.

Almost sixty-five years ago, on June 6, 1944, American and Allied Forces invaded Normandy, France, in Operation Overlord. Thus began the arduous task of liberating Europe from the yoke of Nazi tyranny. At the time, few people understood the full impact this invasion would have. But with the success of the D-Day invasion, the tide of the war swung in favor of the Allies, and Adolf Hitler began his ultimate demise.

The sheer scale of Operation Overlord is astounding and even today remains the largest single amphibious assault in history. The first day of the oper-

ation involved 5,000 naval vessels, more than 11,000 sorties by Allied aircraft, and 153,000 members of the Allied Expeditionary Force, composed of American, British, and Canadian forces.

But it is important to remember that Allied victory against the entrenched Nazi forces was hardly a foregone conclusion. Our courageous troops who participated in the invasion understood the enormous risks—and more than 6,500 lost their lives in the effort—but their dedication to duty and love of freedom gave them the strength to take on the seemingly impossible task before them. Their sacrifices made it possible to restore true freedom to millions of people across the European continent.

I was a young teenager during World War II, and my friends and neighbors in uniform were my heroes. The achievements of our D-Day veterans and all those who fought in World War II continue to inspire me today. But our nation has been blessed with generation after generation of patriotic Americans who have selflessly served our country.

As we honor the heroes of D-Day, our thoughts, prayers, and gratitude go also to today's volunteers who wear our nation's uniform. Today's soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines inherit a proud legacy from those who stormed the beaches of Normandy: a legacy of commitment to duty, dedication to freedom, and love of country. As we recognize the 65th Anniversary of D-Day, our nation has an obligation to remember all of these heroes.

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. RICHARDSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. KRATOVIL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 259, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS OF CAMP LIBERTY SHOOTINGS

Mr. KRATOVIL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 471) expressing sympathy to the victims, families, and friends of the tragic act of violence at the combat stress clinic at Camp Liberty, Iraq, on May 11, 2009, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 471

Whereas on Monday, May 11, 2009, the Nation experienced a tragedy when a soldier at the combat stress clinic at Camp Liberty, Iraq, reportedly killed five innocent American servicemen, and wounded three others;

Whereas the shooting resulted in the tragic loss of Navy Commander Charles K. Springle, Army Major Matthew P. Houseal, Army Sergeant Christian E. Bueno-Galdos, Army Specialist Jacob D. Barton, and Army Specialist Michael E. Yates;

Whereas the lives of the victims were taken while they were bravely and honorably serving the United States on the front lines in Iraq;

Whereas the combat stress clinic at Camp Liberty, Iraq, and similar clinics in theater and at home provide essential mental health services to the Nation's servicemen and women;

Whereas the Nation's protracted military engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan call for increased attention to the mental health challenges faced by the courageous members of the Armed Forces; and

Whereas honoring the Nation's commitment to those who serve the Nation and their families means offering these heroic soldiers not only first class medical care for physical injuries, but also first class mental health services: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses its heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of the victims of the May 11, 2009, shooting at the combat stress clinic at Camp Liberty, Iraq;

(2) conveys its ongoing deep gratitude to the brave members of the Armed Forces who risk their lives in service of protecting the Nation;

(3) recognizes the important work of the medical professionals and staff members, who provide essential mental health services to our servicemen and women, at Combat Stress Control Center in Camp Liberty, Iraq, and other clinics in theater and at home; and

(4) commits to focus on the mental, in addition to the physical, well being of the Nation's military servicemen and women, and veterans, and to support the policies, resources, and funding necessary to successfully combat the mental and physical healthcare challenges that they may confront.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. KRATOVIL) and the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Ms. FALLIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KRATOVIL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. KRATOVIL. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a tragedy our Nation experienced on Monday, May 11, 2009, at the combat stress clinic in Camp Liberty, Iraq, when a soldier reportedly killed five innocent American servicemen and wounded three others.

The shooting resulted in the tragic loss of Navy Commander Charles K. Springle, Army Major Matthew P. Houseal, Army Sergeant Christian E. Bueno-Galdos, Army Specialist Jacob D. Barton, and a native of my district

and Maryland's Eastern Shore, Specialist Michael E. Yates.

This resolution expresses heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of the victims of this tragic act, and it conveys Congress' ongoing deep gratitude for all of the brave members of our Armed Forces who have risked their lives in the service of our Nation. This resolution also recognizes the important work of medical professionals and staff who provide essential mental health services to servicemen and women at Camp Liberty and at other clinics both in theater and at home.

Now is the time to give increased attention to the mental health challenges faced by the courageous members of our Armed Forces, especially given our Nation's protracted military engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our servicemen and -women and their families make extreme sacrifices each day in order to keep our Nation safe. Honoring our commitment to those who serve our Nation means not only offering first-class medical care for physical injuries but also in providing first-class mental health services.

Congress must commit to focusing on both the mental and physical well-being of the Nation's active military as well as of its veterans, and it must commit to supporting the policies, resources, and funding necessary to successfully combat the mental and physical health care challenges that they may confront.

As a result of this tragic accident, Maryland's Eastern Shore lost a native son in Specialist Michael Yates of Federalsburg. Growing up on the Eastern Shore, Michael was an avid hunter and fisherman. Like many of my constituents, he held a deep love for his country and a desire to serve in the defense of freedom. At the young age of 17, Michael joined the Army. He was then sent to Fort Knox, Germany and then to Iraq where he served as a cavalry scout. Michael had recently returned to Federalsburg where he was able to visit with family and friends one last time before returning to Iraq and ultimately to the counseling center at Camp Liberty.

It was here that a fellow soldier, whom Michael had described to his stepfather as a "fairly decent guy who had some major issues," reportedly shot and killed Michael.

We must make soldiers' and veterans' mental health a priority and heed Secretary of Defense Gates' recommendation to support funding for traumatic brain injury and psychological health exams for our servicemen and -women.

We owe this to Specialist Yates, to Commander Springle, to Major Houseal, to Sergeant Bueno-Galdos, and to Specialist Barton, as well as to the friends and families of those involved in this tragic event.

□ 1615

We owe this to each and every brave soldier and their families who make sacrifices daily and face the intense

stress that comes with the defense of our Nation.

House Resolution 471 was introduced along with fellow colleagues who lost constituents in this incident honoring their service and recognizing mental health issues among servicemen and veterans. I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution in honor of the those who lost their lives and all who serve in our Armed Forces.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, I am here today to lend my support to House Resolution 471 expressing my sympathy to the victims, the families, and the friends of the victims of the tragic act of violence at the combat stress clinic at Camp Liberty in Iraq on May 11, 2009. And, Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness that we come to the floor of the House of Representatives today to recognize five of our brave members of our Armed Forces who answered the call of duty and ultimately gave their lives to preserve our freedom and our way of life.

We may never understand what led to the tragic events at Camp Liberty, but what we do know is that five honorable men lost their lives; men who were husbands, who were fathers, sons, and brothers: Navy Commander Charles K. Springle of Wilmington, North Carolina; Army Major Matthew P. Houseal of Amarillo, Texas; Army Sergeant Christian E. Bueno-Galdos of Paterson, New Jersey; Army Specialist Jacob D. Barton of Springfield, Missouri; and Army Specialist Michael E. Yates of Federalsburg, Maryland.

Madam Speaker, there is no question that serving in combat is a profoundly life-altering experience. Men and women who face the challenges of combat are forever changed, and our Nation is eternally indebted to the brave men and women of the Armed Forces who fight to preserve our freedoms. But we also owe them more than just our gratitude. We owe them our commitment to protect them and to provide support and services to help them deal with the emotional and physical effects of combat.

And with that, I would like to extend my personal deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the servicemembers who lost their lives at Camp Liberty in Iraq on May 11, 2009, and would like to urge all Members of Congress to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KRATOVIL. Madam Speaker, I yield to my friend and colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL), as much time as he may consume.

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland, the gentlewoman from Oklahoma.

This resolution, H. Res. 471, is a resolution that deserves all of our support. The legislation expresses our sympathies to the five victims and their countless friends and families of the

violent acts that took place at Camp Liberty in Iraq in May. Many of us have been there many times.

These are senseless deaths. In a book that just came out 2 months ago, Joshua Cooper Ramo, "The Age of the Unthinkable," wrote, "Our old way of war is increasingly useless. It is senseless to aspire to periods of peace on Earth during the lifetime of anyone who reads the book unless we begin to change how, where, and why we do fight."

These deaths took place at a very particular spot at Camp Liberty, and both the gentlewoman and the gentleman who spoke of the names and places where these five soldiers came from are on the RECORD.

One of these soldiers, one of these brave men, came from the city I have lived in all my life. Army Sergeant Christian Bueno-Galdos was 25 years old. I honor, and we all honor, his sacrifice and his service. It exemplifies the deep sense of commitment that so many immigrants have for America. He was the youngest of four. He was born in Peru, and came here when he was 7 years old. He and his family settled in a gray house in a neighborhood I grew up in—Paterson, New Jersey. It was just across the street from the county road department in south Paterson.

He attended high school at Passaic County Tech. After graduating, he considered studying premed but instead decided to serve his country and joined the U.S. Army Reserves. It was in this service to his Nation that Sergeant Bueno-Galdos became a citizen of the United States of America. He went into the service before he was a citizen. His dedication and love for this country was so great, he voluntarily signed up for a second tour of duty. How many times have we heard this?

Then, on May 11, Sergeant Bueno-Galdos tragically lost his life, and Paterson and New Jersey and the United States lost a fine citizen. His parents first considered laying him to rest in their home country of Peru. But upon reflection of their son's love of America and commitment to this great Nation, Sergeant Bueno-Galdos was laid to rest in New Jersey with full military honors.

So we extend our deepest sympathies and heartfelt gratitude to his surviving wife Greisyn, his mother Eugenia, his father Carlos, and his three siblings.

Sergeant Bueno-Galdos was a courageous soldier, a loving husband, a son, a brother, a fine American citizen. He will be greatly missed but never forgotten in Paterson. We have already erected a monument on Memorial Day for him.

But my friends, today something else happened. We promoted from Lieutenant Colonel, Mike Jaffee, who is now a full Colonel in the Air Force. Dr. Jaffee is a neurologist, psychologist. He's a leader in the Department of Defense to respond to traumatic brain injury and posttraumatic stress disorder. Isn't it ironic that these killings took place in

a stress area where American soldiers were trying to help those in need?

Twenty percent of those who have fought, who have been on the front lines, whether in Iraq or Afghanistan, have posttraumatic stress disorder. Most are misdiagnosed, most are undiagnosed, and the stigma is slowly peeling away. They need our help. Their families need our help.

So not only did we go into a war unprepared, but we did little for those who put their lives on the front line while we, supposedly gray men, decided where they would go and when they would return and how many times they would return to the battlefield. We are fools, to say the least.

We need to think about what's going on. These brave men and women have taken the entire burden while we act as if nothing happens. These senseless deaths will not be forgotten.

I ask all of us to vote for this legislation and remember their families

God bless America. Thank you.

Mr. MCMAHON. Madam Speaker, the tragic events that occurred at Camp Liberty in Iraq are a sad and prominent reminder that the mental health needs of our service men and women are simply not being met.

I have co-sponsored H. Res. 471 not only to express my sympathy, but because I know that such a tragedy could have been avoided.

A month ago, 46 of my colleagues in the House and I sent a letter to Chairman MURTHA and Ranking Member YOUNG of the defense appropriations subcommittee, supporting Secretary Gates' recommendations to increase mental health funding in the FY10 DOD budget by \$300 million.

I hold fast to this request and hope that this increase will contribute to an increase in mental health professionals to treat the invisible wounds of our men and women in uniform.

Mental Health screenings should be confidential, mandatory and comfortable for those who have witnessed the unimaginable on the battlefield. H.R. 1308, The Veterans Mental Health Screenings and Assessments Act, which I have introduced with my colleague, Congressman TOM ROONEY aims to do just this by eliminating the stigma of mental treatment through mandating screenings for all returning service men and women.

Again, my heart goes out to the families of the victims of the Camp Liberty shootings. We, in the Congress, must act to ensure that such a tragedy does not happen again.

Through granting Secretary Gates' request and enacting H.R. 1308, we will ensure that the victims of the awful Camp Liberty tragedy will not be forgotten and hopefully, prevent such catastrophes from occurring in the future.

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. KRATOVIL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 471, as amended.

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. KRATOVIL. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1707

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. RICHARDSON) at 5 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.

COMMEMORATING 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIANANMEN SQUARE SUPPRESSION

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 489) recognizing the twentieth anniversary of the suppression of protesters and citizens in and around Tiananmen Square in Beijing, People's Republic of China, on June 3 and 4, 1989 and expressing sympathy to the families of those killed, tortured, and imprisoned in connection with the democracy protests in Tiananmen Square and other parts of China on June 3 and 4, 1989 and thereafter.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 489

Whereas freedom of expression and assembly are fundamental human rights that belong to all people, and are recognized as such under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

Whereas June 4th, 2009, marks the 20th anniversary of the day in 1989 when the People's Liberation Army and other security forces finished carrying out the orders of Chinese leaders to use lethal force to disperse demonstrators in and around Beijing's Tiananmen Square;

Whereas the death on April 15, 1989, of Hu Yaobang, former General Secretary of the Communist Party of China, was followed by peaceful protests calling for the elimination of corruption, acceleration of economic and political reforms, especially freedom of expression and freedom of assembly; and calling for a dialogue between protesters and Chinese authorities on these issues;

Whereas by early May 1989, citizens advocating publicly for democratic reform across China included not only students, but also government employees, journalists, workers,

police, members of the armed forces and other citizens;

Whereas on May 20, 1989, martial law was declared in Beijing after authorities had failed to persuade demonstrators to leave Tiananmen Square;

Whereas during the late afternoon and early evening hours of June 3, 1989, ten- to fifteen thousand helmeted, armed troops carrying automatic weapons and traveling in large truck convoys moved into Beijing to "clear the Square" and surrounding streets of demonstrators;

Whereas on the night of June 3 and continuing into the morning of June 4, 1989, soldiers in armored columns of tanks outside of Tiananmen Square fired directly at citizens and indiscriminately into crowds, inflicting high civilian casualties, killing or injuring unarmed civilians who reportedly ranged in age from 9 years old to 61 years old; and whereas tanks crushed some protesters and onlookers to death;

Whereas after 20 years, the exact number of dead and wounded remains unclear; credible sources believe that a number much larger than that officially reported actually died in Beijing during the period of military control; credible sources estimate the wounded numbered at least in the hundreds; detentions at the time were in the thousands, and some political prisoners who were sentenced in connection with the events surrounding June 4, 1989, still languish in Chinese prisons;

Whereas there are Chinese citizens still imprisoned for "counter-revolutionary" offenses allegedly committed during the 1989 demonstrations, even though, according to the 1997 revision of China's Criminal Law, the "offenses" for which they were convicted are no longer crimes;

Whereas the Tiananmen Mothers is a group of relatives and friends of those killed in June 1989 whose demands include the right to mourn victims publicly, to call for a full and public accounting of the wounded and dead, and the release of those who remain imprisoned for participating in the 1989 protests;

Whereas members of the Tiananmen Mothers group have faced arrest, harassment and discrimination; the group's Web site is blocked in China; and international cash donations made to the group to support families of victims reportedly have been frozen by Chinese authorities;

Whereas Chinese authorities censor information that does not conform to the official version of events surrounding the Tiananmen crackdown, and limits or prohibits information about the Tiananmen crackdown from appearing in textbooks in China;

Whereas Chinese authorities continue to suppress peaceful dissent by harassing, detaining, or imprisoning advocates for democratic processes, journalists, advocates for worker rights, religious believers, and other individuals in China, including in Xinjiang and in Tibet, who seek to express their political dissent, ethnic identity, or religious views peacefully and freely; and

Whereas Chinese authorities continue to harass and detain advocates for democratic processes, such as Mr. Liu Xiaobo, a Tiananmen Square protester, prominent intellectual, dissident writer, and more recently a signer of Charter 08 (a call for peaceful political reform and respect for the rule of law published on-line in December 2008 by over 300 citizens, and subsequently endorsed by thousands more), who remains under house arrest; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses sympathy to the families of those killed, tortured, and imprisoned as a