

Medal w/M Device, Br. Hourglass, Roman Numeral 2, Army Service Ribbon, Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Presidential Unit Citation (Navy), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Meritorious Unit Commendation, Army Superior Unit Award, Combat Action Badge, and the Parachutist Badge.

Lt. Col Curtis will turn over his command to Lt. Col. William A. Vaughn of the 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion in Greensboro, North Carolina on October 2, 2010 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Madam Speaker, I honor Lieutenant Colonel Curtis for his service to our country and the 432nd Civil Affairs Battalion and I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting a truly extraordinary member of our community.

U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE FUGITIVE SAFE SURRENDER PROGRAM

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the recent success of the United States Marshals Service Fugitive Safe Surrender Program in my home of Northeast Ohio. From September 22 through 25, 2010, 7,431 fugitives surrendered and took advantage of the Fugitive Safe Surrender program held at Mt. Zion Church in Oakwood Village, Ohio. This set a new national record for fugitive surrenders in the program. Nearly 500 wanted felons, including individuals wanted on federal and out-of-state warrants all peacefully surrendered during the four-day program, representing over 12,000 outstanding warrants.

Law enforcement, judiciary at the municipal, state and federal level, Pastor Larry L. Macon Sr. of Mt. Zion, and over 40 partnering organizations joined together to offer those with outstanding warrants the ability to peacefully surrender within the safe environment of Mt. Zion Church. This program could not have succeeded without their extraordinary commitment of time and resources.

As you know, Fugitive Safe Surrender is administered by the Marshals Service in states with a particularly high volume of fugitive warrants, such as Ohio. The goal of Fugitive Safe Surrender is to reduce risks to police officers in pursuit of fugitives, neighborhoods where felons often hide, and possible injury to the fugitives themselves. Authorized by Congress in July 2006 and signed into law in 2007, it is believed to be the first program of its kind in the Nation. I am very proud that this program was created in 2005 by my friend, U.S. Marshal Peter Elliott in the Northern District of Ohio.

After Cleveland Police Officer Wayne Leon was shot and killed by a wanted fugitive, Marshal Elliott recognized the need for more safety in capturing felons and those persons wanted on outstanding warrants. Marshal Elliott found this creative approach to reduce violence between fugitives and law enforcement. The first year Marshal Elliott launched the program in Cleveland, 850 fugitives peacefully surrendered.

Building on this innovative program, Marshal Elliott later helped lead the program in 10 cities and was urged by mayors nationwide to imple-

ment the program in their communities. Since then, 30,000 wanted individuals have surrendered through the program in 18 cities across our nation in the past five years.

Fugitive Safe Surrender is a success. In addition to violent fugitives, thousands of individuals wanted for non-violent felony or misdemeanor crimes have also felt comfortable in voluntarily surrendering in faith-based or other neutral settings established by the program.

AHMADINEJAD

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, some things do not need to be elaborated on. Rudy Giuliani, a great American, recently spoke at a rally in New York City where 20,000 people showed up to protest the dictator Ahmadinejad and his corrupt regime. Ahmadinejad was in town to spew more of his hateful ideology. This time, he interlaced his anti-Semitic rhetoric with conspiracy theories on 9/11. This man does not speak for the Iranian people, who only want freedom to live their lives without the shackles of a regime bent on preserving its power at all costs. The courageous opposition group MEK, who organized the rally, is fighting for this very freedom. The State Department has got them wrong—they are not a terrorist organization and should not be listed as one. Mayor Giuliani agreed with me and I'd like to submit his comments for the record.

God bless you and thank you very much for being here. I come here today for a very simple reason, to stand with you in support of the basic rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and also the basic rights guaranteed by the preamble to the United Nations Charter. We need to remind the United Nations of what it stands for. According to the preamble of the United Nations, it exists to reaffirm faith in fundamental rights in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small.

The people of Iran are as entitled as all of us to make a claim on the nations of the United Nations to reaffirm these goals for them; and that is what you are here to do.

For too long the world has acquiesced in a regime in Iran that through mass murder, violence and intimidation has denied basic rights of your brothers and sisters and friends and relatives and has been a consistent supporter of terrorism and of terrorist organizations beyond its borders.

All of you are here today to cry out for the world to stand with you and your brothers and sisters who are oppressed by the brutal regime in Iran.

They desire freedom! I desire freedom! We all desire freedom! No one can deny you your desire for freedom! I believe that desire is placed in your heart and soul by the Creator! It comes from above. Not from here, not from below, but from above. It is a basic human desire that the people of Iran are entitled to and it is a basic human desire that all good people should support.

And if this institution that stands behind us, the United Nations, wants to reclaim its lofty goal of protecting human rights; which is a goal that has alluded it for many many years, then it must stand with you against the regime in Iran, against the brutalization that goes on in Iran, and against the supporting of terrorism.

And it is time here in America to right a wrong that has been done to you and your cause out of a misguided notion that the violent and tyrannical regime of Iran could be mollified. It is about time that we change the listing of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran as a terrorist organization.

I've studied terrorism for much longer that I'd like to admit. For over 35 years. I have investigated terrorism, and I've seen firsthand, in my city, the devastation that terrorism can bring about.

This is not a terrorist organization. This is an organization dedicated to achieving freedom and dignity for its people.

It is time for the rest of our Congress to join 823 members—Democrats and Republicans—who have supported House Resolution 1431 which calls for the lifting of this unjust, unfair and inaccurate designation. It has been lifted by the British government; it has been lifted by the European Union; it should be lifted by the United States Congress and President Obama should support it as a defender of freedom.

Just as this great country of America is described as the last best hope for humanity, you and your cause are truly the best hope for Iran.

Your quest is as legitimate as solidarity was for Poland.

And it took lovers of freedom and leaders of historical consequence like Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher and Pope John Paul, to stand with Solidarity no matter the consequences.

Your goals are our goals, they are the goals of a decent people; you want to guarantee equal rights for men and women; you want to see freedom of religion and speech and press; freedom of assembly in Iran, you want Iran that does not threaten the existence of other nations; and you want an Iran that is under no circumstances a nuclear power.

It is your members and associates who have consistently drawn open the secret curtain that Iran tries to draw on its plans to develop nuclear weapons.

It is your members who have risked their lives and lost their lives revealing the plans and steps of Ahmadinejad and the regime to acquire nuclear weapons.

Without your brave investigations and revelations, America and the world would still be laboring under the inaccurate information that was contained in the National Intelligence Estimate of 2007 that said Iran had appeared to abandon its plans to build nuclear weapons. Your members, your associates, revealed that to be incorrect, inaccurate, and dangerously wrong.

If the history of the 20th century has taught us anything, it is that we must confront tyrants, oppressors, bullies and terrorists as early as possible.

Acquiescence only leads to increasing loss of human life and human liberty.

For too long the world has stood still as the people of Iran, particularly those of you desiring freedom, have been oppressed, imprisoned and slaughtered by a regime that has no right to exist.

It's time to make common cause with you in your noble quest.

It is a risk that is worth taking.

It is a cause that is worth the risk.

If the forebears of this country didn't take the risk for freedom, then this great nation would not exist.

Your people, the people of Iran, are willing to fight for freedom; you are willing to speak out against horrible atrocities to human dignity. And when they do, this country, America, should strongly stand with them, and speak out for them.

No more silence! Where is our Ronald Reagan when we need him? Ronald Reagan

would have stood with the people of Iran, strongly, bravely, and forthrightly. When they sought to protest the inaccuracies and illegitimacy of the elections in Iran, Ronald Reagan would have America standing with them toe to toe, body to body and person to person, as he did with Solidarity. Where is our Ronald Reagan when we need him?

One of the most monumental celebrations of freedom was on Christmas Day, 1989 in Berlin.

It was in the city of Berlin that seven years earlier Ronald Reagan standing by the wall that then divided the free from the oppressed and stood in front of that wall and he was not afraid to stand up and said, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."

Now, in our time, we need a Ronald Reagan to cry out to the oppressors of your people to tear down the wall of tyranny, tear down the wall of oppression, tear down the wall of terrorism, and of slaughter.

On that Christmas Day of 1989 in Berlin the wall had been torn down because brave people like Ronald Reagan and many others were willing to stand with protesters and the oppressed in those communist countries. They weren't afraid to speak out and they weren't afraid to confront. Leonard Bernstein conducted a performance of Beethoven's ninth symphony that day and he called it a "celebration of human freedom." I hope and I pray that you and I will go to Iran together; I hope we can have a celebration of freedom for the people of Iran because a celebration of freedom for Iran will be the celebration of freedom for all of us.

But that day is not going to come about by begging Ahmadinejad to negotiate. It is not going to come about from weakness. Bullies thrive from weakness. Tyrants are encouraged by weakness. They know only one thing: Strength. They must be confronted with America's strength, not America's weakness. America, the world, all of us must make it plain that under no set of circumstances will Ahmadinejad be allowed to have nuclear weapons. That is not negotiable. No discussion. No argument. No debate.

No! No! No, to nuclear weapons!

And instead, I say Yes to freedom, Yes to democracy, Yes to a free press, Yes to freedom for women, Yes to human dignity for Iran and for all of us.

God bless you in your noble pursuit! I stand with you and all freedom loving people stand with you. God bless you.

A GENOCIDE SURVIVOR STORY:
KEVORK "GEORGE" HAKALMAZIAN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau, documented at the time, it was a campaign of "race extermination."

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is im-

perative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide Congressional Record Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

This is one of those stories (story submitted by Scott Tejerian):

My grandfather, Kevork "George" Hakalmazian, lost his family in the genocide somewhere around age seven. His father was forced to give my grandpa's sister in marriage to the Turkish mayor of their town, Peri. My grandpa never saw his sister again. Shortly after, when my Grandpa's father, Sarkis, was reading the Bible one afternoon in front of their house, Turkish soldiers took him and my grandpa's mother, Oghapar, away. My grandfather never saw them again. My grandpa and the other children of the village, including his older brother Hagop, were rounded up by the soldiers and taken to the nearby river. At the river they were separated by size. My grandpa's nephew, the son of his eldest brother who was already living in the USA, was separated in the group of smaller children away from my grandpa and his brother, Hagop. The smaller children were thrown into the river to drown, except my grandpa's nephew knew how to swim. When the Turkish soldiers saw him swimming, they shot him dead in the water. For the next few years, my grandpa and Hagop were forced to work for a Turkish farm owner. They were his slaves. Eventually, my grandpa and Hagop were rescued by an older cousin, Marderos, who helped them escape to an orphanage in Lebanon. It was there that their eldest brother, Martin, who was living in Chicago at the time, found them and sent for them to come to America. My grandfather arrived in Ellis Island on July 4, 1923. He didn't know his birthday, so for every year after that his birthday was July 4th.

CALLING ON JAPAN TO ADDRESS
CHILD ABDUCTION CASES

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1326. It is time to reunite the families torn apart by the abduction and retention of American children in Japan.

In Tennessee, we have personally been affected by this issue. Sadly I have constituents that await the passage of this resolution with high hopes and are eager to see their children returned home.

Without an agreement on international child abduction between the U.S. and Japan, many children are left in limbo between feuding parents. Custodial arrangements are created to provide the optimal environment for children after a divorce. When foreign countries choose to not recognize these agreements, they are harming the well being of the children.

The best and most immediate solution to this issue is for Japan to adopt the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. This agreement protects the rights of both parents while ensuring the health and safety of the children.

A TRIBUTE TO ALVIN G. DAVIS

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Alvin G. Davis for being named to the National 4-H Hall of Fame. Alvin is one of 16 honorees from around the country selected to receive this prestigious honor in 2010. Alvin will be the first 4-H Club member from Texas to join the Hall of Fame.

A Post, TX native, Alvin started in the 4-H program in 1939. In 1948, he was the top 4-H boy and National 4-H Leadership Award winner. Alvin has also served as president of the 4-H club at the local, county, district and college levels.

Alvin received a bachelor's degree in animal husbandry from Texas Tech in 1952. While at the university, he was president of the Texas Tech 4-H Club and Texas Tech Rodeo Association. In 1950, he became the director of the first National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association. Alvin was also the first inductee into the Texas Tech Rodeo Hall of Fame.

Along with his commitment to 4-H, Alvin has become a renowned rodeo announcer, poet, writer, and western artist. Several of his sculptures can be found in the collections of presidents, governors, and celebrities. Alvin founded the National Cowboy Symposium and Celebration and has written children's books, poetry books, and a rodeo periodical. In 2002, he was inducted into the National Cowboy Song and Poetry Hall of Fame.

I am enormously appreciative to Alvin for his hard work and for his contributions to promoting cowboy culture. On behalf of the 19th Congressional District, including myself, I thank Alvin for all of his time and effort to preserve the values, honor, and respect of the American Cowboy and congratulate him on joining the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF MR.
SAM WOLF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the distinguished career and significant regional contributions of Mr. Sam Wolf.

Sam Wolf, a resident of Granite City, Illinois, served 18 years in the Illinois House of Representatives from 1974 until he retired in 1992. Among his more notable accomplishments during his time in the General Assembly was legislation establishing community college voting sub-districts. This was important to ensure equitable representation of the different geographic areas covered by a community college district.

Sam Wolf has been a strong proponent of Southwestern Illinois College and was a driving force in the establishment of the college's Granite City Campus in 1984. Sam worked to secure funding for the Industrial Technology Center at the Granite City Campus and the development of the Automotive Collision Repair Technology program there. Sam has been