

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

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 28, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on June 28, 2010 at 5:50 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Res. 568.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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

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

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

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

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

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

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF COLONEL ED JACKSON, COM- MANDER OF THE LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT OF THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, as the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Water Resources, I rise today to thank Colonel Ed Jackson, Commander of the Little Rock District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, for his service, especially his last 3 years in Little Rock.

Colonel Jackson has provided forward-thinking and visionary leadership for an organization with a complex mission. This mission includes the planning and management of civil works projects ranging from navigation, flood control, and hydroelectric power to recreation, water supply, environmental protection, and fish and wildlife mitigation.

Most importantly, during Colonel Jackson's time at Little Rock, his team members have provided vital support to our warfighters deployed on the front lines in Afghanistan and Iraq. Colonel Jackson has firsthand experience with the dangers confronted by our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines, because he commanded the 54th Engineer Battalion during a year-long deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Colonel Jackson's time at Little Rock has included several serious challenges. The district has worked to reduce flood damage and repair public infrastructure affected by serious natural disasters and the effects of age. The district has strengthened its partnership with the Tulsa District in the management and improvement of the Arkansas River Navigation System, a vital transportation corridor of national economic significance.

Finally, the district is carrying out an aggressive plan to ensure that numerous projects to provide jobs and encourage economic development are carried out as quickly as possible in partnership with State and local sponsors. All of this is thanks to the steadfast and reliable leadership of Colonel Jackson.

The colonel has also made improved communication with the public a high priority, reflecting his understanding that we must be helpful and available to citizens as well as elected leaders, including State and local officials. Following floods in early 2008, the colonel recognized that the district needed to improve communication and coordination with local first responders, and the colonel implemented regularly scheduled meetings to ensure disaster preparedness will be a higher priority moving forward.

As Colonel Jackson leaves the Little Rock District, he leaves behind a united civilian leadership team, high morale among the district team leaders, a legacy focusing on and responding to the concerns of citizens and stakeholders alike. For the many successes which his team have accomplished, they can be very, very proud.

As Colonel Jackson moves on to his next assignment, I am confident that

he will continue to render honorable and exemplary service to our country.

RECLAIMING THE MIDDLE GROUND ON GUN OWNERSHIP

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, today the Supreme Court affirmed sensible restrictions on gun ownership are constitutional. When the Supreme Court struck down Chicago's gun ban earlier today, it reiterated that communities can keep guns away from schools and out of the hands of felons and terrorists. But, today, the gun show loophole makes a mockery of sensible prohibitions like these.

As the recent Pentagon shooting illustrates, terrorists can still easily gain access to firearms. A recent gun show audit conducted revealed that 74 percent of sellers approached by investigators completed sales to people who appeared to be criminals or straw purchasers. This is unacceptable. It is time to close the gun show loophole.

Today's decision puts to rest the tired argument that any sensible gun control restriction is a slippery slope toward the revocation of all gun-owning rights. There has never been a better time for this Congress to reclaim the middle ground and stop giving terrorists unlimited access to unlimited firepower.

□ 1815

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TRIBUTE TO LANCE CORPORAL GARRETT GAMBLE

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Marine Lance Corporal Garrett Gamble, who was killed on March 11 while patrolling during combat operations in Helmand Province in Afghanistan. Garrett was a 2008 graduate of Stephen F. Austin High in Sugar Land, Texas. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

Garrett was a sportsman and a hockey player—that's right; a hockey player in Sugar Land, Texas—who first considered joining the Marines while a junior in high school. He was known for his big personality, his sense of adventure, and his tender heart. Friends who knew him spoke of his never-ending positive spirit and ability to make

the best of a bad situation. He always put others before himself, and did so with a smile on his face and a kind word for those around him.

Garrett's mother, Michelle, shared with me a powerful story she learned about her son after his death. She was told that when he was a freshman in high school, he took it upon himself to call the mother of a student he knew to tell her that he was worried about her son. He was concerned that her son was headed down a bad path, and he wanted her to know. Garrett never told his mom that he did that, but it made a difference in the life of another young man.

How many times have each of us had an opportunity to make a difference? Do we always seize that opportunity? Garrett Gamble not only acted on those opportunities, but touched the lives of everyone around him.

This is posted on a Facebook page dedicated to Garrett and speaks to his character. "Whether in Sugar Land, Jacksonville, or Helmand, Lance Corporal Garrett W. Gamble approached life with enthusiasm. He was caring, kind, and fun to be around, but he took his job as a U.S. Marine very seriously.

"Garrett spent a lot of time 'outside the wire,' and yesterday, that's where he laid down his life so that we may live in liberty. Thank you, Garrett, for the precious gift of freedom. May you rest in peace with our Lord, and may God's angels surround your family until you are reunited. Sincerely, Pat."

I'd like to close by reading a poem that Garrett's family and friends say epitomizes who he was. It's called "Ode to a Marine, Dedicated to all Marines, Past and Present." It's by Jeannie Salinski.

In a crowd you're bound to spot him,
He's standing so very tall
Not too much impresses him;
He's seen and done it all.
His hair is short, his eyes are sharp,
But his smile's a little blue.
It's the only indication
Of the hell that he's gone through.
He belongs to a sacred brotherhood,
Always faithful 'til the end.
He has walked right into battle
And walked back out again.
Many people think him foolish
For having no regrets
About having lived through many
times

Others would forget.
He's the first to go and last to know,
But never questions why,
On whether it is right or wrong,
But only do or die.
He walks the path most won't take
He's lost much along the way,
But he thinks a lot of freedom,
It's a small price to pay.
Yes, he has chosen to live a life
Off the beaten track,
Knowing well each time he's called,
He might not make it back.
So, next time you see a Devil Dog
Standing proud and true,
Be grateful for all he's given;
He's given it for you.

Don't go and ask him
What's it like to be in a war;
Just thank God that it's your coun-
try

He's always fighting for.
And thank him too for all the hell
He's seen in that shade of green,
Thank him for having the guts
To be a United States Marine.

Mr. Speaker, America cannot repay the debt we owe Garrett Gamble. But we can say thank you for his selfless commitment to serve our Nation and thank you to his family for raising such a strong, wonderful Marine. Lance Corporal Garrett Gamble is a true American hero—an ordinary American who did extraordinary things with a short life. A grateful Nation says thank you, Semper Fi, and God bless.

FUTURE OF AMERICAN SPACE EXPLORATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I appreciate the opportunity of being here this morning on one of the days when obviously our time management skills are not perhaps the greatest, but it still is nonetheless an opportunity to speak on this floor before you, Mr. Speaker, on a couple of issues that are significant. I appreciate also that I will be joined by my good friend from Texas, who just spoke so eloquently about one of those who has given his all for all of us and how grateful we are for this family and this particular individual.

I think we're going to be hitting several different themes this evening as we talk about the future of this country, especially as it deals with space. And here, once again, I'm grateful the gentleman from Texas is here because Mr. OLSON has indeed been a leader in this particular issue in charting the future of America as far as space policy will be.

It is very easy in this environment to try and focus, first of all, on jobs. I think we will. Because, indeed, as this particular administration is going to begin their summer of recovery tour in which they will be touting the kinds of jobs that will be created to try and change the economic future this country is currently in, it seems almost ironic that administrative policies, especially with NASA, are going to create a vast amount of unemployed individuals—up to 30,000 individuals who will receive their pink slips and be unemployed specifically because of policies initiated by this administration and the current leadership in NASA. It's at least ironic, but we will be talking about that. However, we want to go beyond that because if you're dealing with simply jobs, that can be a very parochial issue. We're also dealing with the future of space and the importance of space. And, clearly, if indeed this ad-

ministration and the leaders of NASA today seem to be de-emphasizing the role of space in our future, other nations are not. The Russians, the Chinese, even the Indian government and the Japanese government have a unique interest in taking our position in the leadership role of space exploration. That's another issue I think we will be talking about.

I also want to make sure that we illustrate how sometimes there are unintended consequences in our actions. This administration and, once again, NASA's leadership did not take into effect the consequences of their program changes and the consequences that would have specifically related to our military preparedness, for indeed one of the things we have to realize is that the component pieces that go into the missiles that shoot somebody to the Moon are the same component pieces that go into missiles that shoot down rockets from our adversaries Iran or North Korea, and that if you harm the industrial base that creates one program, you harm the industrial base that creates the other program, and that gives us some pause to think what we're doing on the defense side of this country, which is clearly one of the few roles specifically given to Congress in the Constitution. Finally, I think I'd like to talk some about a communique that came out from the administration today as to their future in space, and say that some of the platitudes that are very nicely written in this communique are contradictory to the actions that indeed take place.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I think if the gentleman from Texas is prepared to lead off, I would like to turn over as much time to Mr. OLSON from Texas, who, as I said, has for quite a while been the organizer and the leader of this effort to try and explore what this administration is doing, and maybe make some corrections, as is the role and responsibility of Congress dealing with space. Then I will be happy to make some remarks after the gentleman from Texas has completed.

Mr. OLSON. I want to thank my colleague from Utah for allowing me to speak a little bit on an incredibly important issue to our Nation's future. Five months ago, the Obama administration proposed NASA's budget for fiscal year 2011. The proposal included surprisingly drastic decisions just out of the blue to cancel the Constellation program, NASA's follow-on to the space shuttle. Constellation will provide a means and a service to utilize the International Space Station for as long as it needs to—plus, to go beyond low Earth orbit, go to the Moon and beyond. I believed at the time that such a dramatic reversal risks ceding American leadership in human space flight for the future. A lot has transpired since those 5 months, but I still believe canceling the Constellation presents more risks than rewards, creates more challenges than solutions, and raises more questions than it provides answers.