

CONCERN AFTER IRAN
"WARHEAD" REPORT

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, one of the biggest problems facing the Middle East and the entire world is the nuclear development program that Iran is involved in right now.

The International Atomic Energy Agency in just the last few days has said that Iran is probably developing a nuclear warhead that they could use at some point in the future as their nuclear development program continues to expand. They have 3,000 or 4,000 centrifuges over there refining weapons-grade nuclear material right now.

The reason this is important is because it not only affects the United States and our capability to provide energy for this country that will be very important for our economy down the road, but our biggest ally and friend in the entire Middle East is Israel, and Israel right now does not yet have the capability to hit a major underground nuclear development site that may be developing a nuclear warhead that could destroy Tel-Aviv, could destroy much of Israel and kill millions of Israelis who are friends of ours and great allies.

It is extremely important that this administration do everything they can to support the Government of Israel in order to make sure that they have the capability and the ability to stop Iran's nuclear development program when it starts to imperil and jeopardize the entire Middle East.

Our energy sources that come from there, maybe 35 percent of our entire energy is dependent on the Middle East. If we have a conflagration over there, it is really going to hurt us, but it will hurt our great ally Israel even more. That is why we need to tell Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that we support him, and we are going to give him the material and the equipment necessary to deal with Iran should they continue down this path, and that means the bunker busting bombs that will be able to go down 50, 75, 100 feet underground or maybe 150 feet into a mountainside to knock out a nuclear development program if it imperils the existence of Israel or threatens the entire Middle East.

I can't stress how important this is. The leader of Iran, Mr. Ahmadinejad, has said numerous times that he wants to see Israel wiped off the face of the Earth. They are developing a nuclear weapons program, and now the IAEA is saying that they are developing a nuclear warhead that will be able to strike should they be able to use their missile program. So we have to pay real attention to what is going on over there and give Israel the ability to do what is necessary, and we should support them in every way possible. If we don't do that, we are going to rue the day that they finish that nuclear development program in Iran.

Bibi Netanyahu is going to be here before too long speaking here in the United States. I hope that the President will reach out to him and say, We are going to give you all the tools necessary to be able to stop the nuclear risk that Iran poses over there if we have to do it. The United States and President Obama should work with Mr. Netanyahu to make sure that we get that job done. We certainly don't need a terrorist state like Iran developing a nuclear weapons program with a delivery system that could deliver a nuclear warhead.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

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.)

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CORPORAL DUSTIN LEE
MEMORIAL ACT

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, I have introduced H.R. 4631. The text is "to authorize the adoption of a military working dog by the family of a deceased or seriously wounded member of the Armed Forces who was the handler of the dog." This act may be cited as the "Corporal Dustin Lee Memorial Act."

Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, it was brought to my attention that a family in Mississippi, Rachel and Jerome Lee, their son, Dustin, a marine, was killed in Iraq for this Nation. Also with Dustin was his dog, Lex, who was wounded. In fact, the Marine Corps brought the dog, Lex, to Dustin's funeral.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee gave their son for this country, and all they asked of this Nation was to please let them have Lex, the dog that their son, Dustin, loved so much. Well, we all live here in Washington in a bureaucratic world, and there is some reason I guess for that, but the Marine Corps said to the family that Lex has 2 more years of service before he can be retired.

I heard about this story, and I called Mr. and Mrs. Lee in Mississippi. They told me, Congressman, we understand that this dog is very important to the cause of our Nation, but this dog meant so much to our son that that's all we would like to have. Well, I want to thank General Mike Regner, who I

called and asked General Regner, is there any way we can expedite the retirement of Lex? And he said we will do our best to make this happen.

Well, these dogs that are trained work magnificently for this country. In fact, they give their lives many times to save a service person by seeking out these IEDs and other explosives. Well, it took about 3 weeks—that is not a whole lot of time, it really is not, but I think in the situation of these dogs, when the handler is killed for this country or seriously wounded, that we should be able to expedite this small gift to the family.

I will say to my colleagues, I am going to send a "Dear Colleague" around in the next few days that the Department of Defense has worked with us on. They support this legislation, so I hope that my colleagues will join me, and let's move this legislation through the House I hope expeditiously.

Mr. Speaker, this is a photograph taken by the family. When they got Lex home, they let Lex remember Dustin by having his clothes and his boots that had been returned from Iraq, and they let Lex remember the fragrance of their son. Then they took Lex to the cemetery—this is a rather large cemetery—and they said to Lex, Find Dustin, find Dustin. And the dog ran around the cemetery and then came up to the headstone. This is the headstone. It is a picture of their son Dustin with Lex. Dustin is kneeling and Lex is sitting there beside him. Lex came up to this headstone and laid down beside the headstone.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I will ask my colleagues, please join us in H.R. 4639. This is the least we can do for the family or the wounded individual.

Mr. Speaker, as I always do, I ask God to please bless our men and women in uniform. I ask God to please bless the families of our men and women in uniform. I ask God, in His loving arms, to hold the families—like the Lee family—who gave a child dying for freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq. And Mr. Speaker, I will ask three times from the bottom of my heart: God please, God please, God please continue to bless America.

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

(Mr. McDERMOTT 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 South Carolina (Mr. INGLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

KEEP CLASSICAL MUSIC ALIVE IN ST. LOUIS

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today joining with my friend and colleague, Congressman LACY CLAY, to speak out on an issue that is very important to both of us and our constituents, the continued existence of an over-the-air classical music station.

The sale of KFUE-FM by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod is currently pending before the Media Bureau at the FCC, and both myself and Congressman CLAY have been contacted by our constituents concerned that the purchaser of the station may cease the classical programming, which so many residents of the St. Louis and Metro East communities have benefited from over the years.

KFUE-FM has been a proud partner with almost every cultural organization in the St. Louis area. It is also heard internationally through live streaming on the Internet. Classic 99, as KFUE is also known, features a large amount of programming for the fine arts institutions of St. Louis, including the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, the Opera Theater of St. Louis, the Repertory Theater of St. Louis, the St. Louis Art Museum, the Missouri History Museum and Historical Society, the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Touhill Performing Arts Center of the University of Missouri-St. Louis, the Metropolitan Opera, the Bach Society of St. Louis, the St. Louis Chamber Chorus, the American Kantorei, the St. Louis Public Library, the St. Louis Children's Choir, along with many others.

KFUE is in a virtual partnership with these institutions, as many hours are given to these and other organizations for live broadcasting, education, and information programming, as well as for promotion. The loss of Classic 99 and its limitless contribution to the area's community may have a negative impact on many, and to the quality of life in the Metro East.

As many of my colleagues know, I am married to a classical musician. I met Karen while she was working as the director of Christian Education and Music at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Monterey, California. When I started my life with Karen, I also began my life with classical music. Karen has worked as a youth minister, church music director, elementary music teacher, and private music instructor of many different instruments. She has also guided each of our children musically. All three of our boys are Suzuki-trained violinists. My sons, David and Josh, have sung with the prestigious St. Louis Children's Chorus. I credit their musical talents not only with my wife's teaching, but also with exposure to classical music from an early age. KFUE provides that critical early ex-

posure to families all over the St. Louis area that may not have a family member with a music background.

To remove that sphere of influence I feel would be detrimental to many children in our communities. Without Classic 99, I don't know if many of the music institutions in the St. Louis area that rely on this station would be able to get their music heard. Even our local high school students have a chance to play on KFUE, an experience I'm sure that is a highlight of their musical education.

Mr. Speaker, I felt this issue was especially important for me to weigh in on today because, as a devoted Lutheran, I am concerned that the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod does not realize how important these classical broadcasts are to the Christian faithful in the St. Louis area.

In most cases, Christian broadcasting and classical broadcasting are synonymous. The loss of this classical programming eliminates the witness to the Gospel through the broadcast of the words and music of Bach, such as broadcast of "Bach at the Sem." Also, the St. Louis area would no longer be able to hear other Lutheran and Christian composers as well through programs devoted specifically to the Christian musical heritage, such as "Joy" and broadcasts of St. Louis Bach Society programs and overt Lutheran Christian programming such as "Sing for Joy" and the Sunday morning service from Chapel of the Cross in North County, St. Louis.

Music is an important part of Christianity and was an integral part in the start of the Lutheran church. One of my favorite Martin Luther quotes deals with the importance of music in the church, and I quote, "Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us."

From Bach to Mendelssohn, these talented musicians helped form the Lutheran church that we know today. I cannot imagine a church service without music, just as I cannot imagine St. Louis without KFUE-FM. It is just as important part to the St. Louis and Metro East residents as music is to Sunday mornings spent in worship. It is my sincere hope that the Lutheran church will realize this before this station changes its programming. It would be a loss to both the Christian community and the music community, a loss which I hope will be prevented.

Let us remember the words from Psalm 27:5-6 "For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of His tabernacle and set me high upon a rock. Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at His tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord."

Mr. Speaker, I am not here to say that the FCC should be dictating programming choice when considering a sale of a station. Rather, I would argue that the impact on cultural organizations and the impact on local jobs should

be considered when deciding on these sales. I would like to enter for the record a petition to the LCMS Board of Directors, which both myself and former Senator Conrad Burns has signed, in addition to letters from musicians from all over the country that have enjoyed Classic 99's live internet broadcasts.

GERALD KIESCHNICK,

President, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, St. Louis, MO.

DEAR PRESIDENT KIESCHNICK: The Musicians' Association of St. Louis, Local 2-197 AFM, is opposed to the sale of KFUE-FM, the only classical music radio station in the St. Louis metropolitan area, into a different format. This valuable resource is one of the main venues for arts organizations and has been a great tool in audience-building through live broadcasts and advertising.

The loss of our beloved radio station will have a huge impact on the arts in St. Louis:

Bach at the Sem, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, and At The Garden, Live!, will lose their broadcasts, which are heard nationally through live streaming.

SLSO will lose a major advertising venue, which may hinder ticket sales and fundraising efforts. They are now moving forward after years of paycuts and freezes. Losing KFUE makes recovery more difficult.

Many arts organizations in the greater metropolitan area of St. Louis will lose a central advertising location in KFUE-FM. The loss of KFUE makes advertising much more difficult especially in these economic times.

President Kieschnick, Local 2-197 respectfully asks that you reconsider and direct your Board to stop the sale now.

Respectfully,

VICKY SMOLIK, President,
Musicians' Association of St. Louis,
Local 2-197, AFM.

CLEVELAND FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS, LOCAL 4 OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS

Cleveland, OH, January 29, 2010.

U.S. Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS,
Springfield, IL.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN SHIMKUS, I am writing in support of the effort to prevent the sale of KFUE 99.1 FM.

One of the oldest radio stations west of the Mississippi River, and the longest continually-owned FM station in the Saint Louis area, KFUE not only programs classical, opera and jazz music, it is also a strong partner with the area's cultural institutions. The sale of KFUE, from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LC-MS) to Gateway Creative Broadcasting, Inc., would negatively impact those musical genres in the Saint Louis local and regional community.

In addition, KFUE programming targets school-aged children, and this sale would eliminate regular programming that allows high school orchestral musicians and choral singers the opportunity to perform for a radio audience, certainly a unique chance for these young musicians.

I understand a petition has been filed with the Federal Communications Commission alleging LC-MS did not properly open up a competitive bidding process to the public. An FCC investigation of this proposed transaction may deny the sale, or subject the LC-MS to further conditions including an open selection process.

In the wake of these allegations, and the potential loss of the crown jewel of cultural radio programming in the Saint Louis region, I sincerely urge you to join me in the fight to save KFUE 99.1 FM.

Very Truly Yours,

LEONARD DICOSIMO.