

HONORING U.S. ARMY FIRST LIEUTENANT JOHN M. RUNKLE OF WEST SALEM, OHIO

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, my thoughts and prayers are with the family of 1st Lt. John Runkle as we honor his memory and express our deepest gratitude for his service to America. Our Nation and our State lost one its finest last month when Lt. Runkle of West Salem, OH died while serving our country in Operation Enduring Freedom in Kandahar, Afghanistan. A native Ohioan, John Runkle graduated from Northwestern High School in 2002 and then enlisted in the U.S. Army. Following a deployment to Iraq during 2004 and 2005, he entered West Point, where he went on to graduate in the top ten percent of his class.

In 2010 Lt. Runkle graduated from Ranger School and served with the 4th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment, based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. A standout servicemember in our Armed Forces, Lt. Runkle earned numerous commendations and medals during his career, including the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. Lt. Runkle was 27 years old when his unit was struck by an improvised explosive device in Kandahar, Afghanistan on May 26, 2011. Lt. Runkle is survived by his father, John Runkle of Wooster, OH and his mother, Christine Runkle of West Salem, OH. He is also survived by his sister, Jane, and brothers Corey and Brent.

Although Lt. Runkle's life was cut far too short, the achievements he earned and the selfless service he gave to our Nation during his 27 years far exceeded what most of us could hope for in several lifetimes. Lt. Runkle represented the best of what America has to offer and his legacy will serve forever as a shining example of sacrifice, honor and a steadfast commitment to preserving freedom and liberty for all those that he left behind. Our country is a lesser place without him, but remains free and strong thanks to his service and his sacrifice.

CHINESE SPYING DEVICES INSTALLED ON HONG KONG CARS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article regarding the scope of Chinese espionage. The degree to which China spies on both its own people and foreigners is a reminder of the illegitimate security and economic practices of Beijing.

CHINESE SPYING DEVICES INSTALLED ON HONG KONG CARS

(By Albert Ding and Matthew Robertson)

For years now Chinese authorities have been installing spying devices on all dual-plate Chinese-Hong Kong vehicles, enabling a vast network of eavesdropping across the archipelago, according to a Hong Kong newspaper.

The report in Apple Daily states that the recording devices began being installed as "inspection and quarantine cards" in July 2007. They were installed without charge by the Shenzhen Inspection and Quarantine Bureau on thousands of vehicles.

Smugglers were the first to note something strange about the devices. A source told Apple Daily that after the cards were installed mainland authorities had no trouble picking off the cars carrying illicit goods.

"For every ten cars we ran we only had [smuggled goods] in three or four to reduce the risk, but the border agents caught all of them. The accuracy was unreal!" Apple Daily quoted the smuggler saying.

The device, no larger than a PDA, is taped onto the vehicle's front window. Protective tape covers the screws, presumably to prevent tampering—though it didn't stop Apple Daily from removing the devices, taking them to experts for inspection, and presenting pictures of them splayed open on their website, with neat graphics indicating the various internal components.

Apple Daily says they took the device to a university professor and a private investigator, both of whom attested to the espionage potential of the units.

Zhang Dawei, identified as "a private investigator of over 30 years," took a look at the device's internal structure and told the Daily that the card could certainly be used for eavesdropping.

An Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering at City University of Hong Kong, Zheng Liming, took apart one of the devices and confirmed that it can listen in on conversations.

And the range is extensive, he said. "The signal receiving range is up to 20km, which means if the device installer wants to, they can listen even when the vehicles are in Hong Kong," he said.

Two of the regions in Hong Kong where the device can transmit data back to China are Sha tin and Tuen mun.

Much cheaper chips can be used to check inspection status for simple border crossings, Zhang said, "But this device uses chips commonly found in Bluetooth and voice recording devices, designed for receiving voice transmission."

He thus thought it "very likely" that they were being used for surveillance.

The Daily interviewed several Hong Kong drivers to gauge their reactions; predictably, they were often irate.

Ms. Deng, who operates a real estate business, said: "Even if we hired a maid, we are not allowed to install a surveillance camera in her room due to privacy issues! You can't just do whatever you want."

A senior manager in an unidentified company noted that those who qualify for the dual license plate usually have some financial clout. If their business conversations in the car were recorded and the information shared, he said, it may be enough to send people bankrupt.

HKBusiness.net, an online news site, says that businesses that invested more than \$1 million in mainland China and paid more than 30,000 yuan in tax over the past year qualify for a dual license plate.

Apple Daily quotes a source saying there are at least 20,000 cars with dual license plates, and tens of thousands of trucks and buses.

A reporter from the newspaper went to the Shenzhen Inspection and Quarantine Bureau and confronted them with the accusations. Staff on duty flatly denied the idea, Apple Daily said. Speaking Cantonese, they assured him that "It's not that high tech."

SMALL BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, our economy is stalled. Our unemployment rate is still way too high. Two-thirds of all small business owners say it's a bad time to expand.

That's why it was important for me to spend part of last week meeting with local business and economic leaders in a Small Business Roundtable. We discussed how federal over-regulation hampers business growth and expansion. We talked about legislative reform and the different needs of businesses and industries of various sizes.

I spoke to the leaders of CAN DO, Greater Hazleton's economic development agency, which celebrated its 55th anniversary this year, and with the Columbia-Montour Chamber of Commerce. Everywhere I went, I spoke with business leaders who are in the trenches every single day. They understand how government impacts their companies. They see how high taxes and burdensome overregulation keep them from growing.

One of the commitments I made to the people of northeastern Pennsylvania was that I would take their voices here to Washington with me. Mr. Speaker, the business leaders back home are crying out for relief. They're asking for us to get off their backs. They want to be able to grow, to expand, to buy more equipment, and to hire more workers.

Roundtable talks are a way for me to stay in touch with groups of constituents who are experts in their fields, and to get their opinions about current and future regulations and legislation. The discussions we've had so far have been extremely helpful, and the free flow of ideas and comments between panel members is fantastic.

Also last week, I convened an education roundtable to talk about fixing our broken system. Local educators and I discussed ways we can improve the synergy between educational programs, and how we can remove classroom hurdles and let teachers teach the workforce of the future.

When I toured the manufacturing and research-and-development Schott North America's Advanced Optics and glass manufacturing facility in Duryea, Pennsylvania, I heard about their need for skilled workers. These are the kind of jobs we need in northeastern Pennsylvania and in the United States. We must make sure that educators are able to prepare young people for those jobs.

One place that is working to prepare the workforce of tomorrow is the Career Technology Center of Lackawanna County in Scranton, a consortium of nine school districts in northeastern Pennsylvania that provides instruction in 26 career areas. I saw firsthand the instruction that is going on in the technology center, and I'm proud of the work they do for our young people.

Of course, nowadays, our children face many hurdles on the road to their future. A serious and growing hurdle is the increasing amount of gang activity. I know northeastern Pennsylvania is about the last place anyone would think about when it comes to gangs, but national gangs are drawn to our quiet towns and our quality of life. Last week, I proudly co-

hosted a gang awareness seminar with Pennsylvania Senator John Yudichak. We were privileged to welcome D. Darell Dones, supervisory special agent of the Behavioral Science Unit of the FBI, to the area. Agent Dones presented startling information about gangs and led a panel of experts who provided a frank assessment of local gang problems and potential gang solutions. Agent Dones noted that this cooperative effort—co-hosted by a Democratic state senator and a Republican congressman—was unlike any he'd seen in the country.

But the most special moment for me was when I helped present a veteran with medals he earned more than 65 years ago. Hazleton resident George Puhak helped liberate the Philippines during World War II, but for some reason, this Army veteran never received all of the medals he was entitled to. Representatives from the Embassy of the Philippines made the trip from Washington to Hazleton to present Mr. Puhak with the medals he earned all those decades ago. It was an honor for me to participate in the presentation, which took place in front of some of Mr. Puhak's children and grandchildren. Mr. Puhak's courage—and the commitment and dedication shown by his fellow members of The Greatest Generation—should stand as a shining example for today's youth, for whom we are working so hard here in Washington.

NAAMA SHAFIR: RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION LIVES ON

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during World War II, Jews were forced to wear the yellow star of David as a symbol of hatred and scorn.

The Jewish people experienced hatred in many forms during the Holocaust, most notably the murder of 4.9 to 6.0 million citizens.

Have we moved past this backward way of thinking? No!

Twenty-one-year-old Naama Shafir is a junior guard for the woman's basketball team at the University of Toledo. This April, she led her team to victory in the Women's National Invitation Tournament championship with a career-high 40 points and was named tournament MVP.

She continues to excel, and has qualified to compete in the European championship as part of the Israeli women's national basketball team.

However, because Naama wears a t-shirt under her jersey in order to comply with the modesty standards expected of Orthodox Jews, she will not be allowed to compete in the European championship.

Tens of thousands of soldiers died during World War II trying to overcome this terrible prejudice, yet Naama still endures that same prejudice that her ancestors were faced with during the war.

And that's just the way it is.

SALUTING SERVICE ACADEMY STUDENTS—RYAN MARTINEZ

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary group of young men and women who have been chosen as future leaders in our armed forces by the prestigious United States service academies. It is a privilege to send such a fine group from the third district of Texas to pursue a world-class education and serve our nation.

As we keep them and their families in our prayers, may we never forget the sacrifices they are preparing to make while defending our freedoms all across the globe. I am so proud of each one. God bless them and God bless America.

Today I salute Ryan Martinez, a United States Naval Academy Appointee. Ryan is a graduate of Cistercian Preparatory School where he played football as a wide receiver and a free safety, ran cross country, participated in track, and played soccer earning a total of nine letters during his high school career. Ryan was actively involved in Student Council as the vice president, a member of the Third District Congressional Youth Advisory Council, earned the rank of Eagle Scout, and worked as a sports writer for his school's newspaper. He was selected to attend the U.S. Naval Academy Summer Leadership Seminar. Ryan realized there was no other university he would rather attend, and by attending a service academy he would not only be pushing his talents to their fullest potential, but he would also be using them for his ultimate goal of servicing others, and especially his remarkable country.

STATEMENT RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SUMMER LEARNING DAY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize June 21 as National Summer Learning Day and draw attention to the importance of high-quality summer learning opportunities in the lives of young people. This day is an opportunity for schools, nonprofit organizations, public agencies, resident camps, sports clubs, businesses, museums and libraries to showcase the contributions they make to the lives of young people during the summer.

The effort to keep kids learning during summer is based on research that shows that without effective summer learning opportunities: most students fall more than two months behind in math over the summer; low-income children fall behind two to three months in reading each summer, while their middle and upper-income peers make slight gains; and by the end of fifth grade, lower-income children can be nearly three years behind their higher-income peers in reading.

Last year, nearly 500 events were held nationwide that highlighted how summer learning programs advance academic growth, support working families, keep children safe and send students back to school ready to learn.

I am proud to recognize National Summer Learning Day and encourage communities across the country to celebrate and acknowledge the importance of providing all young people with high-quality learning opportunities during the summer months.

REMEMBERING REVEREND L.E. LAWSON AND MONSIGNOR CHARLES KING

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the memory of two of Denton County's most esteemed spiritual leaders, Reverend L.E. Lawson and Monsignor Charles King. Both Reverend Lawson and Monsignor King devoted their lives to serving their respective congregations and compassionately working to improve the lives of the less fortunate in the Denton community.

Reverend Lawson, who passed away May 22nd, spent the last 26 of his 52 years in the ministry as pastor of Denton's Mount Cavalry Baptist Church, during which time he baptized, married, and performed the burials of generations of church members. Reverend Lawson loyally tended to the spiritual needs of the community in which he immersed himself.

Monsignor King, who passed away June 1st and just a week after the Reverend Lawson, served 10 of his 54 ministry years at Denton's Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, but left an equally lasting mark of leadership and compassion on his congregation and his community.

The two men's spiritual work represented different branches of Christianity. Monsignor King's Catholic Church is a centuries-old world religion of grandeur while Reverend Lawson hailed from the much humbler African-American Baptist church. In the end, however, their paths ultimately led to interchangeable legacies that reflect both men's never-ceasing dedication to the Christian faith and the Denton community. Comments from members of both congregations in Reverend Lawson's and Monsignor King's obituaries could be applied to either man.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the exemplary lives of Reverend L.E. Lawson and Monsignor Charles King. With the passing of these men, Denton has lost more than a century of spiritual direction and service. Their passion and enthusiasm for their faith and their fellow man, however, will always be remembered.

HONORING GRADUATES OF RUTGERS LAW SCHOOL CLASS OF 2011 AND PROFESSOR JOHN BECKERMAN

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today offering my sincere congratulations to the Rutgers Law School Class of 2011. I additionally would like to recognize Rutgers-Camden Professor John Beckerman. Professor Beckerman