

activity or persuades others to endorse or espouse terrorist activity or support a terrorist organization," or "has received military-type training from or on behalf of any organization that, at the time the training was received, was a terrorist organization."

The only limited exception to this strict ban is for the attorney general to exercise "parole" status into the U.S. for a limited amount of time in the case of "significant public benefit." If this option were to be exercised, it would conflict with the administration's stated intent to permanently settle the Uyghur detainees in the U.S. It also would raise serious questions about whether the task force, led by Mr. Olsen, recommended the settlement of terrorist detainees would have "significant public benefit."

The ETIM is a terrorist group that uses violence against civilians for the creation of an independent, Islamic state—in the image of the Taliban's Afghanistan—in the Xinjiang region of China. The group is linked to a number of terrorist attacks in China during the mid-1990s, including several bus bombings that killed dozens and injured hundreds of innocent civilians, as well as threats of attacks against the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. Over the past decade, the group has predominantly operated out of Afghanistan and Pakistan and has developed close links with al Qaeda and the Taliban.

On August 19, 2002, then Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage designated the ETIM as "a terrorist group that committed acts of violence against unarmed civilians." The group was designated by the State Department under Executive Order 13224, "Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions With Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism," which defines terrorist as "activity that (1) involves a violent act or act dangerous to human life, property, or infrastructure; and (2) appears to be intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, kidnapping, or hostage-taking." In 2004, the State Department further added the ETIM to the "Terrorist Exclusion List" (TEL) under section 411 of the USA Patriot Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-56), which prohibits members of designated terrorist groups from entering into the U.S.

Later in 2002, the U.S. Embassy in Beijing reported that two members of the ETIM were deported from Kyrgyzstan after allegedly plotting to attack the U.S. embassy there. Following the attempted attack, the U.S., Peoples Republic of China, Afghanistan, and Kyrgyzstan asked the United Nations to designate the ETIM as a terrorist group under Security Council resolutions 1267 and 1390, which provide for the freezing of the group's assets.

In April 2009—the same month the release of the Uyghur detainees was being planned—the Obama Administration added the current leader of the ETIM (also recognized as the ETIP), Abdul Hag, to terrorist lists under Executive Order 13224, following U.N. recognition of Hag, under Security Council Resolution 1267, as an individual affiliated with Osama bin Laden, al Qaeda, or the Taliban. According to Stuart Levey, Treasury under secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, "Abdul Hag commands a terror group that

sought to sow violence and fracture international unity at the 2008 Olympic Games in China."

The ETIM's relationship with al Qaeda has grown since it was invited by the Taliban to conduct training in Afghanistan in the late 1990s, followed by the move of the ETIM headquarters from the Xianjiang region to Kabul in September 1998.⁹ By 2005, Abdul Hag had been admitted to al Qaeda's "Shura Council and on November 16, 2008, an al Qaeda spokesman "stated that a Chinese citizen named 'Abdul Haq Turkistani' was appointed by Osama bin Laden as the leader of two organizations—'al Qaeda in China' and 'Hizbul Islam Li-Turkistan.'" This appointment was also confirmed by Abu Sulieman, a member of al Qaeda.

It is abundantly clear that the Uyghur detainees held at Guantanamo Bay are affiliated with the ETIM and trained under Abdul Haq in 2001. According to the detainees' sworn statement to U.S. authorities, many acknowledged that they had trained in an ETIM training camp in Tora Bora from June to November 2001 and at least one confirmed, "The person running the camp was named Abdul Haq."

Following the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan in fall 2001 cooperation between the ETIM and the Taliban increased. It is reported that the ETIM's leader prior to Abdul Hag, Hasan Mahsum, "led his men to support Taliban and fight alongside them against U.S. and the coalition forces. On 2 October 2003, Hasan Mahsum was killed, along with 8 other Islamic militants, by a Pakistani army raid on an al Qaeda hideout in South Waziristan area in Pakistan."

Additionally, a January 2008 al Qaeda in Afghanistan publication, "Martyrs in Time of Alienation," identified 120 "martyrs"—including five Uyghurs from Xianjiang and who trained in Tora Bora—who fought with the Taliban in Afghanistan against U.S. troops. One is reported to have been killed fighting U.S. forces during the invasion in 2001. Hasan Mahsum confirmed, prior to his death in 2003, that ETIM members trained and fought with al Qaeda forces in Afghanistan.

In addition to their affiliation in a designated terrorist organization and association with al Qaeda leader Abdul Hag, these detainees fervently believe in the creation of a Taliban-style Islamist state in northwestern China and do not share American values of respect, tolerance, and religious pluralism. In fact, one recent press account stated that, "Not long after being granted access to TV [at Guantanamo], some of the [Uyghurs] were watching a soccer game. When a woman with bare arms was shown on the screen, one of the group grabbed the television and threw it to the ground, according to the officials."

Reports indicate that the ETIM's philosophy has dramatically evolved as a result of their training and cooperation with al Qaeda and the Taliban over the last decade. According to two experts, Rohan Gunaratna and Arabinda Acharya, "In the post-9/11 era, ETIM began to believe in the global jihad agenda. Today, the group follows the philosophy of al-Qaeda and respects Osama bin Laden. Such groups that believe in the global jihad do not confine their targets to the territories that they seek to control . . . [The ETIM] is presenting a threat to Chinese as well as Western targets worldwide."

Although the Uyghur detainees may not have been considered "enemy combatants"

by the Obama Administration, U.S. immigration law clearly bars the admission of members of recognized terrorist groups. The Senate should carefully consider the legal steps that Mr. Olsen and his task force recommended be used to bring the ETIM detainees into the U.S. for permanent settlement. If his task force advocated exploiting limited "parole" entry for the detainees with the intended goal of permanent settlement, it would go against the letter and spirit of the law.

THE LANDING OF "ATLANTIS"

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2011

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, today is a bitter-sweet day for Florida's Space Coast, for the space program, and for the Nation. As *Atlantis* touched down at 5:57 a.m. today, July 21, 2011, at Kennedy Space Center, another era of exploration closed.

Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral have been the center of America's human space flight program since its inception. Nearly every manned mission has launched from Florida's Space Coast. The Shuttle program is no different. Every Shuttle mission has been processed, assembled, and launched by the talented and dedicated men and women at Kennedy Space Center.

Just as Kennedy Space Center has been an important part of the Shuttle Program, the Shuttle Program has been an essential part of Florida's identity, so much so that it was featured on our State's quarter. From the rumble of the Shuttle lifting off, to the sonic boom felt as the Shuttle traverses Florida on its way to land at Kennedy after another accomplished mission, the Shuttle is a part of Central Florida's culture.

Space Coast residents have cheered the successes the Shuttle Program has seen in its 30 years of service to our Nation: ferrying astronauts, modules, components, and experiments to the International Space Station; launching and repairing numerous satellites including the Hubble; launching three interplanetary probes; and advancing scientific experimentation including microgravity research. After all, the citizens of the Space Coast working at Kennedy Space Center helped make these successes possible.

Our community grieved deeply when, as President Ronald Reagan said, the *Challenger* astronauts "slipped the surly bonds of this Earth," to "touch the face of God," on January 28, 1986, and when the Shuttle *Columbia* failed to make it home on February 1, 2003. The entire Nation wept for the loss of these heroes, but the Space Coast mourned these brave men and women as family.

As we welcome *Atlantis* home for the last time, I would especially like to applaud all of our Shuttle workers from United Space Alliance and other contractors who did the work necessary to keep the Shuttles flying for 30 great years. It is their hard work and dedication that made these missions possible. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to each and every one of them on this historic, but bittersweet day.

CONGRATULATING NELSON
MANDELA ON HIS 93D BIRTHDAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I join all people in South Africa and across the world in celebrating the Honorable Nelson Mandela's 93d birthday on July 18, 2011. Mandela is an inspirational leader who braved 27 years of imprisonment fighting to free South Africa from the racial oppression of apartheid, and ultimately unified the nation as its first President elected in a free South Africa.

Madiba is my personal hero because he fought and suffered for what was right and did not emerge bitter from the experience. I still remember his graciousness and good humor when I first met him; he started laughing and said, "No, this is not the sponsor of the bloody Rangel Amendment." I am proud to have met and worked with him to bring freedom and dignity to the oppressed in South Africa.

In honor of his birthday, the United Nations recognizes July 18 as Mandela Day. To pay tribute to Mandela's tireless 67-year effort in addressing the biggest issues we face, from combating HIV/AIDS to brokering global peace, we are asked to dedicate 67 minutes to do something for others in need.

I pledge to continue his work to help those in need and encourage everyone to do so as well.

IN HONOR OF THE "ATLANTIS"
AND THE SHUTTLE PROGRAMS'
FINAL MISSION: THE ATLANTIS
STS-135—FERGUSON—HURLEY—
MAGNUS—WALHEIM

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2011

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Atlantis . . . Hail Atlantis! This, final thrust
. . . This The Shuttle's Final Mission,
so as such!

Five . . . Four . . . Three . . . Two . . . One
. . . Ignition . . . lift off!

As up towards the heavens you now so rush!
As on this day as is such . . . with this your
last and most final journey, all our
hearts but lie in a hush! As from The
Beginning . . . now to The End!

Oh how so quickly, we've all so been taken
to so then . . . To such new heights
we've all so sped!

So shuttled to back and forth, time and
again!

And because of all of this, to what new
world's will we one day so transcend?

All because of The Discovery's, The Endeavor's
. . . that went forth all in your
stead!

As The Challenger, who so met and held that
course!

To new Columbia's, with your most heroic
force! All in your most heroic blood so
shed!

As to lost worlds discovering, and to new
ones Atlantis you now report!

Let this Enterprise so continue to go forth!
Of all of these most distant travelers, all out
on their most heroic course!

And let not this quest so end!

All in our search for the answers, the truth
that we all must so comprehend!

Let Us Go Forth, all in our hearts of youth
begin!

And for all of those many journey's, over all
of those years.

As have so here, to Man and Womankind
meant so much!

While, out upon the face of God you've all so
stared! So sped!

All out there on the very edge of death, hur-
dling through space as you left!

As your fine hearts would so crest!

And because of all its majestic beauty, all in
tears you were so left!

As with this final thrust, suddenly how all of
those years have so come and gone!

By so fast, so sped!

To find answers, to all of those questions . . .
to which all our hearts must so be led!

While, soaring to new heights . . . as you'd
crest!

As you've appeared to us so very bright, all
in what was said!

As out on the night's horizon, streaking
across her skies at dusk in flight . . .
full speed ahead!

With all our hopes and dreams, and fears . . .
so carried with you up there, as one we
were wed!

As together, we've all so waded through . . .
through all of those most heartbroken
tears!

With all of those broken hearts and dreams,
that which so tragically appeared . . .

With but the loss of, all of those most mag-
nificent courageous pioneers!

As but exploration's grave cost so very clear!
Of The Challenger and The Columbia so here!

With all of those fine lives so lost so very
dear! SMITH, SCOBEE, McNAIR,
ONIZUKA, McAULIFFE, JARVIS,
RESNIK, BROWN, HUSBAND, CLARK,
CHAWLA, ANDERSON, McCOOL,
RAMON . . .

Brave Hearts, all out in their search for new
frontiers!

Who so boldly so went forth without fear!

As for them and their families, but hear our
Nation's prayers . . . her tears!

As now all of their fine souls are so etched
across the heavens, appear's!

As a lesson to all of our young, as to what
new heights and worlds . . .

A heart of courage can so climb to, can so
come!

As on this day Atlantis, as you So Search
For The Truth! All in your hearts of
youth, so sung!

While, Reaching For The Stars . . . soaring
ever forth, as brilliant, as brilliant as
any sun!

All in your quest for knowledge, but Let
This Dream Live On!

Let not this be the end, but the beginning of
new dreams and suns to form!

As on this Mission, The Shuttle Program so
comes to her end!

Let us give praise and thanks, to all of those
who have so shown!

So shown us all the way to courage and
faith,

whose most magnificent hearts have so car-
ried us with them on their ways . . .

Who once upon a time, let their dreams take
flight to new heights . . . as did they!

And go, where no women or man before has
so gone!

Who upon all of them, all our very futures
are so born!

While, upon such magnificent structures of
Man . . . to new heights they would
soar!

All because of their most courageous hearts
telling them, To Go Forth and Explore!

As up to the heavens, and outer space
defying death again once more so spo-
ken all with such grace!

To take Command, as now they so race!

And to all those, who upon this earth who
have stood by them so close!

Who at Mission Control,
have so shown such brilliance and such vigi-
lance, when it all so meant the most!

As The Centurions, The Guardians,
of all of those distant travelers up in outer
space, who counted upon you, would
boast!

Living with them, on the very edge of death
as you would host . . .

As on each new day, all of their very lives
were placed!

All in what they so faced!

Let not this so be the ending, but the begin-
ning . . . but to keep so sending!

To so sending up explorers to new worlds, up
in outer space!

To a world of hopes and dreams, where such
hearts of youth can so race . . .

Can so plan and scheme . . . Like JFK's
Dream, this pace!

But, to continue this most important race!
And Go Forth!

But to find the answers, to new celestial
worlds as we are advancing . . .

As already, from all of their gifts, so much
has so come forth, exists!

And yet, so much more but still lies ahead
. . .

all in our travels up in outer space, all in
what is to be written . . . so said!

For only if we go forward steadfast, will all
of our futures so be blessed, as come to
pass!

So Hail Atlantis, as you take that one last
pass . . . around this earth . . .

Take one last long hard look, one last long
glance all in its worth!

For all of us here so down upon this earth, as
you pass! So, ever must we Endeavor to
Discovery!

To find in you Atlantis, new worlds to ex-
plore and see!

So Godspeed! Godspeed, fair well Atlantis as
you speed!

As you and your kind, are but the very
height to where Man and Womankind
can so be led!

Because, whenever we ENDEAVOR . . . in
our ENTERPRISE to entertain such
thoughts . . .

To rise! All in our DISCOVERY, from hearts
of courage what can be brought forth
. . .

No matter what the cost, and not com-
promise!

To new worlds and lost shores, to chart our
course evermore . . . to new COLUM-
BIA'S this force . . . or an ATLANTIS
to so explore!

Then, will we win as THE CHALLENGER!
And to this our world, but all of our fu-
tures to so insure!

To learn and to grow, to therein there so . . .
but to fine the answerers!

Of The Universe, to so strive for and know!
All bathed in exploration's warm glow!

That which lies before us so!
Hail Atlantis!

Hail Atlantis!
Hail Atlantis!

Hail Atlantis!
As You Soar! As You Go!