

Taliban, who have acted as the rural government here for 15 years. . . .

The patrol base, named Fires because of the intensity of the daily fighting, was at the northern edge of the Marine advance. When I arrived in mid-January, Lt. Vic Garcia, the seasoned platoon commander, handed me two tourniquets. "If someone goes down near you on patrol," he said, "wrap him real tight and watch where you step." Garcia explained that the Taliban roam in small gangs among the farm compounds, sow mines, and attack from the flanks. When we set out on a combat patrol, the 15 Marines walked in single file across brown, furrowed farmlands suggestive of New England in early spring. Lance Cpl. Colbey Yazzie, a full-blooded Navajo Indian, swept a narrow path with his metal detector, while his Irish-American partner, Lance Cpl. Kyle Doyle, watched out for snipers.

Near a footbridge across an irrigation canal, Yaz clenched his fist to halt the platoon, then knelt down and scratched at the dirt. He took out wire cutters, snipped a few wires, and held up two small boards wrapped in tape. Glued to the underside of each board was a sliver of metal. When a foot pressed down on the boards, the metal plates came together, completing an electrical circuit connecting a flashlight battery to a plastic jug filled with explosives. Yaz attached a small charge to the IED (improvised explosive device) and blew it up, and the patrol continued.

In 100 days of patrolling four kilometers north of the Sangin district center, Kilo Company of the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment had found 115 IEDs. Another 14 had exploded. Of the 136 Marines in Kilo, nine had been killed and 35 severely wounded. Of four platoon commanders, one had been killed and another had lost a leg to a mine. . . .

After discovering the first IED, we walked north at a steady, careful pace. Not one farmer was out tilling the lands sown with mines. Yaz again clenched his fist, knelt down, disarmed and blew up an IED. The patrol continued for a while, then halted suspiciously at the edge of a large field. On the far side were two long compound walls, dotted with "murder holes"—small peepholes for the Taliban rifle barrels.

The Marines peered at the wall through the telescopic sights on their rifles. Suddenly, the squad leader, Sgt. Philip McCulloch, fired a single shot. The Marines' counter is equally simple. One element peels off to flank the enemy, while another keeps aimed fire on the enemy position. If the Taliban remains too long in a fixed location, indirect fire (fire without a line of sight to the target, as from artillery) is called in. Every Marine has a telescopic rifle, and most of the fleeting targets are about 400 meters distant.

Yaz was leading the patrol back by a different route across a furrowed field when he stopped a third time. Again he uncovered a pressure-plate IED. "That's crazy," McCulloch said. "An IED in the middle of nowhere." That IED was sure to blow the legs off a passing farmer—or a Marine. Yaz pointed to three small rocks several feet away, a tipoff for a passing Taliban gang that there was a mine in the vicinity.

A few minutes later, we walked past a crumbling wall, startling two dark brown coyotes. Again Yaz stopped, knelt, and disarmed a pressure plate. Four mines in the path of one patrol, and he had found them all.

Bing West, "With the Warriors" (emphasis added). What Mr. West has described here is an amazing act of bravery and professionalism by Corporal Yazzie and his fellow Marines. In

just one patrol, on one afternoon, Corporal Yazzie located and disarmed four IEDs. Four hidden bombs designed to kill or maim indiscriminately, whether it is a child, a farmer, or a Marine. By doing his job, Corporal Yazzie can be credited with saving lives and limbs that day, and likely on many other days.

But Corporal Yazzie's service was not free. There is a high cost that has been paid, and continues to be paid. On March 26, 2011, in an effort to save lives, Corporal Yazzie detonated an IED and sacrificed his right leg.

Corporal Yazzie, we honor your service. To the others in your unit, and the rest of the Marine Corps, please know, we honor your service and sacrifice as well. You are not forgotten. You are appreciated more than you know.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY IDENTITY DEFENSE ACT OF 2011

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today, along with Rep. JOE DONNELLY of Indiana, I am introducing the Social Security Identity Defense Act of 2011, legislation to enhance the ability of the Internal Revenue Service to fight identity theft when that agency becomes aware of the fraudulent use of a taxpayer's personal information.

This legislation is a direct response to the experience of constituents of mine in Princeton, Wisconsin. After a routine review of his credit report, this constituent found accounts opened by another person that had used his Social Security number. This discovery raised many concerns, not the least of which that this person's income might be reported to the IRS under his Social Security number. Upon contacting the IRS, he was told that the IRS was aware of the situation and that they had known about it for some time.

Not surprisingly, this answer was not altogether comforting. The IRS knew that someone else had been using his Social Security number, but kept that information to themselves. While the IRS remained silent, additional frauds were committed, resulting in the credit accounts opened using my constituent's personal information. When he raised this issue with the IRS, he was astounded by the agency's answer. Privacy statutes prevent the IRS from discussing the return information of one taxpayer with anyone else. In the view of the IRS, the fraudulent use of my constituent's Social Security number was the personal return information of another taxpayer, and this fraud could not be disclosed to the rightful owner of that personal identifier.

This policy makes no sense and actually puts the IRS on the wrong side in the fight against identity theft. Our legislation aims to correct this problem by changing the privacy statutes to direct the IRS to inform a taxpayer when it learns through its normal course of business that a Social Security number assigned to that taxpayer has been used fraudulently by another worker.

In May 2006, President George W. Bush signed an executive order establishing the Identity Theft Task Force made up of the U.S. Attorney General, the Chairman of the Federal

Trade Commission, several heads of cabinet-level departments, and various other officers of the U.S. Government. The Task Force was directed to implement a policy "effectively to deter, prevent, detect, investigate, proceed against, and prosecute unlawful use by persons of the identifying information of other persons." Elaborating on this policy goal, the Executive Order went on to specify actions to increase safeguards that Federal departments and agencies could implement to better secure government-held personal data.

In responding to the President's charge, the Task Force issued a strategic plan, including numerous specific recommendations focused on improvements in four key areas. Keeping sensitive consumer data out of the hands of identity thieves; increasing the obstacles to the fraudulent use of any personal data obtained by an identity thief; assistance for victims of identity theft; and deterring this crime by aggressive prosecution and punishment of identity thieves.

Combating identity theft is an important and difficult job. I believe that the Task Force has made a commendable contribution to this effort and that implementation of its recommendations by public and private entities will help in fighting this crime. As the report itself notes, "Only an approach that encompasses effective prevention, public awareness and education, victim assistance, and law enforcement measures, and fully engages federal, state, and local authorities will be successful in protecting citizens and private entities from the crime."

The recommendations included in this strategic plan, however, do not include improved efforts by the IRS in assisting honest taxpayers in fighting identity theft. For this reason, the Social Security Identity Defense Act picks up where this strategic plan left off and provides an additional vital tool for our government to deploy.

Under this legislation, the IRS would be required to share any information in its possession about the fraudulent use of a taxpayer's personal information with that information's rightful owner. The agency also would be directed to transmit information that may be evidence of an identity theft to the FBI so that the Bureau can make this material available to state and local law enforcement agencies upon their request. Finally, the Social Security Identity Defense Act calls for the IRS to direct employers not to include a Social Security number on a W-2 form when that agency is aware that the employee is making fraudulent use of that number.

These are important steps forward. They will empower both citizens and law enforcement agencies in their efforts to combat identity theft, and they will limit the use of personal identifiers in the commission of future crimes. I urge my colleagues to join me and Rep. DONNELLY in this effort by cosponsoring the Social Security Defense Act.

INTRODUCING THE NATIONAL PATRIOTS MEMORIAL ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the National Patriots Memorial Act. The

bill will authorize the establishment of a memorial on federal land in the District of Columbia to honor the patriots of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, as well as our international allies that fought in support of gaining and then preserving our nation's freedom during these wars. Funding for the memorial will come entirely from private funds.

The National Patriots Memorial will be an important addition to the nation and to the District of Columbia alike. The memorial will preserve the history of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and celebrate the patriots and allies who fought in them. The National Patriots Memorial also will remind the nation that DC residents fought in the Revolutionary War, the war that created the nation itself, and the War of 1812, just as our residents have served in all of the nation's wars, and are doing so today. The memorial also will serve to educate visitors to the nation's capital about the early years of our country's issues, conflicts, and growth.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

HONORING RICHARD E. WINNIE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Mr. STARK to honor the extraordinary life of Mr. Richard E. Winnie, a brilliant legal mind whose combination of integrity, acumen and good humor made him an outstanding public servant and invaluable in his role as County Counsel for the County of Alameda. With Richard E. Winnie's passing on March 28, 2011 at the age of 63, we look to the remarkable legacy of his life's work and the joy he inspired in his many friends and loved ones.

Richard E. Winnie was born April 14, 1947 to Emily and H. Edward Winnie in Oakland, California. The family eventually settled in Eureka, California, where Richard attended high school. He graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in Economics from Humboldt State University, HSU, received his master's degree in Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley, and his law degree from the University of San Francisco. Mr. Winnie's early interest in civic service and local municipalities began while still a student at HSU in his work for the Eureka City Manager's office and the Associated Students Council.

His next destination was Washington, DC, where from 1971 to 1977, he served the Urban Institute's State and Local Government Research Program as a policy analyst. During his time there, Mr. Winnie authored several publications on municipal government, one of which became the Institute's largest-selling published text.

In 1975, Mr. Winnie was admitted to the California Bar. He returned to his roots to serve as Oakland City Attorney from 1981 to 1987, and also worked for the cities of Berkeley, Palo Alto, and Santa Rosa. For the next 6 years, he specialized in property, business and municipal law as a partner with Jacobs, Spotswood, Ryken, and Winnie, and in 1993 began a 4-year stint as an advisor to the Government of Armenia in its transition to independence and a market economy. In fact, Mr.

Winnie's penchant for international legal guidance had a global reach. Over the course of his career in the Bay Area, he also helped to develop local property laws for emerging governments throughout the South Caucasus, Central Asia, Southeastern Europe, and small parts of South America and the Middle East.

After specializing in public law as a partner of Oakland's Wendel, Rosen, Black, and Dean from 1994 to 1997, Mr. Winnie began his 13-year tenure as Alameda County's top legal advisor to the Board of Supervisors, County Administration and the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum Authority. In his role as County Counsel, Mr. Winnie's many accomplishments included successful litigation to restrict gun shows at the Alameda County Fair, to allow public access to Oakland's waterfronts and to confront legal clashes with local professional sports teams. Among his many accolades and associations, Mr. Winnie served numerous local boards, was a member of the U.S. Supreme Court Bar, worked to promote micro-enterprise with the New America Foundation, and received HSU's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2009.

Richard E. Winnie was known for fostering mutual relationships of respect and pride among his talented staff and colleagues. In his legal dealings, he was skilled at eliciting an agreement through logic, diplomacy, and steady professionalism. And in his free time, he enjoyed being a youth mentor, an avid baseball fan, an accomplished mountain climber and a prolific party host. Mr. Winnie will be remembered as much for his ability to inspire people, as his ability to make them laugh.

Today, the residents of California's 9th and 13th Congressional Districts salute and honor a stalwart member of our community and a dear friend, Mr. Richard E. Winnie. The countless contributions he made to others throughout his life are lasting and significant. We express our sincere condolences to his extended group of loved ones, friends and colleagues. He will be deeply missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, while I was present for rollcall vote 200 on March 30, 2011, my vote was not recorded. This vote was on H. Res. 186, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 471 to reauthorize the DC opportunity scholarship program.

Had my vote been recorded, I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 186.

HONORING NICOLE PASSONNO STOTT

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor NASA Astronaut Nicole Passonno Stott, who served on the final mission of the Space Shuttle *Discovery*.

So many Americans look to the space program with pride and admiration. Many children aspire to one day become astronauts, which is where Mrs. Stott found her calling. Mrs. Stott is alumna of Clearwater High School, which is in my congressional district. She began her career at NASA in 1988, holding various positions within NASA Shuttle Processing, the Space Station Hardware Integration Office, the NASA Aircraft Operations Division, and the Astronaut Office Station Operations Branch.

In 2000, Mrs. Stott began astronaut candidate training and in 2009 completed her first long duration space flight on the International Space Station. She returned to the International Space Station in 2010, as part of the 39th and final mission for *Discovery*.

The space program is a huge economic engine for the state of Florida. Not only are breakthroughs made in science and technology, but the byproducts of this research also spur tremendous advancements in the medical field. I am particularly intrigued by the work NASA has done with prosthetics research that has benefitted our wounded warriors.

I look forward to watching the continued success of the space program in the future and watching future generations of my constituents advance science and technology, just as Mrs. Stott has done.

CONGRATULATING LAURA ELIZABETH HAHN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Laura Elizabeth Hahn from Colchester, Connecticut on her selection into the Army Reserve Teen Panel. The honorable members of the Army Reserve make enormous sacrifices to guarantee the security of our great nation. In addition, their family members bravely make sacrifices every day in order to allow the soldiers to continue serving the nation. We recognize that this environment is often the hardest on children, who have to deal with unique pressures at a young age. This is why the Army Reserve Teen Panel, a select group of 30 high school students who represent and advocate for Army Reserve youth globally, exists and this is why Laura's selection should be honored.

Laura is currently a sophomore at Bacon Academy in Colchester, where she is an honors student. At Bacon Academy, Laura is also a varsity cross-country runner, a member of the Junior Engineering Technology Society, and a participant in the Science, Technology, Engineering, Math Club. Prior to her selection as a member of the Army Reserve Teen Panel, Laura has had experience serving as an ambassador; first with People to People in England and France, and more recently with the Trinity Lutheran Church as a youth delegate to the ELCA youth gathering in New Orleans. These experiences have well prepared Laura to fulfill all of her responsibilities as a member of the Army Reserve Teen Panel.

As a member of the Army Reserve Teen Panel, Laura will attend national panel conferences and serve as a junior mentor during Army Reserve Youth, Leadership, Education,