

PIRATES OF THE SEA: DÉJÀ VU OF 1801

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the pirates are back. These are not the Blackbeard, eye-patched, hook-for-a-hand, peg-legged kind of pirates from the Hollywood movies. The modern-day pirates are skilled, rich, violent, armed with automatic weapons, and are driven by a business that is generating up to \$7 billion a year.

My constituents from Texas, Bill Rouse and his wife Judy, have navigated the oceans for years. Recently, they and another group of international navigators and sailors decided that Somalia and the Somali pirates had made the seas too dangerous to sail in that region, forcing them to transport their ships and boats by barges to safer ports. Bill said that we cannot allow a bunch of thugs to take an entire ocean away from the world. And that is exactly what these pirates are trying to do. They have taken control of parts of the ocean and are trying to mock the most powerful nations on Earth, including ours.

Days before the ill-fated American ship *Quest* left for their journey, Bill asked Scott Adam to join them in transporting their boats. Adam, the skipper, said of the *Quest*, the *Quest* was circumnavigating the globe, and it was a lifelong quest. And they continued on their trip, although it turned out to be doomed, in the Indian Ocean. Just a week after Scott Adam and three other Americans were captured, they were executed pirate-style after Somali pirates captured the ship the *Quest*.

Pirates have also hijacked and kidnapped a Danish family. Bill Rouse has also met with these people on this doomed ship. This family, including small children, is now on the Somali mainland, still held hostage. Their captors have arrogantly warned that any military effort to save them will result in their immediate execution.

Bill has told me of other stories about the tight-knit community of people sailing in that region from all over the world. And they have been forced off of the sea because of the pirates. There are not enough resources to respond to these constant threats; and these pirates not only kidnap, murder, and hold for ransom small boat owners, but attack freighters and other commercial vessels as well.

In just 2010, Somali pirates hijacked 53 ships and held a total of 1,100 hostages for ransom; and pirate attacks have increased dramatically in recent months. Here is a drawing of the recent attacks of the pirates in the Indian Ocean. The red represents all of the pirate attacks between March of 2009 up until October of 2010. But the blue, which you see just as much of, represents the attacks by pirates in the Indian Ocean in just the last 4 months.

Piracy is a growing business because nations pay the ransom. Every dollar

paid in ransom is helping the pirates of the seas finance their cause, expand their reach, and their thirst is even getting greater for more bounty and loot. Despite an increased international naval presence, the Somali pirates are getting bolder, and they are getting more violent.

America has been dealing with the threat of pirates since the days of our Founding Fathers, over 200 years ago. During the youngest years of America, the Barbary states would blackmail American ships and the United States by demanding money in return for the safety of U.S. ships that crossed the Mediterranean Sea. For years, the United States and European governments paid the humiliating tribute to protect the ships, but then in 1801 the Barbary pirates felt the wrath of the United States when Thomas Jefferson sent the United States Navy and the United States Marine Corps to take care of business with the Barbary pirates.

This was the most famous action of the marines during this time. And the phrase, "from the shores of Tripoli," has been immortalized in the marine hymn. Jefferson sent a clear message to the Barbary states and their pirates: don't mess with the United States. And they didn't for 200 years. The Somali pirates should study a little American history. If they would, they'd find out that there will be a day of reckoning that will eventually come to them and their evil ways. Thomas Jefferson destroyed them. We will see what happens now.

Our Constitution gives us the authority in article I, section 8: "To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas." These ocean lines are essential to American commerce and travel, and we must do everything in our power to stop the pirates off the Somali coast. These pirates of the seas must find out that if they continue to mess with the United States, they will find themselves in a déjà vu of 1801. And they, like the pirates before them, will disappear in the ash heap of history.

And that's just the way it is.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MOORE. I rise today as the Democratic cochair of the Women's Caucus to celebrate the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day.

Mr. Speaker, I'm so pleased to join millions in our Nation and around the world in commemorating this International Women's Day. We celebrate courageous women in places like Afghanistan, Iraq, Egypt, Sudan, and elsewhere, who continue to fight the good fight at great risk to their own lives in the face of being ostracized and persecuted by their families and communities, for women's abilities to be included in the societies in which they live.

We celebrate tremendous women here at home in the United States who have done much to advance the ability of women to work, to vote, to go to school, and to run for and hold elective office. As a woman who is able to serve in Congress today, I know that I stand on the shoulders of these women giants who have sacrificed so much in the past.

But we must also recognize that much needs to be done right here in the United States. In our country, women make only 77 percent of the paycheck that a male would make doing the same job. We know that even after 100 years it is too soon to declare: Mission accomplished.

Recent news reports in Afghanistan show efforts in Afghanistan to pass legislation that would shut down domestic violence shelters. Turning our attention closer to home, in Haiti, we find that after the devastating earthquake, UNICEF has found that the rapes in Haiti are at an all time high. But we've also been fixated in recent weeks by the protests and push for democracy sweeping the Middle East. And women have been leading the charge.

We must also acknowledge the shameful plight of hundreds of thousands of mothers-to-be around the globe who die because of pregnancy or child-related complications. It's shameful that the simple act of childbirth remains a death sentence for hundreds of thousands of women and girls around the world.

□ 1420

We must recommit ourselves to the Millennium Development Goal to reduce dying from pregnancy or childbirth.

Last, I had the honor of attending the State Department's Women of Courage ceremony to honor 10 women.

They were:

Maria Bashir, a prosecutor general in Afghanistan. She handles cases on behalf of women victims of domestic abuse.

Nasta Palazhanka, who at age 20 has led peaceful protests and called attention to the plight of families of political prisoners.

Henriette Ekwe Ebongo from Cameroon, a political activist and publisher of *Bebela*, she spent a lifetime advancing press freedom, human rights, good governance, and gender equality.

From China, Guo Jianmei, a lawyer. Founder of the Women's Law Center at Peking University, she helped to create a corps of lawyers to defend public interest cases, especially affecting women and other vulnerable groups.

From Cuba, Yoani Sanchez. She has an international following for her blog to provide insight into life in Cuba and to expand information flow and free expression throughout Cuba.

Agnes Osztolykan, elected to the Hungarian Parliament in 2010, the only female Roma Member of Parliament in Hungary.

From Jordan, Eva Abu Halaweh has dedicated her career to advocating for

the vulnerable people of Jordan, including women at risk of becoming victims of so-called “honor crimes.”

From Kyrgyzstan, we have Roza Otunbayeva, who emerged as central Asia's first female head of state and head of government in a traditional, majority Muslim country.

From Mexico, the first woman ever appointed to the position of Assistant Attorney General, Marisela Morales Ibanez, a leader in bringing to justice some of Mexico's most dangerous and notorious criminals.

Last but certainly not least, from Pakistan, Ghulam Sughra has become her village's first female high school graduate and the first teacher at the first school for girls.

Thank you so much for these women and thanks for International Women's Day.

[From the Department of State, United States of America, Mar. 8, 2011]

2011 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN OF COURAGE AWARDS CEREMONY

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S INTERNATIONAL WOMEN OF COURAGE AWARDS

On the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State will present the fifth annual International Women of Courage Awards to ten women from around the world. This is the only award within the U.S. Department of State that pays tribute to outstanding women leaders worldwide. It recognizes their courage and leadership as they fight for social justice, human rights, and the advancement of women.

Today, The Secretary of State will pay tribute to this year's ten honorees from Afghanistan, Belarus, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Hungary, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, and Pakistan. They were chosen from among eighty-seven exceptional women nominated by U.S. Embassies worldwide for their extraordinary work in advancing human rights.

2011 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN OF COURAGE AWARDS CEREMONY

HOSTED BY

Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State

Tuesday, March 8, 2011
11:00 a.m.

Dean Acheson Auditorium—Department of State

WITH SPECIAL GUEST

First Lady Michelle Obama

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton,
Secretary of State

Mrs. Michelle Obama, First Lady of the United States

The Honorable Melanne Vermeer,
Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues

The Honorable Julia Gillard, M.P., Prime Minister of Australia

Mr. Lloyd Blankfein, Chairman and CEO of Goldman Sachs

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Ms. Maria Bashir, Afghanistan

*Ms. Nasta Palazhanka, Belarus**

Ms. Henriette Ekwe Ebongo, Cameroon

Ms. Jianmei Guo, China

*Ms. Yoani Sanchez, Cuba**

The Honorable Agnes Osztolykan, Hungary

Ms. Eva Abu Halaweh, Jordan

Her Excellency Roza Otunbayeva, President of the Kyrgyz Republic

Ms. Marisela Morales Ibanez, Mexico

Ms. Ghulam Sughra, Pakistan

** Unable to attend awards ceremony*

MARIA BASHIR

AFGHANISTAN

Maria Bashir is Prosecutor General of the Attorney General's Office in Herat province, Afghanistan, the only woman to ever hold such a position in Afghan history. She handles cases on behalf of women victims of domestic abuse. Her work on behalf of victims of self-immolation and her unparalleled efforts to jail abusive husbands has put her own life at risk, yet she perseveres to make Herat a more just and safe place and remains steadfast in her commitment to the future of Afghanistan.

NASTA PALAZHANKA

BELARUS

Nasta Palazhanka joined the opposition youth movement in Belarus at the age of 14. Now 21, she is a key figure in the opposition youth organization “Malady Front” (Young Front). Ms. Palazhanka has led peaceful protests and called attention to the plight of the families of political prisoners. She was at the heart of the “tent camp” set up in downtown Minsk to demonstrate against the fraudulent results of the 2006 presidential polls, and she has selflessly worked on behalf of charitable causes to improve the human rights situation in her country.

HENRIETTE EKWE EBONGO

CAMEROON

Regarded as one of the most influential journalists in Cameroon, Henriette Ekwe Ebongo, political activist and publisher of *Bebela*, has spent a lifetime advancing press freedom, human rights, good governance, and gender equality. The publisher of *Bebela*, a weekly independent newspaper, she was instrumental in the founding of a freer and more independent media in Cameroon. Despite constant persecution over 30 years, “la Maman” (as her fellow journalists call her) continues to be committed to fight “until things move in the right direction.”

GUO JIANMEI

CHINA

Born in an impoverished area of China, Guo Jianmei has become the country's best-known female lawyer. Founder of the Women's Law Center at Peking University, Ms. Guo helped create a corps of lawyers to defend public interest cases, especially in areas affecting women, migrants, and other vulnerable groups. When Peking University appeared to bow to official pressure, and closed her center, Ms. Guo responded by establishing her own law firm. The memory of the plight of the women in her village drives her to continue to fight to improve the lives of the underprivileged.

YOANI SANCHEZ

CUBA

Blogger, technological innovator, and emerging civil society leader Yoani Sanchez has attracted an international following for her blog, *Generacion Y*, which gives readers unprecedented insight into life in Cuba. She has worked to improve the ability of ordinary Cubans to access and disseminate information, and to expand information flow and free expression throughout Cuba. In 2009, Sanchez was detained and roughed up by Cuban state security agents. She lives with daily fear that she could be jailed and accepts that she will always pay a price for her work as long as the current governmental system continues.

AGNES OSZTOLYKAN

HUNGARY

Defying the odds, Agnes Osztolykan was elected to Hungarian Parliament in 2010, and is the only female Roma Member of Parliament (MP) in Hungary. Ms. Osztolykan speaks out for Roma people in the face of open hostility, fearlessly advocating for the equal rights and inclusion of Roma in Hungarian society. As deputy chair of the Education Committee, she contributes to Hungary's new education regulations, ensuring that Roma inclusion remains a priority of government programming. Ms. Osztolykan is also a strong promoter of civil society in Hungary, who tirelessly pushes for better education and opportunities for children.

EVA ABU HALAWEH

JORDAN

Eva Abu Halaweh has dedicated her career to advocating for the vulnerable people of Jordan, including women at risk of becoming victims of so-called “honor crimes.” As Executive Director of the Mizan Law Group for Human Rights, Ms. Halaweh has developed a legal team that provides free legal advice and counseling, often the only option for those seeking justice or a remedy to their plight. Ms. Halaweh's work has influenced the government's actions to prevent torture and prosecute such violations and her advocacy opposing the government's use of administrative detention to “protect” women at risk of so-called “honor crimes” has changed the lives of many.

ROZA OTUNBAYEVA

KYRGYZSTAN

Stepping forward as a leader in the second effort of her country to shed authoritarian rule, Roza Otunbayeva emerged as Central Asia's first female head of state and head of government in a traditional, majority Muslim country. In the face of a collapsing, corrupt government and economic stagnation, President Otunbayeva succeeded in binding together a fractious opposition into a provisional government structure able to check the struggles for power from stirring up wider divisions in society. She has defied the expectations of the international community in building the first functioning democracy in Central Asia.

MARISELA MORALES IBANÉZ
MEXICO

The first woman ever appointed to the position of Assistant Attorney General for Specialized Investigation of Organized Crime (SIEDO) in 2008, Marisela Morales has been a leader in bringing to justice some of Mexico's most dangerous and notorious criminals. Her fearless efforts to stand up against corruption have generated confidence in SIEDO among the public at large. Under Ms. Morales' leadership, SIEDO has succeeded in coordinating efforts with the Secretariat of Defense, the Secretariat of the Navy, the Secretariat of Public Security, and the Secretariat of Governance, as well as with the U.S. Embassy in Mexico, and the embassies of other governments. Ms. Morales has been instrumental in creating the first Federal Witness Protection Program in Mexico. With her guidance and support, SIEDO indicted the first federal trafficking in persons case. With her oversight, SIEDO and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security have cooperated to reunify children of trafficking victims with their mothers in the United States.

GHULAM SUGHRA
PAKISTAN

Born in rural Sindh Province, Ghulam Sughra became her village's first female high school graduate and the first teacher at the first school for girls. Despite being challenged by villagers who refused to enroll their daughters in school, she initiated a public awareness campaign. She came to realize that economically empowered women would have more authority to allow their daughters to attend school so she focused on ways that would enable local women to develop their own sources of income. Her efforts led to the creation of the Marvi Rural Development Organization (MRDO), an NGO focused on creating community savings funds and raising awareness of education, health and social development issues.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 4 p.m.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 4 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord, our God and Savior, You have given us a powerful calling. Destined in our journey of life to find eternal happiness in Your presence; each day, we hope to draw closer to You and at the same time accomplish great deeds for the good of this Nation and for the world community.

By Your guidance of our judgments and decisions may we respond to Your commands and holy inspirations to build Your kingdom of peace and justice.

In so doing, may we give You glory now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WORLD WAR I MEMORIAL

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the lone survivor, the last doughboy of World War I, Frank Buckles, has died at the age of 110. This photograph of Frank Buckles was taken when he was 16 years of age. He lied to numerous recruiters so he could join the United States Army and go "over there" in World War I. He served in the Ambulance Corps, rescuing other doughboys who had been wounded in Europe. He came back home to America.

During World War II, he was in the Merchant Marines, Merchant Seamen, and he was captured by the Japanese in the Philippines. He was held as a prisoner of war for 3½ years.

Later, Frank moved to West Virginia, and he drove his tractor until he was well into his hundreds. This is a photograph taken of him when he was 109 years of age. It was taken not far from here on The D.C. Mall because, you see, it was Frank's wish toward the end of his life that we, as Members of Congress, authorize the building of a memorial to all of the doughboys who served in World War I, all 4 million of them who have all died; 116,000 of them were killed in World War I.

Mr. Speaker, we have memorials for Vietnam, World War II, and Korea on The Mall, but we don't have a memorial for all of those who served in World War I. We have a memorial, and this is a photograph of it, for the folks that lived here in D.C. and served in World War I, but we don't have a memorial for all that served.

So I have filed, today, legislation on behalf of Frank Buckles and all those other doughboys that we authorize the building of a memorial on The Mall for those who served in World War I, those doughboys. It is time for Congress to do something for those young men and women who served.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING C. RAY BAKER

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember an Arkansas legend—former Mayor Ray Baker—who died March 4, 2011, following a lengthy illness. For 20 years, Mayor Baker presided over Fort Smith, Arkansas, our second largest city. He was remembered this week not only for his outstanding civic leadership, but also for his 44 years of teaching American history at Fort Smith Southside High School, lessons taught to thousands of students on many of the very issues debated in this hallowed Chamber. He was an institution in civic and academic accomplishment, including the prestigious Milken Family National Educator Award.

Mr. Speaker, it warmed the soul to listen to his colleagues, former students, family, and friends eulogize him for his contributions to humankind. His enthusiasm was contagious; his devotion to his school, church, and community unmistakable.

Thanks to Mayor Baker, in his own immortal words, "Life's worth living in Fort Smith, Arkansas."

HORRIBLE UNDERMINING OF RIGHTS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, just a few minutes ago I had the privilege of listening to Janice Kay Bobholz, a deputy sheriff from Wisconsin; Courtney Johnson, a teacher from Ohio; Ryan Fagg, an electrician from Indiana; Lynne Radcliffe, a school support staff from Ohio; and Tom Guyer, a U.S. Army veteran and a parole officer from Ohio, all of them pleading with this Congress to intervene or to cease the nonsense of their Governors who are union busting and breaking the backs of middle class Americans.

They all explained how the unions were eager to work with these States on health and pension benefits; but yet, because of special interests and large corporate donors and private conversations of the Governor of Wisconsin talking about breaking the backs of the special 14 who are trying to stay out to help the working middle class, they are in trouble.

Rather than creating jobs, rather than creating jobs as we are trying to do as a Democratic Caucus working on behalf of the American people, what we have is, frankly, a horrible undermining of rights in this country.

CREATE JOBS BY PRODUCING AMERICAN ENERGY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)