

Big "I" National Championship golf tournament which is one of the pre-eminent junior golf events in the country.

In his community, Bobby serves as a First National Bank and Trust Company director, trustee of The Glen Foundation, and trustee of St. John's Northwestern Military Academy.

Bobby and Nanette are the proud parents of son, Jake, who is an agent in the agency; daughter-in-law, Jennifer; and grandson, Bryce. They reside in Ardmore, Oklahoma.

The state of Oklahoma is proud of Bobby Bramlett and wishes him well following his successful year as chairman of the Big "I."

RECOGNIZING THE ZANIOS FAMILY

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor several generous New Mexico residents who provided a boy from Peru with the opportunity to receive a life-saving heart surgery in Albuquerque.

In true New Mexico spirit, Pamela Zanios, her husband James and their sons, Andres and James, opened up their Los Ranchos home to 14-year-old Flavio Liberti Gutierrez while he was in Albuquerque for the heart procedure. The Zanios family gave Flavio the comfort he needed while he was away from his own home in Calca, Peru. Heart surgery is a frightening experience for anyone, especially for a teenager in a foreign country. But the Zanios family provided Flavio with the love and moral support he needed to help him through the ordeal.

Flavio got the opportunity for the heart surgery through the Healing the Children program, which arranges for medical care to children who otherwise would not receive it. I want to recognize this wonderful program, along with Dr. Carl Lagerstrom and his team at the Presbyterian Heart Group, which volunteered to perform the successful procedure. I would also like to thank the staff at Presbyterian for donating the hospital care, including operating staff, nursing staff and medications. American Airlines generously provided the air travel for Flavio as part of the company's longtime commitment to Healing the Children.

I appreciate the generosity of all New Mexicans who go above and beyond to help their family, neighbors and especially a child from a foreign land who needed a helping hand. The Albuquerque Journal's Joline Gutierrez Krueger eloquently shared Flavio's story with the community. As a result, I was made aware of the actions of the Zanios family, Dr. Lagerstrom and many others who deserve this special recognition.

A COMPILATION OF UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BENGHAZI TERRORIST ATTACK

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit a compilation of the questions I have asked about the

Benghazi terrorist attack over the past three weeks. These questions remain unanswered despite nearly a year of investigations and that is why I continue to believe that a Select Committee is the only way to fully understand what happened in Benghazi that night and the response that followed. The Congress owes it to the families of the victims, the survivors of the attack and the American people to find these answers once and for all. It's time for a Select Committee.

QUESTION OF THE DAY #1 (DELIVERED ON JULY 16, 2013)

1. Why has not one person who was in Benghazi the night of the attack been subpoenaed to testify publicly before Congress, and instead, some of the survivors will tell their stories through multi-million dollar book deals?

2. Will any of the \$3 million they are earning from the book deal be shared with Ty Woods widow and child or the parents of Glen Doherty?

3. Why has the Congress not asked, or subpoenaed, these individuals to testify before House committees that have been investigating over the past year?

QUESTION OF THE DAY #2 (SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD ON JULY 17, 2013)

1. Was there an intelligence failure in vetting the true loyalty of the Libyan security guards for the U.S. consulate? Which agency was responsible for vetting the militias?

2. Who provided the terrorists with details of the consulate property? Was it the security guards or someone in the Libyan government who was notified about the ambassador's visit?

3. Why did the guards in the car outside the consulate not warn the U.S. staff of the gathering terrorists as they drove away a minute before the assault began? Were they complicit in the plot?

QUESTION OF THE DAY #3 (DELIVERED ON JULY 18, 2013)

1. How many Benghazi survivors, including federal employees, military personnel or contractors, have been asked to sign additional Non-Disclosure Agreements by the different agencies relating to what happened in Benghazi?

2. Do these NDAs apply only to those under cover, or have non-covert State Department and Defense Department employees been directed to sign them too?

QUESTION OF THE DAY #4 (DELIVERED ON JULY 19, 2013)

1. Reports indicate that upwards of 100 terrorists may have attacked the consulate and annex. After nearly a year of FBI investigations, why has the U.S. not located, apprehended and brought to justice a single terrorist responsible for killing four Americans, including a sitting U.S. ambassador?

2. Why has the Obama Administration not taken any apparent steps to apply pressure to countries that have refused to allow the FBI access to terrorists responsible for the Benghazi attacks? Has the FBI had access to any other suspects, in any country, other than their brief interview with Ali Harzi?

QUESTION OF THE DAY #5 (DELIVERED ON JULY 22, 2013)

1. Why was the CIA's security team repeatedly ordered to "stand down" for more than 30 minutes after the attack began?

2. Where did the order to stop the team from responding originate? Was it directed by the CIA or someone else in Washington?

3. If the team had been allowed to respond immediately, could the lives of Ambassador Stevens and Sean Smith have been saved?

4. Has anyone been held accountable for obstructing the security team for so long?

QUESTION OF THE DAY #6 (DELIVERED ON JULY 23, 2013)

1. Doesn't it bother any of my colleagues that Gen. [Carter] Ham can speak publicly about the military's response at a forum in Aspen, Colorado—where tickets start at \$1,200—yet his testimony before Congress was behind closed doors? (Gen. Ham, who was the head of U.S. forces in Africa the night of attack, appeared at the Aspen Security Forum last weekend and spoke openly about the U.S. response to the Benghazi attack.)

2. If Gen. Ham's command required no additional authority to respond to what he then believed to be a hostage rescue situation, why did it take another seven hours before AFRICOM ordered a C-17 aircraft in Germany to prepare to deploy to Libya to evacuate Americans? Why did that plane not leave Germany for another eight hours after that?

3. If the situation appeared to be deteriorating throughout the night at the annex, why wasn't there any additional effort to accelerate air support or even planes to evacuate American personnel directly from Benghazi?

4. Given the betrayal by our supposed allied Libyan militia forces when calls to defend the consulate went unheeded, why would the Pentagon not move even faster to ensure there was a reliable evacuation and hostage response force to assist the Americans in Benghazi?

5. Given that no American plane arrived in Benghazi to support the evacuation, just what planes were used to evacuate the Americans the morning of Sept. 12?

6. The State Department's Accountability Review Board said two planes were used to transport Americans from Benghazi to Tripoli. We know that one was a Libyan Air Force C-130 that brought back the bodies of Ambassador Stevens, Sean Smith, Ty Wood and Glen Doherty, but the first to depart was a private, "chartered" jet. It took off at 7:40 a.m. with "evacuees, including all wounded personnel," according to the unclassified version of the report.

7. Just who owned that jet?

8. Was it the same jet that brought in the seven-person response team from Tripoli earlier that night?

9. Was it really chartered or was it commandeered?

10. How many wounded were evacuated on that jet?

11. Of the wounded, how many were State Department employees, CIA employees or security contractors?

QUESTION OF THE DAY #7 (DELIVERED ON JULY 24, 2013)

1. According to an excerpt of the new book *Under Fire: The Untold Story of the Attack in Benghazi*, which was published in this month's *Vanity Fair* magazine, on the night of the attack, Ambassador Stevens made several calls for help after reaching what he believed was a safe room on the consulate compound. Some of those calls were made to "nearby consulates." Assuming the authors are correct, the government should have the phone records from that night. Which foreign consulates did he call? How did those consulates respond?

2. If Stevens was calling foreign consulates, did U.S. officials in Tripoli or Washington call any allies with assets in Libya to help respond to the attack?

3. Did the Pentagon contact any NATO allies with military assets in the region that could have provided assistance that night?

4. Given how close many of our European allies are to the Mediterranean, wouldn't they have planes or response teams stationed in locations in or nearby the region that

could have been mobilized upon request from Washington?

5. And speaking of force posture, what have we done to ensure that if another incident were to happen this September 11 that we're prepared to respond?

QUESTION OF THE DAY #8 (SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD JULY 25, 2013)

1. A U.S. consulate is under attack. A U.S. Ambassador is missing. A State Department Diplomatic Security Agent is dead. Are the American people to believe the president is briefed only once that entire night, at 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time?

2. Where was the president the rest of the night?

3. Did his national security team, including John Brennan, Sec. Panetta and Gen. Dempsey, ever go back and brief the president when the annex came under attack? If so, what steps did he direct at that time?

4. Did the president ever step foot in the White House Situation Room that night?

5. Did he ever see the footage from the unarmed drone stationed over Benghazi monitoring the attacks?

6. Last evening, Fox News' Catherine Herridge reported how Diplomatic Security Agent David Ubben is still recovering at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center—more than 10 months after the attack—for injuries he sustained while repeatedly risking his life to save others that night. Has the president ever called or met with David Ubben to thank him for his sacrifice? Has he ever called the others who were seriously wounded that night, including the former Navy SEAL on the security team who sustained significant injuries?

7. To Secretary of State John Kerry's credit, I know that he has visited with Ubben at Walter Reed. But did former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton ever meet with him during the six months she was still in office after the attack?

8. Did the president and his team ever even consider cancelling his political fundraiser in Las Vegas the day after the attack to monitor the situation in Benghazi?

9. That night, when the ambassador was considered a potential hostage and nearly 30 Americans were under sustained attacks at the CIA annex, did the president's staff ever notify the campaign that he might not be leaving the White House the next day?

10. When he boarded Air Force One for Las Vegas, did the president know about the serious injuries that some of the survivors had sustained? Did he know what hospitals they were being taken to?

11. Is there a parallel in American history when the U.S. was under attack, Americans were killed and a sitting U.S. ambassador was considered a potential terrorist hostage, but the president was not engaged with his national security team?

QUESTION OF THE DAY #9 (DELIVERED ON JULY 30, 2013)

1. Who are the anonymous senior administration officials who admitted "mistakes" in their handling of the attack to CBS?

2. Why haven't they testified to Congress about these mistakes?

3. Why wasn't the Foreign Emergency Support Team (FEST) deployed immediately?

4. Last week, Gen. Ham admitted that he believed Ambassador Stevens may have been taken hostage by terrorists. Given the FEST team's terrorism and hostage negotiation expertise, who made the decision not to deploy them?

5. Why didn't the White House convene the Counterterrorism Security Group (CSG) that night to coordinate the interagency response to the attack? If that group wasn't responsible for coordination, who was?

6. Which agency was leading the response that night?

7. Was the State Department directing the Pentagon not to deploy its planes or response teams while also not sending the FEST team?

QUESTION OF THE DAY #10 (DELIVERED ON JULY 31, 2013)

1. When was the CIA annex in Benghazi established?

2. How many people worked at the annex—of these, how many were direct agency employees and how many were contractors?

3. What was the ratio of CIA staff to security contractors?

4. Above all, why was there a facility operated by the CIA in Benghazi?

5. If indeed the CIA facility in Benghazi involved in the collection of \$40 million in weapons from the U.S., as first reported by National Journal in 2011, where are they?

6. The \$40 million promised by Secretary Clinton would buy a very large quantity of weapons. Were they shipped out of Benghazi? Are they in warehouses on U.S. soil? Are they in other allied countries? Or did they end up elsewhere?

7. Is it possible that the president's intelligence finding included an authorization for the weapons collected in Libya to be transferred to Syrian rebels? Was the CIA annex being used to facilitate these transfers? If so, how did the weapons physically move from Libya to Syria? By plane? By ship?

8. And, again, I ask, if these weapons were not being transferred to other countries like Syria, where exactly did they end up?

9. Was the CIA annex being used as a logistics center to track and transfer these weapons?

10. Was Ambassador Stevens' visit to the CIA annex on September 10 associated with these operations?

11. And if these activities were taking place, was this consistent with the president's intelligence finding? Was the Congress notified?

QUESTION OF THE DAY #11 (DELIVERED ON AUGUST 1, 2013)

1. Who in the White House knew what was going on in the [CIA] annex [in Benghazi]? The president? The chief of staff? Then-deputy national security advisor and current CIA director John Brennan?

QUESTION OF THE DAY #12 (DELIVERED ON AUGUST 2, 2013)

1. Why are these heroes being told not talk? What is the administration afraid of? What is it protecting?

2. How can the Congress know the survivors don't want to speak with Congress if they can't learn who they are and ask them?

3. Are we really to take the administration's word [that they aren't being silenced]?

4. With such a broad range of support [for a Benghazi Select Committee], it begs the question: why not? What are we afraid of from a full investigation and public hearings?

5. The House "interim progress report" on Benghazi was released on April 23. When will the final report be released?

6. Can any member here confidently say that they know what happened that night?

7. Can any member honestly say—with reports like the one CNN did yesterday—that this Congress has done everything it can to allow the survivors to come forward and tell their story?

8. September 11 is fast approaching. Will we continue on our current path and learn from forthcoming books written by the survivors and sanitized by the CIA, or will we create a Select Committee to subpoena witnesses to testify under oath at public hearings?

9. With news reports this morning that the U.S. will be closing all embassies in the Mid-

dle East this weekend due to a suspected terrorist threat, are we better prepared now to respond to an attack? We still don't know.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 434, I was unavoidably detained in a meeting off the hill at the White House with the President.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no".

A TRIBUTE TO PATTY COWNIE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Patty Cownie for being named a 2013 Women of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Each year, Business Record undertakes an exhaustive review to identify a standout group of women in the Greater Des Moines area who, as the publication notes, "have made a difference." An impressive group of inspiring female leaders are selected annually for this prestigious distinction, which is based on combined criteria of community involvement, career success, and being a role model for other women to emulate. The 2013 Women of Influence honorees join an impressive roster of more than 130 women who have changed and are continuing to change our communities for the better.

As a leading community volunteer, Patty Cownie has come to personify the idea of "giving back" and working to help Des Moines provide quality educational experiences for children and young adults. After college, Mrs. Cownie worked for two years as a social worker, before parenting nine children became a full-time job. But she always has remained highly active in the community, spending 10 years on the Drake University board of trustees and being involved at Dowling Catholic High School, which her children attended, as well as St. Augustin School, where she was the foundation board chair. She also has been president of the Des Moines Metro Opera board, and she has served on the Des Moines Arts Festival committee, Civic Music Association board and Des Moines Performing Arts board.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Patty Cownie in the United States Congress, and I am pleased to recognize her for working to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating her on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Women of Influence class continued success.