

□ 1240

PROMOTING MANUFACTURING AND
A THRIVING ECONOMY

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to encourage this body to support our Nation's vital manufacturing sector by reducing burdensome regulations. Nearly 12 million Americans—almost 10 percent of the workforce—are employed directly in manufacturing. During last week's district work period, I had the opportunity to visit part of that workforce at the Tenneco facility in Hartwell, as well as the SKF Industries plant in Flowery Branch. I'm proud of the topnotch work being done by Georgia manufacturers. Companies like SKF have been recognized for the high level of investment the company places in employees. Last month, the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce awarded SKF for its employee recognition efforts.

Manufacturing provides a great opportunity for folks, including those in Hartwell and Flowery Branch, to work hard and earn a good living so they can provide for their families. We cannot let their livelihood be threatened by out-of-control Federal regulations. I stand ready to work with my colleagues to promote a reasonable regulatory framework that will help manufacturing and our entire economy to thrive.

CELEBRATING PRESIDENT RON-
ALD WILSON REAGAN'S 102ND
BIRTHDAY

(Mr. ROTHFUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, today we observe the 102nd birthday of Ronald Reagan, the 40th President of the United States. I take this opportunity to again thank Mrs. Reagan and the Reagan family for sharing their husband and father with this country. Their sacrifices allowed this Nation to move from an era of doubt and decline into one of a brighter future.

Today, we find ourselves facing another era of doubt and decline: chronic unemployment, staggering debt, international crises, and advocates of Big Government pushing for more failed Big Government to fix our problems. I suggest that those who think America cannot turn the state of affairs around to think again. As President Reagan said—and these words are inscribed at his final resting place in California:

I know in my heart that man is good. That what is right will always eventually triumph. And there's purpose and worth to each and every life.

With that perspective, let us again renew our commitment with President Reagan's trademark optimism to a renewal of the American spirit and a re-lighting of the American Dream.

PASSAGE OF THE FARM BILL

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, without reforms, by the year 2020, the interest alone paid on our national debt by American taxpayers will cost \$1 trillion per year—money that could otherwise be used to educate our kids or put aside for those most in need. Most would agree that borrowing on the backs of our children to pay for promises our government cannot keep must end, and that only together, through the collaboration of both parties, can we assure America begins to live within its means.

During the last Congress there was one area where both parties came together. It was an effort that made improvements in programs resulting in better use of each tax dollar. It was an effort that also achieved deficit reduction. This effort was the farm bill.

Many of us are eager to hear the President's plan to help the Nation achieve fiscal balance during next week's State of the Union. I encourage the President to elevate passage of a new farm bill to the forefront of the speech. It's good policy. It's one area where we can come together and start the path of fiscal balance. I encourage my leaders in the House to welcome this call.

HONORING LEE RUSH

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true leader in my district back home in Pennsylvania, Mr. Lee Rush, who 10 years ago founded a community nonprofit organization known as justCommunity. Its mission is to provide consultation, education, and training services in the areas of youth development and substance abuse prevention, both very important goals.

In light of his exceptional efforts and initiative, Lee has been named an Advocate of the Year by the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America and will be receiving that distinction tomorrow, February 7. I couldn't be more proud of him.

Lee's achievements and steadfast leadership have positively impacted the youth and communities of Pennsylvania. It's been an honor to get to know Lee personally and to witness his accomplishments firsthand. I know that he will keep up the outstanding work.

THE GLOBAL JIHADIST THREAT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, outgoing Secretary of State Hillary Clinton recently issued a stern warning in her testimony before the House and Senate committees responsible for oversight of U.S. foreign policy. She referred repeatedly to the need for our country to recognize and respond to what she called a "global jihadist threat."

Mr. Speaker, rarely have I agreed more with Secretary Clinton. Yet if Mrs. Clinton has been worried about this threat before now, she has done an impressive job of concealing it. The same is true of the Obama administration more generally. For the past 4 years, the executive branch has gone to extraordinary lengths to obscure the danger posed by those who practice holy war, or jihad, against our country. The administration has also sought to silence, and in some cases punish, those who have spoken the truth about this menace.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely welcome the Secretary's warning, belated though it may be. However, it would have served this country and the cause of freedom far more if she had so openly recognized the threat posed by militant Islamic jihad—and to have led in countering it—at any point during her tenure other than its conclusion.

One of the most important architects of that see-no-jihad policy over the past 4 years has been John Brennan, President Obama's homeland security advisor and his pick to become the next Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. In May, 2010, Mr. Brennan publicly declared that:

We do not describe our enemy as "jihadists" or "Islamists" because jihad is a holy struggle, a legitimate tenet of Islam, meaning to purify oneself or one's community, and there is nothing holy or legitimate or Islamic about murdering innocent men, women, and children.

Mr. Speaker, the unavoidable reality is that self-described jihadists have routinely gone about murdering innocent women and children for decades. It should alarm us all that neither John Brennan nor Hillary Clinton—nor seemingly anyone else in the Obama administration—has fully recognized the scope of this jihadist threat. They seem blind to the fact that the Islamic jihadists here and elsewhere in the West are even now engaging in a pre-violent form of holy war against infidels and the free world. And the administration has refused to face the incontrovertible fact that the driving force behind this practice is the Muslim Brotherhood. The brothers themselves call this form of holy war "civilization jihad."

Mr. Speaker, this reality is in direct conflict with the Obama administration's insistence—long-promoted by John Brennan—that we confront only al Qaeda and its affiliates. We are told that we can safely cultivate relations with "moderates" in Islamist groups like Hezbollah and the Muslim Brotherhood. This has led to helping

jihadists extend their power elsewhere and allowed them to gain dangerous footholds in America.

□ 1250

Mr. Speaker, we need as a Nation to understand the true nature and ominous implications of the global jihadist threat in both its violent and pre-violent forms.

The unavoidable truth is that there are individuals who adhere to a political Islamist doctrine of shari'a, and they are willing to become involved in the jihad it commands, and they pose a potential mortal threat to this Nation and its people. And Congress has a duty, Mr. Speaker, among other things, to question the ways in which such individuals and organizations tied to the Muslim Brotherhood have been given access to and preferential treatment from the Obama administration.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the success of this stealth jihad has been significantly enhanced by remarks and public statements made by John Brennan over the past 4 years. He should, therefore, not be allowed anywhere near—let alone actually be given responsibility for running—America's premiere intelligence agency.

It is my hope that, among other things, my remarks on the floor today will encourage our colleagues in the Senate to scrutinize critically the record and judgment of John Brennan and his suitability for the job of CIA Director.

Mr. Speaker, may I commend to my colleagues on both sides of Capitol Hill regarding this issue and to the American people a powerful new documentary that examines, in part, some of the issues I have discussed today and their grave implications for our national security, public safety, and freedoms. This documentary, entitled, "The Grand Deception," is a product of counterterrorism expert Steven Emerson's Investigative Project on Terrorism, and it provides critical insights into the true nature of the "global jihadist threat," including its expanding successes overseas and the danger it poses here at home. It chronicles the history of what I believe has been an officially sanctioned and willful blindness to that threat. It also lays bare the various ways in which such a practice is contributing to the emboldening of our enemies, the undermining of our allies, and the steady erosion of our economy and our security.

Mr. Speaker, let me close by noting, as the previous gentleman did, that today is Ronald Reagan's birthday. It is particularly appropriate to recall on Mr. Reagan's birthday his admonition of August 1961. He said:

Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States when men were free.

Mr. Speaker, today, in our time, we also face the prospect of a generational threat to freedom. We must bend every effort to awakening our countrymen to that threat and equip them to contend with it, and we must ensure that our government's policies and our capabilities are conducive to and employed effectively to fight for our freedom, to protect it, and to hand it on to future generations in the hope that they will do the same.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, John Brennan has shown himself time and again to be at cross-purposes with those requirements. For that reason alone, his nomination must be rejected.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 54 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, at this time, the first thing I would like to do is yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS).

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CARDISS COLLINS, FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. I want to thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding to me.

I rise to pay tribute to the predecessor of my office, who served for 23 years as a Member of the House, the Honorable Cardiss Collins, who passed away on Saturday evening here in the District area.

I followed Ms. Collins into Congress when she retired. She followed her husband, who was killed in an airplane accident. The amazing thing about her was that she basically had no political involvement and experience from that vantage point. She was an accountant, who also was a housewife and involved a bit in local politics. But she got involved and was a quick study, immediately grasped what takes place here, ultimately became chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, became chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, had an outstanding career, and I simply wanted to acknowledge her work.

People of her community will remember the legacy that she created as a fighter for women's rights, as a defender of children's rights, and a real defender of health care.

Again, I thank the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you, Mr. DAVIS. It's my pleasure to have had the opportunity to yield to you. It's one of the things that's good if we do more of, and that is recognizing people for their great contributions to this country.

At this time, I want to pick up where my friend, Mr. FRANKS, left off and follow up on the issue of who will be the next CIA Director. This is an important matter.

Some think, well, what difference does the past make? Today is a new day. Every day is a new day. But those of us who majored in history, studied history, know that our history is the best indication of future performance.

So with regard to Mr. Brennan, I think it's worth noting that Secretary of State—former Secretary of State now—Hillary Clinton warned on her way out as Secretary of State of the danger of what she called the "global jihadist threat." I am greatly appreciative to Secretary Clinton for calling this administration's attention to that, as well as the American public. Secretary Clinton should know. We had at least four Americans killed at Benghazi during her watch as Secretary of State.

The question might be: Where is John Brennan today on this central challenge of our time for Western civilization? And by "Western civilization," I mean the idea that the Founders of this Nation had, many of them depicted in the great mural just outside this floor, 56 signers of the Declaration in the mural that John Trumble did down in the Rotunda. Their idea, when you read their writings, was of a people who would have the chance to govern themselves.

They all knew that prayer was important. That's why as Ben Franklin said during the Constitutional Convention—his own handwriting, he wrote out his speech, but he mentioned that during the revolution, in his words:

We had daily prayer in this room. Our prayers, sir, were heard and they were graciously answered.

They understood that. They prayed for wisdom. They prayed for guidance. They prayed for help in setting up this experiment in democracy. Yes, Rome had had a Senate. Yes, Greece had had a Senate; England had had a Parliament. But they had rulers who could just disband, kill, dismiss. This was going to be different. This was going to be a people who would have the chance to actually govern themselves, a revolutionary idea.

There was still such a class system in so many areas of the world in the 1700s that so many considered that people who were not of the upper crust would not have the ability to govern themselves. That's not what the Founders believed after they prayed each day during the revolution, after they prayed and struggled and argued over the way forward to reaching that goal.

But there is a threat, as Secretary Clinton said, the global jihadist threat, of people who think that the Founders' dream is totally inappropriate, that it leads to degradation; it leads to moral depravity, in their minds.

□ 1300

The Founders knew that was a possibility, but it was worth the risk to give people the freedom of choice as they believed their creator had given all of us, to make decisions for good or bad, and normally to have to live with the consequences of those decisions.