

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

200 YEARS OF SERBIAN-AMERICANS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this weekend there will be a great gathering in Philadelphia to commemorate 200 years of Serbians in the United States.

As co-chair of the Congressional Serbian Caucus, we make sure that the voices of Serbian-Americans and our allies in the Serbian people are heard in Congress. Serbians are a lot like Texans. There's a certain spunk in us. It makes perfect sense that the first Serbian in the U.S., Dorde Šagić or George Fisher, spent time in Texas, and Houston at that, serving as a justice of the peace and in the Texas militia.

For more than 130 years, we have had a close relationship with the Serbian people. Our friendship with the Serbians is based on our shared belief in democracy and standing up for liberty. During both World War I and World War II, our two countries fought on the same battlefield and our people shared and shed blood together. Because of that brotherhood, we have a special relationship.

Serbians that have immigrated to the United States have brought so much to our country. George Dudich was a Serbian who immigrated to the U.S. in 1947 after World War II. He and his family fled communism under Tito. His daughter was my Chief of Staff when I was in Judge in Texas. During World War II, George worked with the Serbian resistance and rescued downed American flyers. When he came to the U.S. he spent much of his life locating those downed flyers.

I am proud to chair the Serbian Caucus with Representative EMANUEL CLEAVER from Missouri. And am grateful for recognition of the Caucus with the Ruth Mitchell Friendship Award. Serbian-Americans should be proud of their heritage and contribution to both of our great countries.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING MINNESOTA STUDENT PARTICIPANTS IN NATIONAL HISTORY DAY CONTEST

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the young people from my state of Minnesota who joined nearly 3,000 students from all over the world to participate in the annual "National History Day Contest" in Washington, DC.

This year, Minnesota was proud to send Sarah Merkling, Jenna Olawsky, and Elizabeth Rumreich, from Elk River, MN, to represent our state. They won first place in the Junior

Division (middle school) in the Performance Category. These three girls just completed 6th grade, which is the first year of eligibility for the competition. By winning first at the state level, they outperformed over 300 other 6th, 7th, and 8th grade teams from around the state.

Their performance, "Canoes & Controversy: Paddling Through the Environmental Movement in Minnesota," addressed the different sentiments surrounding the Boundary Waters Canoe Area as seen through the eyes of an environmentalist, a businessman, and a news reporter from 1927 through today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body join with me in honoring Sarah, Jenna, and Elizabeth for representing Minnesota's rich history and heritage, and for setting such a great academic example.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING MILITARY SERVICE OF COLONEL A. DERRICK DYKES ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Hawkinsville, Georgia's own Colonel A. Derrick Dykes, United States Air Force for his extraordinary dedication to duty and selfless service to the United States of America. Colonel Dykes will soon retire from his present assignment as the Assistant Deputy Director of Requirements, Air Combat Command, United States Air Force, Langley Air Force Base, Langley, Virginia and return to the great state of Georgia.

Colonel Dykes was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant into the United States Air Force upon graduation from the United States Air Force Academy in 1989. He is a command instructor and evaluator pilot with over 5,200 hours flying United States Air Force aircraft, of which nearly 1,200 are combat or combat support hours.

Colonel Dykes has served in a variety of command and leadership positions, all with distinction. He was Commander, 330th Combat Training Squadron; Deputy Commander, 116th Operations Group; and Acting Vice Wing Commander, 116th Air Control Wing, Robins AFB, GA. Colonel Dykes served as the Chief, Command and Control Weapons System Teams Requirement Division; and Chief, Command & Control, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Requirements Division, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Langley AFB, VA. He served as the Director of Staff and Host Nation Liaison Officer, 380th Air Expeditionary Wing, Southwest Asia as well as Chief, 116th Operations Group Standards and Evaluations and Chief Wing Readiness and Inspections, 116th Air Control Wing; Assistant Director of Operations, 128th Airborne Command and Control Squadron, Robins AFB,

GA; Chief C2ISR Assignments and Deputy Chief Mobility/C2ISR/SOF/HELO/CEA Assignments Branch, Headquarters Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, TX. Colonel Dykes was the Chief of Squadron Safety for the 12th Airborne Command and Control Squadron, Robins AFB, GA, and the 964th Airborne Air Control Squadron, Tinker AFB, OK, as well as a Replacement Training Unit instructor/evaluator pilot for the 966th Airborne Air Control Squadron, Tinker AFB, OK. Colonel Dykes is currently the Assistant Deputy Director of Requirements, Air Combat Command, United States Air Force.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to recognize Colonel Dykes' long and decorated career. On behalf of a grateful nation, I commend Colonel Dykes for his dedicated service to the United States of America. I also wish to recognize the sacrifices and contributions made by Colonel Dykes' wife Lisa and his sons, Caleb, Tanner, and Justin, as well as his parents Vickie and Alton, all who have sacrificed and supported this American hero. We are a nation truly indebted to Colonel Dykes and his family, as well as to all who have served and continue to serve and give so much to defend our American values and liberties. I extend my best wishes to Colonel Dykes and his family on the occasion of his retirement.

HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AND CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY IN NORTH KOREA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I recently held a hearing on an issue that deserves the world's attention: the systematic abuses of human rights in North Korea, which amount to crimes against humanity by perhaps the world's most repressive totalitarian regime—and totalitarian, not authoritarian, is the right word. As so very correctly stated in the United Nations Commission of Inquiry report on North Korea, such a regime is "a state that does not content itself with ensuring the authoritarian rule of a small group of people, but seeks to dominate every aspect of its citizens' lives and terrorizes them from within."

For in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, we see a State that seeks to control all aspects of the lives of its citizens, not only their political lives, but also that innermost sanctuary we call conscience as well.

The term "hermit kingdom" is applied to any nation that willfully cuts itself off from the rest of the world—either metaphorically or physically. This term was applied to Korea as long ago as the late nineteenth century, but it continues to be applicable to North Korea today. This is why the terrible human rights violations in North Korea are little noticed outside foreign policy circles. We must see that the crimes of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the North Korean regime are more widely known than they are now.

The first step toward that is to listen to experts who have presented testimony on the horrific situation in North Korea, where political prisoners serve as virtual slaves, where starvation is used as a political weapon, and where religious believers—Christians in particular—are imprisoned, tortured and killed with such ferocity that some say it amounts to genocide.

Unfortunately, however, today the world's attention is distracted by manifold crises which seem almost to overwhelm us. To enumerate just a few, there is the: breathtaking collapse-in-progress of the Maliki regime in Iraq, which we had supported at the cost of so much American blood and treasure; various humanitarian catastrophes in Africa, most notably in the Central African Republic and South Sudan, but also the presence of violent Islamist movements such as Boko Haram and al-Shabaab in the major nations of Nigeria and Kenya; the ongoing tensions in Ukraine, as a restive Russia seeks to reassert its imperial hegemony over neighboring states; and clashes in the South China Sea as an increasingly-bellucose China makes a gambit to become a maritime power and fill a perceived vacuum.

We have always lived in a wounded world, but today the tourniquets required to stop all the bleeding the world over would tax even the most compassionate of souls.

Yet it is precisely this exhaustion of compassion that we must fight against, and we must summon the necessary conviction to address the sufferings of the people of North Korea.

At last week's hearing, we had an eyewitness to the barbarity of North Korea's cruel regime—a defector from North Korea who was born in a “total-control zone” political prison camp in the North, and who gave us an unsettling first-hand account of what he experienced. The torture he endured—and not simply physical torture, as horrific as that was—was a psychological barbarity of such ruthlessness that once you have heard what he underwent, your imaginations will forever be affected.

We heard stories of starvation by design—how the denial of food is used as an instrument of wide scale torture.

We also heard about a North Korean nuclear program that goes beyond the headlines. Yes, we do know that North Korea, in its quest for nuclear weapons, threatens to destabilize the world, but what many of us did not know, is the extent to which the North Korean nuclear program is built upon the cadavers of its own people. The United Nations Commission of Inquiry report, as important as it was, never explored the full extent to which workers in uranium mines are exposed to high levels of radiation, and how even the most basic concern for the safety needs of workers are routinely ignored.

Finally, I want to call attention to H.R. 1771, the North Korea Sanctions Enforcement Act. It is my hope that Congress—both the House and Senate—will take to heart the testimony that was presented, and, with a renewed focus on North Korea's human rights record, pass this important legislation, which takes a step toward holding this rouge regime accountable for the sins committed against its own people.

TRIBUTE TO THE ILLINOIS NATIONAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and honor the Illinois National Baptist State Convention (INBSC) on the occasion of the celebration of their 100th year Centennial Anniversary.

The state affiliate of the National Baptist Convention of America, International, INBSC has been formally structured and rooted in the Baptist Doctrine since its inception. INBSC has a longstanding commitment to the advancement of the Kingdom of God on earth through the teachings of Jesus the Christ. Their dedication to Christian education, evangelism, and home and foreign missions has been the strength of their ministry.

We are encouraged and uplifted by their efforts to help grow and develop church ministries and are reminded of the words of the Apostle Paul in his Ephesian writing: “and he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.”

Mr. Speaker, the Illinois National Baptist State Convention has been a strong beacon of light in the State of Illinois and indeed the nation. I salute their State President, the Reverend Dr. Joel D. Taylor, the Convention officers, Member churches and Pastors and pray that they remain steadfast and unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that their labor is not in vain in the Lord. I am honored to pay tribute to their historic 100th anniversary celebration and am privileged to enter these words into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States House of Representatives.

ROD DOWNEY CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rod Downey, a mail carrier from Pueblo, Colorado. Mr. Downey has been awarded the United States Postal Services' inaugural Postal Hero Award for going above and beyond in his service to his county and its citizens.

On January 10, Mr. Downey was delivering mail when he heard the cries of Louise Grebenc. Ms. Grebenc, who was 81 at the time of the incident, had fallen on her porch the day before and could not get up. She called for help throughout the night as the temperature dropped below freezing. She had given up until Mr. Downey arrived. He quickly assessed the situation and called 911, staying with Ms. Grebenc until an ambulance came. Mr. Downey's actions saved her life.

Mr. Speaker, Rod Downey's exemplary performance and dedication are an example to us all. I stand with the residents of Pueblo County

and the United States Postal Service in thanking Mr. Downey for his service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 350 regarding the “Palone of New Jersey Part B Amendment No. 1” (H.R. 3301). Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

DOMESTIC PROSPERITY AND GLOBAL FREEDOM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to provide for expedited approval of exportation of natural gas to World Trade Organization countries, and for other purposes:

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Chair, I rise today to voice my support for H.R. 6, legislation calling for expedited approval of the exportation of natural gas to World Trade Organization (WTO) countries.

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I believe passage of this legislation is critical to strengthening the United States' presence in Asia, and encourages the growth of the American economy.

Several weeks ago, my Subcommittee held a hearing to examine the implications of increasing exports of U.S. liquefied natural gas (LNG) to the Asia-Pacific region. The Subcommittee specifically examined the impact that doing so would have on our strategic interests in the region, as well as on the U.S. economy.

It is very evident that increasing exports of LNG would be immensely beneficial to both the U.S. and our strategic partners in the region, and I commend my colleagues for moving this important legislation forward.

The energy landscape is changing drastically in Asia. Asian economies are expected to be the largest consumers of energy in the world by 2035. Current models predict that China will account for nearly 25 percent of the total world energy demand alone. Japan is paying a premium for access to LNG, as a result of a near total shutdown of its nuclear reactors in response to the Fukushima disaster. And as India's economy advances, so too does its demand for energy and the price of natural gas. Vietnam, Taiwan, and others are also expressing strong interest in purchasing U.S. LNG.

The U.S. has the opportunity to promote a more free market in the region, by selling natural gas that is less expensive than the gas supplied by other providers in the region who link their gas prices to the price of oil.

And consequently, shipping U.S. LNG to Asia may free up Malaysian and Qatari natural gas resources which, alternatively, could be