

a large amount of cooperation that exists between the U.S. and allies like Turkey and it is critical that we continue to grow our existing partnerships in this important region as well as forge new ones.

It is important that we recognize and commend this very positive incident of counterterrorism cooperation between the U.S. and Turkey, as well as do all that we can to encourage these efforts to continue.

Finally, I submit the recent articles from the Washington Post and International Business Times.

[From the Washington Post, Dec. 5, 2014]

SUSPECTED AL-QAEDA MEMBER HELD IN JORDAN AS U.S. INVESTIGATES POSSIBLE BENGHAZI LINK

(By Adam Goldman and Karen DeYoung)

A suspected member of al-Qaeda who had recently been designated a global terrorist by the United States has been detained in Jordan. The United States is also investigating whether he played a role in the September 2012 attacks on U.S. facilities in Benghazi. U.S. officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss an ongoing investigation, identified the man as Abd al-Baset Azzouz, a Libyan national. Details about his capture and what charges he could face in the United States remain unclear. Turkish news media reported that Azzouz was captured Nov. 13 in an operation in Yalova, which is about 100 miles south of Istanbul, and that he was later deported to Jordan.

Turkey's Daily Sabah newspaper said the CIA provided the tip that led to his arrest. The CIA declined to comment.

In recent years, the Obama administration has brought a number of alleged terrorists to this country after capture by the U.S. or through extradition. Azzouz has not been named in any public statements or reports about those sought in connection with the Benghazi attacks. Although the State Department designated Azzouz as a terrorist, it is not known if there are any criminal charges against him that would facilitate his extradition to the United States.

A likely venue for any criminal proceedings would be federal court in New York. FBI spokesman Peter Donald in New York declined to comment. One official stressed that U.S. intelligence was still examining whether Azzouz had a role in the Benghazi attacks that killed U.S. Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens and three other Americans.

In September, the State Department designated Azzouz a global terrorist. The State Department said he has also lived in Afghanistan and Britain.

As part of the designation, the United States said Azzouz was sent home by al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri in 2011 to build a fighting force in Libya, mobilizing about 200 fighters.

"He is considered a key operative capable of training al-Qaeda recruits in a variety of skills, such as IED [improvised explosive device] construction," according to the State Department.

Seth Jones, an analyst at the Rand Corp., said Azzouz probably has minimal information about where Zawahiri is hiding but could provide a clearer picture of the terrorist groups operating in Libya.

"He's got a lot of information that could be useful on how al-Qaeda is structured, its broader strategy and operations," he said.

Azzouz isn't the first known al-Qaeda operative suspected of going to Libya in recent years.

Officials said there was intelligence that Thirwat Shihata, an Egyptian who was

Zawahiri's deputy at one point, traveled to Libya after he was allowed to leave Iran, where he had been since 2003.

Azzouz lived in Britain and was known to police but left the country in 2009 for Pakistan and Afghanistan. Authorities in Britain had briefly detained Azzouz before letting him go, according to news reports.

[From International Business Times, Dec. 4, 2014]

AL QAEDA LEADER ABD AL-BASET AZZOUZ, ACCUSED OF PARTICIPATION IN BENGHAZI ATTACK, REPORTEDLY AWAITING TRIAL IN US

(By Alessandra Masi)

A senior al Qaeda leader accused of participating in the attack on the U.S. embassy in Benghazi, Libya, was arrested in Turkey last month. The Libya-based terrorist leader was transferred to Jordan and subsequently to the U.S., where he is now awaiting trial, according to the Turkish Hurriyet Daily News.

A joint CIA and Turkish intelligence operation led to Abd al-Baset Azzouz's capture when he attempted to enter Turkey with a fake passport, according to a report from Turkish daily Milliyet. Azzouz is a senior member of al Qaeda's branch in Libya and allegedly had a role in the bombing that killed U.S. Ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens and U.S. Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith on Sept. 11, 2012.

The CIA declined to comment on its alleged involvement in the operation and the Department of Defense did not immediately confirm Azzouz's continued presence in the U.S.

A man by that name was put on the U.S. State Department's Designated Terrorist List in September and described as a "key operative capable of training al Qaeda recruits in a variety of skills, such as IED [improvised explosive device] construction." Azzouz's name was also presented to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs last year on a list of people it did not "make sense to consider anything but 'core' al Qaeda members."

Azzouz was detained for nearly 10 months in the U.K. in 2006. Upon his release, he moved to Libya at the request of al Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri, according to Hurriyet. Al-Zawahiri reportedly sent him to Libya to open a training camp and recruit fighters, a move that "indicates that senior al Qaeda leaders trust him to carry out the strategic task of establishing an al Qaeda network in Libya," according to a 2012 report from the Federal Research Division of the Library of Congress.

Libyan jihadist group Ansar al-Sharia has been widely held accountable for the deadly Benghazi attack, but the group said in a statement that it "didn't participate as a sole entity." Ansar al-Sharia has a strong presence in Benghazi and is "ideologically aligned" with al Qaeda, according to the State Department. The group also has a branch in the Libyan port city of Derna, where Azzouz allegedly set up his training camp.

Derna has long been a jihadist battleground and is home to several groups, including the Islamic Youth Shura Council, which recently pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
MAYOR BRENDA LAWRENCE TO
THE CITY OF SOUTHFIELD

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Brenda Lawrence, Mayor of the City of Southfield, who will be leaving office at the end of this year to represent Michigan's 14th Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives.

Mayor Brenda L. Lawrence is a long-time resident of the City of Southfield. A product of Michigan's public school system, Mayor Lawrence is an alumna of Pershing High School and received her BA in Public Administration from Central Michigan University.

Ms. Lawrence was elected Mayor of the City of Southfield in November of 2001. She is the first African American and first woman Mayor of Southfield, a city with a population of over 78,000 residents, a budget of \$143 million, and 833 employees. Mayor Lawrence is committed to diversity, fiscal responsibility, education, and keeping a clean and safe city.

Mayor Lawrence has been a community advocate for many years, both as an elected official and a private citizen. She has served on the Southfield City Council, where she was elected president in 1999. As a Councilwoman, Ms. Lawrence gained experience in managing a multi-million dollar budget and demonstrated fiscal responsibility. Ms. Lawrence has also served on the Southfield Public School Board of Education as President, Vice-President, and Secretary. Her love for community involvement has been evident through her previous service as a volunteer in various capacities on the Parent Youth Guidance Commission, Oakland County United Way Advisory Committee, and Oakland County AIDS Council.

Since becoming Mayor, Ms. Lawrence has initiated the following community programs: The Mayor's Walk community health program; Mayor's Roundtable—a citizen driven forum where residents can discuss one-on-one topics of concern; Southfield Reads!—a program designed to promote reading literacy in the City of Southfield; Annual Flower Day; City-wide Blood Drive; and Today's Woman—a cable show featuring respected women in and around Southfield. As a result of her initiative to create a more environmentally friendly community, Mayor Lawrence joined over 600 other Mayors in signing the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, and with Council support has created the Southfield Green Committee.

Mayor Lawrence has received many honors for her leadership skills. She was recognized in October 2007 as one of Crain's "2007 Most Influential Women." She is the recipient of the "2004 Wand Award" for breaking new frontiers for women and minorities, the Jewish War Veterans-State of Michigan "Brotherhood Award," the Leadership Detroit "Challenging the Process" award, the ABWA Millennium Chapter "Woman of the Year Award," the Detroit Historical Society's "Enterprising Women" award, Leadership Oakland's 2004 Distinguished Leadership & Future Leaders Award for Exemplary Leadership, and the "Black Women Achiever Award." Mayor Lawrence

has also been named to the Women's Informal Network "List of the Most Influential African American Women in Metropolitan Detroit" and CORP Magazine's "95 Most Influential Women in Michigan."

Mayor Lawrence is a member of the Oakland County Chapter of the NAACP, a member of the Michigan Association of Mayor's Advisory Board, the U.S. Conference of Mayors Advisory Board, the American Heart Association's "Go Red For Women," the Michigan Suburbs Alliance Executive Board, Women Officials Network Board of Directors, Birmingham YMCA Advisory Board, the Pepsi Community Advisory Board, MBN TV, Radio Advisory Board and the Board of Governors of the Renaissance/Skyline Club.

Mr. Speaker, as a former city councilman, I know first-hand how communities benefit from dedicated elected leaders. Brenda's years of dedicated service to the residents of Southfield is a testament to her character and I know that her experience will serve her well as a member of this legislative body. As I close, I can say with confidence that our community is a better place thanks to the ongoing, selfless service of people like Mayor and now Congresswoman-Elect Brenda Lawrence.

SUPPORTING AMERICA'S CHARITIES ACT

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I voted against suspending the rules and adopting the "Supporting America's Charities Act." I think there are strong arguments in favor of this legislation and arguments of roughly equal weight that we should not at this time make these tax incentives permanent when they are not paid for.

As I have stated in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on many occasions, I believe that controversial matters should come up under regular order, allowing adequate debate time and preferably allowing for amendments from the floor. This legislation is controversial enough to warrant that attention.

Under these circumstances I could not vote to suspend the rules. I might well vote for this legislation if it came to the floor of the House through regular order, particularly if members were allowed to offer amendments.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JIM MATHESON

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the career of Congressman JIM MATHESON. JIM and I were both elected to the House in 2000. It has been a privilege to work with him over the course of the past fourteen years.

JIM has been a tireless advocate for the people of his district and his voice in Congress will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the service of Congressman JIM MATHESON in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING SERGEANT MILTON MOORE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran and community servant, Sergeant Milton Moore. Sergeant Moore has shown what can be done through hard work, setting goals, and aiming high.

Sergeant Moore attended the Southern Regional Public Safety Institute in Long Beach, MS where he graduated with honors in 2000. He has completed training in: Clandestine Lab Investigations, Interview and Interrogation, Psychological Response to Active Shooter, and numerous other training courses, including, FEMA Incident Command System ICS200, ICS300, ICS400, and ICS700.

Sergeant Milton Moore was hired with the City of Vicksburg in September 1999, as a firefighter. Deciding to follow the footsteps of his father, he became an employee of the Vicksburg Police Department in March 2000. Since that time, he has served as a Patrol Officer and Field Training Officer.

Sergeant Moore was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in February 2010, scoring the highest of all candidates. Sergeant Moore is presently serving as a shift commander, where he currently has 9 officers under his command.

Sergeant Moore was only 6 years old when his father joined the Vicksburg Police Department in 1975. Being around law enforcement all of his life, Sergeant Moore gained interest and respect for the duties of law enforcement. He knew that one day he would be able to wear the uniform and follow his father's footsteps and become an officer at the Vicksburg Police Department. Most of the traits and values that Sergeant Moore's father instilled in him he still practices daily. These attributes have helped Sergeant Moore become a model officer.

February 19, 2014, Sergeant Milton Moore was honored as Officer of the Year by the Vicksburg Homecoming Benevolence Club. Being a recipient of this award, was a very humbling experience for Sergeant Moore. The award is named the "Artel Moore Award" after Sergeant Moore's deceased father.

Sergeant Moore is a member of the Mississippi Homeland Security Task Force. Sergeant Moore is a veteran of the United States Armed Forces, serving in the U.S. Navy during the first Iraq war, Desert Storm, in 1991.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sergeant Milton Moore for his dedication to serving our great Country and his community.

THE HONORABLE JOHN D. DRIGGS

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the Honorable John D. Driggs, former Mayor of Phoenix and a member of one of the early

pioneering families of Arizona. Mayor Driggs passed away on December 11, 2014, surrounded by his wife Gail and his devoted family. He leaves behind a history of public service to Phoenix that will be remembered for generations to come. His family and everyone who had the opportunity to work with John Driggs will miss him beyond description because he was a man of integrity, with a strong belief in civic responsibility.

In addition to serving as Phoenix Mayor from 1970–1974, John Driggs was a passionate Arizona historic preservationist, and in 2005 was named "Arizona History Maker" by the Arizona Historical Society. In 1969, John Driggs spearheaded the successful Phoenix Growth Committee Bond Elected, which provided funding for the Phoenix Public Library and other cultural venues. He then ran for Mayor of Phoenix and served for two terms. During his time in office, the Phoenix Mountain Preserve was established, which he later described as one of his most important accomplishments.

John Driggs served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, he started the Second Harvest National Food Bank Network, and he was the cornerstone of the 2012 Arizona Centennial Commission. Arizona State Senator Adam Driggs is one of Mayor Driggs' five sons, and I had the honor of serving with Adam in the Arizona Legislature from 2005–2012. The dedication and commitment to service that John Driggs instilled in Adam is apparent in everything that he does as a legislator, and I am proud to call Senator Adam Driggs my friend and colleague. Members, please join me for a moment of silence as we extend our deepest condolences to the Driggs family and as we remember the remarkable life of John Driggs—one of Arizona's great leaders.

HONORING MONROE COLLEGE'S WOMEN'S AND MEN'S SOCCER TEAMS

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate both the women's and men's soccer teams at Monroe College, based on Jerome Avenue in my district in the Bronx.

On November 22nd, the women's soccer team won the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division 1 Championship in Melbourne, Florida, defeating defending champion Iowa Western. That same weekend, the men's team reached the finals of the men's championship, and fought valiantly before losing in overtime to the Tyler (TX) Community College team.

Monroe College first opened in the Bronx in 1933, and over the years has expanded educational opportunities for thousands of Bronxites. Many of the beneficiaries are from my district, although with a campus in New Rochelle, the College has students from all over the New York metropolitan area.

The time, dedication, and effort of these student-athletes to both their academic and athletic pursuits is truly impressive, and I have no doubt that the values they have gained through this experience will serve them well in the future. I congratulate these young men