

blasted J-Street today after the far left Jewish group supported John Kerry's apartheid accusation against Israel. The Zionist Organization of America responded to J-Street's comments: J-Street has again demonstrated that it is an extremist group, hostile to Israel, by supporting Secretary of State John Kerry's "apartheid" accusation against Israel.

This is the administration that condemns, cajoles our friend Israel, supports and coddles terrorists, radical Islamists in Afghanistan and Palestine, that went rushing into Libya when many of us were saying: look, this isn't a good idea. We know al Qaeda is supporting the rebels. Let's wait and see how much of these rebels are al Qaeda.

But he helped them anyway, and now, we find out, here is an article from today from *The Blaze* titled, "The Massive Amount of Weapons Meant for Libyan Rebels That Actually Ended Up in Terrorists' Hands."

It is a good article from Sara Carter. The trouble is these weapons were actually intended for the terrorists because we knew—we had information there were al Qaeda terrorists that were part of the rebels against Qadhafi.

I know I just have a couple more minutes, but let me mention, as some of the leadership in the Senate and even some on the Republican side here in the House is being encouraged and encouraging others, let's have some kind of legal status, amnesty-type bill for certain people.

Or how about in the NDAA that we are going to take up, why don't we put in there, if you are in this country illegally and you are willing to go into the service, then we will claim you are legal?

Recent veterans are struggling to find jobs, and information indicates our military members are being released from the military right and left because of the dramatic cuts to the military, far more than should ever have been allowed by this body, and they are having trouble finding jobs.

The unemployment rate for our veterans ought to be much lower than for anybody, and it is much higher than for the American population, and this administration now and some of our own leadership wants to encourage people illegally here to go take those jobs away from those being bounced out of the military and let them compete and bring down the level of wages for the middle class in America. It should not be allowed.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1730

RECOGNITION OF THE 63RD ANNUAL OBSERVANCE OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to follow a gentleman like Mr.

GOHMERT here. My subject matter for this minute is about the National Day of Prayer. I would like to add to his comments: we should also pray for Israel.

Recognition of the 63rd Annual Observance of the National Day of Prayer will be this Thursday, May 1.

Our Nation has a rich prayerful heritage, a heritage that began with many of our first settlers to the New World and strengthened through the first national call to prayer invoked by the Second Continental Congress in 1775.

As reflected in the writings and speeches of our forefathers, prayer has had a profound influence not only on the lives of these great leaders, but also on the content of the Declaration of Independence and other founding documents.

In his farewell address, President George Washington warned about the consequences that will descend on a Nation that excludes religion from the public arena. He declared the "indispensable" importance of religion, and proclaimed that: "Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

Today, prayer remains very important in our daily lives, not only to our society, but to each of us individually as well. It calls to mind our actions and helps support us in our daily tasks.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join with me to continue this tradition of prayer and ensure that God remains involved in the affairs of leaders of this great Nation.

ISRAEL'S MODERN HISTORY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CRAMER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to discuss the comments made recently by Secretary Kerry regarding Israel and apartheid.

I am not going to be one of the many people that are probably calling for Secretary Kerry's resignation in that regard. I too work in the arena of public policy, and I understand that sometimes you make mistakes in the things you say, you say things that you didn't necessarily intend to say.

I think it is very instructive to talk about it for just a few moments here. I want to remind everybody that Israel first fought a War of Independence in 1948 and 1949, and then fought again in 1967 in the Six Day War and then again in 1973 with the Yom Kippur War.

During these periods of time, they were attacked, unilaterally attacked by their neighbors. Some people say: Well, we need to go back to those pre-1967 borders. I ask anybody who was attacked, who has been in a fight where somebody sucker-punched them, who was the aggressor, why is it incumbent upon Israel to return the spoils of the

war? Folks attacked them, they fought the war, and they won, and they want to secure their population. Because of that, some people think that somehow Israel is the oppressor. They reacted to an act of aggression.

I just want to also read statements from President Obama from 2008 regarding the usage of the term "apartheid":

There's no doubt that Israel and the Palestinians have tough issues to work out to get to the goal of two states living side by side in peace and security, but injecting a term like apartheid into the discussion doesn't advance that goal. It's emotionally loaded, historically inaccurate, and it's not what I believe.

That is not what Americans believe either.

I think for me and what I want to tell anybody that is watching and anybody that is listening is, this should be proof positive; finally, the evidence of what many conservatives and many people who support Israel have been saying for the last 6 years. Finally, what we are seeing is—if this isn't proof, I don't know what is—the thoughts and the feeling and the mindset and what is in the heart of this administration regarding Israel. This is what they believe. This is who they are.

If you support Israel as the only ally, the only true ally for America in that part of the world, if that is who you support, then you must recognize this for what this is, Mr. Speaker. It is an abandoning. It is not only an abandoning of our ally, our great ally and our true friend, but is a castigation of who they are.

When we think about what apartheid is, Israel doesn't represent any of that. It is an open democracy that lets people live freely and participate within the confines of their security situation, and as the representative before me discussed, rockets being rained down upon them, homicide bombers coming into their children's school and blowing up their children, blowing up their buses on a busy street or a cafe where people are just trying to have a meal. That is their daily life. And we are supposed to castigate them for defending their nation, for their leaders defending their nation against that, and that is somehow apartheid?

The physical, racial, financial, I mean the spiritual and emotional oppression for the sake of race, that is apartheid. That is not what Israel is doing. That is not what Israel is about. That is not what Israel has done. Israel has tried to live peaceably in that region of the world among its neighbors. It has fought to exist. It fights every day to exist.

For the Secretary of State to use that term in describing who Israel is, what they are as a people, what they are as a government, it is not only reprehensible, it in my mind truly defines, it very clearly illustrates what this administration believes. So if you are a supporter of Israel, if you are a supporter of the only ally, the true ally of

the United States in that region of the world, it is time for you to take stock. If you have been a supporter of this administration, it is time for you to take stock in that support. Is it justified? Is it realistic? Is it what you really believe? Because if you believe what this administration believes, then you believe that the only answer is for Israel to continue to give, to give of itself to its neighbors who hate it, who are continually trying to destroy it, who refuse after all these years—1947—after all these years, continue to refuse as a matter of just negotiation to acknowledge Israel's right to exist as a state.

How much longer will it take, Mr. Speaker? How many more years until these other organizations—you know, the taxpayers, the United States taxpayers, fund the Palestinian Authority and their effort to pay stipends to prisoners who blow up Israelis, who blow them up. It is seen as their job. It is like a paycheck. If you go to prison, you get paid for doing it, and the more heinous it is, the more you get paid.

Yet, somehow Israel is supposed to turn the other cheek yet again and give of itself to people that blow it up. Even after they give, let's face it, after they give, because they have offered to give time and time and time again, we all know, Mr. Speaker, it is not going to be enough. Because the people that call Jews and Israel descendants of apes and dogs and pigs, they are not going to stop thinking that just because Israel agrees to whatever concession they demand. They won't stop until there is no Israel. That is their goal. That has been their stated goal, and it hasn't changed.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to again highlight to anybody that has supported this administration because of their support for Israel, see what it is, look it in the face. It has shown itself finally for what it truly is. It is not support of Israel, it is support of a political agenda that makes Israel continue to bleed, and it is unacceptable for the United States of America to turn its back on this longstanding ally.

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

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4486, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4487, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113-426) on the resolution (H. Res. 557) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4486) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4487) making ap-

propriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PATENT TRANSPARENCY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER) for 30 minutes.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to warn the American people that fundamental changes are being proposed in our legal system here in Washington that could have a dramatic impact on their freedom, a dramatic impact on the prosperity of this country, and a dramatic impact on the security of our country.

These changes that I am talking about are not so apparent to the average person because they deal with a very complicated issue of technology and technology ownership. I have been in Congress for about 25 years—actually 26 years at the end of this year. During that time period, there has been an ongoing fight that has not been recognized by many American people.

It is the fight to maintain a very strong patent system in our country. It has been ongoing because major players around the world, especially multinational corporations, have not been supportive of the idea that the American people have a right to own their own creations. In fact, our Founding Fathers felt that this was so important that we have the patent rights and copyrights for the average American person that they wrote it into our Constitution. I just happen to have a copy of the Constitution here.

Article I, section 8 says one of the powers of Congress is “to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries.” This is what our Founding Fathers wrote into the Constitution. This is the body of the Constitution. This is before the Declaration of Independence.

Our Founding Fathers were so much in favor of this concept where people would own what they created, and that would spur the creativity and the genius of people and that would uplift all of humankind, they were so much engaged in that concept they wrote it into our Constitution and put it on par thus above the Bill of Rights in terms of speech, religion, and other rights.

People like Benjamin Franklin, who is one of our great Founding Fathers, a technologist at heart, knew this is the way we would be the shining light of the world where ordinary people would be able to live well. Jefferson—go to Monticello and see—he himself was an inventor. Yes, he was the first administrator of the U.S. Patent Office.

The intellectual property rights that our people have enjoyed over the years

have been one of America's greatest assets. They have provided ordinary people throughout the world a chance to live decent lives, have jobs in which they can own homes, have jobs that will create wealth. It wasn't because our American people work harder. People work hard all over the world. All over the world you have people struggling and working so hard, but they don't have freedom and they don't have technology. It is the freedom to create technology and the utilization of that technology by ordinary people that expands the creation of wealth so that ordinary people can live well.

Tonight, I would like to alert the American people: one of the fundamental elements laid down by our Founding Fathers that would help us create this wonderful country of freedom and prosperity for ordinary people, it is now being threatened, it is being threatened by a concerted attack by large, huge corporations, multinational corporations, who do not have loyalty to the American people at their heart.

Let me note that today, after fighting this fight for 26 years, the first fight that we were in dealt with, they were going to put an amendment on the gap implementation legislation, which is a treaty laying down the rules for trade around the world. The provisions they were going to put in would have reversed the basic tenets of our patent system.

That is, number one, they were going to say that if you apply for a patent, after 18 months, whether or not that patent is issued to you, it is going to be published for the whole world to see. That is what they were trying to foist on us. I called it the Steal American Technologies Act.

Today, if you apply for a patent, that is top secret. In fact, if somebody in the Patent Office leaks that information they can be put in jail for a felony. But they wanted to change that because the rest of the world—Europe and Japan—has that system and they want to globalize our rights, especially our patent rights.

□ 1745

They said they were going to eliminate it so that, after 18 months, they would just publish it. We fought that back—MARCY KAPTUR, who is a Democrat, and I. On both sides of the aisle, we had people fighting this, and we beat the big guys.

Unfortunately, over the years, we have had three or four of these fights. Sometimes, we have lost; and sometimes, we have won. Once again, we are talking about people who have come to the floor to reform the patent system. They always use the word “reform” when, in reality, they are trying to destroy the fundamentals of a strong American patent system.

The last patent reform bill was the America Invents Act, which just went into effect last year. The patent lawyers and courts and innovators are still