

Mr. Speaker, I join the Tampa Bay community in thanking Mr. Robert Fisher for his exceptional service, not only to our district, but to the State of Florida.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. ARLINE FRANCES DENNIS ON THE OCCASION OF HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize my constituent, Mrs. Arline Frances Dennis, as she celebrates her 100th birthday. Arline presently resides with her son in Shickshinny, which I am proud to say is in my district. She has continually served our area through her involvement in the church and in the community as a whole.

Arline was born on November 23, 1915 in Reyburn, Pennsylvania. She grew up attending a one room school, and later went on to graduate from Shickshinny High School. Growing up, she belonged to the Reyburn Bible Church, where she was an active member of the congregation. As an avid piano player and energetic teacher, Arline taught Sunday school and helped to organize a number of the church's Christmas programs. She also dedicated her time to the church youth group, "Christian Endeavor."

In 1939, Arline married Charles Elmer Dennis, and the two were married for 63 years before Charles passed away in 2002. They have two sons together, Wayne Charles and Zane Elmer. The family attended Harmony Methodist Church, where Arline played the piano, directed the choir, and taught Sunday School, and Charles was the Sunday School superintendent. Later, the two went on to be founding members of the Woodland Bible Chapel. With her love for music and community, Arline continued to play the piano and teach Sunday school at this new house of worship. Though she no longer plays the piano or teaches, Arline continues to attend services at Woodland Bible Chapel.

Outside of church, Arline has served our community in a variety of roles. For 16 years, she proudly served as the Judge of Elections in Union Township, located in Luzerne County. Furthermore, in addition to giving private piano lessons to over 500 students until 2010, Arline also taught music at Muhlenburg Christian Academy for 22 years, touching the lives of many students until she retired at the age of 90. With a passion for travel, Arline also coordinated community bus trips to New Jersey and Florida. In fact, during their marriage, Arline and Charles visited every state in the continental US and also traveled to Hawaii and Israel.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize Mrs. Arline Frances Dennis on this important milestone, and to thank her for her time spent serving our area. Arline's commitment to her faith, family, and community are admirable, and I wish her a happy and healthy 100th birthday celebration in the company of family and friends.

NATURAL GROCERS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Natural Grocers' efforts to promote healthy eating through their free educational outreach over the last 60 years.

Natural Grocers by Vitamin Cottage was founded by Margaret and Phillip Isely and is based in Lakewood, Colorado. In 2015, they were recognized as the 11th fastest growing Colorado public company. Their mission is to provide shoppers with an affordable, healthy lifestyle as well as empower them to take control of their own wellbeing.

Not only does Natural Grocers supply Coloradans with healthy food options, they also provide customers personalized nutrition information to help them meet their nutritional goals. Natural Grocers has provided Coloradans free nutrition education programs since 1955. Their health coaches organize nutritional outreach programs to numerous schools and businesses, as well as hold in-store cooking demonstrations and nutrition classes.

Additionally, I regularly hold my "Government in the Grocery" events at Natural Grocers stores around my district. These events give me the opportunity to visit with constituents in their communities on topics ranging from veterans issues, the economy and jobs to foreign policy.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Natural Grocers for their accomplishment in promoting healthy eating through educational outreach and I commend them for their dedication to providing extraordinary services to Colorado customers. I wish Natural Grocers all the best in their next 60 years of operation.

IRANIAN NUCLEAR STATE "INEVITABLE" UNDER FLAWED WEAPON DEAL

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, President Obama continues to tell Congress and the American people that the Iran nuclear agreement is the best deal possible and advances peace. Such boasting collapses under scrutiny. What was previously unacceptable—an Iranian nuclear state—is now inevitable under the terms and conditions of what is officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

Tragically, the deal is riddled with serious flaws, gaps, and huge concessions to Iran. Taken as a whole, the deal poses an existential threat to Israel, our allies in the region—and even poses significant risks to the United States, despite assurances from Secretary of State John Kerry in testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee today.

Not only is Iran now permitted to continue enriching uranium—a previous nonnegotiable redline was no enrichment whatsoever—but inspections are anything but "anytime, anywhere"—the Obama Administration's previous pledge to the nation and the world.

And the key restriction on Iran's nuclear program—the ability to enrich at high levels—begins to expire in as little as 10 years. Once these restrictions expire, Iran could enrich on an industrial scale and the U.S. and its allies will be left with no effective measures to prevent Iran from initiating an accelerated nuclear program to produce the materials needed for a nuclear weapon.

On the inspections front, Iran's Supreme Leader Khamenei has stated that he will "never" permit inspectors to inspect Iran's military bases. Even after the agreement was signed, the Iranian Minister of Defense reportedly said that "Tehran will not allow any foreigner to discover Iran's defensive and missile capabilities by inspecting the country's military sites."

Given Iran's repeated cover-ups of its clandestine nuclear program, its refusal to give the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) access to its Parchin military facility where Iran is believed to have tested detonators for nuclear warheads, and its stone-walling the IAEA concerning evidence that it had done extensive research and development on a nuclear explosive device, verification is fundamental to ensure that Iran is abiding by the agreement's terms. Secretary Kerry, after an Iranian history of refusal to allow inspections at Parchin, would only assure us of inspections there "as appropriate," whatever that means.

Yet the agreement contains many limits on access by IAEA inspectors to suspected sites, including a 24-day period in which Iran is allowed to continue to refuse the IAEA's request to visit a facility followed by a very long process needed to increase pressure on Iran to permit access if it still blocks access by inspectors. During this period, Iran will have sufficient time to remove, cover up, or destroy any evidence. "Managed access" would be better called "manipulated access" as inspectors will get access to suspected sites only after consultations between the world powers and Iran, over as long as 24 days—or more.

Under Secretary of State Wendy Sherman has said that pledges by Obama Administration officials that the agreement would guarantee "anywhere, anytime" inspections of Iran's nuclear facilities were only "rhetorical." Mere words without substance? Why would our allies in the region trust us if our word—and negotiating positions—are indeed only rhetorical flourish?

Congress recently discovered that the United States and other P5+1 members have left the IAEA and Iran to work out inspection details in secret, which could allow Iran to simply submit samples and make its own certification of compliance in lieu of actual inspection of facilities such as Parchin.

Mr. Speaker, the IAEA has uncovered significant evidence that Iran has engaged in activities related to the development of a nuclear weapon. Despite many agreements with the IAEA in which Iran has pledged to provide satisfactory information, the IAEA has repeatedly said that Iran has given it virtually nothing. Secretary of State Kerry has said that the U.S. has "absolute knowledge" of Iran's past military activities regarding its nuclear program, but Gen. Michael Hayden, the former Director of the CIA, recently testified to Congress that the U.S. did not have that capability.

Furthermore, as witnesses testified at a joint hearing this afternoon by three Foreign Affairs

subcommittees, there is ample evidence that Iran has a longstanding nuclear collaboration with North Korea. In light of the abundant evidence they will present, what gives the Administration certainty that the Iranians won't at some point during this agreement acquire fissile material beyond what they are allowed to produce for themselves or actual warheads from North Korea?

Why was the Iran-North Korea nuclear collaboration not factored into the Iran nuclear agreement? Surely Secretary Kerry is aware of the Iran-North Korea nuclear linkage. Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs Douglas Frantz, previously a high-ranking Kerry Senate aide, wrote a 2003 article about Iran's ties to the North Korean nuclear program. Are we to believe Frantz and Kerry never discussed this issue? He dodged the question at today's committee hearing.

Mr. Speaker, in March 2007, the UN Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1747 which, *inter alia*, established an embargo on the export from Iran of all arms and related materials, thereby banning all states and groups from purchasing or receiving arms from Iran. The resolution also called on all states to "exercise vigilance and restraint" in their supply of any items covered by the U.N. Register of Conventional Arms to Iran.

However, reports indicate that Russia is eager to sell massive amounts of military hardware to Iran. How will this shape other regional conflicts in which Iran is currently involved, including Iraq, Syria, and Yemen? After the conventional arms embargo is lifted in just 5 years, what limitations, if any, will there be on Iran's ability to export arms, specifically heavy weapons? Besides Russia, who else will sell weapons to Iran? China?

Moreover, the Administration and its supporters of the Iranian nuclear agreement downplay the possibility of Saudi Arabia, for example, producing a nuclear weapon as part of a Middle East arms race. However, the Saudis are building King Abdullah City for Atomic Renewable Energy to train nuclear scientists and already have greater science and mathematics capacity than Pakistan had when it developed nuclear weapons. Why couldn't and why wouldn't the Saudis join the nuclear arms race when faced with a more nuclear and conventionally armed Iran? Secretary Kerry would have us believe that the Saudis and others in the region would prefer the current agreement to an effort to achieve a more effective one and would agree not to pursue nuclear weapons even though Iran is on the path to develop or acquire its own.

Mr. Speaker, ballistic missiles are a central component of any country's nuclear weapons program as they allow for the quick, accurate delivery of nuclear weapons over long distances. While the agreement calls for Iran to abide by all U.N. Security Council resolutions—including the requirement that "Iran shall not undertake any activity related to ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons," Iranian Supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's criticized the call for Iran to end its ballistic missile program, characterizing it as "a stupid, idiotic expectation" and claiming "The Revolutionary Guards should definitely carry out their program and not be satisfied with the present level. They should mass produce."

In an 11th hour concession by the Obama Administration and others, the agreement

"sunsets" U.N. sanctions on Iran's ballistic missile program after 8 years, and also requires that the European Union do the same. U.S. intelligence estimates Iran to have the largest arsenal of ballistic missiles in the Middle East. Congress has heard testimony that "no country that has not aspired to possess nuclear weapons has ever opted to sustain" a costly, long-range missile program. Simply put, countries build ICBMs to deliver nukes.

Under this agreement, the Iranians have stated they are under no obligation to stop developing ballistic missiles. In fact, this agreement would allow them the two things they need to advance their program: money and foreign assistance.

Mr. Speaker, the agreement requires "full implementation" by October 15 of the commitments in the "roadmap" made by Iran to the IAEA in their 2011 agreement, following which the IAEA is to provide its "final assessment on the resolution of all past and present outstanding issues." However, there is no stated penalty if Iran continues to refuse to provide sufficient information to fully answer the IAEA's questions, which Iran cannot do without admitting it had a secret nuclear weapons program.

Iran has repeatedly agreed to answer the IAEA's questions regarding extensive evidence that it had a secret research and development program regarding a nuclear device, including fitting it onto a ballistic missile. All that resulted was the Iranians stonewalling the inspectors.

Is the failure to resolve the possible military dimensions as required by the IAEA a violation of the agreement? Why would Iran provide any information now when there is nothing in the agreement to compel it to do so?

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Saeed Abedini is an American citizen. He was in Iran in 2012, visiting family and building an orphanage, when he was taken prisoner. Twelve years before, he had converted to Christianity and later was involved in the home church movement in Iran. Knowing about his conversion and earlier engagement with home churches, Iranian authorities approved his 2012 trip, approved his orphanage-building, and then imprisoned him. He has been in prison ever since then, and has suffered immensely, from beatings that have caused internal bleeding, death threats, solitary confinement, and more. His wife, Naghme, who is also an American and has been a heroic champion for her husband, and their two young children, have also suffered.

I and many other Members of Congress have been advocating on behalf of Pastor Abedini and the other Americans unjustly held in Iran: Amir Hekmati, Jason Rezaian, and Robert Levinson. After our constant appeals for action to secure their release, Secretary Kerry said today that the Administration is now focusing on their release. We shall see what happens.

Congress should vote down the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, reinstate comprehensive, robust sanctions and direct the executive branch to resume the struggle to craft an enforceable accord to ensure no nuclear weapons capability for Iran—ever. Congress did this with the SALT 1, SALT II and the Chemical Weapons Convention and ended up with stronger accords. Why not do so once again?

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL RICK HARNEY, JR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Colonel Rick Harney, Jr. on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Army. Throughout his 37 year career, Col. Harney has selflessly served our country and community; namely, during the time he spent as Director of the United States Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC) at the Carlisle Barracks, which I am honored to represent. USAHEC is a tremendous institution within my congressional district charged with educating members of our Armed Forces and honoring soldiers—past and present.

Col. Harney enlisted in the Army in August of 1978. In 1987, after matriculating from the United States Officer Candidate School in Fort Benning, Georgia as a Distinguished Military Graduate, he received his commission as a Field Artillery Lieutenant. He has undertaken many notable assignments, including Assistant Commandant and Chief at the United States Army Quartermaster School in Fort Lee, Virginia, and Commander of the Defense Distribution Center at the Anniston Army Depot in Alabama. Such roles have enabled Col. Harney to positively influence his colleagues, as well as the future strategic leaders of our military.

A Magna Cum Laude graduate from Hawaii Pacific University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, he also holds an impressive number of advanced degrees, including a Master of Business Administration from Webster University, a Master of Military Arts and Science from the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the Air War College. In addition to his academic success, Col. Harney has received an extensive amount of awards and decorations. These include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Meritorious Service Medal with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, Joint Service Achievement Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Meritorious Unit Award with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Superior Unit Award, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and Parachute Rigger Badge. Such accolades are indicative of the high caliber of his dedicated service to our nation.

On July 7th, 2014, Col. Harney assumed duties as the Director of the USAHEC at the Carlisle Barracks in my congressional district. As an instructor and educator, Col. Harney has significantly improved the experiences of his fellow instructors and students. The initiatives and programs he has implemented have shaped the lives of the future leaders of our military, and have enhanced the effectiveness of the United States Army War College. Even though he will no longer be present at USAHEC on a day-to-day basis, his legacy will inevitably carry on.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to congratulate Col. Harney on the culmination of a distinguished, 37-year career in the United States