

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONDEMNING TERRORIST ATTACKS IN PARIS, FRANCE, ON NOVEMBER 13, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2015

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, at Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown, it's reported that the Marquis de Lafayette praised America saying, "Humanity has gained its suit; Liberty will nevermore be without an asylum." To this day his words ring true; America continues to uphold justice over tyranny and terror, and spreads the values of individual freedom across the globe. However, Lafayette's words also remind us that America has never been alone in that struggle.

Since the inception of our nation, the French people have been our compatriots in advancing the causes of justice and liberty. Last week, our oldest friend—an ally of peace and justice—was brutally and senselessly attacked by terrorists. As they have been there during our struggles, we must now be there for the French people. While we mourn together now, we must also unite and stand against global terrorism. The terrorists responsible must be brought to justice for these horrendous acts, ensuring both of our nations remain defenders of liberty for generations to come.

REFORMING CFPB INDIRECT AUTO FINANCING GUIDANCE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1737) to nullify certain guidance of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection and to provide requirements for guidance issued by the Bureau with respect to indirect auto lending.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, I will vote against H.R. 1737, the Reforming CFPB Indirect Auto Financing Act. There are arguments to be made on both sides of this debate, and I am confident that the people I've worked with over the years in the auto industry are straight shooters. It is clear, however, that there are areas of serious abuse. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has found that there are instances where auto lenders, including some dealers, charge higher interest rates for people of color than they charge white car buyers with similar credit worthiness and financial standings. These higher interest rates come in the form of on-site and undisclosed interest rate markups. Several lawsuits have highlighted these matters.

I understand there are alternative arguments. Auto dealers should have the flexibility to give car buyers the best price possible, and interest rate negotiations can be a good way to save consumers money and to streamline the sales process. Further, CFPB's mandate to enforce the Equal Credit Opportunity Act and prevent discrimination in all lending was clear even before the 2013 guidance targeted by this legislation.

On balance, however, it is important not to undercut the CFPB as the administration is working hard to protect it. Perennial Republican budget proposals attempt to limit or eliminate funding for the CFPB, and earlier this fall the House Financial Services Committee passed legislation that would replace the CFPB with a politically appointed committee.

I'm hopeful that regardless of the outcome of this debate that there is a way to be able to work in a more cooperative basis on this issue. I'm interested in how we both meaningfully address real concerns while simultaneously protecting consumers and the delicate momentum of the newly-created CFPB under continuous attack.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU OF THE ROC (TAIWAN)

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my sincere congratulations for the leadership of President Ma Ying-jeou of the ROC (Taiwan) in pursuing peace and prosperity of the region. The leaders of the two sides met in Singapore on November 7, which was the first such summit since 1949.

President Ma elaborated on the "1992 Consensus" in his opening and closed door remarks, aiming to consolidate the common and critical foundation of the cross-Strait relations. The State Department expressed "the United States welcomes the meeting between leaders on both sides of the Taiwan Strait and the historic improvement in cross-Strait relations in recent years". Again, I would like to take this opportunity to applaud President Ma for his peaceful approach. Taiwan is indeed a beacon of democracy in East Asia.

RECOGNIZING FORMER CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLYMAN AND CHAIRMAN OF THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY JOHN A. BUSTERUD

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of John A. Busterud, World

War II veteran, former Assemblymen, and advocate for the environment.

Born on March 7, 1921, in Coos Bay, Oregon, Mr. Busterud went on to graduate from the University of Oregon. He then enlisted in the United States Army and served as an Infantry officer with the U.S. Army's distinguished 90th Infantry Division in the European Theater. During combat operations, his Battalion captured the vast German gold reserves and priceless art treasures deep in a salt mine in Merkers, Germany. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Badge for his service and would eventually retire from the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel. After the war, Mr. Busterud graduated from Yale Law School and moved to San Francisco to start his legal career with the firm of Brobeck, Phleger and Harrison.

A dedicated public servant, Mr. Busterud served three terms as a California Assemblyman, from 1956 to 1962, representing the 22nd District in San Francisco. He rose to the ranks of Assembly Minority Leader.

After his tenure in the Assembly, Mr. Busterud returned to private practice, but continued to serve the public as President of the Commonwealth Club of California and President of the Committee to Save the Headlands. In this latter role, he was instrumental in the successful efforts to save the Marin Headlands and lay the groundwork for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

In 1971, President Nixon appointed Mr. Busterud to be the first Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Environmental Quality. Subsequently, he served as a member and eventually Chairman of the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) under President Ford. During his tenure at CEQ, he represented the United States as a delegate to the groundbreaking Law of the Sea Convention in Geneva, Switzerland. After his service in Washington, Mr. Busterud returned to California to found Resolve, an environmental mediation foundation.

Mr. Busterud is now retired and, at age 94, he enjoys spending time with his beloved wife Anne and doting on his three children and seven grandchildren. He also authored "Below the Salt," a historical account of the 90th Division in WW II and the discovery of the German gold at Merkers.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting to honor and thank John A. Busterud for his long and dedicated service to Country, State, and the environment, and express deep appreciation for his impressive and distinguished accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING DR. MERLE HOROWITZ

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an educator who has devoted her life to ensuring our kids have the skills they need to

● 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.

enter the global workforce. Dr. Merle Horowitz will be honored this evening at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Association annual dinner. Dr. Horowitz recently retired after ten years of service as superintendent of Marple Newtown School District. Dr. Horowitz's retirement comes after a 40 year career of educating students, and nearly three decades in Delaware County. She's a respected expert on cyberbullying and has spoken at length on the topic to audiences around the country. Tonight's honor is a fitting one and we are grateful for her service to the young people in our community.

HONORING UGA IX, "RUSS"

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Uga IX, the University of Georgia's beloved mascot who also goes by the name of Russ, for his dedicated service over the past three-plus seasons.

On October 22, 2015, the University of Georgia announced that Uga IX has decided to retire at the age of 11. Russ has worked a total of 38 games since being awarded a "battlefield promotion" and assuming the title of Uga IX during the 2012 season. Following the deaths of his half-brother, Uga VII, and his successor, Uga VIII, Russ also served as the interim mascot for 25 games from 2009–2012.

With a 51–22 record, Russ served admirably as Uga IX and is cherished by University of Georgia fans worldwide. The Bulldog Nation is sad to see Russ retire, but we look forward to welcoming Uga X, "Que", as our new mascot. Que will be formally introduced during the Georgia Southern game on November 21, 2015, in Sanford Stadium.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to recognize Uga IX, "Russ," and thank the Seiler family of Savannah, owner of the lineage of "Uga" Bulldog mascots, for their continued support of the program. Go Dawgs!

RECOGNIZING THE NOVEMBER 7
CROSS-STRAIT MEETING

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the historic meeting between Taiwan's President Ma Ying-jeou and China's President Xi Jinping on November 7. Included below are President Ma's insights on the meeting. Like President Ma, I agree that these are discussions which must continue. But at a time of increasing security concerns and rising tensions in the region, I believe this meeting was an important step toward improved relations and stability in the region.

In my meeting with Mr. Xi, we exchanged views on cross-strait relations, peaceful development and the consolidation of peace, and the status quo of prosperity. You must all be concerned about the atmosphere at the meeting. The meeting took place in a frank and very positive atmosphere. I found Mr. Xi to be

pragmatic, flexible, and candid when discussing the issues. We hope that this spirit will be reflected in the handling of cross-strait relations.

Our discussions focused on several points. The first point is the consolidation of the 1992 Consensus and the maintenance of peace across the Taiwan Strait. I told Mr. Xi that the consensus reached between the two sides in November 1992 was that the two sides of the Taiwan Strait insist on "one China," but differ as to what that means, and each side could express its interpretation verbally. This was the 1992 Consensus of "one China, respective interpretations." The ROC's interpretation does not involve two Chinas; one China, one Taiwan; or Taiwan independence, as the Republic of China Constitution does not allow it. I also emphasized that sustainable peace and prosperity should be the common goal in the development of cross-strait relations. We will continue to consolidate the 1992 Consensus of "one China, respective interpretations" as the basis for relations, and maintain the status quo of peace and prosperity.

The second point is the reduction of hostility and peaceful handling of disputes. We told Mr. Xi that the people of Taiwan are especially concerned about security and dignity. We wanted Mr. Xi and mainland China to understand that we hope all disputes, whether they be political, military, social, cultural, legal, or of any other form, can be peacefully resolved, allowing both sides to experience mutual good will. I made special mention of the frustrations our people have had when participating in NGO activities, as well as the interventions our government has faced when taking part in regional economic integration and other international activities. We hope to see a reduction of hostility in these areas, especially with regard to our NGOs. I told Mr. Xi that these organizations comprise elite members and specialists, who have reacted quite strongly to these issues and the treatment they received. We hope there will be fewer such occurrences. In response, Mr. Xi said he hopes these issues will be appropriately handled case by case.

I also stated that many people of Taiwan are concerned about mainland China's military deployments against Taiwan, including the Zhurihe base with which we are all familiar and where missiles are deployed. Mr. Xi said that these deployments are in principle not targeted at Taiwan.

The third point is the expansion of cross-strait exchanges and mutual benefits. We emphasized that given the fact that Taiwan and mainland China have different social and economic systems, the two sides need sufficient time to engage in deeper exchanges. We also reiterated Taiwan's interest in participating in regional economic integration. The issue of which side joins first and which side later should not arise. Mr. Xi expressed willingness to discuss this issue and welcomed our participation in the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and mainland China's "one belt, one road" initiative.

The fourth point is the establishment of a cross-strait hotline. We believe that a hotline can be set up between the Mainland Affairs Council Minister and the Taiwan Affairs Office Minister, who can then exchange views on important or urgent issues. Mr. Xi stated that this matter could be promptly dealt with.

With regards to cultural and educational exchanges, I also expressed the hope that main-

land China can allow more vocational college graduates to pursue higher education in Taiwan. I noted that our efforts over the past several years have met with limited success. As we from Taiwan know, our polytechnic universities have a shortage of students. I drew attention to the fact that Vietnam, Thailand, India, and Indonesia have been funding graduate studies by university lecturers at polytechnic institutes in Taiwan. We welcome these students. Before I took office, we had about 30,000 students from overseas studying in Taiwan. This year, the figure has increased to above 100,000. We intend to transform Taiwan into an Asia-Pacific center for higher education. I mentioned that mainland China has over a million vocational college graduates. Mr. Xi said he is willing to look into this matter. The vocational college graduates I refer to are like graduates from five-year junior colleges in Taiwan who then enroll in two-year programs at polytechnic colleges.

The fifth and final point is joint cooperation for cross-strait prosperity. I suggested that history has left behind several issues that the two sides cannot resolve overnight. These issues must be handled pragmatically. If we deal rashly with some of the excessively sensitive issues, it will make things worse. The maintenance of cross-strait peace and stability is Taiwan's mainstream view. How cross-strait relations develop in the future will have to take into account the direction of public opinion. In particular, I reiterated that cross-strait relations should be built on the foundation of dignity, respect, sincerity, and good will, for only then can we shorten the psychological gap between the two sides. I especially expressed the hope that the two sides can turn hostility into friendship and seek peace, not war."

RECOGNIZING COL. WYLIE W.
JOHNSON

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Col. Wylie W. Johnson of the U.S. Army Reserve. Wylie, an Army chaplain, served our nation in five conflicts. He continues to serve today as the Pastor of the Springfield Baptist Church in Springfield, Delaware County, where he's been since 1997. Wylie will tonight receive the Freedom Medal from the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Association at its annual dinner. It's a well-deserved tribute for a man who has looked after the spiritual needs of our men and women in uniform for decades.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALBANIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER (AACC)

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Albanian American Community Center (AACC) in Waterbury, Connecticut and the 103rd anniversary of Albania's independence.