

Obama in 2010 in which he “. . . acknowledged that the path to a world free of nuclear weapons will be long and difficult. It will involve many steps:

Verifiably reducing nuclear arsenals as the new START Treaty continues to do;

Ratifying and bringing into force the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty;

Reducing our nation's reliance on nuclear weapons for security as the 2010 Nuclear Posture Review began to do;

Securing nuclear materials from terrorists;

Adopting a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty to prohibit production of weapons-grade material;

Strengthening the International Atomic Energy Agency to monitor nonproliferation efforts and ensure access to peaceful uses of nuclear power; and

Other actions that take humanity in the direction of a nuclear-weapons-free world.”

The Cardinal went on to say, “We are pastors and teachers, not technical experts. We cannot map out the precise route to the goal of eliminating nuclear weapons, but we can offer moral direction and encouragement. Although we cannot anticipate every step on the path humanity must walk, we can point with moral clarity to a destination that moves beyond deterrence to a world free of the nuclear threat.”

Given these longstanding concerns of the U.S. Bishops to reduce nuclear weapons and secure nuclear materials, in April 2015, Bishop Oscar Cantú, Chairman of the Committee on International Justice and Peace, spoke on a panel on “Nuclear Weapons and the Moral Compass” sponsored by The Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See and The Global Security Institute at the UN Headquarters in New York, and in November 2014, Bishop Richard Pates, a member of the Committee, spoke at a seminar on “Less Nuclear Stockpiles and More Development” sponsored by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences in Rome.

The bishops of the United States are deeply engaged in the moral enterprise of working for a world without nuclear weapons. As Bishop Cantú said in his April UN talk: “To achieve this goal, we must, in the words of Pope Francis, acknowledge that ‘now is the time to counter the logic of fear with the ethic of responsibility, and so foster a climate of trust and sincere dialogue.’”

RECOGNIZING THE VETERANS OF VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 5327 FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE 2015 RUN FOR THE WALL

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the veterans of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5327 in Wentzville, Missouri for their participation in the 2015 Run for the Wall.

Since 1989, Run for the Wall has united veterans across the country through a 10-day motorcycle ride spanning from Ontario, California to the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC. Participants of this ride are not limited to just veterans; each year a number of current service members, families and

supporters of our nation's armed services join veterans in this nationwide journey to find healing and remember those we have lost in battle.

As they make their way across the United States, Run for the Wall riders visit memorials, veterans' hospitals, and schools to discuss and pay tribute to the men and women who have served this country with honor and distinction. Additionally, this event serves as a time of reflection for all participants, building awareness for those who are still missing and emphasizing the motto that no soldier should be left behind.

This year, participants will depart on three different routes beginning on May 13, 2015. The central route will arrive in Wentzville, Missouri on the evening of May 18, 2015, wherein VFW Post 5327 will provide dinner and lodging for riders. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all participants of the ride and the veterans of VFW Post 5327 for their contribution to the cause.

Throughout my time in Congress, I have had the great privilege of meeting many of our nation's veterans, and I am always humbled by their selflessness. They have made remarkable sacrifices to protect the liberty we enjoy in this great country. Without our nation's veterans, we would not have the rights and privileges that we take for granted as Americans each and every day.

In closing, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the Run for the Wall mission and its participants.

STOP WARRANTLESS SEARCHES ON AMERICANS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, nearly two years have passed since a then-unknown 29-year-old nerd-turned-international fugitive aired the NSA's dirty secrets to the world. Edward Snowden is no patriot. However, the alarming information about the NSA's abuse of power he revealed cannot be ignored. Until Snowden, most Americans were unaware that their own government was trampling on their Fourth Amendment rights. Most people did not know their every move could be tracked by Big Brother. They trusted that this agency acted purely in the interest of national security to keep us safe. Not only were Americans in the dark on this, but so were many Members of Congress (including myself) who voted for legislation that NSA then used and abused to conduct its rogue activities.

Post 9/11 and with two ongoing wars, many believed that government surveillance—including warrantless searches and seizures—was limited to foreign nationals, not American citizens.

That would be consistent with federal law and the Constitution. But this did not happen. For example, NSA uses Section 215 of the Patriot Act. The Patriot Act permits targeted surveillance when that surveillance is justified by a court. Instead, NSA collects bulk meta data—such as surveillance of phone numbers in whole zip codes or phone carriers. These Soviet Style dragnet tactics went far beyond the scope of what Congress authorized in

Section 215 of the Patriot Act. Government simply cannot disregard the law just because it is inconvenient.

We also now realized that the agency has misused and expanded the intent of Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). NSA uses Section 702 as a means to gather not only data but content and to allow law enforcement to later search this data for information about American citizens without a warrant. Because it gathers and searches content of individual communications, Section 702 is more intrusive than Section 215. FISA permits the collection of such data of a suspected agent of a foreign power, but the federal government is also storing and later searching the content of emails, text messages and phone calls of American citizens—all without a warrant. In the course of this collection, the data of American citizens, many of which have done nothing wrong or illegal, gets collected.

That kind of reverse targeting of American citizens is not what Congress intended, is inconsistent with the Constitution and must stop.

The NSA has claimed it has no interest in monitoring the activity of “ordinary” Americans. My response to that is simple: then don't do it. But, most Americans have a hard time accepting that line. They question that for the simple fact that had Edward Snowden not revealed what was really going on within NSA in the first place, this snooping and spying would still be going on in the dark shadows of government operations. And, equally important, they know that this snooping and spying is still going on today.

It's time for Congress to rein in this blatant violation of the Fourth Amendment and stop the warrantless searches of Americans. This issue—protecting the Fourth Amendment—has unified liberals and conservatives. This week, Congresswoman Rep. ZOE LOFGREN (D-CA), Congressman Rep. THOMAS MASSIE (R-KY), and I introduced the End Warrantless Surveillance of Americans Act. The bill would prohibit warrantless searches of government databases for information that pertains to U.S. citizens. It would also forbid government agencies from mandating or requesting “back doors” into commercial products that can be used for surveillance.

The legislation mirrors an amendment we offered to the USA Freedom Act, which was backed by a broad bipartisan coalition including Members of Congress and outside groups across the political spectrum.

The USA Freedom Act that passed out of the Judiciary Committee last week is an improvement over current law and a step in the right direction. But we can do more to protect the Fourth Amendment. In addition to stopping bulk data collection, Congress should also act now to fix the other loophole and stop warrantless searches under Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). Failure to address this gaping loophole in FISA leaves the constitutional rights of millions of Americans vulnerable and unprotected. This bill also ensures that the federal government does not force companies to enable its spying activities. The NSA has and will continue to violate the constitutional protections guaranteed to every American unless Congress intervenes. Until we fix this and make the law clear, citizens can never be sure that their private conversations are safe from the eyes of the government.

Last year the House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed similar legislation as an amendment to DOD Appropriations.

Congress should do all that it can to reform our national intelligence agencies and to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans, including passing this legislation to close the loophole and ensure that the NSA abides by the letter and spirit of the law. It is our duty to make this right and ensure that the Fourth Amendment rights of the people we represent will no longer be trampled on by the NSA.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association (NWFMOA).

Chartered in 1965 in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, initially as a social network for retired officers, the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association has transformed into a sizeable advocacy effort on behalf of our Nation's military members and dependents and adheres to the selfless values of the Military Officers Association of America founded in 1929.

Throughout the last five decades, the members of NWFMOA have worked hand-in-hand with our forces stationed at Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlburt Field, and Duke Field, and their tireless efforts have helped ensure our brave men and women in uniform receive the training and equipment needed to successfully accomplish their assigned missions and safely return home. In addition, NWFMOA has been a stalwart presence educating decision makers on how best to make certain our veterans reintegrate into the civilian sector and to safeguard the benefits they have earned through service.

With membership open to all commissioned and warrant officers of all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, as well as the United States Public Health Service (USPHS) and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the work of the NWFMOA cannot be overstated.

Mr. Speaker, Northwest Florida is proud of its rich military heritage and the members of our Armed Forces who call it home. I want to thank the members of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association for a half century of steadfast dedication to the Gulf Coast military and veterans' community and for their life-long example of service for the cause of Freedom.

CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. NGUYEN NGOC HANH

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the life of Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Hanh for his

outstanding achievements as a soldier, photographer, and teacher. His contributions to documenting the Vietnam War over forty years ago continue to inform us about this conflict.

Mr. Hanh was recognized among the Top Ten Photographers of the Photographic Society of America in 1968 for his coverage of the Tet Offensive. His stunning portraits of soldiers and Viet Cong detainees capture the emotion and humanity of the war. He began photographing the conflict in 1956, while serving in a paratrooper battalion. By 1961, at the age of thirty-four, the South Vietnam Armed Forces assigned Mr. Hanh as its official war photographer. Perhaps his most well known photograph is a portrait of a tearful young woman in Hue recently widowed and holding her husband's tags.

After the fall of Saigon in 1975, Mr. Hanh declined to use his personal pass for a helicopter transport and instead chose to remain with his fellow soldiers. This led to Mr. Hanh's imprisonment by the North Vietnam Army. For the first year and four months of his confinement, Mr. Hanh's lived in a metal container too small for him to stand and too narrow for him to lie down. He remained detained until 1983, and on his fourth attempt was able to flee from Vietnam to Thailand in 1985.

Four years later, at the age of sixty-two, Mr. Hanh immigrated to San Jose. He soon established the Vietnam Photographic Association while also working at a Fremont technology company delivering mail. Since 1989, Mr. Hanh has trained hundreds of photography students in San Jose. He also exhibited his photos at the annual Vietnamese New Year Tet Festival in San Jose, as well as at several nonprofit fund raising events to raise money for the disabled vets of the South Vietnam Armed Forces. His work has contributed immensely not only to San Jose, but also to our country. I thank him for his contributions, and I recognize him as an outstanding member of the Vietnamese-American community.

RECOGNIZING THE 130TH ANNIVERSARY OF SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Second Baptist Church of Los Angeles on the celebration of its 130th anniversary.

In 1885, Second Baptist Church was organized as Southern California's first African-American Baptist church. It quickly developed into one of South Los Angeles' most esteemed and effective institutions, offering vital support throughout the community. Over the years, a wide and diverse population of Angelenos have benefited from the church's child care and educational services, its scholarship programs, and its involvement in creating housing for families and shelter space for homeless women and children.

Second Baptist Church has also played an active role in our nation's long and ongoing dialogue about civil rights. In 1954, Second Baptist members raised \$1,500 for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund to pay for printing the legal briefs for the Brown vs. Board of Edu-

cation case, which desegregated America's schools. The church also hosted the NAACP's national conventions in 1928, 1942, and 1949.

Second Baptist Church's unflagging commitment to social justice and helping the least among us is also reflected in its long and distinguished list of speakers—a list including ministers, advocates, officials, and scholars. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was a frequent speaker throughout his career. Malcolm X, W.E.B. Du Bois, Ralph Bunche, and the Rev. Adam Clayton Powell, Sr. are just a few of the other orators to have spoken within the walls of Second Baptist.

Because of the church's substantial involvement in some of the most important social fights of our age, it was listed as a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument in 1978, and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2009. Both are well-deserved honors for this church and for the beautiful Lombardy Romanesque Revival building in which it is housed.

It is my great privilege to represent Second Baptist Church and its congregation in Congress. In times of trial and in times of joy, this church has been a source of strength and unity for all who have been touched by its mission. On its 130th anniversary, Second Baptist Church is both a marker of how society has progressed in its lifetime, and a guiding light continuing to point us towards a brighter future of brotherhood, peace, and justice for all. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating all that Second Baptist Church has done to move the hearts and minds of Angelenos and all Americans, and to wish the church and its congregation a very happy 130th anniversary.

RECOGNITION OF FORMER U.S. SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE JAMES "JIM" WRIGHT, JR.

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pleasure to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Former Speaker of the House James "Jim" Wright, who passed away on Wednesday, May 6th at the age of 92. Speaker Wright served in Congress for more than three decades and left an indelible legacy as chairman of the House Public Works Committee. He was elected by his peers as Speaker in 1987.

Jim Wright was born in Fort Worth, Texas, the son of a traveling salesman. He was educated at Weatherford College and the University of Texas at Austin. Jim Wright dedicated his life to serving the public. He bravely served in the United States Army Air Forces during World War II and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for flying combat missions in the South Pacific. Subsequently, he was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1946. He served as mayor of Weatherford, Texas from 1950 to 1954. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1954 and was reelected 16 times.

Speaker Wright was a visionary who served the people of Fort Worth and this nation well. He is deserving of this tribute. Because of his leadership, the House experienced one of its most prolific periods. Speaker Wright demonstrated his skill as a political leader and