

House in Blairsville, food boxes in Suches, numerous families, and other non-profits, emergency needs were served.

When Dr. Whitley is asked about her efforts and how long she will continue to give selflessly to our community, her response is always: Have we put an end to hunger yet? Also, by the way, Mr. Speaker, as of today, they have met their \$200,000 goal.

Northeast Georgia is a better place because of the efforts of Dr. Whitley. I celebrate Dr. Whitley and her volunteer team on their 25th CROP Walk anniversary and thank them for all they have done for families in need in northeast Georgia and throughout the world.

This is what makes representing the Ninth District of Georgia special. Especially at a time like this, with Christmas approaching, it is always the season when others give. Dr. Meg Whitley is one who does that over and over again.

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia, and I thank him for the way he highlighted great action from folks there at home. I yield back the balance of my time.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, here is an article just in Politico by Burgess Everett. It is today. It concludes with a quote from Senator CHARLES SCHUMER of New York:

“Sen. McConnell wants to see the Senate work,” Schumer said. “But the good news for us is, to make it work, he has to do basically our agenda.”

That is what we have been telling people for so long, Mr. Speaker, that people across America say: We would like to see you guys in Washington work together. We would like to see government not shut down, that you guys work together and get things done.

But as we explained repeatedly—and now it has been confirmed by Senator SCHUMER—there is only one way that some folks here in this Capitol building will reach an agreement with Republicans. Normally, that is if we do exactly their agenda.

I go back to the spring of 2011, when Republicans resumed the majority in the House of Representatives. There was a CR that was going to expire. The Government would run out of money at midnight. As I recall, it was a Friday.

It appeared to me—and I have said since then that it certainly appeared that HARRY REID believed and the White House believed the conventional wisdom here in Washington—that, if the Democrats could force a shutdown, then their massive friends in the mainstream media would blame Republicans and that would be their best shot at regaining a majority in the House and keeping it in the Senate.

So, basically, to avoid a shutdown at midnight, although our Speaker at the time, Speaker Boehner, gathered us together late that evening and said, “Look, we have gotten \$29 billion in cuts. I know we said it would be \$100 billion originally and then \$60 billion, but we have \$29 billion,” it turns out we didn’t get those, that we may have spent more money.

In essence, it appears that the Speaker had to basically cave to what HARRY REID wanted in order to avoid a shutdown in the spring of 2011. That continued to occur. We would come up on deadlines. The Senate would not pass any of the appropriations bills, would sit back and say: We are not going to do our work. We are not going to comply with our constitutional responsibility. We are going to sit back. We are going to wait, get bills from the House, and then demand our agenda. If they don’t give us our agenda, then we will shut things down. Our friends in the mainstream media will blame Republicans. Then we will get the majority back in the House.

Finally, in September of 2013, we gave HARRY REID basically everything he wanted and he still shut the government down. Just as conventional wisdom had indicated, the mainstream media blamed Republicans.

In fact, the mainstream media mantra was so overwhelming that even Speaker Boehner got confused or maybe—I guess maybe he did blame Republicans because we didn’t totally capitulate on everything HARRY REID wanted. We gave him most everything he wanted.

The last thing we did was appoint—this is at 1:10 a.m. on the morning of October 1 of 2013—we approved the appointment of conferees. HARRY REID wouldn’t even approve conferees so we could have a deal worked out by 8 a.m. and nobody would miss work. He wouldn’t even do that. He didn’t want a deal worked out. He wanted a shutdown.

They had already contracted to bring barriers to shut down open air memorials so people couldn’t even walk down the sidewalk. Apparently, the people in this administration believed, if we can jerk around World War II veterans, then Republicans will get blamed for that, too. So they violated the law. They spent more in shutting things down than they would normally spend in keeping them open.

That violates the law as it exists. They shut down things that there was totally no reason to shut down. They brought in more Park Service people to help shut them down than are normally ever out there.

All of that was to try to make people blame Republicans when it was clearly the calloused, intentional desire to inflict harm on people, including World War II veterans, by some people within this administration.

But America didn’t fall for it, and they didn’t give Democrats back the majority in the House. In fact, they

gave Republicans the majority in the Senate.

Today we get this story quoting Senator SCHUMER, a Democrat from New York: The good news for us is, to make it work, Senator McCONNELL has to do basically our agenda.

Then we find out a story today from Carolyn May:

“Senior officials rejected a proposal to incorporate social media screenings in the vetting process of foreign visa applicants in 2011.”

Four years ago this administration said: We are going to continue our effort to blind ourselves of our ability to see our enemy and to know who our enemy is. That started back in 2009, when this administration came into town.

Basically, the Council on American-Islamic Relations, a coconspirator named in the Holy Land Foundation trial for supporting terrorism, has an open door and they answered their phones at the White House anytime they called and complained.

They wanted documents purged so our FBI agents, our intelligence officials, our State Department people, could not be adequately trained on what radical Islamists believe.

This administration still will not even recognize that such a thing as radical Islam exists. Not one person in the administration that is elected that is making these decisions or that has been confirmed by the Senate has an advanced degree in Islamic studies and especially not advanced degrees from the University of Baghdad in Islamic studies, as one of the world’s most renowned experts on Islam does.

That world-renowned expert on Islam with a Ph.D. from the University of Baghdad in Islamic studies makes very clear that the Islamic State is Islam. His name is al-Baghdadi. He is the head of the Islamic State.

As the very learned Carolyn Glick has pointed out, the failure of any administration, Republican or Democrat, to recognize that radical Islam is a part of Islam is performing a huge disfavor for moderate Muslims who want to stand up against radical Islam.

□ 1630

But, by this administration’s saying there is no pluralism in Islam—it is all good, and there are no bad people who are claiming to be and who actually are Islamic—it does a great disservice to moderate Muslims who would like to stand up and take it on. There have been wonderful friends of the United States who have. President el-Sisi in Egypt has, and others have. For some reason, this administration chooses to alienate those who are Muslim who would stand up against radical Islam, as if they don’t have enough problems as it is.

It was a friend in intelligence, here in the U.S. Government, who made that statement that I used a moment ago—“We have blinded ourselves of our ability to see our enemy”—and that continues.

If this administration had not made that decision in 2011 to not look at social media, they could have seen that Malik, which is, surely, not her real name, had pledged her allegiance to radical Islam. It is kind of tough to recognize when somebody pledges one's allegiance to radical Islam if one won't even recognize that there is such a thing as radical Islam.

This article from Joseph Kolb reads: "A proposal to admit 10,000 Syrian refugees to the United States has ignited a bitter debate in Washington, but more than 10 times that number of people from the embattled country have quietly come to America since 2012, according to figures obtained by FoxNews.com.

"Some 102,313 Syrians were granted admission to the United States as legal permanent residents or through programs including work, study and tourist visas from 2012 through August of this year, a period which roughly coincides with the devastating civil war that still engulfs the Middle Eastern country. Experts say any fears that terrorists might infiltrate the proposed wave of refugees from the United Nations-run camps should be dwarfed by the potential danger already here.

"The sheer number of people arriving on all kinds of visas and with green cards, and possibly U.S. citizenship, makes it impossible for our counterterrorism authorities to keep track of them all, much less prevent them from carrying out attacks or belatedly try to deport them," said Jessica Vaughan of the Center for Immigration Studies.

"I think it's reasonable to assume that the U.S. Government ran the minimum intelligence traces required at the time of entry."

We know now, as of 2011, they wouldn't even bother to look to see if someone who was wishing to come in had made statements on social media or had even had his picture taken with known terrorists.

Of course, we had a great, valiant patriot in the person of Phil Haney, in his working for the Department of Homeland Security, who was cited for his brilliance in finding over 300 of 400 people who were looked at, on whom he had entered data, and who should have been added to the terrorist watch list from an organization called Tablighi Jamaat. Since there are, apparently, ties with people in that organization to this administration—perhaps it is CAIR—they complained, and he ended up being chastised and put off, away from the ability to enter data.

His investigation into Tablighi Jamaat and potential radicals within that organization was shut down, not by his superior—his superior recognized his importance—but by people way up the chain. If that investigation had continued, it appears pretty clear there would have been people alive today in San Bernardino who are dead.

"Numbers obtained from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection show 60,010 Syrian visa holders have entered

the U.S. since 2012, including 16,245 this year through August. Additional numbers provided by a Congressional source showed another 42,303 Syrians were granted citizenship or green cards during the same period.

"It is highly unlikely that the 102,313 Syrians who were admitted over the past three years were effectively vetted," said spokesman Ira Mehlman, of the Federation for American Immigration Reform. "Even in countries where we have a strong diplomatic presence, the sheer volume of background checks being carried out precludes the kind of thorough vetting that is necessary."

We know also, from Mark Krikorian's research, that it costs 12 times more to bring Syrian refugees here to the United States than it does to keep them alive and keep them functioning somewhere in the area of Syria. So it is pretty arrogant for the United States to claim we need to bring these Syrian refugees to the United States even though we could, actually, help and keep alive and keep functioning 11 more people in addition to the ones we brought here if we were to just help them where they are.

We also had this report yesterday: "Chattanooga shooting a 'terror attack,' FBI Director James Comey says."

"The semantic dance of whether or not to call the July mass shooting in Chattanooga a 'terrorist' attack appears to be winding down.

"FBI Director James Comey twice called the deadly Chattanooga shooting that killed four Marines and one sailor a 'terror attack' during a press conference with NYPD commissioner Bill Bratton on Wednesday. Bratton and Comey spoke after addressing the NYPD Shield Conference in New York City.

"We've investigated Chattanooga as a terror attack from the beginning," Comey said. "The Chattanooga killer was inspired by a foreign terror organization. It's hard to entangle which particular source . . . there are lots of competing poisons out there."

"That response came as Comey was asked to clarify an earlier statement in which he linked the root cause of the July 16 rampage by Muhammad Youssef Abdulazeez, a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in Kuwait, to the recent Islamic terrorist attack in San Bernardino.

"San Bernardino, as with Chattanooga, another terror attack we've dealt with in recent times . . ." Comey began the answer to a question about the December 2 terror attack in California.

"Abdulazeez, 24, was fatally shot by police after opening fire at a military recruiting center and then driving to a reserve center, where he killed five."

Mr. Speaker, it is absolutely heart-breaking to know that people like him are in this country, that they have got information out there on social media that indicates their terrorist affili-

ations, and that this administration, number one, will not recognize that there is something called radical Islam and, number two, won't allow their people, who work for them, to check to see if there is such information about people who are seeking to come into this country who will ultimately kill Americans.

Then this story yesterday from Judicial Watch: "Team led by Middle Eastern Woman Caught Surveilling U.S. Facility on Mexican Border."

"A Middle Eastern woman was caught surveilling a U.S. port of entry on the Mexican border holding a sketchbook with Arabic writing and drawings of the facility and its security system, federal law enforcement sources tell Judicial Watch.

"The woman has been identified as 23-year-old Leila Abdelrazaq, according to a Customs and Border Patrol report . . . Abdelrazaq appeared to have two accomplices, a 31-year-old man named Gabriel Schivone and a 28-year-old woman named Leslie McAfee. CBP agents noticed the trio 'observing the facilities' at the Port of Mariposa in Nogales, Arizona on December 2. Schivone was first noticed inside the entrance of the pedestrian area while the two women stood outside by the entry door, the CBP document states.

"When Federal officers asked Abdelrazaq why she was drawing sketches of the facilities she 'stated because she's never been to the border,' according to the CBP report . . . 'During the inspection of the Abdelrazaq sketching book, CBPOs noticed the book contained writings in English and Arabic language . . . There were drawings of what appeared to be a vehicle primary inspection area and an additional drawing of pedestrian turnstile gate depicting video surveillance cameras above the gate.' The report proceeds to reveal that the drawings were 'partial and incomplete.'

"This distressing information comes on the heels of two separate—and equally alarming—incidents in the same vicinity. A few weeks ago Judicial Watch reported that five young Middle Eastern men were apprehended by the U.S. Border Patrol in Amado, an Arizona town situated about 30 miles from the Mexican border. Two of the men were carrying stainless steel cylinders in backpacks, alarming Border Patrol officials enough to call the Department of Homeland Security for backup. DHS officially denies this ever occurred, but law enforcement and other sources have confirmed . . . that the two men carrying the cylinders were believed to be taken into custody by the FBI.

"Of interesting note is that only three of the men's names were entered in the Border Patrol's E3 reporting system, which is used by the agency to track apprehensions, detention hearings and removals of illegal immigrants. E3 also collects and transmits biographic and biometric data including fingerprints for identification and verification . . . The other two men

were listed as ‘unknown subjects,’ which is unheard of, according to a Judicial Watch federal law enforcement source. ‘In all my years I’ve never seen that before,’ a veteran federal law enforcement agent told Judicial Watch.’

Anyway, there just continues to be more and more bad news from the border.

When I read the article today, I thought: Nogales, Arizona. I read a story before about Nogales. Obviously, this is indicating—with the Arabic language, with the sketches of the entrance by people from the Middle East—very curious behavior from these Middle Eastern folks. I went back through articles I had, and this is where I had seen the name Nogales, Arizona.

This is an article from December 27, 2013:

“John Dodson, the federal agent who blew the lid off the Justice Department’s ‘Fast and Furious’ gun-walking scandal, claims the FBI had ties to the men who killed U.S. Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry, in 2010, near Nogales, Arizona. In fact, Dodson says the Mexican bandits who gunned down Terry were working for FBI operatives and had been sent to the border to do a ‘drug rip-off’ using intelligence gathered by the DEA. Dodson, a special agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, said he doesn’t think the FBI was part of the rip-off crew, but the agency was ‘directing the rip crew.’”

The point here, I think, that is important is that we know that this administration was pushing legitimate gun dealers in the United States to sell to people who shouldn’t have been allowed to get guns so that they could end up going to drug cartels, and they could, supposedly, follow the weapons. We know that one of those weapons this administration pushed to be sold ended up in the hands of drug cartels who killed, apparently, U.S. Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry in 2010.

□ 1645

So we know there is violent drug cartel activity in the Nogales, Arizona, area. Now, this interesting report says that apparently there is not just drug cartel activity in that area, there is

also Middle Eastern activity surveilling the entry areas.

I think it is also important to remember what this administration did, as reported by Sharyl Attkisson, at the time with CBS News, before they decided they didn’t want someone working at CBS who was exposing something that was such a big problem as Fast and Furious.

In Sharyl Attkisson’s article of December 7, 2011, she points out communications within this administration, after this administration pushed gun dealers to sell to people they shouldn’t have, so that guns could go to drug cartels in Mexico. They then, according to communications as reported by Sharyl Attkisson, in emails that were gained, to use the fact that long guns were being sold to people that shouldn’t have been and that those were being used in crimes, they wanted to use that to pass more gun control legislation or rules to take law-abiding citizens’ Second Amendment rights away from them. Absolutely astounding.

Also, there is an article yesterday in the National Review entitled, “Increasing the Number of Guest Worker Visas Will Hurt America’s Most Vulnerable Workers,” by Ian Smith. It states: “Pro-labor advocates are criticizing a new addition to the Senate’s omnibus spending bill, a provision they say will quadruple the number of H-2B visas for unskilled guest workers, for a total of more than 250,000.”

Most of the people I know who are Republicans want to bring down the extremely high unemployment level for African Americans and other minorities. Yet, this administration has pushed so hard something they wanted. They want more people coming in and taking jobs, lowering the wages of American citizens and American workers, taking entry-level jobs away from those we should be pushing off welfare into jobs and working. I know an awful lot of people that would love to work and would love to have those jobs.

Here is another article from December 15, 2015, entitled: “White House Opens Door to CAIR Rep, Ignores Muslim Reformers.”

This is the problem, Mr. Speaker, in this administration. This administration is allowing the foxes to set up and

give advice on how to run the henhouse. Unfortunately, the henhouse contains law-abiding American citizens who are put at risk by this administration’s refusal to acknowledge that Islam is pluralistic, just like Christianity is. There are extremes at different ends, but there is a radical Islam that wants to destroy this country. There are others more moderate.

Like, those in the Muslim Brotherhood, they want to take over the United States. But as they have indicated: We are making so much progress in taking over the United States without violence. We will have to use it at some point, but let’s not use violence as long as we are making so much progress. That seems to be the theme of the Muslim Brotherhood right now in America.

This administration continues to be complicit in helping people that were named in the prosecution of support for terrorist activity, which convictions were obtained with the idea that we can go after the rest of these named conspirators later. The trouble is, after the conviction, within a month and a half, this administration takes over; and they not only refused to prosecute the coconspirators, they bring them in as their advisers. Is there any wonder there are not more Americans being killed?

I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. NADLER (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of family emergency.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker’s table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1616. An act to provide for the identification and prevention of improper payments and the identification of strategic sourcing opportunities by reviewing and analyzing the use of Federal agency charge cards; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

NOTICE

Incomplete record of House proceedings. Except for concluding business which follows. The Joint Explanatory Statement regarding House Amendment No. 1 to the Senate Amendment on H.R. 2029 will be continued in Book II and Book III.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 4 o’clock and 50 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, December 18, 2015, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

3794. A letter from the Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s annual report to Congress on college credit card agreements, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1637; Pub-

lic Law 111-24, Sec. 305(a)(3); (123 Stat. 1750); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3795. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Air Plan Approval; NH; Infrastructure State Implementation Plan Requirements for Ozone, Lead, and Nitrogen Dioxide [EPA-R01-OAR-2012-0950; A-1-FRL-9940-15-Region 1] received December 16, 2015,