

and 1930s, that gave rise to Hitler and the Nazis who exploited the deep-seated hatred of Jews to take power, culminating in the systematic and deliberate murder of over 6 million Jews during humanity's darkest period, the Holocaust.

In these capacities, I intend to continue to raise awareness on the rising level and this trend of anti-Semitism worldwide and to take actions against it, as I have done for many years now.

The fight against global anti-Semitism must start with strong U.S. leadership. We have the means, we have the leverage, but we must be resolute in our efforts to stem the tide of anti-Semitism and to reverse it.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we hear about the dangers of anti-Semitism across the world and how, in many places, Jews are being targeted in an alarmingly increasing trend. But I want to highlight an area that needs to be brought into greater focus when we discuss combating global anti-Semitism. It is something that an old friend of mine, Natan Sharansky, so succinctly and astutely described.

Natan and I have had the opportunities to discuss everything from anti-Semitism to oppression in Cuba, my native homeland, and in Russia; and his insight is extremely valuable.

What Natan Sharansky has helped define is the new anti-Semitism and what he calls the three Ds: double standards, demonization, and delegitimization. And I think the clearest example today of Natan's three Ds can be seen unfortunately at the United Nations with its anti-Israel, anti-Semitic agenda, most notably at bodies like UNESCO, UNRWA, the U.N. Human Rights Council, and other U.N. bodies.

All of these clearly exhibit the double standards: condemning Israel based on faulty or illegitimate claims, while ignoring the very real problems of other member states. Israel is repeatedly and singularly isolated, targeted, and demonized. And, of course, there is no other nation that is subjected to efforts to delegitimize it or its existence like Israel.

So what do we need to do? Well, we have to look around at what agencies are doing. The efforts at UNESCO to erase Jewish historical and cultural ties to their ancient homeland, Jerusalem, have been appalling.

The move by the Human Rights Council to establish a blacklist to target individuals and entities that do business with Israel, legitimizing the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement, BDS, and the efforts to take Israel to the International Criminal Court or to force Israel to agree to a one-sided peace plan, these all reach the height of delegitimization.

All of this is taking place at the United Nations, the body that was forged in the aftermath of the Holocaust and World War II. We need to fight the scourge of anti-Semitism on all fronts, Mr. Speaker, and not just at the U.N.

But if we fail to reverse the systematic and endemic anti-Semitism at the U.N., we are going to have a hard time achieving much success in any of our other endeavors.

That is why I will introduce a bill soon that addresses these problems at the U.N., and I urge my colleagues to join me in an effort to defeat the intolerance wherever and whenever it appears.

Anti-Semitism is one of the world's oldest forms of hatred and, for too long, has gone unaddressed. We have a responsibility to the Jewish communities worldwide, and we have a responsibility to ourselves to root out this hatred in all of its forms, once and for all.

THE POLITICAL CLASS AND THE REST OF THE COUNTRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUDD. Mr. Speaker, you can divide this country into two classes of people, not Republican and Democrat but the political class and the rest of the country. The political class is doing better than ever.

Eleven out of 20 of the richest counties in America are in the D.C. metro area. For every dollar the average family in D.C. earns, the average family in Davie County, where I live, earns 55 cents.

The political class is alive and doing well for themselves. On the other hand, those who are not oriented to government—doctors, auto mechanics, waitresses, bartenders, factory workers—are still earning exactly what they did 10 years ago. I am not the first person to point this out, but I want to speak about a textbook example of how this dynamic plays out in reality.

I am referring to a recently announced \$418 million arms deal between the U.S. and Kenya. It is for 12 airplanes that are essentially armed crop dusters. There is only one slight problem with the deal, the defense contractor that was chosen to fulfill the sale doesn't even make these type of airplanes. They have never done it before. In fact, there is an extra \$130 million built into this deal to design a whole new airplane.

IOMAX USA, a service-disabled, veteran-owned small business in my district, makes these airplanes. They have got 50 of these airplanes in the Middle East. These planes have dropped more than 4,000 bombs on ISIS. They are the only U.S. manufacturer of this type of aircraft.

They were not even considered for the deal, which was awarded without competition. Nobody got a chance to bid. Nobody knew about it, except for the company that got it and the bureaucrats who were involved.

That is how the D.C. area got so wealthy. If you know the right people

and you have the right lobbyists, you get awards like this from the Federal Government without competition. It doesn't matter if you don't even make the product, they will give you some extra money to design it from scratch if you know the right people.

IOMAX, a small business just like the millions of others in our country, doesn't have those connections. The giant defense contractor involved in this deal does, and so they get the money. Something is wrong with that picture.

The problem lies with a secretive acquisition unit within the Air Force called Big Safari. Now, I don't say "secretive" lightly.

At one point in 2013, Big Safari's commanding officer told a reporter: Don't be angry or upset when your Freedom of Information Act gets turned down; that is just they way we do business here at Big Safari. And the commander's words were true.

I asked for information on this, and they turned me down saying that the information was sensitive, but unclassified, and for official use only. I asked them 19 questions, and they answered only four of them having to do with the very basic elements for the deal that were already public.

Under that secrecy, Big Safari doles out billions in government contracts. I imagine it makes things convenient for when Big Safari employees go to work for the same companies to which they direct these large defense contracts, which we have found that they do with some regularity. You don't even have to go to a different building, in some instances. We have got a confirmed case of a Big Safari employee awarding a contract, quitting, and then going to work on the same program with the same company he has just given the contract to.

The forgotten men in this equation are the employees of IOMAX, mostly veterans, mostly blue collar, who have to compete against a \$13 billion defense contractor and a \$4 trillion Federal Government that appears to have forgotten impartiality.

We need to shine the light on this deal with congressional oversight, and we need to ask ourselves who exactly the Federal Government is supposed to be working for, the country or for the political class.

Mr. Speaker, we need to fix this. It is a symptom of a very serious disease that our democracy cannot long survive.

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REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JOE ROGERS, SR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Joe Rogers, Sr., the co-founder of Waffle House, who passed away on March 3, 2017, at the age of 97.

In 1919, Mr. Rogers was born in Jackson, Tennessee. Before he became a waffle cook, Mr. Rogers served as a captain in the Army Air Corps during World War II.

After the war, he took a job as a short-order cook, eventually moving to Atlanta in 1949. It was there that he met his future partner in the Waffle House business, Tom Forkner. In famous words, Mr. Rogers told his friend: “You build a restaurant and I’ll show you how to run it.”

Their decision was the start of something special. The first Waffle House opened on Labor Day weekend, 1955, in Avondale Estates, Georgia. It was Mr. Rogers’ suggestion to keep their restaurant doors open all day long so people would always have a warm place to eat.

Soon enough, more and more towns needed their own 24-hour diner, and today, more than 2,100 locations are scattered across 25 States. Georgia leads the way with more than 400 locations covering the State.

What Mr. Rogers valued the most was the people, whether they were dedicated regulars, hungry drop-ins, or the employees who made his dream possible. His passion for people was a defining characteristic in his life and is an endearing trait of the Waffle House legacy.

Thank you, Mr. Rogers, for welcoming any who entered the Waffle House doors, regardless of who they were, what time they came, or how they ordered their hash browns.

BEST OF THE SOUTH

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Southern Soul Barbeque for winning the Southern Living magazine’s first ever Best of the South Award.

In fall of 2016, Southern Living polled its nationwide audience to discover America’s favorite cities, hotels, shops, museums, and restaurants in the South. At the end of the poll, America crowned St. Simons Island’s own Southern Soul Barbeque as the best barbecue restaurant in the South.

The restaurant opened in 2007 when Harrison Sapp and Griffin Bufkin joined forces to create an authentic barbecue restaurant that embraces its Southern roots. Southern Soul Barbeque was born in a converted gas station with Southern charm, making it the perfect atmosphere to feast on Mr. Sapp’s and Mr. Bufkin’s barbecue dishes. They cook their delicious pork ribs and brisket on oak-fired pits outside their restaurant, so patrons know they are enjoying authentic barbecue.

Over the years, the restaurant has enjoyed a loyal local following and was even featured on the Food Network in 2010. These days, business is booming, and should only grow from here.

In their efforts to feed the folks of St. Simons Island, Mr. Sapp and Mr. Bufkin created more than a barbecue restaurant, they created a barbecue experience.

Congratulations to Mr. Sapp and Mr. Bufkin on winning this award, and for

the national recognition their hard work earned.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF BURKE DAY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of former Georgia State Representative Burke Day. Mr. Day passed away in his Tybee Island home on March 5, 2017, at the age of 62.

Mr. Day was born in Jacksonville, North Carolina, to parents, Cecil and Marian, but he grew up in Dunwoody, Georgia. It was there that Mr. Day met his high school sweetheart and future wife, Sally, at Peachtree High School.

During this time, he helped lay the foundation of his father’s new business, Days Inn Hotels. Mr. Day worked with his father to build the very first location on Tybee Island.

After studying at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York City and Mercer University in Atlanta, Mr. Day joined the family business of real estate like his father.

In 1991, he made his start in politics by running for the Tybee Island City Council on a dare, and won. During this time, he grew to love public service. Three years later he ran again, this time for the Georgia General Assembly House of Representatives, where he served for the next 16 years until his retirement in 2010.

Perhaps his greatest achievement was his work on the Stephens-Day legislation in 2000, which freezes the value of residential property at the time it was purchased. This means homeowners are not taxed out of their homes when property values increase. Stephens-Day saved local residents hundreds or even thousands of dollars a year.

I am proud to recognize today Mr. Day’s time in public service and his contributions to the people of Georgia.

GOLD STAR SPOUSES DAY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call your attention to the upcoming Gold Star Spouses Day occurring on April 5, 2017, and to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing those who have given so much for our country.

Gold Star Spouses are widows and widowers who have lost loved ones during their service to our Nation’s Armed Forces. Through this group, members find comfort, understanding, and an unparalleled support system.

On April 5, we all have the opportunity to honor both fallen American heroes and surviving military spouses.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE MICHAEL J. NEWMAN’S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Michael J. Newman, Magistrate Judge for the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, and who is president of the Federal Bar Associa-

tion, for his achievements in piloting a special veterans court in Dayton, Ohio.

With Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and the Dayton VA Medical Center both located in the Dayton community, and with the large number of veterans residing in my 10th Congressional District, southwest Ohio is a prime region for establishing a court that concentrates on veterans’ issues.

Judge Newman’s veterans court appears to be the first of its kind in the State of Ohio, and it aims to address an area of need in the Miami Valley, assisting military veterans who have been charged with relatively minor offenses get their lives back on track.

In many cases, treatment and strong guidance is a better course of action to remedy misdemeanor Federal offenses than jail time, which can lead to a cascade of negative unintended consequences, such as difficulty in obtaining employment.

Thanks to Judge Newman’s efforts to cooperate with the United States Attorney’s Office and the Federal Public Defender’s Office, veterans in the Dayton, Ohio, area can receive treatment for mental health and substance abuse issues, which so often underpin these minor offenses, rather than sitting in jail.

Veterans who decide to participate in Judge Newman’s 6-month-long pilot program are required to work closely with a Veterans Justice Outreach coordinator, who acts as a mentor and case-worker, providing guidance, facilitating treatment, and helping secure housing and employment.

Besides meeting with their veterans officer, veterans must also attend medical appointments, receive recommended treatment, and not reoffend in order to graduate. Upon successful completion, the misdemeanor charges are frequently dismissed, allowing former servicemembers to truly earn themselves a second chance at life.

Of the more than 33 veteran participants thus far, 20 have successfully completed the program, and several others are continuing to make progress as we speak.

I commend Judge Newman for instituting an innovative Federal veterans court program that addresses critical needs within our community and resolves programs by rehabilitating rather than simply punishing the brave men and women who have served our country.

I also would like to congratulate Judge Newman for his work in implementing a civics program for students to learn about the Federal courts. Developing a partnership between the Federal judiciary and the Federal Bar Association, these interactive court camps invite elementary, middle, and high school students into the Federal courts to learn about the third branch of government.

During court camp, Federal judges meet with the groups of students in school classrooms, as well as Federal courtrooms, to teach them about the