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Shapoval's death comes almost a year after prominent Ukraine journalist Pavel Sheremet was killed by a similar explosion in Kiev as he drove to work. No one has been brought to justice in that murder case.

A number of other public figures have also been killed under shady circumstances in and around Kiev in recent years.

Denis Voronerkov, a former Russian member of Parliament who fled to Ukraine, was shot dead in central Kiev in March 2017.

Lawyer Yuri Grabovsky, who had represented a Russian soldier captured in Ukraine, was found dead with a gunshot wound in 2016.

This has all the fingerprints of Putin's Russia, who will stop at nothing to blunt liberty. America must be a friend to liberty and an enemy to tyranny. I call on this administration to help Ukraine defend itself against these hostile acts of war against liberty.

[From theguardian, June 27, 2017]

UKRAINIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
KILLED BY CAR BOMB IN KIEV

(By Alec Luhn)

A high-ranking Ukrainian military intelligence official has been killed by a car bomb in Kiev in what authorities are calling an act of terrorism.

An explosive device destroyed the Mercedes being driven by Col Maksim Shapoval at 8.15am local time, police said.

The car's bonnet was blown open and its roof and driver side door almost completely destroyed, video footage from the scene showed.

"The picture of the crime looks like it was a planned act of terrorism," interior ministry spokesman Artem Shevchenko told local media. The military prosecutor said his office would lead an investigation.

Police said a female passerby with shrapnel wounds to her legs received medical treatment after the explosion, as did an elderly man who suffered shrapnel wounds to his neck.

According to the defence ministry, Shapoval was a colonel in military intelligence. The Ukrainian Pravda newspaper quoted law enforcement sources saying he had headed a special forces unit.

Yury Butusov, editor of the Censor.net news website, said in a Facebook post that Shapoval's unit had fought in eastern Ukraine, where a conflict with Russia-backed separatists that broke out in 2014 has killed more than 10,000 people. He claimed Russian intelligence could have killed Shapoval.

Shapoval's death comes almost a year after prominent journalist Pavel Sheremet was killed by a similar explosion in Kiev as he drove to work. A documentary film released last month revealed evidence suggesting that Ukraine's spy agency may have witnessed the planting of the car bomb that killed Sheremet. No one has been brought to justice in the murder case.

A number of other public figures have also been assassinated in and around Kiev in recent years. Denis Voronenkov, a former Russian MP who fled to Ukraine, was shot dead in central Kiev in March. Pro-Russian journalist Oles Buzina was shot in a drive-by in 2015, and lawyer Yuri Grabovsky, who had represented a Russian soldier captured in Ukraine, was found dead with a gunshot wound in 2016.

CONGRATULATING THE EDEN
PRAIRIE EAGLES

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Eden Prairie High School girls lacrosse team for recently winning their third consecutive State title.

The Eagles showed perseverance and grit by overcoming an early deficit to The Blake School in the championship game. It was the ninth meeting between these two schools in the State's final in a 10-year period. Eden Prairie rallied back to win 16-10, giving them the State title.

The girls' drive for another championship led them to have a 20-1 overall record, the number one ranking in the State, finishing 19th in the country.

Senior Naomi Rogge and sophomore Abby Johnson both carried the team by scoring four and six goals, respectively.

These student athletes work extremely hard, Mr. Speaker, not only on the lacrosse field, but also in the classroom. Our community is very proud of their hard work and dedication, and I am delighted to share that these young women rose to the occasion and claimed yet another championship.

Congratulations to the Eden Prairie Eagles on their win.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HERKIMER
COLLEGE

(Ms. TENNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of Herkimer College. Established in 1966 as New York State's 29th community college, Herkimer College opened its doors for classes in 1967.

The inaugural class consisted of 221 freshmen, and for the first 4 years, Herkimer College held classes on the upper floors of the old Remington Arms factory in Ilion, New York. In 1971, the college moved to its present-day location in the Village of Herkimer.

Like the Village of Herkimer and Herkimer County, Herkimer College is proud to share its name with a Revolutionary War hero, General Nicholas Herkimer. As commander of the Tryon County Militia, General Herkimer valiantly fought at the Battle of Oriskany. To honor General Herkimer and Herkimer County's rich history, Herkimer College's athletic teams are nicknamed the Generals.

Today, Herkimer College currently enrolls over 3,000 students and boasts more than 20,000 graduates. The college offers over 40 degree programs and is consistently ranked as a top 100 community college in the Nation.

Over the course of five decades, Herkimer College's benefit to the local community is evidenced by over \$75 million in economic impact in Herkimer County, annually.

Today I recognize Herkimer College for an exceptional 50 years and offer

my best wishes for many, many successful decades to come.

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED
FUNDING TO VETTED WATER RE-
SOURCE DEVELOPMENT
PROJECTS

(Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to talk about something called congressionally directed spending when it comes to Army Corps projects.

I have a bill, which is called the REPAIR Act, which would make a limited change to the House rules definition to allow Congress to direct funding to vetted water resource development projects of the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation.

The REPAIR Act does not authorize or appropriate any new funds for these projects, which comprises just one-half of 1 percent of our overall annual discretionary spending, and stays exclusively within the budget cap set by Congress.

After several years of divided government, almost every Member of Congress here has experienced the direct correlation between our inability to provide for these projects over the executive agencies, especially as it pertains to these essential public works projects.

The REPAIR Act is a zero-cost solution to this problem that will simply allow Congress to respond to the water resource infrastructure needs of their communities rather than waiting for an unelected, faceless bureaucrat in the executive branch to move on these projects.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the REPAIR Act.

RECOGNIZING CONGREGATION
MICKVE ISRAEL

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Congregation Mickve Israel in Savannah, Georgia, as it celebrates its incredible 284th anniversary on July 11, 2017.

Just 5 months after General James Oglethorpe settled the colony, Jewish settlers fleeing persecution in Europe arrived in Georgia. They sought refuge in Savannah, where they were free to practice their beliefs. This brave group soon founded the Congregation Mickve Israel.

Predating our country by several decades as the first congregation in the South, Mickve Israel set an important precedent for the Jewish people. As such, wars, plagues, and religious struggles each challenged the congregation over the years, yet Mickve

Israel has withstood the test of time. It continues to be a beacon for the faithful and now welcomes 380 families inside its walls.

The story of Mickve Israel is special to the people and has been recognized for its achievement since its early years. President George Washington sent a personal letter to the congregation to honor its members and wish them well.

Since then, numerous Presidents over the years have made similar gestures, each one acknowledging the congregation's longevity and importance to the Jewish community.

I would also like to acknowledge the congregation's importance and congratulate Congregation Mickve Israel in reaching this impressive milestone. I know this religious community will continue to serve a caring, faithful, and integral role in Savannah, Georgia.

□ 1645

OPIOID ADDICTION CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, tonight, I am joined by a number of Members here to talk about one of the most insidious problems our Nation has faced in a long time. It is the problem of opioid abuse. We are in a crisis mode.

We have now reached a point where we will have more deaths from drug overdoses this year than there are names on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington. That is a frightening concept.

There is almost no county, no State in America, that is not affected by this. Some areas have much more. Places in eastern Kentucky, southern West Virginia and up the Ohio Valley, and places in New England and out West have seen this as a growing problem as death rates rise.

There are things we can do about this. But in order to have some discussion of what we can do about this, we are going to talk about how we got to this problem and then what we can do to go beyond that.

I want to start off by yielding to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN), the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, to talk about what this means in one State alone, the State of Oregon.

Mr. WALDEN. I thank the gentleman, who chairs our Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee and is so passionate in not only finding a solution to the opioid epidemic, but also his great work on mental health reform as well, as was passed into law in the 21st Century Cures legislation.

As you know, the year before, the Energy and Commerce Committee also passed legislation to begin to address

this issue. We will be doing a lot of work, going forward, to look at what is working on the ground and what is not.

Addiction, as you well know from your clinical experience, is an equal opportunity destroyer. It is a crisis that doesn't pick parties. It doesn't pick people because of their race, age, or socioeconomic status. We all know someone impacted by the opioid epidemic. It has literally touched every corner of our country and every community in our States.

The epidemic has hit close to home in my home State of Oregon, where more people now die from drug overdoses than from deaths in automobile accidents. I have met with community leaders, first responders, doctors, police officers, patients, and those on the front lines of this fight against opioid addiction.

At roundtables throughout the Second District of Oregon, I have heard firsthand accounts of the impact of the opioid epidemic. It didn't matter if I was in a rural eastern Oregon community or a more populated city in southern Oregon. The tragic stories were all too similar and all too familiar.

Medical professionals across Oregon told me about the rapid acceleration of the opioid epidemic over the last 20 years. They have witnessed patient after patient fall into the traps of addiction.

I heard from Oregonians who have struggled with the epidemic themselves. At our roundtable, a woman in Hermiston talked about how she became addicted to painkillers. After a minor foot injury, she got a prescription for an opioid-based painkiller. In her decades-long battle with this addiction—trying to get off of this addiction—she was forced to travel more than 5 hours into Washington State just to find a provider who could help her with Suboxone and get off of her addiction. There was nobody locally who could help her.

I heard from a father whose son was a high school athlete. He was prescribed opioids after a sports injury. Tragically, he became addicted. Soon, he transitioned to what we know as a cheaper and more deadly version of the drug known as heroin.

Sadly, this young man would not survive his addiction. He died from heroin. It devastated the family and stole another American in the prime of his life. This story is repeated all too often.

Combating the opioid epidemic in Oregon and every State of the union is going to require a real bipartisan team effort to continue, from elected officials with the input from healthcare experts and those on the front line of this fight in our local communities.

In the Energy and Commerce Committee, we stand shoulder-to-shoulder, all of us together, saying: What can we do more to help in this crisis; to seize the opportunity before us; to look at the legislation that was enacted in the last Congress to make sure that the grants are getting to the ground, as

they are in my State; and that we are getting the help and that it is actually working?

It is one thing to pass a bill. It is another to make sure it is implemented correctly and that it actually works effectively.

I commend my colleague from Pennsylvania, Chairman MURPHY, for the work that he is doing on this and the compassion he has for those families who are tragically caught up in this addiction. Together, we are going to find our way through it.

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. I thank the chairman for his passion and hard work on the Energy and Commerce Committee. We know this is a life-and-death issue. This is one of those things where Members are coming together from both sides of the aisle to deal with.

Let me lay out the background here. How did we get here?

About 80 percent of addictions begin with a prescription. When we see what has happened here on this chart of heroin increased use and prescription opioids, there is something that occurred at the beginning of this millennium where things really began to take off.

On this next poster, seeing here how this is increasing at such a rate—about 9 or 10 percent—it is understandable you are looking at some of these rates increasing severalfold just in the last decade, with increasing jumps. As fentanyl has gotten here, it is even worse.

Back in 1980, Dr. Hershel Jick, a Boston doctor, wrote a letter in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, and he said this: "Out of nearly 40,000 patients given powerful pain drugs in a Boston hospital, only four addictions were documented." Since he published that letter, it has been cited again about 600 times. Doctors, academics, pharmaceutical companies, and others use it as evidence of the unlikelihood of developing addiction.

But it has been criticized soundly, saying that never should have been said. In fact, *The New England Journal of Medicine* took the unusual step of posting a one-sentence warning over the so-called Porter and Jick letter to the editor that the *Journal* published in 1980, and it says: "For reasons of public health, readers should be aware that this letter has been heavily and uncritically cited as evidence that addiction is rare with opioid therapy."

Accompanying this note was an analysis from Canadian researchers exploring the frequency the letter had been cited, which was almost 600 times.

Here is the tragedy of this. Many physicians and many pharmaceutical companies said: See, prescribe these opioids; people will be okay. That was found not to be the case.

Jump ahead to 2001, when The Joint Commission released their pain management standards, and then shortly after that the American Medical Association said: let's make pain one of the