

COUNTERTERRORISM COOPERATION
WITH THE GCC STATES**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. Poe of TEXAS. Mr. Speaker, our historic relationship with the Arab Gulf states is strategically crucial. The ties we maintain allow us to project power to contain threats like Iran and secure key shipping lanes for global commerce while also providing stability in a chaotic region. Our Gulf partners have made clear they value their strong alliance with the United States.

But our relationship has not always been perfect. The 9/11 attacks were a tragic wake-up call to a dangerous ideology that we had long ignored. Sunni extremism had established strong roots across the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia. This intolerant and violent strain of Islam was largely able to spread so widely because it was funded and supported by some of our Gulf allies.

Some would call this a betrayal: while GCC states were benefiting from security and stability provided by the U.S., they were fostering radical ideologies that sought to target and kill Americans. It is no coincidence that among the 19 hijackers who conducted the 9/11 attacks, 17 came from the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. In part, al-Qaeda did this deliberately to damage the GCC alliance with the U.S. But the high number of Saudi recruits and the fact that al-Qaeda was founded and led by a Saudi named Osama bin Laden, also showed that something was not quite right in the Kingdom. The Saudi monarchy's embrace of the Wahhabi ideology produced generations of young Saudis who despised the West and held hateful views of other religions.

After 9/11, the Kingdom and the rest of the GCC states pledged cooperation with the U.S. to fight terrorism, but little was done. Wealthy financiers and hateful preachers continued to operate across the GCC. For years, many of our Gulf allies tried to play both sides of the War on Terror. They acted both as the arsonists and the firefighters. While the U.S. military launched airstrikes against terrorists in the region from Gulf air bases, money and recruits flowed to terrorist from the same Gulf countries. We were basically chasing our tails.

Ultimately, not George W. Bush, nor Barack Obama, nor Donald Trump can convince young Muslims that al-Qaeda or ISIS's version of Islam is the wrong one. An American president, regardless of party affiliation, will never be able to effectively argue that jihad against the West is not the answer to the problems of the Middle East. It is only the leaders of the Muslim world who can make that argument.

In recent years, we have seen progress by the Gulf states towards tackling the sources of extremism within their borders. They have recognized that this is not just the U.S.'s fight: their own security is at stake. The Saudis have infiltrated terrorist groups to thwart attacks on the West and detained radical clerics who once incited thousands to join al-Qaeda or ISIS. The UAE is leading the region in developing messaging to counter violent extremism and has prioritized targeting al-Qaeda in Yemen. Bahrain now hosts the region's Financial Action Task Force and amended its charity law to closely monitor terrorist financing

and enact harsh penalties on violators. Kuwait has also intensified its charity monitoring and outlawed fundraising for terrorist groups online. Meanwhile, Oman remains a haven for tolerance and moderate Islam, effectively preventing terrorists from using its territory for fundraising or recruitment. Even Qatar has signed a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. last summer to cooperate on counterterrorism and has created terrorist designation lists. Trust is finally being restored.

But there is still more work to be done. Many promises remain unfulfilled. Qatar still harbors Hamas operatives and al-Qaeda fundraisers. The Saudis still publish intolerant material in their textbooks that glorify jihad and incite hatred and violence. Additionally, Kuwait still has designated terrorists living freely in their borders. Oman remains suspiciously tied to the region's number one state sponsor of terrorism, Iran, and reports of arms smuggling through Oman to Yemen's Houthi rebels persist. No GCC member is contributing enough to prevent ISIS from reemerging in Syria and Iraq. And the Saudi-led coalition is overly focused on Iran's meddling in Yemen while al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula survives in the chaos.

We need our Gulf partners to aggressively and pro-actively combat Sunni extremism across the region. Not to wait for the U.S. to take the lead or ask them nicely. All the drones and special forces in the world cannot destroy an ideology this deeply rooted. The fight against terrorism must start and end on the ideological battlefield. Treating the symptoms and not the underlying disease will ultimately not be enough.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. PASCHAL
WARD**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a beloved educator and outstanding citizen, Mr. Paschal Ward. Mr. Ward will be retiring from his post as the Director of Bands at Bainbridge High School. He will be honored by the administration, faculty, students, and supporters at a celebratory reception on Saturday, May 5, 2018 in Bainbridge, Georgia.

The Prattville, Alabama native earned both a Bachelor of Arts and a Master's degree in Music Education from Troy State University in Alabama. Since 1985, he has served as the Director of Bands at Bainbridge High School. He has built an impressive career, which began when he enlisted in the U.S. Army, and served as the Director of Bands in Goshen, Alabama. He later became the Director of Bands at Charles Henderson High School in Troy, Alabama; the University of West Alabama; and Livingston State University in Livingston, Alabama.

Under his direction, the Charles Henderson High School band program received superior ratings in both marching and concert competitions for eight consecutive years; the participation in the Livingston State University Collegiate Band Program doubled; the Decatur County Band program received numerous

Proclamations and Senate Resolutions from the Governors of Alabama and Georgia; and the Bainbridge High School Symphonic Band has been awarded Superior Ratings by the Georgia Music Educators Band Festival and Georgia Bandmasters Association for thirty-three consecutive years.

The Second Congressional District of Georgia gained a compassionate and able leader when Mr. Ward arrived in Decatur County in 1985. Mr. Ward has also served on numerous community boards, and as Chairman of the Alabama Band Association for District Eight; a member of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges Visiting Committee; the National Band Association for District Eight; the Southeastern U.S. Honor Band Clinic; and the Georgia Music Educators Association. He also received an honorary membership into Kappa Kappa Psi National Band Fraternity, Incorporated.

A talented and precise music director, Mr. Ward has received numerous accolades and awards for his musical expertise. These honors include a feature in the ("Who's Who among America's Teachers" in 1992 and 1996; an Outstanding Alumni Award in Music Education by Troy State University in 1993; a spot in the National Band Director Hall of Fame as the Band Director of the Year in 1996; a Star-Teacher Award in 2001; a Man of the Year Award in 2006 and an Outstanding Teacher Award in 2010 from the Bainbridge Kiwanis Club; a National Citizenship Education Teacher Award in 2007; a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition in 2009, which I presented to him; and the title of Roastee of the Year by the Bainbridge Pilot Club in 2011.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays often said: ("You make your living by what you get; you make your life by what you give." Paschal Ward has established a legacy of musical distinction in Bainbridge where he has done a tremendous job of educating students. A man of great integrity, his efforts, his dedication, and his expertise in his field are unparalleled.

Paschal has accomplished much in his life but none of it would be possible without the love and support of his wife, Pamela, and their children, Rachael and Emily.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Mr. Paschal Ward upon the occasion of his retirement from an outstanding thirty-three year career in music education.

TRIBUTE TO WANDA AND BOB
WOLDRUFF**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Wanda and Bob Woldruff on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Wanda and Bob's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As the years pass, may their love continue to grow and may they continue to cherish and honor one another for many more years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60 years together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

NATHAN HANNAH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nathan Hannah for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Nathan Hannah is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nathan Hannah is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nathan Hannah for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF
2018

SPEECH OF

HON. GLENN GROTHMAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes:

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Chair, I would like to thank the Chairman and Ranking member for their effort to bring this bill forward.

Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my amendment to H.R. 4.

My amendment is intended to offer a pathway to provide authorization for the use of actively tethered unmanned aircraft systems, or UAV's, for public safety purposes, specifically fire engines.

My amendment preserves FAA's discretion to determine the conditions that apply to these operations, while denoting congressional intent for the authorization to cover a wide variety of public safety uses.

My amendment ensures limited UAV operational authority and is available only to actively tethered UAV's that present a lower level of safety risk. This amendment would apply only to systems that:

are physically attached to a ground station with a taut, appropriately load-rated tether that provides continuous power to the unmanned aircraft; and

capable of being controlled and retrieved by such ground station through physical manipulation of the tether.

These tethered public UAV's operating under the authority granted by subsection (a) shall be operated:

within the line of sight of the operator;
less than 200 feet above the ground;
within class G airspace; and

at least 5 statute miles from a tower-controller airport or airport denoted on by the Federal Aviation Administration-with limited exceptions.

My amendment will be a huge asset for our men and women fighting fires and will improve their effectiveness. More importantly, passage of this amendment will help save lives.

I am happy to offer this amendment and look forward to continue working with my colleagues and the FAA to ensure our first responders can utilize this potential resource.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF
2018

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes:

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment, Schiff No. 29, which requires the FAA to create a program that utilizes remote detection and identification technologies to identify unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) that are not in compliance with applicable Federal aviation laws and regulations.

I first came to this issue several years ago when fire fighters responding to a wildfire had to ground support aircraft due to civilians operating drones in the airspace. This problem seems likely to grow more pronounced, not just in response to wildfires but also in the airspace near airports. According to the FAA, the agency projects there are 1.1 million unmanned aircraft systems in the United States and they expect that number to grow rapidly in the coming years, putting airline passengers, firefighters, and others at risk.

I want the owners of these vehicles to be able to enjoy them, but in a complicated and crowded airspace like the one we have in Los Angeles, we need to be sure we are putting public safety first. That is why it is so important for Congress to give the FAA and law enforcement the appropriate tools to address this increase in drones entering restricted airspace.

Furthermore, we still do not know how many unmanned aircraft enter restricted airspace, whether at airports, above forest fires, or in other restricted areas. That is why my amendment also requires annual reporting by FAA to Congress to report the number of drones entering restricted airspace, the number of enforcement cases brought by FAA or other agencies, and recommendations by FAA for detection and mitigation systems. There are a variety of vendors developing technology to counter unauthorized UAS operation in restricted airspace, some of which show great promise and have already been tested in pilot projects by the FAA. My amendment would direct the FAA to continue this important work.

With the adoption of UAS technology continuing at a rapid pace, I am worried it is more a matter of when and not if a drone will collide with a commercial airliner or first responder, with potentially devastating results. We must be proactive to ensure that the next time we read about this issue, we are not also reading about casualties that could have been prevented.

I thank the Chairman and Ranking Members of the committee and appreciate the inclusion of my amendment in the FAA Reauthorization bill. It is my hope it will remain in any conference agreement finalized by the House and Senate.

SAMUEAL HAYS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samueal Hays for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Samueal Hays is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samueal Hays is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Samueal Hays for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE HONOREES OF THE
2018 DIVERSITY HONORS GALA

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2018

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the five outstanding honorees of the 2018 Diversity Honors Gala. The Diversity Honors Gala is an annual event where the community can come together to honor men and women who, in their extraordinary lives, remind us all of the diversity of the human spirit and the values that define us. The gala will benefit the Harvey Milk Foundation and The Pride Center at Equality Park.

Mr. Speaker, Dolores Huerta, recipient of the Harvey Milk Foundation Honors Medal, is a preeminent leader of the Latino, Labor, and Women's Civil rights movements and co-founder of the United Farm Workers of America.

Emma González, recipient of the Harvey Milk Foundation Milan Rozsa Youth Award, is a youth activist and advocate for LGBT rights, gun control, and an international leader for the current generation of students. She is a survivor of the massacre that took the lives of 17 students and faculty at Marjory Stoneman Douglas in Parkland, Florida.