

RECOGNIZING WORK OF CUSTOMS, BORDER PATROL AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to speak about our recent trip, on Friday, to Calexico, California, on the southern border between California and Mexico, with President Trump and several of my colleagues here from the House.

What really stood out the most to me on this visit was the dedicated men and women who do this important work along the border from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the U.S. Border Patrol. They did make it very clear to us in the group that they don't currently have the personnel, the funding, the infrastructure, and even the commitment by Congress to do everything they need to do to get their job done well.

This includes the continued need for a physical barrier along the border, which they have seen and have demonstrated works very well. They reinforced that fences do, indeed, work. They serve as chokepoints for those who are trying to come across the border illegally. We have much to do in this department if we are going to have a secure border.

For this time, my hat is off to them for the great work they do and for being honest with us about what needs to be done so they can do their jobs well instead of watching them go right on by into our country.

RECOGNIZING GRIFF DOYLE

(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 recognize Mr. Griff Doyle, who retired as the University of Georgia's vice president of government relations on Friday, March 22. Mr. Doyle dedicated 40 years to good government throughout Georgia, and a large part of his career has been crucial to UGA becoming a premier public university in this country.

Before he started with the university, he worked with the Georgia Public Policy Foundation, with former Governor George Busbee, and as an assistant U.S. attorney in the State.

Experiences like these gave him a priceless breadth of knowledge that enabled him to be one of the most important figures at the University of Georgia.

While at the university, he educated Members of Congress on the latest research projects and secured funding necessary to move those projects forward, keeping UGA itself, the State of Georgia, and our entire Nation as global research leaders.

He also contributed directly to the students by placing 40 interns annually

in congressional offices and even teaching seminars in government.

Thank you, Griff, for your personal friendship and for your dedication to our State and our beloved University of Georgia. Your work has truly been invaluable. Enjoy your retirement.

CALLING FOR A BUDGET PLAN

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

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, where is the proposed budget plan? We just voted to approve the use of the Capitol Grounds for a soapbox derby, but we can't vote on the budget?

Article I of the Constitution gives Congress the primary responsibility of creating spending priorities for the Nation. The President submitted his budget weeks ago. Rather than fulfilling this obligation to govern, House leadership is asleep at the wheel.

It is irresponsible to not allow us to vote on a budget resolution. We are more than \$22 trillion in debt. We can't continue this broken process. The American people deserve to see the Speaker's spending priorities and know where taxpayer dollars are going to be spent.

Mr. Speaker, I say to Speaker PELOSI, show me your budget. Let's vote on a budget. Let's get to work.

CELEBRATING THE 2019 MASTERS

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, this week in Augusta, Georgia, we celebrate a tradition unlike any other: bringing together the most elite golfers in the world to take on the prestigious Augusta National Golf Club for the first major of the year, the 2019 Masters Tournament.

The first full week of April in my hometown of Augusta is always filled with excitement and great competition, creating one of the most electrifying atmospheres in all of sports.

This year, I am thrilled that a new tradition has unfolded. This past Saturday, the inaugural Augusta National Women's Amateur took place at the famed Augusta National for the first time.

I congratulate the entire field for their stellar performance and especially our women's amateur champion, Jennifer Kupcho.

I also thank Chairman Ridley, the membership of Augusta National, and all the volunteers for their continued success in conducting the finest competition in sports and in growing the game of golf worldwide.

This special week allows the world to get a glimpse into Georgia's 12th District and the wonderful people who live and work there. I am looking forward to the final round on Sunday and the

2019 champion putting on that coveted green jacket. The tradition that encompasses the Masters is truly special.

CLOSING THE IMMIGRATION LOOPHOLE

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the worsening humanitarian and national security crisis on our southern border. In the past 6 months alone, over 200,000 migrants have been detained by the Border Patrol, nearly twice as many as the previous year.

Currently, caravans of migrants are headed north with little to no opposition by neighboring governments. The U.S. must demand regional cooperation. While fleeing their countries to escape poverty, gang violence, and crime, they fall victim to coyotes and criminals on the trek to our border, including women and children.

Our immigration facilities are too full to house, and our court systems are too burdened to process these cases. This results in migrants being released into America, most never to be seen again.

We have a moral obligation to American families across this land to close these immigration loopholes, secure our borders, and restore the rule of law.

Congress must fix our broken immigration system, and we must do it now.

RECOGNIZING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF NCMEC

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 35th anniversary of the founding of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, NCMEC.

Every child deserves a safe childhood, but each year, hundreds of thousands of children are abducted, abused, and exploited. NCMEC serves as the national clearinghouse and coordinated response center to locate missing children, combat sexual exploitation, and prevent victimization.

NCMEC's impact cannot be overstated. Since its founding in 1984, NCMEC has assisted law enforcement and families with more than 25,000 cases of missing children and helped to identify more than 16,700 children who were victims of sexual abuse. Thanks to NCMEC's efforts, law enforcement has successfully recovered more than 290,000 missing children.

NCMEC's dedication to serving vulnerable children and their families is remarkable, and I am proud to honor NCMEC as it continues its tireless efforts to bring children home.

THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S FAILED POLICIES IN THE NORTHERN TRIANGLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for this opportunity to speak. I thank Representative CLYBURN for allowing me a few minutes to address a pressing issue before he assumes control of this Special Order hour.

Last week, the President of the United States made politically motivated announcements that he will seek to cut U.S. aid to Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, which together are commonly known and referred to as the Northern Triangle countries. In making his decision, the President cited asylum seekers—moms, children, seniors, and young men—who make up the migration patterns from these nations that reflect themselves at the southern border.

As it turns out, Mr. Speaker, I was in the region with some of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle when the President articulated his plan to freeze foreign aid for this part of the world. This aid has effectively helped curb violence in El Salvador, forge economic hope, and furnish essential health and education programs there as well.

While on this trip with key members of the Foreign Affairs and Judiciary Committees, we met with leaders from the region and El Salvador and discussed the relationship between the United States and their respective countries with great optimism.

I will admit, Mr. Speaker, the manner in which our President views and discusses our regional partners stands in stark contrast to the security objectives and economic commonalities we discussed with his Central American counterparts.

When our President rambles on about “evil people” pouring into our country and the millions and millions of dollars we are just giving these governments, comments that are not only racist in scope but patently false, he fails to understand that this very aid is our best approach and our best tool in addressing the migration patterns to the southern border.

With our assistance, these countries can make tangible progress toward building an environment where their citizens feel safe, industry prospers, and people receive the essential services they need and deserve.

□ 1945

When my colleagues and I were in Mexico, a country that perhaps has received more of the President's verbal attacks than any other country in the world, we discussed budding economic zones in the country and the sweeping development initiatives its new President Lopez Obrador has undertaken.

We discussed the fact that less than 12 percent of the folks going back from

the southern border to their countries of birth are from Mexico.

We discussed the curtains of economic development that the Mexican President plans to put forward—not a wall, curtains of economic development: a rail line in the Mayan coast; reforestation of the southern border of Mexico; and infrastructure, very ambitious infrastructure projects close to the northern border.

Perhaps we should look at that as a guide to what we should do here in our Nation.

And having conversations about shutting down our border as we were there was not something very positive for our visit.

In El Salvador, we met with ambitious, 38-year-old President-elect Nayib Bukele. He detailed his intentions to work more closely with the United States, specifically, to review and re-evaluate Chinese influence and an agreement with China that he has inherited from the previous government.

He also informed us that, because of our help, Mr. Speaker, homicide has gone down 50 percent in El Salvador. At one point, 104 people per 100,000 people were being killed, the highest homicide rate in the world. It is now down 50 percent—still a war zone, but down 50 percent. Young people are being recruited away from the gangs.

What they really need now is a shot in the arm for economic development and jobs. That is what will help with the migration patterns that reflect themselves at the southern border.

And this young President has captured the enthusiasm of the young people. He campaigned against corruption and violence; yet, while we were there, the President threatened to cut the aid to El Salvador.

In fact, we should take what we did there to Guatemala and Honduras, because it is working.

And it is clear, Mr. Speaker, that this is all summed up that the President fails to share our optimism that collaboration will lead to a solution in this region.

He fails to register the miserable motivations that would prompt somebody to seek refuge for their families in an unknown country thousands and thousands of miles away. People just don't get up and leave their families and neighborhoods. They do that because they are facing violence, because they are facing abject poverty, because they are facing natural disasters.

The President fails to understand that. He fails to understand, Mr. Speaker, that Chinese and Russian influence in Central America is growing and that every step we take backwards will result in two steps forward for them and will leave a vacuum of leadership in the region.

Right now, the President is simply failing—failing the American people and failing our allies.

I look forward to reviewing this issue this week when the Foreign Affairs Committee holds a hearing on the ad-

ministration's failed policies in Central America.

We must hold him accountable.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to thank Whip CLYBURN for allowing me some time to address this issue on behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus in lieu of our monthly Special Order hour, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING ERNEST “FRITZ” HOLLINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) will control the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is with mixed emotions that I stand in the well here this evening with my colleagues from South Carolina. We are here because our State and our Nation has lost a giant of a man, one whom I call a one-of-a-kind statesman, Ernest ‘Fritz’ Hollings.

A native of Charleston, South Carolina, he graduated from The Citadel in 1947, and the very next year, 1948, he was elected to the South Carolina Legislature. There, he served until being elected Lieutenant Governor in 1954.

I am pointing out some years here because I want to make a statement about the man Fritz Hollings.

He was elected Governor in 1958.

Now, in 1947, some interesting things were taking place in South Carolina at the time Ernest Hollings graduated college; and, in 1948, when he was elected to the legislature, a very significant court decision was handed down.

The court case was *Elmore v. Rice*, the 1948 court case that opened up the South Carolina Democratic primary to people other than Whites. This was the atmosphere within which Fritz Hollings was first elected.

And, of course, in 1954, when he was elected Lieutenant Governor, I need not tell anybody what Court decision came down that year. That was the year that the Supreme Court ruled that school desegregation had to take place. That was the atmosphere.

So, 4 years later, Fritz Hollings gets elected Governor. I was a student on the campus of South Carolina State when he was elected, and in 1960 is when I first met Fritz Hollings.

He was Governor, and I was organizing sit-ins in Orangeburg, South Carolina, and he had invited us to the State house. He gave me a great lesson that day in politics, so much so, that what we talked about in his office on that day I still have not told anybody.

Well, fast-forward. Fritz Hollings, Governor of a State with tremendous challenges. So what did he do? Did he just meander through time, as so many did in those days? No.