□ 0915

He joined the Army before he was even old enough to vote. He begged his mother to sign the release forms. That is how committed he was to our country and to others.

He was stationed at Fort Bragg in North Carolina and went camping in the Outer Banks over Memorial Day weekend with seven other soldiers. We don't know what happened that night on May 22, but what we do know is it cost Enrique his life, and the seven people who would seemingly have a lot of explaining to do, remarkably, had nothing to say.

When a police officer walked up to their campsite the next day and asked those seven soldiers to move their illegally parked vehicles, not a single one thought it was important enough to mention that someone who had been camping with them, their friend and their fellow soldier, was missing from the night before. It took a full 17 hours before they spoke out and reported Enrique gone. When they did so, they said they were worried that Enrique was suicidal

It is hard for me to imagine why anyone would hesitate to tell a police officer that their fellow camper, their friend, and their fellow soldier was missing if they thought he was suicidal.

A week later, Specialist Roman-Martinez's remains were found washed ashore not far away. The question of whether or not he was suicidal was settled by the simple fact that they only found a severed head—his head. That is it.

He was just 21 years old. He had just started out in life. He had dedicated his few short years as an adult to a cause much greater than himself. He was only 3 months away from completing his duty and coming home as a veteran. Someone like that deserves better than this. His family deserves better for the son and brother that they have loved and lost.

I would like to take a moment to talk about Enrique's family, his mother, Maria, and sister, Griselda, because one of the most solemn and sacred duties our military has is their commitment to leave no one behind on the battlefield. It is their duty to inform the family when something goes wrong.

Mr. Speaker, as the mother of an Air Force veteran, I can tell you the fear of receiving a notice like that was with me every single day my son served. It is an ongoing unease in the back of your mind that never goes away. It is something I can still feel today.

Now, imagine if Enrique were your son. The only thing worse than a conversation like that is if that conversation never happens—never. That is what happened to Maria and Griselda. The Army was so slow to inform the family that they learned through media reports their son had been mutilated—through media reports.

The medical examiner ruled Enrique's death a homicide on that

Monday, and it took the Army until Friday to reach out to the family. The lack of notice was bad enough, but the lack of answers is still far worse. It is time to hear more from the seven individuals. Their silence isn't acceptable. It is time to hear from the community in North Carolina. If they know something, say something.

As a mother, I plead with them, if it were their son, if they are the mother of one of those seven young soldiers, male or female, say something. They need to talk to their son or daughter and demand that they speak out.

Lawyering up is not enough. Lawyering up is not enough. They deserve to bury their son and brother.

NATIONAL PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize July as National Park and Recreation Month.

Our Nation is blessed with a robust park system across the country on the Federal, State, and local levels. Summer is a popular time to take advantage of all that our parks have to offer.

The coronavirus pandemic and the shelter-in-place orders that have followed have left many of us desperate for fresh air, and as many parks begin to reopen, there are plenty of beautiful landscapes and outdoor activities to enjoy at parks across the country.

As a lifelong resident of rural Pennsylvania, an avid outdoorsman, and someone who was a former recreational therapist at one point, I know firsthand the positive impact that our Nation's parks system can have on communities, and I am proud to be a strong supporter.

My district, Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District, is home to countless parks and outdoor recreational facilities, including the Oil Region National Heritage Area and the Allegheny National Forest, just to name a few.

This month is an opportunity to underscore the role that parks play in our everyday lives and in the fabric of American culture. It is also an opportunity to recognize the hard work and contributions of our park employees. Our parks give us all an opportunity to connect with the nature around us. They create a sense of community, stimulate local economies by attracting businesses, jobs, and tourism, and increase the quality of life for all residents.

Mr. Speaker, public parks and recreational facilities foster a variety of activities that contribute to a healthier society. There is an undeniable connection between parks and public health. Studies show that Americans who live within a 10-minute walk of a park see increased physical activity and lower obesity rates.

Recreational programs at public parks provide children with a safe place to play, access to healthy foods, opportunities to be physically active, and enrichment activities that help prevent at-risk behavior such as drug use and gang involvement.

Just last week, the House passed the Great American Outdoors Act, legislation that will ensure our national parks are around for future generations to enjoy.

As summer continues, it is my hope that families across the country will find an opportunity to take advantage of our Nation's parks and recreation facilities. If considering a visit to one of our national parks, visit the National Park Service website at nps.gov to find an open park in your community.

APPROPRIATIONS

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stress the importance of investing in programs that expand opportunities for every person in every corner of our Nation, including my district in California's San Joaquin Valley.

Just last week, we passed a spending bill that will benefit our farmers, repair aging water infrastructure, help food-insecure residents from going hungry, support revitalization efforts on our public lands, and combat the climate crisis by cleaning our air.

This week, we have an opportunity to make further investments in the future sustainability of our Nation.

Face it, Mr. Speaker, we are living off the investments our parents and grandparents made a generation ago.

The availability of a reliable supply of water is the foundation of the San Joaquin Valley's economy and, I might add, California and much of the West, which grows food that feeds the world. As we say, where water flows, food grows.

We also must ensure access to clean drinking water so our communities can thrive. No one should have to worry in the richest nation in the world of having access to clean water in their homes.

These bills will provide more than \$100 billion to help repair the aging valley canals, such as the Delta-Mendota Canal, the Friant-Kern Canal, and the California Aqueduct, which are critical to delivering water to not only our farmers but to our valley communities.

These bills would also make small, disadvantaged communities safer and healthier by providing nearly \$1 billion for infrastructure repairs, communities like Dos Palos, Livingston, Fairmead, and Los Banos in the San Joaquin Valley to name but a few. It also provides more than \$10 billion for clean water and drinking water State revolving funds, which are important. It matches funds and is the best use of money.

We have been living off these investments, as I said, for way too long. The

coronavirus pandemic has worsened Americans' food insecurity crisis as we have witnessed, but with this bill we have an opportunity to ensure hungry Americans, especially children and seniors, have access to nutritious food.

For more than 50 years, hungry Americans have relied on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, known as SNAP, to keep from going hungry. These are the working poor and young and old alike. Thirty-eight million Americans, including 25 percent of my constituents, depend on these programs.

Throughout my time in Congress, I fought to increase funding and expand eligibility for this program, which has come under constant attack from the administration, and I don't understand it. There has never been a right time to cut support for the most vulnerable residents in our country, and doing so now certainly is not righteous in dealing with this worldwide pandemic.

The package also includes significant funding for agriculture research programs to help mitigate crop diseases, eradicate invasive species like the navel orange worm, and also has cost billions of dollars in California's agriculture economy. In addition, we need to do more for farmworkers' safety, people who are working in partnership with farmers to, every day, put food on America's dinner table, as well as for our packing sheds and our food processing facilities.

The climate crisis is having an unquestionable impact on the planet. This bill makes significant investments to preserve America's land-scapes and prevent the worst impacts of climate change.

California's San Joaquin Valley, unfortunately, has some of the worst air in the Nation. By providing \$450 billion in grant funding for the Diesel Emission Reduction Act, this bill will help replace and retrofit emission diesel fuels for cleaner burning options to help clean our air.

These DERA grants have already removed dozens of air-polluting vehicles from our valley roads, creating immediate and tangible results. I have worked for decades to improve our air quality and remain committed to finding resources to improve our environment and reduce pollution.

In California, sadly, we have wildfires that have caused incredible destruction and hardship to California's mountain communities. There are estimated to be more than 100 million dead trees in the State from multiple causes. This spending bill will provide nearly \$6 billion to help maintain our forests and fight deadly fires. We must do more to manage our fires and prevent devastating fires. This bill will help us do just that. That is why these appropriations bills are so important.

Finally, it makes strong investments in our nature preservation, wildlife conservation, and ecological protections by providing \$500 million to support areas like San Luis National Wildlife Refuge near Los Banos, the important refuge area for the Pacific Flyway between Canada and Mexico, an important wildlife refuge.

This spending bill prioritizes public health and safety, invests in our aging infrastructure, protects the environment, and prepares us for a brighter future. I am proud to vote for it, and I urge my colleagues to do the same in a bipartisan fashion.

Finally, we must also pass a bipartisan version of the HEROES Act for all the right reasons, which is contained in that legislation: for our States, for our counties, for our cities, for those who work there, for our healthcare workers, for further testing, and to create a safety net for American agriculture.

I encourage my colleagues across the aisle to do that as well. We must work together during this pandemic that is affecting all of our country and the entire world.

EXCEPTIONS TO POSSE COMITATUS

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

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, the Insurrection Act was passed in 1807 and signed into law by Thomas Jefferson as a delegation by the Congress to the President of the power granted under Article I, Section 8, Clause 15 of the Constitution to call forth U.S. Armed Forces, number one, to execute the laws; number two, suppress insurrections; and, number three, repeal invasions

In 1827, the President's power to do so was upheld by the Supreme Court in Martin v. Mott.

In 1861, it was amended to add a section empowering the President to use the Armed Forces against the will of the Governor of a State in the case of a rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States.

In 1871, it was amended again to allow the President to use U.S. Armed Forces to enforce the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and protect Black people from the Ku Klux Klan. President Grant used it three times.

To get Democrat support for President Rutherford Hayes in this House during the aftermath of the disputed 1876 Presidential election, Hayes agreed to remove Federal troops from the South, which ended Reconstruction.

The Posse Comitatus Act was passed in 1878 to limit the use of U.S. Armed Forces in domestic matters, thus codifying the compromise.

□ 0930

The Insurrection Act provisions are construed as specified exceptions to the Posse Comitatus Act. As such, it has been used by Democrat Presidents, Grover Cleveland, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, JOHN KENNEDY, and Lyndon Johnson.

Roosevelt used it to put an end to a Detroit race riot during which 25 Black people were killed, and over 400 were injured.

President Eisenhower used it to desegregate Little Rock schools.

Kennedy used it to end the race riot at the University of Mississippi in 1962, after James Meredith, a Black man, was enrolled there. He used it again in my home State when Democratic Governor, George Wallace, disgracefully tried to block the enrollment of Vivian Malone and James Hood, both Black people, at the University of Alabama. He also used it to enforce the desegregation of public schools in Alabama in reaction to the hate-filled environment around the State Wallace encouraged.

In 1989, it was used by George H.W. Bush in St. Croix in the aftermath of Hurricane Hugo; and again in 1992, when the Governor of California asked for assistance in the riots which followed the beating of Rodney King.

It has not been used since. Nor did President Trump use it earlier this summer here in Washington. All military personnel used here this year were National Guard, the authorization of which was not needed under the Insurrection Act in this Federal city.

Nonetheless, last week this House approved an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act to substantially weaken the operations of the military under the Insurrection Act.

Let me be clear: Over the last 200 years, this law has only been used sparingly and only under extreme circumstances, which is only appropriate in a country which highly values the civilian control of our military. Our Armed Services have a primary mission to protect us from enemies without our country. They should rarely be used to do so with people within our country.

This unwise House amendment forbids our military when they are called out under the Insurrection Act from participating in search, seizure, arrest, or "other similar activity," unless "otherwise expressly authorized by law."

Mr. Speaker, the Insurrection Act is the primary provision that is expressly authorized by law. This amendment would effectively make the Insurrection Act toothless.

Imagine General Grant cleaning out the Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina with the limiting language of the amendment.

Imagine Franklin Roosevelt quelling the Detroit race riot and protecting innocent Black people with that limitation.

How about President Kennedy protecting Black students just trying to attend their State universities in Mississippi and Alabama in the face of violent racists and the Ku Klux Klan.

What is this House thinking? I submit, in this instance, the House didn't think. It just reacted, as it has these last 2 years, with blind indignation against President Trump. I say "blind"