

and Water Safety and Indoor Environment. Its 1,200+ staff includes microbiologists, toxicologists, chemists, engineers, food safety specialists, food scientists and public health professionals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring NSF for their accomplishments over the last 80 years. Their commitment to public health, safety, and the protection of the environment has fundamentally changed how the world operates, and their influence is crucial as we try to tackle the challenges facing our people and the planet in the 21st century. We thank them for their dedication and are excited to see the developments they make over the next 80 years. Thank you to NSF.

U.S. GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2024

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, history has a way of “upending” best laid plans or the logical outcome; the wishful thinking; or even the old admonition that “things work for the best”.

It was a beautiful calm day . . . until it wasn’t—at 4:30 a.m. in Charleston on April 12, 1861; 7:55 a.m. Honolulu time on December 7, 1941; at 8:46 a.m. on that spectacular early fall day of September 11, 2001; and, horrifically, at 5:07 a.m. on an overcast cold morning of February 22, 2022, in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Wishful thinking is not a strategy.

Across our Nation there is a growing movement of wishful thinking that somehow the United States is best when isolated from the world’s woes of war, and authoritarian communism and radical religious fanatics who are “committed to the death” of America or Western Values.

I witness it on the floor of the House of Representatives.

I see and hear it in both mainstream and social media.

And I am face to face with it in regular conversations at home in Arkansas.

The consistent line goes something like this:

We should give no money to other nations because we are running huge deficits.

We should only spend national security money here on our borders and our defense, not the defense of some other nation’s freedom or their sovereign borders.

We should abandon the United Nations because our contributions there just fund those who hate us.

We must end our support of Ukraine as Putin has no beef with us; Ukraine and Crimea are Russia’s anyway; and Ukraine is a failed, corrupt state.

Some even argue why bother to continue to support Taiwan—it belongs to China anyway.

Of course, these type of arguments are not new.

We have faced these movements as a part of our politics since our founding.

In stark contrast, without allied financial support, no one denies that there would simply be no United States of America.

Our beacon on liberty would have been still born.

Yet thankfully the Continental Congress took the risk based on Benjamin Franklin’s wise ob-

servation that “we must all hang together, or most assuredly we will hang separately” by dispatching Dr. Franklin and John Adams to French Court and the Dutch bankers, respectively, to achieve essential military and financial aid.

In a modern context we have learned the age-old maxim that appeasement does not work—and, as successive U.S. Presidents in both political parties have urged: peace is, in fact, achieved through strength.

Appeasement of Hitler was advocated by many in the 1930s, including famous Americans, flyer Charles Lindbergh and FDR’s own ambassador to the United Kingdom, JFK’s father, Joseph Kennedy.

These partners in a Munich Mentality were in stunned silence after Hitler’s invasion of Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Appeasement coupled with weak, ineffective security capabilities—demonstrated by history, and reality—result in failure, misery and subjugation.

So, we must ask ourselves, what is the response to these arguments by these successors of Lindbergh?

Yes, our federal spending levels are unsustainable. We all agree on this.

And, yes, I will also agree that there could be tremendous improvements in the scope and effectiveness of U.S. defense spending.

But, our support of our allies’ freedom, strategic foreign aid in key regions, and our global military and economic leadership are not driving our deficits.

Our deficits are driven by our unreformed mandatory spending programs and big government advocates that continue to initiate new massive, multitrillion dollar federal spending programs as well as enormous, often overdone and poorly structured federal intervention as in the 2008 financial crisis or the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.

Such intervention is always clouded by the fog of the “unknown unknowns” of the particular predicament.

To those Americans that continue to resist NATO, the United Nations, and are cool on our allies in Israel, Ukraine and Taiwan, my message to them is that these institutions and alliances are a key to peace through strength.

America is a less prosperous place when we abdicate leadership. Global leadership without the United States is a “Venn Diagram” with no intersection. And, very importantly, to be successful, peace through strength is not achieved alone.

And this is the lesson of the post-Cold War decades. Looking at the world through the lens of the post war period of 1945 to 1995 is a mistake.

We now reside in a multipolar world with changing alliances and new risks.

The binary choice of Soviet Union vs. United States is dead.

In that post war period, the United States rode in as the cavalry in any conflict pitched as counter to our national interests or “the heads we win, tails you lose” cold conflict with the Soviets.

Today, achieving open seas, improved trade market access, deterrence of warfare and invasion on land, under the sea, in space or via a computer network are all at the core of the U.S. led global order.

But in a multipolar environment, accomplishing these agreed upon outcomes require more complex diplomacy and partnership.

To be against the global order is to be for chaos and expanding threats and destruction.

This will result in fewer sales and fewer jobs for the world’s largest economy and her families—us, our home, our country, the United States.

I believe that to be for America First, then one must support U.S. diplomacy crafting flexible alliances that while built on the foundations of the post war period, are in no way nostalgic.

Standing against this global order of open seas, open markets, deterrence of invasion of sovereign nations, safe and secure use of cyber and space are the self-described “axis of resistance”—China, Russia, Iran, North Korea.

And, in my view, their very active proxies around the world: state actors like Cuba, Syria, and Belarus, and nonstate fundamentalist terror groups like Hezbollah, Hamas, Al Qaeda, ISIS; and the Houthis.

Their coordinated malevolence has only grown since the 2002 now almost quaint description by President George W. Bush of this group of actors as the “axis of evil.”

Unfortunately, through “resets, unenforced red lines, and appeasement, the Obama Administration empowered this axis of resistance and any constraints imposed by Trump officials have, for the most part, been dismantled by the Obama 2.0 policies by the Biden-Harris administration.

Iran sells 80 percent of its oil—free from sanctions by President Biden—to China.

Iran takes this funding, and additional funds freed by President Biden in frozen accounts in South Korea and Iraq and uses it to build its weapons arsenal and spread its disorder:

Sending drones and missiles to Russia to kill Ukrainians.

Sending Shia militia to Iraq and Syria to protect the murderous Assad regime, and to kill Americans along with Syrian women and children.

Sending missiles and targeting technology to the Houthi rebels in Yemen to kill Yemenis, attack cargo ships and U.S. and Allied vessels in the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea.

Sending money and weapons to Hamas in the Gaza Strip to kill Israelis and start the now 11-month long war.

Sending millions of dollars in weapons to Hezbollah in Lebanon to attack and kill Israelis and, ensure that beautiful Lebanon is a bankrupt, failed state.

China and North Korea are aiding Russia with material necessary for its continued economic advance as it bombs children’s hospitals in Ukraine.

North Korea and Iran continue to advance their offensive nuclear weapon capabilities.

And, in the midst of its invasion of Ukraine, Russia, according to public reporting, is launching a nuclear weapon in space in violation of treaties and as a threat to the entire global civilization.

The December 1950 Time magazine quoted one of Putin’s role models, Lenin as saying—“the road to Paris lies through Peking” signaling Russia will partner with China to advance global domination of communism.

Never has it been more true.

These new authoritarian axis powers have set out to achieve global domination by way of countering the United States and the rule of law and by poisoning the minds of millions with cyber warfare propaganda.

To preserve our economic vitality and opportunity for our future, the United States and likeminded peoples, must echo Churchill in his commitment to repel the Nazis . . .

We must commit to fight this toxic blend of communism and terror on the beaches, in the streets, on the seas, in the air—but also on the network and in orbit.

Failure to do so will impoverish our economic future and our American spirit best voiced by President Kennedy in his inaugural address when he promised:

“Let every nation know, whether it wishes well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to ensure the survival and the success of liberty.”

Or maybe, as we are in a multipolar world you may find an old Chinese proverb (a favorite of Mao's) more compelling: “you have to choose between killing the Tiger or being eaten by it.”

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MAJOR RANDELL VOAS

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2024

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Major Randall Voas of Lakeville, Minnesota. Maj. Voas tragically lost his life on April 9, 2010, in an aircraft crash during a combat mission in Afghanistan. Though he lost his life that day, his heroic actions and flying skills helped save the lives of sixteen other passengers on board the aircraft.

Maj. Voas was a man of honor and integrity, serving our country in the United States Army and Air Force for nearly twenty years before his death. During that time, he served in Germany, Korea, England, Iraq, and Afghanistan. During Operation Iraqi Freedom, Major Voas participated in the largest airdrop operation since Vietnam, earning a Cheney Award for his exemplary conduct during the mission.

Maj. Voas' military career was one of remarkable service and immense sacrifice. In May of this year, the Air Force Special Operations Command honored that sacrifice by presenting his family with a Distinguished Flying Cross in honor of his extraordinary aerial skill in saving the lives of sixteen other souls on board his aircraft.

I want to both congratulate, and offer my deepest condolences to Maj. Voas's wife, Jill, his children Maddeline and Mitchell, and the rest of his family on this posthumous recognition of Maj. Voas's service to our country. May his memory be a blessing to them all.

CELEBRATING CARROLL DALE

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2024

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Super Bowl Champion Carroll Dale. Mr. Dale dedicated his career to the sport of football, playing in the National Football League as a wide receiver for several seasons.

Born in Wise, Virginia on April 24, 1938, Mr. Dale attended Wise's very own J.J. Kelly High School.

As an athlete for Virginia Tech Football, Mr. Dale excelled at his preparation and game routine. He played 39 games between 1956 through 1959 for Virginia Tech, amassing 15 touchdowns and over 1,000 yards receiving, which was unusual in the 1950's. These statistics caught the eyes of NFL scouts. The university also retired his No. 84, being the first Virginia Tech athlete to receive such an honor.

Following his collegiate career, Mr. Dale entered the 1960 NFL Draft. In the 8th round, the Los Angeles Rams selected Mr. Dale with the 86th overall pick. In his NFL debut, Mr. Dale scored on a 57-yard touchdown pass.

After 5 NFL seasons with the Rams, Vince Lombardi came calling. Mr. Dale was traded to the Green Bay Packers in 1965, where he became a receiver for one of the best pro football teams.

In his first season with the Packers, Mr. Dale provided a versatility to the team's passing attack. The Packers played the Cleveland Browns and Hall of Fame running back Jim Brown in the 1965 NFL Championship. Mr. Dale scored the first points of the game on a 47-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Bart Starr in the first quarter, helping the Packers win the championship match 23–12. Mr. Dale was a world champion.

In 1966, the Packers returned to the NFL Championship game. Mr. Dale scored on a 51-yard passing touchdown. Lead by Hall of Famers such as his coach Vince Lombardi and quarterback Bart Starr, the Packers then advanced to Super Bowl I.

In Super Bowl I, Mr. Dale caught four passes for 59 yards. He also scored on a 64 yard touchdown pass in the 2nd quarter, but a motion penalty was called on Green Bay and negated the touchdown play. Despite the penalty call, the Packers defeated the Kansas City Chiefs and won the first ever Super Bowl.

The following season, the Packers played the Oakland Raiders in Super Bowl II. Mr. Dale caught four passes for 43 yards in the Packers victory and won a second Super Bowl ring.

Still catching throws from Bart Starr, Mr. Dale was selected to his first Pro Bowl appearance because of his 1968 season. This was the first of three consecutive Pro Bowl selections in as many seasons.

For the 1973 season, his last in the NFL, Mr. Dale played for the Minnesota Vikings. The Vikings advanced to the Super Bowl but lost to the AFC champion Miami Dolphins.

Overall, in 14 NFL seasons Mr. Dale put together 52 receiving touchdowns and 438 receptions for 8,277 receiving yards.

His No. 84 is one of only ten numbers retired by the Hokies football program. Since his retirement, he has served the UVA-Wise athletic program to play a role in its growth and development.

As impressive as his accolades are, Mr. Dale maintained devout spiritual beliefs throughout his life. When he signed with the Packers, he signed a 10 percent tithing provision so the money could go to Hunt United Methodist Church in Bristol. His appreciation for the Lord was always evident.

I wish Mr. Dale well and thank him for being a role model for kids and athletes that grow up in Southwest Virginia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I was otherwise detained seeking medical attention after taking ill. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 412; YEA on Roll Call No. 413; NAY on Roll Call No. 414; YEA on Roll Call No. 415; NAY on Roll Call No. 410; YEA on Roll Call No. 411; and YEA on Roll Call No. 409.

RECOGNIZING MR. MARK PLECKER

HON. VICTORIA SPARTZ

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2024

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Hoosier Hero, Mr. Mark Plecker, of Noblesville, Indiana, who has led a life of dedicated service to our nation and his community.

A graduate of Noblesville High School, Mr. Plecker joined the U.S. Air Force in May 1964, and deployed as an air traffic controller during the Vietnam War, stationed in both Vietnam and Thailand from 1966 to 1967. His role was crucial in ensuring the safety of countless missions, as he managed the complex and high-stress task of his mission objectives.

After his honorable discharge in 1968, Mr. Plecker returned home to Indiana and dedicated himself to his community through a career in plumbing. At 80 years old, Mr. Plecker is still working in his field—truly showing the gumption and work ethic of the generations preceding us.

This year, Mr. Plecker has the privilege of joining the Indy Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., where he will visit the Vietnam Memorial and Arlington Cemetery—his first trip to our Nation's Capital. He will be accompanied by his daughter, Kris Noe, making this a very special family moment as well.

Mr. Plecker's life is a testament to service, both in uniform and in the years since. His dedication to his country and community reflects the true spirit of a veteran, and I am honored to recognize his service here today. From myself and on behalf of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I thank Mr. Plecker for his service.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING MAHSA AMINI

HON. KEVIN MULLIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2024

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mahsa Amini on the second anniversary of her heinous murder. I join people around the world in remembering her life and legacy for the Iranian people.

Mahsa Amini was devoted to her family; especially her parents and younger brother. From a young age she felt a call to service and set her sights on entering medicine to help keep her community safe. Tragically, this