civilians and burying them in mass graves in the town of Kadugli. Yet in a Washington Post article, the United States' special envoy to Sudan said US intelligence reports showed no evidence such graves actually existed.

The team kept looking. ''We had multiple people speaking to us saying bodies were being buried near a [particular] water tower,'' recalls Benjamin Davies. One day, Ben Wang, an 18-year-old intern from Tufts, was looking at satellite images when he noticed the tower had moved. He pointed to a hole in the ground where it had been. ''The grave is there,'' he said.

Over the next month, the team watched the tower move back to its original place, covering up the grave. In August, they released a report and, by year's end, Time magazine reported that the International Criminal Court was investigating war crimes based largely on information gathered by the group.

As Satellite Sentinel Project reports were increasingly being cited by Congress members and UN officials, the team began to realize something new was happening. Rather than remaining passive observers, they were affecting the actions of the combatants. The Sudan Armed Forces started hiding their tanks inside tarps and bunkers, camouflaging them not from the enemy on the ground but from a satellite 300 miles above it. Major offensives began starting on American holidays—Thanksgiving, Presidents' Day weekend—as if the fighters hoped the people watching in Cambridge would be away from their computers. Then this past January, days after the project issued a report mentioning road construction, 29 Chinese workers helping build the road for the SAF—innocents in the conflict—were kidnapped by Sudanese rebels. They weren't released for 11 days. ''It was the sum of all fears,'' Raymond says. ''It's what we work every day to avoid.''

Raymond and the others at Harvard may toil on laptops half a world away from any violence, but their work isn't virtual. Every member of the team has had ''Sudan dreams,'' as they call their nightmares of shooting and being shot. ''There is an immense intimacy to the violence; Raymond says. ''We are not sifting through reports to create a static archive of events. We are actually affecting the ways in which perpetrators make decisions.''

It's a heady responsibility for a team whose eldest member is 34. But while members hasten to add that Harvard professors and DigitalGlobe analysts are advising their moves, there is something about the digital generation of activists that uniquely suits them to the task. ''We could not reproduce this with people who have been trained in other [nongovernmental organizations],'' says Davies. The qualities said to characterize Generation Y—the ability to multitask on multiple technologies, a facility for social networking and teamwork, and even the individual sense of entitlement over deference to hierarchy—all help this group analyze data and make decisions quickly. ''People overvalue expertise,'' says Raymond, perhaps the first time those words have been spoken at Harvard. ''Critical thinking and the ability to learn complex systems is more important than some one walking in with six PhDs.''

The amateur satellite sleuths were put to the test in March when Clooney was set to meet with President Obama and testify before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. On a recent trip to the Nuba Mountains, he'd witnessed a rocket attack and interviewed children who had lost limbs from bombings—but his testimony would not be proof. And while the Satellite Sentinel Project had satellite images from the time showing smoke from alleged bombings, they couldn't find the ''shooter''—artillery or aircraft—that caused it ''We are presenting a report with the biggest movie star in the world meeting with the president of the United States,'' recalls Raymond. ''You want to find the shooter.''

Baker kept at it. After days of triangulating from nearby airstrips and squinting at his computer screen, he finally noticed a speck he hadn't seen before—it was an Antonov AN–26, a Soviet-era cargo plane Sudan uses as a makeshift bomber. ''This was literally the smoking gun,'' says Davies.

Two days later, Clooney showed the satellite image to the Senate committee, with the Antonov outlined in blue. He credited the Harvard team with the evidence.

''Their level of expertise is incredible, but more than that is their level of commitment,'' Clooney says now. ''Sometimes they are up all night trying to figure this stuff out, for no other reason than they are trying to save lives. And they don't get enough acknowledgment for that.''

It looks as if the project staff has been up all night. It's March 29, two days after they'd decided to search for the flanking attack, and they're again gathered around their conference table. Eyes are bleary, and the group is quiet. They've got the satellite images they asked for, but not the proof of an imminent invasion. ''We wanted a softball,'' Davies says. ''Sometimes you don't get that.''

Baker, as he tends to do, is still searching his laptop screen for overlooked clues. Davies starts projecting Beyonce videos from YouTube on the screen. ''We see a lot of dead bodies in here,'' he says. ''Beyonce is deadbody kryptonite.''

After more than an hour, Bakes finds some new checkpoints and signs of tank movements, but still no smoking gun. Raymond prepares to call it a night.

In the days to come, Baker will find two tanks that could signal an invasion. By late April, news reports would indicate the region edging ever closer to wax. After South Sudan seized the oil-rich Sudanese town of Heglig, Sudan bombed a bridge in South Sudan, killing several civilians. Despite pleas from the United Nations and African Union, the violence would continue. The team may have been incorrect about the location of attacks, but they had accurately predicted SAF was mobilizing for a fight.

That realization is still weeks away, though, and tonight the mood is somber. ''Should we move [the satellite's focus] south or stay tight on the border?'' Raymond muses aloud.

The question is a fraught one. After providing some $16 million in pro bono imagery and analysis, DigitalGlobe has been negotiating new pay rates going forward. While Clooney has helped raise an additional million dollars for the project over the past year, much of that money has already been spent. That means even as violence escalates in Africa; the future of the Satellite Sentinel Project is in doubt. ''I am doing the best I can to raise money through speaking engagements,'' Clooney says. ''I believe we are going to be able to keep this up. The question is can we find ways to sustain it.''

For now, though, it's time for the team to regroup. ''This is not a bad day; this is a good day,'' says Raymond, rallying the troops with a kind of battlefield speech. Redirecting the satellite ''was the right thing to do,' he says. ''We needed to make sure we were seeing the whole picture.''

HONORING MARGARET BRACEY PLEASANTS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ms. Margaret Bracy Pleasants, a Florida-born teacher and active member of her community. Ms. Pleasants was 79 years of age.

Ms. Pleasants placed great value in her involvement in various civic organizations and social clubs. Despite moving several times throughout her life, Ms. Pleasants was always an active member of her community, and made lasting connections with her neighbors. From her humble beginnings in Jacksonville, Florida, to her eventual move to Texas and California, Ms. Pleasants always left a lasting impression on those around her.

Ms. Pleasants was blessed with musical talents, and used them in service to her local church.

Ms. Pleasants always wanted to become an educator, and it was her dream to inspire future generations. She taught at the Bryant Academy and later at Jack Yates High School in Houston, Texas. Ms. Pleasants inspired her students and taught them the value of life. While teaching at Whaley Middle School in California, Ms. Pleasants formed the Human Relations Club, a group focused on bringing multicultural events to the entire student body. She used her love of different cultures to inspire her students, expand their horizons, and help them to embrace cultural diversity.

Mr. Speaker, Margaret Pleasants enjoyed many simple pastimes and was always eager to share in those experiences with others. She understood well the importance of living in the moment and bestowing those values upon future generations. While her passing comes as a great loss to many, we may continue to look to her life for inspiration.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OCCUPATION OF SHUSHA IN AZERBAIJAN

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2012

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, given the significance of this week to the U.S.-Azerbaijan bilateral relationship, it is important to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Occupation of Shusha in Azerbaijan. Shusha lies within the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan and is another painful reminder of the ongoing conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia in the region.

Twenty years ago today, Armenian forces stormed the strategically important town of Shusha, which lies on a hill just over three miles away from the Nagorno-Karabakh capital of Stepanakert. The town was attacked at the break of dawn from three sides, trapping Azeri military units and civilians on their hilltop.

For hours the town was shelled, killing and wounding thousands of men, women, and children, and the attacking forces have occupied it ever since.

As a result of this tragic incident, the rich history and culture of Shusha remains inaccessible to the Azeri people who are prohibited from visiting the ancient Azeri museums, religious sites, musical schools, and historical sites of their past.

Despite four United Nations resolutions insisting that the Nagorno-Karabakh region—and by extension, the town of Shusha—legally belongs to Azerbaijan, the region remains war-torn and steeped in conflict.

Today we remember those who died defending their homeland and support those who are still affected, unable to return to the homes from which they were separated.

My hope is that this anniversary will provide another opportunity to work together to ensure a peaceable, lasting resolution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict so that people from both nations will no longer suffer.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 9

10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Economic Policy Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the National Flood Insurance Program, focusing on the need for long-term reauthorization and reform.
SD–538

Appropriations
Department of Homeland Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Coast Guard.
SD–138

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Joseph G. Jordan, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy, Executive Office of the President.
SD–342

Judiciary
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Office of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator.
SD–226

10:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Department of Defense Subcommittee
To receive a closed briefing on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for Central Command and Africa Command Programs.
SVC–217

2 p.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine limiting Federal support for financial institutions.
SD–538

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the need for privacy protections, focusing on perspectives from the Administration and the Federal Trade Commission.
SR–253

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert E. Bacharach, of Oklahoma, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, Paul William Grimm, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, John E. Dowdell, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma, Mark E. Walker, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Florida, and Brian J. Davis, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.
SD–226

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine building and maintaining an effective human resource workforce in the Federal government.
SD–342

Intelligence
To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.
SH–219

3:30 p.m.
Appropriations
Financial Service and General Government Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine expanding broadband access, promoting innovation, and protecting consumers in a communications revolution, focusing on fiscal year 2013 resource needs for the Federal Communications Commission.
SD–138

MAY 10

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine S. 2374, to amend the Helium Act to ensure the expedient and responsible draw-down of the Federal Helium Reserve in a manner that protects the interests of private industry, the scientific, medical, and industrial communities, commercial users, and Federal agencies.
SD–366

10 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Patricia K. Falcone, of California, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, Marietta S. Robinson, of Michigan, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and William P. Doyle, of Pennsylvania, and Richard A. Lidinsky, Jr., of Maryland, both to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner.
SR–253

Finance
To hold hearings to examine Medicare physician payments, focusing on understanding the past so we can envision the future.
SD–215

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), focusing on Chicago and beyond.
SD–419

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine helping the middle class balance work and family.
SD–430

Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 2276, to permit Federal officers to remove cases involving crimes of violence to Federal court, S. 2554, to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the authorization of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program through fiscal year 2017, and the nominations of David Medine, of Maryland, to be Chairman, James Xavier Dempsey, of California, Elisebeth Collins Cook, of Illinois, Rachel L. Brand, of Iowa, and Patricia M. Wald, of the District of Columbia, all to be a Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.
SD–226

Armed Services
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine current readiness of U.S. forces in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program.
SR–232A

10:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Department of Defense Subcommittee
To receive a closed briefing on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for Pacific Command Programs.
SVC–217

MAY 16

10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine seamless transition, focusing on a review of the Integrated Disability Evaluation System.
SH–216

MAY 17

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine S. 2146, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to create a market-oriented standard for clean electric energy generation.
SD–366

10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine creating positive learning environments for all students.
SD–G50

2:15 p.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine fulfilling the Federal trust responsibility, focusing on the foundation of