

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING A HOMETOWN HERO:  
SERGEANT JAMES CASEY JOYCE,  
COMMEMORATING THE 20TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF BLACK HAWK  
DOWN

### HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 4, 2013*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my fellow Americans to remember, remember a day of exceptional valor, bravery, and comradery in our nation's history. Today we commemorate the 20th anniversary of Black Hawk Down, also known as the Day of the Rangers.

On October 3, 1993, approximately 120 U.S. Army Rangers and Delta Force Operators launched a raid to capture Mohamed Farrah Aidid, a warlord wreaking havoc on the city of Mogadishu and starving innocent civilians in Somalia. What began as an attempt to seize an oppressor and bring peace and aid to this developing country turned into an extensive rescue mission after two U.S. Black Hawk helicopters were shot down. Tragically, many American lives were lost, including one of our very own, Sergeant James Casey Joyce, a graduate of Plano Senior High School.

After attending the University of Texas and the University of North Texas at Denton, Sergeant Joyce enlisted in the Army in November 1990 where he completed Airborne Training and earned the esteemed title, U.S. Army Ranger. Twenty years ago, Sergeant Joyce was one of the brave Rangers who put their lives on the line to bring these American pilots safely home. In the midst of the vicious battle, a fellow Ranger who fell from one of the helicopters was in critical condition—without immediate medical attention he would clearly die. Fulfilling the Ranger Creed, Sergeant Joyce took it upon himself to “never leave a fallen comrade” behind. He proceeded into the danger of enemy fire in search of a medevac vehicle and was tragically killed in action.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Joyce's actions that day, along with the other brave men and women who fought alongside him must always be remembered. His commitment to his comrades, unwavering courage, and extraordinary sacrifice embodies the highest form of the American spirit, to place service over self.

Words cannot sufficiently express the debt of gratitude we owe Sergeant Joyce and others like him who have bravely fought and lost their lives in service to our great country. I'd also like to thank his family—his wife, DeAnna, his mother, Gail, and his brother and sister, Steven and Sancy. When one member of a family serves, the entire family serves, and you all deserve our utmost appreciation and respect. Because of their sacrifices, America remains the land of the free and the world is a better place for it.

God Bless all who serve, past, present, and future. I salute each and every one of you.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 4, 2013*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on September 27, 2013, and September 28, 2013, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall votes 491 through 500.

Had I been present for rollcall vote 491, on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate Amendments to H.R. 1412, the Improving Job Opportunities for Veterans Act, I would have voted “yes.”

Had I been present for rollcall vote 492, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3096, to designate the building occupied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation located at 801 Follin Lane, Vienna, Virginia, as the “Michael D. Resnick Terrorist Screening Center,” I would have voted “yes.”

Had I been present for rollcall vote 493, on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 361, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, and relating to consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2642, to provide for the reform of agricultural programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2018, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall vote 494, on ordering the previous question to H. Res. 366, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 59) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes, and providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 3210) making continuing appropriations for military pay in the event of a government shutdown, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall vote 495, on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 366, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 59) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3210) making continuing appropriations for military pay in the event of a government shutdown, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall vote 496, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 2251, to designate the United States courthouse located at 118 South Mill Street, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, as the “Edward J. Devitt United States Courthouse,” I would have voted “yes.”

Had I been present for rollcall vote 497, on concurring in the Senate amendment with amendment #1 to H.J. Res. 59, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall vote 498, on concurring in the Senate amendment with amendment #2 to H.J. Res. 59, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall vote 499, on passage of H.R. 3210, making continuing appropriations for military pay in the event of a government shutdown, I would have voted “yes.”

Had I been present for rollcall vote 500, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 2848, the Department of State Operations and Embassy Security Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2014, I would have voted “yes.”

### COMMEMORATING THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

#### HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 4, 2013*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an important day, the National Day of the Republic of China, commemorating the beginning of the Wuchang Uprising of 1911 that led to the establishment of the Republic of China in 1912. This is a significant day for the Taiwanese people and the United States.

For decades, Taiwan has been a vital ally to the United States, and we share common security, economic, and political interests.

The United States and Taiwan enjoy strong cultural, security, economic, and political ties and an even stronger friendship. Taiwan is a model democracy in the Pacific region where the people of Taiwan value freedom and liberty. Taiwan is a top United States trading partner as well as a champion of human rights. With a robust trading relationship between our two countries already in place, I urge the Administration to finalize the Bilateral Investment Agreement with Taiwan in order to protect private investment, develop market-oriented policies, and to promote U.S. exports.

Given Taiwan's establishment as a major trading leader in the Asia Pacific region, I urge the facilitation of Taiwan's participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Taiwan has already proven itself as a leader on the global stage.

### HONORING GABRIEL HARRISON BIGGS

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 4, 2013*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Gabriel Harrison Biggs. Gabriel is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 214, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Gabriel has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Gabriel has been involved with

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