

its flag, owe that man. We owe that man everything. We owe him the respect that his sacrifice deserves.

"Saying thank you is not enough.

"We send our best, and lose them, in the fight against the worst this world has to offer. If you want to respect and honor their sacrifice, it needs to be more than words. You have to live it.

"Take a minute and look around. Soak it in, all of it. The good, the bad, and the ugly. You have the choice, every day, as to which category you want to be in, and which direction you want to move. You have that choice, because the best among us, the best we have ever had to offer, fought, bled, and died for it.

"Don't ever forget it."

FIGHT CLOSED DOORS

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, I visited a community health center in Worcester, Massachusetts. There, at a place dedicated to healing those in their community, I met one of their patients. It was a 42-year-old Muslim refugee from Baghdad who arrived in the United States this past November. He, his wife, and his children spent 3 years in a Turkish refugee camp after fleeing their home country.

His family had been targeted in Iraq. He had been hospitalized four times with bombing injuries. He and his wife had both been shot. He watched his own brother burn to death in front of his eyes, and countless members of his family are still missing.

He was a musician back home, but he struggled to keep up his craft as he has fled. A doctor in that health center managed to track down a used trumpet and presented it to that man as a gift. Now, every time he visits that health center, he brings the trumpet and plays it for the staff.

My visit was no exception. He stood in front of our group and proudly played our national anthem with tears in his eyes because this country had given him a home. This country is helping him mend his wounds, has protected his family, and has given him a chance to fight another day.

It is a badge of honor that he shares with every single person living in our great Nation, regardless of color or creed, that we are all bound together by the immense opportunity of those golden doors, opened at one point for our own families sometime down the road.

Hours after our visit, our President—his President—told him that his relatives, his neighbors, and millions of others who have suffered just as he has were no longer welcome here.

To Samira Asgari, a 30-year-old doctor traveling to Boston to study cures for tuberculosis, he closed the doors.

To the Iraqi general who commands an American-trained counterterrorist

force traveling here to visit his relocated family, our President closed our doors.

To all of the 21.3 million refugees worldwide, the leader of our free world told them that their pain and their suffering was not his problem, and he closed our doors.

And to the global community, he made clear that his government will give in to terror and will make decisions based on fear rather than strength.

Mr. President, I hope you hear us loud and clear when we say that these actions are an insult to the country we all love. They are an insult to our Constitution and an embarrassment to the blood, the sweat, and the tears that generations of Americans have shed in defense of Lady Liberty.

So, Mr. President, we will fight, we will march, we will protest, we will raise our voices, and one day we will win.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair and not to the President.

A NATION THAT WELCOMES AND RESPECTS PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have had the privilege of working with Republican and Democratic Presidents, and, I might add, that I have had the sadness to be standing with them during times of need of this Nation. Living knowledge, during my tenure, President George W. Bush was President during 9/11.

I was in this Capitol on September 11, 2001, and so I was physically evacuated. As we were leaving with no understanding of what was happening—particularly for those of us who had come for early morning meetings, not having the full impact of what had happened in New York and not having the full knowledge. But as we were fleeing this building, we took a look to our right. We could see the billowing black smoke in the Pentagon. We were running for our lives. We were running as Americans, Muslims, Jews, Christians, people of many faiths, many races, many genders, many orientations. We were running as Americans.

Those families at Ground Zero watched in horror or heard in horror of their loved ones lost, in spite of the heroic efforts of first responders. First responders were lost. There, too, was a multitude of the United Nations.

This Nation has always welcomed and respected people from all over the world, and so it disturbs me when those of us who have now taken a visible and stoic stand against an unconstitutional executive order begin to receive attacks from the very person who should be bringing this Nation together.

I take great insult from the firing of Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates,

a person whom I have worked with personally as a senior member of the House Judiciary Committee. She is of profound integrity, honesty, respectability, and professionalism. I congratulate Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates for being a patriot.

Last evening, she rendered this statement: "In addition, I am responsible for ensuring that the positions we take in court remain consistent with this institution's solemn obligation to always seek justice and stand for what is right. At present, I am not convinced that the defense of the executive order is consistent with these responsibilities nor am I convinced that the executive order is lawful."

Responding to that, almost like Nixon, some decades ago, this White House fired Attorney General Yates and proceeded to make this statement: "The acting Attorney General, Sally Yates, has betrayed the Department of Justice by refusing to enforce a legal order designed to protect the citizens of the United States. This order was approved as to form and legality by the Department of Justice Office of Legal Counsel."

Sally Yates explained it, but there is no betrayal of the Department of Justice. It is an entity. It is not the American people, and it is not a Constitution. She has no obligation to the Department of Justice. She has an obligation to the American people to uphold the Constitution.

□ 1045

The White House proceeds to go on to say—I assume President Trump—"Ms. Yates is an Obama administration appointee who is weak on borders and very weak on illegal immigration," of which I don't know their proof for such.

But what I will say to you is that she was doing her civic and patriotic duty by remaining there as a senior member who was the only person there that could sign subpoenas. She was doing America a favor.

So I will say, in the backdrop of that, were you at the Bush Intercontinental Airport, as I was, when an Iraqi citizen came in, a legal permanent resident with a green card, and was detained for 5 hours while his employer and lawyers were gathering and hovering outside; and CBP, to my understanding, how frightened they were, how they did not know what was going on, did not allow them to be able to speak?

Or did you listen last night when an Iraqi woman indicated that her husband was murdered and she hid for 12 years in Iraq until she was able to bring her children here?

Did you hear that refugees are being denied to come in for 120 days on Friday, Mr. Speaker, and that their papers will expire?

Finally, Mr. Speaker, did you hear that the perpetrator in Quebec had on his social media that he was supporting or praising President Trump?

Enough is enough. Repeal this order. Pass the SOLVE Act. Pass the USA Act

that I have introduced as well that includes gender and religion.

Stop this madness. The executive order is unconstitutional.

AMERICA IS AND MUST REMAIN A COUNTRY THAT WELCOMES REFUGEES

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, America is and must remain a country that welcomes refugees, and we must welcome refugees of all religions.

President Trump has our country under a Muslim ban that makes us less safe and less American. Less safe because we already have in place since World War II a process for vetting refugees who come to this country, an intense process that takes 18 to 24 months before anyone can get here.

Less safe because it makes us less of a team player on an international stage that requires cooperation among our allies and those in the Middle East who are helping us fight terrorism. If we are not taking on refugees, as our allies, like Jordan and Germany and others who are in the thick of this fight, we will not be seen as a team player and we will not be able to count on them for cooperation.

Less safe because it motivates and inspires an enemy who is determined to dispel a message that the United States is not welcome to Muslims.

It makes us less American because refugees have helped America as much as America has helped refugees. We have seen this in the wisdom of Albert Einstein, the patriotism of Secretary Madeleine Albright.

I have seen this in my own congressional office with my chief of staff, Ricky Le, who came to our country at age 4, on a raft, fleeing Vietnam, and was welcomed into this country, where he was given an opportunity to be the first in his family to go to college, started working on Capitol Hill as an intern, and serves as the chief of staff in my office today.

I have seen this spirit of the refugee in Mohammad Usafi, who was my guest at the State of the Union just 2 years ago. Mohammad served our country as an interpreter in Afghanistan. He lost his father, who was kidnapped and killed by the Taliban for his service. His little brother was kidnapped, and he gave his life savings to save his brother's life.

We brought Mohammad over to the United States. But today, if Mohammad was on his way to the United States, under this Muslim ban, he would be detained in an airport.

But what is American?

American is standing up and welcoming people in need. Being American means going to an airport, as I saw thousands do when I went to SFO airport in San Francisco this weekend. I

saw the lawyers on our staff working to provide casework to anyone who was detained. I saw the spirit of generosity across our country at airports and town squares.

Being an American means supporting Congresswoman LOFGREN's SOLVE Act, the Statue of Liberty Values Act, that will fix and end this Muslim ban.

Being an American is what Sally Yates did last night when she stood up against an illegal order and she was fired. Acting Attorney General Sally Yates was not the person who deserved to be fired yesterday.

To stop this Muslim ban, we must unite in this country; unite and make sure that we are safe and welcoming to those in need; unite to say we will not target people for persecution based on religion; unite to live out, indeed, what we are taught in the Bible.

In Luke 10:25, a student asked Jesus: "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

Jesus says: "Love the Lord with all of your heart, and love your neighbor as yourself."

The student asks: "Who is my neighbor?"

And Jesus tells him the story of a traveler from Jerusalem headed to Jericho who was attacked, robbed, and beaten along his journey, and stripped of all of his clothes. He encounters a priest, who walks to the other side of the road when he sees the traveler.

He encounters a Levite, who also, like the priest, walks to the other side of the road when he sees this beaten, weary traveler. But then he comes across a Samaritan. The Samaritan took pity on the traveler, bandaged his wounds, and took him and paid for him to stay at an inn.

Jesus asked the student: "Which of these men was a neighbor?"

The student said: "The one who showed mercy."

Jesus said to the student: "Go and do likewise."

To my colleagues in this House, Republicans and Democrats, and Americans across this great land, refugees are our neighbors. They are the weary travelers. How will we receive them? The American spirit is to be like the Samaritan. We must go and do likewise.

A DECADE OF SERVICE

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

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Minnesota public servant. After nearly a decade of service to his community, my friend and St. Michael's former mayor, Jerry Zachman, I congratulate him on his retirement.

Jerry has deep roots in St. Michael, as he is a part of the fifth generation of his family to live there, and these strong ties to his beloved community, no doubt, inspired Jerry to serve.

As the community began to grow and develop, his main goal was to ensure

that St. Michael residents were always put first. I think it is safe to say that Jerry did just that. During his 10 years as mayor, Jerry made numerous improvements to this ever-growing community and city. One major project Jerry played a huge role in is the expansion of the I-94 corridor, which cuts through Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District.

I thank Jerry for his unwavering dedication to St. Michael and to our great State, and I wish him nothing but the best in his future.

AN X GAMES STAR

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an athlete from my district who has persevered and conquered, achieved, despite challenges that have been presented to him during his life.

This past week, snowmobile motocross racer Mike Schultz, from St. Cloud, Minnesota, won his sixth gold medal at the Winter X Games. Mike lost his left leg during a tragic accident in 2008. This past week, he competed amongst opponents who were also amputees or partially paralyzed.

Mike Schultz serves as a wonderful reminder of what can be accomplished when one never gives up and displays courage in the face of extreme challenge. It is inspiring to see a young man come out on top against such adversity.

We are proud of you, Mike, and I look forward to watching you compete in the 2017 International Paralympic Committee World Para Snowboard Championships in Canada later this year. I have no doubt you will be victorious once again.

MINNESOTA'S MEDIA MOGUL

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate one of the great leaders in Minnesota. Stanley S. Hubbard, the president and chairman of Hubbard Broadcasting, has been awarded the First Amendment Leadership Award from the Radio Television Digital News Foundation. Hubbard Broadcasting owns several media outlets, including KSTP, a local news affiliate in the great State of Minnesota.

Stan Hubbard is well-known in his industry. In fact, he has already been inducted into the Broadcast & Cable Hall of Fame, and he has received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Broadcasters.

The First Amendment Leadership Award is presented annually to a business or government leader who has made a significant contribution to the protection of the First Amendment and the freedom of the press. This award was made for someone like Stan Hubbard.

Stan Hubbard, of Hubbard Broadcasting, has spent his entire career in the media protecting and promoting free speech and a free and accountable press.

Congratulations to you, Stan, and to the entire Hubbard Broadcasting family. You deserve this award because you earn it every day.