

just dismiss orders that the President had the authority to make and just say, oh, they are unconstitutional, even though from their own statements they proved their own ignorance.

So we have got refugees coming in. Thank God somebody at the Homeland Security Department wanted to get to the bottom of exactly what occurs during the 2 years that the United Nations refugee program does in vetting people. So he went straight to the person in charge of the refugee program at that time. He said: I would like to get a description of the processes of vetting that refugees go through from these countries they allege they are coming from. What all does the U.N. do to vet these refugees?

And the answer came back: Well, actually, we don't do any vetting of the refugees. It is a long 2-year process most of the time, as we are trying to convince countries to take these people. We are not spending any of that time looking into their background. The 2 years is what it usually takes to get a country to accept them, figure out where they are going to go. No, somebody else must do that. We don't worry about that. We are just trying to find a place for them.

Mr. Speaker, the next time you hear somebody say, Oh, no, this is a very thorough 2-year process of vetting these refugees of making sure they are not a threat, then I hope it will come to your mind that a representative of the U.N. talking to one of our top Homeland Security people—and I am not going to give his name, but he was told: We don't do any vetting. We are just trying to find a place to put them. When we find somebody who will take them, we feel like we have done a great thing.

Well, maybe, if they are not terrorists.

□ 1315

But we have seen the data that indicates that for the amount of money it costs to bring a refugee from the Middle East to the United States and take care of them for a year, what happens to the money actually spent, you could take care of 12 refugees if they were kept in the area and provided a safe area. That is what the Obama administration should have done. Instead of drawing red lines that it couldn't find after it drew them, the Obama administration should have said: We are going to participate in creating a safe area, provide flyover and provide people there. We are going to provide a safe area for refugees to come to until the war is over and people can return to their homes.

Rather than create a system that will allow our enemies, the Islamic State and others, to do as they promised us they have been doing and will continue to do, and that is putting their terrorists in amongst the refugees, instead of doing that, putting our country at risk, let's let them stay near to their home, provide them safe-

ty, help provide them with what they need. Because when the greatest country, strongest country, most charitable country in the history of the world becomes so self-righteous that they feel like they don't need to do vetting, when they become so taken with appearing to be open-minded that they don't even protect themselves by doing what used to be called due diligence and checking on people to make sure they are not a threat to others around them, instead of doing that, we show irresponsibility when it comes to protecting America as when you are at risk of losing the country.

But Americans, by a huge majority of electors, electoral college, elected President Trump. They wanted a change. When you look at a map that shows all of the counties that voted for President Trump and those that voted for Hillary Clinton, you see that our friends across the aisle, part of a party that has really become a fringe party, has the fringes of the country. But the massive interior—most, except for some big cities here and there—is people that want to preserve and protect the most blessed place to raise a family that there has ever been.

I am sure Solomon's Israel was apparently an amazing place, but the people didn't have our freedoms. But we are in danger of losing them when we become so cocky that we think we don't have to check on people to make sure they are not a threat. That actually is a form of bias. They are so afraid that people might say that you are closed-minded that they don't even do a background check, but they would for someone who is not Muslim, then that is a form of bias.

We have got to use commonsense, we have got to protect America, or we will be cursed when we are gone and our children see what we have done.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COUNCIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 2302, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Members on the part of the House to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council:

Mr. DEUTCH, Florida  
Mr. SCHNEIDER, Illinois

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. JONES (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of personal reasons.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, March 14, 2017, at noon for morning-hour debate.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

763. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Army, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter indicating that one active Army military musical unit accepted services valued at \$9,160, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 974(d)(3); Public Law 110-181, Sec. 590(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 113-66, Sec. 351); (127 Stat. 742); to the Committee on Armed Services.

764. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final NUREG — Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors (NUREG-1021, Rev. 11) received March 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

765. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities that was declared in Executive Order 13694 of April 1, 2015, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

766. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a semi-annual report detailing telecommunications-related payments made to Cuba pursuant to Department of the Treasury licenses during the period from July 1 through December 31, 2016, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6004(e)(6); Public Law 102-484, Sec. 1705(e)(6) (as amended by Public Law 104-114, Sec. 102(g)); (110 Stat. 794); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. ROE of Tennessee: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 1181. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the conditions under which certain persons may be treated as adjudicated mentally incompetent for certain purposes (Rept. 115-33). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 1259. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the removal or demotion of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs based on performance or misconduct, and for other purposes (Rept. 115-34 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 1367. A bill to improve the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to hire and retain physicians and other employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (Rept. 115-35 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.