

Authorization of Use of Military Force, whether we agree with it or not it is in statute right now, in a combat theater where we are authorized to be by that AUMF, by votes of Congress, signed by a President, with an armed combatant who, by the way, as you probably know, is listed on the terrorist list by the United States and others and is not supposed to be out of Iran, his home country.

Mr. GOHMERT. Right.

Mr. PERRY. Yet, he was traveling to Syria and then through Iraq as a combatant and as a terrorist on the terrorist list. What is the point of putting terrorists on the list if you are not going to do anything about the terrorist on the list?

Mr. GOHMERT. Back to Libya momentarily, what President Obama did cost American lives, including at Benghazi. If he doesn't decide unilaterally whether NATO wanted it or not, he decided for America without any consent from Congress to go to war with Libya to take out their leader. It destabilized the country. It put American lives at risk that were not at that time, and it actually cost American lives.

I have an article here, and I have seen on Facebook some comments, but an "Iranian American activist outraged by 'propaganda machine' glorifying Soleimani."

There are so many Iranians who are speaking up now going: What is wrong with you people? This guy was a terrorist. He was killing Iranians. He was killing Americans. He was just merciless.

Mr. PERRY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GOHMERT. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. PERRY. I just happened to notice on CNN about the time of the attack that they had the spokesperson for the Iranian Government during the hostage crisis speaking on CNN. NPR did something very similar. It is not just Iranian Americans who are unhappy with the situation, the propaganda not only by elected officials but by our media that is taking up the side of the enemy that wants to destroy America. It is disgusting.

Mr. GOHMERT. It really is, and it is just a shame that at a time when we ought to come together because, unlike Libya, we do have an interest in protecting American lives. We do have an interest in stopping people who want to destroy America. We ought to be united on this.

This is not a time to come in and try to condemn and belittle the President who did a good thing in taking out a terrorist.

One other thing, I don't remember anybody on the other side of the aisle here that made a peep when the President of the United States, President Obama, gave the order to kill al-Awlaki and his 16-year-old son. So al-Awlaki, he was an American citizen. Why, because his parents came over on

a visa, a student visa, had him, took him back, and taught him to hate America, but he got an American passport. He is an American citizen.

He had worked with some in the Obama administration, apparently worked with some in the Bush administration. But he was really an enemy of America.

President Obama gave the order not to take out a terrorist like Soleimani, who was in the process of stirring up terrorism and killing Americans, but this was an American citizen, and he gave the order to take him out with a drone strike, take out his 16-year-old son. Regardless of what al-Awlaki had done, his son was not a criminal, but President Obama just ordered him taken out and not one word from the other side of the aisle.

I would have thought we could have come together on that: Wait, before we take out American citizens, should we give them a trial or should we just let a President decide?

Now, I was okay with somebody that they had the evidence and that was in the process of being at war with us, but for heaven's sake, the people didn't raise not one peep about that.

Mr. PERRY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GOHMERT. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. PERRY. Was there a briefing? Was there a consultation from the President to the leaders of Congress or to Congress? Was there adequate information substantiating the imminence of an attack? Was there any of that, or was there any human outcry that there was none of that and then a rush to judgment on the President's authority to do that from our good friends on the other side of the aisle?

Mr. GOHMERT. Well, the media helped them out. This is just an incredible time, and it is a time when free people ought to be able to come together and unite together in the cause of freedom.

As Natan Sharansky pointed out, people didn't think he and his wife would be getting back together after he was released from prison in Russia because she was more religious and he wasn't, and he said that is ridiculous. I got along with the guy for 12 years in my cell, and the only thing we had in common was a desire for freedom. That ought to bring us together here.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of medical emergency.

Mr. SIMPSON (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for January 7 through January 10 on account of recovery from knee replacement surgery.

EXPENDITURES BY THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL UNDER HOUSE RESOLUTION 6, 116TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, DC, January 9, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 302(c) of House Resolution 6 (116th Congress) I hereby submit the attached statement "setting forth the aggregate amounts expended by the Office of General Counsel on outside counsel and other experts pursuant to this title on a quarterly basis" for the quarter beginning on October 1, 2019 and ending on December 31, 2019, for publication in the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,

ZOE LOFGREN,
Chairperson.

AGGREGATE AMOUNT EXPENDED ON OUTSIDE COUNSEL OR OTHER EXPERTS—H. RES. 6

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| January 1–March 31, 2019 | \$0.00 |
| April 1–June 30, 2019 | 0.00 |
| July 1–September 30, 2019 | 0.00 |
| October 1–December 31, 2019 | 0.00 |
| Total | 0.00 |

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1611. An ACT to ensure appropriate prioritization, spectrum planning, and inter-agency coordination to support the Internet of Things; to the Committee of Energy and Commerce.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 2476. An ACT to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide funding to secure nonprofit facilities from terrorist attacks, and for other purposes.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported that on January 6, 2020, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 1424. To amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure the Secretary of Veterans Affairs permits the display of Fallen Soldier Displays in national cemeteries.

H.R. 2385. To permit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program to conduct cemetery research and produce educational materials for the Veterans Legacy Program.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 p.m.), the House adjourned