

right place at the right time, we turned to Mr. Spies to keep them safe. His deep knowledge as a combat rescue medic and survival expert was key to our success—and no doubt reassured frightened men, women, and children as they traveled to the airport to escape the threats to their life. Despite a 25-hour harrowing journey as our buses made their way through Taliban checkpoints and stray gunfire, we didn't lose a single member of our group. Mr. Schalk's dedicated work as their security detail saved lives and for that I am immensely grateful.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Schalk Spies for his willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty in our effort to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul and support them in their new life. For his assistance in providing security on the ground for vulnerable individuals in Kabul as they attempted to make it through the airport gates and for his actions that kept them safe in their hour of greatest need, I submit these words—may they stand as a tribute to his dedicated service when the moment called for it most.

TRIBUTE TO THE RT. REV. DR.
ALPHONZA AND MRS. HESTER
GADSDEN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two people who have dedicated their lives to their church and their community. Bishop Ordinary, Rt. Rev. Dr. Alphonza Gadsden, Sr. and Mrs. Hester Gadsden are retiring after a lifetime of service to the Reformed Episcopal Church.

Bishop Gadsden, a native of St. Stephen, South Carolina, is the son of the late Silas and Leola Gadsden. An honors graduate of Russellville High School, he valued education and earned both a bachelor's degree from Limestone University in Gaffney, South Carolina and a Doctor of Ministry from Erskine University in Due West, South Carolina. Bishop Gadsden went on to receive his Doctor of Divinity from the Commission on Theological Education of the Reformed Episcopal Seminary in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania.

Bishop Gadsden served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War, reaching the rank of Sergeant and receiving numerous military medals and honors. Bishop Gadsden also served his country with a historic 39-year career in the United States Postal Service: He retired from the Postal Service as the first African American Postmaster in the history of Kingstree, South Carolina.

Mrs. Gadsden is a native of Hemingway, South Carolina and is the daughter of the late Isaac Daniel and Sallie Elizabeth Brown. She graduated from Hemingway High School the year South Carolina public schools desegregated and later earned a bachelor's degree from Limestone University. Following her calling to work with young people, Mrs. Gadsden received an Education Certification from Coastal Carolina University and a Master of Education from Charleston Southern University. Additionally, she pursued a Master of Divinity from Cummins Theological Memorial Seminary in Summerville. Mrs. Gadsden re-

tired as Principal of Kingstree Magnet Middle School in the Williamsburg County School District after 36 years as an educator.

The Gadsdens were both raised in the Christian faith. Bishop Gadsden grew up in the Reformed Episcopal Church, and Mrs. Gadsden was baptized in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Throughout their adult lives, they followed Bishop Gadsden's service in the Reformed Episcopal Church's Diocese of the Southeast.

Bishop Gadsden began his ministry as Vicar and Rector of Liberty RE Church in Jamestown, South Carolina where he served for 17 years. During his tenure, spiritual advancement and membership increased significantly and the renovations improved the sanctuary and church building.

As a minister in the Diocese of the Southeast, Bishop Gadsden was elected to the Standing Committee of the Diocese, where he served for several years and was later elected to serve as President. As the President of the Standing Committee, he led the Diocese for more than a year after the death of the late Rt. Rev. James C. West and was subsequently elected and consecrated Bishop in the Reformed Episcopal Church on November 17, 2007.

Bishop Gadsden served the Diocese for more than 14 years. Under his leadership, the Diocese added eight Clergy members, reformed its means of financial support, refurbished all its properties, eliminated its debts, and added two additional parishes.

Bishop Gadsden served the National Reformed Episcopal Church in various capacities. As a Clergyman, he was elected to the General Council of the Church and served on the General Committee as a Bishop of the Church. He also served as the Vice Chairman of the General Council until his retirement. On the Ecumenical level, Bishop Gadsden was one of the original organizers and signatories of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) at its inception in 2009. Currently, he serves as Co-Chairman of the Provincial Council of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA).

When her husband served as pastor/rector, Mrs. Gadsden served as Sunday school teacher, a choir member, and was instrumental in physical improvements at Liberty RE Church. During Bishop Gadsden's tenure as Bishop, Mrs. Gadsden served on the diocesan level as treasurer of the Sunday School Convention, a member of the Missionary Society, chairperson of the Committee on Women's Work, and president of the Ministers' Wives and Widows Alliance. In the National Reformed Episcopal Church, she served on the Doctrine and Worship Committee and on the Committee on Women's Ministry.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in commending Bishop and Mrs. Alphonza and Hester Gadsden for their years of service to the Reformed Episcopal Church and to the community of Williamsburg County in South Carolina. They have fulfilled the biblical directive found in the Book of Micah, "to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."

HONORING RICHARD MAC NAMEE

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a member of our team who was instrumental in the safe evacuation of Afghan allies and partners alike, Mr. Richard Mac Namee.

Service is ingrained in Mr. Mac Namee's DNA—as a British Army officer, his service included the Household Division's Scots Guards as well as being an operator and commander in the United Kingdom's Special Forces. He's been deployed to numerous locations around the world, including extended operational tours of duty in Germany, Northern Ireland, and the Middle East during the Operation Desert Storm.

From 2009 to 2011, Mr. Mac Namee was recalled to military service during the U.S. surge in Afghanistan. While the details of his actions as part of a Special Operations Task Force remain classified, they were conducted in extremely hostile environments and were considered pivotal to the success of the campaign being conducted by U.S. and NATO forces. For his command of operations in the interests of national, security, including being seconded to the U.K.'s Security Service (MI5), he was awarded the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service.

After retiring from the military, Mr. Mac Namee was appointed as an associate professor at the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University. His expertise in counterterrorism, counterinsurgency, intelligence operations, covert operations, nuclear security and cybersecurity led him to teach graduate classes to aspiring national security professionals.

During our operation to evacuate vulnerable Afghans, Mr. Mac Namee's skills to coordinate the logistics of a caravan into the airport and to help run a second caravan of buses was instrumental to our success. When we were in the thick of it, we relied on his expertise and his determination, and only because of both were we able to prevent our Afghan allies—and the lives of so many others—from being lost.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Richard Mac Namee for his willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty in our effort to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul and support them in their new life. For his grit and determination to get the caravan of buses set up and going and for his relentless commitment to the mission until it was successfully completed, I submit these words—may they stand as a tribute to his dedicated service when the moment called for it most.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of 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 Thursday, December 9, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 14

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine stablecoins, focusing on how they work, how they are used, and their risks.

SD-538

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Donald Armin Blome, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Eric M. Garcetti, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of India, and Amy Gutmann, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations.

SD-106/VTC

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Robert McKinnon Califf, of North Carolina, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-G50

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Enoch T. Ebong, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Trade and Development Agency, Oren E. Whyche-Shaw, of Maryland, to be United States Director of the African Development Bank, and other pending nominations.

SD-G50/VTC

DECEMBER 15

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine disaster recovery assistance, focusing on authorization of the Community Development Block Grant—Disaster Recovery Program.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 46, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 and to establish the United States Coral Reef Task Force, S. 3196, to enhance the policies, procedures, and training for midshipmen at the United States Merchant Marine Academy, an original bill entitled, "Omnibus Tourism Act", and the nominations of Alan Davidson, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, Jed David Kolko, of California, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and Viqar Ahmad, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary, and to be Chief Financial Officer, all of the Department of Commerce, and Mary T. Boyle, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

SR-253

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Marc R. Stanley, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Argentine Republic, Rashad Hussain, of Virginia, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, Ramin Toloui, of Iowa, to be an Assistant Secretary (Economic and Business Affairs), Thomas Barrett, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Erik D. Ramanathan, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden, Scott Miller, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Liechtenstein, and Jamie L. Harpootlian, of South Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia, all of the Department of State, Adriana Debora Kugler, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and other pending calendar business.

SD-106

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD-226

11:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 3099, to amend title 44, United States Code, to establish the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program within the General Services Administration, S. 2932, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 South Knowles Avenue in New Richmond, Wisconsin, as the "Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Peirson Post Office Building", H.R. 767, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 40 Fulton Street in Middletown, New York, as the "Benjamin A. Gilman Post Office Building", H.R. 1170, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 League in Irvine, California, as the "Tuskegee Airman Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Friend Memorial Post Office Building", H.R. 1444, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 132 North Loudoun Street, Suite 1 in Winchester, Virginia, as the "Patsy Cline Post Office", H.R. 3210, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1905 15th Street in Boulder, Colorado, as the "Officer Eric H. Talley Post Office Building", and the nominations of Loren L. AliKhan, and John P. Howard III, both to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, and Adrienne Jennings Noti, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the U.S. airline industry.

SR-253

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine the impact of consolidation and monopoly power on American innovation.

SD-226