

Another problem these jihadists have, they are not your average, everyday criminals. They are radical jihadists on a mission to kill themselves and every American they can take with them. A few years in prison is not going to deter their mission. To the contrary, these who kill in the name of religion try to kill their prison guards. It's happened in the United States.

Louis Pepe was once a prison guard at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in New York. Ten months before the 9/11 terrorist attack, two al Qaeda inmates were held there. These are the ones who bombed the American Embassy in East Africa in 1998, killing over 200 people. A weak-kneed Federal judge gave these two al Qaeda terrorists permission to buy hot sauce in the penitentiary. So what they did is made it into mace to incapacitate the guard. They stabbed him in the eye with a knife they made by filing down a hair comb. They kicked and beat Pepe and smeared a cross on his chest in his own blood. He was left permanently blinded, partially paralyzed, and he lost most of his ability to speak. These terrorists were trying to get the keys to the cell block to take more hostages. Now, isn't that lovely?

Jihadists are at war with this Nation and, when captured, they should be treated like military criminals. But first and foremost, when radicals are on a threat list, don't let them on the airplane. Why is that so difficult to comprehend? Meanwhile, Madam Speaker, the band keeps playing while the ship of common sense is sinking in the ocean.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. DENNIS WEST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. We commemorate extraordinary people and events on the floor of this House. Madam Speaker, there's no more extraordinary person that I have known than Dr. Dennis West. To everybody he was just "Denny." No pretension, low-key, insightful.

Dennis West had a remarkable career. Over the last 40 years, the city of Portland has gained a reputation as a unique community: well-planned, thoughtfully governed, providing cutting-edge initiatives, and creating a model of livability. Our community has been characterized by citizen involvement and getting the most out of

scarce resources. There have been many heroes, elected officials, civic leaders, and philanthropists who've helped create this unique and renowned city. No one has done more as a public servant than Dennis West.

He started his public service as an intern in the office of one of my predecessors, Congresswoman Edith Green. I first met Denny 40 years ago when he was a professor at Portland State University's School of Urban Studies, which he helped found and guide. Over the course of these four decades, Portland State, now Oregon's largest university, has emerged as one of the centers of urban scholarship and practical application, a laboratory of livability, a Mecca for planning and sustainability, and a critical driver of vitality for Portland.

Denny then played a critical role as chief of staff to Lloyd Anderson, Portland's Commissioner of Public Works, in an era where the city of Portland was taking bold action with the development of its downtown plan, its transit system, and the creation of a 38-acre waterfront park instead of a riverfront freeway. Denny helped play a role for his engineer boss, developing the vision and becoming an effective and respected political leader.

Then Denny was recruited by Multnomah County's new chairman, Don Clark, to establish the financial and budgetary systems to help modify personnel procedures and give coherence to what had been an old-style, typical county operation. During this time the county did not just modernize its administration and finance. It was involved in innovative justice, health, environmental, and transportation initiatives. Dennis West was the intellectual force helping guide and implement that vision.

Then Denny was a deputy director of the Port of Portland, a quiet agency with a powerful reach to deal with critical freight and transportation movements, the airport, the docks, and economic development. Again, he played a critical role in the development of the port capacity and the professionalism of its staff as a key element in the evolution of our metropolitan area.

The Oregon Health Science University has played a critical role in the last 25 years in research breakthroughs, medical innovation, economic development, and the delivery of high-quality health care. Denny West was a key administrator for research and economic development, helping create the academic, economic, and health care powerhouse that is one of our State's most important institutions and our city's largest employer.

Denny concluded his career serving 10 years as the director of the Portland Housing Authority, one of the Nation's premier public housing agencies, dealing with the problems of homelessness, special needs, low-income housing, and community revitalization. Under his leadership, Portland won national recognition awards for its innovation,

cost-effective delivery, and perhaps the capstone of his career was the acclaimed Columbia Village, a spectacularly successful HOPE VI housing project making a deteriorated World War II-vintage housing project into a point of pride.

Denny West was an extraordinarily gifted administrator. In agency after agency so important to our community, he played a critical role, often as the go-to guy, the person who perhaps didn't have the title but made things work. With the Housing Authority of Portland, he was also the guy in charge, and the results are a testament to his extraordinary vision, administrative skill, sensitivity, and compassion.

Over these last 40 years the half-dozen agencies provided the infrastructure, the drive, the national recognition, all of which blended to make Portland a unique community. While Dennis West's name might not be well known, his fingerprints were on the critical developments in all of these organizations. Denny's career and achievements were made while being an extraordinary human being, a friend, and determined civic advocate. Even though his later years were marked by debilitating illness, he never lost his spark and drive. He willed himself to do things that younger, healthier people could not even imagine.

All sympathy goes out to Denny's wife, Sue, his life partner, who played such an extraordinary role, especially in his difficult later years, and to his circle of friends who provided unbelievable support, who revere his contributions and his memory. We all join in celebrating the life of this extraordinary man, Denny West.

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#### ISRAELI PEACE TALKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, a year ago Israel was engaged in defensive operations to protect its citizens from terrorist attacks. In doing so, Israel was exercising the most basic right and responsibility of a state, to protect one's citizens. Troubling, many in the international community condemned Israel's actions. Many more refused to recognize Israel's right to self-defense.

As we begin this new year, I'm here to speak up for the right of sovereign nations to defend their people. Israel has a right to defend itself. The U.S., as a strong ally of Israel, must be vigilant in supporting this most basic right.

I just read a story in The Jerusalem Post about life in Israel a year after Operation Cast Lead. Before the war, Israelis were enduring relentless rocket and mortar attacks in Gaza. Terrorists launched more than 12,000 rockets