

independent spirit about freedom, remembering our ancestors who gave their lives and gave their property so that we could have freedom and independence, and Texas could be an independent country even for 9 years.

That is why historically I think that we appreciate those people who want independence. We appreciate people who want liberty. Right now, it is those folks in Ukraine trying to keep out some dictator—I call him a dictator—President Putin of Russia.

So, Mr. Speaker, we celebrate today and honor today, March 6, because it is one of those three important days: March 2, Texas' independence; March 6, 1836, the Alamo failed, we remember those people; and then April 21, 1836, is when Texas actually got independent and started its quest into being an independent entity.

In closing, I would like to read the lyrics of a song that Marty Robbins wrote a long time ago. Mr. Speaker, you are old enough to maybe even have heard of this song, but Marty Robbins wrote it in honor of the people at the Alamo. It goes like this. It says:

In the southern part of Texas in the town of San Antone,

There's a fortress all in ruin and the weeds have overgrown.

You may look in vain for crosses and you'll never see a one,

But sometime between the setting and the rising of the sun,

You can hear a ghostly bugle as men go marching by;

You can hear them as they answer to that roll call in the sky:

Colonel Travis, Davy Crockett, and 180 more; Captain Dickinson, Jim Bowie, stand present and accounted for.

Back in 1836, Sam Houston said to Travis: "Get some volunteers and go fortify the Alamo."

Well, the men came from Texas and from old Tennessee and a lot of other places.

They joined up with Travis just to fight for the right to be free.

Indian scouts with squirrel guns, men with muzzle loaders,

Stood together heel and toe to defend the Alamo.

"You may never see your loved ones," Travis told them that day.

"Those who want to can leave now, those who fight to the death, let 'em stay."

So in the sand he drew a line with his army sabre,

Out of 185, not a soldier crossed the line. With his banners a-dancin' in the dawn's golden light,

Santa Anna came prancin' on a horse that was black as the night.

He sent an officer to tell Travis to surrender. Travis answered with a shell and a rousin' yell.

Santa Anna turned scarlet: play Deguello, he roared.

"I will show them no quarter, every one will be put to our sword."

185 holding back 5,000.

Five days, 6 days, 8 days, 10; Travis kept holding again and again.

Then Travis sent for replacements for his wounded and lame,

But the troops that were comin', never came, never came, never came.

So twice Santa Anna charged and then blew recall.

But on that fatal third time, Santa Anna breached the wall and he killed them one and all.

Now the bugles are silent and there is rust on each sword,

And the small band of soldiers lie asleep in the arms of the Lord.

In the southern part of Texas, near the town of San Antone,

Like a statue on his pinto rides a cowboy all alone.

He sees the cattle grazin' where a century before,

Santa Anna's guns were blazin' and the cannons used to roar.

His eyes turn a little misty, and his heart begins to glow,

And he takes his hat off slowly to those men of the Alamo,

To the 13 days of glory at the siege of Alamo.

And, Mr. Speaker, that's just the way it is.

I yield back.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official business in the district.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, March 10, 2014, at 2 p.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

4907. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Enhancement of Contractor Employee Whistleblower Protections (DFARS Case 2013-D010) (RIN: 0750-AH97) received February 25, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4908. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Acquisitions in Support of Operations in Afghanistan (DFARS Case 2013-D009) (RIN: 0750-AH98) received February 25, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4909. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Disclosure to Litigation Support Contractors (DFARS Case 2012-D029) (RIN: 0750-AH54) received February 25, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4910. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Mexico pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

4911. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a

report on transactions involving U.S. exports to TAAG Angola Airlines of Luanda, Angola; to the Committee on Financial Services.

4912. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the FY 2012 report on activities to preserve and promote minority ownership of insured financial institutions; to the Committee on Financial Services.

4913. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Alkyl Alcohol Alkoxyate Phosphate and Sulfate Derivatives; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0862; FRL-9906-24] received February 20, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4914. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Oklahoma; Regional Haze and Interstate Transport Affecting Visibility State Implementations Plan Revisions; Withdrawal of Federal Implementation Plan for American Electric Power/Public Service Company of Oklahoma [EPA-R06-OAR-2013-0227; FRL-9906-81-OAR] received February 20, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4915. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Oklahoma; Regional Haze and Interstate Transport Affecting Visibility; State Implementation Plan Revisions; Revised BART Determination for American Electric Power/Public Service Company of Oklahoma Northeastern Power Station Units 3 and 4 [EPA-R06-OAR-2013-0227; FRL-9906-93-Region 6] received February 20, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4916. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Prevention of Significant Deterioration and Nonattainment New Source Review; Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) [EPA-R03-OAR-2011-0927; FRL-9906-67-Region 3] received February 20, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4917. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — GS-omega/kappa-Hxtx-Hv1a; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0389; FRL-9904-92] received February 20, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4918. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — N-(n-octyl)-2-pyrrolidone; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0093; FRL-9906-17] received February 20, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4919. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Saflufenacil; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0775 and EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0008; FRL-9905-87] received February 20, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.