

#BRINGBACKOURBOYS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention an incident that happened last week in Israel, a situation being referred to internationally as “#BringBackOurBoys.” On June 12, three teenage Israeli students, Gil-Ad Shaer, Eyal Yifrah and Naftali Fraenkel, disappeared from a hitchhiking point a little south of Jerusalem, Israel. While no group has come forward to take responsibility for this action, the Israeli government has pointed fingers at Hamas. As you know, Mr. Speaker, Hamas, a radical Islamist party, first came to power following the Palestinian legislative elections in 2006, defeating the former ruling party, Fatah. The Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) has arrested over 200 suspects, most of them Hamas members, over the past week. In addition to these arrests, they have expanded their search in hopes to retrieve these abducted boys.

People all over the world have gathered together, to express their concerns for these boys and their families. Many rallies have taken place outside of various World Cup arenas in hopes of bringing media attention to this important issue. A mass rally has been planned for next Tuesday, June 24th, outside of the Israeli Consulate in New York.

This past week, on Wednesday June 18, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, and The Israel Forever Foundation co-sponsored a vigil outside the Israeli Embassy in Washington D.C. Over 250 members of the community gathered to chant and listen to speakers of many different faiths reiterating the need for these boys to be returned to their families safely. Rabbi Adam Raskin of Congregation Har Shalom in Potomac, Maryland said “They are our kids. This is a kidnapping from our family,” asking “Can you imagine the anguish and the pain of their parents?” This is an issue that we must continue to put pressure on, in order to return these boys to their families.

As another Sabbath passes, my thoughts and prayers are with the families of these young men. We remain hopeful for the immediate safe return of these students. Mr. Speaker, everyone in this country, regardless of their individual faith, needs to be mindful of the words Presbyterian Minister Roy Howard of St. Marks Church in North Bethesda, Maryland spoke at this week’s rally at the Israeli Embassy here in Washington: “We are united with Israel, the Jewish people; they are not my boys, but I stand in solidarity with you.”

HONORING THOMAS AND
CHRISTINA MORZELLO**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of the 50th wedding anniversary of Thomas and

Christina Morzello of Valhalla, New York, who were married on June 28, 1964. Tom and Dina were married at St. Anthony’s Church in West Harrison, NY. Tom graduated from White Plains High School in 1959 and was drafted into the Army where he spent two years as motor pool driver. Following his honorable discharge, he began a 35 year career as an electrician. After her graduation from White Plains High School in 1963, Dina attended Berkley Secretarial School and gained employment as a Secretary for General Foods. After having four children, she began a 25 year career as a teacher for the White Plains School District. Tom enjoys riding his motorcycle and is an active member of the Westchester Harley Owner Group (HOG). Dina enjoys gardening, scrapbooking and spending time with her grandchildren.

Tom and Dina must be commended for their loyalty and dedication to their family. Tom and Dina have proven, by their example, to be a model for all married couples.

I proudly ask you to join me, along with Tom and Dina’s four sons and their wives, six grandchildren, and many friends and family, in congratulating them on this significant occasion and wishing them many more years of happiness together.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4870) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Chair, I rise today to highlight an important provision that was included in H.R. 4870, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2015, which could help my constituent, Debbie Zelman, along with thousands of others like her with stomach cancer.

Five years ago, Debbie was diagnosed with Stage IV stomach cancer. While the doctor gave her only a 50/50 chance to live after one year, Debbie is still with us, fighting one of the deadliest forms of cancer.

Debbie is not alone in her battle. Every year, 21,000 Americans are diagnosed with stomach cancer, and it is the second leading cause of cancer deaths for women in this country.

To help Debbie and others affected by this horrible cancer, I, along with 57 of my colleagues, requested from the Appropriations Committee that stomach cancer research become eligible for funding through the Defense Department’s Peer Reviewed Research Program (PRCRP) for 2015.

The PRCRP funds research into eleven cancer types, including blood cancer, colorectal cancer, and pancreatic cancer. Adding stomach cancer to the list of eligible diseases could make an enormous difference in

understanding this under-researched cancer, including its array of risk factors and causes.

I’m proud that the House Defense Appropriations bill includes report language to allow stomach cancer research to be funded through this Research Program. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that the Senate passes this important language as well.

By taking this step, we will be able to better understand this deadly disease, and, hopefully, get closer to finding a much-needed cure.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF JOHN DANIEL RUFFIER**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize John Daniel Ruffier.

John was born May 21, 1971 in Orlando, Florida to Eugene Daniel Ruffier and Joan Dial Ruffier. He is their third child, along with William Eugene (“Bill”) and Margaret Grace. John is a product of Orange County public schools, having attended Lake Silver Elementary, Lee Junior High, and Edgewater High School before going on to Vanderbilt University, where he graduated with a Bachelor of the Arts Degree in English and History in 1992. Ruffier then attended the University of Florida’s Fredric G. Levin College of Law. Upon graduation in 1996, John joined Orlando’s largest and most prestigious law firm, Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, P.A., where he remains a shareholder specializing in commercial real estate, with a focus on assisting clients with the acquisition, financing, and sale of senior housing communities and medical office buildings. John also works with governmental and non-profit institutions in forming partnerships for large-scale redevelopment projects. John has earned the highest rating of “AV” from Martindale-Hubbell for his legal skills.

John has an extensive record of public service with community service organizations in Central Florida and has served on the board of directors for many groups, such as the Hope and Help Center of Central Florida, the Orlando Shakespeare Theater, and the Central Florida Coalition for the Homeless. He also served on the City of Orlando Public Art Advisory Board for many years. In 2007, John was appointed by then-governor Charlie Crist to the Florida Real Estate Commission, where he served until 2011. John, along with Jennifer Foster, founded the Central Florida steering committee for the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and, after having served on HRC’s national board of governors for many years, joined the board of directors for HRC’s non-profit foundation in 2011.

I am happy to honor John Daniel Ruffier, during LGBT Pride Month, for his professional and civic contributions to the Central Florida community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday June 17, 2014 I was not present for 2 votes. I wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been present to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 313, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 314, I would have voted "yea."

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4870) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this bill.

Let me begin by acknowledging the enormous work that went into bringing a bill of this scope to the floor. It contains a number of provisions I support, including a 1.8% pay increase for our troops and other measures designed to improve the lives of our servicemembers and their families. I am particularly grateful for the committee's inclusion of nearly \$40 million above the President's request for suicide prevention and outreach activities, and twice what I and 100 of my House colleagues had requested earlier this year. I am also grateful for the committee's acceptance of an amendment I offered that mandates a study on the potential relationship between financial stress and suicide among members of the military. In March 2014, we suffered no combat deaths but lost 700 servicemembers and veterans to suicide. We have to end this epidemic, and I hope these additional investments and this study will help bring about that outcome.

Moreover, this bill now contains important reforms to our nation's surveillance practices. Three amendments that I either offered or cosponsored were attached to this bill, and they are worth discussing in some detail.

My first amendment would set aside \$2 million to expand the Intelligence Community Whistleblowing and Source Protection Directorate, which provides employees of the National Security Agency (NSA), the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and other intelligence agencies with a safe, legal, and secure way to report abusive or unlawful practices. The amendment passed unanimously.

Currently, this office is literally a one-man operation. Given the fact that there are tens of thousands of federal employees and contractors who work for Intelligence Community elements, it is simply not realistic to expect one person to be able effectively to receive and investigate large numbers of valid complaints from conscientious internal whistleblowers

through, no matter how talented. Because of the secrecy of the intelligence community, oversight is impossible without the participation of employees inside the system who know about activities of the agencies. This amendment will help ensure that all employees and contractors in the IC know where and how they should lawfully report potential incidents of waste, fraud, abuse, criminal conduct or whistleblower retaliation.

The second amendment, offered with Rep. ALAN GRAYSON (FL-09), would prohibit funds from being used to subvert or interfere with the integrity of a cryptographic standard proposed, developed, or adopted by National Institute of Standards and Technology. Last year, published reports indicated that NSA had slipped language into an encryption standard published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology that created a "back door" that NSA—as well as foreign intelligence services or malicious hackers—could exploit. The Holt/Grayson amendment would prohibit that practice and passed unanimously. The last thing the NSA should be doing is weakening encryption standards. This amendment is one of many steps we need to take to prohibit such conduct in the future.

The third amendment, offered by me and Reps. JIM SENSENBRENNER, Jr. (WI-05), ZOE LOFGREN (CA-19), THOMAS MASSIE (KY-04), JOHN CONYERS, Jr. (MI-13), TED POE (TX-02), TULSI GABBARD (HI-02), JIM JORDAN (OH-04), BETO O'ROURKE (TX-16), JUSTIN AMASH (MI-03), JERROLD NADLER (NY-10), TOM PETRI (WI-6), SUZAN DELBENE (WA-01), BLAKE FARENTHOLD (TX-27), G. K. BUTTERFIELD (NC-01), and MARK SANFORD (SC-01) would end two abusive surveillance practices revealed in recent months.

First, the amendment would prohibit any warrantless search of the so-called "702 databases"—the massive government databases, created by the NSA and first disclosed by Edward Snowden, that contain records of the emails and phone calls of millions of innocent U.S. citizens.

One of the predictions I and others made in 2008 when Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Amendments Act became law was that NSA would misuse the law for the "reverse targeting" of Americans' communications while collecting against foreigners. As we now know, that is exactly what happened, and those communications—billions of phone calls, emails, text messages and the like—sit on National Security Agency servers, available for search without a warrant. This amendment would bar the NSA from using any funds in this act to conduct any warrantless search of stored communications of Americans collected under Sec. 702 of FISA, thus protecting the privacy and Constitutional rights of all Americans.

Second, the amendment would prohibit the NSA and Central Intelligence Agency CIA from installing "backdoors"—such as malicious software or hardware—into commercially produced products. This provision was originally contained in my Surveillance State Repeal Act, H.R. 2818. Despite efforts by the House leadership to derail the amendment, it passed by a large bipartisan majority of 293–123.

This amendment makes a loud and clear point: It's time to stop treating Americans as suspects first and citizens second.

Unfortunately, despite the many good and important things contained in H.R. 4870, this

bill continues to make the wrong choices for the wrong reasons. The overall spending would be almost \$600 billion, a level that is impossible to justify in terms of the threats to the U.S. or in terms of spending by other countries, including potential adversaries. This bill would spend another \$10 billion on a failed missile defense system that has not been, and will not be, ever be viable. The so-called "overseas contingency operations" fund—the money that fuels the war in Afghanistan and our combat activities elsewhere in the world—is set at nearly \$80 billion dollars, and a large slice of that money will be used to continue an American military presence into 2015 and possibly beyond. It includes hundreds of millions of dollars for research on a new nuclear bomber design. And taking the prize for defense-related corporate welfare is the beleaguered F-35 program. Congressional Quarterly reports that the full cost of the program may exceed \$1.5 trillion dollars over its lifetime. That is more than we will spend on the entire federal government in the coming year. There are vastly cheaper alternatives that would still provide the United States with a first-rate modern fighter-bomber. Instead, this bill throws still more good money after bad.

I am not comfortable with vast sums of money this bill will waste on weapons we don't need and wars we should not be fighting. But I am also not comfortable allowing the National Security Agency to continue collecting and exploiting the communications of tens of millions of innocent Americans. Accordingly, it is with mixed feelings I oppose passage of this bill and I urge my colleagues to do likewise.

IN HONOR OF DR. GLORIA D.
JONES**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding and truly one of a kind woman, Dr. Gloria D. Jones. Sadly, Dr. Jones passed away on Saturday, June 14, 2014. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, June 21, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. at Disciples of Jesus Ministries in Thomasville, Georgia.

Dr. Gloria D. Jones was born on February 27, 1954 in Columbus, Ohio. As the second of three daughters, Dr. Jones was constantly striving to forge her own identity in her youth. Growing up at the height of the Civil Rights Movement, she was greatly influenced to fight for what was right. Her experiences during this time led her to question authority, and to measure her success only by her own grade. As she watched her father struggle to recover from alcoholism throughout his life, she developed a passion for helping others overcome addictive behavior. Dr. Jones considered this a meaningful experience that influenced her practice as a leading therapist in her field of substance abuse counseling.

Gloria's steadfast determination held true throughout her academic career. She was able to graduate high school in only three years, and attended a local college to pursue a degree in Physical Education. She went on to earn numerous other degrees, including a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Columbia