

votes. As the civil rights movement picked up, Boynton asked Martin Luther King Jr., who had witnessed her arrest in January 1965 for seeking to register Black voters, to visit Selma and empower the community. King accepted, and joined Boynton Robinson and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in planning the march from Selma to Montgomery on March 17th, 1965.

As approximately 600 marchers walked across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, they were confronted by 200 state troopers and Alabama policemen, who shot teargas and beat the non-violent protesters. This horrific event came to be known as Bloody Sunday.

At least 17 protesters were sent to the hospital, including Boynton Robinson. A picture of her unconscious body lying on the ground after an officer shot tear gas into her throat spread through every news media outlet across the globe, and quickly became a symbol for race relations in the United States at the time.

The Selma to Montgomery march was a pivotal demonstration in the civil rights movement, leading to future victories such as the Voting Rights Acts of 1965 signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Amelia Boynton Robinson was an incredible activist, leader, and woman, and is remembered for her courage and strength throughout the civil rights movement. She worked for equality for all until her last day on this earth.

[From the Two-Way, Aug. 26, 2015]

(By Bill Chappell)

AMELIA BOYNTON ROBINSON, SURVIVOR OF
'BLOODY SUNDAY,' DIES AT 104

Amelia Boynton Robinson, who went from being beaten on a bridge in Selma, Ala., in 1965 to being pushed across the bridge in a wheelchair alongside the president of the United States, has died at age 104.

Her daughter, Germaine Bowser, confirmed to Troy Public Radio's Kyle Gassiot that Boynton Robinson died early Wednesday morning. She had been hospitalized after suffering several strokes this summer.

Born in Savannah, Ga., Boynton Robinson was a pioneer in the voting rights movement who took part in the event that came to be known as "Bloody Sunday," when she and other activists were attacked by state troopers as they tried to march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

Along with Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., Boynton Robinson held hands with President Obama as the men walked across the bridge this past March, marking the 50th anniversary of the march in Selma.

The Montgomery Advertiser reports:

"Boynton Robinson asked Martin Luther King Jr. to come to Selma to mobilize the local community in the civil rights movement. She worked with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and helped plan the Selma to Montgomery march. Her role in the event was recaptured in the movie "Selma," where she was portrayed by actress Lorraine Toussaint. She was invited as a guest of honor to attend the signing of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 by President Lyndon B. Johnson."

Boynton Robinson also "made history in 1964 as the first African-American to run for Congress in Alabama." Alabama Public Radio reported earlier this year, when the civil rights legend attended Obama's 2015 State of the Union address in Washington, DC. She was the guest of Rep. Terri Sewell, Alabama's first elected African-American congresswoman.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 leg-

islative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order. What a grand opportunity to cite these great Americans: Amelia Boynton Robinson, Congressman Lou Stokes, and Julian Bond.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

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

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Amelia Boynton Robinson was an American hero who devoted her entire life to the fight for equal rights for all. She was a child suffragette, who alongside her mother, advocated for the women's vote and then as a young woman fought for the right of blacks to have their say at the ballot box. After bold run to represent Alabama in Congress, Mrs. Robinson helped organize the Bloody Sunday March from Selma to Montgomery. She was hospitalized after being knocked unconscious by a white officer on that perilous day, which left her undaunted and even more determined to fight for the African-American vote. It was my honor to nominate her for a Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Phoenix Award earlier this year, but sadly, she died before I could present it to her. Thankfully, however, Mrs. Robinson was able to share enough stories about her courageous experiences to fill a history book and resonate for generations to come.

CHRISTIANS UNDER ATTACK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I come before this honorable House with an issue that has been rather heart-breaking for so many of us for so long now:

In The Middle East, the cradle of Christianity, where it started 2,000 years ago based on the Judeo principles from thousands of years before that, there has been a massive onslaught. Against Jews, it has been going on for some time; but especially in the last several years, it has become untenable for Christians.

In an article by Debra Heine, September 20, my sister's birthday, she wrote about "2,000 Years of Christian Civilization Destroyed on Obama's Watch."

It says this in the article: "The Islamic State has managed to destroy two thousand years of Christian civilizations in the Middle East in just a couple of years, Lt. Col. Ralph Peters noted on 'The O'Reilly Factor' last week. And he placed the blame squarely on President Obama's . . . policy.

"ISIS has been spreading across the Middle East like a plague of locusts, and as they have spread, they have targeted religious minorities, particularly Christians, for destruction. In Syria, tens of thousands of Assyrian Christians have been attacked and displaced.

"They are forgotten refugees."

Mr. Speaker, I have met with Christians and Christian leaders from Syria, and the stories they tell and the horrors they talk about, the inhumanity to man that is being inflicted upon Christians in that area is just untenable. It is unconscionable. Women—talk about a war on women. If they are Christian women, it is absolutely horrendous.

I ran into the same problem in meeting with family members in Nigeria of girls that were kidnapped by radical Islamists, Boko Haram. That was in Nigeria.

I would be interested to talk to the President of Togo tomorrow. I have been to his country before. I have seen the poverty, and I have seen the affliction.

But in the Middle East, Christians are not even allowed to be in the area where the Apostle Paul walked. The Apostle Paul planted churches where Christian missionaries were, along the times right after Jesus resurrected. Right in the early days of the church, churches were planted. And now, while the United States is said to be the sole superpower, Christians are being persecuted in greater numbers around the world than ever in history.

If there is a God who loves Christians, loves all people but has an affinity for Jews and Christians, then there would have to be a price for any nation that allows this to go on.

This article goes on: A Catholic priest who visited Kurdish Iraq last fall described the wounded souls of the Christians who had taken refuge there. They had been forced from their homes in northern Iraq in the summer of 2014.

"Without question, we are talking about genocide here. Genocide is not only when the people are killed, but also when the soul of a people is destroyed. And that is what is happening in Iraq now," said Fr. Andrzej Halemba, head of Aid to the Church in Need's Middle East section, said October 28. "It is the most tragic thing that I have ever experienced."

This is from the priest. The priest goes on: "I have seen people who have been deeply wounded in their soul. In the various crises in this world, I have often seen people who have lost everything. But in Iraq, there are Christians who have had to leave everything and take flight three or four times. They can see no light at the end of the tunnel."

"Last spring, hundreds of Assyrian Christians fled to Lebanon after ISIS jihadists stormed their villages in Syria's northeastern province of Hasakeh.

"Members of Lebanon's Assyrian community did their best to welcome the new refugees, but the displacement had left them traumatized.

"The villages of Khabor are empty now, there is no one left except some fighters," lamented Chorbishop Yatron Kolianna, as he oversaw the distribution at his diocese."

Mr. Speaker, this is tragic. Christian villages 2,000 years old, destroyed. Nothing left but some people trying to fight for just the ground that they are fighting on that once was their home.

“Our people have experienced a great tragedy in Syria” . . . “They are depressed. Some of them have chronic illnesses. Their lives are difficult.”

“How can we be comfortable living on aid?” asked 50-year-old Simaan, who fled his village Tal Hormuz.

“He railed against what he called international indifference to the plight of Assyrians under attack by ISIS in Syria and neighboring Iraq.

“The whole world, from the U.N. to the United States and Russia, is responsible” . . . “They”—talking about ISIS—“have destroyed our whole civilization . . . and the world is watching.”

□ 2030

We hear so many sad stories. Christians are being persecuted on our watch, and we are not talking enough about it. The President certainly isn't. He tells us that we need to take tens or hundreds of thousands of more Muslim refugees. What about the Christians and the massive extermination of churches in the Middle East under this administration? We get it. The Constitution gives the President wide authority and wide latitude on foreign policy. Congress has some say because we can appropriate or defund what the President is doing—if we have leadership with courage to do that.

This article goes on: “In July, 4,000 more Assyrian Christian families were among the 120,000 people who fled Hasakah to escape ISIS forces who had entered the city looking to carry out a mass ethno-religious slaughter.

“Fleeing Muslim persecution, Christian refugees are often targeted and persecuted anew by fleeing Muslim refugees.”

The International Business Times reported: “Italian police have arrested 15 Muslim immigrants in Palermo, for allegedly having thrown Christian refugees off the rubber boat that was taking them to Italy after a fight for ‘religious reasons,’ according to media reports.

“Those arrested—from Mali, Guinea and Ivory Coast—were part of a group of 100 that were rescued off the Libyan coast by the Italian coast guard.

“The Archbishop of Canterbury, recently warned British Prime Minister David Cameron that his government's refugee policy was discriminating against Christians because Christians are not among the refugees being helped in U.N. camps. They are not in the U.N. camps because they fear persecution from radicalized Muslim refugees.

“The Most Reverend Justin Welby reportedly met the Prime Minister earlier this month with concerns that Christians in Syria will be largely excluded from the 20,000 refugees due to come to the U.K. over the next 5 years.

“The government, in line with European Union policy, is committed to taking in refugees from U.N. camps in

Syria and neighboring countries. It cannot discriminate in favor of any one religious group. But the Archbishop has raised concerns that Christians have avoided refugee camps because of fears of persecution from rogue Islamist groups operating inside refugee camps.

“In a speech in the House of Lords last Monday, Archbishop Welby said that, ‘within the camps there is significant intimidation and radicalization, and many particularly of the Christian population who have been forced to flee are unable to be in the camps.’

“He went on: ‘What is the government's policy of reaching out to those who are not actually in the camps?’”

Lord Carey, who wrote in the Telegraph about his concern of the plight of Christians, wrote:

“The frustration for those of us who have been calling for compassion for Syrian victims for many months is that the Christian community is yet again left at the bottom of the heap.”

“Mr. Cameron's policy inadvertently discriminates against the very Christian communities most victimized by the inhuman butchers of the so-called Islamic State.”

“Christians are not to be found in the U.N. camps, because they have been attacked and targeted by Islamists and driven from them. They are seeking refuge in private homes, church buildings, and with neighbors and family.”

“Refugees who want to come to the United States will also be required to apply through the U.N.

“A combination of European cowardice and awful American foreign policy has led to a mass Muslim migration that will affect the whole world.”

“Lt. Col. Ralph Peters disagreed somewhat with that assessment.”

He said, “I think you were much, much too soft on President Obama and a bit too hard on the E.U.” . . . “If America doesn't lead, it doesn't happen.”

He went on to say: “Just look at a map of the Middle East . . . on George W. Bush's last day in office. There is broad peace across the Middle East and North Africa, Iraq was finally convalescing, and . . . Obama promptly, to please his America-hating base, abandons Iraq, backs the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, gets rid of Qaddafi without a plan for what goes after, threatens Assad . . . then does nothing, doesn't listen to the intelligence community when for years they are telling him about the Islamic State coming—then tries to blame the intelligence community, and launches feckless airstrikes. The combination of his fecklessness and cowardice, his rhetorical bravado and utter incompetence are responsible.”

He goes on: “No. Listen to this. Two thousand years of Christian civilization destroyed on his watch . . . That's on Obama. When America doesn't lead, nothing happens.”

Well, it is not just on President Obama. I am sure he is mainly responsible for our foreign policy, but we need to stand up to the President. When Iran

is out there saying, as they have in the last couple of weeks, that with the \$100 billion, \$150 billion that President Obama is going to see to Iran getting quickly, and the hundreds of billions of dollars that will flow in subsequent years, they were already announcing they are going to increase their support for Hamas and Hezbollah as they kill Americans, continue to kill Christians, and continue to kill moderate Muslims who are not radicalized, at what point is Congress responsible for not standing up to the President?

Mr. Speaker, I would submit that one very important point has come, and right now it is up to the United States Senate to have a backbone on behalf of the millions that stand to be persecuted and killed by the money that they are going to allow to go to Iran by failing to do what they could to stop this world atrocity.

There is no question in reasonable, intelligent minds that the Iran deal is a treaty. It is a treaty as anticipated by the Founders. It is a treaty as referred to in the Constitution, article II, section 2, second paragraph, and it requires a vote of two-thirds of the Senate present to go along with it in order for it to be effective.

Yes, the Corker bill tried to amend the Constitution. Legislation can't amend the Constitution. Once it is clear—as it is—that the Iran deal is a treaty, then we need desperately to have people in the Senate stand up—some of them have—make clear this is a treaty; it requires two-thirds in order to approve it or it is not ratified, it is not effective, and the President is not allowed to release the 100-plus billion, \$150 billion to Iran that will be used for atrocities, especially toward America, toward Christians, toward moderate nonradicalized Muslims, toward Jews, and toward Israel. There is a real responsibility here. It may take courage—I am sure it will—for the Senate to stand up and the Senate majority leader to stand up and say: Sorry, Mr. President, the Iran deal is a treaty. We have listed in our letter to the majority leader in the Senate some of the bases, it is spelled out in our resolution that we filed and talked about here on the floor, it is clearly a treaty.

The end of John Quincy Adams' oral argument that capped a couple of days of oral argument in the case can be found online. He was afraid that if he did not do an adequate job as a lawyer, those Africans that he was representing that had been captured by other Africans and sold into slavery, sent to the Caribbean, and then put on the Spanish ship the Amistad, they were able to overtake and overpower the Spanish and take charge of the ship. They landed in America. The lawsuit was over whether or not they were free Africans or whether they were property of the Spanish.

I can understand the fear that John Quincy Adams must have had as he stood downstairs in the Old Supreme Court Chamber. One of the Justices had died one night during oral argument, not while he was actually arguing. That final day he knew if he didn't do an adequate job, his clients would wear chains and their children would wear chains all because he didn't do an adequate job as their lawyer.

So he finished his oral argument by calling the names of Justices of the Supreme Court who had been on the Supreme Court but had passed away. Chief Justice, Justices, he knew them. He called their names: The Justice that started this case, where is he? Where are all these Justices? Where is the Solicitor General that argued before me?

This is around 1821. This is in the late 1830s. He is now arguing in the Supreme Court in their Chamber downstairs.

After going through all the Supreme Court Justices that had passed away, he finishes basically by saying they have gone to meet their Judge, and the biggest question is when they met their Maker, their Judge, did they hear the words: "Well done, good and faithful servant?"

It is very clear, send a message to the Supreme Court. Think about it, Justices. If you died tonight like the other Judge just died in the last couple of nights and you go to meet your Maker, do you want the last thing you did to be having sent wonderful African people out in chains that they would wear and their children would wear—possibly their children and their children—all because you didn't do the right thing as a judge? He won the case, as well he should.

I can't help but wonder if John Quincy Adams were here today arguing on behalf of Christian communities all over the Middle East that have been destroyed, refugees that have been sent running, Jews that can no longer populate the area because of threats and violence upon them, and he saw that the United States that he had been President of and was in the House of Representatives after having been President, if he would not be mortified, if he would not challenge us today: Do we want to meet our Maker, our Judge, and we saw and heard about the plight of Christians, Jews, and moderate Muslims around the Middle East and North Africa just being slaughtered, women being raped and torn apart, brutalized in unthinkable ways, and we turned a blind eye to that and said that we are going to bring in massive numbers of refugees who are Muslim, 72 percent of which are male, and we have been told by radicals that they are going to make sure that there are people that want to kill and destroy more Christians, more Jews, more of America, and we are going to bring them in without proper vetting—because you can't vet them properly—all while Christians, Jews, and moderate Muslims are being slaughtered and overrun all through

the Middle East as we are credited with being the superpower in the world?

□ 2045

Yet, also, these last few days, the U.N.—where we pay far more than anybody even comes close to in order to keep it going as they continue to become more and more anti-Semitic, anti-Israeli, and anti-American—they entertain the largest supporter of terrorism in the world, the leader of Iran. And he says this in part, the leader of Iran, the President Rouhani:

If we did not have U.S. military invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq and the United States' unwarranted support for the inhumane actions of the Zionist regime against the oppressed nation of Palestine, today the terrorists would not have an excuse for the justification of their crimes.

I am taking this from an article by Julian Hattem, 9-28-15, which is interesting. We have heard that throughout the United States, if we just hadn't gone into Iraq, if we hadn't gone into Afghanistan, if we hadn't gone into Afghanistan with the 300 Americans that we embedded—about 300—we embedded and let the Afghans destroy the Taliban by February of 2002, then we became an overwhelming occupying force in Afghanistan—but at least by February of 2002, if we hadn't gone in and helped them, the Taliban would still be completely controlling Afghanistan. That is the way it is.

Now, we went astray when we became occupiers, and this President has only tripled the number of deaths in Afghanistan, even though the war is supposedly over. Over tripled the number of American deaths, even though the real war was during President Bush, because of this President's rules of engagement and disastrous foreign policy.

But think about it. This is the head, the President of Iran. He is telling the UN and the world that, if it weren't for the United States' invasion in Afghanistan and in Iraq, there wouldn't be any American terrorists.

Mr. Speaker, why in the world should the U.N. listen to a man that is this big a liar or is this stupid? Because you don't have to be all that bright to understand September 11 of 2001 happened before we sent 300 or so into Afghanistan to help them destroy the Taliban and before we went in and took out a brutal dictator in Iraq.

In fact, the planning of 9-11-2001 happened during the Clinton administration on President Clinton's watch. And for people that are fools or liars like Rouhani and they don't know or are just lying about it, during the Clinton administration, President Clinton's policies were to run and help persecuted Muslims whenever we found them around the world.

And while we were busy helping Muslims, Western Asia, Eastern Europe, wherever we could help them, they were planning the attack on New York City and Washington, D.C., and hoping

to wipe out the entire American government here in Washington, D.C. And but for the heroic act of people on a plane that took it down in Pennsylvania, they may well have.

We don't need to hear any of these lies about, oh, if America just hadn't invaded Afghanistan and Iraq, regardless of whether you agree with what President Bush ordered with Iraq, the fact is 9/11 was a terrorist attack before and so was the attack on the USS Cole and so were the attacks on our embassies around the world during the 1990s and so was the first World Trade Center attack in 1993 that apparently had some planning back during the former President Bush's administration.

And that was an administration that stopped a brutal dictator, Saddam Hussein, who had raided another Muslim country, and we went in and helped Kuwait get their country back. We went to help the Muslims. And how do they reward us? To plan an attack to try to take down the World Trade Centers in '93.

It is very clear Christianity, Judaism, Israel, all were under attack and so was America. And our enemies can't believe how stupid Americans are because we are going to reward the biggest supporter of terrorism in the world—Iran—with \$100 to \$150 billion that they are already saying they are going to use to help Hamas and Hezbollah kill more Christians, more Jews, help wipe out Israel, help the attack against the Great Satan, the United States.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for people in the United States Government to stand up and help correct the wayward policies of this administration. We start by having the United States Senate in one voice say the Iranian deal is a treaty and we are taking a vote on it and closure is set aside with 51 votes.

And they won't get the two-thirds to ratify it. It will not become effective against the United States. And thank God we will then have stopped the continued persecution of Christians, moderate Muslims, Jews, Israelis, and the United States, instead of rewarding them and helping them take us out.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to avoid engaging in personalities toward the President.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HUDSON (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today and the balance of the week on account of family reasons.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today through October 1 on account of a family emergency.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of unforeseen circumstances.