

to imagine what happened those 10 dark days for this 14-year-old girl.

One night when this villain was asleep, Elizabeth was able to take his cell phone away from him and text message on the cell phone to her mother a note: Hey, Mom, it is me. And with those simple words, the police were able to track down, through cell towers, the near location of where this little girl was.

The deputies came looking for her. The villain had already left. And as these deputy sheriffs approached Elizabeth, she saw them, and, of course, she immediately started to cry because she was safe in the arms of the law.

After deputy sheriffs rescued her, they were still looking for Filyaw. He was not out there. He wasn't in this hole because he was out trying to carjack a woman at 2 o'clock in the morning.

The sheriff's department had been looking for him for 10 months because he was wanted for, yes, kidnapping and assaulting a 12-year-old. And when they went to his house months before to try to find him, he had already dug a tunnel, like the rat that he is, to escape. And he had escaped the police and was on the lam for 10 months. By the way, he was aided in this escape by his mother and his mother-in-law, who, by the way, are in jail where they ought to be.

He was finally caught this week, and he went to court to see the judge, to have a bond hearing. And this little girl, this 14-year-old, decided to go to court to see this outlaw of the underground here in this bond hearing. And his bond, thank goodness, the judge did the right thing and denied this bond. Now he awaits trial for committing a crime against the greatest resource in our country, children, little girls.

Mr. Speaker, like most Members of this House, I am a parent. I am a father of four kids; three of them are girls. I have five grandkids. I have a granddaughter named Elizabeth. It is hard to imagine pain that is suffered by your own child. And here we have this little girl suffering pain because of this criminal that lives among us.

While it is true we should be concerned about the terrorists overseas, we need to be concerned about the street terrorists that live among us. As a former judge, I hope that justice prevails in this case.

Mr. Speaker, I do not normally quote Toby Keith or Willie Nelson, but I think they had the right thing to say in their song, when they said, Back in my day a man had to answer for the wicked that he had done. You have to find a tall oak tree, round up all of the bad boys and hang them high in the street for the people to see.

We got too many gangsters doing dirty deeds, we have got too much corruption, too much crime in the streets. It is time the long arm of the law put a few more in the ground. Send them all to their maker, and He will settle them down, because justice is the one thing you should always find.

Mr. Speaker, like a rat living underground, the fact that this criminal likes living underground, hopefully the good people of South Carolina will do the right thing and justice will prevail in this particular case.

And that's just the way it is.

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

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

□ 1700

GENOCIDE IN DARFUR

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, millions of Americans and millions of people around the world are outraged at the genocide taking place in Darfur. Hundreds of thousands of people in Darfur have been murdered by the Sudanese military and government-supported militias.

Millions have been forced from their homes, their villages destroyed. Men, women and children left homeless have died from hunger and disease as they are forced to wander, hoping to find someplace that will keep them safe.

Women and girls, many of them children, have been raped. International workers providing humanitarian relief have been abused, and some have even been murdered. The world calls it genocide, the United States of America calls it genocide, and still it is allowed to continue.

Mr. Speaker, we are once again at yet another critical crossroads in how we deal with ending the genocide in Darfur.

On Tuesday, in his speech before the General Assembly of the United Nations, President Bush appointed Andrew Natsios as his Special Envoy for Sudan, providing the U.S. once more with a high-ranking official charged solely to focus on the crisis in Darfur.

President Bush also called on the U.N. to act on Security Council Resolution 1706, authorizing a U.N. peacekeeping force in Darfur. Yesterday the African Union Peace and Security Council voted to extend the mandate of the AU peacekeeping force into Darfur, which had been set to expire at the end of next week.

I wish I could celebrate, Mr. Speaker, but we can't. The situation in Darfur grows more desperate every day. Fighting has intensified. The Sudanese Government has renewed aerial bombing. Many humanitarian aid groups have had to pull out, leaving hundreds of thousands of people without food and water.

Appointing a U.N. envoy is an important step, but only the deployment of a U.N. peacekeeping force will bring some measure of security to the suffering people of Sudan. We cannot afford to let the AU peacekeeping force to remain underfunded, underequipped and undertrained. But the AU forces only have 7,000 boots in the ground, and the region of Darfur is about the size of France. We need a U.N. force with a strong, clear mandate to protect the defenseless people of Darfur on the ground as soon as possible.

Security Council Resolution 1706 does not say that we have to wait for Khartoum's permission to deploy it. We need an enforced no-fly zone over Darfur, most likely coordinated by NATO, so we can put a stop to Khartoum's aerial bombing and its air support of Janjaweed militia attacks against villages and refugee camps. We need the United States Senate to support the House-passed Darfur Peace and Accountability Act so that we can get that critical litigation to the President's desk as quickly as possible.

We need universities and State and local governments to divest their public funds from company stocks that do business with the Sudanese Government. The Senate should not strip this provision from the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, and I encourage all of my colleagues in the House to co-sponsor the bill in support of divestment that Congressman BARBARA LEE of California introduced today.

Mr. Speaker, the House has acted and spoken in a unified bipartisan voice to end the violence and genocide in Darfur.

I would like to thank my House colleagues Representatives DONALD PAYNE, FRANK WOLF, MIKE CAPUANO, and TOM TANCREDO and so many others who have been leaders in calling attention to and taking action on the crisis in Darfur.

But most of all I want to thank the American people, who, in their churches, synagogues, temples and mosques, on college campuses and the local community centers, have organized and mobilized to make sure that the President and this Congress get the message that we have not done enough so long as the killing continues.

Mr. Speaker, we must do more. We must end the genocide. We must protect the people of Darfur, and we must do it today.

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

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

SKYLINE MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I ask permission to address the House for 5 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from North Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to rise and commend the Skyline Membership Corporation for its enormous contributions not only to the Fifth District of North Carolina, but also to our Nation and the global war on terror. It is my pleasure to congratulate them upon receiving the 2006 Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. It is of great note that they are only one of 15 recipients this year.

This award publicly recognizes employers for exceptional support for the National Guard and reservists above Federal law requirements. This award, the ESGR, as it is commonly known, is the highest in a series of Department of Defense awards that honors employers who provide excellent support for their excellent Guard and Reserve employees.

The Skyline Membership Corporation is a local member-owned cooperative established in 1951 to help bring telephone service to rural communities, and I am a member. Since its inception it has grown into the second largest of the nine telephone cooperatives in North Carolina. Today it serves over 360,000 access lines, covering an 840-square-mile area in northwest North Carolina and Tennessee.

Skyline Membership Corporation is governed by a nine-member board of directors and operates with a staff of 125 employees. Today it has expanded to provide a number of telecommunications services and has promoted job growth and economic development. It is a leading example of a prosperous business that also played an integral role in community development.

The ESGR is a Department of Defense agency that was established in 1972 by the Secretary of Defense William Perry with the sole purpose to gain and maintain active support for the National Guard and Reserve from all private and public employers.

I am honored and thrilled that such a fantastic business in North Carolina has been one of the 15 chosen out of thousands of companies across the country. It goes to show that in the Fifth District of North Carolina, we have some of the hardest-working people who are dedicated to our country and have a steadfast resolve to support our Nation. They are committed to shield it from terrorism and ensure our Nation is protected by their brave employees who choose to answer the call of our country.

This is a true honor for Skyline Membership Corporation. It is being recognized alongside major businesses such as DuPont, Starbucks, MGM Mirage and various large public agencies for its contributions to the Guard and Reserve units. This award exemplifies the commitment and leadership of the corporation and their determination to

encourage their employees to answer the call of their Nation in a time of need.

While fighting the global war on terror, companies such as Skyline are inextricably linked to our Nation's security by sharing their most valuable asset, their employees. One example of its steadfast dedication, not only to the global war on terror, is that they ensure their employees have the best possible accommodations overseas.

One example is the recent action the Skyline Membership Corporation took to support their employee's unit overseas in Iraq. Upon learning that an employee's unit was in dire need of lightweight cabin cots for shelter from insects, sand, heat and other elements, the Skyline Corporation sent 44 cots in a matter of days to that employee's units.

Skyline has gone above and beyond the call. That is why they have been chosen for such a prestigious award. It has supported its employees who are serving their country by answering the call to go to such places as Iraq and Afghanistan. Skyline has provided everything from continued benefits during deployment to care packages. Not only are the folks at Skyline making a difference in their employees' lives, but they are supporting our military and Nation's security.

Skyline has been such a successful business because of the strong leadership it has shown. It recognizes that when hiring National Guard and Reserve members, it can expect superior employees whose military training instills them with virtues such as efficiency, dedication, loyalty and teamwork. These employees share dedication to excellence, which has made Skyline a successful business, and, in turn, Skyline has returned the favor by encouraging and supporting its employees in every way possible to serve our country.

Skyline recognizes the importance of national security and serving our Nation. Its actions are truly deserving of the honor of such a prestigious award.

I wish Skyline all the best, and I have a message for them. Keep up the good work. You have made North Carolina and our Nation proud.

I am pleased to be able to commend Skyline Membership Corporation for its tremendous contributions to our Nation and to its employees. In a post 9/11 world their work, support and leadership exemplifies the best there is in North Carolina and highlights the exemplary work of the people of Western NC. Again, I commend The Skyline Corporation for its service, support and dedication.

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

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

BAD FAITH ACTIONS AND POLICIES OF STATE FARM INSURANCE IN MISSISSIPPI

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order and to address the House for 5 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Mississippi is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday of this week, Mr. Edward Rust, Jr., the CEO of State Farm Insurance Company, was supposed to be in Washington. I had hoped that I would have the opportunity to speak to him on behalf of the people of south Mississippi.

State Farm is one of three firms that for thousands of south Mississippians has denied their claims on wind policy, some of them for over \$1 million; have said that they are not going to give a dime as a result of what happened at Hurricane Katrina.

Had Mr. Rust been there, I also would have had the opportunity to tell him that last Saturday I met with two whistleblowers, two sisters, Cori and Carey Rigsby, who walked away from jobs that paid well over \$200,000 a year, investigating claims for State Farm, because they felt that company was abusing the people who paid for their policies, that their company was engaging in fraudulent behavior by denying these claims. Instead of being rewarded by that subcontractor to State Farm for telling the truth, they are being sued by that subcontractor for telling the truth.

So, Mr. Rust, if you had been there, I would have presented you with this letter, detailing what I think you have done to the taxpayers and to the people of south Mississippi. But since you were not there, I am going to put it in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and mail you a copy.

But there are two things I want you to know. You see, when you didn't pay people's wind claims in south Mississippi, you hurt them individually. You hurt average Joes like Joe Dee Benvenutti, who, interestingly enough, is also an insurance salesman; or guys like Mike Chapoton, who is a banker; or Dr. Leroy McFarland, who was my family's physician when I was a kid, and now in his 70s has been denied over \$1 million claim.

But you also denied guys like Senator TRENT LOTT and U.S. Judge Lou Guirola. It is one thing to tell a banker or a former corrugated box salesman that you can't read a policy, but I think it is something else to tell a Federal judge that he couldn't read his policy, to tell a U.S. Senator with a law degree from the University of Mississippi apparently he can't read his policy.

If they are doing that to the average Joes, I am sorry, if they are doing that to the bigshots like U.S. Senators and Federal judges, then the question is, what are they doing to grandmothers?