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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 13, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN J. DUNCAN, Jr. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

HONORING AMERICA'S FIRST RESPONDERS ABROAD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this weekend, we honored those killed by the attack on America on 9/11—10 years ago. Many of those that were killed and gave their lives were first responders. And after the smoke cleared that day from Ground Zero, from the Pentagon down the street, and that special field in Pennsylvania, America went after Islamic terrorists who would murder in the name of religion.

The wars against our enemies have taken us to the desert of the gun and the valley of the sun in Afghanistan and then off to Iraq. I've been to Afghanistan and to Iraq, as many Members have. And I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that our military that is there representing us is the finest military that has ever existed in the history of this country.

Afghanistan is a land that seems to be cursed by God. It is a hard land. And in Afghanistan, on August 6, 2011, specially trained United States military were headed to root out the Taliban and help our Army Rangers who needed their support. The CH-47 Chinook helicopter they were in was shot down in the Wardak province of Afghanistan. Thirty Americans gave their lives that day, as well as eight loyal Afghans. They were our first responders abroad who go where the timid are not found and the weak of soul are never seen. Here are their names, Mr. Speaker, and their photographs.

The first one here, David Carter, Chief Warrant Officer of the United States Army National Guard, Colorado.

Next is Heath Robinson, Chief Petty Officer, United States Navy SEAL, Michigan.

Next to him, Mr. Speaker, is Alexander Bennett, Sergeant, United States Army Reserve, Washington.

Next to him is Kraig Vickers, Senior Chief Petty Officer, United States Navy SEAL, Hawaii.

Number five on this top line here is Jared Day, Petty Officer 1st Class, United States Navy SEAL, Utah.

And the last one on the first row is Jonas Kelsall, Lieutenant Commander, United States Navy SEAL, Louisiana.

I continue with the second row:

Jon Tumilson, Petty Officer 1st Class, United States Navy SEAL, Iowa.

Next to him is Michael Strange, Petty Officer 1st Class, United States Navy SEAL, Pennsylvania.

Aaron Vaughn, Petty Officer 1st Class, United States Navy SEAL, Florida.

Patrick Hamburger, Staff Sergeant, United States Army National Guard, Nebraska.

Next to him is John Faas, Chief Petty Officer, United States Navy SEAL, Minnesota.

And the last one on the second row is Matthew Mason, Chief Petty Officer, United States Navy SEAL, Missouri.

I continue with the third row of our warriors:

Robert Reeves, a person known by members of my staff, Chief Petty Officer, United States Navy SEAL, Louisiana.

Next to him is Stephen Mills, Chief Petty Officer, United States Navy SEAL, from the great State of Texas.

Next to him is Louis Langlais, Master Chief Petty Officer, United States Navy SEAL, California.

Next, Christopher Campbell, Petty Officer 1st Class, United States Navy SEAL, North Carolina.

The next warrior is Darrik Benson, Petty Officer 1st Class, United States Navy SEAL, California.

And the last one on this row is Jason Workman, Petty Officer 1st Class, United States Navy SEAL, Utah.

I continue, Mr. Speaker, and I hope you can see these photographs:

Jesse Pittman, Petty Officer 1st Class, United States Navy SEAL, California.

Next is Nicholas Spehar, Petty Officer 2nd Class, United States Navy SEAL, Minnesota.

Andrew Harvell, Staff Sergeant, United States Air Force, California.

Daniel Zerbe, Tech Sergeant, United States Air Force, Pennsylvania.

John Brown, Tech Sergeant, United States Air Force, Florida.

Kevin Houston, Chief Petty Officer, United States Navy SEAL, Massachusetts.

And the last row, Mr. Speaker:

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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