

and I have been with one of her sons, Michael, who was in my office a year ago in March when we talked about our strategy to clear the names of these two Marine pilots. I never will forget that Michael leaned up after we talked, about five adults, including his mom in there, and he leaned up and he said, May I say something? And we all said, Certainly, whatever you'd like to say. And he said, Will you please let me clear my father's name.

Madam Speaker, the ball is in the Marine Corps' court. All of the evidence and all of the experts have joined in this effort to clear the names of the two pilots. On these charts, you can see the faces of the two Marine pilots. Right immediately close to me is Colonel John Brow, the pilot; and beside him is Major Brooks Gruber, who was the copilot. I think about what I have said to the wives and to their sons and daughters: It's time that the Marine Corps salute Colonel John Brow and Major Brooks Gruber and say, Colonel and Major, you may rest in peace. Don't ever worry about your name again. We have done everything we can as the United States Marine Corps to make sure that the public knows that you two, pilot and copilot, were not at fault for that tragedy on April 8 of 2000.

Madam Speaker, just a couple more minutes and I will bring my comments to a close.

I had someone send to me a quote by Voltaire that says, "To the living, we owe respect; to the dead, we owe the truth." And that's why I wanted to be on the floor tonight to share just a few comments by the experts, not by me. I am no expert. I'm just one man who believes what the wife said, Connie Gruber:

My husband and John Brow cannot speak for themselves. Someone has to speak for these two men to clear their names.

The lawsuits are over. They were settled out of court. It was a closed settlement. Nobody knows the figures except the families. I've never heard a figure, so I have no idea. But I know one thing. When a firm as large as Bell-Boeing, which manufactured the V-22, when they settle out of court, they must feel some responsibility for the accident.

I hope and pray that soon the Marine Corps will close the chapter on the tragedy in the life of Trish Brow and Connie Gruber. The reason they want the letter, Madam Speaker, is so their children, 10, 15, 20 years from now, whenever there's another article written about the V-22 crash in Arizona in the year 2000 and they misstate that this was pilot error, that the families will have an official letter from the Commandant of the Marine Corps that will clearly state that John Brow and Brooks Gruber were not at fault.

Madam Speaker, I'm going to close in about 2 minutes.

I want to call on the United States Marine Corps to come forward and give the families what they are asking. The three investigators, as I said earlier,

have joined in this. Jim Shaffer, Madam Speaker, who was in the air at the same time as this crash, he was flying a V-22 when the other two were flying and before Nighthawk 72 crashed. He was a friend of John Brow and Brooks Gruber. He has joined in this effort. He believes that the right thing to do, based on the circumstances of the time, that the right thing to do is to say that the two pilots were not at fault.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank you for staying a little bit later tonight to give me this time. I'm not going to take the full 30 minutes. There is a lot more I could say, but I think that I've done the first step of what is going to be many steps in coming to the floor and talking about these two pilots and their families until we get the letter from the Commandant that is just one paragraph that clearly states that Lieutenant Colonel John Brow, Major Brooks Gruber, pilot and copilot, were not at fault for the crash that happened on April 8, 2000, in Arizona.

So with that, Madam Speaker, I will ask God to please bless the families of these two pilots and the families of the 17 Marines who were in the back of the V-22 that crashed and 19 died, to bless those families as well. I will ask God to please touch the heart of the United States Marine Corps so that these two Marines can rest in peace.

Madam Speaker, with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1710. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 222 West 7th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska, as the James M. Fitzgerald United States Courthouse.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.), under its previous order and pursuant to House Resolution 571, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 7, 2012, at 10 a.m., for morning-hour debate, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable DONALD M. PAYNE.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

5181. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of Captain Hugh D. Wetherald, United States Navy, to wear the authorized insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5182. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of Colonel Cedric T. Wins,

United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5183. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Exceptions or Alternatives to Labeling Requirements for Products Held by the Strategic National Stockpile [Docket No.: FDA-2006-N-0364] received February 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5184. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers Relating to Coverage of Preventive Services Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act [CMS-9992-F] (RIN: 0938-AQ74) received February 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5185. A letter from the Chief Operating Officer/President, Financing Corporation, transmitting a copy of the Financing Corporation's Statement on the System of Internal Controls and the 2011 Audited Financial Statements; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5186. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BAE SYSTEMS (Operations) Limited Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0908; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-251-AD; Amendment 39-16870; AD 2011-24-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 16, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5187. A letter from the Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting a statement of actions with respect to the GAO report entitled: "NASA: Key Controls NASA Employs to Guide Use and Management of Funded Space Act Agreements are Generally Sufficient but Some Could Be Strengthened and Clarified"; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

5188. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled, Engagement in Additional Work Activities and Expenditures for Other Benefits and Services, April-June 2011: A Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Report to Congress; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5189. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Application of Section 267 to Section 304 Transactions [Notice 2012-15] received February 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5190. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Physical Inspection Pilot Program [Notice 2012-18] received February 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5191. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Department's final rule — Section 51 — Work Opportunity Tax Credit; Section 52 — Special Rules; Section 3111(e) — Credit for Employment of Qualified Veterans [Notice 2012-13] received February 14, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5192. A letter from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting Community Living Assistance Services and Supports Program: 2011 Report to Congress; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.