

two officers served many years in their role for the people of Placer County and northern California.

Like them, many others around the country have lost their lives in the line of duty to protect us. We need to honor them. We need to be behind them at all times. The thin blue line is between us and a lot of really bad things in this Nation. They go to work each day willing to pay the price, if it is necessary. We honor them.

In the midst of everything going on these days in the news and the media, it is important that we always remember their sacrifice, and stop and thank them, and get to know them as they are trying to get to know the people in the community. We find out they are just human like us and are after the same things, as Americans.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR CARL WHITMARSH

(Mr. AL GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I stand today in the well of the House to pay tribute to a great and noble American, a person who gave a lot to his country.

He was a loyal Democrat. He was a Democrat's Democrat, but he was more than that. He was a person who was a voice for the voiceless.

He was one of those persons who had a publication that was widely circulated in Houston, Texas, and this publication was the means by which those of us who could read the front page, but not understand the rest of the story, we could acquire that intelligence by simply reading his words.

He made things not only clear, but perspicuously clear. He was a person that went out of his way to get truth to those who would be confused, if not but for what he would do.

So I am honored to say that Carl Whitmarsh was a great and noble American. But I am also honored to say that he was a person who made it very much possible for the Democratic Party to thrive in Houston, Texas.

Lane Lewis, who is the current chair, benefited from his presence. He and Lane worked closely together. In fact, it is very difficult to think of him and not think of Lane Lewis. Carl Whitmarsh, Lane Lewis.

Carl, may you rest in peace.

I will now ask for a moment of silence in his honor.

UNLEASHING AMERICA'S ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WOODALL. Madam Speaker, I want to begin by yielding to the gen-

tleman from Montana (Mr. ZINKE), one of the great freshmen here leading our institution.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF REAR ADMIRAL BRIAN LOSEY

Mr. ZINKE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of Rear Admiral Brian Losey, the current commander of Naval Special Warfare Command, our Nation's top U.S. SEAL. He is entrusted with the honor of commanding all SEALs, all special boat units, and all support staff across this great country and across many theatres.

I have had the privilege of serving with Brian Losey, SEAL Team 6, Red Team, and I can tell you that Brian is an outstanding officer.

It is an obligation of every officer to take action when he sees wrong, and Brian Losey did just that. He saw a problem and took action. He took decisive action because he knew the actions of others around him were wrong.

Yet, once again, an entrusted, entrenched bureaucracy was allowed to hide behind threats, hide behind whistleblowers, hide behind rules that were intended to protect command and not to erode it. And yet, those accusations discredited a great officer and the head of the United States Navy SEALs.

I understand these protections are important, and they are necessary, but we cannot allow such protections to go against accountability and against the sanctity of command.

In this case, the Navy reviewed the investigation on Admiral Brian Losey. They found him to be innocent and wrongfully accused. I have seen the evidence and went through it line by line. I fully support the Navy's conclusion and believe that they properly reviewed this case.

The DOD had different conclusions, and I believe those DOD conclusions from the IG are flawed and are cherry-picked.

Admiral Losey is highly regarded by his subordinates, all of the Naval Special Warfare community, and all SEALs who have served with him and under his command. This includes the Navy SEAL standing before you. I have known this man and his family for 30 years.

Let me just give you a snapshot of Admiral Losey's leadership under his command of Naval Special Warfare. The SEALs, and those under his command, have executed 654 total missions, have killed 461 high-value targets—every one of those targets, if given a chance, would do grievous harm to our Nation—have captured 60, wounded 32, rescued an American hostage, deployed an average of 250 days of the year.

In 2015 alone, in Iraq, Naval Special Warfare Command and its components were responsible for the killing or capture of over 3,000 enemy combatants.

Admiral Losey personally deployed to Operation Inherent Resolve, Operation Enduring Freedom in the Trans-Sahara. He has deployed to 30 countries. Naval Special Warfare forces

under his command are deployed to 70 countries across this great globe. They advanced partner forces' security capabilities, training over 6,000 of our allies.

Madam Speaker, America, our men, women, and children, both at home and abroad, are able to sleep at night due to the leadership of Admiral Losey and those forces that he commands.

Admiral Brian Losey, I thank you for your dedicated service to this country. As a former teammate and United States Navy SEAL, I am proud of all that you have done for our community, for the United States Navy, and our grateful Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Rear Admiral Brian Losey, the current Commander of Naval Special Warfare Command, our Nation's top U.S. Navy SEAL, entrusted with the honor of Commanding all Navy SEALs. I had the privilege of serving with Brian in the SEALs and am proud to call him a team mate.

It is the obligation of every officer to take action when they see wrong, Admiral Losey did just that. He saw a problem and took action. Yet once again, our entrenched bureaucracy has allowed senior civilian individuals to hide behind anonymous accusations and whistle blower protections, in an attempt to discredit a great man and cover-up their transgressions.

While these protections are important and necessary, they cannot be allowed to be abused or shield them from being held accountable.

In this case, after the Navy reviewed the investigation of Admiral Losey, they found him to be innocent and wrongfully accused. I have seen the evidence. I fully support the U.S. Navy's conclusion and believe they properly reviewed the case and fairly adjudicated this matter.

Admiral Losey is highly regarded by his subordinates and all of the special warfare community as a true selfless and humble leader. This includes the Navy SEAL standing before you that has had the honor to serve with him and know him for the last 30 years. He has sacrificially served our nation with distinction and honor.

Let me just give you a snap shot of Admiral Losey's leadership under his command Naval Special Warfare Forces have:

Executed 654 total missions.

Killed 461 High Value Individuals.

Captured 60, Wounded 32.

Rescued an American Hostage.

Deployed an average number of 250 days.

NSW strives to maintain a 1:3 deploy-to-dwell ratio.

In 2015 Iraq alone, NSW was responsible for the coordinated capture/kill of over 3,000 enemy combatants.

Participated in Operation Inherent Resolve, Operation Enduring Freedom (AFG/PI/H0A/TransSahara).

Deployed to 30 countries as Crisis Response Forces.

Deployed to 70 countries to support 550 training events for allied and partner nations, advancing partner forces' security capabilities, ultimately training approximately 6,000 foreign partner and allied military personnel per year.

American men, women, and children, both at home and abroad, are able to sleep soundly in their beds due to the leadership of Admiral Losey and the actions of the men and women he leads.