

Medal w/M Device, Br. Hourglass, Roman Numeral 2, Army Service Ribbon, Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Presidential Unit Citation (Navy), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Meritorious Unit Commendation, Army Superior Unit Award, Combat Action Badge, and the Parachutist Badge.

Lt. Col Curtis will turn over his command to Lt. Col. William A. Vaughn of the 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion in Greensboro, North Carolina on October 2, 2010 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Madam Speaker, I honor Lieutenant Colonel Curtis for his service to our country and the 432nd Civil Affairs Battalion and I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting a truly extraordinary member of our community.

U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE FUGITIVE SAFE SURRENDER PROGRAM

**HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the recent success of the United States Marshals Service Fugitive Safe Surrender Program in my home of Northeast Ohio. From September 22 through 25, 2010, 7,431 fugitives surrendered and took advantage of the Fugitive Safe Surrender program held at Mt. Zion Church in Oakwood Village, Ohio. This set a new national record for fugitive surrenders in the program. Nearly 500 wanted felons, including individuals wanted on federal and out-of-state warrants all peacefully surrendered during the four-day program, representing over 12,000 outstanding warrants.

Law enforcement, judiciary at the municipal, state and federal level, Pastor Larry L. Macon Sr. of Mt. Zion, and over 40 partnering organizations joined together to offer those with outstanding warrants the ability to peacefully surrender within the safe environment of Mt. Zion Church. This program could not have succeeded without their extraordinary commitment of time and resources.

As you know, Fugitive Safe Surrender is administered by the Marshals Service in states with a particularly high volume of fugitive warrants, such as Ohio. The goal of Fugitive Safe Surrender is to reduce risks to police officers in pursuit of fugitives, neighborhoods where felons often hide, and possible injury to the fugitives themselves. Authorized by Congress in July 2006 and signed into law in 2007, it is believed to be the first program of its kind in the Nation. I am very proud that this program was created in 2005 by my friend, U.S. Marshal Peter Elliott in the Northern District of Ohio.

After Cleveland Police Officer Wayne Leon was shot and killed by a wanted fugitive, Marshal Elliott recognized the need for more safety in capturing felons and those persons wanted on outstanding warrants. Marshal Elliott found this creative approach to reduce violence between fugitives and law enforcement. The first year Marshal Elliott launched the program in Cleveland, 850 fugitives peacefully surrendered.

Building on this innovative program, Marshal Elliott later helped lead the program in 10 cities and was urged by mayors nationwide to imple-

ment the program in their communities. Since then, 30,000 wanted individuals have surrendered through the program in 18 cities across our nation in the past five years.

Fugitive Safe Surrender is a success. In addition to violent fugitives, thousands of individuals wanted for non-violent felony or misdemeanor crimes have also felt comfortable in voluntarily surrendering in faith-based or other neutral settings established by the program.

AHMADINEJAD

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, some things do not need to be elaborated on. Rudy Giuliani, a great American, recently spoke at a rally in New York City where 20,000 people showed up to protest the dictator Ahmadinejad and his corrupt regime. Ahmadinejad was in town to spew more of his hateful deology. This time, he interlaced his anti-Semitic rhetoric with conspiracy theories on 9/11. This man does not speak for the Iranian people, who only want freedom to live their lives without the shackles of a regime bent on preserving its power at all costs. The courageous opposition group MEK, who organized the rally, is fighting for this very freedom. The State Department has got them wrong—they are not a terrorist organization and should not be listed as one. Mayor Giuliani agreed with me and I'd like to submit his comments for the record.

God bless you and thank you very much for being here. I come here today for a very simple reason, to stand with you in support of the basic rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and also the basic rights guaranteed by the preamble to the United Nations Charter. We need to remind the United Nations of what it stands for. According to the preamble of the United Nations, it exists to reaffirm faith in fundamental rights in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small.

The people of Iran are as entitled as all of us to make a claim on the nations of the United Nations to reaffirm these goals for them; and that is what you are here to do.

For too long the world has acquiesced in a regime in Iran that through mass murder, violence and intimidation has denied basic rights of your brothers and sisters and friends and relatives and has been a consistent supporter of terrorism and of terrorist organizations beyond its borders.

All of you are here today to cry out for the world to stand with you and your brothers and sisters who are oppressed by the brutal regime in Iran.

They desire freedom! I desire freedom! We all desire freedom! No one can deny you your desire for freedom! I believe that desire is placed in your heart and soul by the Creator! It comes from above. Not from here, not from below, but from above. It is a basic human desire that the people of Iran are entitled to and it is a basic human desire that all good people should support.

And if this institution that stands behind us, the United Nations, wants to reclaim its lofty goal of protecting human rights; which is a goal that has alluded it for many many years, then it must stand with you against the regime in Iran, against the brutalization that goes on in Iran, and against the supporting of terrorism.

And it is time here in America to right a wrong that has been done to you and your cause out of a misguided notion that the violent and tyrannical regime of Iran could be mollified. It is about time that we change the listing of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran as a terrorist organization.

I've studied terrorism for much longer that I'd like to admit. For over 35 years. I have investigated terrorism, and I've seen firsthand, in my city, the devastation that terrorism can bring about.

This is not a terrorist organization. This is an organization dedicated to achieving freedom and dignity for its people.

It is time for the rest of our Congress to join 823 members—Democrats and Republicans—who have supported House Resolution 1431 which calls for the lifting of this unjust, unfair and inaccurate designation. It has been lifted by the British government; it has been lifted by the European Union; it should be lifted by the United States Congress and President Obama should support it as a defender of freedom.

Just as this great country of America is described as the last best hope for humanity, you and your cause are truly the best hope for Iran.

Your quest is as legitimate as solidarity was for Poland.

And it took lovers of freedom and leaders of historical consequence like Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher and Pope John Paul, to stand with Solidarity no matter the consequences.

Your goals are our goals, they are the goals of a decent people; you want to guarantee equal rights for men and women; you want to see freedom of religion and speech and press; freedom of assembly in Iran, you want Iran that does not threaten the existence of other nations; and you want an Iran that is under no circumstances a nuclear power.

It is your members and associates who have consistently drawn open the secret curtain that Iran tries to draw on its plans to develop nuclear weapons.

It is your members who have risked their lives and lost their lives revealing the plans and steps of Ahmadinejad and the regime to acquire nuclear weapons.

Without your brave investigations and revelations, America and the world would still be laboring under the inaccurate information that was contained in the National Intelligence Estimate of 2007 that said Iran had appeared to abandon its plans to build nuclear weapons. Your members, your associates, revealed that to be incorrect, inaccurate, and dangerously wrong.

If the history of the 20th century has taught us anything, it is that we must confront tyrants, oppressors, bullies and terrorists as early as possible.

Acquiescence only leads to increasing loss of human life and human liberty.

For too long the world has stood still as the people of Iran, particularly those of you desiring freedom, have been oppressed, imprisoned and slaughtered by a regime that has no right to exist.

It's time to make common cause with you in your noble quest.

It is a risk that is worth taking.

It is a cause that is worth the risk.

If the forebears of this country didn't take the risk for freedom, then this great nation would not exist.

Your people, the people of Iran, are willing to fight for freedom; you are willing to speak out against horrible atrocities to human dignity. And when they do, this country, America, should strongly stand with them, and speak out for them.

No more silence! Where is our Ronald Reagan when we need him? Ronald Reagan