

Florida, Mr. Jay Kislak. A Florida resident for over half a century, Jay is known to be one of the State's leading citizens, with an outstanding record of charitable projects and personal achievements.

Jay's involvement in our community has included leadership roles in organizations like the Florida Council of 100, the Florida Historical Society, the Historical Association of Southern Florida, Mortgage Bankers Association of America, the University of Miami, the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, Miami Dade's Arts in Public Places Trust, Mount Sinai Medical Center, and the American Red Cross, among so many others.

Jay's participation in our community is only matched by his involvement in the preservation of Florida's dynamic history. Over the years, and together with his wife Jean, Jay has collected countless rare books, maps, and art that capture the history and the culture of Florida, focusing especially on the early years of European exploration.

Jay's collection is certainly one of the most comprehensive in the Nation. In 2004, Jay made an extraordinary gift to our country. He donated more than 3,000 of these rare books, manuscripts, and other objects to our Library of Congress. Known as "Exploring the Early Americas", this collection is now on display in the library's historic Thomas Jefferson building right across the street from us.

□ 1715

This gift is one of the most significant gifts ever received by the Library of Congress.

To give a sense of the extent of this collection, let me just name a few of the major pieces:

A vast collection of Mayan cultural and religious works and carvings.

The first printed nautical map of the entire world, the Carta Marina from the year 1516.

A 1524 map on which Florida is first named.

Original documents signed by the famed explorers Cortes, Pizarro, and Las Casas.

From 1598, the first atlas to include Florida.

The journal of Cabeza de Vaca in which he narrates his wanderings across Florida and the Southeast after his shipwreck off the coast of the present-day St. Petersburg.

Also, the 1589 hand-colored engraving by Baptista Boazio of St. Augustine, Florida, the earliest engraving of any locality in the U.S.

Also, one of George Washington's personal journals from his time spent at Mount Vernon.

And letters from John Quincy Adams and James Monroe pertaining to the purchase of Florida and to the foreign policy of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, these are just some of the major items that are in Jay's impressive collection.

In support of this collection, the library now hosts an ongoing lecture series, program of exhibitions, research, and public education programs named after Jay Kislak. And this week the Jay Kislak Foundation held one of its annual lectures right here in Washington at the Library. The event included historian Jonathan Spence, one of the foremost experts on modern China and the Sterling Professor of History, Emeritus, at Yale University.

Jay's philanthropy continues to abound in its breadth and its scope. Through Jay's substantial contribution, countless generations will be able to view a window into our past as Americans and as Floridians.

Jay, thank you for all that you have done and will continue to do on behalf of our Nation and our home community. Thanks from a grateful Nation.

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.)

AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I join with several of my colleagues today as an original cosponsor in the introduction of H.R. 5015, legislation that would require the President to submit to Congress a plan and a timeline for the safe, orderly, and expeditious deployment of United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan, including military and security-related contractors.

This legislation would also implement greater oversight and planning measures to reduce our reliance on contractors in Afghanistan and to curb waste, fraud, and abuse in contracting practices which continues to breed corruption at the expense of the Afghan people.

I would like to thank Representatives MCGOVERN, JONES, and Senator FEINGOLD for their leadership and for their hard work and collaboration on this very vital legislation.

Also, I would like to commend Congresswoman WOOLSEY for her stand and her work for global peace and security. Tonight I understand is her 350th time coming to this floor sounding the alarm against these wars, and I would just like to congratulate her for her steadfastness. She actually introduced the very first resolution calling for the redeployment of our young men and women out of Iraq.

It has been nearly a decade now since I voted against the authorization for the use of force, and this was on September 14, 2001. This was an authorization, mind you, that I knew then was a

blank check to wage war anytime, anywhere, and for any length. That was a resolution that really authorized wars without end. H.R. 5015 provides the President and the Congress the opportunity now to change the trajectory of United States foreign policy from one of open-ended military conflict towards a strategy which counters terrorism and extremism around the globe in a sustainable and more effective manner.

I continue to believe United States economic and national security as well as our values are undermined by a military first strategy that many of us fear may lead us down a path of unending war in Afghanistan.

In September, 2009, General McCrystal stated very clearly, "If the people are against us, we cannot be successful. If the people view us as occupiers and the enemy, we can't be successful."

Top military officials and experts agree that winning the hearts and minds of the Afghan people should be the focal point of the United States mission in Afghanistan. Yet I remain convinced that this will not be accomplished at the barrel of a gun. With every death, with each increase in troop deployment, and with every additional military contractor airlifted into Afghanistan, we provide a rallying point for al Qaeda, whose propaganda depends on the perception that America's aim is foreign occupation.

It is our stated policy, and President Obama has said this many times, the United States does not seek a permanent military presence in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, or elsewhere. We have already sent more than \$1 trillion to the Pentagon for the ongoing wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the administration has yet to provide an estimate for the long-term costs of the United States military operations in Afghanistan.

It has been estimated that roughly one-third, mind you, one-third of every tax dollar paid by the American people in 2009 went to the Pentagon and military related expenditures. The fact is we cannot even begin to talk about reducing the budget deficit without talking about reducing our military spending, and this legislation sets us down that path by ending a policy of open-ended war in Afghanistan that has ultimately made America less safe.

I have been clear in my conviction that the situation in Afghanistan will not be resolved with a military solution, and I think many agree with that. That's why last October I introduced H.R. 3699, which would prohibit any funding for increasing troop levels in Afghanistan beyond current levels.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee and as Congress considers the President's \$33 billion supplemental funding request for operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, I will be working to ensure that Congress is provided an opportunity to go on record regarding this grim prospect, mind you, of continued military escalation. Rather than increasing our