

hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FOLEY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FERGUSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FERGUSON addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TRIBUTE TO U.S. MARINE LANCE CORPORAL PETER ORLANDO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my friend, 20-year-old United States Marine Lance Corporal Peter Orlando, who died on Saturday in service to our country. Peter Orlando was a lifelong resident of my hometown of Lowell, Massachusetts, who joined the United States Marine Corps 2 years ago. He valiantly served his country as part of our forces of Operation Enduring Freedom, deployed on a supply ship off the coast of Bahrain in the Persian Gulf. Peter was currently training at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina in preparation for continuing desert warfare training later this month in California.

Peter was a member of the 3rd Battalion 2nd Marines, 2nd Marine division, since December of 2000 after graduating from boot camp at Parris Island. Peter was assigned to the battalion's combined antiarmor platoon within the weapons company. He served as a machine gunner.

In June of this year, Peter had returned to the United States after a 6-month deployment in Okinawa. While deployed to Okinawa, Peter had further deployed to Bahrain from January to April of this year. There he participated at shipboard security operations in support of Operation Southern Watch and Enduring Freedom.

Peter was an expert rifleman and was a recipient of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, and the National

Service Medal. Peter's death during a military training exercise was a tragic and devastating loss to his loving family, to his community, and to his country. His death touched me personally as well. I got to know Peter when he was 9 or 10 years old. He became involved in my first campaign for Congress in 1992. I remember Peter walking the mile or so from his home in the Centerville area of Lowell to our campaign headquarters. I remember his useful enthusiasm as a volunteer, his constant zeal. He was always campaigning, no matter where he was. Over the decade that followed, I kept in touch with Peter and was proud that from time to time he would call me for advice or my view on something that he was doing. Every Saturday when I would go to the Double Tree Hotel in Lowell for breakfast with community leaders, I would meet his mother and she would tell me how Peter was doing and where Peter was, wherever he was around the world.

He was a 2000 graduate of Lowell High School, after which Peter enlisted in the armed services, a career that I was very, very proud of him for entering. I remember one time he said to me "I am going to enter the service, which do you think I should enter?" I said, "Well, I hear the Marines is the toughest." He said, "Yeah, that is the one for me. I have brothers who are also Marines."

And I was extremely proud to hear of his plans to reenlist for another 4 years, his resolve, like that of our Nation, strengthened by the cowardly attacks on our country on September 11.

Peter is survived by his loving mother, Audrey, and 10 siblings: Lisa, Karyn, Christine, Heidi, Allyson, Gino, Anthony, Joseph, Maria, and Sara, as well as of many nieces and nephews. Yes, Peter was a United States Marine, but first and foremost he was a loving son, brother, uncle, a young man who was committed to his family, a legacy where he will always be remembered by not only his family but to those he touched and to those who loved him from his hometown of Lowell.

Peter Orlando served his family, his community, and his country proudly and faithfully, and I salute him today in the United States House of Representatives and say to you, Peter Orlando, today, thank you for your service to our country, and tonight from the floor of the House, Peter, you are my hero.

FOOD CRISES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with my colleagues and put into the RECORD a continuous issue that I have been trying to bring before the Congress and others, as you have heard the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) as well speak of. The issue is Southern Africa, and many of

those countries have reached proportion of their citizens suffering from hunger and malnutrition to the extent of being a famine. Whether it is in Malawi or Swaziland or Zambia or Zimbabwe, Lesotho, all of those countries now suffer for one reason or another in terms of having food insecurity. It is either the drought that is there or mismanagement of their government or conflict in the area. It is currently said, and I have some figures up here, that right now we know more than 7 million people now are starving. Hunger is over a long period of time, and as people call it a slow burn, if we do not see them dying in the streets, we do not get the impression that they are suffering. Right now we know they are dying from it. It is a slow death. We do not feel the urgency but it is an urgency. What makes this a travesty is that it is an urgency, an urgency that we can do something about. We can actually intervene and make a difference. We can provide food and stop the starvation and possibly stop the death, but if we do nothing, we allow the starvation to continue and we allow other issues to develop. Indeed, if we do nothing right now, rather than in Zimbabwe having 6,000 people who are now starving, you will have more than 7,000 people who are. In other words, right now we could intervene and make a difference. In that region, more than 7 million people right now. We could intervene and move that from starvation to maybe food insecurity, but if we do nothing, we can be assured that it is our cavalier attitude or our disregard that it is not our problem but their problem.

I want to suggest to you that our security is in fact dependent on others having a sense of humanity and a state of living because it does threaten our security when free regions of the world are so destabilized that they care nothing about their lives or anyone else's life, that indeed threatens their security. So there is something we can do. We certainly can intervene and provide some food. Let me suggest that the United States is indeed doing some things. The World Food Program, which this country funds, is involved in there. Right at the bottom there it tells the number of families that are being fed now because the program that we support is providing that, but they would say that we need to do a lot more if we are going to make a difference in that program.

So we get a sense of the region. It shows on the map, the darker shading of the map is an indication where more than 100,000 people are right now suffering. And so we see that whole region, the deepness of the orange and the yellow indicates the severity. The light yellow is less than 10,000 people are suffering. The dark brown is where you have more than 100,000 people.