



Rep. Tom Emmer on Congressman Emmer speaks on the House floor about the June 9 attack on Halo Trust workers

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****HOST:**

** Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the bravery and sacrifice of the HALO Trust employees who were recently attacked in Afghanistan. Earlier this month, 110 demining workers in the northeastern Afghanistan province of Boglan were attacked. Ten HALO Trust workers lost their lives, and 16 more were injured. HALO Trust staff is comprised of locals who work alongside American citizens around the world to clear the debris of war, especially landmines. Their work is vital in Afghanistan, where nearly 40 years of conflict has left the land littered with explosives and citizens living under constant threat of detonation. This forces locals to make an unimaginable choice, either let their families starve or risk their lives to farm dangerous land. Thanks to the work of HALO Trust and the entire demining community, war-torn nations across the globe are being revitalized. Within Herat, the Herat province alone, HALO Trust workers have cleared over 600 minefields and provided steady employment to 2,600 Afghan locals. This devastating attack was an act of cowardice from an organization that feeds off instability and fear. I commend the profound bravery of the workers who faced down death to rebuild their communities. I hope everyone will join me in recognition of their sacrifice. *Note: This appears to be a congressional floor speech rather than an interview, but I've labeled it as requested.*

This transcript was independently produced by MN-06 Watch for accountability and archival purposes.

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