

The good news for Carol is that after 9 months of unemployment, she will at last be going back to work at her new job at Target. But Carol will be earning significantly less than she made at her last job, and because the job is part-time, Carol will have no benefits for the next 6 months, and this is what the Bush administration calls "turning the corner on the economy."

Madam Speaker, 8 million people out of work, and 82 million people facing monthly premiums for health insurance that have increased by nearly 14 percent this year alone. The Carol Joneses of the world deserve better than this, much better. They deserve a real plan to jump-start the economy, a plan that lowers health care costs, that creates good-paying jobs, and gets workers back their dignity. That is what the American people want, and that is what this majority should be working on.

9/11 COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, 3 years ago this Saturday, at precisely this hour, I found myself standing in the sunlight of a September morning in this city near the elm tree on the Capitol grounds. Like so many of my colleagues, I experienced September 11 in Washington, D.C., and not just the smoke-filled skies and pandemonium that followed those moments, but I experienced the lack of deliberation that followed those times.

It is in that spirit that I rise, as I did the day the 9/11 Commission report was produced, to say that this Congress should proceed with deliberation, but as one of my Democrat colleagues said, with dispatch, in considering and enacting many, if not all, of the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission.

The people of this country believe that they have sent us here, men and women in Congress, to consider the changes that are necessary to advance the security and liberty of the American people; not to write a blank check to independent commissions, but to deliberate, because, God forbid, should a day strike America like that day in September again, or like the days that have struck the people of Russia or of Spain in recent days, there will be a lack of deliberation, and the opportunity to thoughtfully consider these proposals will have gone by.

BUSH ECONOMIC POLICIES ARE BAD FOR AVERAGE AMERICANS

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, the Republicans have performed a hat trick. They have control of the House,

the White House, and the Senate, and now they are trying to pull a rabbit out of a hat.

They need money, piles and piles of it.

The President's tax giveaway to the very rich soaked average Americans and drained the U.S. Treasury. The President's Iraq war is bleeding the U.S. economy and ballooning the Federal deficit.

It will only get worse.

Administration surrogates now openly talk about remaining in Iraq for decades. The Pentagon's annual budget is already close to the entire Federal deficit. To feed the President's war, every domestic program, from Medicare to veterans' health, to low-income housing, is on the table. Make no mistake. Domestic programs are going to be squeezed hard, just like the middle class. This is the lemon that we have in the White House.

It is the Republican way. Why be fair when you can govern by fear?

Think about it. The 2nd of November, it is coming.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE HOUSE ON ANNIVERSARY OF TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST UNITED STATES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the previous order of the House, I call up the resolution (H. Res. 757) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives on the anniversary of the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The Clerk will report the title of the resolution.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of House Resolution 757 is as follows:

H. RES. 757

Whereas on September 11, 2001, while Americans were attending to their daily routines, terrorists hijacked four civilian aircraft, crashing two of them into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, and a third into the Pentagon outside Washington, D.C., and a fourth was prevented from also being used as a weapon against America by brave passengers who placed their country above their own lives;

Whereas three years later the country continues to, and shall forever, mourn the tragic loss of life at the hands of terrorist attackers;

Whereas by targeting symbols of American strength and success, these attacks clearly were intended to assail the principles, values, and freedoms of the United States and the American people, intimidate the Nation, and weaken the national resolve;

Whereas three years after September 11, 2001, the United States is fighting a Global War on Terrorism to protect America and her friends and allies;

Whereas since the United States was attacked, it has led an international military coalition in the destruction of two terrorist regimes in Afghanistan and Iraq while using diplomacy and sanctions in cooperation with

Great Britain and the international community to lead a third terrorist regime in Libya away from its weapons of mass destruction;

Whereas the United States is reorganizing itself in order to more effectively wage the Global War on Terrorism by transforming the Department of Defense, sharpening the Federal Bureau of Investigation's counterterrorism focus, strengthening the authority of the Director of Central Intelligence to coordinate national intelligence activities, and creating a Department of Homeland Security;

Whereas of the senior al-Qaida leaders, operational managers, and key facilitators that the United States Government has been tracking, nearly two-thirds of such individuals have been taken into custody or killed;

Whereas just as significant, with the help of its allies, the United States has disrupted individuals and organizations that facilitate terrorism—movers of money, people, messages, and supplies—who have acted as the glue binding the global al-Qaida network together;

Whereas Pakistan has taken into custody more than 500 members of al-Qaida and the Taliban regime, including Khalid Sheik Mohammed and Ramzi bin al Shibh, conspirators in the September 11, 2001, attacks, and Kahallad Ba'Attash, an individual involved in the planning of the attack on the USS COLE in 2000;

Whereas Jordan continues its strong counterterrorism efforts, arresting two individuals with links to al-Qaida who admitted responsibility for the October 2002 murder in Amman, Jordan, of Lawrence Foley, a United States Agency for International Development Foreign Service Officer;

Whereas in June 2002, Morocco took into custody al-Qaida operatives plotting to attack United States Navy ships and ships of other member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in the Strait of Gibraltar;

Whereas the United States and its allies in Southeast Asia have made significant advances against the regional terrorist organization Jemaah Islamiyah, which was responsible for the attack in Bali, Indonesia, in October 2003 that killed more than 200 people;

Whereas Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and other countries in Southeast Asia have taken into custody leaders and operatives of local al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist organizations and members of al-Qaida traveling through such countries;

Whereas the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and other countries have disrupted cells of the al-Qaida terrorist organization and are vigorously pursuing other leads relating to terrorist activity;

Whereas following the attacks of September 11, 2001, the United States Government initiated innovative programs, such as the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism program and the Container Security Initiative, to extend our borders overseas and to secure and screen cargo before it is placed on ships destined for United States ports of entry;

Whereas the Department of Homeland Security implemented the US-VISIT border security screening system in December 2003 at all air and sea ports of entry, requiring that nonimmigrant visa holders entering the United States be fingerprinted and screened through various criminal and terrorist databases before entry into the United States, and this system will be expanded to land ports of entry in accordance with congressional deadlines;

Whereas since September 11, 2001, the Coast Guard has conducted more than 124,000 port security patrols, 13,000 air patrols, boarded more than 92,000 vessels, interdicted over 14,000 individuals attempting to enter

the United States illegally, and created and maintained more than 90 Maritime Security Zones;

Whereas following the attacks of September 11, 2001, the Terrorist Threat Integration Center was established, which now fuses, for the first time in United States history, terrorist-related information, foreign and domestic, available to the United States Government for systematic analysis and dissemination to prevent or disrupt terrorist attacks on the United States;

Whereas following the attacks of September 11, 2001, the Terrorist Screening Center, a multi-agency partnership, was established to integrate the dozens of separate terrorist databases that existed before September 11th into a single terrorist watch list for use by Federal, State, and local law enforcement, intelligence, and border security personnel;

Whereas following the attacks of September 11, 2001, the United States Government has ensured the hardening of cockpit doors on airplanes and greatly expanded the use of armed Federal air marshals to prevent and deter future hijackings that could turn commercial planes into weapons of mass destruction;

Whereas having recognized the need to prevent terrorist organizations from using their resources, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has worked closely with the Department of the Treasury to target 62 terrorist organizations and freeze \$125,000,000 in assets of such organizations worldwide used to fund terrorist activities;

Whereas to date United States Armed Forces and Coalition forces have killed or captured 43 of the 55 most wanted criminals of the Saddam Hussein regime in Iraq, including Saddam Hussein himself;

Whereas the al-Zarqawi terror network used Baghdad as a base of operations to coordinate the movement of people, money, and supplies; and

Whereas thousands of families have lost loved ones in the defense of freedom and liberty against the tyranny of terror: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) extends again its deepest sympathies to the thousands of innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, their families, friends, and loved ones;

(2) honors the heroic actions and the sacrifices of United States military and civilian personnel and their families who have sacrificed much, including their lives and health, in defense of their country in the Global War on Terrorism;

(3) honors the heroic actions of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and others who aided the innocent victims and, in so doing, bravely risked their own lives and long-term health;

(4) expresses thanks and gratitude to the foreign leaders and citizens of all nations who have assisted and continue to stand in solidarity with the United States against terrorism in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

(5) discourages, in the strongest possible terms, any effort to confuse the Global War on Terrorism with a war on any people or any faith;

(6) reaffirms its commitment to the Global War on Terrorism and to providing the United States Armed Forces with the resources and support to wage it effectively and safely;

(7) vows that it will continue to take whatever actions necessary to identify, intercept, and disrupt terrorists and their activities; and

(8) reaffirms that the American people will never forget the sacrifices made on September 11, 2001, and will never bow to terrorist demands.

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, on this important resolution, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the resolution be read by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the text of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, September 8, 2004, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois. (Mr. HYDE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today we gather in the House of Representatives to consider a resolution commemorating the anniversary of the terrorist acts launched against the United States on September 11, 2001. September 11 was a brilliant, sunlit, late summer morning in New York and Washington. Suddenly, death came raining down from the skies. Three thousand died because of the wicked acts of evil men who callously used innocent American citizens as their weapons.

The war against terrorism, which is the war for civilization itself, has come home to America.

□ 1030

Now, 3 years after the fact, all thoughts are drawn to that day. Time may not be an invincible healer, but it does soften and mercifully distance us from many of our sharpest pains and fears; and by transforming private remembrance into a more quiet and interior experience, it gives the public forms of remembrance greater depth and meaning, elevating these above mere ritual. I am certain that all Americans alive that infamous day will give reverence to this anniversary for as long as they shall live.

We remember today those fellow citizens and the innocents of all Nations who died September 11. We mourn with their families and extend to them once again our profound sympathy.

We remember with awe and gratitude the passengers of the fourth plane, the plane intended for the White House or the Capitol, who sacrificed their own lives to prevent the terrorists from achieving their evil goal.

We remember with profound respect the police, the firefighters and other emergency workers who charged into burning buildings, often at the cost of their own lives, in acts of selflessness and bravery before which we can only bow our heads.

We honor today the men and women of our Armed Forces who have taken the war against terrorism to the fever swamps where terrorism is bred, and who in doing so have given a new birth of freedom to long-oppressed peoples.

We remember in sorrow and prayer those brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of our country. Their names will not be forgotten. The just cause for which they paid the final price will not fail.

Freedom and decency will, with God's grace, prevail over wickedness and wanton killing.

Today, a day for remembrance is a day for prayer. In silence, let us commend to the merciful hands of God those innocents whose lives were stolen from them 3 years ago Saturday and those men and women of our Armed Forces and those of our allies who go into harm's way and risk their lives for freedom's sake.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, let me first pay tribute to my distinguished friend and colleague from Illinois for the leadership he has provided to our committee and to this House on international matters in the last 3 years.

Madam Speaker, I also want to identify myself with the tribute of the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE) to members of our Armed Forces, first responders and their families. So much has been said about September 11 and the subsequent battle against global terrorism that the legislation before us allotted an hour of discussion can only be viewed as a symbolic gesture.

But once the solemn commemorations are done, the only meaningful memorial that we in Congress can create is to seriously continue our commitment to carry on the global war against terrorism.

We need to understand that this is indeed a global war, and our hearts go out to the mothers and fathers of the children in southern Russia who just a few days ago were senselessly slaughtered in another act of global terrorism.

We have commitments to keep, Madam Speaker. We need to put into effect the recommendations made by the bipartisan commission investigating the 9/11 attacks. We must find innovative ways to carry out this global struggle against terrorism so that it becomes not a war in the conventional sense but a united worldwide effort to eliminate the conditions that give rise to terrorism, a global effort to sustain peace in all its many aspects.

Where will this effort take us next? We may differ about specific tactics, but I think all Americans agree on at least one broad goal: the United States must do all it can to prevent state sponsors of terrorism from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons.

Fortunately, Madam Speaker, we have already established at least one model for how to reach that goal peacefully. I refer, of course, to the new situation in Libya, a case study of the effectiveness of multilateral sanctions and diplomacy, sustained over decades by both Republican and Democratic administrations.

Under U.S. and British leadership, the international community, acting through the United Nations, enforced wide-ranging sanctions against Libya that created pressure on its leadership. Eventually, Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi recognized reality and relented. This year he has taken the unprecedented steps to relinquish his country's nuclear weapons materials and programs, yielding valuable information about the extent of trade in these dangerous substances and among those who seek to harm the United States.

Qaddafi has rejected weapons of mass destruction once and for all, and he will reap the benefits in improved political, economic, educational, and cultural ties with the United States and the West. None of us would have guessed this development just a year ago.

We must waste no time, Madam Speaker, in applying similar measures to Iran, which has shown it will stop at nothing in order to become a nuclear power. The United States has long had sanctions in place on Iran; but now that Iran's nuclear intentions are clear and transparent, we must lead a campaign for full-scale international sanctions on Iran's fanatic regime.

Experts predict that Iran will have a nuclear bomb within 2 years; and with its development of long-range missiles, Iran will threaten our friends and allies across the globe. In order to avoid that nightmarish scenario, the international community must act decisively and quickly, starting with the meeting next week of the board of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Madam Speaker, I call on that board to refer the issue of Iran's violations of its agreements to the United Nations Security Council for the purpose of imposing multilateral sanctions on Iran until it ends its nuclear program once and for all. With its vast reserves of oil and gas, Iran has no need for what it falsely insists are peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Madam Speaker, in 1996, this body passed the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act, known as ILSA; and it renewed that act 3 years ago in 2001. Our actions mark a deeper truth. At the time, Iran and Libya were both energy-rich states, sponsors of terrorism, viciously anti-Western and both committed to

the development of weapons of mass destruction. Now their paths have diverged dramatically.

Three weeks ago, I made my second trip to Libya and had my second meeting with leader Qaddafi. He told me of an encounter he had sometime ago with an Arab leader who wanted Libya to supply him with nuclear weapons. Qaddafi said he told that Arab leader that if he gave him such weapons, he could not use them, because the retaliation would be so awesome; and when he said this, he said, I also realized that devoting billions of our resources to developing weapons of mass destruction is pointless, and I am giving you all my weapons of mass destruction.

With this story, Colonel Qaddafi laid out the rationale for his decision last December to give up Libya's programs of weapons of mass destruction. As a consequence, U.S. commercial sanctions no longer apply to Libya. The Iran-Libya Sanctions Act is now the Iran Sanctions Act.

Iran has not yet adopted Libya's wise course. Its single-minded pursuit of nuclear weapons calls for an equally determined response from the international community. The IAEA meeting next week will be a test of both international will and the skill of our leadership.

In the post-9/11 age, letting fundamentalist extremists acquire nuclear arms makes no sense whatsoever. We should be no more relaxed about a nuclear armed Iran than we would about a nuclear armed Hezbollah or al Qaeda.

Mr. Speaker, as Aristotle observed, we make war that we may live in peace. But the effort that so many have called the war on terrorism must involve warfare only as the very last resort.

The case of Libya demonstrates that skillful, multilateral diplomacy can avoid the horror of war and can point us in a direction which is peaceful and constructive for the United States and for the rest of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, most Americans can tell you precisely where they were and what they were doing 3 years ago when the grim news broke that the terrorists had crashed commercial jet liners into both towers of the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and in a field in Pennsylvania. Sadly, approximately 3,000 innocent people were savagely murdered, including 697 from my own State of New Jersey, with 60 families in my congressional district feeling the pain directly.

The extraordinary courage of the victims like Todd Beamer and Captain Chip Burlingame and so many others who sacrificed their lives in an attempt to thwart the terrorists' plots and

plans, as well as the first responders who bravely ran into burning buildings, deserve the highest honor and respect a Nation can bestow. Sadly, some 374 first responders died going into skyscrapers as they were engulfed in flames. They died trying to save those who were victimized by the 9/11 attackers.

Last week, President Bush very eloquently summed up America's heart and spirit when reflecting on 9/11. President Bush said, "I have seen the character of a great Nation, decent and idealistic and strong." President Bush went on to say, "The world saw that spirit 3 miles from here," he was speaking at the Garden, "when the people of this city faced peril together and lifted a flag over the ruins and defied the enemy with their courage. My fellow Americans, for as long as our country stands, people will look to the resurrection of New York City and they will say here buildings fell and here a Nation rose."

9/11, Mr. Speaker, was America's wake-up call that transnational terrorism, especially from the likes of al Qaeda, is willing and able and determined to murder us in a massive way. Much, however, has been done by the President and by the Congress to mitigate that threat in the 3 years since 9/11.

We now know that the President, working with our coalition partners, has captured and destroyed many of the al Qaeda operatives, and the Taliban has been crushed, and we have now entered into a close collaboration with partners like Pakistan and the United Kingdom.

□ 1405

Much has been done to assist the victims' families, but no assistance, as we all know, can ever remotely replace their staggering loss. Still, when all is said and done, the victims' compensation fund, while not perfect, will have provided close to \$7 billion to the surviving families. We also know that the Federal government has provided about \$26.7 billion thus far, which has been awarded to enhance the abilities of State and local governments and first responders to prevent, prepare for, and respond to acts of terrorism and other emergencies.

Much has been done to reform our defenses, including the creation of the Department of Homeland Security, no small feat, particularly in this town, to do such a massive reorganization. And the Terrorist Threat Integration Center now has the left hand talking with the right hand so that intelligence is properly shared. We are all on the same page.

For its part, the 9/11 Commission, a commission created by the families of 9/11, declared that "we are safer," but they also pointed out that we are "not safe". Over the course of the August district work period, some 26 hearings were held to respond to and to try to figure out what a new comprehensive

reform bill should look like, and I want to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), chairman of the Committee on International Relations, for the two outstanding full committee hearings he put together. We are now poised to act on those recommendations, and in some cases, we may opt to exceed the 9/11 blueprint.

Finally, let us all remember, if this is an extremely difficult week for us, the sense of collective violation pales compared to the pain of the families who lost their loved ones, their wives and husbands, their children, their brothers, their sisters. For them, this is the toughest week and September 11th—the saddest day. This is a day of remembrance, a week of remembrance, and our prayers and our hearts go out to the victims' families and friends, because they have lost so much and have stood up so bravely in the years since.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 3 minutes to my dear friend and distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), and it is so appropriate that our next speaker be a Representative from New York.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for yielding me this time and for his leadership on this and so many other issues. I rise in strong support of this resolution.

As we remember the third anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, we must not forget the heroes and heroines who selflessly gave of themselves responding to Ground Zero, but who now need our help.

Yesterday the Subcommittee on National Security of the Committee on Government Reform held a hearing on the persistent health effects of 9/11. We heard about the 380 firefighters who have had to end their careers due to illnesses and injuries, as well as the persistent respiratory problems among many other responders.

Mr. Speaker, there is a new medical condition as a result of 9/11 known as the World Trade Center cough. We learned from the GAO that 3 years after 9/11 basic questions still have not been answered. We know that thousands are sick, but we do not know the exact number. There are at least six different monitoring or health tracking programs, but there is no coordination among them, and not a single Federal program provides health care to those who responded and who need it now. There is a clear need for leadership, but we learned that not a single person in the Federal Government is in charge.

Quite simply, the heroes of 9/11 deserve better. This was an act of war. Our heroes and responders should be treated like veterans. At the very least, they should be provided with adequate health care as a result of their injuries. This is the reason why I have introduced H.R. 4059, the Remember 9/11 Health Act. This legislation provides for treatment, coordination, research, and long-term monitoring.

As we remember 9/11, let us not forget that there are heroes out there that still need our help. Our first responders were there for us. We need to be there for them with the very least in providing adequate health benefits to those who need it.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT).

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman of the Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), along with ranking member, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), for introducing this bipartisan resolution as we approach the third anniversary of September 11.

Every American remembers where they were that fateful morning of September 11, 2001. That day, we realized that the world had fundamentally changed. We were introduced to a faceless enemy that wants to destroy our very way of life.

Today we have the solemn privilege of honoring and remembering not only those innocent Americans who lost their lives in these horrific acts, but also those whose loved ones were so violently taken from them.

Since that tragic day, America has responded with determination. Al Qaeda is on the run. Two-thirds of its known leaders have been killed or captured, and a brutal dictator with terrorist ties and a proven appetite for weapons of mass destruction sits in an Iraqi jail. We have worked in cooperation with our allies to take the fight to the terrorists. We have worked aggressively to make our homeland more secure. But we must do more.

On this third observance of the September 11 terrorist attacks, let us keep in mind that the freedom that we as Americans have come to enjoy is a precious thing that can never be taken for granted. The world is a dangerous place, with dark forces that are actively seeking to deny us our cherished liberty.

We take heart in the noble and courageous example that has been set by the men and women of our Armed Forces fighting terrorists and the dictators that harbor them around the globe so we do not have to fight them on our streets and in our cities.

As we go about our daily lives, let us never forget those innocent Americans who were killed that September morning and those who sacrificed their lives in the hopes of saving others.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN).

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I thank the chairman for introducing this resolution. I stand in strong support of it.

On Friday, September 6, 2002, we had a special session of Congress in Federal Hall in New York City, and the poet laureate of the United States, Billy

Collins, read this moving poem, entitled "The Names."

Yesterday, I lay awake in the palm of the night. A soft rain stole in, unhelped by any breeze, and when I saw the silver glaze on the windows, I started with A, with Ackerman, as it happened, Then Baxter and Calabro, Davis and Eberling, names falling into place as droplets fell through the dark. Names printed on the ceiling of the night. Names slipping around a watery bend. Twenty-six willows on the banks of a stream. In the morning, I walked out barefoot among thousands of flowers heavy with dew like the eyes of tears, and each had a name, Fiori inscribed on a yellow petal, then Gonzalez and Han, Ishikawa and Jenkins. Names written in the air and stitched into the cloth of the day. A name under a photograph taped to a mailbox. Monogram on a torn shirt, I see you spelled out on storefront windows and on the bright unfurled awnings of this city. I say the syllables as I turn a corner, Kelly and Lee, Medina, Nardella, and O'Connor. When I peer into the woods, I see a thick tangle where letters are hidden as in a puzzle concocted for children. Parker and Quigley in the twigs of an ash, Rizzo, Schubert, Torres, and Upton, secrets in the boughs of an ancient maple. Names written in the pale sky. Names rising in the updraft amid buildings. Names silent in stone or cried out behind a door. Names blown over the earth and out to sea. In the evening, weakening light, the last swallows. A boy on a lake lifts his oars. A woman by a window puts a match to a candle, and the names are outlined on the rose clouds, Vanacore and Wallace, let X stand, if it can, for the ones unfound. Then Young and Ziminsky, the final jolt of Z. Names etched on the head of a pin. One name spanning a bridge, another undergoing a tunnel. A blue name needled into the skin. Names of citizens, workers, mothers and fathers, the bright-eyed daughter, the quick son. Alphabet of names in a green field. Names in the small tracks of birds. Names lifted from a hat or balanced on the tip of the tongue. Names wheeled into the dim warehouse of memory. So many names, there is barely room on the walls of the heart.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 3 minutes to my good friend and distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank both my distinguished colleagues, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), for giving us the opportunity to be able to rise today and to salute those ever brave, ever courageous and ever prayerful. It is wonderful that we live in a Nation that even in tragedy we can still pray and still commemorate and

celebrate, albeit the tragedy of 9/11, the strength and the valor of 9/11 as well.

My deepest sympathy to those who lost loved ones and had loved ones maimed and are still tending to their pain and their loss. Might I pay a special tribute to the families of the 9/11 victims. I salute you for your persistence in directing this Nation to the truth in the final results of the 9/11 Commission report. I ask and beg this Congress to act immediately upon those recommendations. But if it had not been for those valiant families, in their pain, who decided not to go away but to stand strong, we would not be the country we are today.

Might I add my appreciation, of course, for the young men and women on the front lines and say that when it was time to defend this Nation's honor, I stood and supported the war on terror. But let my vote not stand today, as I vote unanimously or enthusiastically for this resolution, that I connect any idea of the war on terror to the war in Iraq. And although I stood against it, I stand solidly with those men and women, National Guardsmen, reservists, and other enlisted men and women in the United States military, who are now fighting for us.

Why do we come to the floor to honor and to recognize this day and acknowledge those who lost their lives? Because I do stand with this Nation in our resolve to fight terror, and we will stand united to do so. In fact, I would ask that we unite singularly on the war on terror as we promote the civil liberties and civil rights of this Nation, and, yes, as we work collaboratively with our allies.

I also rise to thank our friends, Pakistan, who has risen to support us and stand alongside of us; our own longstanding friend, the Democratic State of India, who has continued to fight with us in the war on terror; our friends in Africa and the Mideast and South and Central America, who stand with us against the war on terror.

So I would say that it is time for America, in its honoring of its dead, to respect them for their loss, the tragic loss, to salute those families who remain in pain, and to salute those families who have lost their loved ones in Iraq and Afghanistan. They will be forever in our prayers, and we will be indebted to them, for they gave the ultimate sacrifice. And that means today, as we stand united voting on this resolution, we are standing to pay tribute to them for being ever brave, ever courageous and ever prayerful.

We also acknowledge that we come to this resolution with differing opinions. Although we may not have supported a war in Iraq, we support all of those who stood for our freedom.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA).

□ 1100

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support and commend both the chairman and the ranking member for bringing this resolution to the floor. I think all Americans, indeed all free-loving people, come together again on the third anniversary of that dreadful day, forever to be known as 9/11, or September 11, to pay tribute to the victims who died, so many heroically, and all of them innocently, on that fateful day.

I cannot help but think that on September 11 people around the world will take a moment to remember what that day was all about, and I cannot help but think about what was happening 3 years ago today. Three years ago today, a bunch of individuals who were barbaric in nature put together the plan, the final touches that would lead ultimately to the death of almost 3,000 innocent people and how they scurried about the country, here, the United States of America, once thought to be not possible. In fact when they built the World Trade Center, no one ever contemplated an attack on our own soil; but that is what happened.

These barbarians, after reaping the fruits of what America had to offer, decided to take those planes and use those planes as missiles and kill innocent people just going about their lives, too many of whom I had the privilege to represent in Staten Island and Brooklyn. Chances are they were getting up to send their kids to school, got on the bus, took the Staten Island ferry, and walked up to the Trade Center, never to return. As we join today, there are still many families who have not recovered from that day, and perhaps some never will; but our hearts and prayers hope that they find the strength to move on.

We can never erase the lives of the likes of guys like Marty Egan who was not working in Manhattan that day but jumped on a fire engine and ran into the Trade Center to try to help. His wife, Diane, and kids live in Great Hills in Staten Island, and they try to go on; but I know it will never be the same.

There were people like Stephen Siller, a fireman who was supposed to meet his brothers to play golf, said there is an emergency, I have to go into Manhattan, and ran through the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel to help his fellow firefighters and try to save innocent people. Stephen never saw his brothers again, not to mention the hundreds, if not thousands, of others who went about their lives as they should have that day. All this while those barbarians contrived and plotted, as terrorist barbarians do, to take the life of innocent people. Let us not forget what these terrorist barbarians are apt to do. Just last week look at what happened in Russia where the ultimate acts of barbarity took place and innocent children were blown up. That is what we are up against.

As we honor those who lost their lives on September 11 and give thanks to the families who have suffered every day since, let us not forget what we are

up against. Let us not forget that freedom is under attack still. Let us not forget there are individuals around this globe who still want to see the destruction of the United States of America.

I commend the 9/11 report to every American to read so they can get some insight into what these individuals, these terrorists have coming, that is, they do not want to see us be free. They would rather take innocent life after innocent life after innocent life until they get their way.

I hope and pray that Republicans and Democrats long ago understood that we need to unite in a vigilant and a constant and a steadfast way to root out those evil ones wherever they may be. They may be here, they may be in the caves in Afghanistan, they may be in spots around the globe; and we do not even know the names of the towns or cities or villages they are in. If we can stay together and leave the ridiculous rhetoric aside and join with our young men and women who wear our Nation's uniform to support our Commander in Chief when he makes that claim that we are under attack, if we can somehow put our partisan differences aside and unite and stay fast for our great country, and if anything, to remember those victims who perished on September 11, 2001.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT).

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I want to once again thank our distinguished chairman, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), for his leadership not only on this debate today but over the last several years as we have all come together to fight this war against international terrorism. I also want to thank the very distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS). Having served on the Committee on International Relations for the last 10 years, I have had an opportunity to observe firsthand the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS). Although we do not agree on everything, hearing him speak in the committee is like attending a seminar because of the insight and knowledge he has.

Even though this institution sometimes people would say reeks with partisanship, that particular committee under the leadership of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) is an example of true bipartisanship and doing what is right for the country. I thank these gentlemen for their hard work on the Committee on International Relations.

We are here as Members of Congress to honor those who lost their lives on that terrible day and the families that have had to suffer through this terrible tragedy. There were so many heroes in New York and also here in Washington, D.C. because the Pentagon as well was struck and many lives were taken there, but also in that field in Pennsylvania where the fourth plane went down and those passengers on that

plane had the opportunity to talk with their loved ones because they had cell phones.

Prior to this incident, whenever there had been a hijacking in this country, and thank God we have not had one for many years in this country, but when there was one, most people assumed they would want to have prisoners released in some other community or something of that nature. No one really anticipated that planes would be flown into buildings, but they talked to their loved ones and they found out what was happening and what happened with the first three planes, so they were determined that would not happen again. Because they were willing to give up their lives in trying to take back that plane, this building that we are in today, the United States Capitol Building, or the building down the street, the White House, stands, whereas they might well have been destroyed and many lives been taken had they not been willing to sacrifice their lives.

But I have always felt those passengers, those innocent passengers on those other three planes would have done the same thing had they been aware of what was happening, but no one could have known. We want to continue to acknowledge the heroes that went into those twin towers on that fateful morning and tried to save other people's lives. There are so many Americans that showed what this country is all about; and we know that we are, after all, the target of these terrorist groups because of what we stand for.

We are that city on the hill that Ronald Reagan referred to, and we must always remember that we must be in this battle against international terrorism for the long term because they ultimately attack us for what we stand for, and that is freedom. Not only freedom for Americans in this country, but freedom for people all around the world who do not at this time live in freedom; but when we prevail in this war against international terrorism, there are many people around the globe that will have the same freedoms that we have in this country.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY).

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for giving me the opportunity to speak on this resolution.

I know that most, if not all, Members who have spoken on the resolution have spoken in a positive way; but I feel it is necessary to point out some aspects of the whereas clauses in this resolution that do not stand up to scrutiny and in fact are false.

The resolution says that the war in Iraq is a responsible and necessary response to the attack on our country of September 11. I think that this resolution in saying that, which is blatantly false, does a disservice to our country, and does a disservice particularly to all

of the victims of the attack of September 11. The war in Iraq had nothing to do with the attack of September 11. We know that from our own study of this issue.

Anyone in this body who has read the Senate Intelligence Committee report, 511 pages, knows very well that that report debunks the notion that the war in Iraq is a necessary response to the attack of September 11. The Senate Intelligence Committee report makes it clear that Iraq had nothing to do with the attack of September 11; and that in addition, Iraq had no weapons of mass destruction. There was no connection between Iraq and al Qaeda, no connection between Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein. The Senate Intelligence Committee report says so precisely and clearly.

Furthermore, the independent commission known as the 9/11 Commission which studied this issue also very closely and very carefully in a bipartisan way came to precisely the same conclusion, that there was no connection between the attack of September 11 and the war in Iraq, and that the President has taken us to war in Iraq without any foundation whatsoever.

So this resolution in its whereas clauses presents information as if they were facts, but they are clearly not facts. They are wrong; they are misstatements of the facts.

The resolution goes on to say, for example, that the international military coalition is very active here and engaged in this activity, but the fact of the matter is that this international coalition is falling apart. Six nations have already withdrawn. Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Spain, the Philippines, Norway and Nicaragua have already left a coalition that in the first place was not very large. Poland, the Netherlands, and New Zealand are planning to withdraw.

So the statement in this resolution, particularly in the whereas clauses, and I wish I had more time because there is a whole host of things that need to be addressed here, the whereas clauses stipulate things which are blatantly untrue. This resolution is unfortunate.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution would have been much better if the people who put it on the floor here had not decided to bring us a political document. We ought to be commemorating the event of September 11, 2001. We ought to be thinking of it in a solemn, honest, and sincere way. We ought to have uppermost in our minds the people who were killed in that attack, more than 3,000 of them; but we ought to do it in a way that does honor to their sacrifice, not in a way that dissembles, not in a way that presents information that is not factual, not in a way that is dishonest in our presentation.

□ 1115

Unfortunately, that is what this resolution does in its whereas clauses. The resolved clauses I think is fine, but in

the whereas clauses it stipulates things that are false and untrue.

Why do we have a political document like this on the floor? Why do we have a document that is not clear, not honest, not sincere, not in keeping with the sacrifice made by those people? That is what we ought to have, but unfortunately we do not have.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I will only briefly comment on the remarks made by the last speaker. He can tell the newly free inhabitants of Afghanistan, of Iraq and of Libya that this has not been a worthwhile effort. There is a direct connection between the war in Iraq and the bombing of September 11. Our response to that bombing of September 11 was Iraq based on the best information available.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE).

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman HYDE and Ranking Member LANTOS for submitting this resolution and bringing it forward. I would like to thank both of them for their leadership on foreign policy issues, particularly as it relates to our response to September 11, 2001. While some here would choose to politicize what I think is an appropriate and somber resolution expressing sorrow for the loss of September 11 and expressing appreciation for all those who responded, our police and firefighters and other first responders, our brave men and women in our Armed Forces and our leadership in the White House, in the Congress and in the administrative branch of our country to address one of the most serious threats we have ever had, I for one commend the vast majority of Members of this body who will not attempt to try to politicize what I think is a very finely drawn resolution both in the whereas clauses and in the resolved clauses.

I have just returned from New York City from a great convention. I have been to New York several times since September 11. Each time I see that great city rising further and further from the devastation that so many of its citizens suffered and the city itself suffered on September 11, 2001. I was so proud to see the police officers and the firefighters and other first responders taking such great pride in their city as they made all of us who were visitors feel so secure during that important convention. And so I think this resolution is so appropriate for that reason alone, to say thank you to those in New York who rose to the occasion on September 11, 2001 and have been rising ever since.

I also know that my own State of Virginia suffered grievous loss with the attack on the Pentagon. Each week as I drive home to my congressional district, I drive by the Pentagon and I think of that attack. I think of the brave men and women who were killed that day and the many, many more

who have so bravely risen to the occasion of leading our country in response, in Afghanistan; yes, in Iraq and elsewhere around the world to make Americans more secure and safer than they were on that fateful day 3 years ago.

This loss was tragic, but America has shown a resolve and a resilience and a courage that is remarkable for any nation on Earth, but it is the hallmark of this country that we have done time and time again for generations, standing up for freedom, standing up for hope for the future.

I thank the leadership, and I thank the gentleman from Illinois and the gentleman from California for their leadership on this resolution which I urge my colleagues to adopt.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 3 minutes to my good neighbor and distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman for yielding me this time and for his leadership on the Committee on International Relations in working on so many issues in a bipartisan fashion. I just want to also say thank you to our chairman, the gentleman from Illinois, and rise today to respectfully disagree with this resolution in terms of the content of it and talk a little bit about for a minute the intent.

First, I think we should during this period remember the victims and the families and all of those who died during the horrific attack of 9/11. We express our sorrow for these families, for New York, for Virginia, for those on Flight 93. My former chief of staff, his cousin was on Flight 93. These individuals were heroes, and they saved many lives. So today we must remember them, and we must talk also and remember the fact that we need to fully fund our first responders and those who came to the rescue of so many. We need to provide the funding for homeland security, and we need to move forward to address a real war on terror.

I might remind this body that the 9/11 Commission, bipartisan Commission, the 9/11 Commission, reported that there was no connection between 9/11 and Iraq. This resolution really puts all that together and forces a vote for Members of Congress who believe in the 9/11 Commission that there was no connection. This resolution says that there was a connection between 9/11 and Iraq. There was no connection, as the 9/11 Commission mentioned, between al Qaeda, Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein.

Again, why are we putting forth a resolution that convolutes the issue? We know that the war on terror has been botched. We know that in Iraq over 1,000 of our young men and women have died, and we know that al Qaeda is still strong, and we know that America is not any safer.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I think today we need to be honest with the American people, and we need to remember

those who gave their lives, who were so viciously killed, in a resolution that does just that. This resolution does not do that. This resolution promotes a policy of connecting the war on terror with the war against Iraq, a perspective and a distortion of fact that the 9/11 Commission indicated was not real, and I think we do a real disservice to the people of our country and to the world community by not being truthful during this very somber moment.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER).

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, on 9/11, thousands of American citizens were slaughtered before our eyes. It was the worst case of an attack on Americans, people say, since Pearl Harbor. No, this was far worse than Pearl Harbor because all of these Americans who were slaughtered, and it was a slaughter, all of them were noncombatants. This was not only the worst case of an attack on the United States of America, it was the worst terrorist attack, I believe, in history, at least in modern history. It is something we can never forget. If we do, we will do so at our peril.

I believe perhaps some of the things that brought on this attack were the fact that we had forgotten some of the lessons of the past. I think it has been admirable since 9/11 that we have had the bipartisan commitment to standing strong in the face of this what I consider to be a barbaric challenge to civilization.

We call this the war on terror. I do not call it the war on terror. I call it the war on those people who made war on us that began on 9/11, and that war is a war on those people who believe in radical Islam, not Muslims in general, but those people who believe in radical Islam, and I will define that radical Islam as being a belief that people have a right because of their faith in God to murder innocent people and commit acts of violence on people of other faiths.

Today we need to stand united with all those people in the world, including those moderate Muslims throughout the world who disassociate themselves from this type of brutality and this type of philosophy that leads to the 9/11s and the slaughter of innocent people. Today more than ever as this resolution does, it proclaims that we will stand together as Americans, and we will stand together with all people of the world who believe in these decent values that I talk about today.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 2 minutes to another distinguished colleague from New York (Mr. ENGEL).

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and distinguished colleague for yielding time to me, and I rise in strong support of the resolution. Being a New Yorker, no one feels the pain of September 11 more than we do. I happen to have been in New York on that fateful day, and my life will never be

the same, and I know the life of so many millions of Americans will never be the same.

I think this is a time for Congress to come together and to commemorate the struggle, to talk about September 11, to talk about what it means in all of our lives and to really bring the country together. September 11 was an incident that will forever remain in our lives. For me, it showed that the war on terrorism is a war that needs the participation of all Americans. It does not matter whether you are a Democrat or a Republican or an Independent, or black or white or brown, or from the North or the South or the East or the West. We are all Americans, and this is quite appropriate for Congress to come together.

There may be people who may disagree on a sentence or two here and there in this resolution, but basically I believe that we all ought to stick together and talk about September 11 and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives on the anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

I just want to say as a New Yorker, every time I look at Manhattan, it even chokes me up to begin to talk about it and look at the skyline of New York and see that the Twin Towers are no longer there. It leaves a hole in my heart, and that, of course, only pales by the fact that 3,000 people lost their lives, and countless others were injured. We can see based on what is happening in Russia and every other place, in Israel and every other place in the world, that terrorism is everybody's fight. It is our fight as Americans. It is the fight of all decent people. We have to stand together.

I rise in strong support of this resolution and ask my colleagues to vote for it so that we as a Congress can be united in the fight against terror.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, before yielding back my time, let me just say that while in this election season there is a cacophony of voices which might give the impression of deep divisions, in fact the American people are united in their determination not only to wage a war on terrorism, but to win that war on global terrorism wherever it appears.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 minutes.

I just want to respond to a couple of the previous speakers who have injected the honesty of this resolution into question. You can disagree with somebody's point of view, as we often do, but questioning their honesty or their work product as dishonest I do not think has a place in this House. When it comes to the war in Iraq, you can say that by mentioning it in the resolution, and all it says is, whereas, since the U.S. was attacked, it led an international military coalition in the destruction of two terrorist regimes in Afghanistan and Iraq. I do not know what is dishonest about that, but you

can think it is if you wish. The fact is the war in Iraq was a response to the 9/11 assault, kamikaze, suicide bombers that killed over 3,000 people.

□ 1130

There had been a surfeit of U.N. resolutions, I think 14 or 15. It was the considered opinion of every single government in the West that had an intelligence service that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction. He had them before, he had the programs, and he used them. Therefore, having been assaulted, having been blind-sided by the aircraft, al Qaeda ran into the World Trade Center, we were not going to sit there and let it happen again. And based on the best intelligence, we responded to the sucker punch, blind-siding atrocities in the World Trade Center by moving into Iraq after getting another resolution demanding that he open up to inspection his weapons programs.

One can call that dishonest if they want. I call it leadership. And I am sorry that issue got into this resolution because we are commemorating heroines and heroes in one of the great tragedies in all of history, namely what happened September 11.

Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY).

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me this time. I appreciate his comments and his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor, and I appreciate the bipartisan way he has done it, and appreciate the support of the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS).

And I really want to associate myself with the gentleman from California's (Mr. LANTOS) final remarks that no matter what we hear on this floor, Americans are united in this war and are united in how we approach the national security of this Nation. But I also want to say especially to those soldiers on the ground in harm's way, those young men and women that are fighting all over the world, most particularly in Iraq and Afghanistan, and to the families of those that have sacrificed their loved ones that the remarks made by those opposed to this resolution reflect a very small, tiny, tiny minority in this country. We are united in this country in support of those troops, and, most importantly, they need to understand that what they are doing is right, what they are dying for is right, and we greatly appreciate their sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, by the way, the vote on this resolution will prove me right, that they are a very tiny minority.

Mr. Speaker, 3 years on, it is hard to believe so much time has passed, for September 11, 2001, still resonates in our hearts and minds as if it were yesterday. Yet at the same time, the panging memories of that day call out to us across the ages: 8:47 a.m. when the first plane hit; 10:05 a.m. when the South Tower collapsed; the look on the

President's face when he heard the news; the image of firefighters carrying the lifeless body of their chaplain; Mayor Giuliani, mask in hand, covered in ashy debris; the blood and the rubble; the attack on the Pentagon; the rumors, the panic, the fear, the desperate search for survivors; the defiant raising of the flag at Ground Zero; Flight 93, Todd Beamer, "Let's roll."

"Roll" we have, Mr. Speaker, from that day to this on land, on sea, and in the air. Our enemies have been named and their sponsors warned, and America has risen. The cause of human freedom has stood anew athwart the forces of oppression and cruelty and violence.

History and Providence have called out again for the free people of Earth to stand against evil, and the citizens of this Republic have kept their charge.

On September, 11, 2001, America stared evil in the face, and though our eyes filled with tears, we did not blink. We did not fear "though the Earth be shaken and mountains quake to the depths of the seas, though its waters rage and foam and mountains totter at its surging." We did not fear because we knew, even as the fires smoldered beneath the rubble, that we would stand, that we would fight, and that we would be heard.

We mourned that day the deaths of 3,000 of our countrymen at the hands of terror, and we mourn today more than 1,000 more whose lives have been taken by the same. We honor their courage, and we honor their sacrifice, and we give thanks and praise to our Creator that such men and women lived.

Three years on the recovery continues. The Pentagon has been repaired. The fields of Pennsylvania have been cleared, and Ground Zero has begun its resurrection. Unforgotten names have been read and reread, flags flown, and wounds reopened and healed once again. Memorials great and small have been planned and dedicated.

But, Mr. Speaker, monuments to freedom are never made of marble, but of action. Heroes like the 9/11 Lost, the firefighters and passengers, the cops and rescue workers, the moms and dads, are truly honored not by words, but by deeds.

The resolution before us today, Mr. Speaker, enumerates those deeds and the progress of the global struggle they have served. Three years on and the world has changed. Terrorist networks across the globe have been disrupted, and two-thirds of al Qaeda's leaders, managers, and facilitators have been arrested or killed. Terrorist regimes have been ended in Afghanistan and Iraq, ended by the finest coalition of states and soldiers ever assembled. The threat of that coalition led another terrorist regime in Libya to end its pursuit of weapons of mass destruction. Terrorists the world over are on the run, unable to organize, plan, or reconstitute their pre-9/11 training and operations. The war against terrorism, which was waged since at least the

first World Trade Center bombing in 1993 and probably long before, was joined on September 11, 2001, and in the 3 years since, the tide of that conflict has turned.

The United States has committed itself to the proposition that the security of our Nation and the ultimate survival of civilization depend on the aggressive prosecution of this war everywhere at all times until this war is won. There will be no negotiated settlement in this conflict, no signatures on a piece of parchment. Drums will continue to beat, and blood, much as we may not wish it, will continue to be shed. But, Mr. Speaker, struggle is the only honorable course before us.

The murderers of 9/11 are the enemies of all that is good and true in this world. And even through our tears this week, we still see clearly the justice and necessity of our cause. The ideology of our enemies, a violent corruption of their religion, and the cult of death that they worship have no place in civilized society, whether of the East or West, and it is now the policy of our Nation and our allies to repel this evil so that generations hence may be free from days like those that we live now.

It is said that 9/11 was "our Pearl Harbor." It was also said that "Pearl Harbor" was "our parents' Alamo" and that the Alamo was "Texas's Valley Forge." We fight today, Mr. Speaker, so that our children and our grandchildren decades from now need not come to the well of this House and remember a horrible day of their own as "our 9/11."

Three years on, Mr. Speaker, and we fight everywhere and anywhere we must. For the soldiers in Baghdad, their faces marred with sand and sweat and blood, they are fighting the same evil and upholding the same virtues as the Special Forces in Tora Bora and the guards at Guantanamo, fighting the same evil and upholding the same virtues as the men aboard Flight 93 and the firefighters in the South Tower and the rescue workers at the Pentagon. It is one and the same conflict. It is one and the same conflict, in which one and the same courage will purchase for this Nation one and the same victory.

Support this resolution before us, my colleagues, and reaffirm our commitment to remember those that we lost and those that they left behind, those who protected us and those who died trying, those who remember and those that we cannot forget, who it was that started this war and who it will be that wins it, so that every September 11 from now until the end of the age, free men of the world can look to this Nation, the last, best hope on Earth, and know that when evil struck and the earth trembled beneath us, here America rose, here freedom stood.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, almost 3 years ago, President Bush came to this Chamber and promised the American people that he would lead America in a war against the terrorists who attacked us on September 11th.

We did not choose this war. But now that we are in it, we have no choice but to win it.

Later today, we will pay our respects to those who lost their lives in those deadly attacks in New York, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

And as we pay our respects to those who died on that fateful day, we will also pay tribute to those who have died defending freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This war is not over, but we are winning. And our soldiers have not died in vain. The Taliban has been crushed. Saddam Hussein is in jail. And Osama Bin Laden is on the run.

Last week, the brutal murder of innocent children in Russia served as a grim reminder about the nature of this enemy.

The terrorists will not play by the rules of basic decency. And we have no choice but to stop them before they strike again.

My deepest condolences go out to the Russian people. The American people understand your grief and feel your deep sense of loss.

And as we remember our own losses in this global war in terror, we share your resolve to bring the terrorists to justice.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution, though I wish it did not contain several of the so-called "findings".

On Saturday, we face the third anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. In my district alone, we lost 122 people on that tragic day. I can't tell you how many memorial services I attended for people in my own district, nor describe in words the sympathy and sorrow I felt for family members who lost loved ones from all over the country.

So, I will support this resolution as an expression of my deepest sympathies to families and friends of the thousands of victims of that fateful day.

I will support it as an expression of our Nation's gratitude and pride in our men and women in uniform who have performed with brilliance and valor in the war on terror and Operation Iraqi Freedom. To date, 1,005 Americans have made the ultimate sacrifice in support of our country in Iraq, while many others have done so around the world in the fight against terror.

This should be a time to bring together, to consult, to be unanimous. Instead, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have chosen to use this resolution to speak about the handling of the war in Iraq. The resolution glosses over the intelligence failures and serious misstatements and flip-flops by the Bush Administration concerning the reason for going to war in Iraq.

One of the findings in the resolution states ". . . it has led an international military coalition in the destruction of two terrorist regimes in Afghanistan and Iraq . . ." Mr. Speaker, it appears the Republicans are trying to provide cover for one of the Bush Administration's main justifications for the war in Iraq. How many times has Vice President CHENEY and other top administration officials asserted that there were extensive ties between Hussein's government and Osama bin Laden's terrorist network? In fact, earlier this year, the Vice President said evidence of a link was "overwhelming."

However, the September 11 Commission found in its report that there is no "collaborative relationship" between Iraq and al Qaeda.

The resolution also lists some changes that have been made since the horrible attacks

against our Nation on 9/11. While these initial steps have been taken, the September 11 Commission Report has provided 41 specific recommendations that radically reshape our Nation's intelligence community. The Commission made it perfectly clear these changes must occur immediately to protect our Nation and our citizens now and in the future from any further attack.

It is shameful that the Republicans are using a crucial resolution that could express our collective sentiment as we did after September 11, and instead seek partisan gain out of what should be a national embrace.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, 3 years ago, cowardly terrorists attacked America. Today, in the building that symbolizes America's freedom, we remember those who died on that fateful day. The memory of their loss will forever guide our mission to protect America from terror.

Terrorism continues to plague our world, but it can not and it will not deter us from our mission to spread liberty and defend freedom.

I commend President Bush for his unwavering commitment to the security of the United States. The sacrifices that our brave men and women in uniform have made in pursuit of the security of our Nation will never be forgotten. And it is because of their dedication that two formerly oppressed nations are free and that our homeland is more secure.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the third anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and to remember those who lose their lives that day, especially the residents of Connecticut and of my district.

We should take time on each anniversary of September 11, 2001 to honor the dead, their families and those who continue to serve as the nation's first lines of defense against acts of terrorism and disasters. We will not forget the selfless firefighters, police officers and emergency medical workers who confronted chaos and terror that day and lost their lives as they gave everything to save others. We owe a debt of gratitude that can never be fully repaid to the first responders and members of our military who continue to work each day protecting our communities and our nation. No matter how many years pass, our memories and our grief will not fade, nor will our determination to defeat terror throughout the world and attack its root causes. We must focus the incredible resources of this nation on capturing Osama bin Laden and destroying his al Qaeda network that are responsible for the events of that day. We would also be well served by implementing the recommendation made by the September 11th Commission to help prevent future attacks.

The nation will remain defiant in the face of terror and threats and must never waiver from the things that make us great: our freedom, our liberty and our democracy. To curtail the freedoms of Americans in the name of fighting our enemies would be a disservice to the memory of September 11 and every American who has given their life or put themselves in harm's way to defend this Nation and its people.

The profound outrage and indescribable sadness all Americans felt that day is now part of the soul of the Nation. Nothing can change what happened in New York, Pennsylvania or at the Pentagon, but we owe it to those who died to be the good citizens and to build a stronger Nation in their memory.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday marks 3 years since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2004.

Three years ago terrorists launched an attack on the United States in the most cowardly manner. They attempted to break American resolve and to stifle our Nation's spirit. They did not succeed. The terrorist attacks sparked a renewed patriotism in Americans. Three years later we resolve never to let another attack like September 11th happen again.

The anniversary of 9/11 is a solemn reminder that we must do all that we can as members of Congress to prevent another terrorist attack on American soil, or anywhere else in the world. We must act immediately to implement the recommendations of the 9/11 commission. We must focus our efforts on disbanding Al Qaeda and other terrorist groups. We must always remember the lives lost on September 11, 2001, and in honor of those lives do everything in our power to prevent terrorists from striking America again.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the victims and remember the families of those who were killed in the horrible tragedy that occurred 3 years ago this coming Saturday, September 11th. We will always mourn the tragic loss of life and never forget the sacrifices made that day. Likewise, we will always support our troops and their well being.

Unfortunately, the resolution before us today goes far beyond paying tribute to the victims of 9/11. The resolution falsely reaffirms a connection between the attacks of 9/11 and the war in Iraq. These connections simply never existed and repeating this falsehood again and again will never make it true. The President's own 9/11 bipartisan commission has reported that there was no connection between Iraq and the 9/11 attacks. This resolution does a disservice to the American people.

The administration's preemptive, virtually unilateral war in Iraq has made us and indeed the world a less secure place. I cannot ignore the fact that over 1,000 American lives have been lost. Nor, can I disregard the significance of the 7,000 members of our Armed Forces that have been wounded including the untold thousands of Iraqi lives and the lives of other international non-combatants.

For these reasons, I am unable to support this resolution.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay respect to the memory of those who lost their lives 3 years ago this September 11th.

Our country has still not recovered from this terrible tragedy, and people in the World Trade Center Buildings and the Pentagon, those aboard United Flight 93 in Pennsylvania, and the brave men and women who lost their lives in the line of duty that day will forever be remembered for their bravery and sacrifice.

It was 3 years ago that these terrible attacks occurred and awakened this Nation to the hatred these terrorists have for the principles of freedom and for our great country.

Three years and two wars later, however, there is still much to be done to protect the people of this Nation and ensure something like the 9/11 attacks never takes place again.

It is still too easy for terrorists to cross our borders; our homeland security professional lack vital information they need to protect us; and our Nation's first responders still lack the training and equipment they need to prepare for, or respond to, a terrorist attack.

My hometown and the district I represent in Houston, is one of the most at-risk areas in the Nation.

Of all the possible targets in our area, including Houston's large metropolitan population, NASA's Johnson Space Center, and the Texas Medical Center, the Port of Houston and Houston's petrochemical complex remain one of the most susceptible due primarily to lack of Federal funding for our protection.

Based on Coast Guard estimates, port owners and operators are still short by over \$400 million to implement port security plan upgrades, such as surveillance cameras.

The U.S. is home to more than 66,000 chemical production and storage facilities spread out amount our cities, towns, and rural areas.

According to the EPA, 7,000 of these facilities pose a risk to 10,000 or more people, however, the Department of Homeland Security has visited fewer than 100 facilities.

These facilities and surrounding communities deserve Federal support if we must increase their protection for national security.

These are necessary and vital steps we must take to protect our homeland, yet so many of these have gone unfunded while we have spent over \$200 billion in Iraq despite no clear connection between the former Iraqi government and the terrorists that target America.

Three years after we were forced into this war on terror, we must assess what we have done and what we must do to protect our Nation.

We must go after the terrorists where they live and train, with all countries that share our values and our desire to root out terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, on a day when we are remembering those that lost their lives in the 9/11 attacks, we must make every effort to protect the people of this country so that we never have to mourn another attack on U.S. soil.

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the victims of the attacks on American on September 11, 2001, and to celebrate the way Americans worked together to rise up from the ashes of the wreckage. In the 3 years since our soil was attacked, the service of America's Armed Forces, the scores of volunteers and first responders who have helped the victims and their families, and the many ordinary people who help out in times of tragedy and grief proved through their actions the true greatness of America.

There is a new reality in our world. America continues to strengthen its ability to defend itself against all types of enemies. But while we strengthen our defenses we must not forget that which makes America great and allows her to flourish—our civil liberties.

The United States must be both a leader and a partner in the world in order to stop senseless acts of violence. Diplomatic words and peaceful actions show an alternative to the use of force; I hope that both can ultimately lead to a world free from terror.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of the 4th Congressional District to remember the thousands of American lives lost on September 11, 2001.

Although 3 years has passed, I continue to remember all the people in the towers, at the Pentagon, and on United Flight 93. I would especially like to recognize the people from Long Island who were killed. Also in my thoughts are the families who live everyday with the terrible loss of their loved ones.

I commend all of the firefighters, police, and health care workers who were helping on the front lines. I would also like to thank the thousands of Long Islanders who mobilized to do what they could to help. Finally, as a representative from New York, my constituents and I appreciate the generosity extended to us by the rest of the country during a time of such terrible grief.

While September 11 was a shocking day for all Americans, the Nation united in an extraordinary fashion to take action against the tragedy inflicted upon us. Today we must unite once more to implement the suggestions made by the 9/11 Commission Report, which I fully endorse. I believe that the 9/11 Commission should be extended so that it can fully support and monitor the bipartisan enacting of its recommendations until most have been made into law. I will continue to work to ensure that the commission's report is implemented quickly and with proper congressional oversight. We owe it to the thousands of victims' families to respond quickly and effectively to this terrible disaster.

We now know we were not as safe as we could have been on September 11. We need to find Osama bin Laden and finish the job we began in Afghanistan. We need to make sweeping changes to the Department of Homeland Security and ensure funding is increased for law enforcement agencies to handle new security threats. We must realize that state and local budgets are already stretched too thin and allocate federal funding to tighten security.

In keeping with the tremendous spirit of the Nation during the weeks following 9/11, I encourage everyone to do something this September 11 that shows the world what it means to be an American. You can donate blood, write a letter to someone in the military, or volunteer at a women's shelter. Make the anniversary about more than just remembering those we lost.

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, while I strongly believe Congress should pay tribute to the victims of 9/11 and honor our brave troops and first-responders for their valiant service to America, this resolution unequivocally exploits the victims of 9/11 for narrow political purposes and perpetuates erroneous claims connecting 9/11 to the war in Iraq.

The bi-partisan 9/11 Commission declared—in no uncertain terms—that there was no connection between 9/11, al Qaeda and Iraq. For those who support this resolution, I must ask—is Congress disputing the findings of the 9/11 Commission? Does Congress believe al Qaeda operated in Iraq prior to the U.S. invasion? And is Congress pleased with the insufficient coalition assembled by President Bush that has led America to carry an overwhelming economic and military burden in Iraq? The facts show that these claims are distortions at best, blatant lies and manipulations at worst, and the American people deserve the truth.

The truth is that America took its eye off the ball in Afghanistan, allowing terrorists such as Osama bin Laden to reconstitute their forces and operate freely. By transferring our military resources from Afghanistan to Iraq—when Iraq posed no imminent threat and had no weapons of mass destruction—this Administration failed the American people and weakened our efforts in the war against terror.

The truth is that al Qaeda was not operating in Iraq prior to the U.S. invasion, and they

have created an increasingly dangerous network in this war-torn country since. Despite the Bush Administration's claims of successfully combating terror in Iraq, the reality on the ground stands in stark contradiction. We have withdrawn our forces from four cities in Iraq in which terror has flourished. And despite White House claims, officials in the U.S. military have announced that it cannot eliminate these sanctuaries of terror. As we mark the loss of over 1,000 innocent lives in Iraq, Congress should not be celebrating our alleged success in Iraq; we should instead examine our failures.

This resolution is transparent, empty political propaganda at its worst, and is unconscionable that the drafters of this resolution would egregiously politicize the memory of 9/11.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, on this third year since the tragic terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, I think it is appropriate for Americans to reflect on what we have learned since that fateful day, what we have done to make our homeland safer, and what we as a nation should do to secure our safety in the future.

Our Nation, and indeed the world, has learned that terrorism is a global epidemic that crosses all political lines and moral boundaries. Most recently, the terror attacks in Beslan, Russia prove that no country and no person is immune from the cowardice and tragedy of terrorism.

In these 3 years we have learned that U.S. leadership is necessary and working to stifle terrorists bent on killing, disrupting, and destroying our way of life. Afghanistan was the home base of Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda terrorist network, but now the terror camps are closed, democracy is rising, and the American people are safer. Pakistan was a safe transit point for terrorists on missions of murder. Now their government is working with the United States to find terrorists in remote regions of Pakistan. Saudi Arabia is tracking down terrorists operating there. Libya has given up its nuclear-processing equipment.

Before America took action, Saddam Hussein's Iraq was a threat—he was a threat to us; he was a threat to the free world; he was a threat to the Middle East; and he was a threat to his own people. He is no longer a threat, and the American people are safer. We removed a declared enemy of America who had the capability of producing weapons of mass destruction. Saddam Hussein had that capability, and he could have passed that capability to terrorists bent on acquiring them. After September 11, that is a risk we cannot afford to take. America must confront threats before they fully materialize—before it's too late.

These international actions have made our domestic borders more secure.

The United States has also used the 3 years since 9/11 to better equip our Nation's first responders. Police, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and local government officials now have the tools, knowledge, and training to prevent or react to a terrorist attack. Congress created the Homeland Security Department to coordinate efforts to secure our borders, our air, and our seaports. The department monitors for potential threats coming from nontraditional sources aimed at our cities and our national infrastructure.

These three years of accomplishments include something especially important to my

hometown of Jacksonville. As one of the busiest seaports on the east coast, port security is critical to securing the homeland from foreign-bred tools of terror. Recognizing that cargo containers could bring dangerous items of an explosive, biological, or even nuclear danger, the Container Security Initiative is an initiative to protect the global trading system and the trade lanes between international ports and the United States. Under this program, a team of Customs and Border Protection officers is deployed to work with host nation counterparts to target all containers that pose a potential threat to our Nation.

It is clear a lot of progress has been made in the global war against terrorism. It is equally clear we have more to do.

In addition to building on the lessons of 9/11, improving our homeland security, and eradicating terrorist organizations, I believe America's charge going forward is to continue to lead by example. Our Nation must welcome with open arms our allies who join this fight. Our Nation must continue to export democracy to any burgeoning nation willing to embrace its principles. We ought to let our policies and principles of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness shine brightly over the grim allure of the hollow creeds of terrorists.

Looking forward, threats to this country in terms of terrorism are not going to come from rival global powers. They are going to come from the smaller emerging countries, smaller failing countries. Those are countries where they lack education, they lack the rule of law, they lack personal freedom; and those are countries where terrorism can flourish, where terrorism can fester, where terrorists can find sanctuary. If we want to deal with those kinds of threats, it seems to me we can prevent that from happening by encouraging policies like the rule of law, human rights, and civil liberties. We can encourage countries through targeted and goal-based foreign aid that will prevent terrorists from taking root in unstable countries.

This September 11, I know many Americans will pay tribute to those lost 3 years ago. I add my voice to that tribute and say that I am proud of America, I am proud of Americans, I am proud of our troops here and abroad, and I am proud of our Commander in Chief. This day let us pray for those still hurting from the tragic losses of September 11, 2001, and let us as a nation continue working toward those goals that will prevent this tragedy from ever visiting us again.

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Speaker, this weekend we pause to remember the third anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. We pause to recollect the full meaning of the lives lost—nearly 3,000 Americans and foreign nationals. Our compatriots were not just casualty figures. They were mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, sons and daughters. They were best friends and good neighborhoods. They were lovers and loved ones. They were employers and employees. Their best contributions were still ahead of them.

We pause to recall the first responders who rescued thousands from the twin towers. We recall with amazement their bravery as they went into the towering infernos. And we recall that had it not been for heroic action of passengers aboard Flight 93, al Qaeda's terrorists might have crashed that airliner into the White

House or the Capitol Building instead of a field in rural Pennsylvania.

On this third anniversary of 9/11, we also pause to reaffirm our determination to triumph over fear. We reaffirm our determination to foster tolerance in our land and in the world, to build respect for all faiths, and to promote the collaborative action of people and governments across the globe, to mobilize for mutual development rather the civilizational destruction advocated by Osama bin Laden, al Qaeda, and other adherents of radical Islamist fundamentalism.

On this day and this occasion, our thoughts turn to the survivors of 9/11 and the families of the victims of the 9/11 attacks. It is impossible to calculate their enduring pain. Yet, we are inspired by how these families have turned their tragedy into effective action. Their dedication to the memory of loves ones lost led to the creation of the 9/11 commission, which in turn led to a set of recommendations for intelligence and homeland security reform that if implemented could better protect our nation, make us for secure, and positioned to share peace and prosperity with the world.

As a country, we must be as determined as the 9/11 families. We must be as determined now as we were on 9/11 to bring to justice the perpetrators of this colossal assault on human decency. But, mindful of all that has transpired since then—on the one hand a just but unfinished war in Afghanistan, on the other hand a disastrous diversion and unparalleled miscalculation in Iraq—we must proceed in meeting the al Qaeda challenge with wise leadership, with patience and persistence, with global allies, with sound plans, with focused effort.

Most of all, we must proceed together as Americans. We must reclaim the unity of purpose that gripped all of us on 9/11. I remember well utter destruction that took place on that beautiful September morning. But, I remember even better how every New Yorker, every American—Democrats, Republicans, Independents, Blacks, Whites, Hispanics, Asians, and Arabs, Jews, gentiles, and Muslims, rich and poor—came together as one.

We must reclaim that spirit and that purpose. We must overcome those among us who have distracted us by using our suffering as a nation for narrow and selfish political gain or have diverted resources, personnel, time, and energy from the struggle against Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda. We must regain the momentum and solidarity befitting a great people and a great nation focused on accomplishing great deeds of remembrance for the victims of 9/11.

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 757, is a resolution to mark the anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11. Although I voted in support of this resolution, I do have some reservations about the statements it contains.

Specifically, the resolution and the Bush administration's assertion that Iraq is the "central front" in the war on terror—while previously wrong—has become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

What have the administration's tactics amounted to? We now see terrorists in Baghdad—where none were before. We now see Iraq is a symbol for terrorist recruitment—where no symbol existed before.

Congress and the American people trusted the President when he said we needed to go to war in Iraq. It is clear that trust was misplaced.

As a result, what we have to show from trusting President Bush and his administration is 1,000 American lives lost, close to 7,000 of our men and women wounded. We have a military stretched so thin it is practically to its breaking point. We are spending billions of taxpayer dollars each month that we could be using to fix critical gaping homeland security vulnerabilities here at home or for counterterrorism operations in Afghanistan and elsewhere. And this Administration has destroyed our international credibility—even with many of our closest allies.

We know the President's justifications for going to war in Iraq have proven to be false—even experts within the administration have stated that Saddam Hussein did not possess weapons of mass destruction. The independent, bipartisan 9/11 Commission unequivocally found that Iraq had no ties to the 9/11 attacks and there was no collaborative relationship between Hussein's regime and al Qaeda.

The American people deserve the truth. The truth is not that we entered into war in Iraq because Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction or on the basis of terrorism. The truth is that this administration used September 11 as an excuse to enter into a war in Iraq to oust Saddam Hussein—and has, in the process, created a rallying cry and call to arms for terrorists around the world as a result.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 757, marking the third anniversary of the terrorist attacks against the United States.

Three years after this attack, our Nation continues to honor and remember all of those who died that day, and the families and loved ones who they left behind. On that September day, the lives of innocent Americans were lost. But on that day, and nearly everyday since then, our Nation has gained something extraordinary out of that loss: a new and deeper appreciation of the countless acts of courage, sacrifice, and patriotism that resulted from September 11.

These acts began right after the terrorists struck our Nation. First responders in New York City, and at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania risked their lives to try and aid those who were injured. They worked for days to help those who needed medical attention, as police officers and firefighters did their work to extinguish the flames and provide a sense of order. In the years after September 11, first responders and other members of our law enforcement community—including the Capitol Police—have had a great burden placed on them as America remains on alert for terrorist acts. These acts of sacrifice on September 11 in helping to keep our Nation safe in the wake of that day's attacks have earned the admiration and thanks of all of our citizens.

Thirty people from my district died on September 11. We grieve for their loss, and we grieve still because, as Queen Elizabeth explained after September 11, "grief is the price we pay for love." Out of this grief, though, our neighborhoods, the communities of my district, and communities throughout the Nation have drawn closer together, united in a sense of remembrance for those who left us on September 11, and determined that those who seek to harm us in our own land will not triumph.

It is these communities who have sent their sons and daughters to give their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq, and wherever in the world terrorists uneasily rest their heads. My district knows first hand the cost of this sacrifice. Johnny Micheal Spann—a CIA officer and the first American killed in Afghanistan—was from my district. And while we grieve for this loss, we take inspiration from the sacrifices made by Mr. Spann, and the many other acts of sacrifice made by those like him who are serving our country in and out of uniform, overseas and at home.

This resolution marks a dark day in our Nation's history. Out of this darkness came a thousand points of light in the many personal acts of heroism and bravery that our fellow countrymen and women have engaged in since September 11. As we continue to remember the terrorist attacks on September 11, we also are inspired by those who sacrifice day after day to keep us safe, some in ways that are well known, other in ways that we will never know about.

Our Nation continues to make progress in the war against those who harmed us and seek to harm us again. And while we do, a grateful country remembers its dead, and celebrates the lives of those who toil to keep us free.

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of the nearly 3,000 heroic Americans who perished on September 11, 2001. We can honor their memory by ensuring every effort is taken to prevent such atrocities from occurring again on our soil.

Since September 11, 2001, we have learned much, and Congress has much to do to defend our democratic way of life and protect our homeland. We have committed our military might to combat terrorism in our world: More than 1,000 of our troops have now given their lives in Iraq for this cause.

In the days immediately following the 9/11 attacks, Congress put partisan politics aside and came together to find answers and implement change. In an event reminiscent of the first Congress, the House and Senate convened in New York's Federal Hall for a Special Session of Congress one year after the terrorist attacks, sending a strong message to the world that as Americans we stand together in our fight against terrorism. That bipartisan spirit carried on through the extraordinary work of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission. The commissioners submitted to the American people a comprehensive assessment of what went wrong leading up to September 11, and what we can do to prevent future terrorist attacks on our homeland. Now that the 9/11 Commission has done its work, we in Congress must do ours. I support the Commission's recommendations, and am a cosponsor of the bipartisan "9/11 Commission Report Implementation Act," H.R. 5040.

I have listened and learned from meetings with first responders in Missouri's Fifth District, and have worked on the Homeland Security Committee in Congress to secure the resources they need to do their jobs. Our everyday heroes, our police, fire, ambulance and medical personnel must have the training, supplies, materials and equipment necessary to protect our communities. They are the main line of defense against terrorism at home. Because of their commitment we are more secure and better prepared than we were 3 years ago.

I urge my colleagues to maintain our bipartisan spirit and embrace the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. The 9/11 Commission Report is an excellent roadmap for implementing these changes—we must act and pass H.R. 5040. In the words of President Kennedy, "There are risks and costs to a program of action. But they are far less than the long range risks and costs of inaction."

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am forced to rise in opposition to this legislation, I do so despite my desire to commemorate the horrific attacks on September 11, 2001 and again express my sympathy to the families of the victims. But don't be fooled by the label. This legislation is no mere commemoration of the events of September 11, 2001. Rather, it is page after page of Congressional self-congratulation. It is page after page of praise for policies that have made us no safer from terrorist attack, but that have certainly made us much less free at home. Does it not strike anyone else as a bit unseemly for Congress to be congratulating itself on this solemn occasion?

This legislation is an endorsement of the policy of restricting freedoms at home that I have consistently opposed, including praise for the creation of the bloated and impotent Department of Homeland Security, the liberty-killing PATRIOT Act, and many other futile measures. It praises the notoriously ineffective air marshal program while avoiding altogether one of the most important lessons of the September 11, 2001 tragedy; The entire disaster could have been avoided with just one gun in the hands of each of the pilots. Four guns could have prevented September 11, 2001, but we are no closer to arming pilots than we were on September 10, 2001. Shortly after the attacks, I introduced a bill to allow pilots to be armed. Eventually, a version of that bill was passed, but pilots are still not armed. I also introduced several other bills to deal with the attacks of 9/11, protect us against future attacks, and do so without sacrificing our liberty.

What this legislation does not do is address some of the real causes of the hatred that lead others to wish to harm us. Why should we bother to understand the motivations of madmen and murderers? It is not to sympathize with them or their cause. It is to ensure our self-preservation. Those who oppose us and who have attacked us have made it very clear: They oppose our foreign policy of interventionism and meddling, and they oppose our one-sided approach to the Middle East. Therefore, mitigating the anger against us could be as simple as returning to the foreign policy recommended by our forefathers. We should not be stationing hundreds of thousands of our troops in more than 100 foreign countries, guarding their borders while our own remain open to terrorist infiltration. We should not be meddling in the internal affairs of foreign countries, nor should we be involving ourselves in foreign conflicts that have nothing to do with the United States. We should not be sending hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars overseas to "build nations" and "export democracy" to the barrel of a gun.

Many of my colleagues like to repeat the mantra that "freedom is under attack" in the United States. Well, they are right. Freedom is under attack in the United States, but not only from foreign terrorists. Freedom is under attack from a government that rushes to pass legislation like the PATRIOT Act, that guts civil liberties in the United States. Freedom is

under attack from those who are rushing to create a national biometric identification card and internal check-points, which will force innocent Americans to prove to government authorities that they are not terrorists. Freedom is under attack from a government that is spending itself into bankruptcy at an unprecedented pace. Freedom is under attack from a foreign policy that generates millions of enemies across the globe.

This legislation praises the number of Coast Guard boardings as one example of success, but we should not take a false sense of security from boardings. Rather, we should claim victories only if we have stopped another planned attack. Both shippers and recreational users of the gulf ports I represent have expressed concern about our new Federal policies and practices.

If we fail to heed the real lessons of September 11, 2001, we may well be condemned to see such tragedies repeated again in our land. It unfortunately seems that this is exactly what we are doing.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 3-year anniversary of the brutal terrorist attacks on our Nation, it is important that we remember those who lost their lives and the loved ones they left behind to face a world that is forever changed.

The senseless acts of violence that awoke us 3 years ago, have gripped our thoughts and have given us a new appreciation for the freedoms we cherish. This weekend, as we mourn the loss of those who perished in the attacks, we should also celebrate their lives and look back on how each symbolized, in their own unique way, the unrelenting American spirit which binds us all to that clear September day.

Like the rest of our Nation, my home State of Delaware experienced a great deal of tragedy on September 11, 2001. Bobby Fangman, Matthew Flocco, Jon Grabowski, Robert Jordan, John Murray, Davis "Deeg" Sezna Jr., and Rich Stewart, all fellow Delawareans, were taken during the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. In addition, Val Silver Ellis, Peter Frank, Michael San Phillip, Lincoln Quappe, Kevin Smith, Bill Tieste, Rodney Wotton and many others left loved ones behind in our State.

As a Nation, we have experienced the unthinkable and emerged again with determination and purpose. Yet, as we reflect on the past 3 years, there remains an enormous amount left to be done. Now is the time for us to come together in the heroic spirit of the citizens, firefighters, police officers, and emergency personnel who stood tall in the face of destruction. Congress must keep the memories of all the September 11th victims in mind as we do everything in our power to prevent something like this from ever happening again.

As we struggle to make progress in this momentous task, it is imperative that we remain focused and work together to reform our intelligence community and shore up the security of our homeland to protect all Americans. We have the power in Congress to implement change, but we must ensure that change is both meaningful and effective. One of the most important lessons that the victims of this tragedy can teach us is that every life is precious and that every action we take to improve our security could save lives in places like Delaware and across America.

Mr. Speaker, it is our duty to honor those who were lost by making sure their loved ones

remain safe from fear and intimidation. We must keep their memories with us as we fight to protect our freedoms.

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, 3 years have passed since terrorists declared war on the United States by launching 4 horrific attacks on our homeland, murdering nearly 3,000 persons. Our Nation, under the leadership of a determined President and a united Congress, quickly summoned the courage to not only bring the terrorists to justice, but to make it tougher for them to attack us again.

The collective national loss we felt on September 11, 2001 is no less painful today. How can any American alive and old enough to grasp the tragedy as it unfolded 3 years ago ever forget the rapid fall of the World Trade Center towers, the smoke billowing out of the Pentagon, or the 4 civilian jetliners that were deliberately brought to their destruction?

In that solemn hour, our President rightly resolved to take the fight to the terrorists and not to stop until justice prevailed. Here we are, 3 years later and still very much in the war on terror. What is remarkable to me is not that America is still waging the battle to keep our communities safe from future terrorist attack, but that some politicians actually question our motives and even appear willing to lower our guard if given the chance. Such shortsightedness on their part is not only naive, but downright dangerous.

9/11 was not only an attack on America, but upon the free people of the world. In the months that followed, President Bush declared that terrorists and the countries that sponsored them would be considered our enemies and we would take military action against them if necessary. After the brutal Taliban regime of Afghanistan refused to turn over their Al Qaeda guests and close their training camps, the United States forced them from power and made Afghanistan an ally against terrorism.

Iraq's Saddam Hussein did not believe the United States was serious about holding his government accountable for its weapons deception and support of terrorism. He was wrong. He was also swept from power and his nation's capability to aid terrorism has been halted. Pakistan and Libya are also cooperating with the United States in ending the risk of weapons of mass destruction falling into terrorist hands.

Today, American troops remain in Afghanistan and Iraq where there is still work to be done before the new governments of these nations can assume total control of their own security. We are also on guard here at home, tightening security to reduce the likelihood that terrorists can again attack innocent civilians. For sure, terrorists have tried to conduct more attacks since 9/11, only to be stopped by measures already in place. More can and will be done to improve our homeland security.

The terrible events of 9/11 changed our world. Despite some politicians' refusal to accept it, these acts of terrorism were a declaration of war against our society by those who fear nothing but brute force. If we want our children to enjoy a safer life, we must be committed to stand up to terrorists and stop them before they can attack us. If we do otherwise, we will surely invite future 9/11s.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 757, "expressing the sense of the House of Representatives on the anniversary of the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001."

The terrorist attacks on New York and Washington on September 11th were monstrous and cowardly acts that will be forever etched in our national memory. In remembrance of that tragic day, I wish to express my condolences, and the condolences of a mournful Nation, to all those who suffered losses. Today, America again honors the courage and bravery of those who willingly risked their lives to save others, and recognizes those dedicated men and women in service now, defending worldwide peace and security.

In the 3 years since the terrible acts of September 11th, the United States has taken various steps toward preventing another attack on our country. Immediately following September 11th, our country began fighting a global war on terrorism to protect America and our friends and allies. In addition, Congress has created a Department of Homeland Security and reorganized several intelligence departments. All of these steps were taken to make America safer.

As a member of Congress, one of my top priorities is protecting the citizens I represent, and if there is any issue that should lead to crossing party lines, it is protecting our Nation.

Recently, the bipartisan September 11th Commission finalized its report with 41 recommendations that they feel would not only make America safer, but would make the world safer. I am proud to be an original co-sponsor of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission Report Implementation Act. This bill would enact into law the 9/11 Commission's 41 recommendations.

On this solemn day, I again stand up to recognize our brave men and women that tragically lost their lives on that fateful day in September of 2001. I wish to show my deepest appreciation to our military men and women fighting terrorism around the world. The opportunity is upon us to make serious and thoughtful change and to ensure that another tragedy does not befall our Nation.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today I extend my "deepest sympathies to the thousands of innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, their families, friends, and loved ones."

There is no doubt that I honor "the heroic actions and the sacrifice of United States military and civilian personnel and their families who have sacrificed much, including their lives and health, in defense of their country in the Global War on Terrorism."

"I [honor] the heroic actions of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and others who aided the innocent victims and, in so doing, bravely risked their own lives and long-term health."

I express "thanks and gratitude to the foreign leaders and citizens of all Nations who have assisted and continue to stand in solidarity with the United States against terrorism in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks."

There is no question that I "[discourage], in the strongest possible terms, any effort to confuse the Global War on Terrorism with a war on any people or any faith."

Today I reaffirm our "commitment to the Global War on Terrorism and to providing the United States Armed Forces with the resources and support to wage it effectively and safely."

As we all have done in this Congress over the last 3 years, I also "vow that we will con-

tinue to take whatever actions necessary to identify, intercept, and disrupt terrorists and their activities."

And, today I also "reaffirm that the American people will never forget the sacrifices made on September 11, 2001, and will never bow to terrorists."

Yes, I strongly agree with these provisions of the 9/11 resolution passed by this House today. However, I do not agree with other provisions that distort the facts and, in some cases, are simply false. Therefore, I cannot vote for this resolution.

The Bush Administration has not "[strengthened] the authority of the Director of Central Intelligence to coordinate national intelligence activities." In fact, Congress is currently embroiled in that debate prompted by the 9/11 Commission Report, not by the Bush Administration.

Yes, the Administration has finally "initiated . . . the Container Security Initiative, to extend our borders overseas and to secure and screen cargo before it is placed on ships destined for United States ports of entry." However, initiation of a program is a far cry from fully administering the program and contributing to our homeland security. The Container Security Initiative is, so far, a failure.

The resolution gives us the false impression that the US-VISIT border security screening system is fully operational and ensuring our homeland security. Yet, the Administration has not even connected US-VISIT port of entry systems to a central database that can handle immediate screenings upon entry.

Yes, as the 9/11 resolution states, "a multi-agency partnership, was established to integrate the dozens of separate terrorist databases" after 9/11. However, 3 years later, we still have multiple watch lists. The FBI's Terrorist Screening Center (TSC)—designed to be the central repository for terrorist-related watch list information—is still not complete and linked electronically to all law enforcement agencies. The DHS's Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) competes with at least 2 other Federal networks that are designed to share homeland security information between Federal, State and local officials. State and local officials still lack basic Federal security clearances needed to do their jobs. What has the Administration been doing for 3 years?

9/11 is truly a day of solace, a day to remember the victims of 9/11, a day to give thanks to those who have sacrificed so much to keep this country safe, and a day to reaffirm our commitment to the war on terror. This is also a time to honor those we lost on that terrible day and those we have lost in the fight against terrorism since.

The real way to honor those we lost would have been to do a competent job of preventing terrorism from succeeding again. But saying we have taken action is not the same thing as actually taking action. The representations about our successes in this resolution are mostly false. We should not lie to the American people about this.

The last thing this day should represent is praise for what really are failures of the Bush Administration to secure our homeland.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of the victims of September 11th and their families. We remember these Americans today and commend the bravery and courage of all those who came to their aid that day—many of whom selflessly gave their lives. We

will never forget their sacrifice and heroism. As a Nation, we are unified in our commitment to each other.

We ought to stand together now just as we stood together on September 11, 2001, and the days after in solemn remembrance. That is why I am disappointed to see Republicans politicizing this horrific day with this partisan resolution, which I cannot in good conscience support.

I fully support our troops. I am committed to defending our Nation against terrorism. I will not, however, endorse the Administration's foreign policy, which I strongly oppose. The effort to use the attacks of September 11th to legitimize the war against Iraq or the future, indiscriminate use of military force at any cost is wrong.

We must see September 11th as a reminder of what our Nation stands for—as was eloquently demonstrated by so many Americans on that horrible day. We must rededicate our Nation to compassionately fulfilling our ideals while recognizing our responsibility to lead the world by example, rather than by force.

It is from this dark day that America must resolve to pursue peace, cooperation and understanding throughout the world. We must be committed to upholding democracy and human rights while working to improve the material conditions of people around the globe. Working for a safer, more humane world is our best defense against terrorists and our best hope for a more secure America.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong and solemn support of this resolution, which marks the anniversary of the most deadly terrorist attack in history. September 11, 2001 is a day none of us will ever forget.

We continue to mourn, along with the loved ones of the departed, the loss of nearly 3,000 innocent lives. We celebrate the spirit of selflessness that led so many brave firefighters, police officers and other emergency personnel to risk—and in some cases, lose—their lives trying to save others. And we remain in awe of the passengers of Flight 193, who took the defense of our homeland into their own hands and sacrificed their own lives in the process.

The tragic events of that day have spurred this Nation to a new sense of purpose, a recognition of the need to fight terrorism head-on and to lead an international coalition to spread the powerful ideals of freedom and democracy to corners of the world that have for too long struggled in the shadows of totalitarianism.

We have turned the darkness of terrorism into the light of opportunity—our greatest challenge has become our greatest strength. I urge passage of H. Res. 757.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD my friend Grandmaster Jhoon Rhee's Open Letter of September 10, 2004 to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States.

President George H.W. Bush named Jhoon Rhee the 721st "Point of Light" for his voluntary work to help others and served as a member of the White House Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders until June 2004.

His letter is as follows:

Dear President Bush:

On the tragic event of September 11, 2001, I wish to thank you for your efforts to defend our Nation and our freedom. All Americans should join in prayer for you as you cer-

tainly have one of the most challenging jobs in the world.

God bless the Forces of Might for Right, the soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and National Guard who serve in harm's way, far away from their loved ones, to safeguard and defend us. God bless the policemen, firemen, border patrol officers, emergency first responders, and all those who work here at home to safeguard and protect our Nation.

The martial arts community joins you in thanking all of those who serve and protect us as a Nation and a people. The terrorists assaulted our country on 9/11, but they didn't destroy our spirit.

Mr. President, your seal of office shows an eagle grasping both the arrows of war and the olive branch of peace. We in the martial arts have always taught these twin precepts. We believe, and practice, that it is best to be prepared and capable to defend yourself, while seeking the path of peace and love.

In remembrance of the terrible tragedies surrounding the date of 9/11, the martial arts community is taking action on the philosophies of peace and respect. Our plan is to both help heal our old wounds and turn around the ongoing battle to maintain the positive spirit of America. Beginning today, as every day is a new beginning, American martial artists have declared 9/11 to be "Acts of Kindness Day," and will go forth doing Acts of Kindness on 9/11—and year-round—to demonstrate to the world the American spiritual tradition. This year's goal among America's martial artists is to perform one million acts of kindness between September 11 and October 11, 2004.

More on our "Acts of Kindness" initiative, launched by martial arts teachers Tom Callos, Fariborz Azhakh, Ken Carlson and myself, can be found at www.911aok.com.

We would like to ask you sir, as President of the United States, to declare 9/11 to be an annual Acts of Kindness Day, urging all Americans to perform unselfish acts to help others, to answer hatred and terror with kindness and love. That is the American spiritual tradition we are proud of and, we think, the ultimate way to offer tribute to the men, women, and children who perished that day. We ask you to help us carry this message from the martial arts community to all Americans and to the world. Thank you. God bless you.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, events on September 11, 2001, changed America forever. Nearly 3,000 Americans lost their lives, including 366 police and fire fighters who rushed into the burning Twin Towers.

In the aftermath of those terrible hours and days, we emerged from our shock and grief with the knowledge that life in our country would never be the same. The heroes of 9-11—the passengers aboard United Flight 93, first-responders, doctors, nurses, search and rescue teams—inspired us and gave us hope. Images of bravery soon replaced those of brutality.

The terrorist threat is ongoing. The risk that we will be attacked again here at home is real. Our men and women in uniform are putting their lives on the line in the most dangerous parts of the world. More than 1,000 have paid the ultimate price. We honor their sacrifice and their commitment to duty.

We have made progress in the fight against this insidious enemy. But we still have much to do. We must employ technology to protect our ports, our energy infrastructure, and our food supply. We must reform our intelligence-gathering program. We must continue to improve our ability to respond to an emergency. We must do it all without trampling on the civil

liberties of our citizens, because we treasure our free and open society that terrorists seek to destroy.

We pause today in solemn remembrance of that defining day and in honor of this great Nation.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that I and all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives share a profound sorrow and outrage about the tragedy of September 11th and extend our deepest sympathies to the families of the victims and our greatest gratitude for the heroism of the first-responders who risked their lives to save the lives of others. We all honor the sacrifice of those serving in uniform and the sacrifice of their families. I regret, though, that we do not have the opportunity today to a vote on a resolution that would express such worthy sentiments without advancing a partisan agenda.

I join in supporting this resolution although I have serious reservations about certain provisions. I am particularly disappointed to see that the misguided invasion of Iraq is linked to the attacks of September 11th. The Administration's mismanagement of the Iraq war continues to divert attention and resources away from our efforts to capture Osama bin Laden, who launched the terrorist attacks of September 11th. It is particularly ironic that this language is offered the very week we mark the tragic loss of over 1,000 brave men and women in Iraq.

I would also like to note my strong reservations about the reference to the US-VISIT program in this resolution. Although the Department of Homeland Security has described US-VISIT as "an important new element in the global war against terrorism," a Senate Judiciary report concluded that "implementing an automated entry/exit control system [such as US-VISIT] has absolutely nothing to do with . . . halting the entry of terrorists into the United States. An automated entry/exit control system will at best provide information only on those who have overstayed their visas."

US-VISIT is hurting businesses and families in McAllen, Pharr, and La Jolla and other communities along the U.S.-Mexico border by disrupting international trade. Under current DHS policies, Canadian visitors may stay up to 6 months and travel anywhere in the United States without obtaining any visa or enduring any immigration paperwork. In contrast, visitors from Mexico must go through an extensive process to obtain a B1/B2 laser visa (also known as a Border Crossing Card), which only allows a 30-day stay within a restricted zone close to the Mexican border. These restrictions make little national security sense given that the only known entries of terrorist across our land border have been from Canada, not Mexico.

Unfortunately, given the disparity in treatment of visitors from our 2 closest neighbors, Mexico and Canada, US-VISIT is more about stopping migration from Mexico than it is about national security.

I am also concerned that the resolution does not express the importance of balancing the protection of our country from future terrorist attacks with the need to protect the civil liberties of our citizens. We must not sacrifice our democracy in a misguided attempt to save it.

Those who lost loved ones on September 11th, those who came to their aid, and those who serve our country in uniform deserve our

recognition and support in a resolution unencumbered by a partisan agenda.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 757. Three years have passed since a beautiful September day was shattered by terrorists who despised the thought of a Nation that allows its people the freedom to live and worship as they choose. I agree with President George W. Bush that "the terrorists are offended not merely by our policies—they are offended by our existence as free Nations."

I looked back on some of the things we said in the days following the attacks of September 11, 2001. We said that these were acts of war. We said that we would get serious and win this war. And we said to those who commit these kinds of acts that we will find you and destroy you. And we vowed to remember what happened—always.

America quickly got serious about fighting terrorism. While the enemies of freedom brought war to our shores 3 years ago, the American people and the American military are making progress in meeting this challenge. This war is being fought on multiple fronts: diplomatic, financial, investigative, homeland security, humanitarian, and militarily. We must continue to fight the war on terrorism because the terrorists will continue with their efforts. Their aim is to change the way of life of countries that love freedom, and their goals include the destruction of the civilized world and an end to American efforts to encourage democracy abroad.

And while we continue to make great strides in the war on terror, we must never forget what happened. It's been 3 years, but the tragedy, the courage, and the determination we saw that day must serve as a reminder of our calling from that day forward. On Saturday morning, please take a moment to remember those who lost their lives that day, and remember those who continue to mourn loved ones who did not return home on September 11, 2001.

May God continue to bless the United States of America.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, on this day, 3 years ago, our Nation utterly changed as tragedy struck in the streets of Lower Manhattan, the fields of Pennsylvania, and here in our Nation's capital.

On this day, we also saw good rise in the face of evil and heroes rise in the face of danger.

In Lower Manhattan, many of our brave first responders knew the risks they were taking, but were determined to do their job. Police officers and EMS officials calmly escorted workers out of burning buildings as firefighters raced up stairwells of these same buildings to rescue those trapped high above.

When the day was over, and as we learned more about the tragic attacks, and loss of nearly 3,000 Americans, including 700 New Jerseyans, we witnessed neighbors and friends consoling one another and watched as Americans from all walks of life stood united—side-by-side, waving the stars and stripes, and lighting candles to honor those missing or lost.

As America rebounded and recovered, our Nation—displaying the resiliency of its people—responded to these acts of terrorism with the might of our military.

The war we continue to fight today began September 11, 2001. It began without provocation and without warning. It was not a war

of our choosing but rather was made our priority. And we are fighting this war in Afghanistan and Iraq today so that what happened on September 11 does not happen in America again.

So many of our heroes currently fighting terrorism across the globe put their lives on hold after 9/11 to join the National Guard, serve our country, and defend our freedom.

We see the character and resolve of America in these brave young men and women. And especially in this post 9/11 era, we are grateful for their service and sacrifice.

May God Bless those who continue to fight for and defend our freedom, and may God continue to bless America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOSSELLA). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, September 9, 2004, the resolution is considered read for amendment, and the previous question is ordered on the resolution and on the preamble.

The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demur the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on adopting House Resolution 757 will be followed by a moment of silence and, without objection, 5-minute votes on the motion to instruct on H.R. 1308 and the motion to suspend the rules and pass Senate 2634, as amended.

There was no objection.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 406, nays 16, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 431]
YEAS—406

Abercrombie	Boyd	Cox	Emerson	Lampson	Regula
Ackerman	Bradley (NH)	Cramer	Engel	Langevin	Rehberg
Aderholt	Brady (PA)	Crane	English	Lantos	Renzi
Akin	Brady (TX)	Crenshaw	Eshoo	Larsen (WA)	Reyes
Alexander	Brown (OH)	Crowley	Etheridge	Larson (CT)	Reynolds
Allen	Brown (SC)	Cubin	Evans	Latham	Rodriguez
Andrews	Brown, Corrine	Culberson	Everett	LaTourette	Rogers (AL)
Baca	Brown-Waite,	Cummings	Farr	Leach	Rogers (KY)
Bachus	Ginny	Cunningham	Fattah	Levin	Rogers (MI)
Baird	Burgess	Davis (AL)	Feeney	Lewis (CA)	Rohrabacher
Baker	Burns	Davis (CA)	Ferguson	Lewis (GA)	Ros-Lehtinen
Baldwin	Burr	Davis (FL)	Filner	Lewis (KY)	Ross
Barrett (SC)	Burton (IN)	Davis (IL)	Flake	Linder	Rothman
Bartlett (MD)	Butterfield	Davis (TN)	Foley	Lipinski	Royal-Allard
Barton (TX)	Buyer	Davis, Jo Ann	Forbes	LoBiondo	Royce
Bass	Calvert	Davis, Tom	Ford	Lowe	Ruppersberger
Beauprez	Camp	Deal (GA)	Fossella	Lucas (KY)	Rush
Becerra	Cantor	DeFazio	Franks (AZ)	Lucas (OK)	Ryan (WI)
Bell	Capito	DeGette	Frelinghuysen	Lynch	Ryum (KS)
Berkley	Capps	Delahunt	Frost	Majette	Sabo
Berman	Capuano	DeLauro	Gallely	Maloney	Sánchez, Linda T.
Berry	Cardin	DeLay	Garrett (NJ)	Manzullo	T.
Biggart	Cardoza	DeMint	Gephardt	Marshall	Sánchez, Loretta
Bilirakis	Carson (IN)	Deutsch	Gerlach	Matheson	Sanders
Bishop (GA)	Carson (OK)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Gibbons	Matsui	Sandlin
Bishop (NY)	Carter	Diaz-Balart, M.	Gilchrest	McCarthy (MO)	Saxton
Bishop (UT)	Case	Dicks	Gillmor	McCarthy (NY)	Schiff
Blackburn	Castle	Dingell	Gingrey	McCollum	Schiff (GA)
Blumenauer	Chabot	Doggett	Gonzalez	McCotter	Scott (VA)
Blunt	Chandler	Dooley (CA)	Goode	McCree	Sensenbrenner
Boehlert	Chocola	Doyle	Goodlatte	McGovern	Serrano
Boehner	Clay	Dreier	Gordon	McHugh	Sessions
Bonilla	Clyburn	Duncan	Granger	McInnis	Shadegg
Bonner	Coble	Dunn	Graves	McIntyre	Shaw
Bono	Cole	Edwards	Green (TX)	McKeon	Shays
Boozman	Collins	Ehlers	Green (WI)	McNulty	Sherman
Boswell	Cooper	Emanuel	Grijalva	Meehan	Sherwood
Boucher	Costello		Gutierrez	Meek (FL)	Shimkus
			Gutknecht	Meeks (NY)	Shuster
			Hall	Menendez	Simmons
			Harman	Mica	Simpson
			Harris	Michaud	Skelton
			Hart	Millender-McDonald	Slaughter
			Hastert	Miller (FL)	Smith (MI)
			Hastings (WA)	Miller (MI)	Smith (NJ)
			Hayes	Miller (NC)	Smith (TX)
			Hayworth	Miller, Gary	Smith (WA)
			Hefley	Miller, George	Snyder
			Hensarling	Moore	Solis
			Herger	Moran (KS)	Souder
			Herseth	Moran (VA)	Spratt
			Hill	Murphy	Stearns
			Hinojosa	Murtha	Stenholm
			Hobson	Musgrave	Strom
			Hoefel	Myrick	Stupak
			Hoekstra	Nadler	Sullivan
			Holden	Napolitano	Sweeney
			Holt	Neal (MA)	Tancred
			Hooley (OR)	Neugebauer	Tanner
			Hostettler	Ney	Tauscher
			Houghton	Northup	Taylor (MS)
			Hoyer	Norwood	Taylor (NC)
			Hulshof	Nunes	Terry
			Hunter	Nussle	Thomas
			Hyde	Oberstar	Thompson (CA)
			Insee	Obey	Thompson (MS)
			Isakson	Olver	Thornberry
			Israel	Ortiz	Tiahrt
			Issa	Osborne	Tiberi
			Istook	Ose	Tierney
			Jackson-Lee	Otter	Towns
			(TX)	Owens	Turner (OH)
			Jefferson	Oxley	Turner (TX)
			Jenkins	Pallone	Udall (CO)
			John	Pascarell	Udall (NM)
			Johnson (CT)	Pastor	Upton
			Johnson (IL)	Payne	Van Hollen
			Johnson, E. B.	Pearce	Velázquez
			Johnson, Sam	Pelosi	Visclosky
			Jones (NC)	Pence	Vitter
			Jones (OH)	Peterson (MN)	Walden (OR)
			Kanjorski	Peterson (PA)	Walsh
			Kaptur	Petri	Wamp
			Keller	Pickering	Watson
			Kelly	Pitts	Watt
			Kennedy (MN)	Platts	Waxman
			Kennedy (RI)	Pombo	Weiner
			Kildee	Pomeroy	Weldon (FL)
			Kilpatrick	Porter	Weldon (PA)
			Kind	Portman	Weller
			King (IA)	Price (NC)	Whitfield
			King (NY)	Pryce (OH)	Wicker
			Kingston	Putnam	Wilson (NM)
			Kirk	Quinn	Wilson (SC)
			Kleczka	Radanovich	Wolf
			Kline	Rahall	Wu
			Knollenberg	Ramstad	Wynn
			Kolbe	Rangel	Young (FL)
			LaHood		

NAYS—16

Conyers
Frank (MA)
Hastings (FL)
Hinchev
Honda
Jackson (IL)

Kucinich
Lee
Lofgren
Markey
McDermott
Paul

Schakowsky
Stark
Waters
Woolsey

NOT VOTING—12

Ballenger
Cannon
Goss
Greenwood

Mollohan
Nethercutt
Ryan (OH)
Schrock

Tauzin
Toomey
Wexler
Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOSSELLA) (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1208

Mr. MARKEY and Mr. CONYERS changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. JEFFERSON, NEAL of Massachusetts, GEORGE MILLER of California, and MORAN of Virginia, and Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOMENT OF SILENCE COMMEMORATING THE 9/11 ATTACKS

The SPEAKER. The Chair would ask the House to stand in tribute to the victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks that rocked this Nation. We would like to observe a moment of silence in their memory.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1308, TAX RELIEF, SIMPLIFICATION, AND EQUITY ACT OF 2003

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The unfinished business is the question on the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1308.

The Clerk will designate the motion.

The Clerk designated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HILL) on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 203, nays 216, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 432]

YEAS—203

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Becerra
Bell
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd

Brady (PA)
Brown (OH)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Case
Castle
Chandler
Clay
Clyburn
Conyers
Cooper
Costello

Cramer
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dooley (CA)
Doyle

Edwards
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Ford
Frank (MA)
Frost
Gephardt
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green (TX)
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Herseth
Hill
Hinchev
Hinojosa
Hoeffel
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoolley (OR)
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
John
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kleczka
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)

Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowe
Lucas (KY)
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Michaud
Miller-
McDonald
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel

Reyes
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Sabó
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanders
Sandlin
Schakowsky
Schiff
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Shays
Sherman
Skelton
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Townes
Turner (TX)
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn

NAYS—216

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bass
Beauprez
Biggart
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Bradley (NH)
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Burgess
Burns
Burr
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Chabot
Chocola
Harris
Hart
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger

Cunningham
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeLay
DeMint
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Ehlers
Emerson
English
Everett
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Foley
Forbes
Fossella
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Green (WI)
Gutknecht
Hall
Harris
Hart
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger

Hobson
Hoekstra
Hostettler
Houghton
Hulshof
Hunter
Hyde
Isakson
Issa
Istook
Jenkins
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaHood
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas (OK)
Manzullo
McCotter
McCrery
McHugh
McInnis
McKeon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy

Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Oxley
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich

Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Saxton
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Souder

Stearns
Sullivan
Sweeney
Tancredo
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner (OH)
Upton
Vitter
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—14

Ballenger
Cannon
Goss
Greenwood
Majette

Mollohan
Nethercutt
Ryan (OH)
Schrock
Slaughter

Tauzin
Toomey
Wexler
Young (AK)

□ 1220

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina and Mr. RADANOVICH changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to instruct was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GARRETT LEE SMITH MEMORIAL ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the Senate bill, S. 2634, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2634, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 352, nays 64, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 433]

YEAS—352

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Alexander
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Baird
Bachus
Baker
Baldwin
Barton (TX)
Bass
Beauprez

Becerra
Bell
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggart
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert

Boehner
Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Bradley (NH)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine