

right thing, and sign commonsense welfare reform.

THE SPIRIT OF THE OLYMPICS

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I attended the reopening of the Olympic Centennial Park in Atlanta. Tens of thousands of people, from all over the country and the world, turned out for a memorial service in honor of those killed and injured in the bomb blast that exploded early Saturday morning, shattering the tranquility of the Olympic games. They also turned out to demonstrate that they will not bow to the fear and intimidation of terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, the Olympic games represent the best of the human spirit, and in many ways the response of the people in Atlanta to this vicious act truly represented the Olympic spirit. Yesterday, the people of Atlanta, of Georgia, of our Nation, and the world came together in prayer and solidarity. It was a beautiful and moving experience to be in a crowd representing the true brotherhood of nations.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to commend the many people who acted heroically in the wake of this terrorist attack: the medical personnel, the law enforcement officials and the thousands of volunteers who averted an even greater disaster.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, the person who carried out this hideous crime will be found and prosecuted to the full extent of the law. In the meantime, we in the Congress should do everything in our power to pass legislation that will protect our citizens from such attacks in the future.

□ 1045

WELFARE SHOULD NOT BE A WAY OF LIFE

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

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, between 1965 and 1994 \$5.4 trillion has been spent on welfare. Federal, State, and local welfare spending rose from \$158 billion in 1975 to \$324 billion in 1993.

Now, my colleagues may think that welfare is thought of as providing short-term relief. Well, the fact is that the average stay on welfare today is 13 years.

Now, since 1950 the population of the United States has increased 72 percent, from 151 million to 260 million. At the same time, total welfare spending by Federal, State, and local governments has increased by 1,623 percent.

Mr. Speaker, today the House will pass a historic welfare reform bill that requires work and personal responsibility and lifts families from lives of despair and hopelessness.

Mr. Speaker, welfare should not be a way of life. Commonsense welfare reform will help end the vicious cycle of welfare dependency.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the President to sign this historic welfare proposal.

LET US DO THE JOB RIGHT ON ANTITERRORISM LEGISLATION

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress from the Metro-Atlanta area I, like the rest of the Nation, was horrified by the senseless bombing of innocent civilians at the Olympic Park.

As Americans, we have had a false sense of security that we are somehow immune to terrorism on our soil. However, Mr. Speaker, we have always had terrorist acts committed against Americans in the United States—we just did not call it terrorism.

Whether it was lynchings, church burnings, abortion clinic bombings, and now attacks by antigovernment groups, terrorism has, unfortunately, always been with us.

Mr. Speaker, it is time now that we dealt with all terrorist acts head on. Although the House passed the President's antiterrorism bill, it was watered-down to the point where it is almost ineffectual.

Now we have an opportunity to reintroduce the antiterrorism tools stripped from the legislation. Let us do the job right this time.

THIS IS THE SPIRIT OF THE OLYMPICS

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

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, Theodore Roosevelt once said the credit belongs to the one who is actually in the arena and who spends time in a worthy cause. This is the spirit of the Olympics.

Shining examples of this indomitable spirit are Judy Wilmarth from Leaf River, IL, and Stephanie Brooks from Algonquin, IL. Judy helped carry the Olympic torch in Illinois, chosen because of her devotion to service to the needy and distribution of food. Fourteen-year old Stephanie Brooks is competing in the Paralympics in Atlanta. She is qualified for the 50- and the 100-meter free style and the 50-meter butterfly swimming events. She competes in these games as an elite athlete. These accomplishments stand in the face of the fact that Stephanie was born with spina bifida which has caused her to lose the use of her legs.

Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to salute these two Olympic champions: Judy Wilmarth and Stephanie Brooks.

FOLLOWING THE ORDERS OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION MUST STOP

(Mrs. LOWEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, it is time to give law enforcement officials the tools they need to prevent terrorist attacks in America. The Republican leadership must schedule a vote immediately on stronger measures to fight terrorism.

These proposals—requiring taggants in explosives and enhanced wiretapping authority—are absolutely critical in the war against terrorism.

These provisions should already be law, but were dropped from the original antiterrorism bill that Congress passed earlier this year.

They were dropped because this Republican Congress followed the orders of the National Rifle Association and took them out.

That was unacceptable then and it is unacceptable now.

Speaker GINGRICH must not allow the NRA to hold up swift passage of tough antiterrorism legislation. The Republican leadership must choose the safety and welfare of the American people over the objections of the NRA. This Republican Congress has spent the last 17 months following the orders of the NRA and it must stop.

Congress must take a united stand against terrorism both foreign and domestic now. We must make it very clear that we will use all the resources at our disposal to prevent and punish acts of terror.

NOT ONE LOGICAL REASON FOR THE PRESIDENT NOT TO SIGN CONGRESS' THIRD WELFARE REFORM BILL

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, our children are our country's most precious resource. They are the hope of the future. But today many children will grow up in a cycle of poverty and dependence, and that is a tragedy, Mr. Speaker.

Many of us came to Congress on a promise to do something about the failed welfare state. We want to end dependency, we want to encourage personal responsibility, we want to honor work so that welfare does not become a way of life.

President Clinton has already vetoed two welfare reform bills despite the promise during his campaign to, "end welfare as we know it." the jury is still out on whether or not the President will sign Congress' third effort to reform the welfare system. Personally, I cannot imagine one logical reason why Mr. Clinton would not sign the current bill.

Mr. Speaker, it is a good bill. It is based on common sense. It honors work, family, and personal responsibility.

WE MUST NOT LEAVE FOR AUGUST RECESS WITHOUT PROVIDING ANTITERRORISM LEGISLATION

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was in Atlanta this past weekend, and I felt the aftershocks of the pipe bomb explosion in Centennial Park. The true spirit of the games, the athletes, and the spectators shone through, and everyone agreed that the games must go on and that we should not bow to hostile acts of terror; but people also felt equally strongly that Congress must act to prevent this violence.

The American people do not feel safe, and part of that is because we are good at catching criminals after the fact, but we are not good at preventing them from acting.

The American people want the Government to have the tools that it needs to prevent these bombings. President Clinton has asked the Congress this week to act on much-needed antiterrorism proposals like putting tracers in explosives, in gunpowder, a tool that is needed to be able to prevent acts of terror; but the NRA is opposed to these tracers. Their opposition is wrong.

We cannot in good faith leave for the August recess without passing legislation that will give the Federal Government the tools that it needs to stop terrorism in this country. We need and we must act in good faith. We must leave in August and provide people with the peace of mind that they need so that we can keep this country free of terrorism.

CONGRESS PROVIDED ANTITERRORISM RESOURCES; THE ADMINISTRATION SITS ON ITS HANDS

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

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I was absolutely astounded this morning to learn that this administration was provided \$80 million within the last 2 years to establish a terrorism center, and it has sat on its hands for the last 24 months and not done anything to institute action against terrorism. This Congress has already provided resources; this administration has not done a thing about this. I was stunned to find this out.

Now, the FBI can find time and resources to hand over and provide files on Republicans. The FBI, as I learned in shock last weekend when the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr.

CLINGER] came to the floor, can send agents to harass our witnesses in congressional hearings, but they cannot find the time and the resources that this Congress gave them to fight terrorism.

We must act together to fight terrorism and we have provided the resources.

WE SHOULD NOT RECESS UNTIL WE ACT ON TERRORISM

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, domestic terrorism is becoming the greatest threat to our domestic tranquility. It marred the Olympics, it horrified us in Oklahoma City and with the World Trade Center, and it may have destroyed TWA Flight 800.

That tragedy touched me deeply and personally. Three nights before the tragedy I spent the evening with my neighbor and friend Judith Connelly Delouvier, who was on that flight. Three days later she was dead. She will never see her two children and husband again.

Her family deserves action now. We should not recess until we take legislative action on tracing explosives; we must take on the NRA; we must work on programmatic changes.

Mr. Speaker, we should not recess until we act on terrorism. We cannot wait until September.

IN FIGHTING ANTITERRORISM WE MUST ALSO PROTECT OUR CIVIL LIBERTIES

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

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, let me rise and say I agree we need to take action in order to address antiterrorism in this country. We have all been horrified by the bombing at the Olympics and among our civil aeronautics. I want to urge the President to go ahead and spend that \$80 million and build the antiterrorism center at the FBI so that Americans can be safer in our travel.

Second, we need to also protect civil liberties in this country, and I am troubled by President Clinton's request for secret wiretap authority. As my colleagues know when the President has 900 FBI files in the White House basement on his political opponents and still refuses to release the list of 200,000 Americans that he keeps track of in his big brother database, I am not sure that we can trust him with more authority to wiretap Americans who may be innocent of any crime.

We need to work to fight terrorism, but we also need to protect civil liberties in this country and make sure that we are not giving our Government authority to harass innocent Americans.

SUPPORT H.R. 43, THE BOMBING PREVENTION ACT

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, the United States suffered a terrible loss with the recent bombing in Centennial Park in Atlanta. We lost our innocence and our faith it will never happen here. It is becoming increasingly probable that black or smokeless powder was involved in the construction of this deadly pipe bomb.

I have introduced legislation during the last two Congresses that would help identify the perpetrators of this act. The Bombing Prevention Act, H.R. 43, would avert future deaths, save lives, and prevent families and our Nation as a whole from going through the anguish that terrorism leaves in its wake.

Specifically, my bill would require every person who purchases explosives including more than five pounds of black or smokeless powder to hold a Federal permit. They would have to provide their name and address to the vendor, and indicate the purpose of the explosives purchase. This information would be invaluable to law enforcement officials investigating terrorism. Under current law, any purchase of less than 50 pounds of black powder is exempt from Federal oversight. This is crazy—50 pounds can unleash dreadful destruction.

It would be a crime in itself if this Congress were to adjourn on Friday and go home without addressing this issue that has terrified every American from sea to shining sea.

ANTITERRORISM IS A BIPARTISAN MATTER

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, last Friday I was on my way to Atlanta, and I was told to go see Tom Davis who was the FBI agent in charge of Centennial Park because his father-in-law, Floyd Thaxton, works for us in our State's Bureau of office. Well, needless to say something dramatically changed in the early hours of the morning, and I was unable to see Mr. Davis, who was one of the heroes and was injured by the bomb, but led the successful evacuation of many, many people.

□ 1100

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Davis is a hero to us. In his honor, I have to refute some of the things that are going on on this terrorism discussion today. I have the vote list on the terrorism bill, and many of the speakers today from the Democratic side voted against the only terrorism bill we had.

To my knowledge, none of them offered amendments. There may have