

NO SAFE HARBOR FOR
TERRORISTS

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, today I lend my thoughts and prayers, along with those of my colleagues, fellow Americans, and all our friends around the world, to the victims of these terrorist assaults and their families, a number of whom come from New Hampshire. But even as we work now to recover from these attacks—to bury the dead, to comfort the survivors and families, and to rebuild—we must turn our attention to the future.

In the days and weeks ahead we will of course take steps to increase the security and safety of Americans in travel and in their places of work and to bring those responsible to justice. We must remember, however, that no system of security is invincible. So long as terrorists are able to organize, finance, communicate, train, and execute such operations, this country and our allies will always be at risk.

The time has now come to recognize that a new defining doctrine must be embraced: that no safe harbor can be allowed for terrorists. No country can be allowed to tolerate the presence of terrorists or their supporters or assets within their borders. Such states must be held to the same level of account as the terrorists themselves, and we must use every means necessary to drive home this point to them.

With no place to hide, no place to train and organize, no place to keep their assets, the power of terrorists will be critically undermined. This doctrine of no safe harbor will be the greatest legacy for the victims of these terrorist attacks; that truly everything will be done to ensure that we are never so vulnerable again.

A LONG-AGO RESCUE LENDS US
COURAGE FOR TODAY

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, much is being made these days—and justifiably so—of the courage of America's "Greatest Generation" of men and women who fought and won World War II.

Like his fellow veterans of the European Theater, former U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Alden T. Johnson vividly remembers witnessing countless acts of courage and devotion amidst falling bombs, raging fires and an often terrified civilian populace.

However, until very recently, Mr. Johnson—who grew up in the northwestern Minnesota communities of Karlstad, Shelly and Hamlin and who now resides in Red Wing—never realized that his own act of courage years before that war had been recorded on the front page of the Karlstad Advocate on May 17, 1929.

Alden's sister, Millie Peterson's—a long time aid to Minnesota Attorneys General Warren Spannaus and Hubert Humphrey III—discov-

ered the article at the Minnesota Historical Society.

I commend the piece to my colleagues not only because it demonstrates the courage that was multiplied by factor of millions in winning World War II—but also because this rescue so long ago evokes the brand of caring and determination that will bring America through the terrible attack of this week all the stronger.

I know my colleagues in the Congress of the United States will join me in extending the long-overdue recognition due to Alden T. Johnson.

CAR ROLLS INTO DITCH ON SLIPPERY ROAD AT
HALMA, BURNS

A bad accident took place on the road two miles south of Halma opposite the Ulin place Friday evening when a brand new Nash car driven by Conrad Jensen of Warren turned-over in the ditch and burned.

For the first-time in twenty years all of the Johnson boys, Theodore, Chris, Conrad, Ben, Aksel and Eldor were together, all having been at Halma Friday to attend the funeral of their father. They were visiting at the Chris Johnson home at Karlstad in the afternoon and in the evening they decided to drive to Halma and spend an evening on the old homestead where they had lived and grown to manhood. Theo., who owned a big new Nash rode to Halma earlier in the afternoon with his brother Aksel to help him do up the chores and suggested that one of his brothers drive his car over in the evening. When they left here in the evening Conrad Jensen drove the Nash and with him in the car were Mr. and Mrs. Eldor Johnson, Mrs. Theo. Johnson, Mrs. Conrad Jensen and Chris Johnson's oldest son. Alden. Mr. and Mrs. Ben Johnson accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Chris Johnson followed them in the former's Chrysler. The grade was slippery after the recent rains near the Ulin place and the Nash car skidded badly altho they were driving slowly and after cutting across the road from one side to the other turned over in the ditch. A great deal of damage would not have been done if the gasoline had not for some reason caught fire. In less than two minutes after the accident the whole car was a mass of flames. Chris and Ben arrived just as the accident happened and opened the front door to the car letting out Conrad and his wife. The back door they could not open and the flames were shooting around all over when Alden kicked the glass out of the door and thru this the rest of the passengers were pulled out. The car burned up entirely leaving only the iron frame and the engine. None of the passengers of the car were hurt but the loss of the car is a very hard blow to Mr. Johnson as he had no insurance on it and had only run about a thousand miles.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF SENATE
AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REGARDING TERRORIST
ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST
UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, words are inadequate to convey the utter shock, horror, sorrow, dismay—and anger, over yesterday's supreme act of cowardice against innocent Americans.

Our prayers and hearts go out to the victims—the dead and the wounded—and to

those who at this very hour cling to life, horribly trapped under concrete, jagged glass and steel.

Our nation's admiration and respect for the firefighters, police officers and medics, many of whom lost their lives in the line of duty, in deep. Valor, courage and selflessness were commonplace yesterday, as many rescuers became victims themselves.

Our hearts go out to the victims' families and friends who today must cope with their excruciating loss. As shock abates, the numbing pain of yesterday's terror will leave indelible scars. May god supernaturally intervene with healing, comfort and peace.

Mr. Speaker, the cowards who perpetrated these crimes against God and Humanity must be brought to justice no matter how long it takes. And, by the grace of God and the crafting of wise policy initiatives, this must never happen again.

Two years ago, in light of the growing danger of international terrorism, I authored the Embassy Security Act (H.R. 3427) to provide \$6 billion to make America's foreign embassies and missions stronger and safer. This week, we learned that even this large sum was not enough to deter those with an absolute disregard for the value of human life. We must and will do more.

Those who wish us harm should know that Americans are strong, determined and resilient. America is united, not to be underestimated.

In like manner, President Bush is strong and determined, fully in charge, not to be underestimated, and will lead us with boldness and prudence.

Finally, America's foundational strength isn't to be found in its military might or relative prosperity—but in our individual and collective faith in, and faithfulness to, God.

May this horrific act of mass violence compel us to turn anew to God seeking healing, restoration and justice, as well as divine guidance, so that His will will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF SENATE
AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REGARDING TERRORIST
ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST
UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlemen from New Jersey and California for their leadership on this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, like many of my colleagues who have offered their voices before mine, I too arise in strong and unyielding support of this resolution.

We are a strong and a resilient people who have, in our past, been called to duty, to perform extraordinary feats in extraordinary times.

Minute by minute reports of heroic events continue to flow in from all sites of this tragedy. These reports, each and every one, bear witness to the long held belief that we are a people of purpose and our actions, in this time of crisis, are guided by our love of our fellow men.

Many generations ago we were warned that each generation would be called upon to polish, sustain and improve this great republic. We were also told that these occasions could come disguised in many ways.

Tuesday's events have signaled to this generation, to those of us here, to those we represent, to every man, woman, child, individually and collectively, that our time, our test and our challenge, to maintain our republic's destiny to be the beacon of hope and freedom for the world is here and now, the wait is over, the question is answered.

My heart and my hand is offered, along with every other in this historic room as a supporter and a champion of this resolution. I am confident, Mr. Speaker, should I enjoy the technology to ask, right now, each and every resident of Idaho's First District the question of how I should vote on this measure, there would not be a dissenting vote.

Let's note for the record, Mr. Speaker, that we Americans chose neither the time nor the place for this, but that those soul-less terrorists who have made their choice known by these acts, have grossly underestimated the sterling resolve that historically visits this Nation during our time of need.

Mr. Speaker, we must now bury our fallen, and with heavy hearts, prayerful lips, but a firm belief that our lost are with our Creator and have joined in a celestial song to march us into the battle which we now willingly engage.

May the very God, whose existence these terrorist deny, grant them sufficient time on this earth to have these horrors visited on each and every one of them and anyone else who may have given them cause or quarter.

May this same God, smile on this vote we now offer, this nation we speak for and this purpose we undertake.

SIKHS ARE NOT MUSLIMS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, in general I have been proud of America's response to the attack on our country that took place Tuesday. There have been no threats against the embassies of countries that might be involved. There have been no riots while the police have been concentrated in one particular area. However, there is one disturbing element. A number of Sikhs have been attacked by ignorant people seeking to vent their anger at what happened. In New York, an old Sikh man was beaten with baseball bats. A couple of young Sikhs were attacked Wednesday afternoon in Brooklyn. Sikh businesses have been stoned and cars have been burned. Apparently, these Sikhs were targeted because of their turbans and beards, which are required by their religion.

It would be grossly unfair to attack Muslims, even though Mr. bin Laden, who appears to be the prime suspect, claims to be an adherent of the Muslim faith. I know many Muslims and they are good people who are not involved in this kind of activity in any way. Yet

what makes these attacks even stranger is that Sikhs are not Muslims. They don't even wear a turban the same way. Sikhism is an independent religion. It is not part of Islam; it is not part of Hinduism. Sikhs are identified by five specific markers: uncut hair covered by a turban, a kirpan, or ceremonial sword, a bracelet, special underwear, and a special comb. These are distinct identifiers and are required by the Sikh religion.

I call on the media to report on the attacks on Sikhs and note the fact that they are not connected to the terrorist campaign in any way and have, in fact, condemned it. I urge the media to speak out against the attacks, and I urge President Bush to do the same. Let's not attack anyone for his or her religion or the way he or she looks. Those who do so are cut from the same cloth as Mr. bin Laden. In America, we do not accept that.

The Council of Khalistan, which is the organization representing Sikhs, has written a letter to the President and a press release strongly condemning the attack Tuesday. I would like to place them in the RECORD at this time for the information of my colleagues.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN CONDEMNS ATTACK ON UNITED STATES

URGES SIKHS TO GIVE BLOOD

WASHINGTON, D.C., SEPTEMBER 12, 2001.—Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, today condemned the brutal attack on the United States that occurred yesterday.

"On behalf of the 21-million strong Sikh Nation and especially on behalf of more than 500,000 Sikh Americans, I would like to express our sadness and our sympathies to the people of the United States for the terrible attack on the United States yesterday and for the loss of life it entails," Dr. Aulakh said.

"I urge Sikh Americans to give blood and to pray for the victims, for their families, and for all those who are helping our country and our communities in this time of need," Dr. Aulakh said. "We must do our part as American citizens," he said. "We stand together as a nation."

"Like all Americans and all decent people everywhere, we condemn this brutal and senseless attack. The Sikh religion recognizes all the human race as one and we pray for the well-being of all. Our prayers and our sympathies are with the people of the United States at this tragic time. We especially pray for the families of those who have departed."

"This tragic event happened in the most diverse city in the world," Dr. Aulakh said. "There is hardly a national or ethnic group that has not been touched directly by this tragedy. Our sympathies are extended to those who have been touched personally," he said. "Violence against innocent people of any religion or ethnicity is unacceptable. It must be ended."

Unfortunately, some people have engaged in violence against Sikhs in the wake of the bombings yesterday. A couple of young Sikhs were attacked in Brooklyn. Sikh businesses have been stoned and cars have been burned. A Sikh boy was even shot in New York.

"Today we all stand together as Americans, regardless of race, religion, or ethnicity," he said. "We must not accept terrorism. We must unite against this evil," he said. "We must work to bring all Americans together to defeat this brutal enemy."

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,
Washington, DC, September 12, 2001.
Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,
President of the United States, The White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: On behalf of the 21-million strong Sikh Nation and especially on behalf of more than 500,000 Sikh Americans, I would like to express our sadness and our sympathies to the people of the United States for the terrible attack on the United States yesterday and for the loss of life it entails. This is a terrible tragedy and we know that you will take appropriate action. Like all Americans and all decent people everywhere, we condemn this brutal and senseless attack.

The Sikh religion recognizes all humanity as our brothers and we pray for the well-being of all. Our prayers and our sympathies are with the people of the United States at this tragic time. We especially pray for the families of those who have departed. May God bring peace to these departed souls and to their families.

We support you and we pray for the people of America. God bless you and God bless America.

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President, Council of Khalistan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on Roll Call number 338. I would have voted "yes" on this resolution condemning the terrorist attacks earlier this week.

COMMENDING RESCUE WORKERS AND VOLUNTEERS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the numerous rescue workers and volunteers around the country in their recovery efforts during this terrible tragedy. These brave and heroic citizens are working around the clock to bring calm and restore peace into our beloved nation. Again I wish to convey my thanks and prayers to these courageous rescue workers, their families, and everyone affected by this horrific chain of events; including Captain Jack Punches, Jr., whose mother resides in Ramsey in Fayette County. A retired Navy captain, he had worked in military intelligence and was at his desk at the Pentagon when the atrocious events of Tuesday occurred. He had a long and distinguished military career, holding command positions during the Persian Gulf War while logging more than 7,000 flight hours as a pilot of a P-3 submarine hunter aircraft. Captain Punches is survived by his wife Janice, his daughter Jennifer, and his son Jeremy.

I ask again, may God bless these rescue workers, may God bless the victims and their families, and may God bless our country.