

failure of their mission, and in so doing, he saved American lives. While many people died in this tragedy, we must recognize the greater triumph of the situation and the battle against terrorism that was claimed in this particular moment. Mr. Speaker, Jason Dahl emerged as a national hero on September 11 and I would like to acknowledge his patriotic sacrifice. My warmest regards and deepest sympathies are extended toward his family at this time of remembrance. Jason Dahl will be remembered as a hero who gave his life to America and we will all miss him dearly.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST UNITED STATES, HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 61

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, December 7, 1941. September 17, 1862. November 22, 1963. Pearl Harbor—The Day which Lives in Infamy. The Battle of Antietam—America's Bloodiest Day. The Assassination of President Kennedy—The Loss of America's Innocence. These dates have profound meaning in the Nation's eternal memory. They had an immeasurable impact on the American way of life, and the effects remain with us today. Transcending tragedy, the horrific events of these dates reach to a level that changes everything we know and ever will know about our world, our country, and ourselves.

Hoping against hope, we prayed that this terrible list would not grow, but we must now add Tuesday, September 11, 2001 to the grim list.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday our great Nation suffered the most violent and costly attack on American soil in our nation's history, and our lives will never be the same. The attack was aimed at the heart of our country, and the attackers hoped to break the spirit of our citizens.

The cowards who attacked us clearly misunderstood the strength of character and resolve of the American people. We do not back down in the face of hardship, and we will prevail over our enemies, no matter how long it takes.

Terrorists may shatter our buildings, but they cannot shatter our commitment to the values we hold most dear: freedom, democracy, liberty, opportunity. We must commit ourselves today not only to defend ourselves and punish those who attacked us, we must also commit to rebuild the lives and the innocence that have been shattered. As the scope of the devastation becomes clearer, our task will only grow more serious and important, but I know that we will rebuild our world.

As we move forward to rebuild what has been shattered, we must put our world back together in a way that is mindful of not only our profoundly rich history and traditions but is

also mindful of that which connects all of humanity. We are blessed by the assistance and efforts of countless rescue workers who are risking their lives to rescue victims; I commend their courageous work and believe that their efforts should be examples to us all as we each make our own contributions to the recovery efforts.

Finally, we must not let feelings of anger and frustration rob us of the very things that make our country great. Make no mistake, we will find those responsible for these terrible attacks, and hold them responsible. In doing so, however, we must be thoughtful, careful, and deliberate. We must and will remain vigilant in the defense of the liberties of our citizens. America can be safe and free, and our best days remain before us. God bless America.

PROVIDING FOR EXPEDITED PAYMENT OF CERTAIN BENEFITS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS KILLED OR INJURED IN CONNECTION WITH TERRORIST ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in full support of H.R. 2882 expediting payments to the families of the brave public safety officers killed or injured in the line of duty during the heinous acts of terrorism against the United States which occurred on September 11, 2001. Our Nation owes these heroic men and women our deepest gratitude and we extend to their families our sincerest and heartfelt sorrow for their loss. As our Nation comes to grips with the shocking enormity of these attacks, our dedicated public safety officers remain on the front line of the massive search and rescue efforts underway. They are leading a tireless search for our fellow citizens and for their fallen comrades. At this time of national tragedy, let us acknowledge the ongoing sacrifices that our Nation's brave public safety officers continue to selflessly endure in the name of freedom and humanity. And may the ultimate sacrifice of their comrades never be forgotten. We pray for the safety of our public safety officers and the safe return of their fellow officers who remain missing. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

AMERICA STANDS RESOLUTE IN THIS TIME OF TRAGEDY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2001

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday morning the American people were viciously and deliberately attacked by terrorists in what I consider to be an act of war.

We have entered into a new era in world history. Terrorists have now begun to flout international law and standards of common

decency. They target the American people because we are strong and because they are weak. Some say that we cannot and should not be the world's policeman. But we will serve justice and we will punish those who are responsible.

This battle is a new kind of war, and we must be prudent in how we prosecute it. All nations who harbor, who train, who support, who fund these terrorist groups, bear equal responsibility for the actions of these terrorists.

We must dedicate the proper resources to deal with them in the appropriate way. Terrorists may be able to run, but they cannot hide from America's determination and justice.

Many of those who died were dedicated public servants. They were members of our armed forces, firefighters, and police officers. They were people dedicated to serving and protecting America. Others were citizens dedicating to living the American dream, who had wives or husbands or children or parents who loved them and who will miss them.

These people were innocent victims in a war conducted against America by terrorists who attacked unsuspecting civilian targets. It is now time we begin to fight back.

On behalf of myself and the Fifth District of Texas, I would like to express my deepest condolences the families of the victims. May God protect them in this time of trouble.

HONORING MACLOVIO “JOE” LOPEZ JR.

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, It is with profound sadness that I pay tribute to Maclovio “Joe” Lopez who passed away on September 11, 2001. Joe, 41 years old, was a native of Pueblo, Colorado and was traveling from Boston to Los Angeles on business when his United Airlines Flight 175 was hijacked and crashed into the World Trade Center in New York City.

Joe Lopez was born and reared in Colorado, the second oldest of seven children to Maclovio and Martha Lopez. Joe graduated from Pueblo County High School prior to pursuing a career that would ultimately require him to frequently travel from Los Angeles to Boston. Tragically, Joe's commute landed into the evil hands of cowardly terrorists who horrified our nation by attacking innocent American citizens.

The events that took place on September 11, 2001 will never be forgotten. It is the duty of our nation not only to remember that day, but also to honor those individuals whose lives were so quickly lost. Joe Lopez was a loving and honorable man. My heart and prayers go out to Joe's friends and family during this time of mourning. They can rest assure that we will come together as a Nation to see that the proper course of action is taken against these criminals who perpetrated this senseless act. Joe was an outstanding member of his community and a heroic role model for others. I would like to extend my deepest sympathy and warmest regards to Maclovio “Joe” Lopez's family and my thoughts and prayers along with those of our Nation are with them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, due to the horrific and incredible attack on the World Trade Center, I traveled to my district to offer assistance and comfort to my constituents in this time of great tragedy. Because of my absence from the House on September 13th, I missed rollcall votes numbered 338, 339 and 340. Had I been present, I would have wholeheartedly voted in favor of the resolution condemning the terrorists attacks against the United States and extending Congress' deepest condolences to the victims of these heinous and cowardly actions; I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2882, the measure that expedites payments of benefits for the public safety officers killed or injured; and H.R. 2884, the legislation that extending tax benefits for the September 11th victims. In addition, I would have voted "yea" on the resolution urging people to fly the U.S. flag.

My thoughts these past days and in the coming weeks are with all those in my beloved city whose lives have been affected by the tragedy in lower Manhattan. I join everyone in our city in praying for our many friends who are missing and injured and for their loved ones.

It is an honor everyday to serve in the House of Representatives as a representative of the greatest city in the world. As soon as I learned of the attacks on the Trade Center, I drove to Manhattan to be with my family and offer assistance to my friends and neighbors. My heart is warmed by the response of our city—the rescue workers, the medical response teams, the orderly evacuation of lower Manhattan by the people who work and live there and the thousands who have gone to blood donor centers.

All New Yorkers will forever remember the bravery of the rescue workers who rushed into lower Manhattan as the Trade Center towers burned. It is apparent that many hundreds of these firefighters, cops and medical personnel may be among the thousands now unaccounted for. We in the city witness countless selfless acts by these heroes on a daily basis. Today we are awed by their response to the tragedy and heartbroken by their fate.

The victims at the Pentagon and of the air highjackings are also in our thoughts and prayers.

We are the most diverse city in the world but today we are united as one. We stand squarely with the President, our Governor and Mayor and pledge to bring the perpetrators of these tremendously cruel acts to justice.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2001

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to official functions scheduled in the 15th Congressional District of Michigan, I am unable to return to Washington; therefore I respectfully request a leave of absence from business for

Friday, September 14. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 2888, the bill providing emergency supplemental appropriations, Rollcall No. 341.

AMERICAN VETERANS COMMITTEE (AVC) INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS PLATFORM AND RESOLUTIONS

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2001

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the American Veterans Committee (AVC). The American Veterans Committee is an outstanding organization of American veterans with ongoing concerns and interest in our foreign policy and international affairs. I submit for the RECORD their International Affairs Platform and Resolutions, as prepared by the American Veterans Committee, International Affairs Commission and adopted by the American Veterans Committee (AVC) National Board at the National Board Meeting, Tuesday, August 26, 1997, with appropriate changes as of August 2001.

AMERICAN VETERANS COMMITTEE (AVC) INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS PLATFORM

We, the members of the American Veterans Committee (AVC), believe that in international affairs the objective of the United States of America (US) is the maintenance of peace with justice for all. The world must avoid the holocaust of nuclear war. The restoration of diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China, the end of the Cold War, the dissolution of the Soviet Union, and the fall of the Berlin Wall brought much hope of the avoidance of nuclear war—at least among the major powers—in the foreseeable future. Many international problems remain including the threat of international terrorists, and the US has been active—along with the United Nations—in dealing with hostilities in the Middle East and the Balkan States, Central and Southeast Asia, such African states as Somalia, Rwanda and Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo), and in Central America and the Caribbean. The work of the US has aided in establishing and restoring elective governments wherever possible.

Within that framework, US foreign policy, like US domestic policy, must seek always to enhance social justice for and the welfare of the individual, in all classes and without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, language, gender, sexual orientation, or age. Our policies should strive for realization of the world envisioned in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a world in which all might eat and sleep in safety, live under and vote in an elective government, with realistic hope and opportunity of attaining their reasonable aspirations.

I. THE UNITED NATIONS AND WORLD GOVERNANCE

The United Nations (UN), in spite of the recognized areas which require strengthening, continues to be the best hope for peace in the world. American support of the UN must be an essential part of our foreign policy. The authority of the UN must be strengthened in a process in which selected elements of national sovereignty will be progressively transferred, in a manner that will enhance the fundamental freedoms and the well-being of all the peoples of the world.

AVC supports the following principles, reforms and programs for a more effective UN:

1. International law governing disputes and conduct of UN member states, and other states, with one another should be improved, clarified, codified, and *obeyed*. The US and all member states should work within the UN for the development of clear, well understood and respected international law. All member states should accept the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to interpret and implement international law.

2. Debtor states must pay their UN past and current dues and assessments.

3. The effectiveness of the UN must be improved through better financing, including such mechanisms that will bring in appropriate revenue from developed nations of the world.

4. The UN structures for dispute mediation and conflict prevention and resolution must be strengthened.

5. Further international cooperation for peace and sustainable development should be enhanced.

6. Movement should be made toward a genuine career UN civil service.

7. The influence of civil society at the UN should be strengthened.

8. The integrity and independence of the Office of the Secretary General, as expressed in the UN Charter, are crucial to the strength and effectiveness of the UN. The US should oppose any attempt to weaken the powers of this office. AVC commends the leadership of the present Secretary General, Kofi Annan, in making the organization work more effectively . . . and extends its very best wishes to him on his election to a well deserved second five-year team.

II. WORLD VETERANS FEDERATION (WVF)

AVC points with pride to and pledges continuing support for the World Veterans Federation (WVF), a worldwide organization of former combatants whose activities are a remarkable example of the kind of private international cooperation on which lasting world peace and justice can be built. AVC thus is proud to have been one of those veterans organizations that helped establish WVF more than a half century ago, and took part in the recognition of the WVF 50th Anniversary, and looks forward to the 24th General Assembly in South Africa in 2003.

III. THE RIGHTS OF AND RESPECT FOR WOMEN

Since its establishment in 1944, AVC has always had women among its members and leaders. AVC in its Platform is guided by the 1995 Beijing Conference and its "Platform for Action" and the subsequent reaffirmation during the last half decade. In 1995, the UN convened the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China. The Conference wrote and adopted the Beijing Declaration and the "Platform for Action," the definitive statement of women's agenda for empowerment world-wide. Since that time, the "Platform for Action" has been the basis for evaluating the international community's progress in meeting the goals set forth in that document. This has been done during the yearly meetings of the UN Committee on the Status of Women since 1995.

A Special session of the UN General Assembly was called in the year 2000, "Beijing + 5," which looked at how far the goals of this Platform have been achieved. That Session reaffirmed the principles and commitments expressed in the "Platform for Action." Furthermore, it set forth a Political Declaration which called upon all nations to take further actions and initiatives to implement the Platform. It also urged a greater role for women in peace processes. Breaking new ground, "Beijing + 5" introduced new focal points of concern for women: HIV/AIDS and racial discrimination. Both of these issues were taken up by the 45th Session of the UN Commission on the status of Women