

Since the September 11th terrorist attacks, the Salvation Army has assisted stranded travelers while planes were grounded and provided food for people both downtown and at KCI when heightened security left people without a means to get home. The patriotism and persistence of the Salvation Army is a lasting memorial to the thousands of victims who perished in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Through the days, weeks, and months ahead, all Americans must come together and do what they can to assist the nation's war effort. Whether it is giving blood, sending donations, praying for the thousands of grieving families, or simply saying thanks to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day so that we may be free, it is important that the American people are vigilant in their efforts to overcome this evil. Though our nation has witnessed unspeakable horror, America's virtues, determination, and faith continues to shine brightly on the world.

I am confident that the United States will seek out those that harbor hatred, terror, and depravity in their hearts; and we will clear them. This is a war that we must, can, and will win. May God bless the families and children grieving across this great nation and may God bless America.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GERIATRIC CARE ACT OF 2001

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Geriatric Care Act of 2001, an important piece of legislation which will help our nation prepare for the health care pressures associated with the aging of the baby boom generation.

Americans are living longer than ever, with the average life expectancy rising to 80 years old for women and 74 years old for men. While this is generally a positive development, there are costs associated with the aging of America. As seniors live longer, they face greater risks of disease and disabilities, such as Alzheimer's, diabetes, cancer, stroke, and heart disease.

Geriatricians are physicians who are uniquely trained to help care for the aging and elderly. By promoting a comprehensive approach to health care, including wellness and preventive care, geriatricians can help seniors live longer and healthier lives.

It is critical that our nation have a sufficient number of geriatricians to help manage the aging of the baby-boom generation. Unfortunately, there are currently only 9,000 certified geriatricians, and that number is expected to decline dramatically in the coming years. Of the approximately 98,000 medical residency and fellowship positions supported by Medicare in 1998, only 324 were in geriatric medicine and geriatric psychiatry. We must do more to promote geriatric residency programs.

Unfortunately, there are two barriers preventing physicians from entering geriatrics: insufficient Medicare reimbursements for the provision of geriatric care and inadequate training dollars and positions for geriatricians.

A recent MedPac survey found that Medicare's low reimbursement rates serve as a major obstacle to recruiting new geriatricians. Due to their higher level of chronic disease and multiple prescriptions, seniors require additional care to ensure proper diagnosis and treatment. Medicare's reimbursement rates do not factor the complex needs of elderly patients. Because geriatricians treat seniors exclusively, they are especially affected by Medicare's low reimbursement rates.

Additionally, the Balanced Budget Act placed limits on the numbers of residents a hospital can have, based on 1996 numbers. This cap serves as a disincentive for some hospitals, and has caused them to eliminate or reduce their geriatric Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs.

The legislation I am introducing today would remedy both of these problems, so that America is prepared for the aging baby boom generation. The Geriatric Care Act would modernize the Medicare fee schedule to more accurately reflect the cost of providing care for seniors. It also would allow for additional geriatric residency slots, so that we can develop an adequate supply of geriatricians for the next generation.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me as cosponsors of this legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL DENNIS LEWIS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to share a few words regarding the upcoming retirement of Colonel Dennis Richard Lewis, Program Branch Chief for the Army's Congressional Legislative Liaison. In the very near future, Colonel Lewis will retire after 27 years in the Army. He has distinguished himself, the Army and our nation with dedicated service.

Colonel Lewis began his career in the military in 1974, after graduating from the United States Military Academy. At West Point he excelled in academics, sports and became Airborne qualified as a cadet. Colonel Lewis later attended Purdue University, receiving a masters degree in Industrial Relations. His professional military development includes the Army Field Artillery Advanced Course, the Command and General Staff College and the Army War College. In addition to his academic achievements, Colonel Lewis became Air Assault qualified and became an Airborne Jump Master with the 82nd Airborne Division.

During the Cold War, Colonel Lewis served in numerous field artillery assignments including Nuclear Weapons Officer, Battery Executive Officer, Battery Commander and Assistant Operations Office in Germany, Turkey and Southwest Asia. With this experience, Colonel Lewis returned to the United States Military Academy as a Tactical Officer.

Colonel Lewis' next assignments included some of the Army's most challenging. As a field artillery Operations officer, Colonel Lewis deployed to Saudi Arabia during Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Upon return, Colonel Lewis was selected to command a field artillery bat-

alion in the 82nd Airborne Division. After completing his Battalion Command, Colonel Lewis was assigned to the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Assignments at this post included coordinating military response and support to the crash of TWA Flight 800, the downing of two U.S. civilian aircraft over Cuba, the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta and the Cuban and Haitian migrants operations in the Caribbean.

Colonel Lewis became a field artillery Brigade Commander in the 18th Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, NC and then served as Program Branch Chief for the Army's Congressional Legislative Liaison. In this position, Colonel Lewis effectively articulated the Army's goals, policies and programs to key members of Congress while serving as an advisor to the Secretary of the Army and the Army Chief of Staff.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Lewis has had an impressive career in the military. As he prepares for this next stage in his life, I am certain that my colleagues will join me in wishing Colonel Lewis all the best. We thank he for his 27 years of service to the United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on September 25 I missed rollcall vote No. 359. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on the vote.

RECOGNIZE THE MIDLAND EMPIRE RED CROSS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Midland Empire Red Cross for their work and sacrifice in honor of all the people who both survived and who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001, their families and their friends.

These terrorist attacks mark a solemn moment in America's history. American men and women, civilians and soldiers, firefighters and police, mothers and fathers, were slain for a cause so terrible, so heinous, and so despicable that we find it unimaginable and indescribable. United, Americans seek to find meaning and hope in a seemingly hopeless and meaningless act. In the days since these terrible terrorist attacks, America has been shoulder-to-shoulder in a struggle to meet the challenges of a world that is a little less safe, a little scarier, and far less predictable. The efforts of organizations like the Midland Empire Red Cross signify the commitment and concern of Americans everywhere. Our Nation's strength does not lie in her military might but rather in the collective compassion of its people.

Since the September 11th terrorist attacks, the Midland Empire Red Cross has mobilized "Henry's Kitchen," which is capable of feeding

10,000 people a day, to assist volunteers at the Pentagon in their rescue efforts. Additionally, Karla Long—the Emergency Service Director—is at Ground Zero assisting as a mass care specialist while 9 other volunteers and staff are helping in New York as well. The patriotism and persistence of the Midland Empire Red Cross is a lasting memorial to the thousands of victims who perished in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Through the days, weeks and months ahead, all Americans must come together and do what they can to assist the Nation's war effort. Whether it is giving blood, sending donations, praying for the thousands of grieving families, or simply saying thanks to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day so that we may be free, it is important that the American people are vigilant in their efforts to overcome this evil. Though our Nation has witnessed unspeakable horror, America's virtues, determination, and faith continues to shine brightly on the world.

I am confident that the United States will seek out those that harbor hatred, terror, and depravity in their hearts; and we will defeat them. This is a war that we must, can, and will win. May God bless the families and children grieving across this great Nation and may God bless America.

REGARDING THE \$400 MILLION
STRIPPED FROM THE DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION BILL

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, It is truly shocking that the House Defense Authorization Bill eliminated \$400 million from space-based defenses, cutting the highly successful Space Based Laser program and a restart for the equally successful but de-funded Brilliant Pebbles space based interceptor program. Conscience demands my protest.

The destruction of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon involving the loss of 6,000 lives should have taught us a lesson on the need for vigilance. Freedom has a price. Attacks upon the United States can take the form of ballistic missiles, cyberwarfare, and attacks on our satellites as well as terrorism.

The World Trade Center was bombed in 1993. Plans for the aerial destruction of the World Trade Center by Islamic terrorist Abdul Hakim Murad were communicated from the Philippines to the United States in 1995. Six years of advance warning was supplied before the terrible events of September 11, 2001.

In 1995 China threatened the United States with a ballistic missile to exchange Los Angeles for Taipei. China, moreover, reinforced its threat in 2000, and in 1995 and 1996 demonstrated its proclivity to use ballistic missiles, launching them offshore Taiwan. Six years of advanced warning has been supplied of China's plans.

U.S. intelligence has been either unable or unwilling to inform us of the extent and purpose of China's military buildup. It is not for modernization but part of a deliberate buildup for threatening or attacking the United States. China's Long Wall Project building missile bases is aimed at U.S. forces in the Pacific.

Nor is China the only country building ballistic missiles. North Korea, Libya, Iran, Iraq as well as other countries are engaged in buildup of ballistic missiles. But the passage of a few weeks has not seared the conscience of Congress to the menace posed by ballistic missiles, a threat against which Mr. Rumsfeld has warned us.

The House Defense Authorization Bill saw fit to cut our defenses, cutting \$400 million from space-based missile defense programs, including the Space Based Laser and re-start of the Space Based Interceptor or Brilliant Pebbles. Aiming itself at out space-based defenses, the House Defense Authorization Bill substituted false economy for the senseless risk of our lives and freedom.

The disregard for our nation's defense is exuberated by a certain ignorance of ballistic missile defense programs. For Example, the opposition to the space-based defenses said the Airborne Laser was a stepping stone to the Space Based Laser evidently unaware of how the Space Based laser already completed the demonstration of its technology of its technology in 1997, four years ago.

It is evidently poorly understood how the Airborne Laser and Space Based Laser involve different applications and technologies. The Airborne Laser uses a chemical oxygeniodine reaction to power the laser suitable for an airplane or other platform in the environment of the earth's gravity. This laser, however, is not suitable for the zero-gravity environment of space. This Space Based Laser uses a hydrogen-fluoride reaction to power its laser, where the spent gases can be exhausted in the zero-gravity environment of space.

It is apparently not well understood, moreover, how the Airborne Laser relies on a complex mirror system for directing the laser beam. The Airborne Laser, in addition, is designed for transmission of the laser through the atmosphere at ranges greater than 100 miles. The Space Based Laser, in contrast, transmits its beam from space to around 35,000 feet in altitude, or above the cloud tops.

The House Defense Authorization Bill left \$32 million for space-based missile defenses including the Space Based Laser and any re-start of the Space Based Interceptor or Brilliant Pebbles where the administration requests \$165 million for the Space Based Laser. Funding levels for the Space Based Laser have been around \$130 million.

I vigorously protest this senseless abasement of our best missile defense programs. The United States is spending \$40 billion to respond to the terrorist attacks against the World Trade Center and Pentagon. The price of a ballistic missile attack and the policy of deliberately leaving ourselves vulnerable, as embodied in the House Defense Authorization Bill, may be immeasurable.

I therefore urge this body, at the first and next opportunity to advocate not only the full and immediate restoration of the \$400 million cut by Congress, but to increase funding for space-based defenses, along with their necessary technological support and development.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis.

The Sisters have a long history of dedication to people of Northeast Ohio. Over the years, the sisters served in seventeen schools in Ohio, providing for a strong education and solid virtue and morale to thousands of students.

The congregation was originally founded in Wisconsin in 1901 to educate Polish immigrants who were settling in the Midwest. Forty-six Sisters comprised the original congregation that had grown to over 183 members in 1908, serving twenty-three parish schools in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Ohio.

The ministry of the Sisters expanded greatly from its original focus on educating grade school children to include high school teaching, hospital care, special education, food pantries, missionary work, geriatric care, spiritual guidance and counseling, university professorships, pastoral care, and more. Their guidance and inspiration has touched thousands of people throughout the entire Midwest, and their caring missions stand strong today. While their mission and programs continue to expand, the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis have not altered their founding spirit—seeking to serve the minors, the little people who often fall through the cracks of society.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating and honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis. The Sisters have remained a strong force in our community, and will continue to touch the hearts and souls of many in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF
LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Southern California community of La Cañada Flintridge. On December 8, the city will celebrate its 25th year of cityhood.

In 1843, in the wake of the Mexican Revolution, Ignacio Coronel, a Mexican school-teacher from Los Angeles, was granted a valley named "Rancho La Cañada." Later, U.S. Senator Frank Flint divided 1,700 acres south of modern-day Foothill Boulevard into large lots and called his subdivision "Flintridge." Eventually, the valley came to be known as "La Cañada Flintridge," as it is called today.

La Cañada Flintridge experienced its most rapid growth during the 20th Century. A diverse and resourceful collection of farmers, professionals, intellectuals, and ranchers toiled to develop a prosperous city. To this day La Cañada Flintridge reflects their hard work. It is a city with extensive cultural resources and an