

the Union Army, and attained the rank of major. Santos Benavides—originally from Laredo—fought for the Confederacy. His rank of colonel was the highest of any Mexican-American Army officer in the Civil War.

Major Manuel Antonio Chavez forced the Confederate Army to retreat down the Rio Grande, preventing the rebels from carrying out their plans to seize the gold mines of New Mexico and California. Lieutenant Colonel José Francisco Chaves of the Union Army assisted in recapturing Albuquerque and Santa Fe.

One of the most interesting soldiers in the Confederacy was Loretta Janet Velázquez, who fought disguised as a man. Upon discovery and discharge, she continued her service as a Confederate spy.

I wanted to concentrate mostly on those who served in the U.S. military prior to this century, because not near enough has been said about them throughout the course of history. Part of the purpose of having Hispanic Heritage Month is to commemorate those Hispanics who have gone before us—people who are not often included in the history books.

In 1973, Lieutenant Colonel Mercedes Cubria retired from the Army—she was the first Hispanic woman to achieve that rank. Hispanics served bravely for the cause of freedom and democracy in World War I, World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.

More than 400,000 Hispanics served the United States during World War II and about 25,000 Hispanics served in the Persian Gulf war.

In the years to come, when the military service of Hispanics is viewed through the prism of history, there are certainly a number of young Hispanics whose service to this Nation in this new war will distinguish themselves among great U.S. warriors in the 21st century.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month to celebrate the contributions Latinos have made and continue to make to our richly diverse national culture.

From agriculture to commerce, from the arts to sports, from government to medicine, Latinos are a significant part of everyday life in the United States.

Latinos contribute to the vitality of our Nation's economy through traditional work in the field of agriculture, to jobs in the manufacturing arena, to service in Federal, State, and local governments. Latinos are leaders in our labor unions, and in government, and are among America's most successful entrepreneurs and business leaders.

One clear example of the economic contributions of Latinos to America is illustrated by the Census Bureau's most recent report, which found that Latinos own the largest share of minority-owned businesses in the country—1.2 million to be exact.

As some of our Nation's most ardent patriots, Latinos have served proudly and with distinction in every major U.S. military conflict and in all branches of our armed services. One of the greatest sources of pride among the Latino community is the 39 Medals of Honor awarded to Latinos in recognition of their valor. They are the largest single ethnic group, in proportion to the number of who served, to earn this prestigious award.

Latinos have a long history of leadership in support of the rights of the oppressed: supporting civil rights leaders, to helping influence

policies that seek to ensure fair and equal treatment for all persons in our Nation. They have been leaders in extending the Voting Rights Act to areas where Latinos and others have historically been discouraged from voting as a result of discriminatory practices. During the latter half of the 20th century, Latinos joined other Americans in advocating for the desegregation of our nation's schools; today Latinos are fighting for our Nation's children to receive a quality education.

Over the years, Latinos have served their country in the halls of local State and Federal Government. For example, Florida sent the first Latino to Congress in 1822, by electing Joseph Marion. In my home State of California, Romualdo Pacheco served as the first native-born Governor in 1875. Currently, Latinos hold over 5,000 elected positions nationwide.

In closing, it is important to note the tremendous contributions Latino women have made to our country. Contributions like that of Luisa Capetillo and Lucia Gonzalez Parson who fought with Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and other suffragettes to secure a woman's right to vote; and contributions like that of Delores Huerta who was instrumental in helping Cesar Chavez organize migrant farm workers in California in the 1960s; Dolores is still a leader in the United Farm Workers of America in California. Let's not forget the contributions of Ellen Ochoa who became the first Latina astronaut in 1990; and Antonia Novello our Nation's first female Latina Surgeon General. Also, let us not forget the countless other Latinas, who with women of all races, are the silent heroines working everyday to keep families centered and strong in their roles as, wife, caregiver, provider, mother, and grandmothers.

I am proud of the diversity of the 33rd District of California, and I am proud to represent one of the largest concentrations of Latinos in the entire country. Encompassing downtown Los Angeles and a number of municipalities in southeast Los Angeles County, my district is representative of the wealth of diversity within the Latino community. My constituents' roots stem from all over Latin America and the Caribbean, including Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Cuba. Coupled with the other wonderful races and groups I represent, this wonderful kaleidoscope of cultures contributes to making California the most diverse State in the union an integral component of our great country.

During Hispanic Heritage Month, we proudly recognize Latinos for their contributions to this great country; not only for the contributions of today, but also for those accomplished throughout American history. Now and long ago, Latinos have taken their place among the leadership in family, business, politics, education, sports, science, and the arts. As a result, our Latino heritage is a thread interwoven into the fabric of a greater America.

STRATEGIES FOR AMERICA'S RECOVERY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SCHROCK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday, September 11, is forever seared into our

minds. We will never forget the images of planes flying into tall buildings and exploding, people choosing to jump off buildings rather than burn to death, buildings collapsing on rescuers, clouds of vaporized concrete, steel, glass, rolling down the streets like volcanic eruptions; the Stars and Stripes framed by the flaming crater that was the pyre of 125 soldiers and civilians at the Pentagon. Our hearts go out to the victims and their families.

Mr. Speaker, we watched those images and they did not at first seem real. The spectacle almost disguised the human toll. At first, the magnitude of the tragedy made it hard for most Americans to grasp. But every day, the newspapers now put faces on the victims and their families. The shock has worn off; and we are left with grief, the deepest grief. We read those obituaries and we find ourselves tearing up. I do not know about my colleagues, but I can only read a few of those obituaries each day before I must stop.

We have learned the stories of the brave passengers on United Flight 93 who bid their loved ones farewell, pledging that they would go down fighting. Their plane crashed, but those Americans saved many lives in Washington, perhaps even our own. We are humbled by their courage and sacrifice, ordinary Americans who in 45 minutes became heroes. We remember the final words, the final recorded cell phone calls of the men and women hopelessly trapped above the fiery inferno of the World Trade Center, messages of love to their families.

In Corinthians the Bible teaches: "So we do not lose heart, even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is renewing, for we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens."

Mr. Speaker, each of us will carry our own memories of 9-11. I personally will never forget the sense of unity as 170 bipartisan Members of Congress, not Republicans or Democrats, but Americans, stood on the front steps of this Capitol in the lengthening evening shadows of that Tuesday to say a prayer for our country and its victims.

□ 2100

Then we sang "America the Beautiful." Our message then and today and tomorrow is that this is one Republic, United We Stand. Terrorists can challenge this Nation's spirit, but they cannot break it. In righteousness we are hunting down, even as I speak, to the end of the Earth if necessary, the assassins of our brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, and children.

We will do what is necessary to win this war that has been declared on us. The victims deserve justice and our people deserve security. We are meting out justice to those terrorists, and we do distinguish between terrorists and those who harbor them and the rest of the Muslim world.

But Christians, Jews, and Muslims must all understand that the Osama bin Ladens are leading to the destruction of all religion and society. If the Muslim fundamentalists do not realize that, the war will go on and on.

Take the radical Islamic fundamentalist Taliban regime. This is a government so oppressive that it executes little girls for the crime of attending school. Girls aged 8 and older caught attending underground schools are subject to being taken to the Kabul soccer stadium and are made to kneel in the penalty box, while an executioner puts a machine gun to the back of their head and pulls the trigger. Spectators scattered among the stands are then encouraged to cheer.

An Afghani woman was beaten to death recently by an angry mob incited by the Taliban after accidentally exposing her arm.

Osama bin Laden's treatment of women is so barbaric that he orders their fingernails and toenails pulled out if they are painted.

Women in Afghanistan have almost no health care because male doctors are forbidden by the Taliban to touch female patients, and there are very few female doctors.

The beating, raping, and kidnapping of women are commonplace under the Taliban. A reporter for CNN recently told of meeting a family of three little girls hidden under their scarves and garments while their father stared into space. The girls had apparently not moved in weeks. They had been made to watch as the Taliban militia shot their mother in front of them, and then stayed in their home for 2 days while their mother's body lay in the courtyard.

The reporter asked the girls what the Taliban men did to them during those 2 days. They just wept silently.

And the Taliban is rounding up men from the villages. Those that do not join willingly are shot. There are news reports of mass graves, some containing as many as 300 Afghans, scattered throughout the country.

The Taliban is taking more than a few pages from the Nazis. They require all Hindus to carry a yellow sticker identifying them as members of a religious minority. Hindus are required to put yellow flags on top of their rooftops as well.

The Taliban also controls the heroin trade, and funds its domestic and international terrorism with drug money.

So what do we do? Well, to quote from British Prime Minister Tony Blair's magnificent speech:

“Don't overreact,” some say. We aren't. ‘Don't kill innocent people.’ We are not the ones who waged war on the innocent. We seek the guilty. ‘Look for the diplomatic solution.’ There is no diplomacy with bin Laden or the Taliban regime. ‘State an ultimatum and get their response.’ We have stated the ultimatum. They have not responded. ‘Understand the causes of terror.’ Yes, we should try, but let there

be no moral ambiguity about this. Nothing could ever justify the events of 11 September, and it is to turn justice on its head to pretend it could.”

“There is no compromise possible with such people, no meetings of minds, no point of understanding with such terror; just the choice: Defeat it, or be defeated by it. And defeat it we must.”

Words worthy of Churchill, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I personally will never forget the smell of the smoldering crater of the Pentagon, or the smoke unfurling into the air of Lower Manhattan while at ground zero the firemen poured water onto the ruins of the World Trade Center that is the grave of over 5,000 innocent people.

As I stood looking at the mass of twisted steel and concrete, my thoughts turned to the words of a little girl's handwriting I had just seen at a victims' family center. The words were “I miss you, daddy! Love you, Jenny.” It is indescribably sad.

So what do we do? Well, just what we are doing in Afghanistan now: destroying the terrorists and their supporters. Our prayers are with the brave men and women, soldiers of our Armed Forces. It must be galling to the Taliban that some of our bravest soldiers are women.

What else do we need to do? If we did not realize how important airplane and airport security was before September 11, we sure do now. The safety and security of our aviation system is critical to our citizens' safety and to our national defense.

The tragedy of September 11 requires that we fundamentally improve airport and airline safety. That is why the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS) and I introduced on September 25 the Aviation Security Act, H.R. 2951, which is the companion bill to that offered in the Senate by Senators HOLINGS and MCCAIN.

Our bills have bipartisan support in both the House and Senate. Our bill would make airplanes' cockpits secure. It would place Federal marshals, air marshals, on more flights. It puts the FAA in charge of airport security operations, including increased training for airport security personnel, and anti-hijacking training for flight personnel.

The Aviation Security Act would improve the screening of flight training, so that a terrorist could not walk up to a counter, plunk down \$20,000 in cash, and say, “Teach me to fly a jet, and oh, by the way, I am not interested in learning how to take off and land. Just teach me how to steer.”

Our bill would pay for this with \$1, a \$1 surcharge on airline tickets. When I talked to my fellow Iowans, none of them say that is so much to pay for increased airport security. I do not want more families writing letters, like another one I saw at the victims' family center. It went, “Danny, I will love you always. You will always be in my heart. Love, Kris and your son Justin.”

So what do we do about other terrorist threats, like the possible bioterrorist anthrax attack in Florida? First of all, we should not panic. I am speaking as a Congressman but also as a physician. Selecting and growing biologic agents, maintaining their virulence, inducing the agents into forms that are hardy enough to be disseminated, and finding an efficient means of distribution is not an easy job, even for a nation, much less terrorists.

However, when we look at the sophistication and the coordination and the profiles of the terrorists associated with September 11, I think it is clear we have to be prepared for attempts at bioterrorism. There are nations such as Iraq that might help these terrorists in their evil plans.

What can we do? Clearly, we must try to root out terrorist cells before they strike. Our intelligence services need to be bolstered and given the tools they need. Impoverished scientists from Russia that have worked on biologic weapons must be prevented from selling that knowledge to terrorists.

But it is important to understand that the first line of defense against a biologic attack will not be a fireman or a policeman, it will be doctors and nurses. It will be the public health system, because the ultimate manifestation of the release of a biologic agent is an epidemic.

Mr. Speaker, smallpox and anthrax are most frequently mentioned as agents of bioterror. Officially, there are only two stores of smallpox virus in existence, both for research purposes, both in secure locations in Russia and the United States. But there may be covert stashes of smallpox in Iraq, North Korea, maybe in other places in Russia.

People who were vaccinated before 1972 have probably lost their immunity. Routine inoculations were stopped around the world in 1972, so most people would be at risk. Smallpox is very catchy, and it is about 30 percent fatal. The first victims of smallpox would likely be the terrorists themselves, but remember, these are people who commit suicide to spread terror.

Inhaled anthrax is fatal about 90 percent of the time, and 20 percent of the time if infection is from contact with animals. But its spores are resistant to sunlight. However, manufacturing sufficient supplies and then distributing them widely by, say, a cropduster airplane are pretty difficult.

Time Magazine even talks about a terrorist attack aimed at crops and livestock. That would be easier, less directly harmful to humans, but economically very harmful to our country.

Foot and mouth disease can be spread with astonishing speed in sheep, cattle, swine. An outbreak in the United States could be devastating to American agriculture.

So what do we do? First, we need better coordination between the Defense

Department, the State Department, the Agriculture Department, the Centers for Disease Control, State public health programs and directors, and city-based domestic preparedness programs. This is a job for the new Director of Homeland Security.

Second, we must make a systematic effort to incorporate hospitals into the planning process. As of today, I think it is accurate to say that there are few, if any, U.S. hospitals that are prepared to deal with community-wide disasters such as a bioterrorist attack for a whole host of financial, legal, and staffing reasons.

There will be significant costs for expanded staff and staff training to respond to the abrupt changes in demand for care, for outfitting decontamination facilities and rooms to isolate infectious patients. Think about the cost of respirators and emergency drugs.

The first serious efforts to implement a civilian program to counter bioterrorism emerged in the spring of 1998, when Congress appropriated \$175 million in support of activities to combat bioterrorism through the Department of Health, but, Mr. Speaker, we must do much more to integrate Federal, State, and city agencies.

First, we must educate family doctors and public health staff about the clinical findings of agents;

Second, we need to further develop surveillance systems for early detection of cases;

Third, we need individual hospital and regional plans for caring for mass casualties;

Fourth, we need laboratory networks capable of rapid diagnosis, and we need to accelerate the stockpiling and dispersal of large quantities of vaccines and drugs.

And these are just a few of the things we need to do. The Public Health Threats and Emergency Act of 2000 provides for increased funding to combat threats to public health, and we should provide that increased funding this year.

□ 2115

I recently visited Broadlawns Hospital in Des Moines. Public hospitals like Broadlawns and public health agencies have not been adequately funded for years. They need to be bolstered in order to cope with a biologic attack. Even if a catastrophic biologic attack does not occur, and we pray that it does not, the investment will still pay dividends in many ways.

Finally, let me return to the question of understanding the causes of Muslim fundamentalists' hatred of the United States.

President Bush asked in his September 20 address to Congress right here on the floor, why do they hate us? Those of us here on the floor and those at home listening to the President, still stunned by the magnitude of that attack, wondered what degree of poverty or political resentment or religious convictions could lead anyone to

revel in the deaths of so many innocent people.

Shortly after the attack, I was asked by the Des Moines Register editorial board why I thought there was so much hatred of us in the Middle East. In April I had visited Israel, Jordan, and Egypt. Our congressional delegation met with the leaders of these countries and the Palestinians, but we also met with people from these countries who were not in government.

I told those editorialists that there was much envy of our wealth and dislike of our Western culture, particularly the role of women as equals. I also said it was clear that our support of Israel was significant.

I think that is an incomplete answer, and I do think we need to reflect for a moment on what we hear when, for example, we hear the translation of Osama bin Laden's screed. In the end, coping with Islamic anti-Americanism has to be a component of our war on terrorism.

As someone who has traveled rather extensively in Third World countries on surgical trips, let me say that not everyone regards the United States as a greedy giant. Even critics in other countries of America's foreign policy still often praise United States values of freedom and democracy, but extremism thrives in poverty.

Cairo is now a city of 18 million people. In the center of the old city is a huge cemetery called the City of the Dead. Years ago, the authorities gave up evicting people from living in those crypts. Today, it is the home for over a million people.

Population explosion in these countries is unbelievable. The breakdown of services as simple as garbage collection is something that few Americans can comprehend.

Since the early 1970s, the populations of Egypt and Iraq have nearly tripled. As a result, per capita income in Arab states has grown at an annual rate of 0.3 percent. The labor force in these countries is growing even faster than any other region in the world, and that leads to large pools of restless young men with no jobs and nothing to do.

Globalization has accelerated the pace of economic and social change and that creates insecurity. Most Islamic states do not have democratic governments to mediate those conflicts. Generals, kings, leaders for life, parliaments with no power, all these lead to frustrated people. When people feel powerless and extremely deprived, either economically, politically or psychologically, the ground is fertile for terrorism.

This sense of deprivation is part of the public backlash in those countries against globalization, modernization, and secularism. And the United States, regardless of its relationship with Israel, is the country most benefiting from globalization. It is the most modern Nation and it is the most secular Nation on Earth.

Two-thirds of Egyptians and four-fifths of Jordanians consider a "cul-

tural invasion" by the West to be very dangerous, according to a survey from a couple of years ago. So what can we do?

First, let me say, as Tony Blair said, there is no compromise with people that celebrate killing 5,000 people and who would celebrate even more if they killed 50,000. We will hunt down and destroy those assassins of our brothers and sisters and mothers and fathers and our children.

We must also understand the region better. We do need to help those countries tackle their underlying economic woes. We had to fight a Second World War because of the failure of the treaty of Versailles after the First, but the Marshall Plan helped us secure a safe Europe after World War II. President Bush has already started in this direction with Pakistan. The Jordanian Free Trade Agreement is also an important step, especially symbolically.

Education in the region is a real problem. Secondary school education is low. Illiteracy is high and fundamentalist Islamic sects have filled the void. Those fundamentalists sects educate, feed and clothe the poor, and they win converts to their hatred of the West.

In Egypt and Jordan, the State forbids the teaching of Jihad in those schools. As a condition of U.S. foreign aid to Pakistan, I think the Pakistan government should do the same. Many of the members of the Taliban are products of those schools that teach hatred of us.

The United States could do more to promote democracy in the Middle East. This means promoting free and fair elections, judicial and legislative reform and rule of law. An investment in these countries will be well worth the cost. Consider that the Wall Street Journal today estimated that the World Trade Center attack will cost the American economy over \$100 billion.

This war that we are in is a fight for freedom and justice. Whether it is our military, our intelligence agencies, our resolve to make airports more secure and our public health system better, I see around this country the will and resolve to win this war.

Our parents fought World War II. Each generation is called on to sacrifice, and I see today the valor of our fellow countrymen and its soldiers, its firefighters, its policemen, its nurses, and ordinary Americans, who, in 45 minutes, become heroes.

This is our generation's challenge. It is our turn to fight for freedom and justice. We will do our duty.

IMMIGRATION: THE POROUS NATURE OF OUR BORDERS AND THE DEVASTATING EFFECT THAT HAS ON OUR ECONOMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 60 minutes.