

Will Iraq become balkanized? If it does, what happens with Turkey? What happens with the Kurds wanting their own nation? What happens with the Shi'as in Iran? What happens with the long-term prospects for the governance of Iraq itself?

I witnessed a Republican Senator saying we were going to rule Iraq. The United States of America is going to rule Iraq alone, without allies? Has anybody really thought about what that would mean?

What are the potential disruptions to the United States economy? We have some problems here at home. I have a lot of unemployed people in my district, the highest unemployment rate in the Nation in my State.

What are the potential economic disruptions that might come from a war with Iraq? Would it lead to a disruption of oil supplies? Would it drive up the price of oil dramatically, as it did in the last Gulf War? How much would such a war cost the United States of America and its taxpayers? What are the risks to our troops? What are the risks in terms of a long-term occupation?

We have not yet resolved the situation or stabilized the situation in Afghanistan, which is a country that had no discernible military, no weapons of mass destruction. They did harbor terrorists. It was a rogue regime. But yet, the United States of America, with a substantial number of allies around the world, has yet to bring settled conditions to that country. Yet, we are about to depart for a much larger nation who has not been involved, as far as has been revealed to Congress or the people of the United States, in the attacks upon our country, has not posed a credible threat to the United States or our allies. However, we are off on another adventure.

Is this left-over business from George Bush's father's administration? It seems like a number of the most hawkish people in his administration are people who served in his father's administration, who still regret the fact that they did not pursue the war to an end then, and they want to revisit the issue.

Many questions need to be answered before this Congress should extend authority to the President to wage a war against Iraq, the first preemptive war in the history of the United States of America.

ALZHEIMER'S

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss a serious disease or illness that affects a great many in our country. It is Alzheimer's disease.

I have been a longtime advocate for increasing research for treatment and cures for Alzheimer's. I was particularly touched by a recent article in

Time Magazine by Patti Davis, President Ronald Reagan's daughter, discussing her family's battle with Alzheimer's. I include that for the RECORD.

The article referred to is as follows:

[From Time, Aug. 26, 2002]

THE FACES OF ALZHEIMER'S

(By Patti Davis)

WE LEARN ABOUT THE DISEASE BY LOOKING INTO THE EYES OF VICTIMS—AND THEIR FAMILIES

The day after the first anniversary of my sister Maureen Reagan's death, Charlton Heston announced that he had been diagnosed with "symptoms consistent with early stages of Alzheimer's." Sometimes in life, there are odd juxtapositions of events—an interplay of circumstances that makes one pause and wonder what forces are at work. This was one of those times for me. Maureen was so committed to defeating the scourge of Alzheimer's, to getting more funding for research and increasing understanding of the disease that she sometimes delayed her own treatment for the melanoma that eventually killed her.

Maureen would have tirelessly done interviews on Aug. 9; instead, her husband Dennis Revell spoke to the media, as did the actor David Hyde Pierce, who lost both his grandfather and his father to Alzheimer's. My mother released a statement. Maureen's voice had been silenced, but her activism, her determination, were still present.

We learn about diseases through the faces of those who are stricken. Famous faces garner the most attention, obviously. When we think of Alzheimer's, my father's face comes to mind. Or Iris Murdoch's. And now Heston's. When Parkinson's is mentioned, we picture Michael J. Fox or Muhammad Ali.

But there is another way that faces tell the story. You have to lean closer, look carefully into the eyes, study the set of the jaw and the tilt of the head. I recognized more than the famous visage of Heston when I saw his taped announcement. I saw the first shallow waves of a cruel disease lapping at the edges of the person he has always known himself to be. I recognized it because I saw the same look in my father's eyes eight years ago.

In the early stages of Alzheimer's, the eyes have a wariness, a veil of fear. It's as if the person is standing at the edge of a fog-bank, knowing that in time it will engulf him and there is no chance of outrunning it. I used to see my father's eyes simultaneously plead and hold firm. It would happen when a sentence broke off because he couldn't remember how to finish it. Or when he would say, "I have this condition—I keep forgetting things." He was on a high wire, balancing on courage, with the dark waters of fear below, and he was using every bit of his strength to cling to that wire.

Slowly—sometimes over months, sometimes over years—the eyes stop pleading. There is a resignation, an acceptance of distance, strangeness, a life far from home. You know the look when you see it, and the only mercy is that fear seems to have subsided.

The eyes of family members change too. My brother Ron's eyes show the sweet stoicism that men seem born to possess. But looking more intently, I see the bubble of pain beneath the surface. A father's helplessness has to tear at the fibers of a son's heart like a dull blade. My own eyes have too much history in them, I often think. I was the little girl who worshipped her father, and the young women who hurt him the way daughters do when their love is needy and true. Now I look at him in a soft, maternal way, which still feels odd to me, even after all these years. As if the laws of nature have been turned upside down. My mother's eyes

are frequently such deep wells, I have to look away. A 50-year marriage is full of intimate memories that live in the blood of lovers and life partners—memories that are both benediction and punishment. So much life has been shared, and so much has been lost.

I could tell you that I don't fear getting the disease myself because I know how toxic fear is, how paralyzing. But in the next breath I would have to tell you that there are late hours of the night when I lie awake and wonder what fate has in store for me.

At other times, I study photographs of my father from many years ago, or film clips. I don't want to forget how his eyes used to look. Alzheimer's teaches a harsh lesson—that the past is like the rudder of a ship. It keeps you moving through the present, steers you into the future. Without it, without memory, you are unmoored, a wind-tossed boat with no anchor. You learn this by watching someone you love drift away.

I woke last night and listened to the silence. It was a late, deep hour, long after midnight, long before dawn. I thought about how, for someone with Alzheimer's, silence must be like a prison, another corner of the wasteland. There can be nothing soothing or serene about it.

Perhaps the next time members of Congress assemble to decide how much money to set aside for Alzheimer's research, they should be asked to listen to silence differently, as if it were a jail sentence. Maybe then they would look into their hearts and know that if stopping a disease that is stalking so many is not a top priority, we have lost our collective heart as a nation.

During the August recess, I had the opportunity to speak to the Houston Alzheimer's Association's educational symposium in Houston with Dr. Rachel Doody, who has a well-known research program at Baylor College of Medicine in the Texas Medical Center. The number of people at that event, it amazed me. It was the first time I had the opportunity to address that group and see how many people were interested.

The battle that we have affects far too many Americans. More than 4 million Americans, one in ten over 65 and nearly half those over 85, suffer from Alzheimer's disease. With the aging baby boom population, unless a cure is found, 14 million Americans will have Alzheimer's by 2050.

I personally have been touched by Alzheimer's when my mother-in-law was diagnosed with this disease several years ago. I know firsthand the incredible toll Alzheimer's has on not only that person, but also the family. As a family member, I know the heartache of watching a vibrant and active and independent loved one become lost in a world of confusion, isolation, and despair. I know the frustration that there are so few treatments and no cure to this disease.

As a policymaker, I am concerned by the staggering economic burden of this illness. The U.S. society spends at least \$100 billion a year on Alzheimer's. Neither Medicare nor most private health insurance covers the long-term care many patients need. Alzheimer's disease is costing American business \$61 billion a year: \$36.5 billion is the cost to business of caregiving, and the rest is the business share of the cost of health care and long-term care.

While I am proud that the National Institutes of Health spends almost \$599 million on Alzheimer's disease research, that number seems insignificant in light of the cost of this disease. We must do more to study the causes and risk factors of Alzheimer's and to develop a new way to diagnose the disease, and to develop new methods for treatment and caregiving.

Five years ago, Congress made a commitment to double the budget of the NIH so more money could be invested to find a cure for many diseases, such as Alzheimer's. I have been a longtime proponent of doubling the funding for NIH, and hope we will be able to achieve our goal of doubling the NIH budget in this, the final year of that commitment.

But there are other things Congress can and should do to aid in the fight against Alzheimer's. We must ensure that the individuals who care for people with Alzheimer's have the resources they need to keep their family members at home as long as possible.

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We should pass legislation which allows individuals to deduct their long-term care expenses from their income tax and would help alleviate some of the financial burdens on the family caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's. We should pass legislation which would provide respite care for these caregivers. These are just a few steps Congress should take.

I urge the leadership to take up these bills and do everything we can to support the millions of Americans who suffer from Alzheimer's. I would like to close with a quote from Patty Davis's article in *Time* magazine of last week: "Perhaps the next time Members of Congress assemble to decide how much money to set aside for Alzheimer's research, they should be asked to listen to silence differently as if it were a jail sentence. Maybe then we would then look into their hearts and know that if stopping a disease that is stalking so many is not a top priority, maybe we have lost our collective heart as a Nation."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

FREE DEBATE OVER THE WAR WITH IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this morning before we began our legislative business, news rang out from Afghanistan that another car

bomb had taken the lives of many individuals in one of their major cities.

Just a few months ago, we made the decision to ensure that those who committed the horrific act would understand that America takes care of its own. And I voted for that resolution to go after the terrorists. Today, however, I think it is important that the American people be informed on the recent raging debate regarding Iraq.

The best thing about what we are hearing is that this is not a political debate. It is, in fact, a debate of conscience, and a debate that rages among Democrats and Republicans and Independents. It is one that will require America to be informed. And I would simply say to those who may be listening as I bring this issue to the floor that we need to engage the American people and provide them with information. It is imperative that we go home to our congressional districts and have citizen summits so that information can be translated.

But let me begin to enunciate, if you will, what is the conflict and the confusion with such a debate. First of all, it concerns all of us that this debate would be raging in the press with no information that connects the need to investigate or to attack Iraq and reality.

It is interesting that we have noted by Members of the other body that there is no scintilla of evidence that connects at this point Iraq with the horrific acts that occurred in the past year. There is no evidence that Iraq at this point has nuclear weapons. The case has not been made. But we have not said to the American people this is different from Kuwait, when Iraq attacked Kuwait when we had the coalition of Arab allies as well as our allies around the world.

What is not being focused on is the loud and resounding voice of those who oppose even the mere discussion of what is going on, meaning our allies. For those of us who care about our friends around the world, and those in the region like Jordan and Israel, do we even know what the ultimate impact will be on those neighbors?

What is the difference of sending 75 to 100,000 troops and maybe more of our young men and women in this Nation, those U.S. military personnel who we love and respect, who at the drop of a hat will go and fight for our freedom and justice? What is the determination as it relates to them going on soil, foreign soil, where we know that a caged animal such as Saddam Hussein will do anything to survive? Have we told the American people how long and how costly? Have we proposed to the American people a resolution on the devastating economy that we are facing, jobs being lost across this land and people begging us to define an economic policy that will put them back to work, that will give them costly or cost-efficient health care, that will provide for their children going to school? Are we answering the hard questions of protecting their pensions

and 401(k)'s? Are we telling my constituents that we are bringing relief to them? Every day their homes are on the foreclosure list because they have no jobs in Houston, Texas.

Are we letting them know that right now we are paying a billion dollars a month in Afghanistan and we do not know when it will end for the war we are waging there? And we have no endgame to any war with Iraq. One year, 2 years, 20 years, millions and millions and billions of dollars. And have we looked at the Constitution which clearly states that we as a Congress have a right to declare war. The War Powers Resolution of 1973 in its opening language said we are sending this forward because it helps to collaborate and to emphasize the relationship between the Executive and the Congress, and that the Congress has the purse strings and the right to declare war. And if there is need for a preemptive strike to protect this land, the Executive, the Commander in Chief can go in for 60, 90 days without the authority of Congress.

We were together in World War II when we were attacked in Pearl Harbor. We have been together before. But it is important for the American people to be informed. It is important for us to have an agenda, to put the economy first. It is important to ask the question why. What relevance is it? Are we in an imminent attack?

I ask, Mr. Speaker, that this debate be long and protracted and that no vote be taken without the American people knowing what is going on. That would be my voice, a continuous voice speaking out against this process and this potential attack without the American people.

NEEDED PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

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

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL).

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES) for yielding to me. And I also really appreciate the fact that he, as the Speaker's designee, will talk on something as important as prescription drugs. Actually, it is a matter that we should have said stayed here during the month of August and worked on. It is a matter that we find our senior citizens missing meals in order to buy their prescriptions. That is something we should just not tolerate in this country.

We have tried everything in the world here on the floor and in our committees and in our visits with one another to solve this problem. We sent two bills over last session. Neither one of them came back from the Senate.

I have a practical solution that I am suggesting to the gentleman from