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House of Representatives

The House met at noon.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Remembering the images of September 11 a year ago can still stun a nation. A reflection of that tragic day and the thousands who were taken from us can still take the breath away of some. Others feel nothing, only emptiness. Others have moved on and celebrate the distance. Today a moment of common silence can unite us all in a deeper sense of presence.

Because words have their own spin to such an overwhelming story as this past year. Silence alone is free enough to embrace all traditions and all sentiments, drawing out a language of the heart.

Only silence can interpret some of the most sacred moments of a lifetime. So let memories flow and prayers arise in the soul of America as we enter unafraid the mystery of what has happened to us in silence.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McNULTY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced

that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3917. An Act to authorize a national memorial to commemorate the passengers and crew of Flight 93 who, on September 11, 2001, courageously gave their lives thereby thwarting a planned attack on our Nation's Capital, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2136. An act to establish a memorial in the State of Pennsylvania to honor the passengers and crewmembers of Flight 93 who, on September 11, 2001, gave their lives to prevent a planned attack on the Capital of the United States.

S. 2896. An act to enhance the operation of the AMBER Alert communications network in order to facilitate the recovery of abducted children, to provide for enhanced notification on highways of alerts and information on such children, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will receive 15 one-minute speeches on each side.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11

(Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today as a Nation we are reunited by a sense of common grief. One year ago today, America witnessed the unspeakable when our Nation was attacked and more than 3,000 innocent lives were cruelly taken from us at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and in Pennsylvania. From my home State of New Jersey, we lost over 700 people, and God bless their families. It was also a day when horror was met by heroism and the worst of humanity was

overshadowed by the best of America. In reflections on this day, we remember the bravery of those who responded on September 11, our police, firefighters, our first aid squads, people who never gave up hope and rallied our Nation. They who responded came from all over America and across the Hudson from New Jersey.

We are grateful as well today for the service of our young men and women in uniform who, fighting in our war against terrorism, are resolved to bring justice to those who attacked us. They are fighting to right this terrible wrong in honor of the memory of those who perished and to protect our children and grandchildren, ensuring that they inherit a Nation free from further terror.

ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11

(Mr. McNULTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, whenever I think of the enormity of what happened on September 11, 2001, words fail; and so I try to recall the words of our commander in chief on that fateful day. He basically made three suggestions. He said we should pray for all of the innocent victims and their families, and I try to remember to do that every day. He then said we should be grateful. And I will be perfectly honest, gratitude was not what was in my heart at that moment. But he went on to explain that we should be grateful to all the police officers, firefighters, and emergency personnel who, when others were running away from the buildings in terror, running for their lives, continued to run toward the buildings, into the buildings, up the stairs, many to their deaths. That was their job. And they did it well that day because they saved thousands of lives.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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Finally, he suggested that we unite as a Nation in our resolve to track down the terrorist cowards who committed those acts, bring them to justice, and take away their capabilities to ever do anything like that again either in the United States or anywhere else in the world.

On this solemn anniversary may we continue to remember those three suggestions by our commander in chief.

TO THE CHILDREN ACROSS AMERICA REGARDING SEPTEMBER 11

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, usually when I stand here to address these 1-minute, it is on the subject of missing children. Today I want to talk about kids who are missing mothers and fathers and sisters and brothers and friends and family because on September 11 of last year more than 2,000 children lost a parent. This may not be the kind of loss that I usually address, but it is a profound loss, nonetheless. I want to send a message to those kids today that this House is thinking about them and they are in our hearts and in our prayers.

The children of this country also lost a sense of innocence and security. I want to encourage parents across the Nation to talk to their children about the tragic events of September 11 of last year to reassure them that we all want the best for them and will continue to work to keep their, our, country safe from harm.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Congressional Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children, I send our thoughts and prayers out to the children who lost somebody at the Pentagon, the World Trade Center, or in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and to the kids all across America who are learning to deal with a changed and unsettled world.

God bless you and God bless America.

HONORING MICHAEL BELAY FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO HUMANITY

(Ms. SANCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Michael Belay of Orange County. On a trip back to his native Ethiopia to a town called Abbiyi Addi, Belay saw children playing on the hulk of a helicopter that had crashed near their school. The dry, cracked earth was the floor of their classroom. They had no chalk, chairs or blackboard.

Belay saw an opportunity to help brighten the future for these children. He scrimped together \$10,000 and took it back to his village. With this, he bought clothing, shoes and bags of food. When he returned to California, he organized HAPPY, Hands Across the

Planet to Poor Youth, to raise \$200,000 for these children to buy televisions, computers, construction materials, and chalk.

We can all find inspiration in Belay's actions. I am especially proud of him, Mr. Speaker, since he works part time as a security guard at Chapman University where I am a proud alum and a member of the board of trustees there.

It is people like Michael Belay that truly make our world a better place to live.

ON REMEMBERING THE EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11

(Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all Puerto Ricans, I want to express heartfelt sympathy for the families of the victims from the terrorist attacks against this great Nation 1 year ago. The impacts of these horrific events were immediately felt throughout Puerto Rico. Hundreds of Puerto Ricans were among the dead and Puerto Rican emergency crews were among the first to arrive to assist crews in New York and at the Pentagon. But had there been no direct tragic link to Puerto Rico through casualties or through the emergency workers, Puerto Ricans would nonetheless continue to walk in lockstep in the war against terror. Make no mistake about it, Puerto Ricans today, as throughout the last 100 years, serve dutifully in all the branches of our Armed Services. Our common citizenship and common devotion toward democratic principles underscore our commitment to common defense. I stand before my colleagues today to let you all know that Puerto Rico will always be there in this effort. The cowardly acts of September 11 have caused great pain. Our suffering shall never be forgotten. But this Nation is today stronger and more committed to our principles of freedom and justice than ever before. United we stand, divided we fall. We stand together and will never, ever forget.

□ 1215

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 464) expressing the sense of the Congress on the anniversary of the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 464

Whereas on September 11, 2001, while Americans were attending to their daily routines, terrorists hijacked and destroyed four civilian aircraft, crashing two of them into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, and a third into the Pentagon outside Washington, D.C.;

Whereas the valor of the passengers and crew on the fourth aircraft prevented it from also being used as a weapon against America;

Whereas thousands of innocent Americans were killed and injured as a result of these attacks, including the passengers and crew of the four aircraft, workers in the World Trade Center and in the Pentagon, rescue workers, and bystanders, making these attacks the deadliest terrorist attacks ever launched against the United States;

Whereas when the gravest moments came, many regular Americans, relying on courage, instinct, and grace, rushed toward the flaming buildings in order to rescue or toward terrorist-controlled cockpits in order to resist;

Whereas by targeting symbols of American strength and success, these attacks clearly were intended to assail the principles, values, and freedoms of the United States and the American people, intimidate the Nation, and weaken the national resolve;

Whereas while the States of New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania bore the brunt of the terrorist attacks, every State and Territory and all Americans were affected and mourned these tragic losses;

Whereas Americans reached out to help strangers who had lost loved ones, colleagues, and their businesses;

Whereas local, State, and Federal leaders set aside differences and worked together to provide for those who were attacked and to protect those who remained;

Whereas Americans continue to repair damage to buildings and the economy, while relishing the freedoms they enjoy as Americans;

Whereas on September 14, 2001, in Public Law 107-40, Congress authorized the use of "all necessary and appropriate force" against those responsible for the terrorist attacks;

Whereas the United States Armed Forces subsequently moved swiftly against Al Qaeda and the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, whom the President and Congress had identified as enemies of America;

Whereas, in so doing, brave servicemen and women left family and friends in order to defend the Nation;

Whereas a year later, many servicemen and women remain abroad, shielding the Nation from further terrorist attacks;

Whereas, while the passage of a year has not softened the memory of the American people, resolved their grief, or restored lost loved ones, it has shown that Americans will not bow to terrorists;

Whereas the Congress has passed, and the President has signed, numerous laws providing additional resources for the overseas effort against terrorism, as well as additional tools for Federal, State, and local law enforcement and judicial systems to protect Americans at home; and

Whereas the Government reexamined the need for domestic security and the Congress is currently considering legislation to create a Department of Homeland Security with the specific mission of preventing further attacks: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—