

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—

(1) recognizes September 11 as both a day to remember those taken from their families, loved ones, and fellow citizens and a day for Americans to recommit to the Nation, to their freedoms, and to each other;

(2) extends its deepest sympathies to the countless innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, their families, friends, and loved ones;

(3) honors the heroic actions of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and others who aided the innocent victims and, in so doing, bravely risked their own lives and long-term health;

(4) stands in great debt with the American people to the members of the Armed Forces serving both at home and abroad;

(5) praises the people of the United States for their patriotism, compassion, prayers, and generosity in donating time and money to support the innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, their families, friends, and loved ones;

(6) expresses thanks and gratitude to the foreign leaders and citizens of all nations who have assisted and continue to stand in solidarity with the United States against terrorism in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

(7) discourages, in the strongest possible terms, any effort to confuse the war on terrorism with a war on any people or any faith;

(8) commends the President and the brave servicemen and women of the United States Armed Forces in the successful effort to oust the Taliban from power;

(9) remains resolved to pursue all those responsible for the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and their sponsors until they are discovered and punished; and

(10) reaffirms that Congress will honor the memory of those who lost their lives as a result of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and will defend bravely the citizens of the United States in the face of all future challenges.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), the Democrat leader and cosponsor of the resolution, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, a year ago today the east coast of this great land woke up to the first rays of morning sunshine. We woke up as a Nation, full of optimism, full of gratification, aware of our freedoms, but probably taking them for granted. We were concerned about the people we love, with the confidence they would all be there. We were excited about the business of the day with hopes of good outcomes, and dearly involved with our children with an understanding of their safety. We did not think about heinous deeds when we woke that morning. Our minds were busy with our plans and hopes, dreams and schemes; and we went about our day's work.

Then, all of a sudden, out of the dark depths of the evil corners of the world, hatred, meanness, despair, jealousy, greed, whatever, rose to afflict this Nation.

We were shocked at what we saw. First, most of us thought it was an accident and how tragic it was. But soon, we realized it was a vicious, premedi-

tated attack on us as a Nation and on innocent civilians in this country.

Those streaming rays of sunshine that came through those big buildings of New York City that stood as a monument to this thing we call the practical American genius, were shattered. That peaceful field in Pennsylvania, awake with morning dew, was smashed. Our Pentagon that stands for strength and freedom was assailed in a way that it has never been assailed. And, indeed, this very building on which we stand today was saved that morning by the first response to this vicious attack.

We took the hurt and the losses, and they came early; but it did not take us long to collect our wits in this great country. Immediately upon understanding on Flight 93 how vicious this was and how evil the intent, our American heroes fought back and this Nation was inspired by Todd Beamer who started the response with that phrase, "Let's roll."

Our early responders in New York City, after the tragic loss of life following American Flight 11, American Flight 77, and in Northern Virginia after the horrible nightmare of United Flight 175, our early responders came from our communities: firemen, policemen, and emergency workers of all types. They rushed to the danger and saved lives.

We struggled through that day with doubt, uncertainty and fear. But as the day wore on, we became more a Nation of resolve and less a Nation of fear. We began to build our way back to confidence and optimism on that very same day. America had the unwelcome need to see its own heroes fight for survival and rescue on our own land, and our heroes rose to the occasion in a way that has inspired each and every one of us.

In New York City and Pennsylvania and here in Northern Virginia, they did so no more nor any less than they would have in Kansas City, San Francisco, or Houston because they displayed the character of a free people who cherish their freedom and love their neighbors.

Now we have been asked to go on with the task of ridding the world of the evil that struck that blow. We again call upon our heroes, now not so often, not so many civilians, but honorable men and women in uniform who have stood before the history of this great Nation's marvelous tradition of defending freedom, peace and respect and have said, "I will volunteer to serve this Nation in its armed services."

These new young heroes, following generations of heroes past, are now being asked daily all across this globe to incur risks and hardship to find the evil ones and remove them.

I believe the perpetrators of evil that launched this horrible attack have seen in ways they have never dared to imagine the character and strength of this great Nation. They now know the re-

solve of this great Nation. They all understand the courage of our heroes.

Let me say again what I said at the time. This Nation has proven it will spend its heroes. Our heroes have proven they will go when asked, they will volunteer, they will do their duty. But we do not spend our heroism from this great Nation out of ambition for territorial expansion or out of a sense of revenge, but out of a requirement for a just world, a world in which people who will perpetrate evil against others will be found, and they will be prosecuted.

□ 1230

Let me just say to those of you who are still out there plotting and scheming, do not underestimate our American heroes; they are young, they are bright, they are strong, they have courage, and they will in fact bring you down.

Now we have come, Mr. Speaker, to this day a year later. The sun rose in the east today, and this great east coast of this great land was the first to experience this morning. We woke a little wiser, a little more aware, a little sadder, but we awoke with optimism, love, resolve and courage, and we will be that way for so long as this great Nation shall endure.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to cosponsor this resolution with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY) in the spirit of bipartisan unity on this difficult day for our wonderful and great Nation.

We gather together today to remember the victims, honor our rescue workers, and cherish the values embraced by human beings across the globe. On this first anniversary of September 11, we recall the strength, the courage and the character of innocent people who lost their lives in this horrendous attack.

To the families of September 11 victims, we say that we are with them as one. We honor the bravery they have demonstrated in the face of unspeakable suffering, and we honor the spirit of the American people, humanity at its best.

Today, we recall that amid the chaos of September 11 our rescue workers gave the last full measure of devotion so others could live another day. Hundreds of people rushed into burning buildings to save others who they had never before even met. On one of our darkest days, they sent forth a defiant ray of hope, and words alone could never do justice to their sacrifice.

Today, we also recognize this fundamental American truth: From the horror of September 11 has come incredible, unimaginable strength. Our Nation is still grieving, but make no mistake, we stand united.

As I said Friday in New York at our joint session, in this great and faithful struggle, there are no Republicans, there are no Democrats; there are only Americans, and we will remain resolved with our President to defend all

those who threaten the liberty, freedom and democracy that define our Nation.

Today, as we pray for the victims' families, we also offer profound gratitude to the people who may well have saved our lives by fighting back on Flight 93. This resolution is crafted in their spirit, with them as our inspiration and as our guide.

This resolution honors people like the man who went to Ground Zero after the attacks and started digging through the rubble, searching for survivors, because, he said, we are "digging for freedom."

It honors the woman whose legs were crushed by debris at the World Trade Center, who has been in the hospital every day for the past year.

It honors the firefighters in New York who, ascending the stairs, calmly told civilians, "Just keep going down, clear run. Keep going down, clear run."

It honors the doctors at the Pentagon who, rolling in water to ward off the flames, saved countless servicemen and women because of their raw courage.

It honors the ironworkers, the construction workers, the engineers and others who worked around the clock for months to clear the debris at Ground Zero.

It honors all the workers at the Pentagon who worked day and night to meet the schedule of having the Pentagon back in perfect condition before the year anniversary of September 11.

It honors our law enforcement personnel who are protecting our citizens on a daily basis here at home.

It honors the members of our Armed Forces who have been fighting and are today fighting to defend our freedom and secure our Nation.

And it honors people like those we had lunch with on Friday in New York who lost their spouses on September 11.

In the face of the unthinkable, their courage, their simple courage to move to the future while they grieved about the past, was deeply moving and inspiring. They demonstrated a commitment to the values that all of us hold dear: Freedom, family, faith and friends.

Let all these deeds in the past year, and more, stand as a lasting monument to the spirit of our great Nation.

Today, we know that our most solemn obligation is to ensure that those who died on September 11 did not die in vain. In the days and weeks ahead, let us continue to work together with humility to protect our people, guard our freedoms, and report to the world that America will never be defeated.

Let us move forward as one Nation, one people, for the sake of every single person who believes in freedom and believes in civilization and believes in humanity.

Let me end with the words of an old hymn that I love so much. When we face the unexplainable, when we face evil, many of us turn to God. And, as we did one year ago, we ask again today for God's help.

As the hymn says, "And He will raise you up on eagles wings, bear you on the

breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand."

May God shed His grace on this great and wonderful country and all of our people.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to yield the remainder of my time to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), the chairman of the Committee on International Relations, and that he be permitted to control that time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Without objection, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) will control the time of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY).

There was no objection.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), the ranking member on the Committee on International Relations, be permitted to control the balance of my time and yield that time as he sees fit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) will control the remainder of the time for the minority leader.

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 464.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a year since the world watched the impossible happen, and yet it is difficult to believe that such a year has passed so quickly. The sense and feel of time have been altered, seemingly suspended even as the calendar's relentless progress has remained unaffected.

On this first anniversary, we would only deceive ourselves if we were to believe that those events are now safely confined to the past. We will continue to live with them all our lives.

Modern communications have brought us many new and wonderful things, but they have also made possible the communal experience of tragedy. In this new age, distance will no longer spare us, nor can an absence of ties insulate us, from sorrow.

All who witnessed the events of September 11 still bear the scars of seeing inconceivable images and impossible events unfold in real time. But our own experiences, however painful, cannot compare with that of the innocents who bore the horror directly, nor with that of their families and friends who were suddenly and violently severed from their former lives and from the touch of those deeply loved.

We Americans are a practical people. Instead of resigning ourselves to the

difficulties of life, we instinctively seek to identify problems in order to focus our efforts and move towards solutions. In the past year we have done this.

We have come to know our enemies and direct our determination and resources to uncovering their hiding places and plans. We are now engaged in designing and implementing measures to resist their ability to harm us. The challenge is an entirely new one, but one which gains in clarity each day. I hope all of us are now aware that in addition to our successes, we must prepare ourselves for the likelihood of failures in a struggle that may have no end.

By infusing purpose, action can thus fill many voids, but the need remains to understand what happened and to comprehend the meaning of the events of that day. Here words give way to silence, for deep reflection is the predicate to understanding. Our modern, rational world once promised in time to reveal all secrets to us, but can we still cling to that belief now that we have been confronted with things we thought long past, vanquished and erased from the world by reason and light?

The modern world has seen many efforts to eliminate God from our lives, but we have not been able to eliminate evil. The last century was unparalleled in human history in its celebration of the savagery that human beings can wreak upon one another. We had hoped we might escape that fate in this century, but now we know that we will not.

We have been forcibly awakened from our dreams of an earthly heaven by the bitter knowledge that evil still roams freely in the world. We cannot allow ourselves to be paralyzed with despair or fear, and neither can we permit our natural optimism to shield us from the realities of the world. If there is any useful thing to be drawn from this terrible experience, it is that we have been given an unmistakable warning that in this new century, unknown and fearsome challenges await us, challenges that will impose the severest test of our national character.

Knowing this, we have a duty to prepare ourselves to defend not only our lives and those of our children, not only our beloved country, not only our freedoms, but civilization itself. We are Rome, beset by new barbarians who are savagely motivated by their immense hatred of us, of our happiness and our success, of the promise America represents for the world; for our enemies have no aim except destruction, nothing to offer but a forced march back to a bleak and dismal past. Theirs is a world without light; their all-encompassing hatred a repudiation of any saving grace.

□ 1245

Their victory would impose a new Dark Age, but this time perhaps an endless one. They are enemies of the future itself.

As we resolve ourselves to our task, as we grieve for all of those linked to us by tragedy, we may also see ourselves more truly and thereby understand that our great strengths are interwoven with many fragile things, and that being human, we have our faults and flaws to contend with as well. The threats we face have given us a greater sense of how rare and wonderful is the world we share and of our responsibility to protect it from the storms outside.

It is for these reasons that we remember those 3,000 fellow citizens who, asking nothing other than to live their lives in peace, were brutally murdered by men without conscience or mercy. We know it is right to remember our dead and commend them to the mercy of God, because should we forget them, we would only invite new acts of terror. We remember because, to quote Lincoln's haunting phrase, "the mystic chords of memory" bind us to the victims and the heroes of September 11.

And we shall not break faith with their memory.

May those who died in the attacks of September 11 rest in the mercy of God. May those of us who remain be steadfast, courageous, and live lives worthy of their great sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 464 expresses our gratitude to our friends and underscores the Nation's resolve to meet the enemy and defeat them. I believe passage of this resolution will commemorate those heroic actions of last September 11 and stand as an important symbolic gesture which all Members should support.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, at the outset, let me commend my good friend and distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), for his powerful and thoughtful statement; and I identify myself with both the sentiments and the words that we have just heard.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this historic resolution, and I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, just a bit over a year ago, I had the great honor of joining my good friend, the distinguished chairman of the Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), in managing the debate on the resolution condemning the September 11 terrorist attacks. On that day, I spoke of our Nation's loss of innocence. America's illusions of invulnerability were violently shattered on September 11, 2001; and our Nation turned its focus on far greater concerns than some of the follies and frivolities that had consumed us prior to that day.

Since September 11 last year, we have matured as a Nation. We Americans have come to terms with the terrible reality that ours continues to be a most dangerous world from which there is no escape. Distant events can

and do impact on our daily lives in unpredictable and even unthinkable ways.

We have matured too, Mr. Speaker, in our understanding of the meaning of the term "homeland security." September 11 made clear that our safety is as dependent upon a strong foreign policy as it is upon strong domestic defenses. There is no homefront in this fight, only a united front in which our domestic and foreign policies form a single seamless defense against terrorism. Among the many casualties of September 11 was the false dichotomy between domestic and foreign policy.

Now, a year later, we face a new challenge. It is incumbent upon us now to prosecute this war against terrorism not simply in our own self defense, but in defense of the principle of democracy that is at the very core of our Nation. The terrorists and their protectors fear the freedom we cherish, and they seek to destroy it wherever it thrives. The war on terrorism, then, is a common struggle with all democracies to preserve democracy itself, and we can only achieve true victory in this epic struggle when we bring democracy to all the corners of the globe.

In his address before a joint session of Congress on September 20 of last year, the President defined our adversaries in this war as the perpetrators of the September 11 attacks and their protectors. He further widened the war in his State of the Union address to include other terrorist organizations and states that terrorize the world with weapons of mass destruction.

We must now widen our struggle further still to encompass all those repressive, undemocratic regimes that provide the breeding ground for terrorism. It is only through the creation of open societies, resilient to dissent and capable of free debate, that terrorism can truly be defeated.

It is in the crucible of the Middle East where this greater struggle must now be waged. It is not enough to defeat Osama bin Laden and his minions, although that we surely must do. We must also combat the repression, the lies, and the hatred that consume so many in this crucial region. The United States and our allies must recommit ourselves to bringing democratic institutions and free and open societies to these peoples.

It is tempting, Mr. Speaker, amid the grief of this day to find solace in the victories we have achieved in the war against terrorism to date. And indeed, the brave men and women of our armed services engaged in Afghanistan and around the globe deserve our deepest praise and gratitude for their battlefield achievements.

But we must not grow complacent in this epic fight, a fight that may span generations. To do so would dishonor those who perished on this day one year ago, and to do so would undermine the cause of democracy worldwide.

In the immortal words of President Lincoln, repeated at the World Trade Center this morning, we are a nation

engaged in a great war, testing whether our Nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. For our own sake and for the sake of free societies, we must continue our fight.

Mr. Speaker, on this first anniversary of September 11, 2001, we mourn the victims, we honor the heroes, we contemplate the lessons, and we celebrate the unity of our Nation so proudly displayed since that fateful day. One year ago, we suffered a grievous wound. One year later, that wound has begun to heal and the scar it has left has toughened our skin, but it has not and will not harden our hearts or dampen our spirits. God bless this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS).

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman of the committee for yielding me this time. I am obviously here to join my colleagues in honoring the memory of those who died in the terrorist attacks of a year ago this day and to underscore with gratitude the amazing valor displayed by them.

I am sure every American remembers where they were and what they were doing when these ignominious attacks occurred. For me, I recall finding Speaker HASTERT in his office, urgently gazing out the window down the Mall, looking at the smoke coming from the Pentagon. I urged immediate evacuation, and the Speaker said, stop. First, we must open the House and have a prayer. So part of my memory includes our short gathering in this Chamber and the earnest and moving prayer by the guest chaplain of that day, Reverend Gerald Creedon.

I would like to begin my remarks this day recalling that prayer. He said, "God of peace and life, send Your spirit to heal our country; bring consolation to all injured in today's tragedy in New York and Washington. Protect us and help our leaders to lead us out of this moment of crisis to a new day of peace. Amen."

What Reverend Creedon did not know, and what none of us knew here, was that more casualties were to come in a field in Pennsylvania shortly after his prayer and our very hasty adjournment that day. Actually, this was not Father Creedon's original prayer; he had prepared one on the topic of immigration. But realizing the gravity of the situation, he spontaneously gave us heartfelt, wonderful words which were suitable to the moment and which are posted on the wall of my office to this day as a daily reminder.

To the more than 3,000 people who lost their lives that day at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and

United Flight 93, we owe continuing remembrance, deep thanks, and responsive action. A year ago today, terrorists attacked Americans and citizens of scores of other countries who were on our U.S. soil. We, along with a broad coalition of nations, have taken up the challenge of combating the scourge of global terrorism. It is serious business. President Bush has left no doubt about his commitment to have our Nation lead the way.

Last year the fight came to the doorstep of each and every American citizen; and within the very first minutes of September 11, 2001, our Nation responded as one. I would like to dedicate my short time today to celebrating the men and women, ordinary Americans, who have fought back; the quiet heroes.

Let me begin with Ceecee Lyles, a flight attendant of Flight 93, who was a resident of my district of southwest Florida. A former police patrol officer detective, she had spent 6 years risking her life to protect others in that service. In December of 2000, mindful of her young children and looking for a less dangerous career, she enrolled as a flight attendant school candidate; and 6 weeks later, she began flying for United Airlines out of Newark.

At 9:58 on September 11, only 5 minutes after the House recessed for the day under the dire circumstances then apparent, Ceecee called her husband, Lorne, in Fort Myers, who is a police officer there, from her plane to tell him that her flight had been hijacked. Her words: "I called to tell you I love you. Tell the kids I love them." Her last words that we know of were, "I think they are going to do it. They are forcing their way into the cockpit."

□ 1300

And then the phone went dead.

In this Chamber, we owe a particular debt of gratitude to Ceecee Lyles and her companions on Flight 93, and we all know it. That flight may very well have been heading to Washington when it crashed into Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Without prompting or training, the passengers and crew fought back, and in doing so, saved many additional lives; possibly, our lives right here in the Capitol, for as we now know, many believe, and there is some evidence, that the Capitol was the intended target of Flight 93.

FBI Director Mueller, speaking at the crash site in Pennsylvania, said, "We believe that those passengers on that jet were absolute heroes." Wallace Miller, the coroner for the case, called the passengers citizen soldiers. He went on to ask: "When can you think of, other than the Revolution or our Civil War or at Pearl Harbor, where American citizens died defending their home ground?"

But let us reflect a moment on our history. While many would compare 9-11 to the devastation of Pearl Harbor, there is a significant difference. Pearl Harbor was, after all, a military-

against-military matter; 9-11 was a vicious attack on civilians and on freedom.

It is obvious that all of us have had to deal with new restrictions on the way we live our lives; but we have also developed a sense of pride, of patience, and individual responsibility as we go about our lives to bring us closer as Americans.

The terrorists thought they would destroy our spirit; but instead, they renewed it. Destroying the will of the enemy to fight is the common measure of victory in war. bin Laden and his depraved extremists fueled our resolve to wipe his brand of evil from a civilized world.

In addition to people all over America who have stepped up to the plate, our government has also become more alert, more focused, and more vigilant. We all must recognize the dedication and sacrifice of the thousands of individuals in government service who are out there on the front lines. They are protecting you and me, and they are making us proud. They know we are counting on them at a time when it matters.

Every new day as we wake up safe and sound in our homes here, I hope we remember to say just a little thank you to those out there for the work they are doing. Whether fighting al Qaeda in Afghanistan and Pakistan, working the streets in Africa, Latin America, Europe, or Asia, perhaps working in a cubicle in the D.C. area, or as part of the joint terrorism task force in a U.S. city, these are the intelligence officers, the military and civilian personnel who in all likelihood will not receive public recognition for the work they do; yet they do work long hours, often in places far from friends and family, and sometimes at very great personal risk. I regrettably acknowledge that sometimes they do not come home.

Johnny Michael Spann was a CIA officer, a husband, and a father of three. He went into Afghanistan in an early phase of the war to collect information crucial to defeating the Taliban and to protecting Americans at home. He was killed last November during a prisoner uprising in Mazar-e-Sharif, which was particularly brutal, as we now know.

Finally, I would like to recognize that since last September every American has been engaged in combatting terrorism. We have been more vigilant, aware and alert, reporting leads to the police and FBI in record numbers. We have volunteered time and resources to our communities. We have been more patient as we have tried new security procedures at airports and public buildings, even though some of them have clearly turned out to be unworkable. We have maintained our basic freedoms and our democracy in the face of further terrorist threat. We still fly, we go to the mall, we cheer on our sports teams, we drive over bridges, we speak our minds, and we assemble where we choose.

So on this September 11, let us rededicate ourselves to honoring the memory of those who died by continuing to stand up to terror and to fear. Then let us also look to the future and the young people who are preparing to join the fray. Our youth, who some thought might be becoming a bit apathetic, or were perhaps now taking this great country for granted, are now applying in record numbers to service academies, to police and fire departments, the military, the FBI, the CIA, and other government service. They are our future and they are ready.

September 11 will come again next year and every year thereafter. It is now part of who we are. Woe to those who would ever test us again.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), our distinguished colleague from our capital city who represents Washington with such grace and effectiveness.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me, and for his kind and gracious words.

September 11 will always be a day to remember; but for us, it must also be a day to consider how to go on. If one lives or works here, as Members do, we remember that no sooner had September 11 come than we had October and the anthrax tragedies that occurred, beginning in the Brentwood post office, and spread even to this very Congress.

Yet, Mr. Speaker, though some may consider the capital city a target city, I can come to the floor this afternoon and say I have never felt myself to be a target. That is probably because I am an American, and it may be in part because I was a small child in this city during World War II. Therefore, I am blessed and perhaps burdened by the notion of American invincibility. I do not believe that simply because of our military might. Somehow I believe that my country cannot and will not be defeated ever from within or without. It is simply part of the way I was raised, and it is part of the way we must raise our children.

I know how one's spirit can be broken when one goes to the funerals of three small children and their teacher who went down in the plane at the Pentagon. It can try one's spirit. But the fact is, I regard those children as representatives of all who lost their lives in September and October of last year; and somehow or the other, remembering September 11 and the October anthrax tragedies through the lives of these 11-year-old children and their teachers, random targets, has instructed me how to go on.

I believe we will defeat terrorism. I tell you, it is part of my core belief. What I think we have to learn to do is to maintain an open society in the process. No society has ever faced what we have today. No society has ever had to face keeping itself wide open while understanding that terror lies within.

I am a native Washingtonian, a fourth-generation Washingtonian. We live here and feel ourselves the stewards of the Nation's capital. As such, we cannot stand by and see the Nation's capital ever be closed, because if it is closed or seems to close down, the rest of America will believe it must follow behind.

If this is to be an open and free society, it must begin with an open and free Washington, D.C. I am proud of the Congress for keeping our Chambers open, for doing all we can to keep this city open, and for remembering that when we are open, the rest of the country will feel itself open. Finally we will, I believe, have the rest of the world believe they, too, must open their societies to us and to the rest of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for bringing this resolution to the floor.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), the chairman emeritus of the Committee on International Relations.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank our chairman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 464, commemorating the tragic events of 9-11. I commend our distinguished majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY); our distinguished Committee on International Relations chairman, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE); and our ranking minority member, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), for bringing this measure to the floor at this time.

On that day, 1 year ago, our Nation was deliberately and barbarically attacked by terrorists at New York's World Trade Center, at the Pentagon, and on Flight 93 over Pennsylvania. It is our solemn duty today to reflect on those terrorist events and to memorialize those who perished needlessly at the hands of those criminals.

My 20th Congressional District in New York lost more than 90 innocent lives on that terrible day. We join in extending our condolences to all of the 9-11 victims, and to their families and to their loved ones, and at the same time, reminding them of our Nation's unrelenting determination to bring to justice all those who carried out these evil acts.

As our Nation stands together today in honoring the innocent men and women who were taken from us on 9-11, we also pay tribute to our firefighters, to the police officers, to the rescue workers, and to all the citizens who bravely mounted the largest rescue operation in history under the most unthinkable conditions. Their countless heroic acts on 9-11 mark it both as a day of tragedy as well as triumph.

Let us also pause today to salute the men and women of our Armed Forces

who are out there defending freedom and democracy on the front lines of our war on terrorism. Let us pray, too, for their safe return and their eventual triumph.

As we reflect today upon our extensive losses on the anniversary of tragedy and horror, let us also remember the valor, the patriotism, and the unity of our Nation in its darkest hour. That date, 9-11, was not only a turning point in the history of our great Nation, but also the world. As we seek God's blessing for our Nation and for the victims and heroes of September 11, let us all pledge to work together to make our world a safer place in which to live.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), one of the true statesmen in this body.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), for yielding me this time.

I am pleased to join him and also my very close friend, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), in recognizing and remembering. As well, I am pleased to follow the remarks of my friend, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN). All three of these gentlemen, Mr. Speaker, have been in the forefront of focusing on the foreign policy of the United States. All three have focused on the extension of liberty and justice and freedom throughout this world. All three have focused on human rights and the recognition of the rights of individuals. How appropriate it is that these three leaders lead us in this remembrance.

Mr. Speaker, none of us, none of us will forget where we were when we learned the news. None of us, I think, will forget those 84 minutes from 8:46 a.m. on September 11, 2001, when the North Tower was struck, to 84 minutes later when the crash of the jet from Pennsylvania precluded the success of the terrorists in striking this Capitol.

None of us, Mr. Speaker, will ever forget. In an instant on that Tuesday morning, now known simply as 9-11, the generation of Americans, this generation of Americans, suffered its Pearl Harbor. In an instant, or more accurately, I suppose, in 84 minutes, more than 3,000 innocent human beings, many of uncommon courage, were murdered by criminals of unbounded evil.

Words, Mr. Speaker, cannot convey the depth of pain inflicted on this Nation and its people 1 year ago. The pain endures and will remain. Today we remember all those who were taken on that horrific day. Our thoughts and our prayers are with those who survived and those who lost loved ones, as well as with the brave men and women this very hour defending freedom here at home and abroad.

In many ways, such unspeakable acts have clarified our purpose, steeled our resolve, and confirmed who we are.

□ 1315

We are a peaceful, tolerant and compassionate people. The evidence of that, Mr. Speaker, lies throughout our great Nation.

Since September 11 private charities have raised more than \$2.4 billion, private charities, more than \$2.4 billion to assist survivors. Former President Clinton and former Senate majority leader Bob Dole joined to raise \$105 million to pay for college for the children and spouses of those killed or disabled. More than 3,000 people download applications for Americorps every week; more than 76,000 have requested Peace Corps applications; and more than 48,000 have signed up for Citizen Corps programs. Yes, Mr. Speaker, this is a generous, compassionate and giving Nation.

Closer to home, Donn Marshall of Marbury, Maryland, refused to let the savagery of 9-11 define the life and loss of his beloved wife, Shelley. Shelley was an employee of the Defense Intelligence Agency and she was one of the 20 Fifth Congressional District residents and 53 Marylanders who were taken from their family and friends by the mindless acts of savagery on 9-11. Rather than give in, however, to unblinking but justified anger, Donn has given his sorrow meaning.

In tribute to his wife, Shelley, he established the Shelley A. Marshall Foundation, an irrevocable trust that funds children's story hours at public libraries, creative writing contests at colleges, and tea parties at nursing homes that bring senior citizens and high school students together.

The aftermath of 9-11 has seen countless other acts, Mr. Speaker, of generosity, community and courage, in your district, Mr. Speaker, in mine, and in the districts of every Member of this House, which is to say in every corner of this Nation. From the local police officers and firefighters who raced towards danger at the Pentagon and Ground Zero in New York City, to the Facchina Construction Company in my district and those employees who completed their reconstruction work at the Pentagon 3½ months early, even after their La Plata headquarters was devastated and destroyed by a tornado just a few months ago, to the local artist in my district who raised \$5,000 for the widows and children of firefighters from the sale of 9-11 T-shirts that he designed.

Mr. Speaker, the terrorists who sought to break our spirit only fortified that spirit. Their barbarism reminded us of our inevitable vulnerability but also reminded us that we are a part of something much greater than ourselves. We are the land of the free because, Mr. Speaker, we are the home of the brave.

More than 40 years ago President Kennedy stirred our Nation when he said that, "The energy, the faith, the devotion that we bring to this endeavor will light our country and all who serve it." And he correctly concluded

that, "The glow from that fire can truly light the world."

The fire of freedom, Mr. Speaker, forged the American character and it burns deep within our soul. The ashes of tragedy have rekindled that spirit; and one year later, the world must know freedom's light still burns brightly and its eternal truth shall never, never, never be extinguished. May God, Mr. Speaker, continue to bless and guide America as we continue our commitment to a just Nation and the defense and extension of freedom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Without objection, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) will control the time on the majority side.

There was no objection.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP).

(Mr. WAMP asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this important resolution and I thank the leadership of both sides for their initiative.

Mr. Speaker, this is a day of remembrance, a day of remembering over 3,000 individual persons who died at the hands of people who were so deranged that they also died in their killings of innocents in America. A day of remembering 3,000 families that will never again be the same, but the families through their sacrifice have definitely contributed to a better America because of what they have given. A day of remembering the sacrifice and courage that was demonstrated, manifesting itself as love, immediately overtook hate, incredible love that sent warm feelings throughout the world towards the United States of America. It is a day of emotion.

I was at the Pentagon this morning, as were many of my colleagues and our President and the Secretary of Defense. I was there last year right after the Pentagon was struck. The stench of war, death and destruction a year ago was replaced this morning by the smell of new construction, a breeze that blew up the dust of a construction site now complete, sparkling new windows, and a whole new day at the Pentagon. A day of sadness for great loss. A day of joy for the Phoenix project and that new beginning. A day of humility.

I continue to be in awe of this job, this country, and the people of America. A day of national pride as we stand together with our President and our leadership. A day of deep and abiding love for our fellow man of all denominations from all around the world. God created each of us. But a day of righteous anger for what has happened, and a desire for justice to be served, but for our country to never extract revenge.

Mr. Speaker, today is a day of unity in this House and across this land. The Holy Scripture says that unity is a supernatural anointing of God. The words

say, One can chase a thousand, in the Old Testament. Two can chase 10,000. What that means is whenever God's children get together with a common purpose, spirit of unity, God anoints that unity and supernatural things can happen. We have seen that in this country as we have come together. We need to do it more often. We need to continue the unity that this tragedy brought to this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, today is a day of resolve. We live in a new and difficult time. We stand today, my generation, on the shoulders of the greatest generation. A generation that I grew up admiring and continue to admire. The greatest generation rightly earned their place in our country's history because of their dedication and their sacrifice. My generation has been called the "me generation." We are self-absorbed, self-consuming, lazy, maybe not even capable of having what it takes. But I believe that in the last year, thanks to our domestic warriors, our first responders, our troops on the home front, our firefighters and law enforcement personnel and EMTs, and the bravery and courage that they have shown, this "me generation" may be becoming the "we generation." More selflessness, more sacrifice, more courage than I have seen in my lifetime has been demonstrated in the last year.

I even see the joy in the eyes of the greatest generation as they look in their later years at what has happened in the last year with some amazement and incredible pride to say to this generation, you have what it takes, too. And I am glad because the days ahead are uncertain, challenges are many. We may have many difficult times that we must go through ahead; but, Mr. Speaker, we have what it takes because we inherited a legacy of courage and honor and valor and we must answer this call to courage because what is at stake is freedom.

It is fragile. It is a powerful force much like unity and love, but it is fragile. We must not rest. We must not grow complacent over time. We must be vigilant. We must be willing to fight and to die to preserve freedom.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my good friend and distinguished colleague from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN).

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I join millions of people in solemn reflection on the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

One year has passed since that horrific day thrust the world into shock and sadness; and while some pain has subsided, our wounds have not entirely healed, particularly for those who lost loved ones in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington. However, by responding to this tragedy with hope and determination, our Nation has grown stronger.

As the initial confusion of the attacks subsided, we became familiar

with some of the names and the faces of the victims. Rhode Island was touched personally by this tragedy through the loss of several who called our State home. David and Lynn Angell, Carol Bouchard, Renee Newell, Mark Charette, Michael Gould, Amy Jarret, Kathryn Laborie, Shawn Nassaney and Lynn Goodchild. We learned about these individuals, their interests and their lives. We have prayed for their families and loved ones and responded to their grief with compassion.

As in the past, Americans offered sympathy and support to those touched by tragedy, reminding us that though the terrorists attacked our Nation, they did not and they cannot damage our spirit.

On this solemn occasion I pay tribute to those who lost their lives, to their friends and families who continue to grieve, to the American heroes who dedicated themselves to rescue and recovery efforts, to our service men and women who are defending our Nation against the ongoing threat of terrorism and to the spirit of America which has helped us endure these difficult times and will grow stronger from our sacrifices.

God bless America.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the time for debate on this resolution be extended 60 minutes to be equally divided between the majority and the minority.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE).

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) for yielding me time, and I thank the sponsors of the Patriot resolution which I rise in strong support of this afternoon.

Today is a solemn day to reflect on the lives lost and the families who have been altered forever by the terrorist attacks last September 11.

In the aftermath of these devastating attacks, the American public and people around the world came to realize that thousands of innocent Americans and others from many nations and walks of life perished because evil forces wanted to strike at the heart of this great Nation.

Today and forever we will grieve for all of the victims. We have listened to the reading of the names of those lost but who, more importantly, are the family, friends and loved ones of those who are still on this Earth and miss them today.

□ 1330

September 11 will always be etched in the minds of all Americans and our families and friends throughout the world. Today we remember our heroes who gave their lives so others may live,

our brave citizens, firefighters, police officers, and emergency personnel. The outpouring of emotion, generosity, and courageousness of mankind continues to touch us daily. Now is not only the time for remembrance of the past but also a time to look forward to living our lives with vigor and joy. We are a country that stands more united than ever before. Our diversity has strengthened us and our pride in America continues to grow. On this pain-filled first anniversary, we stand tall defending freedom, working for peace, and seeking justice. We must continue to support one another, and we must remain committed and united in the war against terrorism and use all of our might to bring to justice all of those involved with the attacks. Today we pledge to do everything in our power to defeat terrorism and to make our Nation stronger in every way that has made it a beacon of freedom and opportunity in the entire world.

May God bless America.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman for yielding me this time. And I thank the authors of this resolution today.

A year ago today, many of us as Americans might have been asking the question who are we? And the terrorists who attacked us might have thought in that horrific act of violence that who we were would crumble. They might have expected that because we came from all walks of life and spoke different languages when we first came to this Nation, we enjoy our respective cultures, that the coalition would disintegrate, that we would no longer be America, that we would begin to join places where we might have come from or our ancestors might have started and we might have gone at each other and might have accused each other.

But we fooled them because America is a Nation of the free and the brave. It is in fact a very special place; and more than anytime in our lifetime, Americans stood united. It frightened the rest of the world, I might imagine, those who wanted to perpetrate terrorism, undermine our democratic ideals, get us to attack our Constitution. We stood firm. As I sat there today at the Pentagon and I watched as our flag began to blow in the morning's wind, it reminded me of the words of Francis Scott Key, why he was so moved to write the "Star Spangled Banner," for as he looked up as those bombs were bursting and that war was going on, he felt that there was a theme and a symbol that continued, and his words were:

"Now it catches the gleam of the morning's fresh beam,

In full glory, reflected now shines on the stream;

'tis the star spangled banner. O, long may it wave

Over the land of the free and the home of the brave."

That is what we showed the world on September 11. We showed them that we could in fact survive. And today I take time to salute those first responders who helped us survive, the police, the firefighters, the paramedics, all the medical professionals, and just plain ordinary people, the volunteers, the men and women of the United States military who too today stand at the front line of freedom and opportunity and justice, the unsung heroes, many of whom will not and did not live to tell their own story. We honor them and yesterday belongs to the families, the families of those who lost their lives and the families of survivors. We honor them and we thank them.

I spoke today to a family member who lost his wife in Somerset, Pennsylvania; and his words were chilling to me. It reminded me of the importance of the resolve of this Nation and of this government. He said simply, "I do not understand. I'm still living through this. I do not know how I'm going to get through it." He, however, may take comfort in the way that America has come together, how we have comforted each other. He may take comfort in knowing that anytime we are attacked, we will stand unified together. Their stories may never be told, those who lost their lives, but we will stand arm in arm together.

Might I say, Mr. Speaker, as I close, that the government came together, State and local officials. Might I also say that even though we were diverse, we did not use this time to attack any religious group, any believers of any faith, any distinctive ethnic group. We came together.

I would simply say, Mr. Speaker, that this Nation is a Nation under God. I hold this Bible. I will not read it today, but I am proud as an American that if I chose to do, I could read this Bible because we do have the freedom which we fight for, and that is why I know in our hearts we will continue to wage this ongoing fight against terrorism; but we will do it by showing to the world our own values of democracy and of freedom and of justice and equality.

I believe the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" says it well:

"Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord. He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored.

He has loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword.

His truth is marching on."

The truth of this Nation continues to march, and we can do it in a way that understands freedom.

God bless America and God bless its people, for the truth will continue to march on.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In the way of introduction of the next gentleman, I would say that the

Speaker, in the aftermath of the events of September 11, decided to create an entity within the House of Representatives to focus on the problems of terrorism. He placed that responsibility in the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and created under the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) a new subcommittee to focus exclusively on terrorism, and that subcommittee is chaired by the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), and the ranking minority member is the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN). A report they have prepared for the House is exceptionally insightful, very important in our work here; and I commend the gentleman and the gentlewoman from California for their effort.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS).

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) for his very kind comments, and it was a very bipartisan effort that allowed us to produce what I think is a very informative report.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of this resolution. On the anniversary of September 11, we remember the innocent victims of last year's terrorist attack against our Nation and pay tribute to the heroes who risked their lives to save others.

This day is indelibly marked in our Nation's memory. It is a day when our Nation changed, when we were savagely attacked by malicious enemies whose hatred of freedom and democracy runs so deep that they would murder innocent men, women and children.

These attacks on our cherished principles, values and freedoms tried to weaken our Nation; but the tragic events of September 11, 2001, only strengthened the American resolve. The loss is overwhelming; but in the wake of this tragedy, we have witnessed many of the best aspects of America: the tremendous outpouring of patriotism, a common sense of grief and loss which touched every American, a bond of love and support among strangers from across the land, a renewed commitment to our respective religious beliefs, and a renewed national resolve to root out terrorism and act against the enemies of America.

Today at the Pentagon ceremony, I visited with Pat Hogan, the widow of Major Cole Hogan of Macon, Georgia. Major Hogan was an Army Green Beret who served his country bravely here at home and around the world and was killed in the attack on the Pentagon. Our hearts, prayers, and thoughts are with the friends and families like Pat Hogan who suffered such a tremendous loss a year ago.

Over the past year we have endured daunting challenges, and our lives have been forever changed by these terrorist acts and the threat that continues to confront us. We have made progress in making America a safer place and

fighting the war on terrorism. More still needs to be done; but as we move forward, we have an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to do all we can to work together to preserve the memory of those who perished in making our Nation a better place, a safer place and to ensure that the spirit of freedom, democracy and our core American values continue to burn even brighter in our Nation and around the world.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to my distinguished colleague from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND).

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I too rise to remember the terrible events of September 11, to honor the victims of the attack and their families and to let them know that especially today, they do not stand alone, and to pay tribute to the heroes of that day, the passengers of Flight 93, the rescue efforts at the Pentagon and in New York City, the police officers, the firefighters, the first responders, emergency medical technicians, the health care providers.

That day started with great shock and honor, Mr. Speaker; but it ended with incredible unity and a sense of resolve that those responsible would be held accountable. From the ashes of that attack arose a new sense of patriotism and a solemn pledge to never forget and to learn from that terrible day.

We became unified in this Nation out of a sense of common values that we share: love of country, love of the freedom and liberties that we hold so dear, a shared sense of common vulnerability now that our splendid isolationism in the world and our sense of innocence was taken from us. That is perhaps what has made me most angry about the events of last September 11, the grief that we have to share with the families who lost loved ones, but the knowledge that my two little boys and all our children in our country will have to grow up in a 21st century with the specter of terrorism and that vulnerability hanging over their heads.

I was heartbroken to have read the story of the two little boys who lost a father at the World Trade Center when they were at home, and they got all excited and started jumping up and down when they saw their dad's car being pulled into the driveway. They were screaming, "Mommy, Mommy, Daddy's home, Daddy's home." She knew that could not be the case, and she looked out the window to only see a tow truck dropping off her husband's car in the family driveway and having to explain to her sons why their dad was never coming home again.

Or the "Nightline" story of the retired firefighters living down in Florida who came back up to Ground Zero to sift through the wreckage in order to find the remains of bodies so they could be identified. They did it out of a sense of honor to their fallen comrades but also because they had lost their own sons, the next generation of firefighters who went into those burning buildings to save lives. One of the fire-

fighters was interviewed by Ted Koppel, and he asked them, "Why are you doing this day in and day out, from dawn to dusk every day?" He responded, "When we signed up to be firefighters and when our sons signed up to be firefighters, we all knew there was a risk in this job, but everyone deserves a decent burial."

These are the memories that will live with us for the rest of our lives and why it is so heartbreaking.

After one of our intelligence briefings, I was talking to one of the intelligence officers and commented to him how sophisticated this terrorist operation seemed, and he replied that it was not all that impressive. He said it was a low-tech operation. It is very easy to fly commercial airlines when they are already aflight. The hard part is landing them safely, and they never intended to land safely.

That is the challenge that lies before our country today. We not only need to fly the Ship of State safely, but we need to land the Ship of State safely; and that is why I hope that we learn from this terrible event, but do not get too intoxicated with our own military power, which is considerable.

I would hope that we realize we must maintain our good citizenship throughout the globe, that we are in this all together. This is not only about enhancing our own security interests in the United States and for our citizens abroad, but for all of the freedom-loving nations throughout the globe who have a common goal in defeating international terrorism.

We cannot do this alone. We need the help of the international community.

□ 1345

It is easy for our Nation, with the military power that we now possess, to accomplish so-called regime change. The hard part is nation-building that comes after. And that is why it is vitally important, I believe, that we keep our eye on the ball; that we pursue the al Qaeda organization, wherever they have scattered to the four winds, and that we do it with the cooperation and the help of the international community.

I am confident with the deliberations in the days ahead that we will be guided with proper decisions. May God bless and may God continue to guide this great Nation.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS).

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding me this time. One year ago today, the lives of all Americans were forever changed. For the terrorists, the story of the September 11 attacks is one of immense hate, a hatred for the principles of freedom, liberty, and equality for which our great Nation stands. For Americans, however, the story of September 11 is a story of immense love, a love of country, a love for human life.

Firefighters, police officers, and everyday citizens were heroic in rescuing victims of the attacks, and later in recovering the remains so as to properly honor those lost. Countless other citizens volunteered to assist and encouraged relief workers. Across the country, flags waved, hands were clasped in historic unity, and voices joined in prayer and in patriotic song.

In response to the attacks, America has been made stronger. Americans better appreciate the sacrifices that police officers, firefighters and emergency personnel make every day to ensure our safety. And we certainly have a much deeper admiration for the courageous devotion to duty of our servicemen and women, our men and women in uniform, who fight to defend our precious freedoms throughout the world.

President Bush so profoundly captured the enduring spirit of America when he stated last year, "We will not tire. We will not falter. We will not fail. United we stand."

God bless those who lost loved ones in the attacks of September 11 and those who gave their lives seeking to save the lives of others, and certainly God bless the United States of America.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM), my good friend, the distinguished ranking member of our Committee on Agriculture, and a great patriot.

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. It has been said that "Greater love hath no one than to lay down his life for a friend." Unless perhaps he or she lays down a life for a stranger. That is the love, the heroism, the patriotism that we pause today to remember and to honor. It is the love we witnessed on a large scale in New York and Pennsylvania, and Washington 1 year ago. But it is also the love that is practiced daily in communities across this great land.

In some ways, September 11, 2001, is so indelibly imprinted on our minds and souls that it is difficult to believe an entire year has passed. As we recall each detail personally experienced on that day, we remember the horror, the anguish, the sorrow, and the fear. Certainly these emotions remain fresh to all of those who lost a loved one. But even for citizens in other parts of the country hundreds of miles away, our connection as fellow Americans meant that we all felt deep grief.

As John Donne wrote more than 300 years ago, "No man is an island, entire of itself. Any man's death diminishes me because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee." In the weeks following September 11, as we heard the bells tolling or the bagpipes playing Amazing Grace in funeral after funeral, each one of us did feel that a part of us had died. And so

today, as we remember, we feel sadness, we feel grief.

For those of us who were not physically present at one of the attack sites, perhaps our greatest wound came from the fear that gripped our chests and our country. Suddenly our sense of safety, of invulnerability, of carefree security received a vicious slash from a cruel and unexpected attacker.

As a Nation, we face the question will we be paralyzed by this fear or will we overcome it? The answer to that question is where the story brings us today. From biblical times until today humanity has discovered three things which overcome fear: Love, faith and action.

Some people are aware of that truth every day of their lives. Each community's firefighters, our police officers, our emergency and health care workers, our men and women in military uniform, every day these heroes set aside personal fear in order to do their job so that the rest of us might live safely. They risk the possibility of laying down their lives for both friend and stranger and in doing so they demonstrate some of the greatest examples of love in our society.

The year that has passed since September 11 has also helped us find meaning in and through our grief. It has given us an ability to view both world events and our personal lives with a new perspective. And what we have seen is that one of the darkest days of our history gave birth to thousands of acts of goodness, creating perhaps one of our finest hours. Ordinary men and women across the country showed extraordinary bravery, kindness and compassion as we pulled together as one United Nations.

As we look back, we learn that it was through our giving back that we are now able to move forward. So while we respect and honor those who lost their lives a year ago, and feel compassion for those who remain in grief, today is also a day of celebration. We celebrate the American spirit, the heroes who are gathered here today among us all over America, and the three antidotes to fear, love, faith and action.

The marvelous thing is that every one of us has the capacity to bring to life these fear fighters. We cannot all rush into burning buildings or stop senseless acts of violence. Few of us may actually be faced with the opportunity to save another life. But we all can be heroes by loving, by believing, and by acting to strengthen our communities. As we honor our heroes, both living and dead, we are called to find the heroic urge inside ourselves.

September 11 may have shown us the worst of humanity, but it also reminded us of the chance to become the best of humanity, by loving, believing and acting. May each of us today honor those who died by doing just that.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased now to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, exactly 1 year ago today, the lives of every American citizen were changed by the cowardly acts of terrorism committed against us on our own soil. Families were broken, loved ones were lost forever, and our sense of security was shaken.

Yet even in the dark hours of September 11, 2001, hope remained. For within the hearts of Americans, we share a common bond as citizens of the greatest Nation on earth. This bond prompts us to courage, to service, and to patriotism. This bond inspired Americans on the day of the attacks to rush to the aid of their fellow Americans without thought of possible consequences to themselves. This bond provides hope that our Nation will heal from our grief and conquer those who would threaten our liberty and our way of life.

While we choose to honor the sacrifices and tragedy of September 11 with solemnity today, we also celebrate who we are as a Nation. We celebrate our Republic, we celebrate freedom, we celebrate service, sacrifice and love for one another. We celebrate the heroic acts of ordinary citizens and to commemorate the tragic events of September 11. From the soldier to the firefighter and policeman, to ordinary folks going about their daily lives, we salute you. Your sacrifices will not be in vain. A grateful Nation lives and hopes because of your love for this great country.

I close today with Professor Al G. Wright's beautiful ode to our Nation, which celebrates our country with these words: "I am an American. That is the way most of us put it, just matter-of-factly. They are plain words, those four. You could write them on your thumbnail, or you could sweep them clear across this bright autumn sky. But remember, too, that they are more than words. They are a way of life. So whenever you speak them, speak them firmly, speak them proudly, speak them gratefully. I am an American."

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. ROSS), my distinguished colleague and good friend.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, September 11, 2001, is a day that none of us will ever forget. I was sitting in my office across from our Nation's Capitol, and from the window in my office, I literally saw smoke rise from the Pentagon. A few hours later, I would learn that a young Navy petty officer from our district named Nehamon Lyons would be among the casualties at the Pentagon. Picking up the phone and calling his mom, Mrs. Jewel Lyons, back in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, was the most difficult call I have ever made.

This morning, I joined with other Members of Congress and with our

President, united, Democrat and Republican alike, united as one America, as we remembered in a special service at the Pentagon. We remembered those who lost their lives 1 year ago today at the Pentagon, at that pasture in Pennsylvania, and, yes, at the World Trade Center in New York City. After that ceremony I returned to my office and I called Mrs. Jewel Lyons in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, to let her know what I had just experienced in that very special and moving service at the Pentagon and to let her know that America has not forgotten that young Navy petty officer, Nehamon Lyons, and his service to this great country.

My grandfather taught me to always look for something good in everything bad. There was not anything good about September 11, but I do believe it has brought out the best in the American spirit. I see a country today that is more patriotic than perhaps ever in my lifetime. I see a country today with a greater appreciation for our veterans and our soldiers. And I see a country today that is praying a lot more. Bible sales are up, church attendance is up, and I know that means America is only getting stronger.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on the first anniversary of the tragic events that killed so many Americans at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, it is natural for our thoughts to turn to the victims of that day. It was, of course, a world-changing event that will continue to affect all of us. Now we know, too, that an extraordinary debt of gratitude is owed to those brave passengers of United Flight 93, which crashed in a Pennsylvania field. They fought the murderous hijackers in the cockpit and, thus, foiled the plot to crash that plane into the Capitol or White House.

The families of the victims will continue to grieve their losses, but the commemoration around the Nation today should focus on reinforcing America's newly heightened unity and sense of resolve that we as a Nation will dramatically increase our effectiveness in protecting our homeland and our citizens abroad from terrorist attacks. We must remain committed to meet these challenges while at the same time preserving the freedom, civil liberties, and opportunities which make America the envy of the world.

The period set aside for formally mourning our losses is long past. The victims and their families now are best served if all of us share and act upon a commitment to keep our Nation secure, strong, and a bastion of liberty. May God bless America.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), a distinguished colleague and good friend.

□ 1400

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution. It is hard to believe that it has been exactly 1 year since that terrible September day, 1 year since our Nation experienced that devastating and profound loss. Words cannot begin to express the heartache that we felt that day, or the sympathy we continue to feel for those who were lost.

Like many of my colleagues, I represented several of the victims of September 11; and I appreciate this opportunity to extend my deepest condolences and prayers to their loved ones.

It has been a difficult, but necessary, week for all of us. From our session in New York City and visit to Ground Zero, to the ceremony at the Pentagon this morning, to the consideration of this resolution, Members of this House have had the opportunity to express our solidarity with the families and communities most deeply affected by September 11.

Today is also an opportunity to pay tribute to the millions of Americans who reacted with such bravery and compassion in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks, the doctors and nurses who ministered to the injured; the firefighters, police officers, ironworkers and others who refused to leave the site of the World Trade Center until everyone was accounted for; the ordinary citizens from every corner of our country, every background and religion, who donated blood, money, or who provided a kind word or a prayer.

Mr. Speaker, I also think it is important at this moment for us to express our gratitude to our men and women in our Armed Forces who, as we speak, continue to battle terrorists in Afghanistan. They serve our country with great distinction, and they are a credit to our country and, indeed, to the world.

We have accomplished a great deal in the past year by working together, but I believe we have much more to do.

Today we recall the solidarity and compassion shown our Nation and our people by other nations and other peoples around the world, and we can work with them to bring our most cherished values into reality.

Mr. Speaker, we can, I believe, make this world less violent, more peaceful, more tolerant, and more secure. We have the ability to eradicate poverty, disease, hunger and hopelessness, the things that terrorists exploit to justify the unjustifiable. What we need is the will to make it happen. We need to lead the world in pursuit of these important goals. In doing so, I believe we will demonstrate the true and magnificent character of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, it is my hope that as we remember the victims of September 11, as we offer our condolences to their families, and as we con-

tinue to bring the perpetrators to justice, that we rededicate ourselves to providing a better world for us all.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. COX).

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, today is Memorial Day for the victims and the heroes of September 11. It is a time to honor the people who have died and the people who still live. It is important as we grieve for the victims that we keep in mind how many people are alive today because of the efforts of those who helped them, many of them still alive.

Today it was my honor, along with Senator BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL of Colorado, to honor and recognize 11 members of our Park Police here in Washington, D.C. who were heroes and first responders on that day. It was an interesting way to recognize them. There was a crosscountry motorcycle ride organized by citizens from all of our districts and States across the country. It started out in Orange County, California, went to San Diego, California, 3,500 miles later it picked up hundreds of riders and came here to the Nation's capital. Like BEN CAMPBELL, I am a Harley rider and so I was happy to join them. That is why I found myself in a position to be able to bestow these glass plaques to our first responders.

First, the riders themselves, our constituents. They raised \$1 million for the World Trade Center Miracles Foundation just from among the riders. In that they were like the people who responded heroically on September 11. They put aside their concerns and put first the needs of others. That is what people all around our country are doing in response to September 11.

Along their 3,500 mile route, they stopped in places like Wichita, Kansas, where they dedicated an evening to the family of Daniel Nolan. He perished in the World Trade Center. A few days later they were in Illinois at the Champaign County Fairgrounds celebrating the important work of first responders. Only yesterday, they traveled to Stoney Creek School in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, where the students had built a memorial to the heroes of Flight 93. At every step along the way, they honored the dead and the living, as we do today.

This coast-to-coast effort culminated in the honoring of 11 heroes who live among us in Washington, D.C. from the United States Park Police; and I would like to mention their names on the floor.

First, two members of the motorcycle unit, Lieutenant George F. Wallace, commander, and Sergeant Daniel P. Beck, supervisor of the unit. They were in front of the Capitol today. They saw what had happened at the Pentagon from this side of the river, and they did what heroes do: they went right to the middle of that danger. They were two of the first uniformed police at the Pentagon on the scene.

They assisted in the initial evacuation of the wounded. Their efforts helped ensure that those injured who were still alive received immediate care, and for that, obviously, those men and women, their families, and all of us are grateful.

After the arrival of other local police and fire units, these officers continued to work. They cleared the vicinity and organized the evacuation of personnel from the monumental core area.

There were nine others outside the Capitol who were similarly honored. The members of the United States Park Police Aviation Unit, Eagle One and Eagle Two. Eagle One includes Sergeant Ronald A. Galey, pilot; Sergeant John E. Marsh, rescue technician; and John J. Dillon, rescue team officer.

Eagle Two includes Lieutenant Phillip W. Cholak, aviation unit commander; Sergeant Bernard T. Stasulli, assistant aviation unit commander; Sergeant Keith E. Bohn, pilot; Sergeant Kenneth S. Burchell, copilot; and physician assistant Keith Kettell and Jason Kepp, medic, of the Uniformed Services University.

Here is what these people did on September 11. At approximately 9:40, the United States Park Police received an emergency call from Reagan National Airport tower notifying them that a plane had crashed in the vicinity of the Pentagon. They did not know yet what had happened. Members of Eagle One immediately lifted off, and they flew right into the center of the disaster, hovered right over the Pentagon, and they honored an FBI request and activated their microwave downlink and provided a live video feed of exactly what was going on at that moment.

Just as Eagle One began to provide this live feed, personnel at Reagan National Airport abandoned the airport tower and said they could not see anything because of the smoke. They requested that these people, the names I just gave you, take over responsibility for all of the air space, and they did. They took control over all of the tower's responsibility.

Even as Eagle One completed this assignment, Sergeant March requested helicopters from the Maryland State Police, MedStar and AirCare, and coordinated with ground units to establish a landing zone, honoring a request from the Arlington County Fire Department to transport patients to regional burn centers.

Meanwhile, Eagle Two's crew responded to its call of duty and loaded the mass casualty kit and additional equipment on board their aircraft. They landed on the west side of the Pentagon and immediately began coordinating the transport of 11 priority-one burn patients. While Eagle One directed MedStar and AirCare aircraft into the landing zone to medevac additional patients, Eagle Two transported two of these patients to the Washington Hospital Center. Those people are alive and doing much better today as a result of these heroic efforts.

As a lasting example of their heroic efforts, the U.S. Park Police Aviation Unit responded to a final request of the Arlington County Fire Department to transport a battalion chief of the Pentagon Fire Command Center for a 1-hour flight over the crash site because he was directing the firefighting efforts on the ground from their craft.

Those are just some of the heroes of September 11. They live among us here. It was, as I said, my honor to present them with citations this morning. But as we honor these first responders, I think we have to remember that, as we draw inspiration from their work, they are still there every day protecting our neighborhoods. They are still there every day protecting us from threats, whether it be fire or a terrorist attack. Because of their bravery, which we take so much for granted, we have a wonderful future to look forward to in this country.

I have no doubt that we will succeed in our efforts in the war on terror, and I have no doubt that we will owe a continuing and ever-deeper debt of gratitude to these men and women to protect and defend our country. I am grateful for the opportunity to honor these men and women.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS).

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, in communities across the land, we gather to commemorate the unspeakable attacks against our Nation 1 year ago today.

Even with the passage of time, there are still no words to adequately describe our pain, sorrow, and our anger. Our hearts remain heavy with grief for the 3,000 souls who were lost, and we continue to mourn with their families and their loved ones.

I feel especially heartbroken for all the children who lost their fathers and mothers on this terrible day, and for all of the babies who came into the world after their fathers were killed. These young lives have been permanently and senselessly altered by those who so erroneously believe that extremism and hate pave the road to salvation.

Now it is our duty to help these children fulfill their dreams and understand that their parents died in an attack on the freedoms and values we hold to be self-evident.

It is also important to pay tribute to the acts of courage and heroism carried out by so many people: the firefighters, police and rescue personnel, the passengers on the doomed aircraft, and by countless citizens who volunteered at the crash sites and around the Nation. Some of them included volunteers from my district on the central coast of California who lent their expertise and resources.

Today is a day that we should honor all of the first responders who not only risked their lives on September 11, but

who are also the first on the scenes of emergencies and disasters every day in communities across this country.

I am so proud of their commitment and their determination to make our country, indeed the world, a safer place. These brave individuals deserve our highest respect on September 11 and on every day.

It is also important to remember and honor the brave American servicemen and women who are defending our freedom around the globe, joined by defenders from other countries.

They are defending the principles of democracy and security on which this country was founded, and we salute their tireless mission. This has been a year of great sorrow and mourning. But it has also been a time of great American unity, strength of spirit, and generosity.

As one widow reflected, it is as though this entire year has been stuck on September 11. Now, perhaps, we can move on to September 12.

Mr. Speaker, I hope and pray, and let us work, that the coming year will bring peace to our families, our community, our Nation, and that the generosity of our people and the spirit of our democracy will be well known and well documented throughout the world.

□ 1415

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. PUTNAM).

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, this is an emotional time for this country and an emotional time for this body. All of us have participated in events in our communities, tributes to the victims and their families in New York and the Pentagon, and that is right and proper. But I want to take this opportunity on this first Patriot Day to look forward, to remember and pause and reflect on why they envy us so, why the terrorists hate us so. What is it that would cause them to bring about the death and destruction of so many innocent lives, so many hopes and dreams shattered, so many communities who have lost church members, PTA officers, rotary club presidents, chamber directors, so many children who have lost a parent?

They despise the fact that we stand for freedom; that we represent all that is great, all that is tolerant and hopeful and helpful and strong about communities.

They misunderstood us. They thought we were no stronger than the celluloid films that come out of Hollywood; that we would buckle and cave, that we would wither up and shrink from the fight.

What they did not understand was that we had an army of ordinary American citizens who would rally; who would stand in line for hours to give their blood; who would contribute their paychecks to strangers; whose children would go to schools and have penny

drives and carwashes and other fundraisers to send off to the victims, their families, and even the children in Afghanistan.

They hate the fact that in America little girls have the same opportunities as little boys, to dream, to hope, to be whatever they want to be, from a teacher to a firefighter to a Member of Congress, to President of the United States. They are afforded equal opportunity.

They resent the fact that different faiths have every opportunity to worship together, side by side, on the same city block, in peace.

They resent the fact that we have heroic civil servants who deliver the mail, who put out fires, who comfort victims, who run into buildings that everyone else is running out of; that we have teachers who instill values and character into the next generation of Americans; that we have health care workers, doctors and nurses, who rally to the scene and give so much of their heart and soul to putting lives and bodies back together.

People still risk their life to come to this country. People still see the United States as that shining city on a hill. They still risk their family's safety, they give up all of their worldly possessions, to stow away in a tanker or to cobble together a rickety raft and brave the straits of Florida or the Atlantic, to become a part of this country that those terrorists tried to destroy.

If given the opportunity, most free people, most thoughtful people, would choose that way of life, would choose that equality, that tolerance, that hope, that dream that is America.

And while all of us fight on a regular basis in this Chamber over things great and small, we never question the legitimacy of the debate or the legitimacy of the leadership or of the system or of the institution. While we criticize the policies of our President or administration, we do not question his right to be there and be our leader.

That is what they hated, that is what they envied, that is what they attempted to destroy, and they have succeeded only in bringing out the best in all Americans, leaving America today stronger than she was last September 11; a little closer together, still fairly complacent, still fairly naive about the dangers this world poses, but still very much in love with all things American, very much in love with our ability to debate on this floor, our ability to hope and dream and be whatever we want to be, and to instill that in our young people.

America is stronger today than she was a year ago; a little bruised, very bloodied in some areas, but stronger.

Mr. Speaker, God bless these United States of America.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 3 minutes to my good friend, the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS).

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation was changed forever on the morning of September 11. The goal of Osama bin Laden was to demoralize us, was to create fear and uncertainty, to bring about instability in our country; and, obviously and thankfully, he has failed.

Last week Congress met in New York City to pay tribute to those who were killed on September 11 in that city, and this morning we assembled at the Pentagon. At these events and similar events all over this country, we were reminded about our resiliency and how strong this Nation really is.

Last September 11, we saw amazing displays of heroism and bravery. We saw what is extraordinary and best in the human spirit. None of us will ever forget the sight of firemen entering the World Trade Center, going up the stairs while other people were going down the stairs. And, as we know, most of those firemen never got out of that building alive.

We also today remember the courage of the people at the Pentagon who saved lives there, and we honor the members of our Armed Forces who are fighting terrorism in Afghanistan and elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker, we have also learned a great deal since September 11. We have learned, as we have never learned before, that we are a vulnerable Nation. Yes, we are the most powerful Nation on Earth, but what we learned on that day is that we could be attacked and that thousands of innocent men and women could be killed.

We have also learned that we must lead an international coalition against bigoted, religious fanatics who believe that they have the right to kill innocent people in order to impose their reactionary ideology on others.

Many of us have also learned that in order to maintain true American values, we must not undermine the principles and constitutional rights that make our country great and that this country was founded on.

As an American and as a Vermonter I have been extraordinarily proud of how our people responded to this crisis in terms of blood donations, financial contributions, and how we came together as a community to support the victims of September 11 and to support each other. If there is something positive out of the horrors of September 11, it is that we as a Nation, all of us, despite our backgrounds, where we come from, our religious beliefs, must continue to show that same sense of community, that love for each other, that was demonstrated in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER).

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the resolution. Today is the 1-year anniversary of the most horrific attack on American soil in our history. On

September 11, 2001, freedom-hating terrorists took from all of us our sense of innocence. They took from all of us the idea that innocent men, women and children going about their daily lives are immune from the horrors of war. They took from all of us the sense of safety and security to which we had become accustomed.

What they did not take from us and what they could not ever take from us, no matter how hard they tried a year ago, is our freedom and liberty, our way of life, our government of the people, by the people and for the people.

New York Governor Pataki opened the memorial ceremony at Ground Zero this morning with the reading of the Gettysburg Address which President Lincoln delivered in 1863, barely 100 miles from where the passengers of United Flight 93 heroically stopped terrorists from their attempt to, I believe, destroy this very building.

Part of President Lincoln's address includes these words: "That from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave their last full measure of devotion, that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this Nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom."

We, too, are dedicated to a new birth of freedom here in this new century.

The horrible events of last September 11 have reawakened in all Americans a new sense of patriotism; a strength, a resolve that had lain dormant for far too long. The flags we see flying in every neighborhood across America today were not put up this morning. They have been there for the last year. The support of the American people for our men and women fighting overseas has remained unwavering, and the kind words and deeds of our fellow man seem all the more common today, 1 year later.

Eugene McCarthy once observed that America can choke on a gnat, but swallow tigers whole. This is a tiger that we as a Congress and as a Nation must deal with, and we will.

There is no lack of resolution here. There is no rancor. We will continue to stand behind the President. We will continue to do what we must do to keep those who hate our values and ideals from committing evil acts against us ever again.

Today let us honor and pay tribute to those who were taken from us before their time and resolve to remember them always. But let us also resolve that our commitment to the Republic that our Founders risked their own lives to create more than 200 years ago is stronger than ever. The foundation of our Nation is solid, and so is our dedication to her.

Mr. Speaker, God bless America.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to my friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF.)

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, the world must be made safe for democracy. Its peace must be planted upon the tested foundations of political liberty. We have no selfish ends to serve, we desire no conquests, no dominion. We seek no indemnities for ourselves, no material compensation for the sacrifices we shall freely make. We are but one of the champions of the rights of mankind.

These were the words of President Woodrow Wilson in his war message to Congress April 2, 1917.

This week, from Los Angeles to New York, from Fairbanks to Fort Lauderdale, and in 200 million households in between, a Nation struggles to come to grips with the most vicious attack on unarmed civilians in the Nation's history.

We once again appreciate, with the force that sometimes only tragedy brings home, that we are one country. Differences of geography, language, income and ethnicity have faded away. There are no national divides, no partisan debates, no hometown rivalries, no baseball strikes, not on this day. For all too brief a time, we are simply Americans.

And we are taking stock. Much has taken place since September 11, a date that may surpass the end of the last millennium as a turning point for the country.

□ 1430

Some of that change has been extraordinarily positive for our own security and for the peace and prosperity of the world. The promise of mutually assured destruction that for decades we exchanged with the Soviets has been replaced with an unprecedented partnership with Russia. This is no detente, but a completely new realignment of interests, which has transformed the world landscape and dramatically reduced the possibility of nuclear catastrophe.

For all that has changed in the last year and all that has transformed since the end of the Cold War, we are still at risk. Our most immediate and tangible threat comes not from interlocking engagements with a Europe that cannot overcome its historic feuding, not from nation states that are amassing colossal military forces with an eye towards territorial aggrandizement or world domination. The threat is primarily asymmetrical now, from stateless terrorist organizations and the nations that support them; from murderous psychopaths that are bent on igniting a holy war and have a blood lust for the United States. Such depravity has always existed, but with the advent of weapons of mass destruction and their terrible availability, it no longer takes a national miscalculation to inflict misery on the world. And as the lone superpower in the world, America has a target on her back.

The threat may come from new quarters, but we have one powerful bond with Americans from the beginning of the last century: This conflict is still

about making the world safe for democracy.

On September 11 we were not attacked because we sought to conquer or subjugate another people. We were not attacked over a territorial dispute or a clash of national ideologies. And, notwithstanding post-attack propaganda from the terrorists, we were not attacked over our policy in the Middle East. Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda never showed an interest in the Palestinian cause except in a post-attack effort to point their homicidal rage as a defense to the West's supposed hostility to Islam. We were attacked simply because we existed, simply because we represented and continue to represent the triumph of free institutions, a respect for the free exercise of religion, association, and expression. We were attacked because we are a democracy in a world very unsafe for democracies. And winning this war, and the long twilight struggle it has become, will require nothing less than a sustained, unswerving commitment to the propagation of freedoms around the world.

We must root out al Qaeda and terrorist organizations wherever they exist. We must take the fight to the enemy, as the President declares, and not wait defensively at home for the next attack. At the same time, we must open a completely new front in the war on terrorism: the battle for democracy. We must attack tyranny, despotism, and the trampling of human rights around the world. We must use every instrument of our national policy to support the growth and cultivation of free institutions, a respect for the free exercise of religion, the right to associate with whom one pleases, and the right to speak one's mind. We must encourage the growth of democracies in every corner of the globe and not simply in Europe or the Americas. Democracy must come to the Arab nations, to China, and to every corner of Africa, and not simply to our adversaries. Democracy, too, must come to our allies, to the Saudis, to the Egyptians, and to the Jordanians. Democracy, not oil, will be the ultimate guarantor of our security.

This lofty ambition is not fanciful, not quaintly sympathetic, but practical. Democracies do not make needless war, democracies do not seek to terrorize or conquer, democracies do not serve as the breeding grounds for genocidal rage or terrorist madness. Democracies are better capable of eliminating the common scourges of mankind: poverty, disease, famine, and conflict. If we are to be partisans, let us be partisans of democracy.

We may never ferret out every last terrorist; the germ of madness is difficult to eradicate completely. But our peace and prosperity lie as much in changing the soil. Peace, again, must be "planted upon the tested foundations of political liberty," and a cardinal part of winning this war, as in the war to end all wars, will be our for-

titude as one of the "champions of the rights of mankind."

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the time for debate on this resolution be extended for 30 minutes to be equally divided between the majority and the minority.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER), my good friend and distinguished colleague.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's courtesy in permitting me to speak on this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, at 8:46 this morning I came to this Chamber, where I was exactly a year ago, to reflect on the events that had transpired that terrible day and what has ensued since then. As we all shared a flood of remembrance in honor of the memory of the victims and the heroes of last September 11, I think, Mr. Speaker, it is just as important for us to reflect on the progress of this past year. Because tragedy gave us an opportunity and a responsibility, not just to deal with additional threats to our families, but to use the vast wealth and power of the United States to be a leader and a partner around the world, while we fulfill the promise of America here at home.

I thought about how much I have been inspired by the reactions of the American public at the time of the tragedy and of what we have seen throughout the year. But, Mr. Speaker, I wonder honestly what we think we have accomplished as a Congress in this last year. Immediately, we did do, as the resolution says: Local, State, and Federal leaders set aside differences and worked together to provide for those who were attacked and to protect those who remain. But since then, since then, is America really safer because of congressional action? Do the vast intelligence and security agencies now work together seamlessly? Have we made progress, not just against the Taliban and al Qaeda, but to promote democracy and freedom, peace and prosperity around the globe? Is this Congress working together cooperatively on issues of peace, the environment, human health, and education?

By any objective measure, we as elected officials have fallen short of that mark. We have yet as a body to provide voice, not just to the fears and frustrations, but to the hopes and aspirations of Americans that we will seize this moment.

Now, I think people on both sides of the aisle will disagree as to why this is so, but I do not think anybody can argue that we have done all that we could, or even, frankly, that we have done all that much from airline secu-

rity, to reducing energy dependence in the Middle East, to giving coherence to our policies in the Middle East and around the world. We have fallen short in doing all that we could for peace and democracy.

As part of this solemn occasion, the most fitting tribute of all is not for us just to reaffirm as the resolution suggests an honoring of the memory of those who lost their lives and that we will bravely defend the citizens of the United States in the face of all future challenges; part of what we need to do is to acknowledge where we have fallen short and to renew our commitment that in this next year, we in Congress will catch up to where the actions and the expectations of the American public are; that we will enter in as Members of this Congress with a new spirit of cooperation and achievement, that takes the actions that make achievements of our values real, towards making our communities and, indeed, the world more livable and our families safer, healthier, and more economically secure.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), the chairman of the Committee on Rules.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I would like to first express my appreciation to my good friend and fellow Californian (Mr. LANTOS), as well as the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) for moving this very important resolution and, like everyone else, I rise in strong support of it.

We all know that today we mark this first anniversary of one of the most tragic days in America's history. As we think about the families of those victims, our thoughts and prayers go to all of them. We all have sort of mixed emotions on this day. We all, of course, recall exactly what it was like here in the Capitol a year ago today, and we think about the day first and foremost with sadness because, as I said, of all of those whose lives were lost. But we also think about today with a great deal of resolve and defiance. In some sort of strange way, we also celebrate the success that we have had in pushing back those, as the President calls them, "evil-doers," those who would, in fact, bring an end to our way of life.

Just yesterday here in the District of Columbia and in 12 other States, there was a great celebration in that we had elections where people were choosing their leaders. We are continuing with our work here in the U.S. Capitol right now. So that is why we all have mixed emotions as we deal with today.

But it is also, I think, very important, Mr. Speaker, for us to take a few minutes to look at the history of what led up to September 11 and to realize

that as we, with this resolution, are remembering and honoring those who were killed on September 11, I think it is also important for us to realize that this is an international war on terrorism, and it is not a war that began on September 11 of last year, it is a war which has been going on for decades.

Just a few minutes ago I sat down with some of my staff members and started talking about some of the horribly tragic events that Osama bin Laden and his terrorist allies have perpetrated over the past couple of decades, and I thought it appropriate that we take a moment as we reaffirm our strong commitment, as the President has said, to win this war on terrorism, and look at what led up to that tragic day one year ago.

On the 1st of April in 1983, 63 were murdered and 120 injured when the U.S. Embassy in Beirut was bombed by the Islamic Jihad. On the 23rd of October in 1983, we all remember the tragic Islamic Jihad bombing of the Marine barracks when we lost 242 of our Marines. On the 14th of June, 1985, Robert Stethem, the U.S. Navy sailor, was murdered and thrown from that TWA flight 847 which was hijacked by Hezbollah terrorists who also held 145 innocent passengers hostage for 17 days. On the 26th of February, 1993, we all remember very well the World Trade Center bombing in which six were murdered and 1,000 people injured. On the 25th of June, 1996, 19 U.S. military personnel were killed and 240 injured when the Khobar Towers housing complex in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia was bombed by Osama bin Laden's allies. On the 7th of August, 1998, 12 Americans and hundreds of Kenyans and Tanzanians were murdered in the bombing of the U.S. embassies at Nairobi and Dar Es Salaam, directed, as we all know, by Osama bin Laden, and on the 12th of October in 2000, 17 sailors were murdered and 39 injured in the bombing of the USS *Cole*. That was a horrible, horrible day.

These events, Mr. Speaker, underscore the fact that this is a war which has been going on now for decades.

So when I think about some of the challenges that we face as a Congress ahead, we are going to be dealing with a resolution which will help us confront those who have in fact provided shelter and refuge to al Qaeda and, of course, I am referring to Saddam Hussein and Iraq.

□ 1445

So this is a war which is one which really reaches all across our globe. It is one which I am happy to see our allies have joined in providing strong support for, and it is one which will continue probably beyond our lifetimes.

As I think about some of the very wonderful quotes throughout history that lead to our dealing with these challenges, I am reminded of a couple. There is one that I like to recall. At the beginning of every one of Winston Churchill's volumes, he has what is

called the moral of the work, which is basically four points. He says: in war, resolution; in defeat, defiance; in victory, magnanimity; in peace, good will. I think that underscores where it is that we are headed in dealing with this challenge, which is going to continue in the future.

Shortly after September 11, President Bush went and delivered a speech in Cincinnati, Ohio. As I think back on many of the brilliant statements that have been made following September 11, I think that one of the most poignant, which underscores, again, the sacrifice that was made a year ago and where we are today, President Bush said, "Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America." These attacks can shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve.

So, Mr. Speaker, as we move ahead, I again would like to thank my colleagues, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), for this very important resolution, and provide strong support; and, as everyone is doing, extend my thoughts and prayers to the families of those who tragically lost their lives a year ago today.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to my good friend, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE).

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, we are all united in every congressional district in coming together in America today. I would like to honor two contributions from the first district of the State of Washington.

First, I would like to honor the life and heroism of Army Sergeant Larry Strickland, who lost his life while at his post on the second floor of the west wing of the Pentagon 1 year ago today.

Army Sergeant Strickland was a native of Edmonds, Washington, who served his country as a personnel manager and traveled to every post around the world to which he was assigned. He was a senior adviser to the deputy chief of staff, and he earned the greatest title I think anyone in the American military could have. He was a good soldier.

But he was also a good son to proud Americans Lee Strickland and Olga Strickland of Edmonds, Washington; and a good husband to wife, Deborah; and a good father to Julia, Matthew, and Chris; and a good grandfather to Brendan.

To those family members, we cannot ask to beguile them from their grief; but we hope that they are left with the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that should be theirs for having left such a precious contribution at the altar of freedom. That family can be assured that we will keep Sergeant Strickland's memory alive as we go forward together in

a unified way to preserve the freedoms for which he died.

Second, Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor Molly Peebles, Chuck Oppermann, and Erik Lindbergh, who led the flight of 51 planes in the Flight Across America from every State in the Union that brought every State's flag and the United States flag to New York this morning, having begun flights all across this country on August 11 to bring a message of resolution and healing to this Nation.

They spoke with the spirit of general aviation, which is important in this country for our freedoms and our economy. I hope their contributions send a statement that we have to honor general aviation and help them through this crisis, so we can continue to have both security and a viable general aviation in this country.

Mr. Speaker, America is proud of people in every district in this country, and I offer the honor of this Nation to these people from the First District of the State of Washington.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS), one of the three subcommittee chairmen of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, today America remembers. America just 1 year ago witnessed three heinous and senseless terrorist attacks that will be forever etched in our minds and memorialized in our history. May I say that no American will ever forget the horrific images of September 11, 2001, and no American will ever forget the thousands of innocent victims, or the hundreds of courageous heroes who will always have a place in our history and in our hearts.

Yet since that fateful day, the American people have persevered and established a new sense of normalcy. May I say to the cowards who targeted our great country last year, let me recite that terrorism against the United States, our freedom, and our people will never be tolerated. The United States stands strong, and we will fight terrorism wherever it lurks. No corner of this world will be safe for them or those who want to attack freedom, destroy liberty, and instill fear.

America's fight will not be won quickly or easily; however, it will be won. I have seen firsthand the bravery and the patriotism of the men and women in our Armed Forces, and may I say that they will not settle for anything less than victory. They are willing to make the ultimate sacrifice to protect our liberty. They deserve our strongest support and our deepest gratitude.

Americans have answered the call to help their fellow man and to defend freedom and to serve their Nation. We

will not retreat. We will not be intimidated. America is strong and her strength is in her people. It is the strength of the American people that will prevail over terrorism wherever it may hide.

So on this, the first-year anniversary of September 11, on this, Patriot Day, may Americans again unite to remember our loss, to celebrate our freedom, and to defend liberty.

May God bless this great country and its people.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to my good friend and our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from California for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago today, I was in Tel Aviv, Israel. So, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the over 3,000 victims who died in the September 11 attacks on America; and I wish to pay tribute to all the family members of those who perished, as well as to our public officials, businesses, and private citizens who have dedicated themselves to the rebuilding of a stronger Nation over the past 12 months.

In a recent special report about life after September 11 in America's tallest building, the Sears Tower, the Chicago Tribune observed that what happened was more complicated than fear. It was an awakening, then a reckoning, then a change in priorities and plans in the calculation of everyday decisions. This awakening and recalculation in our everyday lives has taken place not just among those in the Sears Tower and my home in Chicago, but across this great Nation. It is a new realization of how connected and responsible we are for the protection and well-being of all our fellow citizens.

In response to the devastation caused by the terrorists, the residents of Chicago have joined with millions of others in this country and around the world to donate millions of dollars and hours to the rebuilding efforts. Their material gifts, however, reveal an even deeper resolve to let the principles of freedom for which we stand ring loud and clear.

As we contemplate the effects of September 11 and extend our deepest sympathy to those who lost their loved ones on that fateful day, let us resolve to build not just a more vigilant and stronger homeland defense, but a society that continues to protect our personal freedoms and would enable us to fulfill the American dream of liberty and justice for all.

And in pursuit of this goal, let us, Mr. Speaker, continue to be able to sing: "O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain. America, America, God shed His grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea."

God bless America.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to my good friend and our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS).

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I woke up this morning not knowing, really, where was the appropriate place for me to be. Being a New Yorker, I did not know whether I should be at Ground Zero this morning, whether I should be in my community with many of my constituents, or whether I should be here in Washington, D.C.

I made the decision to try to do a little bit of both, so I spent this morning with my constituents in New York, but then felt that it was most important for me to come here to Washington as we reflect on what took place just a year ago today, as we memorialize the individuals who lost their lives a year ago today, as we sit with and hold hands with the family members of those who lost their lives.

It is time for reflection; and as I reflect and think about just last Friday, as Members of the United States Congress came to New York for the first time since 1789 and went to the original Federal Hall, it struck me about this great thing that we know called democracy, and why we have to stand and fight and make sure that democracy prevails.

For when I just think, in 1789, I as an African American may not have been able, or not "may not," would not have been able to be part of that Congress. But democracy has prevailed, so that in 2002 I am a Member of this Congress; and we are here today where the Congressional Black Caucus is meeting.

We must preserve that democracy. What happened on September 11 of last year threatens that democracy. We must let freedom ring.

As I reflect and think, the words of Dr. King came back to me, where basically he was just talking about freedom. In 1965, we were talking about freedom basically just here on these shores. His words were, "So let freedom ring from the prestigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania! Let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado! Let freedom ring from the curvaceous peaks of California! But not only that; let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia! Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee! Let freedom ring from every hill and every molehill of Mississippi! From every mountainside, let freedom ring."

I think we need to add now: Let freedom ring from Afghanistan. Let freedom ring from Pakistan. Let freedom ring from Israel and Palestine. Let freedom ring in China and India. Let freedom ring in Zimbabwe and Nigeria.

Let freedom ring in every country on every continent, because when freedom

rings, in the words of Dr. King, when we let it ring, we will let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every State and every city in every nation, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, Muslims and Buddhists, will be able to join hands and sing the words of the old Negro spiritual: "Free at last, free at last, thank God Almighty, we are free at last." God bless America.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 4 minutes to my good friend and distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN).

□ 1500

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from California (Mr. LANTOS) for yielding me this time. And I thank all of our colleagues for bringing forward this resolution.

None of us will ever forget where we were on September 11, 2001, when we first learned about the 8:46 attack on our Nation. It was a defining moment for our Nation like November 22, 1963, and December 7, 1941. Now we commemorate the first anniversary of September 11 and, quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, we are not sure what we should say or what we should do, but we want to join together as a community to show our solidarity.

Today we honor our heroes. These are not our Presidents or our sports figures. These are ordinary Americans who performed extraordinary acts. Heroes by chance and heroes by choice. Like Todd Beamer on Flight 93 who gave up his life to save many others. We now know that it was likely that that plane was headed here towards the Capitol. He may in fact have saved our lives. Heroes such as John Fischer, a New York City firefighter, who went into harm's way in order to save lives and lost his life on September 11. Heroes such as Lieutenant Darin Pontell, a naval officer, a young man that I had the honor to appoint to the U.S. Naval Academy. He understood the risks of serving in our armed services, but he thought he would be safe in the Pentagon. He lost his life. Over 3,000 of our fellow citizens lost their lives, casualties to our continuing effort as a Nation to maintain liberty, safety, and freedom for all of its citizens.

Each of us was personally affected by September 11. We may not have known anyone personally who died, but we still grieve for them, and we hold the members of their families close to our hearts. We shall never forget September 11. Shortly after September 11, the Congress passed a law calling on the President to designate September 11 as Patriot Day in honor of the individuals who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks against the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001.

Throughout America we join together as a community in solidarity to

make it clear to the world that our Nation is united and resolved to defend freedom against all enemies, any enemies. We may be Democrats or Republicans, conservatives or liberals. We may differ in religion or ethnicity, but we are united as Americans. Terrorists destroyed the New York World Trade Center buildings, but they can never destroy the character, strength and values of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday was an important day in Maryland. It was primary election day. Marylanders chose their leaders and representatives by the ballot box. Our enemies rule by fear, intimidation, and force. Because of America's leadership, freedom and democracy are winning in all corners of the world. As President Bush has said, "We are a people dedicated to the triumph of freedom and democracy over evil and tyranny."

Today we thank millions of Americans who responded to the Nation's calls, our soldiers, our firemen, our police, our postal workers, and so many more who have been on the front line for the defense of our country.

Ever since September 11, "God Bless America," our hymn, has had a special meaning. One year ago this evening, we sang it on the steps of the Capitol to make it clear to the world that we would triumph. Tonight we will sing "God Bless America" on the steps of the Capitol to make it clear to the world that we will never forget September 11.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless those who mourn, may God bless those who serve, and may God bless America and bring us peace.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the time for debate on this resolution be extended 20 minutes to be equally divided between the majority and minority.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska? There was no objection.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WEXLER), our good friend and distinguished colleague.

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, we are here at this somber occasion to recognize September 11 as a moment in history when American heroism and patriotism prevailed over terror, adversity, and hate. This resolution pays tribute to those families personally affected by the tragic events of September 11 and honors the innocent victims of these horrific attacks.

Today America is united, drawn together by overwhelming grief, a shared commitment to freedom and unwavering resolve. Our unity as a Nation sends an unequivocal message that despite the tragic events of September 11, the American spirit remains strong, that in the face of destruction and hate, democracy, justice, and hope will prevail.

September 11 demonstrated that in a moment of unparalleled adversity and

devastation, there exists an innate desire of Americans to help others that is unimaginably selfless and good.

Never was this more clear than 1 year ago today in New York and Washington where hundreds of the world's bravest and finest, including firemen, policemen, and first responders rushed to assist the victims of these tragic attacks; or above Shanksville, Pennsylvania, where passengers on Flight 93 actually took a vote, a vote, to sacrifice their own lives to preserve those of others and prevent a potential assault on the very Chamber in which we now stand.

The vote on Flight 93 to overtake the hijackers epitomizes American values, courage, and heroism at their very best. For in a moment of unprecedented darkness and despair these brave souls refused to sit idly by and bear witness to evil. They chose to take action after evoking the most basic American right and fundamental symbol of democracy that all of us hold dear.

As we commemorate the tragic events of September 11 and honor the victims lost in New York, Washington, and aboard Flight 93, we must remember the extraordinary acts of heroism that took place one year ago today. From Washington to every community across the United States, may we derive strength and courage from the bravery demonstrated on September 11 and commit ourselves to a future free from terror, intolerance and hate to one of understanding, freedom and, above all, peace.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this has been a fine moment for the House of Representatives. We came together, not as Republicans or as Democrats, but as American citizens who are still so painfully aware of that horrible moment a year ago when lives were snuffed out, orphans were made, widows were made, family tragedies were made across this land. And the people who did it so totally and so profoundly misunderstand the nature of an open and free society. They sought to intimidate us. They sought to make us give up the good fight, but they have only succeeded in steeling our will and determination that the terrorists of this globe and the regimes that harbor them will not prevail.

This struggle will go on for a long time. Al Qaeda may have been largely defeated in Afghanistan, but they are all over the world in scores of countries planning to perpetrate additional evil deeds. We are ready for them.

Not since Pearl Harbor have the American people been as determined, as united, as committed to defending the values of our way of life, our Constitution, our pluralism, our acceptance of all religions, of all ethnic groups, of all forms of commitments to values that we so dearly cherish in this country.

The terrorists may have succeeded in bringing down two magnificent build-

ings but they also succeeded, contrary to their hopes and aspirations, of steeling the determination of the American people to protect this free and open and magnificent society.

As we recall the events of a year ago and as we plan the next action, it is important for us to realize that while not always will governments be with us, people who love freedom will be with us in every corner of the world.

The President will be addressing the United Nations tomorrow. He will be speaking to all freedom-loving peoples on the face of this planet. He will be talking on behalf of all of us because we are determined in the 21st century, as we were in earlier centuries, not only to preserve our way of life but to expand the arena of freedom for people everywhere.

It is easy, Mr. Speaker, to become discouraged. When Pearl Harbor struck, many were pessimistic. When Hitler swept across Europe, many were pessimistic. But the indomitable spirit of men like Winston Churchill knew full well that free societies will prevail. The Osama bin Ladens of this world are simply incapable of comprehending how powerful the spirit of freedom is in open and democratic societies. We may suffer setbacks, we may suffer occasional defeat, but our goal of preserving this way of life for ourselves and making it available for others if they so choose cannot be defeated either by hijacking an aircraft, spreading biological or chemical weapons, or any such means. The spirits of free men and women will prevail. And there is no doubt in the minds of any of us in this body that however long this struggle will take against terrorism and countries that support terrorists, we will prevail in the long run as free men and women always have.

The many ceremonies across this Nation, from New York to the Pentagon to Pennsylvania, to every town and hamlet in the United States, is proof that the American people have learned the lesson of a year ago. We may have lost our innocence but we have multiplied our resolve and determination. This Nation is united, strong, and conscious of the fact that our values, more than our physical capabilities, will result in our ultimate victory.

□ 1515

I want to commend all of my friends and colleagues who have participated in this discussion. I trust the message that we sent with many voices, many phrases, different approaches, will not be lost on those who cynically or otherwise are doubting the resolve of the American people. This resolve is unshakeable, and this resolve will bring about ultimate victory over terrorism and totalitarian societies.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to commend my colleague and friend,

the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), for the very able way that he has handled this debate, really this memorial, this commemoration, for his cogent and insightful remarks. The gentleman suggests that, in fact, this has reignited or reawakened a powerful, diverse Nation. Indeed, that is the case. That was what the terrorists apparently did not expect.

On a personal note, may I say that my wife and I are particularly grateful that her sister, an officer worker in the Twin Towers, survived the bombing attack in 1991 and again last year and was able to come down to safety with a lot of difficulty and a lot of courage; and all of those people who had that experience, of course, will have a commitment to make this country even better and even stronger than it had been. I believe that there is not a doubt in anyone's mind in this country who understands America that what happened on September 11 has only reinforced our strengths. It has, in fact, increased our unity and our resolve.

The comments from my colleagues here today give us some very strong indication of the sentiment that their constituents feel and resolve that their constituents expressed to them in their districts. I commend all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for this remarkable experience and expression here today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD), a good friend and neighbor and colleague.

(Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I submit this statement in the RECORD in support of this resolution and applaud all Americans for their resilience as we commemorate, if you will, and reflect on last year's events.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for House Concurrent Resolution 464 that expresses the sense of Congress on the anniversary of the horrible terrorist attacks launched against our country and our ideals of democracy.

My heart is heavy as I reflect on the tragic events of a year ago. The past year has been especially difficult for the families, friends and coworkers of individuals who perished in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington, DC. Our prayers are offered to the victims and their families.

Today, in a small and symbolic way, we are expressing our gratitude to the firemen, policemen, healthcare workers and the individuals who, on that fateful day, performed heroic deeds and helped their fellow human beings without regard for their own welfare. We thank you profusely for your efforts. America owes you a debt that we can never repay. We salute you for your service and valor.

We also salute those who have served our Nation so bravely overseas and all people of goodwill who personify humanitarian virtues

during this tenuous and volatile time in the world.

Today, we are united as a nation to confront current world realities that have transformed the social, psychological and spiritual fabric of the world in which we coexist with our domestic and foreign neighbors.

During the recent year, my colleagues and I have actively engaged in debate about how to formulate an agenda that addresses homeland security, national spiritual salvation, and political bridge building with our international friends.

As we continue to make inroads toward progress, I cannot over-emphasize how important it is to map out a course for our future that will sustain, inspire and protect our children. We must infuse them with a sense of optimism because the confidence in which we as Americans move around our country has been shaken. However, as Americans, we will not be deterred from experiencing the freedom we cherish.

My colleagues and I on the Transportation Committee recognize the importance of protecting the confidence of America's traveling public. We have worked diligently to ensure that the security needs of the flying public are paramount. We will continue to pursue the course of protecting our transportation infrastructure, and we are committed to making sure the America continues to move passengers and cargo efficiently and safely.

As ranking member of the Subcommittee on Workforce, Empowerment and Government Programs, I recognize how small business owners around our Nation have been victimized economically and traumatized emotionally by the events of 9-11. Consequently, my colleagues and I on the Small Business Committee have worked to ensure that industries hit hard by the traumatic events of September 11th, including the travel industry, are able to survive. We have held hearings and offered legislation that seeks to resuscitate small businesses throughout our Nation. Small businesses constitute the backbone of our country's economy, and with our help, they will not only survive, but also flourish.

Our domestic efforts and grief over the tragic events of September 11th have heightened our appreciation for the pain of others around the world that have been subjected to the brutality and inhumanity of terrorism. And that is why we have supported liberation and democratization efforts in Afghanistan and sought to assist and rehabilitate the victims of persecution who are attempting to rebuild their lives and their country.

On this occasion of reflection, recommitment and rededication to freedom, we are affirming our resolve to salute and honor the men and women who paid the ultimate price—their lives, just because they are Americans. They will never be forgotten and our Nation shall continue to rise to meet the challenge of terrorism and the threats posed by terrorists who seek to derail freedom and the goodwill of humanity.

May God bless America and all people of goodwill.

Mr. DAN MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember those who lost their lives and the lives of loved ones on September 11, 2001. I also rise to submit an article which appeared in the National Journal on August 31, 2002 which recounts my experience on that fateful day:

President Bush had scheduled a visit to Booker Elementary School in Sarasota to give a major speech on education on the morning of September 11. I'd spent the weekend in Washington, but I flew down in order to be with the president and to fly back on Air Force One with him. The president was scheduled to arrive at Booker at 9 o'clock in the morning. I was told something had hit the World Trade Center, but I didn't think too much more about it. We all weren't focused on that.

The classroom was small, so there were a limited number of people in that room besides the students. I went into the auditorium-type room and was awaiting the president's speech. The second plane hit at 9:05 or so. We all started to realize the magnitude of what was happening. We were just in a state of shock: "This can't be true. This can't be true."

Matt Kirk, of the Legislative Liaison Office at the White House, was assigned to us, and he tried to keep us updated. Things were in a state of flux, and the Secret Service agents were moving around. There was a question about whether the president was going to make a speech to the nation from the school, or go over in front of Air Force One. The White House staff felt the quickest way was to just do that right there. We went out and got in our van in the motorcade. I had my BlackBerry with me and I would get some news, and Matt Kirk could get some news from his little pager, but it was limited. This was, say, 9:15 to 9:30. The president came out, got in his limousine, and then we just drove very rapidly over to the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport. The president got on the plane, and it took off about 10 o'clock. We were told to tighten up our seat belts very tight, because the plane has the ability to take off very steeply. When we took off, we were told there was no communication, because they didn't want anyone to know where Air Force One was, and the press was told that too.

In many ways, for most of that day, I had far less news and information than most of the people around the world. It was frustrating. Air Force One did not have, at that time, the ability to pick up television. Matt Kirk would go up and try to talk to someone else and pick up some news. Somebody would come back and share some information. The president's political adviser, Karl Rove, came back a couple times, just giving us an update. It was very tense with the staff, because there obviously was a great security concern by the Secret Service and the crew.

Around 10 o'clock, we were heading due north. And then, you could sense a turn to the west. I would say 10:45, maybe 10:30 or so, the plane changed course. We were told we weren't going back to Washington. We didn't know where we were going. I remember looking out my window and looking down at that Gulf Coast of the Alabama-Mississippi-Florida area.

We started to pick up some TV reception. We saw that the collapse of the towers had occurred. It was so surreal. I remember Karl Rove coming back and he said, "There are 40,000 people who are working at the World Trade Center at this time." No one knew the magnitude could have been that high. And then, to hear about the Pentagon!

About 11:30, we got called up to the president's office. The president was at his desk. There's a little sofa that can seat four or five people, and a chair where Andy Card sat. Behind us was this TV screen on the wall. I didn't even know it was there until I got a photograph, and you saw the World Trade Center, a fuzzy picture of it, right over our heads.

The president was telling us that there were some other planes—six, maybe nine,

planes—that were unaccounted for, and that a plane had crashed in Pennsylvania, so the decision was made not to return to Washington. He was very serious, very determined, very focused, and very collected. And I felt much more emotional at that moment than he was. You saw he was in control. I felt choked up. It was almost like your're speechless.

He said he was determined to make sure that the people who were responsible for this would be identified and punished. There was speculation on the plane, but not with him, that it was bin Laden. The belief was, the only people capable of such an evil deed were either a government—and they didn't think it was any government behind this—or the bin Laden organization.

The president was saying, "We are going off to an undisclosed location." He was able to very calmly explain where we were and what we were getting ready to do. The only one speaking was the president. And I don't remember really even asking questions.

I remember saying as we were leaving, "God bless you, Mr. President." You could see the weight on his shoulders. He had been through a lot in those couple of hours. And he obviously knew a lot more than we knew. He talked about how he had given the order—he actually said it had been while he was driving over from the school to Air Force One—to bring all the planes down from the air. He was saying how we had an AWACS and six fighters surrounding us. He was saying we were going to land at an undisclosed location, and that we would be getting off the plane there, and he was going on to another undisclosed location.

When we got to Barksdale Air Force Base, all you saw were just rows and rows of B-52 bombers. There was a van, a Humvee, there were people standing around with automatic weapons, which you don't see in the United States. We're seeing it today—but we did not see it until September 11. And you could see the president go out. We were left there on the plane. That's when we got good TV, from noon to 1:30. We could not have any contact—no cell phones or BlackBerrys. Then the president came back about 1:30. We exited the plane and stood there on the tarmac, and Air Force One took off.

I was able to call my wife, who was at home on Capitol Hill. The White House had called her and told her I was on Air Force One. I said something like, "Honey, I'm OK." I was able to tell her where I was and that there was another plane that was going to take us back to Washington. They flew us to Andrews Air Force Base, and I got home about 6 o'clock. We have to be about the only plane in the air, with the exception of the fighter planes, because everyone was grounded, I guess. I'll never forget the landing. You saw the Pentagon smoke.

I remember when I came home and walked in the house, it was very emotional. I hugged my wife. We just squeezed each other. It was hard to comprehend. I just didn't want to talk to anyone, besides my son and daughter, because it was still so emotional. I choke up sometimes just talking about it. It's just hard to comprehend that I was right there on Air Force One when this whole thing was evolving. This was obviously the most significant event during my congressional career. You realize that the U.S. is vulnerable—that we're not immune to some of the problems elsewhere around the world, and it makes you think that life is very precious. I didn't know anyone personally who perished that day, but it brought that home to me.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor of this important Resolution and to share in a day of grief and reflection with all Americans.

One year ago today, the course of our Nation was forever changed. As we all know, on September 11, 2001, terrorists used hijacked airplanes to inflict catastrophic damage upon the United States, taking the lives of over 2,000 Americans. And while this day one year ago was marked by chaos, carnage, fear, and great loss, it also served to showcase the best we as Americans have to offer. In the year since, these qualities—courage, innovation, idealism, hope—have enabled us to take great steps toward rebuilding this Nation.

In many ways, the legacy of September 11, 2001, is a patchwork of personal stories. For many of us, the world has been changed forever in very personal and very painful ways. Each child who woke up on September 12th without a parent—and each parent who suffered the unspeakable pain of awakening without their child—deserves our tireless pursuit of those responsible for these heinous crimes. All Americans deserve a country in which they feel safe.

Each and every one of us has a connection to the destruction. Stepping out of my car that morning, I could feel the ground shake below me as the third hijacked airplane struck the Pentagon. I will never forget the uneasiness that I felt—I know that I will never be able to separate my personal attachment to that day with the larger infamy of September 11th. While our individual struggles to come to terms with what occurred are often frightening and lonely, they are also what bind us together. I believe I speak for millions of Americans when I say that a piece of me died with each victim of the September 11th attacks.

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not mention a constituent in my district who also had a piece of him taken away that day. John Wesley's fiancée, Sarah, died on the plane that crashed into the Pentagon. John, like so many loved ones left behind, funnels his grief into a positive effort that is a testament to his fiancée—ensuring that her legacy will continue. I must also mention that despite his grief, John, such a positive person—is now committed to preserving Sarah's mission of exposing kids to different cultures. Mr. Speaker, there are so many John Wesley's in our Nation and I salute them for their courage.

We are now at the one-year anniversary of a day America will never forget. It is time to take a look at where we are. Already, we have waged our "War on Terrorism" to Afghanistan with great success. Brave American servicemen and servicewomen have risked their lives half-way around the world to prevent further attacks, and bring those responsible for September 11th to justice. We have radically altered the way that we look at national security by undertaking the single greatest Federal Government reorganization in 50 years. We have taken unprecedented strides in revamping our transportation security infrastructure. We have been forced to reevaluate our aging systems of immigration and naturalization. We have cleared the tons of rubble of the two largest buildings in America's largest city. We have removed and rebuilt the nerve center of this Nation's defenses. And we are far from through.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a patriot and a legislator. I take both roles very seriously. Since the attacks of September 11th, the American people have been reminded that freedom is not free. It takes courage to both survive in a dangerous world and retain our

liberties. I will continue to work to give law enforcement the authority and resources it needs to attack terrorism, while standing sentry over the fairness, justice and constitutional rights of all Americans.

I mourn the victims of September 11th, and together with all Americans, I accept the challenges facing us as a truly united America. We will never forget. But we will not let the actions of a handful of zealots derail the hundreds of years of work we have put into this country—the freest, most successful, and most democratic nation in the world.

God Bless America.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, September 11th will always remain a day of great grief and sadness, courage and hope. The sight of the destruction and evil filled us with disbelief, sadness, helplessness and anger. That day and every day since we have also been blessed to see the best of America.

Throughout the last 12 months, we have seen the greatest of our national character in countless acts of sacrifice, courage and love. Police, firefighters and port authority officers rushed into the building with more concern for finding victims than for their own safety. Two office workers, finding a disabled stranger, carried her down 68 floors to safety. Rescuers worked past exhaustion to save lives after the collapse. The men and women of our Armed Forces, Federal Law Enforcement and Intelligence Community are now prosecuting the war on terrorism abroad. The men and women on Flight 93, having spoken with loved ones on their cell phones and being told of the unfolding events, stormed the hijackers and took the plane down, saving thousands of lives on the ground. These acts showed the world what we have long known—that our fellow Americans are courageous, compassionate and brave. That the true strength of our Nation is in the souls of each of us, and that is something our enemies can never take from us and never defeat.

Our Nation still grieves through our national tragedy and personal loss. To the children and parents and spouses and families and friends of the lost, we offer our deepest sympathy, our tears, our support and our love. None of us will ever forget the events of September 11th, but we will continue our lives together, arm-in-arm, with a collective strength that can carry us all.

Not only is our military winning the war on the ground, we are also winning the war in the hearts and minds of individuals across the world. The world is beginning to see exactly who America is and who are enemies are. Never has the difference been so clear. They wish to kill and destroy, we seek to assist and build. They work for division, we seek unity. They pray for and plot our failure, we hope and work for a better life for all.

In one year's time, we have comforted those who lost loved ones, we have completed our clean-up at Ground Zero, rebuilt the Pentagon, rallied the civilized world against terrorism, renewed our friendship with our Muslim friends and Arab partners, destroyed terrorist training camps in Afghanistan, rid the world of thousands of terrorists, put others on the run who will soon understand there are no limits to American justice, and freed a people from an oppressive regime, restoring hope and opportunity. We're working with the new Afghan government to lay the foundation for long-term stability and to reverse the conditions that allowed terrorist regimes to take root in the first

place. This Congress has taken necessary actions to strengthen our homeland, assist the family and friends who lost loved ones, and worked to stem the economic downturn that resulted. There has been much good that has come out of that tragic day that shook us to our core, but strengthen our resolve and determination to rid the world of evil. And we still have much work to do. We did not ask for this mission, but we will fulfill it to ensure that freedom endures.

We are now engaged in a struggle that we cannot and will not lose. We have come to a unique moment in history, and America must take its rightful place, leading the charge for the right of men and the responsibility of government. Throughout our storied history, America has reaffirmed its commitment to freedom. Today, we find ourselves at the dawn of a new birth of freedom, not only for our Nation, but indeed for all of mankind. We have been given this enormous task, and we will undertake it as only America knows how—head on—and we will succeed. We will capture this opportunity for all of mankind and all time. We will continue to lead this Nation and world that we love, confident that the same God that watched over George Washington as he led our revolutionary army, over our founding fathers as they established our system of government, over Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War, and over our Armed Forces as they stormed the beaches at Normandy, is still watching over us today as we go forth to make the world safe for freedom and democracy.

America was targeted by our enemies because we are the beacon for freedom and opportunity in the world. That light still shines brightly today. Peace and freedom will prevail. Hatred and evil are ephemeral, but love and goodness have no end. The greatest people in the history of mankind have been called to defend a great nation and the greatest of ideas, and we will continue to succeed.

As we pause to mark the first anniversary of one of the worst days in our Nation's history, we not only remember and pray for the loved and the lost, we also renew our commitment to honoring their memory by pursuing peace and justice, by upholding freedom and democracy, and by defending all that is good and just in the world.

Mr. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today, as we remember the victims of 9/11 and pay tribute to the fallen heroes who sacrificed their lives to save others, our Nation offers gratitude, comfort and support to the families of those who perished on that tragic day. Our Nation is also reminded of the brave men and women who are standing guard here at home and abroad—soldiers, police officers, firefighters, and first responders. We are grateful for their service. Time may heal wounds, but we will never forget.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, it is with a most profound sense of remembrance that I rise in support of this resolution, which I am proud to cosponsor. Although Guam, the distant U.S. Territory I have the privilege of representing in this body, is roughly some 10,000 miles away from the City of New York, Pennsylvania, and Northern Virginia, its people, my constituency, share in the sorrow and concern for those directly affected by the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on our Nation. Our geographic isolation and great distance from the mainland has not kept us from taking part

in the healing process, in demonstrating our resolve, and in providing for the defense of our country. This past year has been a time of anguish and renewal for many. It has been a time of trepidation over our future in a world with division, unresolved differences and weapons of mass destruction. As we reflect on the events of one year ago, we are reminded of who we are as a people, of what we believe in as a nation, and of the values that make our democracy strong.

The people of Guam are a patriotic people, whose loyalty to the United States has been tested in our most darkest hours of history. As many of my colleagues recall, concurrent with the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Guam was also attacked, invaded and then occupied. During World War II, our island endured a 32-month brutal occupation. Survival during this daunting and difficult period emboldened the people of Guam and taught us to cherish freedom and democracy. It was with this experience, etched in our memories, that we were confronted with the events surrounding the most devastating attacks on American civilians in our Nation's history on September 11, 2001. In the days that have followed, school children on Guam, like many across the country, have penned their thoughts on paper and creatively expressed their feelings in drawings and illustrations for the families, firefighters, police officers, rescue personnel, and others that were a part of this tragedy. On Guam, like everywhere else in the country, scores of American Flags waved atop cars, trucks, and buses, on backpacks of school children and in front of homes. People filled the pews in the churches and places of worship to pray for those who lost their lives and for comfort, hope and peace. The people of Guam also donated blood, time and money in support of the rebuilding efforts. Memorial concerts, performances, and vigils have been held to bring recognition of the American heroism that was so courageously displayed in the aftermath of the attacks.

Last November, I was able to travel to the New York City Office of Emergency Management where I witnessed firsthand the professional, compassionate work of the people of New York in the face of this tragedy. I was able to bring with me then hundreds of support and thank you letters and drawings from school children on Guam.

To the families of those who lost loved ones, please know that the thoughts and prayers of the people of Guam are with you. To those first responders who aided in the rescue efforts and to those individuals who have committed themselves to the rebuilding efforts, please know that the people of Guam are grateful to you for your work and commitment. As we commemorate the tragic events of September 11, 2001, and pay tribute to all the goodness that has followed within the past year since that unforgettable day, let us never forget the sacrifice. The people of Guam stand in solidarity with the rest of our country. We continue to stand ready to do our part in this national crusade. As so often has happened in the past century, Guam is ready. We made our contributions in World War II and in the Korean and Vietnam Conflicts. We will do our part, and more, again and again in this new century to defend our country, to preserve our democracy, and safeguard our values of freedom and liberty.

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, today marks the one-year anniversary of one of the most tragic

days in our country's history. I am proud of the way Americans have united following the horrific terrorist attacks on civilians. Neighbors who rarely spoke to each other, or people who did not even know each other shared their thoughts, compassion, and prayers for our fallen heroes. Our country is now stronger than ever.

Understandably, a lot of Americans are outraged following the attacks. Let it be clear that we will continue to hunt down those responsible for the attacks of Sept. 11, and those that may be foolish enough to plan to harm us again. We must also remember that we are not fighting a war with people of any specific ethnic group, nationality, or religion. We must be vigilant and wary of any efforts by the U.S. government or members of our citizenry to racially profile innocent people, as we wage our war against terrorism. I repeat the poignant words of a famous philosopher who once said "Whoever fights monsters should see to it that in the process he doesn't become a monster."

As a child, I was a first-hand witness to civil injustice. My family and I were locked up in a U.S. internment camp during World War II only because we were of Japanese descent. There were many patriots during this war. Thousands of young Americans of Japanese ancestry fought and died for the very country that imprisoned their families. However, their loyalty to America never wavered.

Our war against terror is going to be a long-term engagement. Along the way we will need to be thoughtful and critical of many different courses of action. It will be more important than ever to ensure that we all have the freedom to ask tough questions of our government officials, cultural institutions, and citizenry. The declaration of war against terrorism, in itself, is not sufficient justification for the passage of invasive and constitutionally suspect government powers, or calls for military action against nations. A true patriot will ensure that the actions of our government are just and reasonable.

Our Constitution is rarely tested in times of tranquility, but is severely tested in times of tension, turmoil, and tragedy. We must remember to embrace the principles of our Constitution—our contract for democracy and freedom—which others seek to destroy. They shall not succeed. My heart and prayers go out to all those lost someone dear to them. Know that I share your pain, and that I will never forget the sacrifice your families made in the name of America.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, a year has passed since 3,000 innocent men, women and children tragically lost their lives in a brutal and cowardly attack on our country.

While we have had a year to come to terms with the enormous tragedy of September 11, the sense of loss remains overwhelming.

On that somber day, we all watched in disbelief as terrorists hijacked planes to attack buildings that symbolized our strength and power. We will never forget that day or the people whose lives were unexpectedly taken from them.

New Mexico's families felt the pain of losing friends and loved ones. No one who knew Alamogordo's Alfred Marchand can ever forget this man who proudly served his community in the Alamogordo Department of Public Safety. After a stellar 21-year career, he followed his heart and became a flight attendant. While living his dream, he perished on United Airlines Flight 175 fighting against the terrorists.

We must also remember Senior Airman Jason Cunningham, who grew up in Carlsbad. Jason died on a mission in Afghanistan while trying to save another serviceman. Albuquerque's Sgt. First Class Christopher James Speer also died in an Afghanistan firefight with suspected terrorists. He made the absolute sacrifice to protect us from terror.

Remembering the 3,000 lives taken from us reminds us that, though we continue to move forward with our own lives, we do so in a world that has been profoundly affected by the events of September 11.

As we search for ways to deal with the unspeakable horror of this tragedy, we can take guidance from the words of Robert F. Kennedy. Amid the grief and rage that followed the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., RFK said, "In this difficult time for the United States, it is perhaps well to ask what kind of nation we are and what direction [do] we want to move in."

These questions are still appropriate today. What kind of nation are we? What direction do we want to move in? I would answer that America remains a great nation and I would challenge us all to move in a direction that even more closely embraces the virtues and values that make us great.

September 11 has tested—and will continue to test—the resolve and the resilience of all Americans. It will test our commitment to the virtues and values on which this Nation is built: democracy, diversity, liberty and justice for all. Our response to September 11 must be to become even more passionate in our commitment to these virtues and values: to embrace and support democracy around the world; to celebrate our national mosaic of races and religions; and to shine the light of liberty even more brightly into every corner of the earth.

America is involved. We give of ourselves—as servicemembers, teachers, law enforcement officials, emergency workers, and volunteers for causes great and small.

Today, public service is more important than ever. Tragedy reminds us we must come together to create an America that is even more just, more democratic and more secure.

America is a great nation. Let us look back on September 11, 2001, with sadness and respect, grieve for those we lost, and honor those who showed the courage that makes us all proud. Let us emerge from this tragedy a stronger and wiser great nation.

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. I rise today to commemorate the anniversary of the September 11 attacks on our nation. As I reflect on this first anniversary of the tragic attacks on our nation I am overcome with sadness and hope. That we as a nation have come together in a spirit of reflection, resiliency and continued renewal is a testament to the enduring greatness of the American spirit.

Though we are pausing throughout the day to remember those we lost, our resolve to protect our freedom, is unyielding. Our nation is strong and once again America and our values have persevered. Friday's Special Session of Congress in New York's Federal Hall invoked the history of the first Congress convened in 1789 and represented a strong message to the world that as Americans we stand together in our fight against terrorism.

Last year when I visited Ground Zero I saw evil in the devastation present. Last week at Ground Zero I saw the continuing of our heal-

ing process and the unlimited hope of the American spirit. Throughout the past year I have been working with community leaders in my congressional district to both cope with the aggression forced upon us and assess the level of preparedness in our region should another incident occur.

We need to be sure our everyday heroes: our police, fire, ambulance, and medical personnel have the adequate resources, training, supplies, materials, and equipment they need to protect our community. These brave men and women are a critical component of our Homeland Security for they are our front line. Because of their valiance and commitment to service we are safer than we were a year ago.

As we remember the attacks on our nation in New York, at the Pentagon, and in Pennsylvania we are reminded of the promise and the hope that has risen from the ashes of that dreadful day. For Independence, to Lee's Summit to Kansas City, the people in the heart of our nation are joining in numerous events commemorating the 9/11 anniversary. One such event, the interfaith observance, "Remembering 9/11: A Day of Hope reflects the uniqueness of Kansas City as a place known for its river and fountains. Water gathered from the Missouri River and many of the area's fountains will be mixed with water gathered from rivers all over the world, including Tibet and Egypt. The water will be distributed to participants in the observance to be used at other events later in the day symbolically connecting all those present to a spirit of renewal and healing, regardless of religion or creed.

Another common theme throughout the Kansas City area remembrances is the number 3,000 approximating the number of victims in the September 11 attacks: 3,000 flags are to hang at the Kansas City Middle School of the Arts, 3,000 memorial candles are to light at Temple B'nai Jehudah, 3,000 names are to be read at the bell tower at Rockhurst University.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in support of H. Con. Res. 464 and echo the sentiments of Margaret Truman, daughter of President Harry S. Truman and native of Independence, Missouri that "in years to come we will see September 11 as a turning point in our history as a people, a day of grief and glory that created a new dimension in the soul of America."

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on this first year anniversary, I extend my deepest sympathies to the families of the countless number of innocent victims of the September 11th terrorist attacks on the Pentagon, the World Trade Center, and in a desolate field in Pennsylvania.

Nothing will ever repair the losses we suffered as a nation one year ago today. The history of the United States changed forever when nineteen terrorists hijacked four planes and killed three thousand Americans.

While the events of that morning will forever play in our mind's eye, we endure and we are moving forward. As a united America, we have taken the needed steps to rebuild, to heal, to pursue justice, and to secure our borders.

Since that time, I have been proud to vote for legislation to make our communities safer and our military stronger as we face the challenges of the new century. I commend President Bush for his leadership and I commend the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces in the successful effort to oust the Taliban from power and hunt down

those terrorists who perpetrated these acts of evil. I applaud those in our Armed Forces for their continued commitment to pursue those responsible for the attacks.

The words spoken so long ago by President Lincoln seem to fit so eloquently at this moment in history. "It is for us the living rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

As we humble ourselves before Him and pray for His guidance, may God continue to bless this great nation.

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker. We all carry with us memories of September 11, 2001. It was a profoundly personal day for all of us. No matter what happens in our lives, each of us will forever carry the horror we felt as we watched the unbelievable images on television unfold that fateful day. Even if we had no family or friends who were directly involved, as Americans we were deeply touched by those unspeakable events.

One year later, we observe a day of remembrance. Not an anniversary, but a guidepost: a mark against which we measure how far our nation has come since that horrific day one year ago.

That day, we witnessed the courage of hundreds of heroes who sacrificed themselves in an effort to save others. We felt rage and despair that a few evil men could purposefully steal so many lives, and at the same time we felt deep pride in the courage of our fellow Americans. We witnessed the best and worst of humanity. We dealt with our sorrow by caring for each other.

What began as one of the darkest days in our nation's history will long be remembered as one of America's finest hours.

One year later, I see a new America. We have not experienced the enormous sea change many predicted, but we greet each day with a greater sense of responsibility to our families, our communities and our nation. We also know that from now on we will be asked to sacrifice convenience for safety. We now know how vulnerable our freedom makes us.

But we also have a newfound appreciation for those freedoms and a renewed sense of the strength that our liberty gives us. We have been reminded that America's strength as a nation comes not only from its military might, but from the tightly woven fabric of the American family, symbolized in the stars and stripes of our flag. It is the solidarity of our national family that I hope will once again bring comfort to the families and friends of those who lost their lives on that fateful day.

We should also remember the thousands of Americans who are nobly risking their lives in foreign lands in the effort to wipe out terrorism. This war will continue to be time consuming and costly. But we Americans are a strong and resolute people. We have lived through the dark days of wars past.

As FDR said following the attack on Pearl Harbor, "No matter how long it take us

to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people in their righteous might will win through to absolute victory . . . With confidence in our armed forces, with the unbounding determination of our people, we will gain the inevitable triumph. So help us God."

May God place his blessing on you and yours, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

The following is a statement by Alan Wallace. Alan was a firefighter from my district who was stationed on the heli-paid outside the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. For his bravery that day, Alan was a co-recipient of the Department of Defense Fire Fighter Heroism Award. The following is his account of the events that day.

On the morning of September 11, 2001, I was assigned to the Heliport Station at the Pentagon. I was assigned there the day before as well. I should have been assigned to the Pentagon fire station all that week.

Fort Myer firefighters were taking a week-long class on Air Field Firefighting, given at the classrooms Building 219. Mark Skipper, Dennis Young and I had already had the training. Mike Thayer, John Pine and Ronnie Willett also had had the training. Thayer, Pine and Willett were scheduled off on 9/11. Chief George Thompson was off because his wife was ill.

Mark Skipper, Dennis Young and I were the 3 crew members assigned to the Pentagon fire station on the morning of 9/11. We arrived there about 0730. The fire station was new and we had only been using it since January or February 2001. We also had a new crash truck assigned there, an Emergency One Titan 3000. It carries 1,500 gallons of water and 200 gallons of 3% foam. Our first helicopter flight was around 10 am. But we were expecting Pres. George W. Bush to land in Marine One around 12 noon, returning from Jacksonville, Florida. (He had actually left from the Pentagon the day before.) Needless to say, neither flight arrived at the Pentagon that day because of the terrorist attacks.

Mark, Dennis, and I had our turn-out gear either on the crash truck or in the station. About 0830 I decided to pull the crash truck outside of the fire station and place it in a position more accessible to the heliport landing site. The truck was then parked perpendicular to the Pentagon, with the rear of the truck 15-20 feet from the west wall of the Pentagon, and the truck facing west, towards the heliport pad. The right side of the truck was approximately 30 feet from the fire station's apparatus door opening. (I forget to mention the Ford Van we normally use for transport between Fort Myer and the Pentagon. It is a 15 passenger vehicle which was parked west of the fire station facing north, with its rear about 10 feet north of the apparatus end of the fire station and approximately 6 feet from the side of the fire station.)

The fire station is approximately 75 feet long, 35 feet wide and 16 feet tall. The flight control tower sits above the fire station. There were two other individuals at the heliport site: Sean Berger (U.S. Army Personnel) and Jackie Kidd, both active duty Army.

As I said, we were expecting Pres. Bush about noon, which would be a Code One Standby. In such situations, one of the problems I see at the heliport is that there are too many people there. Plus there are many vehicles, including Secret Service, Pentagon SWAT, U.S. Park Police, D.C. cops on motorcycles, and the two Presidential limousines. And some of these vehicles even park in front of the fire station apparatus door,

blocking the fire truck from exiting the building! That is why I wanted the crash truck out of the station and parked in a good location, for easy access to the Heliport in the case of an emergency.

After checking out the fire truck, eating a bowl of cornflakes, and cleaning the station and apparatus area, I sat in my favorite chair in the apparatus area to read a book about opera. About 0900 Mark and Dennis were inside the fire station in the day room. Mark came out to tell me that an airplane had just crashed into the World Trade Center. I then got up and went into the day room to watch the television coverage from New York City. While we three were watching, a second aircraft struck the second tower. I think we watched the TV for about 10 minutes or so.

I then went back outside. I was soon joined by Mark. We both began to work around the crash truck and were talking about the events in New York. About 0920, Chief Charlie Campbell called the Pentagon fire station to inform us of the attacks on the WTC in New York. He actually talked to all three of us: first Dennis, then me and then Skip. He wanted to be sure we were aware of the WTC disaster and that is was definitely a terrorist attack. He wanted to be sure we were aware of everything going on around the fire station. He also said Washington D.C. could very well be a target and if that happened, our fire truck could be dispatched to an incident.

Let me say this. After the NYC attack, I began to have "second thoughts" about having the fire truck parked where it was. Would it be better for the time being to return it to the fire station until around 1100 or so? But I decided not to move it.

Mark and I continued to mess around the fire truck. The last minute or two before the plane hit the Pentagon, Mark and I were working in the right rear compartment where the foam metering valves are located. Mark told me how, if you had to, you could get as much as 50% foam solution out of the roof turret and discharges. We laughed about cheating the government out of some foam! Mark and I then walked toward the right front corner of the truck. We were side-by-side, always within an arm's reach or each other. We had walked past the right front corner of the crash truck (Foam 161) and were maybe 10-15 feet in front of the truck when I looked up toward my left side. I saw a large frame commercial airline crossing Washington Blvd, heading towards the west side of the Pentagon! The plane had two big engines, appeared to be in level flight, and was only approximately 25 feet off the ground, and only about 200 YARDS from our location. I later said the plane approached the Pentagon at about a 45 degree angle but later drawings showed it was closer to 60 degrees. The airplane appeared to be a Boeing 757 or an Air Bus 320—white, with blue and orange stripes. Mark later recalled the plane was silver and even identified that it was American Airlines.

So many people think Mark and I watched the plane hit the building. We did NOT. We only saw it approach for an instant, I would estimate not longer than half a second. Others didn't understand why we didn't hear it sooner. We did not hear it until right after we saw it. I estimate that the plane hit the building only 1½-2 seconds after we saw it.

What I am saying is, immediately after we saw it we heard the noise, the engines, I'm sure. I described that as a terrible noise—loud, scary, and horrible. At the time we saw the plane, I said "LET'S GO!" and Mark and I ran away from the area. I turned and ran to my right, going north. (I do not remember which way Mark went, since I did not see him until I crawled out from under the Ford Van.)

As I recall, I had several clear thoughts and feelings as I was running: (1) the noise from the engines of the airplane; (2) awareness that now WE are being attacked; (3) planning to run until I catch on fire, then maybe dive to the ground and then figure out what to do; (4) hearing the sound of the plane crashing into the Pentagon, which I later described as a "crunch"; (5) sensation of a lot of pressure; (6) feeling very, very hot very quickly; (7) "we're certainly not going to burn up!"

Later that morning when I began to look at the distances of everything from the fire truck, I thought the plane hit the building 200 feet south of the front of the fire truck. I had only apparently run about 20 feet when the plane hit the building. I ran another 30 feet or so until I felt I was on fire. I thought I had done everything I could do for myself. I decided to get down below the fire and fireball. So I dove face first to the blacktop. At this time, it just happened that I was right beside the left rear tire of the Ford van. (I presume that the debris from the Pentagon and airplane was being propelled away from the impact site.) I immediately crawled very quickly under the van for cover and safety.

At this time, I noticed a lot of heat and decided to crawl to the end of the van. Very soon the heat was unbearable and I decided to get out from under the van and get farther away from the impact site. It was then that I saw Mark Skipper to my left—out in the field 50-75 feet away. He was standing, looking back to the impact site and seemed to be swinging his arms. I immediately ran over to him to ask if he was OK. He said he was, and then said "I'm glad you saw that airplane!" I said "get your gear on—we have a lot of work to do; I'm going to the fire truck."

It was probably at this time that I first noticed the damage to the Pentagon and the crash truck. A lot of smoke was in the sky above the Pentagon. The rear of the crash truck was on fire with a large blaze. But most noticeable was that everything around the fire truck on the ground was on fire. Also the west side of the Pentagon was on fire, all the way from the first to the fifth (top) floor.

I ran about 30 yards back to the damaged crash truck, stepping carefully, not to slip on the burning debris covering the ground. I arrived at the right cab door, opened it and climbed in. I grabbed the radio and put the head set on, then jumped over the radios into the driver's seat. I immediately pushed the 2 engine start buttons and the engine started, to my amazement. I thought if I could pull the fire truck away from the Pentagon and put it in a left turn, I could direct the roof turret nozzle into the impact site using the foam and water on board the truck. I then pushed off the emergency brake and pulled the transmission selector into the drive range and tramped on the accelerator (I still couldn't believe the engine had started.) However, the accelerator would not make the engine run any faster and the truck would not move. (I later found out from Mark then whenever I tramped on the accelerator, the flames on the back of the truck would flare up.) The window in the left door was open and I had left the right cab door open as I entered the truck. There was a lot of smoke coming up along the left side of the truck, and blowing through this open window and filling the cab with smoke, as well as exiting the right door. There was a fire in the left side of the driver's seat back. That must have produced a lot of the smoke in the cab as well. At some point when I was in the cab, I looked to my right and saw Dennis Young walking through the apparatus area, so I knew he was OK. At another point, I called Fort Myer Fire Dispatch on the fire radio and gave the following message:

"Foam 61 to Fort Myer: we have had a commercial airliner crash into the west side

of the Pentagon at the heliport, Washington Blvd. side. We are OK with minor injuries. Aircraft was a Boeing 757 or Air Bus 320." It also seemed like I mumbled something else before I removed the head set, shut off the truck engine and began to egress the vehicle.

The fire station was to my right and I noticed it was trashed and there was burning material inside the apparatus area. I see Mark outside the right cab door signaling me to shut off the engine.

(Note: I feel I had the fire truck engine running in 20 seconds after the plane hit the building. This time included running, crawling, checking on Mark and running back to the burning crash truck.)

Just as I was about to get out of the wrecked truck, someone appeared at the cab door asking for a breathing apparatus. He may have been a Pentagon cop. So I handed him one of the S.C.B.A.'s and then handed another one to Mark. Before getting out of the cab, I grabbed my helmet, radio, face piece (for my S.C.B.A.). I carried these items over to the rear of the van, an area I thought would be out of the traffic and easy to find later. Dennis was attempting to use a fire extinguisher on the truck. Mark was removing some of the EMS equipment from the truck. At this time, we all probably thought the truck would be consumed by the damaging fire.

At this point, I went into the fire station through the open apparatus door area and attempted to get dressed in my turn-out gear (coat, pants, boots and helmet.) I noticed my boots and pants were covered with debris, with numerous wood, rock and metal fragments filling the boots. One of my elastic suspenders was on fire, which I stamped out (or so I thought). When I was considering how best to empty the debris from my boots, I heard a voice back outside saying "we need help here". I think it was at this time that Dennis, Mark and I began to assemble at the first floor windows of the Pentagon (behind the crash truck).

I was later told by a civilian rescuer that I helped him climb into the window of the Pentagon where most of the victims exited the building. I don't remember helping him up. But I definitely remember him being there. I feel he was instrumental in organizing the rescue effort at this area of the Pentagon. At the time, I described him as a civilian 35-40 years old wearing black jeans, black polo shirt with a red logo on the shirt.

In April, 2002, I learned that the identity of this "civilian" was Blair Bozek. He turns out to be a Lt. Col. USAF, (Ret.). He was one of the SR71 Spy plane pilots. Ha! Mark and I always felt 10-15 people may have exited the Pentagon at our location. All were terrified, most were burned. They had had varying amounts of clothing burned from their bodies, and some were missing shoes. We were assisted in rescuing them by several civilians as well as Armed forces people who, having been uninjured in the attack, had come to aid their fellow employees.

I would like to describe how very hostile the working environment was following the airplane attack. We were directly up against the Pentagon building, which was on fire with smoke pouring heavily from all of the windows. The ground was burning all around us. A magnolia tree was burning, which gave a strange sensation of flaming "things" floating in the air—I later realized they were magnolia leaves. There were several times the heat was so intense that I thought my pants were on fire. It was especially difficult to breathe because of the smoke and fumes. These conditions definitely limited how long we could assist in the rescue.

I do remember helping three men carry an unconscious man all the way out to the guard rail beside Washington Blvd. While

carrying him, I noticed the 4 inch fire hose from our Fort Myer Rescue Engine #161. That meant our fellow firefighters were on the scene. This was a relief, because after I called them on the radio, I was certain it would be difficult for them to get to the Pentagon because of traffic. But I learned later that R/E 161, R/E 162 and the Asst. Chief did not have difficulty getting to the Pentagon.

A further comment about my radio message: I should have followed it up with a call from one of the portable radios or possibly a phone call to Fort Myer from the heliport station phone (had it been in service). I had not waited for a reply from Dispatcher Bob Connelly. (more on this subject later).

Unknown to me, before my radio message, Arlington Dispatch was receiving numerous 911 calls from all around the county. Reports were varied: helicopter crash into east side of the Pentagon, tractor trailer on fire on Washington Blvd, possible airplane crash on or near the 14th Street Bridge. Many of the 911 callers could see smoke but could not determine its source. Some likely saw a low flying aircraft or heard the impact of the crash. Arlington Dispatch advised all listening stations about some of these reports, but of course couldn't confirm exact location, etc. In fact, it is quite possible that one of these callers, recalling the flight #90 crash into the Potomac River many years ago, was instrumental in causing National Airport to dispatch the first big crash truck. According to the firefighters from the classroom at Fort Myer, immediately after the communication from Arlington, they heard my radio message. Therefore apparently my message was successful in informing my fellow firefighters of the exact location. After victims stopped appearing at the Pentagon windows, Mark, Dennis and I began assisting the arriving Fort Myer companies on the fire ground. My next task was to get into my "fire turn gear". Returning to the rescue site behind the crash truck, again I looked at my fire boots and pants. They were still full of debris, but now the left suspender had completely burned off down to the end where it had been attached to my pants! I picked up my gear and dumped out the rocks, etc., stepped into my boots and pulled up the fire pants. With only one suspender, I must have looked like Jethro Bodine from the Beverly Hillbillies. I also got on my nylon sock-hood and fire coat. I grabbed a big lantern and two fire extinguishers (one CO2 and the other 20# PurpleK, potassium bicarbonate).

I pulled the safety pin on the CO2 and placed the lantern under my left arm, walked around the burning end of the crash truck, sprayed some of the CO2 on it and under it. The extinguisher seemed only about half full, so it was quickly discharged and I threw it aside.

Pulling the pin on the PurpleK bottle, I walked behind the truck and into the Pentagon. Holding the illuminated lantern in my left hand, I immediately notice how poor the visibility was. Keep in mind I still had no gloves, no helmet and no S.C.B.A. I do not think I went into the building any further than 20 feet. I would see fire and spray the extinguisher on it. It makes a very loud noise when being discharged and I did so several times. Out of nowhere, I heard the clear voice of a woman yell "hey!" She had heard the sound of the fire extinguisher and realized she was near another person. She did not sound panicked. I yelled back "I can't see you" and she clapped her hands. I was waving my flashlight. I did not go after her, and later I questioned my courage about why I hadn't.

Several days later, I noticed an article in the Washington Post which mentioned me. It also described a woman, Sheila Moody, who heard the swoosh of a fire extinguisher from

someone, called out, and was answered by and rescued by a firefighter. I do not remember making contact with her. I believe it has my fire extinguisher she heard, but I also believe she was intercepted by another firefighter. But had I not had the fire extinguisher but had taken the garden hose attached to the fire station, she might not have known she was very near the outside of the building and near rescuers.

I then began to assist the fire fighting crews. I got a larger nozzle tip for the attack team and got 50 feet of 4 inch hose off Engine 161 so we could move the deluge gun closer to the Pentagon. Another project I undertook was to begin removing all the equipment off the crash truck: the third S.C.B.A., all the extra air bottles, power cords, floodlights, all the 1 3/4" hose (200 feet of it), tools, and fire extinguishers. At this point, the truck was still on fire and a lot of fire was right behind the truck in the Pentagon. I also noticed that the two personnel vehicles that had been parked near the impact site, belonging to the two Army Flight Control Tower personnel. Both had been completely destroyed by flying debris and fire.

About this time hose line crews from Fort Myer were entering the building with a 2 1/2" hose with a 1 1/4" solid nozzle. We added 50 feet of 4" hose to the deluge gun. Capt. Dennis Gilroy noticed the first collapse of a cornice above the fifth floor windows, just above the impact site. Dennis Young and I were at the deluge gun and were told to pull back and allow the deluge gun to operate un-manned.

About the time Gilroy ordered our people to get out of the building, there was report of another hijacked airliner, allegedly heading toward Washington D.C. During this period of waiting, Capt. Gilroy was assigning firefighters to hand line teams to attack the fire, which was beginning to spread to the third and fourth floors of the Pentagon.

By now, I was feeling the effects of exhaustion from the frantic pace and severe shortness of breath from the lack of air at the impact site where we had assisted victims. I thought Mark and Dennis were in the same shape. Mark and I both told Gilroy not to count on us for the hand line crew. Our fellow Fort Myer firefighters had become aware of our injuries and Gilroy called an EMS crew to tend to us.

Our injuries were primarily second degree burns on our necks and forearms. In addition, Mark had a laceration on his hand, Dennis had a sprained ankle, and I had left shoulder pain. (Note: Mark, Dennis and I were only wearing T-shirts, work trousers and boots or heavy shoes at the time of the attack.) A medic unit arrived, Arlington, I believe. They bandaged our burns with wet dressings and wrapped them with gauze. I was given oxygen to breathe; the others weren't experiencing difficulty breathing. We were delivered to the triage area at approximately 1100.

There, we three saw Jackie Kidd and Sean Berger from the Control Tower. They looked to be OK. Jackie was really shaking and Sean had his forearms wrapped, much like us. When I saw them, I realized I had not thought once about them after the attack. I felt bad about this. Later I thought I would have at least told Dennis Young to "check on the people in the Tower" but I guess there was just far too much to think about in the immediate response to the attack.

Sean and Jackie were both given a ride home by a nurse-bystander named Victoria Brunner, who had been working in Triage. (She now works at Fort Myer-Radar Clinic as a counselor.)

Mark, Dennis and I had a welcome opportunity to rest in the Triage area, and were given water, bananas, apples and plums.

There were probably 50 health care people there. Triage was located in the tunnel under Washington Blvd. on Columbia Pike.

By now our word of our experience had spread to the FBI who interviewed us, as well as Kidd and Berger, while we were in Triage. After our interview, I wanted to return to the fire ground to see all the people from Fort Myer. We did so and spent about ½ hour there. Mark, Dennis and I stayed around Triage for about two hours. During this time, I had a chance to use a cell phone to call my Mother in Ohio. She was very relieved to learn I was OK. I also called Donna Houle at the Women's Memorial in Arlington Cemetery and asked her to contact some of my friends. In the next few days, I think I called everyone in my address book.

After all the other victims had been removed to hospitals, Mark and I were taken via ambulance to Arlington Hospital by Army Chase-Bethesda Rescue Squad #1. A young medic trainee named Sandra Melnick drove the medic unit. There were 6-8 people in the back of the squad, with one patient placed on a cardiac monitor. I sat in the front with her to give directions to the hospital.

After being released from the hospital, I contacted one of the hospital security officers to request a ride back to Fort Myer. He provided a driver within five minutes. Just as we were leaving the hospital, we were questioned by one of the local TV news channels, Fox I believe. We told them about seeing the airplane approach in time to run away from the Pentagon building.

Our driver took us as far as the Iwo Jima Memorial, just 200 yards from one of the gates into Fort Myer. Of course by now security had been increased significantly since my arrival there at 0530 earlier in the day. (The MP's had shoulder arms, a vehicle with machine gun mounted on top was nearby.) I was wearing a hospital gown, my fire boots and carried my fire pants in a plastic bag and had no I.D. But fortunately one of the MP's recognized me and allowed us to pass. (Mark did have some I.D.)

As soon as we were allowed to pass through the gate, an Air Force Major gave us a ride back to the fire station in his Jaguar. Ha—we were home!

We immediately began to tell our story and help out at the fire station. Dennis was there when we arrived. Soon after, Howard Kelly gave Mark a ride home. Dennis drove himself to his W. Va. home. I stayed at the fire house that night.

I enjoyed being back with my fellow firefighters and helping get the equipment back on the truck. Our people were exhausted, some were still frightened. I think all were glad they were working that day.

Remember the three firefighters who were scheduled off the day of 9/11? Willett, Pine and Thayer all came back in when they heard the news. Thayer told me later "from 25 miles from the Pentagon, I could see smoke, and I knew you three must be dead." He also said he felt bad because he was the person who had assigned us to the Pentagon heliport.

I was grateful—and am now amazed—that my injuries were minor. The burns on my forearms and neck healed quickly. My shoulder pain persisted and ultimately required surgery in November, 2001. The surgery went well and the surgeon and I were pleased with my recovery from it.

I returned back to work in February, 2002, glad to have a good job. I am very proud of Dennis, Mark and myself. I am SO grateful that none of our firefighters were seriously injured or killed.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, today we remember.

The pain has not subsided. The memories of those lost will not be forgotten. Today we honor their lives and their sacrifice.

The terrorists have failed. Blinded by their hatred, the true result of the attacks on September 11th were things they could never have anticipated. America responded with courage—not fear. America responded with love—demonstrated by the thousands of rescue workers. America responded with resolve—as we continue to hunt evil doers around the globe.

We must pay our highest tribute to the unsung heroes who have labored this past year—our first responders, our men and women in the armed services. I also would like to thank our President for showing true leadership in the face of this challenge thrust upon us.

Our job is not completed. While we have responded to the events of September 11th we have not taken the final step to ensure Americans are safe. We are faced with great decisions. But we do so with great resolve.

We will continue to show that the values and principles America stands for—the values and principles our brave Americans died for—will overcome those who would kill innocent civilians.

God bless and keep those who were lost one year ago today. God bless America—beacon of freedom.

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, a year ago today our nation was brutally attacked, and thousands of Americans were murdered. Earlier today, I shared a moment of silence today with the people of Connecticut's 5th District, in New Milford, Sandy Hook and Waterbury, to honor the heroes and remember the victims of that tragic day.

On this day, the people of Connecticut's 5th District honor the brave firefighters from the Danbury Volunteer Fire Department and the Southbury Volunteer Fire Department. Each engine crew performed search and rescue in the hostile and dangerous environment of the devastated World Trade Center. On behalf of the people of Connecticut's 5th District, I wish to express my deepest thanks to these heroic individuals. The contributions they made to our community and country at the risk of their own peril cannot be measured.

The families and friends of those who perished have endured a year of unbearable loss. They have my deepest sympathy. Rarely have we felt hatred of terrorism perpetrated on our shores, and our response has shown the strength of character of the American people. The sadness that we all felt that day, and in the days since, has hardened into a resolve to honor the memories of those who perished, to heal our wounds so that our nation is even stronger than before, and to bring righteous justice to those who perpetrated the attacks.

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today marks the one-year anniversary of the most horrendous act of terrorism ever perpetrated against any country. Our nation will never be the same after nineteen terrorists took thousands of American lives and declared war on our great nation.

Since the infamous day last Fall, an outpouring of patriotism and love for this country can be felt in cities and towns from coast to coast. The symbol of America, our flag, can still be seen flying with dignity and honor outside homes and businesses, displaying the true pride this nation has in its freedoms and unwavering principles.

As we look back at the tragedy of that day, I know that everyone will remember where he or she was on September 11th, 2001. I am sure we have all contemplated the frailty of life and that God has never promised anyone a set number of days. It is my hope that the citizens of the United States will use this time in our history as a catalyst to advance the nation and to return to the roots to which it was established; faith in God, democracy and patriotism.

Terrorism is still a threat to the civilized world and must be destroyed before it spreads. The primary weapons of terrorism are violence and fear. Those who have no respect for human life and seek terror through these means have no place in civilized society, and must be eliminated.

As President Reagan has said, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we may always be free." Let us keep the families that lost loved ones in our prayers and continue to support our deployed military personnel who courageously protect our liberties and freedoms. They are the true patriots.

I praise my colleagues and the President for the courage and resolve they have displayed during these trying and difficult times. May God grant us the wisdom to lead this country forward in a manner that would please Him and may He look favorably upon our great nation.

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor of the Patriot Day Resolution, which fittingly expresses the sentiments of this body on the anniversary of perhaps the worst day in U.S. history. In many ways it is hard to believe it has been a year since that awful day—the memories are so fresh, so vivid. I visited the site of the WTC one week after it happened and spent time talking with survivors and rescue workers. That memory is just as fresh as those of last Friday, when we returned to New York City to participate in a wreath laying ceremony at the World Trade Center site, and those of this morning, when we attended the ceremony at the Pentagon to remember the victims and families. America will never forget.

September 11, 2001 has left an indelible mark on the American landscape and on our national consciousness. We will never forget the events of that terrible morning, nor will we forget how America responded. We continue to be inspired by the heroism of firefighters, police officers and emergency first responders, our military men and women and other ordinary Americans who have answered the call for freedom.

The attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were an attack on all of us—our people, our nation, our spirit, our way of life, our liberty and freedom. The terrorists intended to bring down and destroy the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and other targets—and the people in them. Their real goal was to instill fear, bring about disruption and to bring down and destroy our spirit. But as Reverend Billy Graham observed at a service at the National Cathedral shortly after the attacks—Their actions have done just the opposite. The terrorist attacks of September 11 could have torn our nation apart—but they have brought us together—we have become a family.

Mr. Speaker, the United States is the greatest country in the world! We have been tested

before and we will be tested again. Those we lost last September 11 will hold a special place in the history of our great country. As we gather together today in communities, churches and other places throughout our great land we remain one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all! I urge all of my colleagues to support the resolution, and God bless the United States of America.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to serve in the people's House as a representative of New York City, the greatest city in the world.

For the nation, today is a day of solemn reflection and remembrance. We have all tried to mark this day in our own personal ways. I have just returned from a memorial service at Ground Zero, a sacred place for us all. My thoughts and prayers over this year have been for my beloved city whose residents have been fundamentally affected by 9/11.

Just a year ago, our country witnessed the evil actions of cowards that resulted in more than 3,000 people tragically dead and 2,000 children without a parent.

Mr. Speaker, there may not be another Member of Congress who lost more constituents in the September 11 attack on the World Trade Center than I did. I applaud the House for introducing this resolution celebrating America's resolve and commemorating the lives of those we lost. This resolution, in a small way, can help to continue the process of national healing and renewal.

We will never forget the hundreds of New York City firefighters, law enforcement officers, and EMS who responded to the attacks, and valiantly fought through the terrible conditions to rescue victims and to provide emergency care to the injured immediately after the attack. Tragically, the World Trade Center towers collapsed while these heroes were attempting to save innocent lives—343 firefighters and paramedics and 60 police officers made the ultimate sacrifice.

Over these past 12 months, we have witnessed countless selfless acts by public servants and private citizens, by our friends and neighbors. It is this wonderful spirit embodied by our city and our great nation that gives us hope.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I remember speaking on the House floor the day after the attacks. I asked, "will we forget? Will this sick, sinking feeling fade? Will we fail to follow through on these promises or will we demonstrate unfaltering resolve?" I am proud to say, one year later, that the American people remain determined to fight the war on terror, and though the road ahead will continue to be hard, we will prevail.

We should reflect for a moment on the lessons in the attacks. In my view, there are three. First, America has enemies who resent our freedom and way of life. These enemies are determined and are ignored at our peril. Second, the oceans do not provide as much protection as they did in the past. We have to be aware that threats can come from anywhere. Third, as with Pearl Harbor, first punches can be devastating. We must now allow ourselves to be taken by surprise again.

Even though we have had a year to reflect since last September, it is still hard to comprehend the magnitude of the terrorist attacks and the historic turn of events that they triggered. In our 226-year history, America has never known an assault on our homeland such as that terrorist attack.

As horrific and sickening as the attacks were, however, they brought out the best in us as Americans. They reminded us that despite all our differences, we are one—a united America. Not only a nation of unprecedented strength, but also a nation that exhibits great tolerance and respect for the rights of its citizens as well as those of other nations—a nation of unshaken spirit, a nation bound by our shared faith in the founding principles of liberty and freedom.

America was best exemplified by the actions of our first responders in response to the attacks. On that warm autumn day, the New York City fireman became the symbol of American freedom and American bravery to millions around the world. I believe it is really the one silver lining that shines through the cloud of horror that surrounds 9/11.

It is our job in Congress to honor those who protect us—our defense forces abroad and our first responders here in America—by fully providing the resources and guidance that they need. As President Bush said at the annual fire services dinner in Washington last spring, "There is no substitute for the raw courage of the firefighter." And we must never forget those Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice in saving the lives of others on September 11.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, when we evacuated our office a year ago, and I could see the black smoke rising above the Pentagon, I knew our country was under attack. The inconceivable was taking place.

The passing days brought more heartache than many of us thought we could bear. The hijackings and plane crashes took the lives of three Utahns—two who were on board the plane that hit the north tower of the World Trade Center and one who was on duty at the Pentagon.

Mary Alice Wahlstrom, of Kaysville, Utah and her daughter Carolyn, died together—two talented musicians whose families still grieve for the loss of their wives and mothers. Brady Howell of Centerville, Utah died—along with 188 others—when hijackers struck the Pentagon. His family—including his wife Liz—had to endure one agonizing week before learning his fate. A year of sorrowful birthdays and holidays has gone by, with a much-loved husband and wife, brother and sister, son and daughter, missing from the family pictures. Their names and their lives will always remind us of the goodness that is America—goodness that the terrorists sought to destroy. But we know that the terrorists will not succeed. Their cowardly attack took the lives of 343 members of the New York City Fire Department, but not the determination of 62 search and rescue team members from Salt Lake County. They rushed to New York, working 12-hour shifts, searching the rubble at Ground Zero for more than a week.

The terrorist attacks left many children without parents—but couldn't destroy their future, as Americans rallied to support a \$100 million scholarship fund to someday send these children to college. We stand for everything that the terrorists hate—courage, freedom, compassion, democracy and hope. Even as our memorials and reconstructed buildings rise from the devastation of that day, those values emerge unscathed. We have suffered a loss, but not a defeat. We still mourn, but our faith has not faltered. The wounds are still fresh but the spirit that is America shines through—a beacon of hope for better days ahead.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, we gather today within this citadel of freedom. This room is where America unites in defense of enlightened self-government. From this place our Nation draws from the strength and wisdom of our Founders.

For this reason, the terrorists targeted this temple to justice as they set out to strike a blow against self-government. And, as the terrorists attacked symbols of might and prosperity, they attacked the spirit of this building. In this way, the Capitol, the Pentagon, and the World Trade Center were all one and the same. This is where the American people exercise the fullest measure of freedom. So, we come together in this hallowed chamber to honor the brave Americans of September 11. As their Representatives, and on their behalf, we launch the debates that chart the course for this country. And, make no mistake, it was the exercise of freedom that terrorists wished to extinguish a year ago.

The terrorists failed. And, if their objective was to compel us into abandoning our principles, there may have been no more spectacular a failure in recorded history.

My friends, the flame of American freedom is burning brighter and hotter on September 11, 2002, than at any moment in our history. And that flame is sustained by the magnificent heroism in Manhattan, in Virginia, and in the air over Pennsylvania. Freedom continues unabated in many countries around the world. Americans are doing extraordinary things in dangerous places that are known and some that we can't talk about. But when we speak of the men and women defending us at this moment, we can say this for certain: The present generation of Americans stands shoulder-to-shoulder with our proudest generations. And we saw, in Pennsylvania, a stirring example of what it means to be an American: Out of many, one.

Strangers, thrown together by Providence, facing certain death, refused to yield in the face of raw evil. Their courage, in the moment of maximum danger, is the essence of what it means to be an American. That's why anyone in the world can become an American. All it takes is a willingness to subordinate our own individual interests to the greater good of the United States. It's a proud tradition of love, tolerance, pluralism, and determination. But we would do a great disservice to the legacy of America's September 11 heroes by casually accepting the passive posture of complacency in the face of danger.

The great lesson from 9/11 is the moral imperative to address dangers before they claim the lives of additional Americans. For that reason, we must stand with President Bush as he marshals freedom-loving people to confront gathering evils. We must actively deny the aspirations of evil groups and dangerous regimes. We must bring justice to the most remote caves where terrorists plot. We must protect America by striking our enemies before they can carry out their schemes within our borders.

This is the great decision before the Congress. This is the defining measure of our future security. And on this question, all of us will be accountable to the people.

Mr. Speaker, we offer our deepest sorrow and solidarity to the families of those who lost loved ones at the hands of evil, 1 year ago. Those who now struggle with grief and loss should know, above all, that they do not stand

alone. They should take heart because every American stands beside them. We offer our love and gratitude for the sacrifices and unknown acts of heroism carried out by their relatives and friends. We'll never forget them or what they did for our country.

Thank you and God bless America.

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support and as a proud cosponsor of 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.

Nearly three thousand American lives were lost exactly 1 year ago today when the United States was suddenly and deliberately attacked by al Qaeda terrorists bent on suicide and destruction of human life. By targeting symbols of American strength and success, these attacks clearly were also intended to assail the principles, values, and freedoms of the United States and the American people, intimidate the Nation, and weaken the national resolve. Although New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania suffered the overwhelming burden of the terrorist attacks, every state and all Americans were affected and continue to mourn that day. We are united by the events of September 11, 2001, and while passage of 1 year has not softened our memory, resolved our grief, or restored lost loved ones, it has clearly demonstrated that Americans will not succumb to terrorists.

We observe September 11 not only to recognize the tragic deaths of the innocent souls who perished or who were gravely injured in Lower Manhattan, Shanksville, Pennsylvania, or at the Pentagon, but we also recognize this date to honor the firefighters, police officers, rescue workers and those intrepid eyewitnesses of this tragedy who selflessly faced grave danger in order to aid the wounded and dying in the immediate aftermath of the attacks. As the gravest moments came, many regular Americans, relying on courage, instinct, and grace, rushed toward the flaming buildings in order to rescue people or toward terrorist-controlled cockpits in order to resist their destructive plan. Today we honor the sacrifices and continuing heroism demonstrated by our brave servicemen and women who left family and friends in order to defend our nation. A year later, many servicemen and women remain abroad, shielding the homeland from further terrorist attacks.

As a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I am proud to serve on the ongoing Congressional Joint Inquiry. My distinguished colleagues and I have spent considerable time reviewing the material and circumstances relating to the events surrounding last year's attacks. However, many important questions about September 11, 2001 remain unanswered. That is why I support the establishment of an independent, blue-ribbon commission to conduct a thorough investigation and to make recommendations based on its findings so that we never again experience another staggering loss of life on U.S. soil. The American people deserve a more thoughtful investigation and the families of the victims of September 11 are entitled to answers about exactly what went wrong and why.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the first anniversary of 9/11, a day which changed America's history.

For the past 12 months, this Nation has collectively experienced a full range of emotion,

from the initial fear and uncertainty of that fateful day, to anger and outrage at the loss of American life and the violation of two of our nation's most recognizable symbols. We have mourned and continue to mourn for the victims of this horrible attack. Their families and friends are constantly in our thoughts and prayers. Embedded firmly in my mind is the image of streams of people who came to the ridge overlooking the Pentagon to pay their respects and sanctified that hill with flowers, candles and notes of remembrance.

Yet, in the midst of all the sadness, Americans have sought an outlet for their grief by renewing their sense of community service and patriotic pride. Our country, which has a strong history of bridging many differences, has become one. In Northern Virginia alone, we witnessed friends, neighbors and colleagues coming together to help rebuild and unite. With the round-the-clock dedication of the Pentagon Renovation team, the revival of the Pentagon has served as the quintessential symbol of our country's resilience and renewal. A special debt of gratitude goes out to those workers and planners who orchestrated this rebuilding.

As we bear witness to the powerful images and experiences of the past year, we are proudly reminded of what it means to be an American. The heroic acts of the firefighters, police officers and emergency responders who rushed into the inferno of the Pentagon and World Trade Center Towers to save lives, touches a special place in all our hearts. It is a place where love of country and for our fellow man is second nature. This unique American spirit is what wills us to go the extra mile and put our lives on the line for what we know is right.

So, Mr. Speaker, on the one year anniversary of September 11, let us honor the many sacrifices that have been made by our police, firefighters, emergency responders and our men and women in uniform. Their efforts to heal, protect and preserve this great nation deserve the utmost respect and admiration.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 464, a resolution to commemorate the passing of one year since the cowardly, brutal attacks of September 11. I would also like to express my condolences to the families who lost a loved one, along with my reverence for the heroism of New Yorkers, and the American people.

On September 11 as the horrific events unfolded, I watched brave firefighters, law enforcement and rescue personnel from New York and around the country risk their lives to save others. I watched hospitals prepare for the wounded and our armed forces go on high alert. I watched a stricken nation respond by rushing to donate blood and volunteer their time to help the injured. These are acts of honor and bravery that no barbaric act of violence can penetrate. The citizens of New York, and all of America did everything within their power to respond unselfishly and effectively to the attacks. More often than not, the very last fiber of human strength was tested. New Yorkers and all Americans rose to the daunting challenge as one proud, resolute nation.

Throughout the past year we have witnessed the rebirth of a new America. A stronger more resilient nation that is determined to eradicate all forms of terrorism. Those who oppose our way of life may try to

destroy our buildings, but they will never destroy the sense of pride and love for this country cherished by Americans.

Although the tragic events of September 11 will forever bring sorrow to the families who lost loved ones, they will also serve as a reminder of how Americans unite during difficult times. This Resolution reminds us all how difficult it is to kill the American spirit. Honoring the lives lost, as well as thousands of rescue workers that worked tirelessly and bravely throughout this difficult time, is a fitting reminder of what this country stands for. We never forget our own, and we will always fight to continue our way of life.

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my support for the concurrent resolution in honor of Patriot Day under consideration by the House today.

On this solemn day of remembrance, it is important to gather with our families, our friends, and our communities to reaffirm our love of country and our dedication to upholding the values of freedom and democracy that we hold so dear.

Today, in Albuquerque and across the nation, we will take the time to honor those who faced danger bravely to save others: firefighters, police officers, and our soldiers overseas that now risk their lives to protect the freedom we enjoy.

In this spirit, I will be in Albuquerque on September 11 with my family and neighbors to honor the heroes, to pray for those lost and their families, to comfort the hurting and to reassure the children.

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, our nation was irrevocably changed that Tuesday morning, a year ago today. The past year has not been an easy one, but the American spirit has carried us through, and our democracy stands strong.

Whether it's Bunker Hill, Pearl Harbor, or September 11, Americans have a tradition of turning disasters into launch points for a better future. Americans' and Oregonians' response on September 11th underscores the strength of our democracy and our commitment to community and freedom. One thousand Oregonians went to NYC soon after September 11th to show that we stand shoulder to shoulder. Hundreds of Oregonians are there today.

Our nation has endured, and will, in spite of everything, thrive. Today, as we look back and remember who and what we have lost, we feel keenly the sense of security that we no longer take for granted. But we will not trade freedom for security. We will move forward together and build a future worthy of our courageous forbears, and all that they did to bring us to where we are today.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today not only to commemorate the lives lost September 11, 2001, but also to celebrate the indomitable American spirit that has been displayed since, and finally to remind our enemies that we are not finished with them. It has been a year to the date since an organization of men decided to test the resolve of the American people. With blind faith, unabashed cowardice, and intentions of terror, these men, these terrorists took the lives of over 3,000 men, women, and children. Through this evil act these men hoped to strike deep at our security, to impact the very fiber of our country's spirit. But as the towers fell, American flags rose, defying those who would attempt to shake the balance of freedom and power that we enjoy in this country. On that day the most diverse country on

the planet was attacked, and from the twisted and smoldering wreckage arose the bond that has connected us all.

Many claimed that we would never be the same; that an inescapable change had come over our country. On the contrary, I feel that we have changed. We are a stronger country, united in the face of tragedy. The terrorists failed to realize that there is no changing the American spirit, only revealing it. After the 11th, the spirit of America revealed itself all across this country. From the thousands who donated blood, to the thousands more who donated time, resources and love to the task of not only repairing buildings but also repairing the hearts of those who lost loved ones on that tragic day. In the few days following 9/11 we wondered how we would respond to these cowardly acts. It has now been a year since that day, and I feel we have responded quickly and accurately. In the past year we have been able to witness as a country the power and resourcefulness of our armed services. Combining both new and old world tactics we have seen special forces mounted on horse back calling in the amazing payload of a B-1 Bomber. In a foreign and alien terrain we have seen the men and women of our armed services perform and adapt in outstanding fashion. Mr. Speaker, as co-chairman of the Air Force Caucus I realize the increasing importance of our Air Force in current and future campaigns. Nowhere has this importance been more felt than in the precision strikes made in Afghanistan in our war against terror. As we continue to hunt down those responsible, we also continue the rebuilding process both home and abroad. As voices rise today in freedom from the sites of these grizzly attacks, soon also shall memorials rise, as a continual reminder of that day and the way in which we, as Americans have reacted in the years since.

And, as America has reacted this year, we have struggled with the tender balance between security and freedom. While we of course must gird our nation for safety, are we eroding freedom and curtailing civil liberties and privacy in the process? Our federal buildings, once the most open of any nation, are becoming barricaded fortresses, with streets closed for blocks around, and loss of access. Airport travelers shed clothing, common tools in their toiletry kit, and their patience in the name of passenger screening. Future airport security measures may chillingly include smart-technology that scans a traveler's identification or body feature, and searches a database including information as personal as financial stability or neighborhood involvement, in the name of determining who is a trusted traveler. State legislatures ponder the Model State Emergency Powers Act, wherein a governor might be granted powers to quarantine citizens, force immunizations, and seize medical records, in the name of public health. I hope that as we strengthen our nation, we keep sight of the sublime principle of liberty on which the nation was founded, and think about the over-reaching consequences of binding the cords too tightly. The terrorists attacked our freedom; we should not attack our own freedoms.

Turning from thoughts of ourselves to those of our aggressors, I remind my colleagues that we are facing an enemy who despises our very existence. They are consumed by a hate of a country that, despite its faults, is open to all people regardless race or religion. We op-

erate under principles of freedom, the ability to pursue life, liberty and happiness. As such, our country is fighting with hope against terror, and freedom against oppression. Our enemies will never know freedom, because they are imprisoned by hate, and for that, they have already lost. Former U.S. Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger stated that "The will of the American people once aroused . . . is capable of accomplishing all the things that have to be done." As long as we continue to maintain a moral high-ground in this campaign and take the appropriate and precise responsive measures, the will of the people of this county will know no bounds.

Much has been said and will be said today about what happened a year ago. As observers, we have an obligation to the families and the victims. We must remember our fellow sufferers; that is the salve we offer the families. We also must remember those who terrorize us, as it is judgment on our enemies. Do Not Forget: It was a massacre—a cold-blooded, well organized, well executed, carefully plotted massacre of thousands of Americans. It was perversion—of a faith that preaches peace and tolerance. It was a message—delivered by maniacal men in possession of a perverse theocratic ideology. It was a crime—that must be paid for. It was an invasion—which damaged every sense of safety in every person who tried to sleep that night. For all the many things it was, it was also the beginning of a war that is not yet over.

And as much as there is to say about this day, one thing we have learned is painfully simple. We have learned that whatever false sense of isolation we felt was an illusion. We must remain vigilant and remember that "freedom is not free".

I conclude that we have learned that our lives are but a breath. That our families are more important to us than we ever knew and that protection of our lives and our families may cost us dearly. But we are Americans, and we will prevail.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution. Today, we mourn, cry, and with clenched fists restrain the raw emotions that are pulsing through our hearts. We look to the ground in sorrow and to the sky in prayer, trying to understand this senseless tragedy. More times than I can remember, I have bowed my head and prayed, asking our heavenly father for spiritual and emotional comfort, for those of us that still cannot understand why. We know the names and details of the actions of those terrorists, but that still does not fill the void in our hearts. To the families of those who died last year I can only say, you have the heartfelt sympathy of an entire nation. And, to our heavenly father I would ask to please guard the souls of the dead and let the comfort of His love ease the pain in the hearts of the living.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to cosponsor this resolution because it accurately captures the emotions in our hearts. We all desperately wish it could be September 10th forever. Yet, I take solace in knowing that nothing endures but change. Things will get better. We have punished those responsible and exacted that punishment with judicious caution, and not unmeasured rage. America has proven that power in defense of freedom is greater than power on behalf of tyranny and oppression. We have demonstrated that power with spirit and resolve.

One year ago, for the second time in our modern history, our nation was attacked. War was thrust upon us. Undoubtedly, this day will forever live in our memories. Three of my constituents lost their lives on September 11, and my community will never forget their sacrifice: Cora Holland, Mother of three and grandmother, Rhonda Sue Rasmusen, who died at the Pentagon, and Navy Yeoman second class Melissa Rose Barnes, who remains unaccounted for at the Pentagon. We as a nation have pulled together to build our courage and strength, for we are united and our faith will guide us.

I salute those brave individuals, police, firefighters, emergency medical personnel and others who sacrificed of themselves for their fellow Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for the prayers of the American people for those whose lives have been lost. May God grant us the wisdom to continue to steer our great nation.

God Bless America!

On behalf of the people of the Inland Empire of California, I join my colleagues in full support of this resolution.

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of those who perished as a result of the terrorist attack on September 11th. It is impossible to forget the events of that dark day and difficult to comprehend the grief of the families who lost loved ones in an instant. My deepest sympathies are with them on this first anniversary of the attacks. The loss of so many innocent lives and the bravery of the rescuers will never be forgotten.

Since September 11th, Americans have adapted to a new reality—a reality with additional security, higher unemployment, economic insecurity, anthrax and the ongoing war on terrorism. But with this new reality we are also witnessing renewed sense of American pride. September 11th reminded us all to treasure our freedom. American flags fill our streets. Patriotic anthems play on the radio and in stadiums from coast to coast. The principles upon which this country was founded brought us together and the strength and spirit of our nation will endure this challenge.

Today, in every corner of this great country, vigils, prayer services and memorials will be held to honor the victims of the attacks. As we reflect on the events of a year ago, let us honor the emergency workers, firefighters, police officers, hospital employees and grief counselors who went above and beyond the call of duty that September morning and during the months that followed. We must also remember the airline employees and postal workers whose jobs were changed forever on September 11th. Finally, our hearts should also go out to the thousands of children and families in New York, Virginia, and in communities across the nation and around the world who lost mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters on that tragic day.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of all those who sacrificed their lives on September 11, 2001 and I honor their memory.

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect on the events of the past year. As I do so, I am reminded that the spirit of America is unbreakable, unwavering, and unshakable. September 11th and the actions that followed have affected all of us. As a nation, I see we are strong—if not stronger—since that great tragedy struck our homeland. The terrorist tried to break the spirit of America but they failed. As Americans, we are

united and we will work together to fight the war on terrorism, to improve our lives, and the lives of our neighbors.

We will always remember the casualties of September 11th, the brave firefighters, police officers, and civilians that fought to save the lives of so many Americans. They were the first casualties in the war on terrorism. The heroes of September 11th are not just located in New York, Washington, DC, and Pennsylvania, but also they can be found all over this great nation and in the military serving our country overseas. For the Americans that donated time, blood, money, and prayers, they are also the heroes of September 11th. These deeds and sacrifices will not be forgotten.

I recently had the opportunity to visit our troops in Afghanistan and I am more confident than ever that we are in capable hands. There is no doubt that we have the best and most professional military in the world. And last week, I participated in a Joint Session of Congress in New York to honor those who lost their lives on September 11th. During our visit we laid a wreath at Ground Zero. From my perspective, both events clearly demonstrated America's renewed sense of solidarity, patriotism and pride.

Although September 11th will be a difficult reminder for all Americans, this is also an opportunity for the nation to show its strength and its unity. God bless America.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution honoring the patriots of September 11, 2001. A year ago, our nation suffered a terrible blow. Thousands of our friends and neighbors were lost in an attack by terrorists who despise America and all it represents.

This morning, many of us in Washington came together at the Pentagon Observance to comfort and pray for all of those who are experiencing renewed memories of the pain and anguish of that tragic day.

This afternoon, we come to reaffirm our resolve to stand strong for the ideals of liberty and unity.

September 11, 2001 was one of the worst days in our history. It was also one of our finest hours. That day, America showed the world that, through the spirit and courage of the American people, this great nation did not and will not crumble despite those who try to tear it down.

Many people were heroes that day. Some of their stories have been told, but many acts of courage will never be known. Emergency responders braved fire and flames to climb the stairways of the World Trade Centers in New York City to help people evacuate. Ordinary office workers carried strangers down hundreds of stairs to safety.

At the Pentagon in Washington, DC, military and civilian personnel went into the inferno over and over again to rescue their coworkers who were trapped.

Heroic passengers aboard Flight 93 sacrificed their lives on a field in Pennsylvania to prevent the deaths of hundreds more of their fellow Americans.

Yet even while the Pentagon burned and the World Trade Center towers fell, we were already preparing our response to this act of war. On the other side of the Pentagon, the military was making its plans. Within an incredibly short time, Congress came together in a bi-partisan manner and quickly passed historic legislation to secure our homeland and our skies.

Many of our allies pledged to stand with the U.S.A., in our war against terrorists. We will always remember those nations who have fought by our side in this war.

A year later, we have accomplished much. The Pentagon has been made whole. The rubble at Ground Zero has been cleared. Al-Qaeda has been defeated and stripped of its power base in Afghanistan. Our brave servicemen and women, together with Allied Forces, are far from home, but are proudly carrying out their mission of destroying what's left of Al-Qaeda's terrorists.

Today, as we remember the patriots of September 11 and mourn their loss, let us never compromise the ideals of liberty for which they, like so many Americans before them, have died. Let us honor them by remaining strong in our unity and in our diversity. Let us always remember that good overcomes evil and darkness is always followed by light.

The American flag represents freedom and still proudly waves. With our strength and resolve, we shall remain united in freedom . . . "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, today, all across this great land, we honor the memory of those who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001.

We honor those who were taken from us by cowardly murderers, the very worst of human kind, simply because we are a free people. This 1-year anniversary is indeed a day of deep reflection and remembrance. I am not sure if the American family will ever come to terms with the visions of our brothers and sisters, our sons, and daughters, our mothers and fathers, being victimized by the despicable acts perpetrated by the evil and the cowardly. But I am sure that our love of country, our love of each other, will help us continue to recover and respond.

We remember and we mourn today. Those we lost will forever be in our hearts and minds. Our lives now are about making sure theirs were not lost in vain, about ensuring their values, their ideals, and their spirit always endure. We will also never forget what we saw in the immediate aftermath of the attacks. We saw—amid the carnage, amongst the destruction—the amazing heights of benevolence and decency and courage that mankind can offer.

What we saw was America.

Within moments of the first attacks, our first responders entered buildings without reservation in an attempt to save others—and they did so knowing full well that they themselves may never exit. Everyday Americans became extraordinary heroes to people they had never met before. Our eternal gratitude will also be extended to the passengers of United Flight #93 who prevented it from being used as a weapon against America.

As we mourn the victims and honor the heroes of September 11th, we must be resolute in our efforts to ensure that we protect and defended this nation against all those who would do us harm. And we must never forget what it means to be an American—to cherish the principles of freedom, democracy, and human rights for all. It is what separates us from them.

Across our nation, in synagogues, Roman Catholic Churches, Presbyterian chapels, Baptist meeting houses and mosques, words of comfort, hope and grief will echo from pul-

pits. At dinner tables across this nation, families will grieve, and they will love each other. It is what we should do on this day.

America is vast and diverse, but today we are united as never before in our history. The victims of September 11 came from 735 towns and cities in 40 different states, all members of one American family. My district lost wonderful people, brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers, dear friends. As our nation pays tribute today, I think it is appropriate to enter the names of the 54 individuals from my district who died a year ago today.

You will never be forgotten.

Daniel Affilito, John Candella, Lt. Robert Cirri, Caleb Dack, Antoinette Duger, Edgar Emery, Barry Glick, Emeric Harvey, Howard Kestenbaum, David Lee, Ming Hao Liu, Robert Murach, Eshtesham Raja, Linda Rosenbaum, John Skala, Jorge Velazquez, Leah Oliver, Paul Lasczynski.

Cesar Alviar, Kyung Cho, Robert Coll, Robert Deraney, Luke Dudek, William Erwin, Tim Graziozo, Zhutu Ibis, Lauren Kestenbaum, Craig Lilore, Joseph McDonald, Ed Murphy, Steven Roach, Daniel Rosetti, Michael Stewart, Douglas MacMillan, Dorota Kopiczko, Catherine Nardella.

Paul Aquaviva, Kirsten Christophe, Michael Collins, Georgette Deraney, John Eichler, Christopher Faughnan, John Graziozo, Donald Jones, II, Franco Lalama, Ken Lira, Craig Montano, David Pruium, Leo Roberts, Norman Roosinow, Francis Trombino, Marsha Rodriguez, Robert Cordice, Linda Walker.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise as one of the hundreds of cosponsors of this resolution today to commemorate the victims of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and to honor the families who grieve and the heroes who served on that terrible day in American history.

American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 took off for the West Coast early in the morning from Logan Airport in Boston. The Al Qaeda terrorists hijacked and redirected these planes into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center, a crossroads of international trade and commerce.

In Newark, New Jersey, and in Washington, DC, similar teams of terrorists aimed Flight 77 towards the symbol of American strength, the Pentagon, and took Flight 93 toward the symbol of American democracy, the Capitol dome.

We remember and honor the brave men and women aboard Flight 93, who overwhelmed the Al Qaeda operatives of Flight 93 to prevent a devastating fourth blow to America—an attack on this very Capitol Building. Instead, they crashed that plane into a field in Pennsylvania and saved thousands of others from the tragedy that was visited upon the Pentagon and the Twin Towers.

The resolution we will pass today commemorates this day in American history and the more than 3,000 lives lost—some 93 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts alone. But the resolution also honors all those who became America's new heroes—the policemen, firemen, rescue workers, medics, and volunteers who toiled that day and days afterward to pull victims out of the wreckage.

President John F. Kennedy said at his inauguration, "In the long history of the world, generations have been granted the role of defending freedom in its hour of maximum danger. I do not shrink from this responsibility—I welcome it! I do not believe that any of us would

change places with any other people of any other generation. The energy, the faith; the devotion which we bring to this endeavor will light our country and all who serve it and the glow from that fire can truly light the world.”

Our new American mission is clear—we must never forget those who died a year ago today on September 11. We must not rest until those who committed these terrorist acts are brought to justice. And we must protect our country, all its citizens, from all that threatens democracy and freedom—for these are the fires that have lit the world.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, on this day I believe we have the duty to remember all the ones who died on 9/11 and all the ones who have died in Afghanistan and elsewhere as a result of this war on terrorism.

As one stares at Ground Zero today, it looks like any other large building construction site in any other large city in America. There is raw dirt, a fenced perimeter, earth moving equipment going about and hard hat workers milling to and fro, and if you didn't know better you'd keep driving by. But upon close inspection, you notice all the buildings around it have brand new facades, you notice also a new bike path, you notice the road has been redone and much of the surrounding infrastructure. Then you notice another building, an historic building, that was located right next door; it's covered with soot, its windows are cracked and it's still boarded up. This building makes a quiet but solemn statement that sets the tone because as you look at this site you know that it's not just any other construction site, there is an eerie stillness about it. Rudy Giuliani has called it a cemetery but it's more than that; it's a battleground, just like Manassas or Gettysburg. A great battle has been fought here and the feeling of reverence one gets is universal.

Like all Americans, I remember that morning's events. I was in Washington, D.C. As we watched in disbelief the horror of New York City, we were soon disrupted by an explosion at the Pentagon. We evacuated our building, and went onto a chaotic street scene, where we were told that the Capitol was under attack, that the Mall area had been hit, the State Department and the Sears Tower. Later that night, Congress gathered on the steps of the Capitol and sang “God Bless America.” It was a moving American moment. Later in the week, Congress attended a church service at the National Cathedral with Presidents Carter, Ford, Bush, and Clinton. President George W. Bush spoke, as did Billy Graham. Then, on Sept. 20, President Bush addressed the nation. The sense of Americanism had never been stronger.

But of all these moments and all these experiences, none struck me, nor it seems anyone else in America, as deeply as the photos and images of the firefighters and policemen rushing up the steps of the World Trade Center at 9:30 the morning of the attack. It was there and then at that moment that Osama Bin Laden was defeated. He had underestimated the American spirit as these brave men rushed to rescue people that they did not know, people who they did not see socially, people who probably would not even eat lunch with them, and yet they were Americans, and that was all that counted to the hundreds of firefighters, police officers and public safety workers who put their lives on the line.

Of the hundreds that died, many people don't know that sixty of them were off-duty.

One such fireman had a nine o'clock tee time on the golf course. He was already on the golf course, in anticipation of a joyful day of golf, when he heard the news. Without even calling in, he threw the clubs in the trunk of his car and drove to the precinct to report. His body was found at four o'clock that afternoon.

At another fire station, six men were getting off duty having pulled an all night shift. Their fresh replacements were just finishing up with breakfast when the alarm sounded. The six new ones and the six off duty all jumped on board the fire truck and, of the twelve of them, not one made it back. Such was the spirit of the volunteerism that day. In fact, one precinct asked the Mayor's office to quit sending the call for more recruits since they were already too crowded with men and women who had stepped forward to answer the call.

On this day of observance, we should remember this lesson about being on and off-duty. For freedom does not wait for the on-duty only. If you and I are to preserve and protect freedom for the generations to come we must do it 24 hours a day 7 days a week. That is the best way to commemorate those who died on September 11, and our soldiers who have died in Afghanistan and everyone else who has suffered and sacrificed for this great land of liberty.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the city of Leidschendam-Voorburg in the Netherlands for their act of friendship towards their sister city, Temecula California.

As a way to express their sentiments of sorrow and sympathy for the events that occurred on September 11 the citizens of Voorburg have graciously donated the Statue “Singing in the Rain” by Frans Kokshoorn to the city of Temecula. The residents of Voorburg donated thousands of dollars to have this statue built and shipped to Temecula for its installation on this day of remembrance.

Mr. Speaker as we reflect on the events of 1 year ago, I would like to join the city of Temecula in thanking the city and citizens of Leidschendam-Voorburg for this genuine gesture of kindness during a difficult time for every American.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, today we gather together as one people united in observance of the greatest tragedy in American history. We do so mournful of the staggering loss of life we suffered that terrible day one year ago and humbled by the heroes whose courage lifted the spirit of a grieving nation.

The attacks of September 11 offered us a grim view of the evil capacity of mankind, just as it showed us the triumph of the human spirit and the resilience of the American people. In the heroism of the firemen and policemen of New York, who rushed into burning buildings without regard to their own lives, we saw barbarism met with humanity. In the bravery of Pentagon personnel, who pulled their wounded comrades from the fiery ruins, we saw wickedness met with honor. And in the defiance of the passengers of Flight 93, who sacrificed their lives to deny victory to murderers, we saw cowardice met with valor.

While a year has passed since the Twin Towers fell and the symbol of America's military strength was breached, we remain numb to the magnitude of the suffering wrought by evil men. And while our grief subsides with time, it never leaves us completely. The emotions that swept over us that awful day—hor-

ror, sadness, fear, and anger—still come creeping back to remind us that the scars of September 11 will never fully heal.

But just as the terrorists dealt us a grievous wound, they also succeeded in uniting the American people like never before. We have renewed our faith in our system of government and reaffirmed our commitment to the spread of freedom and justice around the globe. And we have been reminded that whatever differences separate us, we remain a profoundly unified people.

Mr. Speaker, in the years ahead, the attacks of September 11 will be remembered not merely as an unspeakable tragedy, but as a date that triggered a renewal of the American spirit. As we move forward in our battle against the perpetrators of evil, we will proceed with the unshakable certainty that America's brightest days lie ahead. God bless you, and God bless America.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with you and all of my colleagues a poem written by Mr. Bruce Starr of Warfordsburg, Pennsylvania in remembrance of the tragic events of September 11. Mr. Starr's poem eloquently speaks of the spirit and the sense of unity that is America.

I AM AMERICA

(By: Bruce A. Starr, Warfordsburg, PA)

I AM a most magnificent land of dreams with wondrous opportunity of fabulous wealth.

I AM holding a vision for all of happiness and radiant health.

I AM loving and caring for children of God everywhere, and my generous sharing is beyond compare.

I AM bringing hope and courage to many for a really fresh, new start.

I AM the joy of freedom that beats from my heart.

I AM a powerful light of spirit which gloriously illumines the earth.

To peace in the valley, I am graciously giving birth.

I AM patiently awaiting everyone's communion, for our gentleness and strength abides in union.

I AM the truth and beauty that sets souls free, and

I AM guarding and protecting your God-given right to be!

For after all, “I AM America!”

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the Bayshore Patriots, a group of four proud Americans from Tampa whose patriotism inspired thousands of people from across Tampa Bay to join together this morning for “Flags Along Bayshore: Tampa Remembers 9-11,” an event to remember those lost in the September 11 attacks and honor those who protect and serve our nation every day.

The Bayshore Patriots—Linda Alfonso, Julie Sargent, Julie Whitney, and Bill Hamblin—have gathered every Friday afternoon since September 11th to wave flags on Bayshore Boulevard in Tampa, a major route for service men and women who work on MacDill Air Force Base. Through their simple act—the waving of a flag—this group has shown their support for troops in the Tampa Bay area and sent a message that terrorism will not destroy Americans' love of country. The Bayshore Patriots' spirit and dedication has invigorated the Tampa Bay community as more and more flag wavers join the group each week and passing motorists honk their horns in support. General Tommy Franks, Commander in Chief of U.S. Central Command, based at MacDill, has seen

the group on this way to work and stopped to show his appreciation for the group's efforts.

When the Patriots decided to organize a September 11 tribute, with the hopes of having all 4.5 miles of Bayshore Boulevard lined with Tampa residents all waving flags, they were overwhelmed with support. Local businesses volunteered time, money and services to make the event possible, and people from every corner of our community signed up to wave flags and participate in the event, which was scheduled to include a keynote address by General Franks, patriotic songs, and remembrances. A steady downpour may have interrupted the program, but nothing could have dampened the resolve of the participants.

The Bayshore Patriots have taught us that we all can make a difference in the war on terrorism. They started as just a few voices calling out in patriotism and support for those impacted by September 11, but today, they were joined by a giant chorus of voices—men, women, and children from all walks of life singing in harmony. On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I thank Linda Alfonso, Julie Sargent, Julie Whitney, and Bill Hamblin for their inspiration.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in the strongest support of this resolution. Our nation has endured so much pain—so much hardship and grief since we were attacked a year ago. Simply put, our world changed irrevocably. More than three thousand lives were lost, and today, America remembers their powerful legacy of courage.

Today, there remains a profound sadness in America, a sadness that will surely endure as spouses, parents, and friends across the nation continue to mourn their unfathomable loss. But in these last twelve months, Americans have begun the healing process—a process that continues to this day, inch-by-inch, hour-by-hour. That resilience is, perhaps, the ultimate symbol of the indomitable strength of the American spirit.

All of us were touched by the tragedy of September 11th, including so many from my home state of Connecticut. It was something that once again hit home for me two days ago, when I attended a ceremony dedicating a garden to the memory of three brave men from Milford, Connecticut, who perished in the World Trade Center. The ceremony was particularly moving because, in the World Trade Center bombing of 1993, one of these men, Seth Morris, had carried a pregnant woman 103 floors to safety. His was the kind of bravery we now understand is at the core of what it means to be American. It was the same heroism we saw in the firefighters and police officers who ran into the burning buildings while others ran out, and in the heroes on Flight 93 who made the ultimate sacrifice to save others. These personal stories are now a part of our ongoing national story.

The anniversary of September 11th serves as a reminder to all Americans that our nation has changed forever. We are now so much more aware of our freedoms and liberties, our strength of diversity and collective purpose. Our commitment to freedom and our strength as a nation has never been on fuller, broader display.

As our world has changed, so too has the workings of this great body in the last year. When it comes to protecting our people, Congress has spoken with one voice—powerful, determined and compassionate. Many here will remember when this body joined on the steps of the Capitol to spontaneously sing “God Bless America” on this day a year ago. Then, we said to those who had attacked us, “You will not dampen our spirits, you will not break our will.”

And now, after a year of grief, unbearable sadness and the beginnings of the healing process, we have a similar message to share with the whole world: our spirits have not been dampened, and our will will never be broken.

That is what this resolution is about—reaffirming that commitment to protecting our American way of life and our dedication to making our nation not only safer, but stronger. For representatives of the American people, there truly is no higher calling.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, as we pause to remember the horrific and tragic events of September 11, 2001, let us honor the memory of the innocent men, women, and children whose lives were lost on that fateful day. The families, victims, and survivors are in our hearts and prayers as we support efforts to rebuild and recover from such senseless, inhumane, and inconceivable attacks.

We are filled with admiration for those who willingly rushed into danger to try to save others—the firefighters, police officers, rescue workers, and ordinary Americans who proved to be most extraordinary. They raced up stairs, they ran into burning buildings, and they brought down a plane to save others.

We pray that our young men and women in our armed forces who are putting themselves in harm's way will return safely to their families and friends. In the last year, they have stood watch to keep us safe, and we are profoundly grateful.

To say America suffered a terrible blow is an understatement. Since that terrible day we have slowly been recovering from our profound sense of shock. The walls of the Pentagon have been reconstructed. The terrible devastation at the World Trade Center has been gradually, painstakingly cleared away.

Out of the ashes of loss, we must reshape a future, a world free from horror and hatred, one that offers security for our children and future generations. To shape the future, this better world, let us recommit ourselves to justice and peace. As we rebuild the Pentagon, memorialize the World Trade Center, and journey to a pasture in rural Pennsylvania where the men and women of Flight 93 gave their lives so that others might live, let us emerge more dedicated to peace, more aware of the world around us, and more secure.

Let us maintain the spirit of unity, of neighborly concern, of friendliness toward others, and of service that was so profoundly displayed in the aftermath of 9–11 and keep it alive and well. Let us hold on to the spirit that led us to stand in line for hours in order to donate blood because we so wanted help. Those values exemplify true patriotism and demonstrate what is best about America.

I am reminded of the words of a song, which has been sung so often, by so many,

which beings, “Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.”

Let us remember that hymn as we remember those we lost. Let us keep them as a constant reminder to be our own best selves, to stand up for democratic ideals, to work for peace, disarmament, and security, and to continue to display the love and courage that they shared with us one year ago.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, the devastating acts committed against the United States on September 11th will never be forgotten. Today we remember those who perished in the attacks and extend our continuing support to their families. We honor and thank thousands of individuals—doctors and nurses, police and firefighters, military personnel, volunteers and blood donors and others—for their incredible acts of valor and courage and service to our nation. We salute postal workers and letter carriers who were threatened and felled by a threat they never saw. They, too, were innocent victims of these horrific acts.

Our thoughts this day are with the men and women in uniform half a world away. They are on duty to preserve and defend our nation against the scourge of terrorism. We honor their service and thank them from the bottom of our hearts.

Since September 11, our country has stood united in its resolve to overcome these horrific acts. I and fellow Members of Congress have joined together and supported President Bush in the war against terrorism. We have taken steps to make our country safer, assist those who have been affected by these acts of terrorism, and give law enforcement and the military the resources necessary to protect us from further acts of violence.

Those who carried out these acts can try to attack our way of life and democracy, but they cannot and will not defeat it or destroy it. We will continue to work together to ensure that these acts will never be perpetrated again.

Terrorism can never undermine our national spirit and character. We are a great nation. We are brave and courageous people. The values that guide us remain unbent and unbroken. They will endure.

Throughout our history, we have met great challenges. In every instance, we have overcome every test, every danger. And each time we have moved forward a stronger, greater nation with a brighter future.

This solemn anniversary reminds us of a great tragedy. But it also helps reinforce our national strength and what it means to be an American. Our purpose and resolve are undeterred.

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Speaker, the tragedy of September 11th is a stark reminder of the dangerous world in which we live and the risks faced by people who are firmly committed to democracy, freedom and opportunity for all, as we Americans are.

As we recognize the one-year anniversary of these attacks, it is important to remember

and honor the victims and survivors, their families and loved ones. But we should also remember the amazing acts of bravery, kindness and self-sacrifice that took place on September 11th: citizens helped each other, firefighters risked their lives to save those of others, Americans participated in food and blood drives and other efforts across the country.

The day was one of unspeakable horror, but also one of triumph. We Americans committed ourselves to gaining from this tragedy. As difficult as the time was, we resolved to work together to become stronger as a nation.

Events of this past year since the attacks remind us that we can easily lose the spirit of September 11th as we go about our daily business. At times we may have forgotten the feelings of national unity and pride that came in the immediate aftermath of September 11th. But in order to continue America's mission in the world, we must continue in that spirit and work together as Americans every day.

I along with my family and staff join all Americans in remembering the loss of that day and in thanking Americans for their many contributions in the face of tragedy. To truly honor them and the nation we love, we must continue in the spirit that followed September 11th and work together to ensure peace, justice and prosperity for all.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, September 11th was a day that impacted everyone in the United States of America in a shocking and terrible way; and,

Whereas, September 11th also became a pivotal event that unified all Americans, strengthening our communities and nation in amazing and inspiring ways; and,

Whereas, the committee of Phil Wallace, Marian Klier, Dorothy Powell, and Marian Martin are to be commended along with the community of Martin's Ferry for seeking to honor and remember those who lost their lives that day; and,

Whereas, this anniversary of September 11th calls for solemn remembrance, gratitude, patriotism, and most importantly a celebration of the indelible American spirit;

Therefore, I join with the residents of Martin's Ferry and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in remembering those who died and thanking those who became heroes with perseverance and American pride.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the first anniversary of 9/11, a day which changed America's history.

For the past 12 months, this nation has collectively experienced a full range of emotion, from the initial fear and uncertainty of that fateful day, to anger and outrage at the loss of American life and the violation of two of our nation's most recognizable symbols. We have mourned and continue to mourn for the victims of this horrible attack. Their families and friends are constantly in our thoughts and prayers. Embedded firmly in my mind is the image of streams of people who came to the ridge overlooking the Pentagon to pay their respects and sanctified that hill with flowers, candles and notes of remembrance.

Yet, in the midst of all the sadness, Americans have sought an outlet for their grief by renewing their sense of community service and patriotic pride. Our country, which has a strong history of bridging many differences, has become one. In Northern Virginia alone, we witnessed friends, neighbors and colleagues coming together to help rebuild and

unite. With the round-the-clock dedication of the Pentagon Renovation team, the revival of the Pentagon has served as the quintessential symbol of our country's resilience and renewal. A special debt of gratitude goes out to those workers and planners who orchestrated this rebuilding.

As we bear witness to the powerful images and experiences of the past year, we are proudly reminded of what it means to be an American. The heroic acts of the firefighters, police officers and emergency responders who rushed into the inferno of the Pentagon and World Trade Center Towers to save lives, touches a special place in all our hearts. It is a place where love of country and for our fellow man is second nature. This unique American spirit is what wills us to go the extra mile and put our lives on the line for what we know is right.

So, Mr. Speaker, on the one year anniversary of September 11th, let us honor the many sacrifices that have been made by our police, firefighters, emergency responders and our men and women in uniform. Their efforts to heal, protect and preserve this great nation deserve the utmost respect and admiration.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, although the scope and severity of the terrorist attacks on America make it difficult to know how best to memorialize those who were lost on September 11, 2001, I rise today to pay tribute to the passengers of United Flight 93 who courageously thwarted an attack on our nation's Capital.

To the firefighters of New York City who gave their lives to rescue others, I join with my colleagues in saying that you will always be our heroes. To the World Trade Center victims, we mourn your passing. To those who died at the Pentagon, we will not forget you. To every man and woman serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, we stand by you. To our friends and neighbors across the globe, we thank you for supporting us in a time of need. For every American who has made the ultimate sacrifice and those who continue to risk their lives in order to save others, our Nation stands forever grateful.

We are one Nation, under God, united in our resolve to defend freedom in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on America. As President Franklin Roosevelt said, "We will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost but will make very certain that this form of treachery shall never endanger us again. With confidence in our Armed Forces, with the unbound determination of our people, we will gain the inevitable triumph, so help us God."

Mr. Speaker, I commend President George W. Bush for his leadership in securing our homeland and strengthening America's resolve to triumph over terrorism. I also commend the Honorable Colin L. Powell, U.S. Secretary of State, for his untold achievement in strengthening our alliances. I commend the Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense, for mobilizing our troops and protecting U.S. interests overseas. I commend the Secretary of Transportation, the Honorable Norman Y. Mineta, for his decisive action to ground all planes and avoid further tragedy on September 11, 2001.

I also commend my colleagues in both the House and Senate. I commend both Republicans and Democrats. I commend all Americans united in their resolve to end the threat of terrorism for future generations.

On behalf of the people of American Samoa, I rise today to say that we will always remember the heroic actions of those who gave their lives so that we might live. We stand united in our resolve to defend freedom. Like all Americans, we join in prayer and proclaim September 11, 2002 as a day of Solemn Observance.

I commend the Honorable Tauese Sunia, Governor of American Samoa, for proclaiming Wednesday September 11, 2002 to be a Day of Solemn Observance throughout the Territory. All flags will be flown at half-mast. Memorial services will start in the Territory at sundown on Tuesday September 5, 2002 and will end with the last service set for 6:00 p.m. on September 11, 2002.

During this time, American Samoa will participate in a worldwide choral event. Choirs in every zone around the world will perform Mozart's Requiem at 8:46 a.m., the exact time of the first terrorist attack on America. American Samoa will represent the last time zone on the globe and the American Samoa Community College Choir will be the last choir on earth to sing Mozart's Requiem during this worldwide, commemorative service.

I applaud the volunteers from the Seattle Symphony Chorale who organized this worldwide event to pay homage to the victims, survivors, and heroes of September 11, 2001. I also commend the students, staff, and faculty members at the American Samoa Community College for representing American Samoa on this historic and solemn occasion.

I also express my deepest gratitude for those serving in the U.S. Armed Forces during this critical time in our nation's history. I am pleased to say that the sons and daughters of American Samoa serve proudly in the U.S. military and, per capita, there are probably more soldiers in the U.S. Army from American Samoa than any other State or U.S. Territory.

I thank the sons and daughters of American Samoa for answering the call to serve. I pray for them. I pray for their families. I am painfully aware of the sacrifices they are making. I am very mindful of the dangers they are facing. Some thirty years ago, I served in the Vietnam War. As a Vietnam veteran, I remember all too well what it is like to be separated from loved ones. Each day, I wondered if I would ever see my loved ones again or if I would be among the thousands to return home in a body bag.

By the grace of God, I returned home safely. I now pray that the good Lord will watch over the brave men and women of American Samoa who are also willing to pay the ultimate sacrifice so that future generations may live in peace.

On this day of Solemn Observance, in this sombre time of remembrance, my thoughts and prayers also go out to all those whose lives have been changed by the tragic events of September 11, 2001. May we always stand together in the defense of freedom and may God bless America.

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of one of the most horrific events in our Nation's history.

Today we honor the thousands of innocent people who lost their lives in the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon and aboard Flight 93 a year ago and salute with great pride the many rescue workers, medical personnel, and firefighters who risked their own lives to save the lives of others.

September 11th is a very emotional day for Americans of all walks of life and it is especially difficult for those who were directly impacted in one way, shape or form. My heart goes to out the survivors, their families and all who were affected—emotionally or physically—by this event. I know it has not been an easy pain to bear.

Last year's terrorist attacks shook the sense of security we have come to take for granted in our daily lives. Although our country will never be the same, we have a renewed sense of commitment and are dedicated now, more than ever to upholding our freedoms and liberties. Our country, with all its diversity, stands united to prevent such a tragedy from happening again.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence in remembrance of those who were lost. May God bless America today and ever more.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in remembering the terrorist attacks of a year ago and paying tribute to the victims, the survivors, and the American spirit.

One year ago today, almost three thousand Americans lost their lives in a series of despicable attacks. These acts were carried out by a group of people who hated everything our Nation stands for, and who sought to destroy the symbols of our freedom and prosperity.

Despite the destruction they were able to inflict, these terrorists actually achieved the opposite of their intended goal. Instead of dividing us, they united us as never before. The evil of a few was met by the courage of thousands, and the generosity of millions.

The day of the attacks witnessed countless instances of unflinching, selfless courage at the sites in New York, Pennsylvania, and the Pentagon. Workers in the towers and at the Pentagon helped each other through the evacuation. Firefighters, law enforcement officers, and emergency personnel rushed to the scene, heedless of the danger to themselves. Teachers shepherded children to safety; not a single child at the World Trade Center or Pentagon day care centers was harmed. And no one will ever forget the heroism of the passengers who crashed Flight 93 rather than allow it to continue to its intended target. The world watched in humbled awe as ordinary Americans performed extraordinary acts.

The following days and weeks saw another quintessential American trait expressed: our generosity. Millions of Americans contributed goods, services, and funds for the rescue effort. Equipment, food, and supplies poured into the City of New York. Over a few short weeks, millions of dollars were donated to the families of the victims of the attacks. Children held penny drives and car washes; businesses had fundraisers; corporations opened their coffers. No sooner was any need made known than it was met, often to overflowing.

The trials of September 11 proved that our Nation's motto still holds true—E pluribus unum. From many, one. From many individuals, many cultures, and many ideals we stand together as a single nation, united in purpose and resolve. Like steel tempered in fire, the challenges of this ordeal have made us stronger.

Today, we pay tribute to all those who were lost a year ago, and to those they left behind. My district of Monroe County, New York, bears its share of the collective grief. Pittsford

businessman Thomas Duffy was at an early morning meeting in the towers and perished. The Vincent family lost their 24-year-old daughter, Melissa, who had just begun a career with Alliance Consulting. Several other constituents lost children, brothers, and sisters. Many lost friends and loved ones. None of these families will ever be the same again.

The best homage we can pay is to ensure that these people did not die in vain. We have already taken significant steps by removing the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, pursuing terrorists across the globe, and improving homeland security. But we can and must do much more.

Many vital security needs still must be addressed. We must pursue a long-term strategy for rooting out terrorism and eliminating the conditions that allow it to thrive. Our public health infrastructure must be rebuilt and strengthened. Perhaps most of all, however, we must rededicate ourselves to principles of freedom and democracy. Our precious liberty can never be taken for granted. We must find the delicate balance between protecting our security and preserving our freedom.

Finally, we must pay special attention to the needs of our children in these difficult times. Too many of our children across the Nation were traumatized by the terrorist attacks, and many remain anxious and fearful. These events must not be allowed to poison an entire generation. We must ensure that our children receive the aid they need to face the future happy, healthy, and secure. Terror is indiscriminate, and the young are especially vulnerable.

I join my colleagues in paying tribute to all the heroes of September 11. Our honored dead will not be forgotten. Their families shall not be alone. We, the survivors, will carry their memories in our hearts and live their legacy through our actions.

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, it was one year ago that we first shared that sense of inimitable sadness upon learning that thousands of our fellow Americans were suddenly and unexpectedly lost to us forever. They met their ends in the fields of western Pennsylvania; at our national military headquarters in Washington, DC; in two of the world's tallest office buildings in New York City. Some were sitting down for work, or simply taking a plane trip when the unthinkable occurred. Hundreds of others, heroes, were taken from us as they selflessly struggled to bring others to safety.

We came together today to honor their memory. In churches, synagogues, mosques, schools, homes, and workplaces across the land and around the world people will observe moments of silence in solemn remembrance. We pray for those left behind, whose lives are scarred forever with the loss of loved ones. We ask God for healing for them and for our country.

We also gather as a nation to lift our voices in song. While uniting us across the miles, our shared music today not only pays homage to the lives lost, but reaches out to embrace the grieving. The songs give us a shared strength by allowing us to publicly reaffirm the triumphs of our humanity over terror, of community over hatred, of rebuilding over destruction.

May today's remembrances bring honor to the memory of those who died one year ago, healing to the wounded of body and spirit, and the blessings of courage and strength for all who remember.

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, on this fateful day last year, the cowardly acts of terrorists tried to divide this Nation and destroy the American way of life. Instead they united us, and Americans rose above the ashes to show the indomitable spirit that makes this Nation so great.

Thousands of lives were lost that day, but millions of us answered the call of a nation under attack. The volunteers who helped the victims and families, the outpouring of donations—these are the shining examples of what we are capable of when our country needs us most.

President Bush asks us to honor the memory of those lost “by pursuing peace and justice in the world and security at home.” While September 11 was a tragic day, we must also acknowledge the historic outpouring of charity and sacrifice by all Americans to those in need.

The war on terrorism is not concluding; it has only just begun. President Bush made it very clear that whenever there is terrorism in the world, the United States cannot rest. This is a war that we must remain united in—united and prepared for the challenge to defeat those who use terror and fear to oppress and destroy.

Those who perished on September 11 will forever remain in our memories and in our hearts. It is up to us to protect liberty and freedom for all future generations.

God Bless America.

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, on the night 9–11–2001, when all the Members of the House and Senate gathered for that historic press conference to assure the American people that we had not run from the terrorists and were doing the business on behalf of the American people, that which we were elected to do, I was inspired to write these words and set them to music.

I believe my song expresses much of the sentiments of the American people that we will and must respond when threatened or harmed. We will defend the deepest principles of freedom and our Nation's heritage.

Especially on behalf of those brave people, our heroes: the firemen, policemen, emergency medical teams, our postal workers, the Pentagon workers, and those who were aboard the hijacked planes, **HERE WE COME!** With you in our minds, and in our hearts, and for everything which this country stands!

“HERE COMES AMERICA!”

The greatest of all nations, where freedom was born
through wars and sacrifices tested, tried and weary worn.
We stand for truth and justice, and our aim is strong and sure.
The red, white and blue waves on for freedom we shall endure

Here comes America on strong.
God bless America's her song.
United more than ever now.

In prayer to God we humbly bow
for freedom's cause we will not fail.

Over fear we shall prevail.
Let Old Glory Wave.
HERE COMES AMERICA

When liberty is threatened, we'll defend the people's will.

Though heroes have fallen, our resolve we shall fulfill.

A forgiving, loving people, pursuing peace and happiness
but if harmed or terrorized, Comes the Eagle
From Her Nest.

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001, America awoke to the worst terrorist attack in history. As we went to work and school, we left with a feeling of security that we have long since forgotten. By the time we returned to our families, our lives and our Nation had forever changed. It had been many years since America felt so insecure, so vulnerable. On that morning, the American people's resolve was put to the ultimate test. Everything appeared to be so uncertain that day. Who would do such a thing? Why would they do it? Is there more to come? How can I protect my family?

But there was much that was certain that day. America made a promise to the victims and their families, to future generations of Americans, and to the world. The American people promised that this action would not go unanswered. We promised that this action would only strengthen and unite us, not divide us. We would respond forcefully to those who were responsible while tending to our neighbors, our fellow countrymen. Together, you and people across northwest Missouri and our Nation donated blood for the victims, and donated money for their families. Together, we prayed for those who lost so much that day. We prayed for our soldiers who stood ready—preparing to defend our freedom.

As we stop to remember that terrible day, some of the pain and fear has subsided. But our determination to defeat those who seek to terrorize us must never fall victim to the passage of time. In the coming months, the American people will face a choice: live up to our responsibility by making tough choices and sacrifices to continue our assault on terrorism, or quit now and hope that they choose to stop planning future attacks. The American people should never have to endure such a tragedy again. As we have learned over the past year, we can do something about it. We must never mislead ourselves that we have to wait to be attacked again to continue our defense from terrorism. The more than 3,000 lives lost is all the justification we need to have to defend against a certain threat of terrorism. The United States must remain vigilant and prepared, so that we remain forever free.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the United States of America is founded on the fundamental principle that all citizens have the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The United States of America stands as a beacon of freedom and opportunity for everyone regardless of race, creed or religious belief.

The strength and vitality of the United States of America is in the diversity of its people, the diversity of its ideas, the freedom to express those ideas and the opportunity to achieve one's potential and direct one's destiny.

Mr. Speaker, these ideals and principles are absolute and will not be surrendered or weakened by the cowardly acts of terrorists who fear the sunshine of freedom and the responsibility it brings.

Let us forever remember that the date September 11 reaffirms the principles for which the United States of America was founded and that on this day each year freedom shall ring from every community in this great land and the Voice of America will be heard around the world.

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, a year ago I stood on this same floor of the people's House

as the ruins still smoldered, the families still prayed and hoped, and all of us searched for ways to explain and prepare for the events that were to unfold. I will never forget that feeling of collective will which permeated this Congress to act to bring to justice those who committed these heinous crimes.

America will never forget September 11th, 2001. In its tragedy, in its despicability, and in its lessons and impact on our way of life, it represents a singular moment of history. But what really do we remember about this event? And for today, the first anniversary of 9/11, perhaps the best question is: What should we remember?

Mr. Speaker, my answer to that is: Let us remember the mothers and sons, the brothers and sisters, who perished on September 11, by remembering, today, to touch our own mother or son, our brother, our sister.

We will never forget the firefighters, police officers, and volunteers—the heroes of September 11th. Let's prove that by not forgetting to extend a hand to our heroes in uniform, who protect us today.

And let us commemorate 9/11 and honor our fallen by forever defending and living up to the ideals embodied in our Constitution. Our way of life may have been challenged, but it has not been compromised. We can prove to the world that in triumph or tragedy, we shall be a nation of laws.

As I stood on the Floor of the House a year ago I asked: How do we explain this barbarous act of terrorism to our children? I did not believe then, nor do I believe now, that it is possible to really explain—to make sense of what happened—to our little ones. But I remember my words that followed and they ring so very true to me today: "From my words and my deeds, from the way our country prosecutes this unconscionable crime, I hope [our children] will learn and they will remember how this country lives and breathes its freedom and relentless search for justice. Perhaps, then, as our children grow older and wiser, they will be better prepared to preserve life and defend America's values."

So, Mr. Speaker, as we move forward to complete the unfinished business of 9/11, let us remember our fallen, let us reflect on our tenacity and perseverance, and let us be the heroes in life that the victims of that day are in death.

I remember that feeling of hope and justice back then, and I believe it will guide us through our mission now. May God bless America.

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the commemorative resolution honoring those who died last September 11, those who came to the rescue, and those who served, and continue to serve, in the fight against terrorism.

Our minds are still seared with the images of last year's tragedy. Members knew some of the individuals who died in the attacks. In California's 36th district, where LAX—the destination of three of the four hijacked planes—is located, four of my constituents were killed.

They are: Anna Alison of Torrance, Chandler "Chad" Keller of Manhattan Beach, Stanley Hall of Rancho Palos Verdes, and John Wenckus of Torrance.

Today, we remember these individuals and join with their families in commemorating their lives and their contribution to our community and nation.

We also remember several other individuals who worked in the 36th district but lived elsewhere. Their coworkers remember them fondly: Ruben Ornedo, who worked at Boeing, and Peter Gay, who worked for Raytheon Electronics and commuted to El Segundo weekly from the east coast.

Mr. Speaker, our hearts are still broken and we continue to grieve. The remembrance ceremonies I attended—last week at Ground Zero and this morning at the Pentagon—were incredibly moving and heartfelt.

But as we work together to rebuild the lives shattered by the events of September 11, we also look to identify the actions we need to take at all levels of government to ensure maximum preparedness and protection against this threat—beginning with a reorganization of our government's resources.

We have learned from this horrific experience.

Sadder, but wiser and stronger, we are aided in our efforts this past year by the testimonies of those who walked through hell and by those who are prepared to do the same.

I am reminded of the words of Tennyson—
Tho' much is taken, much abides; and tho'
We are not now that strength which in old
days
Moved earth and heaven, that which we are,
we are—

One equal temper of heroic hearts,
Made weak by time and fate, but strong in
will

To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

New Yorkers, the workers at the Pentagon and the passengers and crew aboard American flight 77 did not yield.

Nor will America.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, September 11, 2001, is a day you will always remember where you were, who you were with, and what you were doing. My personal experiences that day are vivid: going to a press conference in the Capitol at 9:30, moving fast to get out when we saw the reports of smoke at the Pentagon and seeing the monitor in the House radio-TV gallery flash, "White House being evacuated." Nothing can describe the feeling of rushing out of the building you love, hearing the attack was not concluded and seeing the smoke from the Pentagon rising behind the building in which my Congressional office is located.

I went to the Pentagon 2 days later to thank the emergency workers and was struck by the smells that were still so strong there, the stench of the burning building and literally the smell of death. I'd been to that building so many times and it seemed so impenetrable. This attack served to illustrate how vulnerable we are in this country. We live in a wildly dangerous world; the security increases we see here now have been the norm in Europe and around the Middle East for decades. Our world is dangerous. We live in this world; now we appreciate that danger every day.

Our nation was founded on the belief that God is great, that He is watching out for us. While the fear and hurt was apparent that day and the days that followed, so too, was the strength and courage of men and women who risked their own lives for their country and their American family that day. The passengers in the plane that crashed in Pennsylvania jumped into action, fighting a battle that eventually saved a Washington-area target, quite possibly the building where Congress meets.

Our legacy, our duty, today is to ensure that those who died on the planes, in the buildings, and on the battlefield, did not die in vain. Our respect for their memory must be to recommit ourselves to our nation, our freedom and each other. Today we mourn anew the lives lost in the attack one year ago, and the lives lost in battle since then and we offer our sympathies again to those they leave behind. We also honor the police, firefighters and rescue personnel who risked their lives to help those hurt in the attacks.

Our challenges are huge. Many people in this world carry evil in their hearts and minds. We can never change the hearts of humans, but great American men and women are doing their best every day to prevent that evil from finding its way here to our shores again. The United States is a beacon of light around the world. There are thousands of freedoms and privileges in this country that we enjoy every day but those privileges come at a cost, at a sacrifice. Our way forward will not be easy, for this is not over.

Ask God for wisdom and strength to protect us here at home and those around the world who love freedom and democracy. Always remember those service men and women serving in the military. They are doing difficult, dangerous work on our behalf, and on behalf of freedom and democracy. Our test is to be united at this hour of crisis in our nation and in our world. Congress will honor the memories of all those we have lost to the war on terror by defending the United States in the face of future attacks.

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, one year ago on September 11, our country suffered unexpected and unjustified attacks that killed and injured innocent people from many nations of the world. While the attacks occurred in the city of New York, a peaceful field in Pennsylvania and at the Pentagon in Virginia, the effects of terrorism were felt in every corner of America and throughout the world of nations that shared our sorrow.

The resulting war on terrorism has called together the people of America to unite behind a commitment to defend our homeland and preserve our way of life against all enemies of freedom and liberty. In doing so, America has witnessed a heartening resurgence of patriotism, a deep appreciation for the ordinary heroes among us, a fervent call to prayer, and a thankful devotion to the simple blessings of family, community, faith and friendship. We are indeed a blessed people, committed to liberty for individuals and nations everywhere, but mindful that freedom too often comes with great sacrifice.

Who can doubt our American faithfulness and resolve as we grieve for those who lost life on September 11, applaud the brave government servants and military might of our great nation, strive for economic stability and quietly pray for a peaceful world free of tyrants and violence.

The United States is no stranger to evil—our forefathers have overcome it through 225 years of proud but difficult history. The challenge for this and future generations will be to never succumb to the temptation of withdrawing from our national obligation to resist evil and fight for freedom for future generations of Americans. The war against terrorism, memorialized in those who died one year ago, is only the latest test of our national resolve. In lasting memory of September 11, let the

legacy of this new century be one of victory for mankind as the United States of America leads the world to liberty and justice for all.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, one year after the terrorist attacks on our nation, as we collectively pause to reflect, remember, and memorialize those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. We proudly remember those heroic acts of bravery and courage selflessly performed by citizens that day. It was a day when ordinary people performed extraordinary deeds.

The nation was struck by terror, but responded with the courage and the conviction that makes us free. As we pause to recognize our precious freedoms, we will never forget September 11 and what happened in New York City, the Pentagon or in the fields of Pennsylvania.

The terrorists failed in their attempts to bring down this nation because the United States responded with love of country and the resolve to bring them to justice, ensuring that those who gave their lives will not have perished in vain.

With great compassion and understanding, our hearts go out to the families of those who lost their loved ones, knowing life will never be normal for them. As we pause today in remembrance, we are resolved to go forward protecting and cherishing the freedoms that sustain us all.

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 464 appropriately recognizes the one year anniversary of September 11 and I urge my colleagues to unanimously support this resolution. God bless America.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, a year ago today our nation was attacked by terrorists intent on destroying the most enduring symbols of our success and our way of life. On this solemn occasion, the anniversary of those horrific attacks, I rise in strong support of the resolution recognizing September 11 as a national day of remembrance.

On this day, we mourn the loss of thousands of innocent lives, we honor the selfless acts of those who came to the victims' aid, and we pay tribute to those who willingly put their lives on the line to stop the terrorists from wreaking further destruction on our land.

9-11 will forever be remembered as one of the darkest days in our nation's history. Today the horror of that event is still fresh, and the pain is still raw. And just as it is today, it will always be one for sadness and reflection. But the response it inspired in our nation was uplifting. As we shudder at the recognition of devastation on this day, we can also take heart in the greatness and strength it inspired.

Time will ease our sorrow, and we will continue to prosper as a nation. But we must never forget the lesson we were forced to relearn on September 11, 2001: there are those who are threatened by our strength, our freedoms and our way of life, and they want to destroy our nation. We must remain united in our commitment to pursue those who threaten us, to ensure our way of life and to uphold the hope of freedom around the globe.

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, one year ago today our nation endured an attack by a dedicated and dangerous enemy. Since that day we have seen that the principles and ideals that are the foundation of America are far stronger than any of the steel and concrete that fell that day.

We are gathered to remember the innocent lives that were taken. The district that I rep-

resent, the Second District of Connecticut, lost a number of wonderful people on September 11th. The names of some of them follow:

Josh Piver, of my hometown of Stonington, worked at Cantor Fitzgerald on the 105th floor of the World Trade Center. Josh loved jazz, loved living in New York City and had an exuberant passion for life. He was a fine young man with a bright future.

Madeline Amy Sweeney, a flight attendant for American Airlines Flight 11, the first jet to strike the World Trade Center. Displaying a courage while under tremendous pressure, she proved that on that day a loving wife, and a caring mother and daughter, could also be a hero. She used her cell phone to report what was happening and the information she provided helped us identify the attackers. She jump-started our investigation. Her parents live in Norwich, Connecticut.

Ruth McCourt, a homemaker from New London, Connecticut, and her four-year-old daughter, Juliana, were on United Airlines Flight 175 bound for Los Angeles. They were on their way to enjoy a vacation at Disneyland. Their jet crashed into the south tower of the World Trade Center.

James Greenleaf, Jr., a 32-year-old history buff, was a football star in high school. He worked on the 92nd floor of the World Trade Center. His friends said he was the type of individual who would spend a week's vacation helping an old friend build a new house.

Ed Calderon, 43, was a security guard for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. He loved to dance and especially loved the salsa. He had worked at the World Trade Center for 22 years and was last seen running toward the north tower after helping dozens of workers reach safety. He was hoping to help a few more people just before the building collapsed.

Bruce Eagleson, 53, a vice president of the Westfield Group, was at a meeting on the 17th floor of the World Trade Center when a jet struck the building. His oldest son called after the first plane hit and urged him to leave. He told his son he was helping to evacuate people and promised he would get out. Mr. Eagleson had hoped to retire within seven years. He loved fishing and golf.

Eric Thorpe, 35, was the star quarterback of his undefeated high school football team. He was one of the top salesmen at Keefe, Bruyette and Woods. But he kept success in the business world in perspective. He helped run a soup kitchen during college, worked as a Big Brother and participated in Hands Together, an anti-poverty program in Haiti. His friends knew him for his nonstop sense of humor.

Eric Evans, 31, was an easy-going individual who was determined to succeed in business. He also loved to garden and enjoyed tending his tomato and basil plants. His friends said he loved animals, except for the squirrels that would get into his tomatoes.

These fine people, and all the others who were taken from us on September 11, 2001, leave behind families and friends and lives that were full of the promise of tomorrow. Today it is appropriate that we honor their memory.

But this is more than a day of remembrance. This is a day to recommit ourselves to the values that are the foundation of America. Freedom, justice, honor and an unwavering

belief in self-government—those are the values we believe in and they are the values that those we remember today believed in as well.

This is a day to keep in mind that there is a great and profound difference between the use of force to liberate and the use of force to enslave.

And this is a day to recommit ourselves to our love of our country. Let us join together and appreciate America's history and stand firm in support of our institutions and the duties of citizenship. This is a day to look to the future.

A great deal of learning in our nation has traditionally taken place when families gather around the kitchen table at mealtime. I hope that beginning tonight all American families will take time to discuss today's events around the dinner table. Talk together about what it means to be a citizen of this great nation. Share your thoughts with each other about what the events of today mean to you, your family and friends.

John Winthrop, one of the Pilgrims who came to this new world, described it as a "shining city upon a hill."

Today, with our prayers, we remember those who are gone. Let us also direct our efforts to ensure, for our sake and for the sake of those yet to come, that this shining city on a hill will remain a beacon of freedom and hope that will forever reach out to embrace the aspirations and dreams of all the people of the world.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, a year ago today, a radical, Islamic terrorist group seized four aircraft, turning them into deadly weapons and killing thousands of defenseless people. Today, we continue to mourn the loss of those victims, and honor those who, with great bravery and instilled sense of duty, risked their lives to protect our people.

Yet while we reflect on this day, one year ago, we cannot look back. Throughout the history of America, we have been a forward-looking Nation, striving for excellence and finding strength in our love of country. America is a God-fearing land, and because of this, our Nation has been blessed mightily.

These attacks have been compared to December 7, 1941, when Pearl Harbor was also struck from the sky. At the end of that day, America was devastated and struck with the great sorrow of this tragedy. Yet as history so aptly tells us, America's resurgence brought forth the liberation of the world, and global peace for decades.

Today, as we look out across our land, we will see America at its most glorious hour. We will see the spirit of America at every ceremony, in every city and on the face of all Americans. It was the spirit of America that got us through that fateful day one year ago, and it will be this spirit that will carry us through for years to come.

It is contagious, this American spirit. Last year, as our firefighters, police officers and rescue workers sacrificed to save lives, the American spirit shined. As our military men and women headed overseas to defend our country, the American spirit shined. As Americans across our land joined together in unity and with a renewed sense of patriotism, the American spirit shined.

This is America, and faith and freedom will always be our call. That is what makes us unique. That is what makes us a people of

great pride and resiliency. And that is what makes us a target. Yet in the end, America endures.

Today the war on terrorism is progressing, but it will take time. As the President has said many times—this is a faceless enemy that we fight, and determination and perseverance will be our keys to victory. In the end our victory will once again bring about global peace.

So as we reflect on that tragic day, one year ago, and mourn the loss of so many of our fellow Americans, be rest assured that our brave military men and women overseas are getting the job done, and making America proud.

I commend and thank our military men and women for their sacrifices and bravery as they protect the Homeland. They are picking up where the heroes of September 11th left off—defending America, and fighting for the freedoms that we are willing to die for. The terrorists who attack us operate out of hatred—hatred of our freedom, hatred of our faith, and hatred of our liberty. Yet in the end, it will be our faith, freedom and love of liberty that will ultimately defeat them.

May God Bless the United States.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OTTER). Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the concurrent resolution.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the concurrent resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMEMORATING 9-11

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without prejudice to the resumption of legislative business, under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, today America is reflecting on the events of 9-11, as we should; and it is a time to remember. It is a time to remember those who lost their lives and to remember those, like the firemen and the police, who gave their lives trying to save others. It is a time for rage, as we have heard, and a time for reflection, a time for pride and a time for anger. What it is not, however, is a time for mourning. That time is over.

Today, I join with all of those who solemnly commemorate this anniversary. Heartfelt commemoration, I suggest, is not enough. We must consider not just what happened a year ago, as we have been hearing for the last hour; but instead we must find and discover and talk about and we must make determinations about why 9-11 happened.

As a Nation, we are now engaged in a historic global conflict with a vile enemy who slaughters innocent people by the thousands and then makes sanctimonious references to God. Talk about blasphemy. I do not know if bin Laden is dead or alive; but I do know that when he dies he will burn in hell, and it is our job to get him there as quickly as possible.

Our President laid down a battle plan that brought the liberation of Afghanistan and will soon rid the world of threats like that of Saddam Hussein. This is a result of 9-11 one year ago, but it did not start one year ago.

The first order of business is for us to recognize that the murderous attack on us in New York and at the Pentagon was not an act of God, nor was it a natural phenomenon. It did not just happen; nor, let me add, was it just a case of bad luck.

The slaughter of our fellow citizens need not have happened. It was something that would not have happened had certain people done things differently, had certain government policies been different, had certain Federal agencies and Departments been given different marching orders. In short, 9-11 need not have happened, and it is imperative that the American people look closely at the policies, the systems, and yes, the people which led to 9-11 to ensure that something like this never happens again.

What policies am I talking about? Let us start with the fundamentals or, if you will, the fundamentalists. Of the 19 hijackers on 9-11, 16 were Saudis or held Saudi passports. America's relationship with Saudi Arabia is complex but not as unfathomable as some would have us believe.

In the Cold War, we worked closely with the Saudi royal family; and to be fair, they were our loyal allies. They helped us finance anti-Communist projects that were of immense importance to our national security in the days when the Soviet Union was spending billions of dollars to bury us. Saudi help was vital on a number of fronts so there was reason for us then to be grateful; and, yes, there is reason today for us to be grateful.

What they did to help us in the past, however, does not excuse what they are doing today that threatens us. Times have changed, and dramatically so. If our policy towards Saudi Arabia does not change significantly, there will be a heavy price to pay in the future, if we have not already paid enough.

Relying on low oil prices and on Saudi largesse for special Cold War projects left us dependent upon them, and who is them, who are we talking about? We are talking about the royal family, the royal family of Saudi Arabia that is autocratic and over the years has become fat and incompetent and in many ways cowardly. However, again, they helped us defeat an enemy intent on destroying us, Communism. So we paid special attention to the Saudis.