

PERIODIC REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS WHO COMMIT, THREATEN TO COMMIT, OR SUPPORT TERRORISM—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith the 6-month periodic report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 19, 2002.

ELIMINATE THE DEATH TAX

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today the House passed a resolution urging Congress to eliminate the death tax. The death tax is the wrong tax on the wrong people at the wrong time. It punishes those who save and invest. It prevents parents from helping their children; and it forces many farmers, ranchers and small business owners to sell off a lifetime of hard work.

The House of Representatives has done its job. Last year we voted to repeal the death tax, but the Senate has not acted on similar legislation. Repealing and reducing taxes leaves more money in working families' pockets. When they spend it or invest it or start a business, new jobs are created and the economy is benefited. Like a weed in a garden, the death tax is not useful, does harm, and needs to be eliminated.

COMMENDING CONDUCT OF CAPITOL HILL COMMUNITY DURING ANTHRAX EVENT

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

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution that commends the entire Capitol Hill community for their courage and professionalism during the days and weeks following the release of anthrax on Capitol Hill.

In particular, I want to acknowledge the Office of the Attending Physician and the health care professionals in his

office who by their quick actions and early intervention prevented actual cases of anthrax within the Capitol Hill complex. They responded to and managed the largest bioterrorism event ever, providing direction locally that was used nationwide and even worldwide.

It should be noted that the anthrax letter event proved to be the largest public health crisis in the United States since the smallpox outbreak in New York City in the 1940s. The incredible response by the Attending Physician and his staff as they evaluated and treated over 7,000 people ensured the continuity of two branches of government, the Congress and the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker, I hope this bill we are introducing today can move quickly through the House and be passed before October 14, the 1-year anniversary of the anthrax letter arriving in Senator DASCHLE's office.

U.N. MUST PASS RESOLUTION

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, recently Iraq agreed to allow U.N. inspectors back into their country without conditions. After hearing that news, all I can say is we have been down this road before.

After a decade of deception by Iraq, the United Nations must show some real backbone if it wants to be a meaningful organization in the 21st century. Let us not forget that from 1991 to 1998, in spite of 13 different U.N. resolutions mandating unconditional access, Iraq never allowed that to happen. Saddam always had his conditions. Inspectors were kept from presidential palaces, mosques, and military installations, just to name a few places where we know he hides weapons.

The U.N. must pass a resolution that not only mandates unconditional weapons inspections, but also outlines the serious consequences for Saddam's Iraq if the U.N. inspectors do not get complete and unimpeded access and support.

The U.N. must take control and mandate unfettered inspections, and Saddam Hussein must comply. It is time for the U.N., and not Saddam Hussein, to be in the driver's seat.

FIGHTING TERRORISM HERE AND ABROAD

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to follow on the comments made by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) and urge Congress to continue its work in dealing with Iraq, and I specifically thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT) for his very proactive

role in this debate. This is a bipartisan effort to rid the war of terrorism. This is one party versus the other; this is good versus evil. President Bush has made that clear. Our allies in the U.N. have heard the message, and I urge us all to focus on this very serious problem we face in this Nation.

When people see the scourge of Iraq and the problems they pose to the free world, I think they, too, will join in a common voice and a common purpose of defeating terrorism and evil. Again I commend the minority leader, and for all those in Congress who are prepared to weigh in on this very critical issue of national security; and I certainly applaud the President, who has been steadfast since September 11 in leading this Nation not only to fight the war here at home but abroad.

SUPPORT SUDAN PEACE ACT

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

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, over the past 20 years, over 2 million people have died and over 4 million have been driven from their homes in Sudan. Not by famine, flood or pestilence, but at the hands of people who claim a right to govern.

Mr. Speaker, people who engage in a systematic campaign of killing, terror, starvation, destruction and expulsion against the people of southern Sudan are not the fearless leaders we hope to see in power when times are rough. Rather, they are the heartless leaders who make times tough for their own people.

The government in Khartoum continues to brutalize the people in the south. Why? While we cannot know the darkness within their hearts, we know the roots of their hatred. We know that the Khartoum Government, known as the National Islamic Front, consists of those who are seeking to impose their version of Islam on the black Christians in the south, or destroy them if they do not get along. This is a religious crusade that uses genocide to convert disbelievers. The government wants to destroy the southern people because they are of a different race and religion.

We have one of the greatest humanitarian crises of our time. Khartoum's self-proclaimed jihad against the south, driven by religious and racial hatred and a lust for oil, has killed more people than died in Kosovo, Bosnia, Rwanda and Somalia combined.

Yesterday, September 18, marked the first day of the Vigil for Sudan. Thousands of people will be gathering outside the State Department at Galvez Park here in Washington to pray for the people of Sudan. We in Congress and all Americans should join with them. We cannot stand by. Let us finish our work on the Sudan Peace Act and be among those leaders who are fearless and who are not heartless.