

Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Saxton
Schaffer
Schiff
Schrock
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster

Simmons
Simpson
Skeen
Skelton
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stearns
Stenholm
Stupak
Sullivan
Sununu
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman

Tiahrt
Tiberi
Toomey
Towns
Turner
Upton
Velazquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins (OK)
Watson (CA)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Wu
Wynn
Young (FL)

□ 1556

Messrs. GEORGE MILLER of California, DELAHUNT and SAWYER changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained for rollcall votes 448, 449, 450, and 451. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye” on all.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the conference report to accompany H.R. 5010, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

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

There was no objection.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 5010, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 579, I call up the conference report on the bill (H.R. 5010) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 579, the conference report is considered as having been read.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House of October 9, 2002).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS).

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. LEWIS of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks, and include extraneous material.)

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, Members will be very pleased to hear that I prepared a half-hour address regarding this measure, but I gave those remarks this morning.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD a document relating to the 2002 and 2003 Defense appropriations.

NAYS—37

Baldwin
Barrett
Brown (OH)
Clayton
Conyers
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLahunt
Doggett
Filner
Gephardt
Hilliard
Hinchey

Holt
Jones (OH)
Kucinich
Lee
Lewis (GA)
McDermott
Miller, George
Oberstar
Obey
Owens
Payne
Rangel
Rivers

Sawyer
Schakowsky
Slaughter
Stark
Strickland
Tierney
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Waters
Watt (NC)
Woolsey

NOT VOTING—20

Baldacci
Barr
Berman
Bonior
Brady (TX)
Burr
Cooksey

Coyne
Frank
Greenwood
Hilleary
McKinney
Ortiz
Osborne

Portman
Roukema
Stump
Tanner
Weldon (FL)
Young (AK)

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003 (H.R. 5010)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE I						
MILITARY PERSONNEL						
Military Personnel, Army.....	23,752,384	27,079,392	26,832,217	26,939,792	26,855,017	+3,102,633
Military Personnel, Navy.....	19,551,484	22,074,901	21,874,395	21,975,201	21,927,628	+2,376,144
Military Personnel, Marine Corps.....	7,345,340	8,558,887	8,504,172	8,507,187	8,501,087	+1,155,747
Military Personnel, Air Force.....	19,724,014	22,142,585	21,957,757	22,036,405	21,981,277	+2,257,263
Reserve Personnel, Army.....	2,670,197	3,398,555	3,373,455	3,402,055	3,374,355	+704,158
Reserve Personnel, Navy.....	1,654,523	1,927,152	1,897,352	1,918,352	1,907,552	+253,029
Reserve Personnel, Marine Corps.....	471,200	557,883	553,983	554,383	553,983	+82,783
Reserve Personnel, Air Force.....	1,061,160	1,243,904	1,236,904	1,237,504	1,236,904	+175,744
National Guard Personnel, Army.....	4,041,695	5,128,988	5,070,188	5,128,588	5,114,588	+1,072,893
National Guard Personnel, Air Force.....	1,784,654	2,135,611	2,124,411	2,126,061	2,125,161	+340,507
Total, title I, Military Personnel.....	82,056,651	94,247,858	93,424,834	93,825,528	93,577,552	+11,520,901

TITLE II

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Operation and Maintenance, Army.....	22,335,074	23,961,173	23,942,768	24,048,107	23,992,082	+1,657,008
Operation and Maintenance, Navy.....	26,876,636	28,697,235	29,121,836	29,410,276	29,331,526	+2,454,890
Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps.....	2,931,934	3,310,542	3,579,359	3,576,142	3,585,759	+653,825
Operation and Maintenance, Air Force.....	26,026,789	26,772,768	27,587,959	27,463,678	27,339,533	+1,312,744
Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide.....	12,773,270	14,169,258	14,850,377	14,527,853	14,773,506	+2,000,236
Operation and Maintenance, Army Reserve.....	1,771,246	1,880,110	1,976,710	1,963,710	1,970,180	+198,934
Operation and Maintenance, Navy Reserve.....	1,003,690	1,159,734	1,239,309	1,233,759	1,236,809	+233,119
Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve.....	144,023	185,532	189,532	185,532	187,532	+43,509
Operation and Maintenance, Air Force Reserve.....	2,024,866	2,135,452	2,165,604	2,160,604	2,163,104	+138,238
Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard.....	3,768,058	4,049,567	4,231,967	4,266,412	4,261,707	+493,649
Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard.....	3,988,961	4,062,445	4,113,010	4,113,460	4,117,585	+128,624
Overseas Contingency Operations Transfer Fund 1/.....	50,000	50,000	---	50,000	5,000	-45,000
United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.....	9,096	9,614	9,614	9,614	9,614	+518
Environmental Restoration, Army.....	389,800	395,900	395,900	395,900	395,900	+6,100
Environmental Restoration, Navy.....	257,517	256,948	256,948	256,948	256,948	-569
Environmental Restoration, Air Force.....	385,437	389,773	389,773	389,773	389,773	+4,336
Environmental Restoration, Defense-Wide.....	23,492	23,498	23,498	23,498	23,498	+6
Environmental Restoration, Formerly Used Defense Sites.....	222,255	212,102	212,102	252,102	246,102	+23,847
Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid.....	49,700	58,400	58,400	58,400	58,400	+8,700
Former Soviet Union Threat Reduction.....	---	416,700	416,700	416,700	416,700	+416,700
Support for International Sporting Competition, Defense	15,800	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	+3,200
Defense emergency response fund 2/.....	---	19,338,151	---	---	---	---
Total, title II, Operation and maintenance.....	105,047,644	131,553,902	114,780,366	114,821,468	114,780,258	+9,732,614

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003 (H.R. 5010)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE III						
PROCUREMENT						
Aircraft Procurement, Army.....	1,984,391	2,061,027	2,214,369	2,249,389	2,285,574	+301,183
Missile Procurement, Army.....	1,079,330	1,642,296	1,112,772	1,585,672	1,096,548	+17,218
Procurement of Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles, Army.....	2,193,746	2,248,558	2,248,358	2,242,058	2,266,508	+72,762
Procurement of Ammunition, Army.....	1,200,465	1,159,426	1,207,560	1,258,599	1,253,099	+52,634
Other Procurement, Army.....	4,183,736	5,168,453	6,017,380	5,783,439	5,874,674	+1,690,938
Aircraft Procurement, Navy.....	7,938,143	8,203,955	8,682,655	8,849,955	8,812,855	+874,712
Weapons Procurement, Navy.....	1,429,592	1,832,617	2,384,617	1,856,617	1,868,517	+438,925
Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps.....	461,399	1,015,152	1,167,130	1,169,152	1,165,730	+704,331
Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy.....	9,490,039	8,191,194	8,127,694	9,151,393	9,032,837	-457,202
Other Procurement, Navy.....	4,270,976	4,347,024	4,631,299	4,500,710	4,612,910	+341,934
Procurement, Marine Corps.....	995,442	1,288,383	1,369,383	1,357,383	1,388,583	+393,141
Aircraft Procurement, Air Force.....	10,567,038	12,067,405	12,492,730	13,085,555	13,137,255	+2,570,217
Missile Procurement, Air Force.....	2,989,524	3,575,162	3,185,439	3,364,639	3,174,739	+185,215
Procurement of Ammunition, Air Force.....	866,644	1,133,864	1,290,764	1,281,864	1,288,164	+421,520
Other Procurement, Air Force.....	8,085,863	10,523,946	10,622,660	10,628,958	10,672,712	+2,586,849
Procurement, Defense-Wide.....	2,389,490	2,688,515	3,457,405	2,958,285	3,444,455	+1,054,965
National Guard and Reserve Equipment.....	699,130	---	---	130,000	100,000	-599,130
Defense Production Act Purchases	40,000	73,057	73,057	73,057	73,057	+33,057
Total, title III, Procurement.....	60,864,948	67,220,034	70,285,272	71,526,725	71,548,217	+10,683,269

TITLE IV

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army 3/..	7,106,074	6,820,333	7,447,160	7,410,168	7,669,656	+563,582
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy.....	11,498,506	12,496,065	13,562,218	13,275,735	13,946,085	+2,447,579
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force.	14,669,931	17,564,984	18,639,392	18,537,679	18,822,569	+4,152,638
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide.....	15,415,275	16,598,863	17,863,462	16,611,107	17,924,642	+2,509,367
Operational Test and Evaluation, Defense.....	231,855	222,054	242,054	302,554	245,554	+13,699
Total, title IV, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation.....	48,921,641	53,702,299	57,754,286	56,137,243	58,608,506	+9,686,865
TITLE V						
REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS						
Defense Working Capital Funds.....	1,312,986	1,499,656	1,832,956	1,784,956	1,784,956	+471,970
National Defense Sealift Fund: Ready Reserve Force	432,408	934,129	944,129	934,129	942,629	+510,221
Total, title V, Revolving and Management Funds..	1,745,394	2,433,785	2,777,085	2,719,085	2,727,585	+982,191

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003 (H.R. 5010)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE VI						
OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS						
Defense Health Program:						
Operation and maintenance.....	17,659,475	14,234,041	13,916,791	14,283,041	14,100,386	-3,559,089
Procurement.....	267,915	278,742	283,743	284,242	284,242	+16,327
Research and development.....	463,804	67,214	400,214	394,214	458,914	-4,890
Total, Defense Health Program.....	18,391,194	14,579,997	14,600,748	14,961,497	14,843,542	-3,547,652
Chemical Agents & Munitions Destruction, Army:						
Operation and maintenance.....	739,020	974,238	974,238	974,238	974,238	+235,218
Procurement.....	164,158	213,278	213,278	213,278	213,278	+49,120
Research, development, test and evaluation.....	202,379	302,683	302,683	302,683	302,683	+100,304
Total, Chemical Agents.....	1,105,557	1,490,199	1,490,199	1,490,199	1,490,199	+384,642
Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense						
Office of the Inspector General.....	842,581	848,907	859,907	916,107	881,907	+39,326
	152,021	157,165	157,165	157,165	157,165	+5,144
Total, title VI, Other Department of Defense						
Programs.....	20,491,353	17,076,268	17,108,019	17,524,968	17,372,813	-3,118,540
TITLE VII						
RELATED AGENCIES						
Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability						
System Fund.....	212,000	212,000	212,000	212,000	222,500	+10,500
Intelligence Community Management Account.....	160,429	147,754	162,254	122,754	163,479	+3,050
Transfer to Department of Justice.....	(42,752)	(34,100)	(34,100)	(34,100)	(34,100)	(-8,652)
Payment to Kaho'olawe Island Conveyance, Remediation,						
and Environmental Restoration Fund.....	67,500	25,000	25,000	80,000	75,000	+7,500
National Security Education Trust Fund.....	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	---
Total, title VII, Related agencies.....	447,929	392,754	407,254	422,754	468,979	+21,050

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003 (H. R. 5010)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE VIII						
GENERAL PROVISIONS						
Additional transfer authority (Sec. 8005).....	(2,000,000)	(2,500,000)	(2,500,000)	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	---
Additional 2002 transfer authority (Sec. 8005).....	---	---	---	---	(500,000)	(+500,000)
Indian Financing Act incentives (Sec. 8021).....	8,000	---	8,000	---	8,000	---
FFRDCs (Sec. 8029).....	-40,000	---	---	8,000	-74,200	-34,200
Disposal & lease of DOD real property (Sec. 8035).....	19,000	29,730	29,730	29,730	29,730	+10,730
Overseas Mil Fac Invest Recovery (Sec. 8038).....	3,362	---	1,000	1,000	1,000	-2,362
Rescissions (Sec. 8050).....	-531,475	---	-192,932	-190,700	-402,750	+128,725
Excess Foreign Currency Cash Balance (Sec. 8082).....	-240,000	---	-615,000	-338,000	-338,000	-98,000
Travel Cards (Sec. 8087).....	8,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	+2,000
Defense Cooperation Account.....	---	5,000	---	---	---	---
United Service Organizations.....	8,500	---	---	---	---	-8,500
Transfer within SCN (Sec. 8101).....	---	---	---	---	---	---
Transfers within SCN (Sec. 8125).....	---	---	---	---	---	---
Government Purchase Card (Sec. 8103).....	-100,000	---	-97,000	---	-97,000	+3,000
National D-Day Museum.....	4,250	---	---	---	---	-4,250
American Red Cross (Sec. 8129).....	8,500	---	---	4,000	8,100	+4,600
Newmark.....	---	---	---	---	---	-8,500
Special needs students (Sec. 8108).....	1,700	---	---	5,000	7,750	+7,750
Fisher House (Sec. 8099).....	1,700	---	2,000	---	1,700	---
Zero emission steam technology demo.....	---	---	---	---	---	-1,700
CAAS/Contract Growth (Sec. 8100).....	-1,650,000	---	-51,000	-850,000	-850,000	+800,000
Utilities.....	-105,000	---	---	---	-400,000	+105,000
IT cost growth reduction (Sec. 8109).....	---	---	---	---	---	-3,000
Tethered Aerostat Radar System.....	3,000	---	---	---	---	-6,000
Fairchild Air Force Base.....	6,000	---	---	---	---	---
Coast Guard.....	---	---	---	300,000	---	---
Army Acquisition Restructuring.....	-5,000	---	---	---	---	+5,000
USS Alabama Museum Memorial.....	4,200	---	---	---	---	-4,200
Special Needs Learning Center.....	3,500	---	---	---	---	-3,500
Eisenhower Commission.....	2,600	---	---	---	---	-2,600
Travel cost growth (Sec. 8133).....	-262,000	---	---	-59,260	-59,260	+202,740
Legislative liaison savings.....	-50,000	---	---	---	---	+50,000
Reserve Component Incentive and Bonus programs.....	10,000	---	---	---	---	-10,000
Fort Des Moines Memorial Grant.....	4,500	---	---	---	---	-4,500
Clear Radar Upgrade.....	8,000	---	---	---	---	-8,000
Defense Counter-Terrorism Fellowship prog.....	17,900	---	---	---	---	-17,900
Missile defense/counterterrorism.....	---	---	---	814,300	---	---
Revised economic assumptions reduction (Sec. 8135).....	---	---	---	-814,300	-1,674,000	-1,674,000
Padgett Thomas Barracks.....	15,000	---	---	---	---	-15,000
USS Intrepid Museum Memorial.....	4,250	---	---	---	---	-4,250
Armed Forces Retirement Home.....	5,200	---	---	---	---	-5,200
Working Capital Funds Cash Balance (Sec. 8112).....	---	---	-470,000	---	-120,000	-120,000
Working Capital Funds Excess Carryover (Sec. 8113).....	---	---	-475,000	---	-48,000	-48,000
Ctr for Mil Recruiting Assessment & Vet Emp (Sec. 8115).....	---	---	4,000	---	3,400	+3,400
Army Venture Capital Funds (Sec. 8105).....	---	---	17,000	---	17,000	+17,000
Total, title VIII, General Provisions.....	-2,832,813	44,730	-1,824,202	-1,571,830	-3,976,530	-1,143,717

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003 (H.R. 5010)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE IX						
COUNTER-TERRORISM & DEFENSE AGAINST WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION						
Counter-Terrorism & Operational Response Transfer Fund	478,000	---	---	---	---	-478,000
Transfer to Department of Justice.....	(10,000)	---	---	---	---	(-10,000)
Former Soviet Union Threat Reduction.....	403,000	---	---	---	---	-403,000
Total, title IX, Counter-terrorism and Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction.....	881,000	---	---	---	---	-881,000
Total for the bill (net).....	317,623,747	366,671,630	354,712,914	355,405,941	355,107,380	+37,483,633
OTHER APPROPRIATIONS						
Emergency Response Fund (PL 107-117).....	3,395,600	---	---	---	---	-3,395,600
2002 Supplemental (PL 107-206) (emergency).....	13,982,815	---	---	---	---	-13,982,815
2002 Supplemental (PL 107-206) (rescission).....	-389,100	---	---	---	---	+389,100
2002 Supplemental (PL 107-206) (rescission of emergency funding).....	-224,000	---	---	---	---	+224,000
Net grand total (including other appropriations)	334,389,062	366,671,630	354,712,914	355,405,941	355,107,380	+20,718,318

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003 (H.R. 5010)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET RECAP						
Scorekeeping adjustments:						
Stockpile collections (unappropriated).....	-150,000	---	---	---	---	+150,000
O&M, Army transfer to National Park Service:						
Defense function.....	-1,000	---	---	---	---	+1,000
Nondefense function.....	1,000	---	---	---	---	-1,000
Disabled military retiree payments (mandatory)....	55,000	55,000	55,000	55,000	55,000	---
Military personnel accounts (discretionary)....	-55,000	-55,000	-55,000	-55,000	-55,000	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total adjustments.....	-150,000	---	---	---	---	+150,000
Adjusted total (incl scorekeeping adjustments) 4/	334,239,062	366,671,630	354,712,914	355,405,941	355,107,380	+20,868,318
Appropriations.....	(335,159,637)	(366,671,630)	(354,905,846)	(355,596,641)	(355,510,130)	(+20,350,493)
Rescissions.....	(-920,575)	---	(-192,932)	(-190,700)	(-402,750)	(+517,825)
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total (including adjustments).....	334,239,062	366,671,630	354,712,914	355,405,941	355,107,380	+20,868,318
Amount in this bill.....	(334,389,062)	(366,671,630)	(354,712,914)	(355,405,941)	(355,107,380)	(+20,718,318)
Scorekeeping adjustments.....	(-150,000)	---	---	---	---	(+150,000)
Prior year outlays.....	---	---	---	---	---	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total mandatory and discretionary.....	334,239,062	366,671,630	354,712,914	355,405,941	355,107,380	+20,868,318
Mandatory.....	267,000	267,000	267,000	267,000	277,500	+10,500
Discretionary.....	333,972,062	366,404,630	354,445,914	355,138,941	354,829,880	+20,857,818

Footnotes:

- Budget amendment (H. Doc. 107-189) reduced Overseas Contingency Operations Transfer Fund by \$2,632,000.
- The FY 2003 budget request for the 'Defense Emergency Response Fund' was reduced by \$716,849,000 and transferred to Military Construction.
- Budget Amendment (H. Doc. 107-219) terminated the Army's Crusader artillery program of \$475,609,000 and reallocated these funds to other R&D, Army programs.
- The fiscal year 2003 budget request was adjusted to not include \$3,412,561,000, the proposed cost to cover the accrued costs related to retirement benefits of Civil Service Retirement System employees and retiree health benefits for all civilian employees.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003 (H.R. 5010)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
RECAPITULATION						
Title I - Military Personnel.....	82,056,651	94,247,858	93,424,834	93,825,528	93,577,552	+11,520,901
Title II - Operation and Maintenance.....	105,047,644	131,553,902	114,780,366	114,821,468	114,780,258	+9,732,614
Title III - Procurement.....	60,864,948	67,220,034	70,285,272	71,526,725	71,548,217	+10,683,269
Title IV - Research, Development, Test and Evaluation.....	48,921,641	53,702,299	57,754,286	56,137,243	58,608,506	+9,686,865
Title V - Revolving and Management Funds.....	1,745,394	2,433,785	2,777,085	2,719,085	2,727,585	+982,191
Title VI - Other Department of Defense Programs.....	20,491,353	17,076,268	17,108,019	17,524,968	17,372,813	-3,118,540
Title VII - Related agencies.....	447,929	392,754	407,254	422,754	468,979	+21,050
Title VIII - General provisions (net).....	-2,832,813	44,730	-1,824,202	-1,571,830	-3,976,530	-1,143,717
Title IX - Counter-terrorism & Defense against Weapons of Mass Destruction (net).....	881,000	---	---	---	---	-881,000
Prior year outlays.....	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Department of Defense (in this bill).....	317,623,747	366,671,630	354,712,914	355,405,941	355,107,380	+37,483,633
Other appropriations.....	16,765,315	---	---	---	---	-16,765,315
Total DoD funding available (net).....	334,389,062	366,671,630	354,712,914	355,405,941	355,107,380	+20,718,318
Scorekeeping adjustments.....	-150,000	---	---	---	---	+150,000
Total mandatory and discretionary.....	334,239,062	366,671,630	354,712,914	355,405,941	355,107,380	+20,868,318
RECAP BY FUNCTION						
Mandatory.....	267,000	267,000	267,000	267,000	277,500	+10,500
Prior year outlays.....	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Mandatory.....	267,000	267,000	267,000	267,000	277,500	+10,500
Discretionary:						
General purpose discretionary:						
Defense discretionary.....	333,969,362	366,404,630	354,445,914	355,138,941	354,829,880	+20,860,518
Prior year outlays.....	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Defense discretionary.....	333,969,362	366,404,630	354,445,914	355,138,941	354,829,880	+20,860,518
Nondefense discretionary.....	2,700	---	---	---	---	-2,700
Prior year outlays.....	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Nondefense discretionary.....	2,700	---	---	---	---	-2,700
Total discretionary.....	333,972,062	366,404,630	354,445,914	355,138,941	354,829,880	+20,857,818
Grand total, mandatory and discretionary	334,239,062	366,671,630	354,712,914	355,405,941	355,107,380	+20,868,318

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

□ 1600

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

Mr. Speaker, we have done the best that we can do with the amount of money that was appropriated to us.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises in strong support for the conference report on H.R. 5010, the Defense appropriations bill for FY2003. This Member would like to offer particular thanks to the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Department of Defense Appropriations, the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS), and the Ranking Minority Member on the Subcommittee on Department of Defense Appropriations, the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) for their work on this important bill.

Furthermore, this Member is very appreciative that the Committee has approved the appropriations of \$3.5 million for a bioprocessing facility at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). These funds will be used for the third phase of the project to establish and validate a current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) processing facility with the capability to make vaccines as therapeutic countermeasures against biological warfare agents. Tow cGMP pilot plants, one dedicated to yeast/bacterial culture and the other dedicated to mammalian cell culture will be built within the new Chemical Engineering building on the UNL campus. The funds will be used to build and equip the laboratories.

This will be a commercial-grade facility, giving UNL the capability, if requested by the Department of Defense (DoD), to make vaccines against biological warfare agents and products that can be used as therapeutic countermeasures to treat people who have been exposed to biological agents. Currently, UNL is doing this on a smaller scale and, therefore, is well suited to pursue this expansion. This new facility certainly will enhance our nation's ability to respond to biological warfare.

This Member sincerely thanks the Committee on Appropriations for including \$1.375 million in fiscal year 2003 for the Air National Guard's Project ALERT. Currently, Project ALERT serves as an on-line training tool developed and used by the Nebraska National Guard in collaboration with the Department of Defense, the National Guard Bureau, the University of Nebraska, and Nebraska Educational Television. The \$1.375 million appropriated in the conference report will assist with the development of the new courses and the modification of existing courses.

Indeed, the implications of Project ALERT extend nationwide and to components of both the active and reserve military forces. Allowing military forces to complete some training courses on their own time, as Project ALERT does, provides an opportunity to cut on-site training costs and time and to maximize exercise time. For the U.S. military to meet the challenges it will face during the current war on terrorism and throughout the 21st Century, it is crucial that Congress invest in innovative and flexible training tools such as Project ALERT.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, this Member urges his colleagues to vote in support of the conference report for H.R. 5010.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, earlier today the House voted to authorize the Presi-

dent to unilaterally use force against Iraq. It's appropriate that we immediately follow the Iraq debate with the largest Department of Defense appropriations bill ever put before Congress. I did not support the Iraq resolution and I do not support spending \$1 billion per day on a variety of wasteful programs, many of which do not improve the security of our nation.

The bill spends \$355.1 billion; \$35 billion more than the current level. The conference report is \$395 million more than what we passed in the House in June. Unfortunately, \$7.4 billion of this conference report is for a misguided missile defense system, which will do nothing to protect us against terrorists like Osama bin Laden. At this critical time in our nation's struggle against terrorism, we must spend our resources on America's immediate defense needs. Missile defense is not among them.

In addition, this bill supports a controversial plan to lease as many as 100 Boeing 767 aircraft for the Pentagon. Leasing, rather than buying the aircraft will cost taxpayers more money in the long term. There are some aspects of this bill that I find encouraging. The bill provides no funds for the outmoded Crusader mobile howitzer, a weapons system designed for a war from an age long past. Providing an additional \$368 million for work on a lighter and more flexible weapons system is more appropriate.

The bottom line is that we are spending almost a billion dollars a day on programs that do not do all they should to protect our country from threats to its national security.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, for our nation to have a strong defense capability, we need to make certain that critical manufacturing capacity and skills are maintained. Some of the most vital are tool and die, mold making and precision machining. They represent the first step in manufacturing. These companies are family owned businesses located in every state of the union. They are characterized by highly skilled employees that provide the economic bedrock of our defense industrial base.

Many of America's small businesses that offer this capability to our defense infrastructure are closing their doors due to economic difficulties caused by the current economic recession facing our manufacturing industry. The National Tooling and Machining Association has stated that over 400 companies have closed since January of this year. We often find that prime contractors are subcontracting with foreign firms rather than American businesses. If steps are not taken now to assess and correct the situation, America may find itself without these critical capabilities and skills. As was learned in the West Coast dock work stoppage, some parts that are required by the U.S. military were unavailable. This situation highlights an important decision we must make. If we do not take steps immediately, our country will lose the capability to produce the parts that are needed to protect our country.

I appreciate the commitments I have received from the distinguished chairman and ranking member to work with us to secure within 60 days from the Department of Defense a report regarding what steps can be taken to increase procurement, development of contracts, and subcontracts, with these vital American small businesses.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the rule that will allow for consideration of

H.R. 5010, the defense appropriations bill for fiscal year 2003. The tragic events of just over a year ago, have thrust our Nation's military into the spotlight and called to duty the brave men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces. Once again, U.S. citizens are rallying behind them in strong support of the harrowing mission they have been called upon to do; and today the United States Congress has a duty to pass this important legislation that will help provide the necessary resources for these brave men and women to do their job.

This legislation first and foremost takes care of our most vital asset in the military, our people. It provides every servicemember with a 4.1 percent pay raise. The legislation gives our military personnel the necessary resources to do their job. It fully funds budgeted increases in steaming, flying, and training hours and resources needed for increases for spare parts and real property maintenance. For the soldiers and airmen in my district at Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base, the ability to adequately care for their families and train for the mission for which they are called are the two issues which are second to none. I believe this legislation builds upon our work from last year, continuing to reverse the decline of military readiness by funding key operations, maintenance, and training accounts. This financial support devoted to our national security is long in coming. We must adequately provide the men and women from Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base and all of our military personnel who are currently prosecuting the war on terrorism adequate and necessary resources to do their job.

I would like to specifically mention that this bill provides some funding for some key capabilities for our U.S. Special Forces, many of whom make their home in my district at Ft. Bragg, NC. While they, alongside members from all our Armed Forces, serve in Afghanistan and all over the world today, we show our support by providing the funding necessary to effectively and safely do their job. The \$355.1 billion we are voting on today will help do that. It is targeted at two of the most critical areas crucial to maintaining a quality of life and readiness. Furthermore, this legislation funds important projects in research and development, such as the optoelectronics program just getting underway in my district at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Mr. Speaker, it is gross injustice and misfortune that it took the tragedy in September to focus the public eye on the need for a more robust defense budget; but I feel the legislation in front of us takes that step, and the rule provides for its consideration. I urge Members to vote strongly in favor of the rule and the final legislation.

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this Conference Report, which provides \$355.1 billion in new discretionary spending authority to the Department of Defense, a very necessary increase of \$37.5 billion over Fiscal Year 2002 spending levels. As our Nation confronts the security challenges facing us, we must ensure that adequate and secure funding is provided for our armed forces to confront these challenges swiftly and effectively. I am pleased that this legislation provides not only the material resources to continue our vigilant efforts in the war on terrorism, but also provides the necessary funding towards an improved quality of life for our men and women in uniform.

Mr. Speaker, I do continue to have concerns about the implications of passing this legislation ahead of other appropriations bills, and the possibility that funding for other necessary appropriations bills may be marginalized. At a time when our Nation's economy is weak and our citizens have paid the price, Congress must refrain from politics in the appropriations of the government's limited funds. I am pleased that this Conference Report reflects that which our Nation's security demands: a large increase in foreign intelligence spending, increased funding for the strategic mobility or armed forces need to deploy swiftly in forward engagements, and increased funding to confront the threat of unconventional nuclear, biological, and chemical threats. I believe this legislation provides the appropriate and responsible increases in Department of Defense funding that will assist our armed forces in confronting the unanticipated demands in the global fight against terror.

I am pleased that this conference report includes funding for three initiatives which I have long supported to protect the lives of the people of this Nation. Of particular interest is the funding of \$11 million for the Texas Training and Technology for Trauma and Terrorism (T5) program at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC). The T5 program is a continuation of the successful Disaster Relief and Emergency Medical Services (DREAMS) program at UTHSC. The goal of the T5 project is to identify the best ways of protecting Houston, or any other city, from the morbidity, mortality and cost of terrorism and other disasters. The project will consist of several components including creating digital emergency medical services to patients who are linked by mobile wireless video, establishing a Center for Disaster Preparedness at the University of Texas School of Public Health, developing hand-held software called Responder to enable first responders to have at their fingertips critical information including the local fire department, State, local, and Federal authorities, and establishing a high-security building at the University of Texas Research Park for isolation, decontamination, and triage center for public health and bioterrorism threats.

The second project will provide \$9 million for the Biology, Education, Screening, Chemoprevention and Treatment (BESCT) lung cancer research program at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center at the Texas Medical Center in Houston, Texas. This is the fourth installment in my five-year effort to expand medical research on lung cancer. Lung cancer claims the lives of more than 160,000 each year and is devastating to the families who are affected by this disease. For many lung cancer patients, there are not adequate treatments to cure the disease. The five-year survival rate for lung cancer is less than 15 percent. This \$9 million in research will build upon the \$15 million that Congress has already provided to the UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center will have the funds necessary to help save lives and reduce health care costs.

The third project will provide \$750,000 for a joint chiropractic health initiative between the 147th Fighter Squadron at Ellington Field and Texas Chiropractic College in Pasadena, Texas. This funding will allow Moody Clinic at Texas Chiropractic College to provide the men and women of the 147th Fighter Squadron with new diagnostic imaging assets and other

tools that will enhance the chiropractic, pain management, and related health services available to them. This funding will be matched by private sector donations and will help active duty personnel to obtain chiropractic care in accordance with current law. Many active duty personnel will for the first time have access to chiropractic services which have been shown to be cost effective and helpful to improve productivity of personnel.

I urge my colleagues to support this conference report to ensure that we provide adequate Federal funding to defend our Nation and to ensure that our Nation's armed forces received the necessary benefits which they deserve.

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the conference report.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the conference report.

Pursuant to clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 409, nays 14, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 457]

YEAS—409

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Allen
Andrews
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggart
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Boozman
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Bryant
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito

Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Costello
Cox
Cramer
Crane
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson

Engel
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Flake
Fletcher
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fossella
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grucci
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (TX)
Hansen
Harman
Hart
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa

Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hyde
Inlee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kerns
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klecza
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Lynch
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Mascara
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre

McKeon
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Mica
Millender-McDonald
Miller, Dan
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Miller, Jeff
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Obey
Olver
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sawyer
Saxton

Schaffer
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrock
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Sullivan
Sununu
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Toomey
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Velazquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins (OK)
Watson (CA)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (MS)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NAYS—14

Blumenauer
Filner
Frank
Jackson (IL)
Kucinich

Lee
Lewis (GA)
McDermott
Oberstar
Paul

Payne
Waters
Watt (NC)
Woolsey

NOT VOTING—8

Baldacci
Bonior
Cooksey

Coyne
McKinney
Ortiz

Roukema
Stump

□ 1625

Mr. KUCINICH changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the conference report was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to recommit was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. Res. 122, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, 2003

Mrs. MYRICK, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-739) on the resolution (H. Res. 580) providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 122) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 5011, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 578 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 578

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 5011) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, the rule waives all points of order against the conference report to accompany H.R. 5011, Military Construction Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2003, and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read.

Mr. Speaker, I find this bill very timely and of the utmost importance since this morning the House voted to authorize the use of the United States Armed Forces against Iraq. We are asking a lot of our military today. Our military personnel on active duty know that they may very well be deployed overseas and perhaps on dangerous missions. So we want to provide

them a quality of life for themselves and for their families that will allow them to serve, knowing that their families will be taken care of in good housing and with good health care.

□ 1630

H.R. 5011 recognizes the dedication and commitment of our troops by providing for their most basic needs, improved military facilities, including housing and medical facilities.

Mr. Speaker, we must honor the most basic commitments we have made to the men and women of our Armed Forces. We must ensure reasonable quality of life to recruit and retain the best and the brightest to America's fighting forces. Most importantly, we must do all in our power to ensure a strong, able, dedicated American military so that this Nation may stay ever vigilant, ever prepared.

H.R. 5011 provides nearly \$1.2 billion for barracks and \$151 million for hospital and medical facilities for troops and their families. It also provides \$2.87 billion to operate and maintain existing housing units and \$1.34 billion for new housing units.

Military families also have a tremendous need for quality child care, as do other people in the country, especially single parents and families in which one or both parents may face lengthy deployments. To help meet this need, the bill provides \$18 million for child development centers.

Mr. Speaker, earlier today we passed the resolution to authorize the President to use military force against Iraq, if necessary, so now it is time for Congress to keep its promise to our Armed Forces. To that end, I urge my colleagues to support this rule and to support the conference report.

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

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

I want to thank my friend for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, we have before us a fair rule for the consideration of the Military Construction Appropriations Conference Report for Fiscal Year 2003. The rule provides for one hour of general debate, and waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. I urge my colleagues to vote for the rule.

I would like to express my appreciation for the work of the gentleman from Ohio (Chairman HOBSON) and the ranking member, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER) of the Subcommittee on Military Construction, along with Committee on Appropriations chairman, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and the ranking member, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), for continuing the tradition of strong bipartisan support in the drafting of the military construction appropriations bill.

While there were some difficulties in negotiating this usually noncontroversial bill, both Chambers were able to

resolve the differences and we now have a compromise conference report.

This is a very difficult year for the Committee on Appropriations; and I commend the gentleman from Ohio (Chairman HOBSON) and the ranking member, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER), for bringing to this House a very fine bill, given the limited amount of funds allocated for military construction needs.

This conference report provides \$400 million more than the bill this body approved on June 27; and, although this funding level is better than the original bill, the total funding for these important military construction programs is still less than fiscal year 2002 levels. Frankly, Mr. Speaker, this bill is woefully inadequate; and the men and women who serve in our Armed Forces deserve much better.

However, this final product is an improvement over the original House bill; and I urge the adoption of this rule and the conference report.

Mr. Speaker, I wish I could stand here and say that with the adoption of this bill our appropriation work is done. Far from it. The simple fact of the matter is that the leadership of this House has failed to do its job. Out of 13 appropriations bills, this House is going to skip town having completed work on exactly two, two for 13. That is a batting average of .154, which does not even cut it in Little League. It is terrible, it is outrageous, and the American people should know that this Congress did not meet its responsibilities.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman 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, first of all, let me say I rise to support this rule and previously rose by way of my vote to support the defense appropriations and the rule. I thank the Chair Mr. HOBSON and ranking member Mr. OLVER for their good work.

However, it is interesting that we would discuss this particular rule in the shadow of our recent vote dealing with the question of the decision of whether or not this Nation should go to war. I do believe that it is important for those of us who support our United States military to ensure better housing conditions and better pay and improve their quality of life issues, should make it very clear—we are concerned about a strong military.

Just recently, I was able to travel to Guantanamo Bay. I have seen the work that we do to enhance the living conditions of our troops, and I do want to thank the committee whose responsibility it is to do that.

Likewise, having recently returned from Afghanistan, I saw the frontline troops doing their job. That is why I