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The point is that it is difficult to believe the administration did not opt for war long ago whatever the consequences. Although we could be left virtually alone to bear the costs of winning the war and securing the peace, the administration has appeared intent on moving forward, seemingly with contempt for international opinion.

Although it seems that we are beyond the 11th hour and the clock is ticking, there are things we can and must do before taking military action against Iraq. I think continued diplomatic pressure and the threat of military action can force Saddam Hussein to disarm or seek permanent exile abroad. We should continue to apply this pressure through the United Nations.

Further, I think we must be more open to the idea of so-called coercive inspections, using our military buildup in coordination with the U.N. to test the effectiveness of a more robust inspection and disarmament process in Iraq. This would involve putting the most qualified people in the field, providing them with real-time intelligence, destroying forbidden items as soon as they are detected, strictly prohibiting Iraqi flying in the designated no-fly zones and reinforcing the authority of inspectors with ground troops if necessary.

Mr. Speaker, I am an optimist by nature, but I am not naive. Coercive inspections alone may not be enough to disarm Saddam. But I believe they may be the best step now to build greater international support for forcing him to disarm. And as a strategic move in our larger role against terrorism, tightening the international noose on Saddam strikes me as a smarter option, at least in the short term, than opting now for a war with all its known and unknown consequences.

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

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

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DR. WILLIAM "BILL" PERRY, JR.

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

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor to a fallen soldier in our country. I rise to pay tribute to one of Florida's unsung heroes, the late Dr. William B. Perry, Jr. who was truly one of the most outstanding civil rights leaders of our time. His passing on Wednesday, February 12, 2003, in Miami-Dade County leaves a deep void in our community as it re-

lates to being an outstanding protector of justice and protecting civil rights in our community for disenfranchised African Americans and people of color.

He was a grassroots person. He was beyond what you may call an elected official or someone that felt that they should do a good thing every once in a while. He was an individual that had many individuals come who celebrated his life on February 17, and it so happens to be Black History Month, of his contributions not only in south Florida but also in other parts of our Nation.

He was noted for being an educator, an educator of young and old, someone that continued to fight a good fight, day in and day out, on behalf of those that were disenfranchised. I think it is important that we remember his work as untraditional and uncommon, doing uncommon things uncommonly well in a way that everyday people could be able to grab on and hold on to his dream. He stood up in a time in the 1980s when there was a gentleman by the name of Arthur McDuffie that was killed by police officers in Miami-Dade County that then sparked off several days of rioting, and he was a part of bringing calmness to that situation and moving forth to help move Miami forward and what we have to do as it relates to fair play for all.

I think it is important, Mr. Speaker, for us to note that he attended college at Coppin State College and Loyola College for his undergraduate studies, and then went on to earn his doctorate degree in education from the University of Massachusetts. He served as an ordinary classroom teacher with the Baltimore City Public Schools. After that, he then went on and was awarded a national fellowship in the school superintendency by the Rockefeller Foundation in 1996, one of the Nation's most prestigious academic honors given to postdoctoral scholars.

I think it is also important for us to be able to note his contributions within the NAACP. He served as one of the Presidents of the Greater Miami-Dade NAACP where he was at the forefront and was ready to be able to move forth on behalf of those individuals that needed a voice in the community and in our Nation. Dr. Perry went on to educate many other leaders that are in our community today. He was a man who believed in family. He believed in commitment. He believed in the American way and making sure that everyone, and I do mean everyone, had an opportunity of the American dream. He left behind a family of great love and appreciation not only for public service but for education, making sure that they were the beacon for other families to follow. He left several grandchildren and children behind to carry on his legacy, and even those that are not in his bloodline, Mr. Speaker, that can continue his way of thinking, his uncanting will to represent those that needed the representation.

Words are truly inadequate, Mr. Speaker, to try to describe all the con-

tributions that Dr. Perry gave to our country and also to Miami-Dade County in Florida. But we must say that we only have a Dr. William Perry to come our way every once in a while. I must say that we need to continue to carry on, and America should move along in standing for those that need individuals to stand for them, and also make sure that we keep Dr. King's dream alive and Dr. Perry's dream alive in equality for everyone, Dr. Perry also was a drum major, to make sure to tell young and old never to give up on what they believe in and what they think is right.

Mr. Speaker, I would close by saying that it is important that we have fallen heroes, be it elected or selected or, we may say in the Christian community, anointed to lead, that we remember their contributions so that others can follow their track.

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE IRAQ CRISIS

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, President Bush, from all appearances, seems poised to attack the country of Iraq sometime in the next 2 or 3 weeks according to news reports, according to reading a bit between the lines of statements coming from the Bush administration. The fundamental question about whether or not the United States should launch a preemptive strike without U.N. support against Iraq, the fundamental question is whether that attack against Iraq makes the United States a safer country and whether it makes American civilians traveling abroad, living abroad more importantly, perhaps, living in the United States, whether it makes all of us safer. The CIA says no.

A CIA analysis said that the chances of what they call a blowback, meaning attacks against civilians from terrorists abroad or terrorists inside the

United States, that attacks against civilians, the chances increase according to the CIA, so-called blowback, the term they used, the chances increase if we launch a preemptive strike against Iraq without U.N. support. Several four-star generals testified in the other body and said that an attack against Iraq without U.N. support, a preemptive attack will, in their words, supercharge al Qaeda recruiting. Common sense simply tells you that the U.S. will not be a safer place, will be a more dangerous place, that civilians in this country will in fact be in more danger if we unilaterally attack Iraq. Common sense says that, Mr. Speaker, because if Saddam Hussein is backed into a corner, Saddam Hussein, who has not attacked anyone in the last 10 years, if he is backed into a corner with whatever weapons he might have, the chances are he is much more likely to attack the United States if in fact that happens.

Mr. Speaker, this country for the last five decades has followed a military doctrine of containment and deterrence and diplomacy. Dwight Eisenhower when urged by some advisers and some newspapers similar to the actions of the Washington Post, those kind of jingoist, expansion, let's-get-into-war newspapers that encouraged him, Dwight Eisenhower, to go to war against Stalin and the Soviets, Dwight Eisenhower said, "That's not what we do in this country. We don't launch preemptive attacks against people. Instead we contain, we deter, we use diplomacy."

Dwight Eisenhower and others contained and deterred and used diplomacy with Joseph Stalin and the Soviets to contain them. We used the same containment and deterrence and diplomacy with the People's Republic of China and Mao Zedong. John Kennedy used the same kind of deterrence and containment against Fidel Castro and the Cubans to keep them in check, to keep them from expanding. And the United States Government, George Bush, Sr., President Clinton, and the first couple of years of President Bush, we have done the same containment and deterrence to keep Saddam Hussein in check.

Now if we launch a preemptive attack against Iraq, go against a country that has not attacked us, a country that we know has no ties to the terrorists who attacked our country, we know Saudi Arabia has ties. In fact the people who attacked our country, most of them were from Saudi Arabia. We also know that the Saudi royal family happens to be friends of the Bush family. Saudi Arabia is still our friend. We do not attack them even though they have ties to al Qaeda.

We are not attacking North Korea, even though we know they have nuclear weapons. We are not attacking Iran, even though they are a part of the axis of evil. The President has decided that we are about to attack Iraq, a country where we have contained and

deterred and kept Saddam Hussein in check.

But, Mr. Speaker, if we decide to change our military doctrine of containment, deterrence and diplomacy, to change our military doctrine that we have followed for the last five or six decades, and preemptively strike a country that has not attacked us, the message around the world, the message to the Russians is going to be, it is okay to chase down Chechen terrorists and go into Georgia and attack them. The message to the Chinese will be, it is okay to clamp down harder on Tibet, it is okay maybe to invade Taiwan because the United States launched a preemptive attack, and maybe it is okay for the world powers to engage in that kind of lawlessness. And most problematically and most dangerously and most frighteningly, Mr. Speaker, it will say to India that maybe it is okay to launch a preemptive strike against Pakistan over Kashmir. It will say to Pakistan, maybe it is okay to launch a preemptive strike against India over Kashmir. Those happen to be, Mr. Speaker, two countries that have nuclear weapons.

So if we go against the U.N. decision, if we go into Iraq without U.N. support preemptively, first of all it clearly makes our country more dangerous because you can count on as we attack Iraq, you can count on Al-Jazeera taping hostilities and taping casualties of Iraqi civilians and the message that that is going to send to the Arab world of destabilization, making the world a more dangerous place to be.

LIONS CLUB FOUNDER MELVIN JONES AND LIBERTY DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KENNEDY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, over 200 years ago, at the end of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, a curious woman asked Benjamin Franklin, "Sir, what have you given us?" He replied, "A republic, if you can keep it."

That is our challenge today. A couple of things that are vital to maintaining, to help that republic, include the active involvement of our citizens in our government and the active community service of others, reaching out to others in their communities. No one understands this better than a man named Melvin Jones who I would like to honor here today, the club he started, the Lions Club, as well as a program that the Lions Club are undertaking called Liberty Day.

This man, Melvin Jones, is a living example of what it means to be a community servant. As he went out and founded the world's largest network of community service organizations, the Lions Club International, I am proud to be a member of the Watertown, Minnesota, Lions Club.

Melvin Jones was born on January 13, 1879, in the cavalry outpost at Fort Thomas in what was then Arizona Territory, to Captain Calvin Jones and Lydia Gibler Jones. Like many children growing up in the Wild West, his early years were filled with memories of horses, blue-clad troopers, bugles and war cries, wagon trains, rugged settlers and windswept dust. At the age of 7 his father was transferred east to St. Louis and later to Quincy, Illinois. Marked by the effects of growing up during times of war, Melvin's attendance in school was sporadic.

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After the move east, he attended public schools in both Quincy and St. Louis and attended Union Business College and Chaddock College in Quincy. After college, he moved to Chicago and took a job with the insurance agency Johnson and Higgins. In 1909 he married women's professional golfer, Rose Amanda Freeman, who later unqualified as Melvin worked tirelessly to get Lions Club rolling. In 1913 Melvin's success in the insurance industry opened the doors of his being the sole owner of Melvin Jones Insurance Agency.

Later in 1913 an acquaintance invited Melvin to meet some of the boys who turned out to be a members group of businessmen called the Business Circle who welcomed Melvin to the club with open arms. Like many such groups during that time, the Business Circle was a scratch-my-back-and-I-will-scratch-yours club. Although Jones enjoyed the club, he was uncomfortable with the exclusivity and introduced new ideas to expand the group's membership and purpose. In 1915 Melvin Jones was elected secretary of the Business Circle. As secretary, he pondered how much could be accomplished if everyone redirected their energy and pooled their abundant intelligence, talents, and ambition towards the greater good of their communities.

Jones broached this idea with other similar organizations with mixed reviews at best. So Melvin Jones set out to launch his own organization to put this unique vision into action. Although the reviews of this novel idea were mixed, Melvin Jones trudged on; and on June 17, 1917, he assembled 20 delegates representing 27 clubs nationwide in the east room of the Hotel LaSalle in Chicago. A consensus was easily reached that a national organization should be formed dedicated to community service. After spirited debate, the group voted by secret ballot to name this new organization the Association of Lions Clubs. Jones advocated for the name Lions because it was a symbol of courage, strength, fidelity, and vital action. It helped set the standard for the club. Jones insisted during the draft of the organization's constitution that no club shall hold out as one of its objects financial benefits to its members. He followed this model throughout his life.