

BUSH FOREIGN POLICY IS ISOLATING AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, before this war starts, we should recognize that the Bush administration foreign policy toward the Middle East and central Asia is leading America down a dangerous, dark alley globally. It is isolating America in the world even further.

Even before the Bush administration took office, America had a growing problem there related to the unresolved Arab-Palestinian conflict as well as our addiction to the import of Middle East oil from which the profits prop up repressive regimes.

This chart shows the dramatic increase in deaths among U.S. diplomats in service to our country overseas. Most of them are in the Middle East and central Asia and most in the Middle East. It is very interesting. Here were the Beirut bombings in 1983 at our embassy, the Kenya bombings. This chart does not include now the millions of people that have been affected and the thousands of Americans here at home who lost their lives on 9-11, as well as diplomats like Lawrence Foley who recently was assassinated in Jordan or the soldiers who recently lost their lives in Kuwait.

In 2 years, Bush's programs have reduced America's standing in the world, plummeting even more than before. The conduct of the Bush administration foreign policy is costing America friends across the world. Even our oldest and staunchest allies in the cause of freedom are turning away from us.

Our neighbors, Canada and Mexico, are increasingly at odds with this administration's foreign policy goals. The Bush administration cannot buy the loyalty of the people of Turkey. We offered billions of dollars in grants and loans, and we sold out more textile workers in North and South Carolina by saying the Turkish textiles could be used in U.S. military uniforms to lure their support, but the Turkish parliament has refused to be a rubber stamp for the government and rejected the request to allow U.S. troops to use Turkey as a staging base.

Why? It is not Colin Powell's fault necessarily. We should look at the fact that about 95 percent of the people of Turkey oppose this administration's war with Iraq.

Henry Luce called the 20th century the American Century, but USA Today says the 21st century might be known as the anti-American century. USA Today this week had a huge article talking about how Americans traveling abroad are now being treated. One traveler told USA Today he carries a lighter emblazoned with an American flag. On recent overseas trips, he says he had been turned down when he offered someone a light and they see the flag on his lighter.

In Britain, 67 percent of the public opposes a war against Iraq without specific backing from the United Nations Security Council. Americans are being told by USA Today, do not patronize U.S. franchise restaurants abroad.

In Germany, 86 percent of the people are opposed to a military attack against Iraq; and in Russia, at least 91 percent of the people oppose a war against Iraq. It is widely recognized that support for the United States has never been lower in South Korea. Around the world, public opinion has shifted against this country.

A former national security adviser's brigadier general said in the New York Times yesterday, America's standing in the world has never been lower since 1945. We are losing the battles for the hearts and minds of the people of the world.

For a White House that follows polling results as closely as the Bush White House, these numbers are staggering. The problem is not President Chirac or France or Chancellor Schroeder of Germany. These have been America's most historic and dependable democratic allies. The problem is that the Bush administration has simply failed to convince the people of the world that a preemptive strike against Iraq is justified.

Meanwhile, here at home, energy prices are going up. Gasoline is over \$2 a gallon in California and rising across America, and the last four recessions have been caused by rising oil prices. Just be smart enough to connect the dots.

It is time for the United States to put all that money that we are spending abroad right here at home to create energy independence, and it is time for us to get back to the bargaining table with Israel and the Palestinian authorities to put peace in that region and every single bit of energy that we have toward that end.

Today, we had a magnificent outpouring of support against the war from the poet laureates of America, and I choose to read one of the 13,000 poems that they presented to us by Mr. Stanley Kunitz, a 97-year-old poet from New York City, who said, "When they shall paint our sockets gray and light us like a stinking fuse, remember that we once could say, yesterday we had a world to lose."

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS OF BUS BOMBING IN ISRAEL

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with a saddened heart that I rise today to express my deepest sympathies to the families of the victims of today's bombing in Haifa, Israel. Every time a candle of hope and light is put out by one of these criminals, we as leaders must stand up and say, no more, you

will not succeed in terrorizing us. We, as a moral people, will not tolerate the victimization of innocent lives.

Less than 2 years ago, our veil of protection from terrorism was lifted when we experienced the worst attack ever in U.S. history. Since then we have been further linked not only to Israel but with every other nation that has ever been subject to this crime against humanity.

Despite the intention of these terrorists, we have not cowered in the corner or run from the fight. Instead, it has strengthened our global resolve to stop these acts once and for all, no matter where the criminals lie, including Iraq.

The President's position on Iraq is clear and direct, with the moral and legal authority behind him. For years Iraq has sponsored terrorism both directly and indirectly, and it is time the spotlight must shine on this issue; and it must come to an end.

With our efforts to remove Saddam Hussein from power, the Middle East may have a chance to achieve something that they have not had for centuries, stability and peace.

Whether our fight is alone or with others from around the world, the United States will ensure the safety of its people both here and abroad.

Again, Mr. Speaker, my heart goes out to the victims and their families of today's attack in Israel. The only consolation that I can give them is that they are not alone in their time of grief or in their fight for survival. We, the people of the United States, have stood and will continue to stand with our friend Israel.

God bless the United States of America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. KILPATRICK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KILPATRICK addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IN MEMORY OF MR. JOHN LONG

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

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year the 8th Congressional District of North Carolina lost one of its strongest advocates, Mr. John Long, the editor and publisher of the Weekly Post in Stanley County.

John Long was the epitome of a newspaperman who cared deeply about his local community, whether that local community be the city of Chicago or the city of Locust, North Carolina. Sadly, my friend John Long recently passed away.

John grew up in Florida and attended college at Clemson University before taking a job with the Christian Science Monitor, working in their Boston and Chicago bureaus. John started as a copy

boy but soon became the youngest reporter to ever work for the Monitor. He traveled all over our great country in search of stories.

In 1972 he returned to the South and spent time as an editorial writer with The Charlotte News. He has been the editor and publisher of The Weekly Post since its inception.

John's articles and columns were widely read and widely respected in Stanley County. As a matter of fact, I would gladly trade a week of national TV interviews for a good mention in one of John's articles.

John had a reputation for always doing the right thing in all of his pursuits in life. His time at the newspaper was no different. He was a stickler for accuracy and doing the right thing during his newspaper career.

John passed away on a Tuesday, the day they put the paper together, and therefore, the busiest day of the week at The Weekly Post. I am going to miss John, and I know that Stanley County is going to miss John and miss reading his weekly insights.

He is survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Pat; three sons, John A. Long, III of Monroe, Matt Long of Raleigh, and Tim Long of Charlotte; daughters Elizabeth Vettorel of Charlotte and Laura Long of Charlotte; four grandchildren; and brother Michael Long of Atlanta. My heartfelt condolences go out to his family for their loss and the community's loss.

Though we all felt a bit selfish, I know I speak for a lot of us in the community when I say that after the initial shock of hearing the bad news we all wondered if The Weekly Post was going to continue. I am pleased to note that his wife, Pat, and daughter Laura have pledged to continue publishing. I commend them for their hard work and continued dedication to Stanley County.

While his presence in Stanley County will be missed, John's legacy will remain with us forever.

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

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

AIR CARGO SECURITY ACT

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

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Air Cargo Security Act, a bill to strengthen air cargo security on all commercial flights by closing existing air cargo security loopholes. This bill is the companion to legislation introduced by Senators HUTCHISON and FEINSTEIN.

Since September 11, we have worked diligently as a Nation to improve the

safety of our commercial air travel, dramatically increasing the security requirements for passengers on airliners. Yet on those same aircraft, there remain glaring gaps in air cargo security, according to a 2002 GAO report. Nearly one-quarter of all air cargo is transported on passenger aircraft, typically filling the hull of each passenger plane. Yet only a fraction of that cargo is ever inspected.

According to the GAO, air cargo is vulnerable to tampering at multiple points during land transportation and at air cargo handling facilities. First, there are lax processes for verifying the identification of air cargo handlers and conducting criminal background checks. Second, the Known Shippers Freight Forwarding program does not have sufficient safeguards in place to adequately protect against cargo tampering; and most important, nearly all cargo shipped by passenger plane is never screened.

The Air Cargo Security Act would require the Transportation Security Agency to resolve these deficiencies in air cargo security through several key mechanisms. First, it requires the TSA to develop a strategic plan to screen, inspect, and otherwise ensure the security of all cargo transported through the Nation's air transportation system.

It also imposes measures that would require the TSA to increase inspections of air cargo shippers and their facilities and to work with foreign countries to conduct regular inspections at facilities transporting air cargo to the United States.

This bill requires TSA to establish an industry-wide pilot program database of known shippers of cargo that is shipped in passenger aircraft and to conduct random inspection of freight forwarder facilities. The Secretary would be required to suspend or revoke the certificate of noncompliant freight forwarders.

Under this act, the TSA retains tremendous flexibility in developing a program to inspect and screen air cargo in which it can select from a wide range of technological and operational options to enhance security. These measures, ranging from low- to high-tech, include using bomb-sniffing dogs, installing more cameras in cargo areas, screening air cargo for explosives, securing cargo with high-tech seals, or using cargo tracking systems or industry-wide computer profiling systems.

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By using a combination of these techniques, TSA will be able to design and implement an effective system to ensure the security of our air cargo. Aviation security is a bipartisan issue that directly affects all Americans. Aviation is only as safe from terrorism as its most vulnerable component and that component is now the cargo. Strengthening air cargo security is vital to ensuring passenger security.

I want to thank my Senate colleagues for their leadership on this

issue, and to the cosponsors of this legislation in the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. MCINNIS), the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. CASE), and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BELL), and I urge my colleagues to support the Air Cargo Security Act of 2003.

IN MEMORY AND HONOR OF CHRIS AND BOB EGGLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce two homeland heroes. They are Robert Eggle and his late son, Chris.

Chris was a brilliant young park ranger in the Organ Pipes Cactus National Park in Arizona when he was brutally murdered by an illegal alien who had crossed into the United States after committing two murders in Mexico. Chris was in the front lines on a battlefield we pay far too little attention to. He gave his life in service to the country, and certainly deserves the designation as homeland hero.

But I want to introduce another homeland hero, and that is Chris's father, Bob, the gentleman here in this picture to my left. Mr. Eggle is an incredible individual with whom I had the opportunity to spend some time in Arizona just a couple of weeks ago. He has become an incredibly articulate spokesman for the cause of homeland security. He understands fully that that security begins with the security of our border.

Mr. Eggle and several others, as well as Members of the House, including the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG) endured the trip to the very spot in Organ Pipe Cactus National Park where his son was killed. And I say "endured the trip" because, as anyone can imagine, this was a difficult undertaking for anyone, especially the father of the murdered victim. But Mr. Eggle's stoic character was a true inspiration for all of us who were with him that day. He was an inspiration as we traveled to the spot where his son was killed. He was an inspiration as we stood and he led us in silent prayer for his son.

Mr. Eggle does not, understandably, does not want his son's death to be forgotten by this Nation. He wants to make it an example for others. He wants people to understand that there are many folks on the border like Chris, who put themselves in harm's way every day to try to protect those borders. But he also recognizes that we are in sort of a halfhearted war on those borders because we really do not fully support the men and women who we send to defend them.

Chris was not trained to deal with terrorists. Chris was not trained to deal with people coming across that border with AK-47s and carrying tons