

Abdullah, they refused to allow the United States to have its representative talk to those suspects.

Later indictments were issued. Iran was a named co-conspirator in the Federal indictment.

While there has not been proof, the background circumstances lend some consideration to the thought that those who were involved in Khobar Towers may well have been involved in September 11.

We recently passed the Syria Accountability Act. I believe in the overall scheme of operations in the Mideast that the Saudis are a much greater threat to U.S. interests, and there ought to be a very firm approach as to how we deal with the Saudis.

The bill which I am introducing today has detailed recitation of the findings by organizations which have studied the record of the Saudis. The United Nations Security Council resolution mandates that all states refrain from providing any foreign support, active or passive, to people involved in terrorist acts.

The Council on Foreign Relations concluded in an October 2002 report on terrorist finances:

For years, individuals and charities based in Saudi Arabia have been the most important source of funds for al-Qaida, and, for years, Saudi officials have turned a blind eye.

The Middle East Media Institute concluded in their July 3, 2003, report again characterizing the Saudis' activities as supporting terrorists.

The New York Times cited sources reported on April 17, 2003, that at least 50 percent of the current operating budget of Hamas comes from the people of Saudi Arabia.

This resolution would call on the Government of the United States to prohibit the export to Saudi Arabia of any defense articles or services listed in the Arms Exports Control Act and prohibit import to Saudi Arabia of any items within the Commerce Control List and to restrict travel of Saudi diplomats appropriately.

The President's certification would be present to relieve these sanctions under specified circumstances.

SENATE RESOLUTION 268—TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE DEATHS OF 19 CITIZENS OF ITALY IN IRAQ

Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. KYL, Mr. WARNER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. SPENCER, Mr. REED, Mr. BURNS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. BAUCUS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 268

Whereas the people of Italy are long-time and resolute allies of the United States;

Whereas the people of Italy sent 2,700 of their finest citizens in contribution to the international effort to stabilize Iraq; and

Whereas on Wednesday November 12, 2003, 19 Italians including 12 Carabinieri, 5 army soldiers, and 2 civilians were brutally murdered through cowardly acts of terrorism while on duty in Nassiriya, Iraq: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) mourns with the people of Italy on their National Day of Mourning for these 19 brave souls;

(2) acknowledges the sacrifices of the Italian people; and

(3) recognizes the significant contributions that Italy continues to make towards stability and democracy around the world.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 82—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF RALPH BUNCHE AS ONE OF THE GREAT LEADERS OF THE UNITED STATES, THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER, AN ACCOMPLISHED SCHOLAR, A DISTINGUISHED DIPLOMAT, AND A TIRELESS CAMPAIGNER OF CIVIL RIGHTS FOR PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Mr. BIDEN submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 82

Whereas Ralph Bunche's life of achievement made him one of the 20th century's foremost figures and a role model for youth;

Whereas Ralph Bunche graduated valedictorian, summa cum laude, and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1927 with a degree in International Relations;

Whereas Ralph Bunche was the first African-American to receive a Ph.D. in Government and International Relations at Harvard University in 1934;

Whereas Ralph Bunche served as a professor and established and chaired the Political Science Department at Howard University from 1928 to 1941;

Whereas, in 1941, Ralph Bunche served as an analyst for the Office of Strategic Services;

Whereas Ralph Bunche joined the Department of State in 1944 as an advisor;

Whereas Ralph Bunche served as an advisor to the United States delegation to the 1945 San Francisco conference charged with establishing the United Nations and drafting the Charter of the organization;

Whereas Ralph Bunche was instrumental in drafting Chapters XI and XII of the United Nations Charter, dealing with non-self-governing territories and the International Trusteeship System, which helped African countries achieve their independence and assisted in their transition to self-governing, sovereign states;

Whereas, in 1946, Ralph Bunche was appointed Director of the Trusteeship Division of the United Nations;

Whereas, in 1948, Ralph Bunche was named acting Chief Mediator in Palestine for the United Nations, and, in 1949, successfully brokered an armistice agreement between Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria;

Whereas Ralph Bunche was deeply committed to ending colonialism and restoring individual state sovereignty through peaceful means;

Whereas the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People awarded its

highest honor, the Spingarn Medal, to Ralph Bunche in 1949;

Whereas for his many significant contributions and efforts toward achieving a peaceful resolution to seemingly intractable national and international disputes, Ralph Bunche was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950, the first African-American and the first person of color to be so honored;

Whereas Ralph Bunche was named United Nations Under-Secretary-General in 1955, in charge of directing peacekeeping missions in several countries;

Whereas, in 1963, Ralph Bunche received the United States' highest civilian award, the Medal of Freedom; and

Whereas Ralph Bunche's critical contributions to the attempt to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict and towards the de-colonization of Africa, and his commitment to and long service in the United Nations and numerous other national and international humanitarian efforts, warrant his commemoration: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes and honors Ralph Bunche as a pivotal 20th century figure in the struggle for the realization and attainment of human rights on a global scale; and

(2) urges the President to take appropriate measures to encourage the celebration and remembrance of Ralph Bunche's many significant achievements.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of the centenary celebration of Ralph Bunche's birth.

Ralph Bunche was an extraordinary man whose success was a definitive accomplishment in the history of America.

His grandmother was born into slavery.

His father was a barber in a shop for whites only.

His mother was a musician.

When his mother and father died his grandmother took him to California where her influence and the perspective she gave him on life and liberty shaped his future and, to some extent, the history of the Nation.

He was a brilliant man, a musician, debater, athlete, a summa cum laude student and valedictorian. A loving husband to Ruth and father of Joan, Jane and Ralph Jr.

He went to Harvard, taught at Howard University and earned his doctorate comparing French rule in Togoland and Dahomey.

And when the civil rights movement came he spoke out loudly and his message was clear: "Segregation and democracy are incompatible," he said. "Racial prejudice is an unreasoned phenomenon without scientific basis in biology or anthropology."

But Ralph Bunche did not want to be remembered for his race. He wanted to be remembered for his accomplishments and his competence, for his dedication to service and his commitment to the recognition of the fundamental rights of men and women to live in harmony and peace.

He came from a generation of Americans who believed that it was wrong to recognize a man for the color of his skin, that we should, instead, recognize men and women for the power of their ideas and the contribution they make to the community.

Ralph Bunche did not want to be remembered as the first African American who was the first to graduate from University of California at Los Angeles as valedictorian or the first to graduate from Harvard with a Ph.D. in government and international relations, or the first to become Chief U.N. Mediator.

Least of all, the first to win the Nobel Peace Prize. He wished to be remembered simply as an American who answered his country's call of duty.

That is not a shortcoming . . . It is not a slight to any man or woman of color in our society . . . it is, however, a statement of hope, the hope I grew up with, that we can one day be a society that judges us not for our differences but for our accomplishments and the fact that we, as human beings, made a difference.

Ralph Bunche was one of those human beings who made a difference and left an extraordinary legacy.

By tailoring the language in the 11th and 12th Chapters of the U.N. Charter, Bunche made it possible for the United Nations to recognize the peaceful self-determination of those being exploited by colonialism, and through sheer force of will he recovered from an assassination attempt which killed 4 of his colleagues to negotiate an armistice agreement ending the first Arab-Israeli war.

With an eye for the future he presided over the conference which finalized the statutes for the International Atomic Energy Agency.

And in response to an international crisis he established the foundations for the first international peace-keeping operation in Egypt.

This legacy is manifest in his dedication to the United Nations, and to the cause of peace for which we will always remember him.

His words were perhaps prophetic when he said: "If today we speak of peace, we also speak of the United Nations, for in this era peace and the United Nations, have become inseparable. If the United Nations cannot ensure peace there will be none."

"If war should come it will be only because the United Nations has failed. "But the United Nations need not fail."

"Surely every man of reason must work and pray to the end that it will not fail."

Those are not popular words today but they are truthful words, a heartfelt notion from a man whose life and work centered on a way to bring people—all people—together to solve problems.

In concluding his Nobel Lecture, he said: "There will be no security in our world, no release from agonizing tension, no genuine progress, no enduring peace, until, in Shelley's fine words, reasons voice, loud as the voice of nature, shall have waked the nations."

Today we honor this visionary man of peace as an accomplished scholar, a distinguished diplomat, a tireless campaigner for the civil rights of all people

in every nation, and as one of the 20th centuries foremost figures and a role model for every young man and woman, black or white, Christian, Muslim, or Jew.

I ask all my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the life and work of Ralph Bunche by passing this resolution.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 83—PROMOTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEMOCRACY CAUCUS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS

Mr. BIDEN submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 83

Whereas a survey conducted by Freedom House in 2003, entitled "Freedom in the World", found that of the 192 governments of nations of the world, 121 (or 63 percent) of such governments have an electoral democracy form of government;

Whereas, the Community of Democracies, an association of democratic nations committed to promoting democratic principles and practices, held its First Ministerial Conference in Warsaw, Poland, in June 2000;

Whereas, in a speech at that Conference, Kofi Annan, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, stated that "when the United Nations can truly call itself a community of democracies, the [United Nations] Charter's noble ideals of protecting human rights and promoting 'social progress in larger freedoms' will have been brought much closer", that "democratically governed states rarely if ever make war on one another", and that "in this era of intra-state wars, is the fact that democratic governance—by protecting minorities, encouraging pluralism, and upholding the rule of law—can channel internal dissent peacefully, and thus help avert civil wars";

Whereas a report by an Independent Task Force cosponsored by the Council on Foreign Relations and Freedom House in 2002, entitled "Enhancing U.S. Leadership at the United Nations", concluded that "the United States is frequently outmaneuvered and outmatched at the [United Nations]" because the 115 members of the nonaligned movement "cooperate on substantive and procedural votes, binding the organization's many democratic nations to the objectives and blocking tactics of its remaining tyrannies";

Whereas, at the First Ministerial Conference of the Community of Democracies, the representatives of the participating governments agreed to "collaborate on democracy-related issues in existing international and regional institutions, forming coalitions and caucuses to support resolutions and other international activities aimed at the promotion of democratic governance"; and

Whereas that agreement was reaffirmed at the Second Ministerial Conference of the Community of Democracies in Seoul, Korea, in November 2002: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. PROMOTION OF A DEMOCRACY CAUCUS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS.

Congress urges the President to instruct any representative of the United States to a body of the United Nations to use the voice and vote of the United States to seek to establish a democracy caucus within the United Nations as described in this Resolution.

SEC. 2. PURPOSE OF THE DEMOCRACY CAUCUS.

The purpose of the democracy caucus referred to in section 1 should be to advance the interests of the United States and other nations that are committed to promoting democratic norms and practices by—

(1) supporting common objectives, including bolstering democracy and democratic principles, advancing human rights, and fighting terrorism in accordance with the rule of law;

(2) forging common positions on matters of concern that are brought before the United Nations or any of the bodies of the United Nations;

(3) working within and across regional lines to promote the positions of the democracy caucus;

(4) encouraging democratic states to assume leadership positions in the bodies of the United Nations; and

(5) advocating that states that permit gross violations of human rights, sponsor terrorist activities, or that are the subject of sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council are not elected—

(A) to leadership positions in the United Nations General Assembly; or

(B) to membership or leadership positions in the Commission on Human Rights, the Security Council, or any other body of the United Nations.

SEC. 3. CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE DEMOCRACY CAUCUS.

Participation in the democracy caucus referred to in section 1 should be limited to countries that—

(1) are qualified to participate in the Community of Democracies, an association of democratic nations committed to promoting democratic principles and practices; and

(2) have demonstrated a commitment—

(A) to the core democratic principles and practices set out in the Final Warsaw Declaration of the Community of Democracies, adopted at Warsaw June 27, 2000; and

(B) to the democratic principles set forth in—

(i) the United Nations Charter;

(ii) the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and

(iii) the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

SEC. 4. ANNUAL MEETING.

The members of the democracy caucus referred to in section 1 should hold a ministerial-level meeting at least once each year to coordinate policies and positions of the caucus.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, today I rise to support a United Nations Democracy Caucus to address questions that underlie a countless number of our foreign policy decisions, particularly in today's climate:

How can the United States be more effective in advancing our foreign policy priorities?

How can we be more active in collaborating with our allies on issues of common concern?

How can we be more productive in promoting the values upon which this nation was founded and getting our message across to those around the world who look to us for leadership?

Three years ago, in Warsaw, Poland, the United States took a step to address these questions when it became one of eight convening countries of the "Community of Democracies," a network of representatives of over 100 nations that meets every 2 years to promote the advancement of global democracy and human rights.