

means to address the threat of terrorism might have done more to help al Qaeda recruit new members than it did to shrink the organization.

So what lessons have we learned three years later?

Iraq had nothing to do with 9–11; our invasion of Iraq made us more, not less vulnerable to terrorist attack; despite capturing and killing al Qaeda leaders, the organization remains operational; we shortchanged homeland security; and the President's attempt to make America safer by taking the fight to the enemy and invading Iraq has done nothing to deter bin Laden's desire to attack the U.S. again.

The administration has failed to adequately address the worldwide threat of terror. It has alienated much of the international community and failed to assemble an effective coalition. We honor the fallen today, but we must also refocus America's foreign and security policy.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE
HOUSE ON ANNIVERSARY OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED
AGAINST UNITED STATES ON
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 2004

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, we will never forget the events of September 11, 2001—where we were, how we felt and how the America people came together as one Nation, undivided.

On the third anniversary of this tragedy, we again stand together to honor the victims and their loved ones, and to pay tribute to the women and men who continue to protect and defend our Nation at home and around the world.

As the American people move forward, we also know our lives have forever been changed. We understand the threat of terrorism is a reality that must be confronted and prevented. Yet, the spirit of this strong, proud Nation will overcome this threat and prevail against adversaries who attempt to harm us.

As we look to the future, we must not forget the past. We must understand how and why the events of 9/11 happened and we must remain determined to keep our homeland and our families safe and secure. And, forever, we must remember the 3,000 men and women who lost their lives on this tragic day—they are forever enshrined in the memory of our nation.

RECOGNIZING EXCELSIOR SPRINGS
FOOTBALL AND THE OFFICIAL
OPENING OF TIGER STADIUM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 13, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the Excelsior Springs Football Tigers, a team steeped in history with a promising future, thanks in part to the new Tiger Stadium, which is officially opening tonight, September 10, 2004.

Excelsior Springs football was first played about 1910 on "Old Lady Reed's Field" near Superior Street. In 1920, games were moved to Association Park, a location that later became the site of the old high school football field that officially became Roosevelt Field in 1938. The stone wall surrounding the field was built during the FDR era as a WPA project to provide area jobs after the Great Depression. In 1984, major renovations brought the field and track up to state regulations and new lighting was installed. In the '90s, however, the location started to become a problem: the field was plagued by repeated flooding from Fishing River, the field was now across town from the high school, and parking was more inadequate with each passing year. Early in the 2000s, the community passed a bond issue to build a Performing Arts Center, which opened in fall 2003, a new Career Center building, which will open in January 2005, and this Tiger Stadium, officially opening tonight September 10, 2004.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in congratulating the people of Excelsior Springs on their new Tiger Stadium, and wishing the Tigers the best of luck in their new home.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE
HOUSE ON ANNIVERSARY OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED
AGAINST UNITED STATES ON
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 2004

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday our nation will stop and reflect on the terrible events that occurred three years ago on that day. Each of us will remember in vivid detail where we were and what we were doing when we realized that America had come under murderous attack by cowardly terrorists. We will remember the way that firemen and policemen rushed into burning buildings to save lives. We will remember the heroism of the passengers and crew of Flight 93. We will remember the 3,000 friends, family and loved ones who died that day, and we will pay a debt of thanks to the men and women of our military who continue the fight against terrorism in far off places.

And I, for one, Mr. Speaker, will recall the spirit of bipartisanship that pervaded Washington in the days that followed—how Members of Congress stood together on the steps of the Capitol, singing "God Bless America" in one strong voice. As we consider the events of that day, I urge my colleagues to recapture that spirit and move quickly to adopt the reforms of the September 11th Commission. By doing so, we will improve our intelligence gathering capabilities, improve coordination between government agencies and strengthen Congressional oversight of the intelligence community.

As Americans stop to consider how much the world has changed in these three years, it is imperative that the Congress do all that it can to ensure that our government changes with the world. Every day that goes by without action to embrace the reforms of the Commission is a day that our ability to prevent another 9/11 is limited.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM M. RAINE
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 13, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William M. Raine of Parkville, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. William will receive his Eagle Scout Award on September 12, 2004, at the Theodore Naish Scout Reservation in Bonner Springs, Kansas.

William has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years William has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending William M. Raine for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING CORY HOGAN FOR
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 13, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cory Hogan of Kansas City, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 357, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Cory has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Cory has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Cory Hogan for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE
HOUSE ON ANNIVERSARY OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED
AGAINST UNITED STATES ON
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 2004

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss H. Res. 757, legislation commemorating the third anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks against our country.

I remember September 11, 2001, vividly. The weather in our Nation's capital was warm

and sunny. I was giving a speech on the House floor. Soon after I finished, the Capitol building was evacuated. I did not know until I got back to my office that planes had hit the World Trade Center buildings in New York and that a third plane that may have been headed toward the Capitol building was taken down in a field in Pennsylvania. I am profoundly grateful that the passengers aboard United Airlines Flight 93 bravely fought back, thinking of the safety of others, not of their own well-being. Their actions saved the lives of untold numbers of us who were in Washington, D.C. that day.

The resolution on the floor today appropriately honors those who lost their lives due to these heinous attacks. Thousands of husbands, fathers, mothers, wives, daughters, brothers, children, grandparents and others were lost on that day. We must never forget those individuals and their families.

The resolution also honors the heroic actions and sacrifices of our men and women in the U.S. military and their families. I have had the privilege of visiting with dozens of our men and women in uniform, both here at home and in a war zone. I am continually awed by the professionalism, determination, and commitment of our troops.

I am also pleased that H. Res. 757 acknowledges the service and sacrifice of the first responders—emergency personnel, fire fighters, police officers, and others—who aided the innocent victims of the terrorist attacks. While these individuals humbly say they were merely doing their jobs that day, their selfless actions embody some of the best qualities of the American people.

Finally, the resolution congratulates the Congress and the President for various steps taken to improve the security of the American people in the wake of September 11th.

While Congress has adopted some piecemeal improvements on the security front, al-Qaeda will not wait for us to make gradual improvements. Security must be improved today, not after the next attack.

Congress and the Bush administration must stop the finger pointing, turf protection, and minor tweaking that have been the primary features of the Federal government's response to 9/11. It is time for bolder action.

Aviation security is not what it should be. Security screeners need the same upgraded equipment used in congressional office buildings and the White House. We need to deploy technology to detect plastic explosives carried on board planes. We must screen employees and vendors who work on the runways and have access to planes, but who are not currently screened at all. All cargo carried on passenger planes must be tested for explosives. We need effective countermeasures and international agreements to reduce the threat of shoulder-fired missiles. The arbitrary cap on the number of security screeners should be lifted.

A fully unified terrorist watch list that is electronically accessible to necessary Federal and State officials for real-time searches must be put in place now.

Border security is still notably lacking, three years after 9/11. The Federal government should hire 3,000 additional border inspectors and border patrol agents to secure our borders with Canada and Mexico. Existing technologies, like remote sensors, long-range cameras, and unmanned aerial vehicles,

should monitor all 7,000 miles of our border 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Astonishingly, on the 3rd anniversary of the attacks, America's police, firefighters, and emergency response personnel still lack the fundamental ability to communicate with each other by radio. Congress must increase funding to help States and local governments purchase essential equipment.

Our Nation has 95,000 miles of coastline and 361 ports. Yet, the Federal government will spend only \$46 million on port security grants this year while spending \$10 billion to develop a missile defense system that is irrelevant to the threat posed by al-Qaeda. Congress should increase funding for radiation detection equipment to screen every cargo container, beef up the presence of U.S. inspectors at foreign ports to inspect cargo destined for the U.S., and enhance the Coast Guard fleet.

Five times as many Americans travel on trains and transit each day as on planes, but less than two percent of the transportation security budget goes to non-aviation programs. Congress and the Administration should increase funding for passenger rail and transit security. A baseline level of security for the transit systems in the 50 largest metropolitan areas would cost \$2 billion.

Most of the 20 tons of nuclear material at 130 facilities in 40 countries has no more security than a night watchman and a chain link fence. In 2001, a bipartisan commission recommended tripling funding to \$3 billion a year for programs to help secure nuclear materials around the world from terrorists.

Finally, I want to say that I am disappointed that H. Res. 757 contains several whereas clauses implying a link between al-Qaeda and Iraq, and Iraq and the September 11th attacks. A variety of experts, including the 9/11 Commission and the Senate Intelligence Committee, have concluded there was no cooperation between Iraq and al-Qaeda on the September 11, 2001, attacks or anything else. It is also inappropriate to link Iraq to the global war against al-Qaeda. Iraq did not pose an urgent threat to our national security. Iraq did not have ties to al-Qaeda. Iraq had not attacked the United States, nor is there any evidence Iraq planned to attack us. Iraq did not have weapons of mass destruction, nor any delivery system capable of attacking us.

I supported the war against the Taliban and al-Qaeda in Afghanistan, and I continue to support military action against al-Qaeda. But, to use a resolution commemorating the anniversary of 9/11 to peddle discredited theories about Iraq in order to cover for the failures of the Bush administration in Iraq and justify the diversion of resources from the war against our real national security threat—al-Qaeda—does a disservice to the American people.

I will vote in favor of H. Res. 757 because I want to honor those I mentioned at the outset of my statement—those who lost their lives in the attacks, those who tried valiantly to save lives on that day, and our men and women in uniform. But, I want to state for the record that I disagree with some of the rhetoric in the resolution.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW EMERY ECKARD FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 13, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Emery Eckard, an outstanding young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 444, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been active with his troop by participating in many Scout activities. Over the 14 years Matt has been involved with Scouting, he has earned 29 merit badges. Matt set the goal in 2001 to be the youngest Eagle Scout in Kansas City. I am proud of him for achieving this goal and becoming the fifth youngest Eagle Scout in the whole United States. He was a 3-year camper at H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation, and is a Brotherhood member in the Order of the Arrow.

For his Eagle Scout project, Matt repainted and surveyed the only Corp of Engineers flood gauge on Line Creek beneath Vivion Road in Riverside, Missouri. This gauge is the official marker used to measure the creek in the flood of 1993.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Emery Eckard for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CENTENARY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 13, 2004

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, this is a time for celebration of higher education in the Green Mountain State: One hundred years ago Saint Michael's College was founded in Winooski, Vermont.

In the past century the college has seen its enrollment burgeon from 34 students to 1,900 students. It has grown from very modest beginnings into a major institution of higher education, widely known as one of the finest liberal arts colleges in the Northeast, and one of the premier Catholic colleges in America. With the diversity of its student body, and its long history as one of the first schools to offer education in teaching English as a second language, its reputation for academic excellence is not just national but international.

Priests of the Society of St. Edmund emigrated to North America, fleeing religious persecution in France in the late nineteenth century. They settled in Vermont, and changed forever the shape of education in their adopted state.

As an order dedicated to education, the Edmundites founded Saint Michael's College in 1904. With an initial investment of \$5,000 they began the college on the Kelly Farm in Winooski Park. Their initial effort was modest, just under three dozen students ranging in age from 10 to 22. Few, except the visionary