

deposing the Taliban. Like in Iraq, our military men and women performed exceptionally well.

But the victory in Afghanistan is not complete. Just last month, we launched, with Pakistan, another military initiative to find additional Al Qaeda forces hiding out in the mountains of eastern Afghanistan and western Pakistan. Security in Afghanistan is largely absent outside of Kabul and traditional tribal leaders and warlords have real control over most of the country. Scheduled elections may need to be postponed because of the inability of the international community to register voters in the countryside due to lack of security. Opium production is reaching record new levels. Our job in Afghanistan is clearly not done.

Our national security officials cannot focus on an infinite number of problems at once. There are only so many hours a day for the National Security Advisor, Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense and other top officials to do their work. They can't focus on everything and must make choices. There can be no doubt that Iraq required an incredible amount of time and resources in order to succeed. What is the opportunity cost? I fear that part of the reason for the slow progress in Afghanistan is the result of diversion of resources and attention to the invasion and reconstruction of Iraq.

The commitment of time, money and resources to Iraq has also impacted our homeland security. The war, occupation and reconstruction costs in Iraq are likely to exceed \$250 billion. That is a huge expenditure. By focusing our scarce resources during an economic downturn on Iraq, much less has been available to fund our first responders and protect our country.

A recent independent review of our homeland security efforts by the Century Foundation found major deficiencies. Their Homeland Security Report Card clearly indicates that a safer America will require significant improvements by the Department of Homeland Security. While there have been successes in passenger screening, the air marshal program and infrastructure analysis, this report highlights serious and disturbing shortcomings that leave Americans vulnerable. Protecting private planes, securing air cargo, providing funding for first responders, and better immigration oversight are critical to our security. It is disappointing to find that, according to the Century Foundation's report, in these areas we may be worse off than before September 11.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress needs to stop focusing on rhetoric about Iraq and begin to focus on the facts. We need to spend less time trying to portray loyal Americans as soft on terrorism because they raise questions and want to debate the most effective ways to prevent terrorism and protect Americans. A full and healthy national debate, in Congress and around the country, will not weaken our resolve, it will strengthen us. Building a consensus policy to combat terrorism will allow us to move forward united. A consensus policy will reduce friction about dedication of resources and will allow us to sustain a consistent policy for the duration of our fight against terrorism. That is the debate we should have had. That is the debate our country needs to have.

NATIONAL PRIMARY IMMUNE DEFICIENCY DISEASES AWARENESS WEEK

HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the week of April 19th as National Primary Immune Deficiency Diseases Awareness Week. Primary immune deficiency diseases (PIDD) are genetic disorders in which part of the body's immune system is missing or does not function properly. The World Health Organization recognizes more than 150 primary immune diseases, which affect as many as 50,000 people in the United States.

I am familiar with primary immune deficiencies because of a family in my district, the Driscolls. Kerstin and Dean Driscoll are from Greene, NY and have two sons who were born with an extremely rare PIDD called X-Linked Agammaglobulinemia, or XLA. Zack, 11, and Alex, 9, are confronting XLA head on. XLA is a genetic disorder that prevents production of B-cell antibodies that fight infection. When Zack was 3 years old and Alex only 9 months, they suffered chronic ear and sinus infections. Their recurring illnesses remained a mystery to their parents and doctors, until tests were done to confirm that the boys had primary immune deficiency diseases.

Soon after their diagnosis, Zack and Alex were treated with an immune globulin infusion (IGIV), which is prepared from the plasma of many blood donors, to support their immune systems. Zack and Alex receive their IGIV infusions once every 3 weeks and the infusion takes approximately 4 hours.

Zack and Alex are lucky because their primary immune deficiency disease was diagnosed early. However, despite the recent progress in PIDD research, the average length of time between the onset of symptoms in a patient and a definitive diagnosis of PIDD is 9.2 years. In the interim, those afflicted may suffer irreversible damage to internal organs. That is why it is critical that we raise awareness about these illnesses.

Mr. Speaker, the Driscolls face their sons' PIDD head on, by becoming active with the Immune Deficiency Foundation. Therefore, I commend the Immune Deficiency Foundation for its leadership in this area and I am proud to join them in recognizing the week of April 19th as National Primary Immune Deficiency Diseases Awareness Week. I encourage my colleagues to work with us to help improve the quality of life for PIDD patients and their families.

COMMEMORATING HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day, and pay my respects to the innocent people who died at the brutal hand of the Holocaust.

An anniversary like this is often filled with mixed messages of hope and sorrow, pain and promise. While these words contradict each other on paper, they live together in our hearts and minds on a day like today.

The emotions of sorrow and pain are easy to feel. By the time World War II was finished, 6 million Jews died for no reason. Countless families had been torn apart, Europe was virtually demolished, and the horrors of the Nazi regime were scarred into the minds of the entire civilized world. Looking at this tragedy, it is easy to see only bad things. It is easy to view the worst in people.

But, it was difficult, impossible in fact, to stop the world from denouncing these atrocities, and saying, "Never Again." Human-kind had the hope and promise to try to make this world better—to try to make this world more understanding and open.

The world has come a long way since the darkness of the 30's and 40's. In the almost 60 years since the Holocaust ended, we have become a more open and understanding society. But, our quest for a better world is constantly battling hate, discrimination and anti-Semitism.

We all know the violence that is carried out by those who hate. But, I also know that if our ancestors could get through World War II and the Holocaust, we can survive our own battle against hate and terror, and make the world safer for our children.

Mr. Speaker, Yom Hashoah serves as a memorial to those who both survived and lost their lives from the Holocaust. Let it also be a day to reaffirm our commitment to the values that won . . . love, honor and respect.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PFC. CHANCE PHELPS

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute to the life and memory of Private First Class Chance Phelps, who honorably devoted his life to defending the freedoms of our nation. A member of the 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Chance was recently killed while defending the freedoms of the Iraqi people in Ramadi, outside of Baghdad. His story is one of honor, selflessness and sacrifice. As we mourn the loss of an American patriot, I think it is appropriate to call the attention of this body of Congress, and our nation, to the sacrifice that Chance made on behalf of a grateful nation.

A tall and athletic nineteen-year-old, Chance attended Moffat County and Palisade high schools where he was known for his fun-loving nature and being an avid outdoorsman. He came from a family with a rich military tradition, his father John being a Vietnam veteran, and his sister Kelley working at the Pentagon. After the terrorist bombings of 9-11, Chance knew that he had to do something for his nation, and resolved to join the Marines. As a dedicated member of our armed forces and as a patriot, he answered the call of duty, embarking on a journey to defend freedom and independence.

Mr. Speaker, Private First Class Chance Phelps will be sorely missed, and although we

will grieve over the loss of this incredible individual, we can take comfort knowing his sacrifice was made while fulfilling his dream of serving our nation. I would like to extend my heartfelt respects to his family and friends as they mourn his passing. It is my honor to pay tribute to the life of Chance Phelps before this body of Congress and this nation.

A TRIBUTE TO CANTOR BARRY REICH

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to honor and pay tribute to Barry Reich, the Cantor at Peninsula Temple Shalom of Burlingame, California, located in my Congressional District. Cantor Reich, who received his Hazzan Minister Commission in 1979 from the Cantor's Assembly of the Jewish Theological Seminary, is not merely a Cantor, but a multi-talented musician who has used his talents to affect the lives of thousands of people.

Cantor Barry Reich was born in 1948 in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, California, where he came from a long line of cantors. His father was a renowned cantor, and at the time of Barry's birth was the Cantor at the legendary Breed Street Synagogue. As one would imagine, Barry was immersed in world of music and religion as cantorial music from record players and music books could be heard and seen throughout the Reich home.

From a very young age it was obvious that Barry possessed extraordinary talents. In fact, Mr. Speaker, at the young age of five, Barry sang a solo during the High Holiday service of Slichot with such mastery that when he was finished the entire congregation congratulated him. This wonderful performance had the unintended consequence of Barry upstaging his celebrated father, who had to wait out the hosannas before he could continue the service which was supposed to begin immediately afterwards. Another indicator of his magnificent musical talents was shown when Barry, then only 8 years old, joined the Breed Street Synagogue Choir as its youngest member. He was aided by the fact that his father, the Cantor was in desperate need for a soprano vocalist and Barry was a wonderful soprano.

When the Reich family moved to Florida when Cantor Reich was offered an important position at Temple Emanuel of Miami Beach, Barry continued his musical education on the East coast where he attended the Frost Conservatory of Music. It was in Florida that Barry met Harry Volpe, a widely renowned guitarist, who Barry credits with being the single biggest influence on his musical direction.

By the time Barry was ready to attend high school his father, which had expanded to include his brother Brian, had returned to Los Angeles. After graduating from Lincoln High School, Barry Reich went on to study at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and San Francisco State College, where he earned his Bachelor of Music Degree.

Mr. Speaker, it was while he was in college that Cantor Reich's future employer, Peninsula Temple Shalom's Rabbi Gerald Raiskin first heard Barry Reich. When the then future cantor was performing at an Israel Bonds rally.

Rabbi Raiskin, who knew Barry's father, was so impressed with the eighteen year old Barry that he called Barry's father to request that Barry audition to be the cantor at Peninsula Temple Shalom. Since that fateful day, thirty-six years ago, Barry Reich has been the Cantor of Peninsula Temple Shalom and has become part of the fabric of the synagogue. By his own estimates he has prepared over 1500 youth for their Bar or Bat Mitzvah with his trademark passion and innovative approach to music and education.

Mr. Speaker, Cantor Barry Reich has poured his heart into to his cantorial work and has generously shared his talents with many, passing on his passion of music onto numerous persons. He is most deserving of this tribute and our praise, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in honoring a great man, an excellent musician, and an extraordinary Cantor.

THE DANGER OF THE CHAVEZ REGIME TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND HEMISPHERIC PEACE

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the deterioration of democratic institutions in Venezuela under Hugo Chavez and the need for immediate international action.

Under Hugo Chavez, Venezuela is becoming a cancer in the Americas. As Chavez seeks closer ties with the tyrant Castro, and other totalitarian regimes, the rule of law in Venezuela is eroding, human rights abuses are on the rise, and ties with terrorists are continuing.

The community of nations can no longer remain impassive as freedom loving Venezuelans are trampled on by the Chavez regime. At this moment in time, the countries of the Western Hemisphere must take a stand for freedom, and support the immediate approval of the recall referendum on the tenure of Chavez.

Why is immediate international action needed? Under the OAS agreement of May 2003, the recall referendum must occur before August 19, 2004 if the Chavez regime is to be removed from office before January 2007. If the referendum is held after August 19, 2004, and Chavez is removed from office by the Venezuelan people, then his appointed Vice-President would serve the remainder of his term. The Chavez regime will then have been removed from office but allowed to retain power. This would be a tragedy for the Venezuelan people.

If the referendum is held before August 19, 2004, and Chavez is ousted by the Venezuelan people, then there will be a special election 30 days later to elect a new President. Under the OAS agreement of May 2003, after the recall is certified and approved, the recall referendum must be held within the next 97 days. If Chavez is to be held accountable to the democratic will of Venezuela, then the recall must be approved by the second week of May.

The community of democracies must not allow Venezuela to become the next totali-

tarian state in the Western Hemisphere. Though Venezuela has been moving steadily towards a dictatorship, we must not allow the slow pace of repression to shield us from the reality of a Chavez regime with tyrannical intent.

Today and everyday we must extend our solidarity to the freedom loving people in Venezuela. We must bring an international spotlight and coordinated pressure on the recall process and Chavez' delaying tactics. It is my belief that the longer the international community passively observes the erosion of rights in Venezuela, the more probable dictatorship becomes. We cannot practice the politics of appeasement in Venezuela. We must practice the politics of solidarity and put pressure on the regime to ratify the recall signatures before the regime runs out the clock and retains two more years to wrap the rope of dictatorship around the necks of all Venezuelans.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the more than six million Jews who died in the Holocaust. Among those that were killed were women and men, adults and children, young and old. They were killed not for committing heinous crimes, but because of their religion. The Nazis seized their homes and murdered them in the gas chambers of Treblinka and Auschwitz-Birkenau. Those who were not killed were worked until their bodies could no longer withstand the torture. Today, we remember all that they accomplished and the potential that remains unfulfilled. We also remember those whose lives were forever changed as a result of the Holocaust.

If you read towards the end of Jewish prayer services, you will find the Mourner's Kaddish. Although the Mourner's Kaddish does not speak of death, it has been interpreted to talk about the greatness of God and the desire for peace: peace between nations, peace between individuals, and peace of mind.

Unfortunately, the world in which we live is not one of peace. Every day, many Jews around the world face the injustice of anti-Semitism. Spurred on by propaganda and regimes that seek no less than the destruction of the Jewish people, anti-Semitism is gaining support around the globe. As we continue with the war on terror, let us remember those who have died and those who continue to be persecuted just because of their religion.

On this day, Yom Hashoah, we remember the more than six million Jews who died in the Holocaust and in the tradition of the Mourner's Kaddish, work for peace among nations, among individuals, and for peace of mind.

TRIBUTE TO LT. COL. WAYNE POTTER, VOLUNTEER

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who selflessly dedicated his