

(Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

89TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

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

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, this month many of us pause to remember the Holocaust in Yom Hashoah commemorations. But on April 24, 1915, the first genocide of the 20th century began. The Ottoman Empire began rounding up a group of more than 250 Armenian intellectuals and civic leaders. Then soldiers of Armenian descent who were serving in the Turkish military were moved to labor camps and eventually murdered.

Across Anatolia, Armenian leaders were arrested and killed. So, too, were the most powerless, children, women, and the elderly, all driven from their homes into the Syrian desert. These mass deportations were in fact slaughters. They were death marches. Soldiers themselves not only permitted the attacks on the deportees but participated in the killing and rapes. The inevitable end was thousands upon thousands dying of starvation or simply being worked to death, but sometimes these victims were the lucky ones.

When the Turks deemed deportations impractical, the genocide took other vicious forms. In communities near the Black Sea, Armenians were forced onto boats, driven out into the middle of the ocean, and drowned.

In the end, 1.5 million Armenians were killed in the genocide as the world stood by. Henry Morgenthau, the U.S. Ambassador to Turkey, who pleaded with world leaders to intervene, described the Ottoman effort to eliminate the Armenian population this way: "The whole history of the human race contains no such horrible an episode as this." An American diplomat stationed in eastern Anatolia cabled back to Washington that "it has been no secret that the plan was to destroy the Armenian race as a race, but the methods used could not have been more cold-blooded and barbarous, if not more effective, than I had first supposed."

Like communities that survived the Nazis efforts at extermination, the Armenian community today is often faced by those who deny the Turkish effort to commit genocide ever occurred. Despite records and accounts preserved in our own National Archives, there have been those bent on erasing this horrible memory from the annals of history.

We will not let that happen. That is why today's commemoration here in the United States Congress and those going on this week is so crucial. If the world fails to remember the Armenian

genocide of the early 20th century, we do more than a grave injustice to those who perished. We do a disservice to the generations who have come after us who would be left without the collective memory that binds those who understand the depth of evil that one community is capable of unleashing upon another.

Yet even as we remember and grieve, we thank those in the Armenian community for the contributions they have made around the globe since emerging from terror 89 years ago. One need not look too far to find Armenian-Americans who have become pillars of American society. Armenian-Americans are influential businessmen, like Kirk Kerkorian; famous writers, like William Saroyan; and international sports stars, like Andre Agassi.

In New York, internationally renowned scholar and Carnegie Corporation president Vartan Gregorian spent 8 years as president of the New York Public Library. Arshile Gorky was a leader of the abstract expressionist school that flourished in New York during the 1940s. And I am particularly proud that Raymond Damadian, who invented the MRI, was not only a resident of New York but was a neighbor of mine in Forest Hills. His parents were survivors of the genocide.

As we gather, we also pay tribute to those who have become famous public servants, football coaches, astronauts and others. As we gather to commemorate the Armenian genocide, we do so as a lesson to one another that we must not forget the lessons that were learned. We also gather to pay a message to those who would deny that the Holocaust ever happened. But perhaps most importantly, we gather to send a signal across the world that those who seek to deny the Armenian genocide do a disservice to all of us.

We here in the United States House of Representatives should delay no further in making our voices heard in this debate. It is worth noting that the very same people who would deny this Holocaust actively push that we do not consider the resolution that the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) has proposed.

We gather here today to pay tribute, but we also gather to put pressure on this United States Congress to finally designate what we all know to be the case as genocide. The first genocide of the 20th century was not the last, tragically; but it is time that we correct the history in the minds of many and finally declare the Armenian genocide the holocaust that it was.

TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL HONOREES

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

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I want to read into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of five women who were hon-

ored by the Touched By an Angel St. Bernadette Women's Day on Sunday April 25, 2000, in my district. The following have been honored for their exemplary and unselfish work and service to church and their community:

Joan Benson. A dedicated and productive volunteer.

Pat Botshekan. If there is any event, she has had a significant role in planning and bringing the occasion to fruition.

Marian Donkor. She has distinguished herself as an able and willing volunteer, always agreeable, pleasant, and eager to help whenever needed.

Lucille Matthews. Always focused on her family, her church, and the community, where she visits the sick almost every day.

And then there is Peggy Wright. Active in her community as block club chairman, volunteer at St. Anne's Home For Unwed Mothers, she has held many committee positions and chairmanships.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate them as the angels of peace for being honored with a Touched By an Angel Award.

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, a few remarks on the Armenian genocide. My Armenian-American friends and neighbors in Los Angeles have asked me to speak tonight as a tribute to the victims of the Armenian genocide.

As you know, in April 1915, approximately 1.5 million Armenians were systematically killed in an organized fashion by the Ottoman government. Ample documentation of these facts exist; yet today, almost 9 decades later, the government of the modern state of Turkey still fails to acknowledge the fact of the Armenian genocide.

Turkey's failure to acknowledge the truth is a burden on the alliance between our two nations. I would say to our President, it should be called as it is, a crime of genocide. So I call upon the President of the United States to uphold the commitment he made back when he was running for President and put the United States of America on record acknowledging the Armenian genocide.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SMART SECURITY, PREVENTING FUTURE ACTS OF TERRORISM

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, almost 3 years ago, on September 11, the

United States faced the most deadly terrorist attack in our history. Thousands of people died on that painful day, a day which we will never forget as long as we live.

After September 11, our Nation faced a great challenge, the likes of which have not confronted us since the dawn of World War II. Americans had a choice, either rise up and directly challenge terrorism at its very heart, or pass the buck and leave the problem to someone else. In the months that followed September 11, American leaders chose the right path. Democrats and Republicans worked together to provide supplemental funds for New York City, for Washington, DC, and for the unfortunate Americans who tragically lost loved ones that day.

We also confronted a regime in Afghanistan that harbored many of those who helped plan the attacks. But we have been thrown off our path in the last 2 years. We did not stay the course in Afghanistan, where a sturdy commitment to peacekeeping would have done a great amount of good. Instead, the Bush administration shifted focus, taking pains to link al Qaeda with Saddam Hussein and with Iraq. This flawed shift in strategy culminated 1 year ago when the President of the United States, without just cause and without being provoked, made the decision to invade Iraq.

□ 2015

Over 700 Americans have given their lives for this war, roughly 10 each week, not to mention the thousands wounded, the billions of dollars spent, and the good will squandered internationally. There has to be a better way, and there is, one that emphasizes brains instead of brawn, one that is consistent with American values. I have introduced legislation to create a SMART security platform for the 21st century. SMART stands for sensible, multilateral American response to terrorism. It treats the war as an absolute last resort, it fights terrorism with stronger intelligence and multilateral partnerships, it controls the spread of weapons of mass destruction with a renewed commitment to nonproliferation, and it aggressively invests in the development of impoverished nations with an emphasis on women's health and women's education.

We must prevent future acts of terrorism. SMART security is more vigilant than the President on fighting terror. Instead of emphasizing military force, SMART security focuses on multilateral partnerships. SMART security is stronger in its intelligence capabilities and it makes it easier to track and detain terrorists. Unlike the defective and oppressive U.S. PATRIOT Act, SMART security focuses on tracking and arresting those involved in terrorism and in terrorist acts while respecting human and civil rights.

Terrorism is an international problem and so it makes sense that the fight against terrorism should involve

the international community. That is why SMART security calls for working closely with the U.N. and NATO to achieve its goals. Only by actively involving other nations in this fight can we hope to prevent future acts of terrorism.

The Bush doctrine has been tried and it has failed. It is time for a new national security strategy. SMART security defends America by relying on the very best of America, our commitment to peace and freedom, our compassion for the people of the world and our capacity for multilateral leadership. SMART security is tough, it is pragmatic, and it is patriotic. SMART security is smart, and it will keep America safe.

ANNOUNCING APPOINTMENT OF CADET CARTER LANE BERRY TO CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS

(Mr. GOODE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOODE. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Cadet Carter Lane Berry to Chief Petty Officer of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps. This appointment follows much work and dedication to this youth program, including the completion of regulation Navy courses from basic military regulations through Chief Petty Officer and the accrual of many months of training activity throughout this country and the world throughout his 3 years of service. The level of CPO with the United States Navy Sea Cadet Corps is equivalent to reaching the level of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America.

CPO Berry resides in Palmyra, Virginia, and I commend and salute him on this significant achievement.

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

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

THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF AMERICA'S GROWING TRADE AND BUDGET DEFICITS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this evening I want to talk about the economy and America's way forward. How do we grow this economy in order that we create the wealth so that our families and our communities can become self-sustaining again, so our cities and our counties are not in debt and our States do not have to pass rising taxes on the citizenry of this Nation because

the wealth production in their States is not sufficient to meet all the public needs that our citizenry is requesting?

I want to begin with an image. I am fortunate to represent a Great Lakes community that spans the entire southern rim of Lake Erie from Toledo, Ohio through Lorain County on the eastern end. I like to call it the emerald and sapphire district of Ohio, the crown jewels of Ohio. In this region of Ohio because of our work on the environment, we have seen the restoration of our American eagle population. It is a majestic bird. When I first was elected to this Congress we had about two nesting pairs of eagles and now we are over 100. I had the opportunity this weekend to observe some of these magnificent animals and to watch them fly over the lake and to think about America's heritage as an independent Nation. I stood there on the shore and I thought a long while.

I come here to the floor this evening because I have a deep concern that America indeed is losing her birthright as an independent nation, as a self-sustaining nation here at home and that we are becoming too wed, as our Founding Fathers warned us, to entangling alliances and relationships abroad that affect our ability to see clearly here at home.

I am not an isolationist by any means. I have worked more with foreign nations, almost more than I think any Member of this body. But I am concerned about the innards of this economy and it is as though those beautiful eagles that I watched this weekend had two lead weights on each claw, holding them down, not permitting them to fly and to reach their God-given potential.

I want to talk a little bit about that tonight. I want to talk about the trade deficit that is a huge drag on economic growth in our Nation and also our budget deficit and talk a little bit about what this Congress, Republicans and Democrats working together, and the next President of the United States are going to have to do in order that that eagle can fly again and that America can restore the independence that she is losing every day.

I have a chart here that shows the crisis we are in that started, oh, back in the mid-1970s, actually. It was not so bad back then because we still had large numbers of jobs in our country producing the kind of wealth that is necessary to lift family wealth and lift the national wealth. But with every succeeding year and every trade agreement that America signed, our trade deficit, the amount of imports coming in here versus what we export abroad, grew worse, until we are now at a level of half a trillion dollars more imports coming in here every year than our exports going out. With every billion dollars of trade deficit, we lose 20,000 more jobs. This hemorrhage has continued and has exponentially grown to a point where we almost wonder how do we get off this downward spiral.