

unintended consequence for our churches and synagogues. I share that just to give a little bit of the history.

Let me give two more examples before I close. In Kansas, the American Center for Separation of Church and State has a subgroup called the Main Street Coalition based in Johnson County, Kansas. It is sending recruits into area churches to see if IRS guidelines, which come from the Johnson amendment, are being followed. The group, which bills itself as a committee for the separation of church and state, is concerned that local clergymen might be violating their tax-exempt status by endorsing candidates for elected office.

What prompted the campaign was a public meeting where an evangelical minister spoke out against homosexual marriage. They were Protestant churches, by the way. Catholic League president William Donohue is wary of the group's tactics and released the following statement. "To conduct a covert operation in houses of worship for the purpose of monitoring homilies or sermons is not the kind of operation conducted by friends of the first amendment." I am not reading the complete statement, but part of the statement.

Let me go further with one more example, and then I will conclude my remarks.

In the Baptist Church in Arkansas, Pastor Ronnie Floyd did not have a sermon, but actually at the end of church had a little flyer that he handed out, and there was a picture of George Bush and JOHN KERRY, and he just mentioned not who to vote for, but just two issues, one being the marriage between man and woman, the other about partial-birth abortion, and because the photograph was a little bit larger of President Bush, he filed a complaint with the IRS.

Mr. Speaker, I see my time is about up, and I want to close this way. This Nation's greatness is due to the fact that we have men and women overseas now fighting and dying for freedom for the American people. If this country is going to remain morally strong, then we must, we must return the first amendment right to our houses of worship, both Catholic, Protestant, Muslim and also Jewish.

#### SMART SECURITY AND THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

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, earlier this week, when Vice President CHENEY was talking about terrorism, he told the audience something that I consider to be absolutely appalling. He said, "It is absolutely essential on November 2nd that Americans make the right choice, because if we make the wrong choice, then the danger is that we'll get hit again."

The White House would like the American people to believe that President Bush is the only person capable of confronting terrorism, even though his record has proven otherwise. They employ fear as a campaign tactic, claiming that a vote for JOHN KERRY and JOHN EDWARDS is a vote for the terrorists. This misleading connection, besides insulting the intelligence of the American people, raises a very important question: If Presidents are singularly responsible for terrorist attacks that happen on their watch, was President Bush responsible for the attacks on September 11?

While I believe that President Bush was not responsible for the events of 9/11, he is responsible for the failure to truly secure America after 9/11.

Three years ago, after the worst attacks on American soil in our Nation's history, the United States had the support of nearly all other countries in our fight against terrorism. With the anniversary of the September 11 attacks approaching, now is a good time to consider whether we have made progress in the global war on terror over the last 3 years.

Last week in Russia, Chechen terrorists shocked the world when they took 1,200 hostages at a school and killed over 300 of them, most of them children. I ask you, what is humanity becoming? We have to stop this. What a terrible tragedy. Surely there must be a better way. There must be a smarter way.

In Sudan, thousands of Sudanese Africans have been subjected to a horrific campaign of rape, looting, and ethnic cleansing driven by a militia that has the tacit support of the Sudanese Government. More than 30,000 people have needlessly been killed as a result of this campaign of genocide terror. Much more needs to be done, and despite almost unanimous passage of a House resolution calling upon the Secretary of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the U.N. to immediately address this issue, it is still not being completed.

There has to be a better way, a smarter way, a smarter course of action dictated not by what is politically pragmatic, but by what is good and by what is right. And there is such a course of action.

I have introduced H. Con. Res. 392 to create a SMART security platform for the 21st century. SMART stands for Sensible, Multilateral American Response to Terrorism.

SMART security fights terrorism with stronger intelligence and multilateral partnerships than the Bush administration, and it does so without endangering our alliances around the world. It treats war as an absolute last resort.

SMART security controls the spread of weapons of mass destruction with aggressive diplomacy, strong regional security arrangements, and vigorous inspection regimes. It invests in the development of impoverished nations to

prevent the kind of terrorism occurring in Sudan and Chechnya from ever taking root in the first place.

President Bush thinks the best way to fight terrorism is to confront it head on by possessing bigger weapons and being stronger than the terrorists. But that only addresses the symptoms of the disease and certainly does not ensure a 100 percent success rate.

In order to truly defeat terrorism, we need to confront its root causes: poverty, despair, and unfair allocation of resources in so many underdeveloped nations around the world. SMART security will protect America and the world by addressing not just acts of terrorism, but also the reasons why terrorism exists. In the end, SMART security is smart, and it will keep America safe.

#### HONORING MS. MARTHA WYLLIE

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

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, before I start my remarks, which will be a great pleasure to do, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues that just less than 5 minutes ago, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) took the floor, and I would just like to associate myself with his eloquent remarks and just absolutely, totally agree with him, that the first amendment should absolutely take effect in all of our churches around this country. So I congratulate the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) and hope we can do something about it this year.

I rise today for one of those very nice things we get to do, and that is to talk about somebody really special and really nice. I want to recognize the outstanding dedication and the compassion and the achievements on this floor of Ms. Martha Wyllie. Taking an active role in our community while greatly enriching the lives of those who come in contact with her describes how we in Georgia regard Martha Wyllie.

Interestingly enough, Martha was born in Bangor, Maine, and lived in a private orphanage until she was adopted at 9 months of age. Her next home was in Massachusetts where she went through her schooling and college work, graduating from Lesley Teaching College in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Her interests and talents began to show up at the age of 4 when she sat down at the piano and played a song for her mother that she had just heard on the radio. Music lessons then, of course, began at age 5, which were taught by her mother until she advanced to the Conservatory of Music Teachings and traveled to numerous States playing with their symphony orchestras from age 10 to 17.

Throughout these formative years, she was also involved in school sports and a member of the Brownies and the

Girl Scouts. It was while she was a Girl Scout at the age of 12 that she became involved in activities with the local Sunshine Camp for the Blind. From there she began teaching songs to the blind, piano to younger children, and became a summer camp counselor and taught horseback riding lessons.

Martha married right out of college, and she and her husband recently celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary. They have two married children and three grandchildren. Moving to Georgia in 1975, as the children grew, she became so very involved in our community.

□ 1915

She has been involved with the Athens Area Association for Retarded Citizens, the Oconee Lions Club, Athens Evening Kiwanis Club, Oconee Optimist Club, the Oconee Pilot Club, and was a Special Olympics coach for over 12 years.

She has served on the board of directors for Sandy Creek Nature Center, First Night Athens, and Project R.E.A.C.H. She has also served Oconee County on the Citizens Advisory Committee on Cultural and Recreational Affairs.

Along with her fine husband, Peter, they have been major benefactors for numerous organizations, projects, and community groups such as the Athens Symphony and the Oconee County Public Library.

In 2003, the Oconee Rotary Club awarded Martha with the Jean Harris Award, given each year to a non-Rotarian woman in recognition of significant contributions given to the community over and above the call of duty.

Although these accomplishments and involvements are numerous and impressive, perhaps the most important contribution was the founding of Extra Special People, known as ESP. Martha Wyllie has put her energy, her love, and her financial resources into this program since its founding in 1986. For over 18 years, ESP has been providing a summer camp for youth and young adults ages 5 to 17 with different abilities. ESP camp provides a normal camping atmosphere for these young people.

Martha and her staff realize that these children wish to participate in the normal experiences of growing, and the ESP philosophy allows them to take part in regular camping activities while still meeting their individual needs.

Ms. Martha Wyllie, a tireless advocate who is the true definition of a good public servant, spends most of her waking hours helping everyone she touches to understand and to lend a hand to these very extra special people; and, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to share this woman with our colleagues.

#### THOSE WHO HAVE BORNE THE BATTLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). Under a pre-

vious order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, 2 days ago the United States military announced that 1,000 military personnel have been killed in Iraq. For every American this is a time to contemplate the totality of the sacrifice of these brave Americans.

I recently returned from my second visit to our forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. I was awed by the courage, determination, and dedication of our troops who are fighting a brutal enemy thousands of miles from home.

Our soldiers, Marines, sailors, airmen, and coast guard are doing their job magnificently; but as we continue to battle a stubborn and pernicious insurgency in Iraq, Congress must take stock of the needs of our troops in battle and the challenges they will face when they come home.

We owe it to the more than 1,000 Americans who have died in Iraq and to their comrades serving there still to ensure that we put Iraq on the road to democracy and that we assist the Iraqi Government in building the security forces, army and police, that it needs to defend itself.

Since I was first in Iraq, the political transition has made important strides, but the security situation has worsened considerably; and our troops are shouldering an incredible load for the rest of us.

A year ago, the insurgency appeared confined to a few hundred Baathists, Saddam Fedeyeen, a small contingent of foreign fighters, and criminals released by Hussein before the war. Regrettably, the insurgency has spread, fueled by a much more substantial influx of foreign fighters and made more complex by Shiite uprisings in what had been more tranquil parts of the country.

The insurgents have embraced the tactics of foreign fighters. Suicide bombings and kidnappings have become much more sophisticated. Improvised explosive devices, IEDs, which take a daily toll on our troops, used to be easily visible to American personnel as they drove through the country. Now, they are buried, with only a slender wire of an antenna protruding above the ground and detonated remotely. Clearly our forces face a determined foe.

There is no question that the burden of this war has fallen exclusively on the shoulders of our men and women in uniform. While the military may always bear a disproportionate share of the burden in wartime, it is especially acute now. Even as our Guard and Reserve are constantly being called up and our active duty forces are stretched thin, the general population has been asked to make no sacrifice for a war effort that we are financing through debt.

Our troops are paying doubly for this war, first on the battlefield and then in the form of crushing deficits that have fundamentally weakened our economy.

Some only barely out of their teens, our troops will be paying for this war for the rest of their lives, even if they return home uninjured. They will pay for it in the form of higher mortgages on their first home, on credit card debt, and in taxes to repay the national debt.

Even as we speak, the families of our troops are struggling, losing jobs, businesses and piling up debt. I met a young Marine from my district in Pasadena who had been serving in Iraq since February and was due to return in the fall, return home. He had just learned that his wife had been called up and that she will be deployed to Iraq in the fall. Their planes may literally pass each other in the night.

We must not forget the nearly 7,000 Americans who have been wounded, more than 1,000 in the last month alone. Many of these wounds are grievous and many others might have been prevented had our troops been better equipped from the start of the war. Our troops now have the body armor they need and are driving armored Humvees, but they should never have gone into battle without these life-saving protections.

In an American military hospital in Baghdad, I spoke with several Marines hit with IEDs. Two Marines, who lay side by side in adjoining hospital beds, were riding in the same armored Humvee when they were struck. While these two Marines had shrapnel embedded in their legs and faces, a third Marine in the same Humvee was lucky and walked away unharmed. A fourth Marine they told me had not been so lucky. He died on the operating table the night before.

These young men and women and nearly 7,000 other wounded are returning to a Congress that seems to have forgotten Abraham Lincoln's admonition "to care for him who has borne the battle." We provide insufficient medical care for our veterans, and VA centers around the country are closing their doors, even as they are needed more than ever.

In our towns, cities and counties, thousands of individual Americans have pitched in to help our returning soldiers, but our Federal Government has lagged far behind. Until recently, our wounded were charged for the food they ate while recovering at Walter Reed Army Hospital.

I realize that time is short in this Congress, but I hope when we consider the VA-HUD appropriations bill later this month and in our work on defense and veterans issues in the 109th Congress that we consider the extraordinary price that we as a Nation have asked of the men and women of our Armed Forces and that we match our words with deeds.

#### INCREASE IN THE MONTHLY MEDICARE PART B PREMIUM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KING of Iowa). Under a previous order