

these young lives will not be forgotten. To those still on the front lines, we pledge our unity, our support and our prayers for their safety and speedy return back home.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

SPECIAL TRIBUTE FOR AMERICAN HEROES

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my friend from Texas tonight to pay a special tribute to some genuine American heroes and one in particular. Last week, I met with the mother, Maria, the mother of Sergeant Juan Calderon, Jr., and I must tell my colleagues, those were very, very difficult times. And they are very difficult times for her, and it was not easy for me.

In the book of John, the good shepherd says, "Greater love has no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." Sergeant Juan Calderon did exactly that on Monday, August 2. He died in a military hospital while fighting and doing operations in Iraq.

Sergeant Calderon was a native of Weslaco, Texas, as the gentleman just preceding me said. He was a resident of Camp Pendleton, California. I had the opportunity to meet with his mother, Maria, who lives in Alden, Minnesota. He has many friends and relatives in the Alden and Albert Lee area. His father, Juan, Sr., still resides in Texas. Calderon's wife of 3 years lives at Camp Pendleton in California and, I regret to say, is expecting their first child.

Calderon's awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

Juan Calderon's sister said recently in an interview with the Albert Lee Tribune, "Juan, Jr., was a big comedian. He was full of life. He was excited to actually go to Iraq and serve his country. He was always proud to serve and proud of what he was doing."

Calderon's father recently received a letter, and reported in the Associated Press was an account where his son had written to him where he said, "Don't worry about me. You raised me for 19 years. Now it is time for me to do something to repay you."

I would like to repeat a story, though, because I think sometimes we need to be reminded that what we are doing there is important. Recently, in

a story about an Iraqi translator, a woman whose children were taken away from her more than 6 months ago, her husband beat her. Her brother threatened her life while holding a gun to her head, and her own father contracted for her death with a \$500,000 reward. All of this because she was assisting the American coalition. She said, "You, the soldiers and marines, come from America to help my country. I must help you help my people. I see these soldiers that lose their lives for Iraqis. They come into our country and die for us. We must appreciate these guys. I appreciate the Army and the Marines. I love them."

Ronald Reagan used to say, those who say that we are in a time where there are no heroes, well, they just don't know where to look. On August 2, we lost several heroes. One of them, Sergeant Juan Calderon, Jr., will be mourned. He will be missed. He will not be forgotten.

Sergeant Calderon did not die in vain. Freedom must prevail. May Almighty God have mercy on this good and faithful servant. May He continue to bless this country and all who defend her.

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

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

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

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

A PROMINENT POLITICIAN'S PLAN FOR IRAQ

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

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues may recall, I previously asked to see a plan for the reconstruction and the future for Iraq, and that has happened. And I would like to examine what I will refer to as a prominent politician's plan for Iraq. It is a four-point plan.

The first part is that, "The President has to get the promise of international support so our men and women in uniform don't have to go it alone."

I would like to point out that this is one more insult to the 30 countries whose troops are fighting and risking their lives next to ours, including Hungary, whose speaker was here today.

The prominent politician then went on to say that the United Nations Resolution 1546, which urged other countries to come and wage the peace in Iraq, he at least then pointed out "that

3 months later, not a single country has answered that call."

My concern is that the best way he can come up with to solve that problem is to do what Washington always does. He wants to call a meeting, and he wants to invite to that meeting the major powers of the world and Iraq's neighbors to figure out how to work the security. Now, I for one do not suggest that anyone here hold their breath while we wait for France, let alone Syria and Iran, to RSVP to that meeting.

He then goes on to talk about what we have to do to get more allies is to let them "help develop the oil resources in Iraq."

Now, it seems to me odd that someone who has accused the people who are fighting with us, next to us, in Iraq are being bought, bribed, coerced, extorted, et cetera, that he now believes that, like Saddam proved in the Oil For Food scandal, that the way to the U.N.'s heart is paved with black gold because to build a new alliance, you insult our old allies, our current allies and then offer them the resources of the Iraqi people through their oil. It speaks for itself.

We also hear that somehow this multilateralism is our fault, which I find fascinating. But the reality remains that it is not our fault.

This four-point plan then goes on to talk about rebuilding Iraq's security forces and talks about how the President "must get serious about training Iraqi security forces."

Well, I have news for the prominent politician. The President is serious about rebuilding Iraq's internal security forces and its army. Unfortunately, the terrorists are just as serious about killing them before they get started. Unfortunately, nowhere does this plan reference that reality on the ground in Iraq.

It is then pointed out, something which I agree with, that the Iraqi people must feel a more palpable result of this reconstruction. I have agreed with that since last fall when I started saying that, and I have continued to say it. The problem is that the plan then goes into a top-down change in the contracting process, to emphasize "a few on a list of high-visibility, quick-impact projects" for "an Iraqi where the job is less likely to shoot at our soldiers."

My problem with this is this is not an Iraqi empowerment plan, it is a PR campaign. For the Record, the militia is not fighting for a public works project, and Zarqawi is not an Iraqi. He is a Jordanian. The true empowerment in Iraq's reconstruction must come from the grassroots, through allowing tribal leaders, through allowing town councils, through allowing the national government and religious leaders to make the decisions on what projects are important and giving them the resources to implement them and build their own stake in their free future.

Finally, there is the intriguing argument that somehow the goal in Iraq is

a peaceful resolution. Now, I am a Republican; I admit that. I am happy to. My father was a Truman Democrat, and if my father were alive today, I think I would have to ask him: Dad, do you ever remember F.D.R. or Truman asking for the Nazis to have unconditional resolution? Is that what we fought for? Did Ulysses Simpson Grant? Did that stand for unconditional resolution? Is this a new outcome?

The reality in Iraq is quite simple. There are two roads. There is victory and democracy, or there is defeat and Zaqawi. To sit here and claim that multilateralism from the United Nations is going to help us is bereft of any knowledge of why the U.N. acts as it does. The former colonial powers of the United Nations and the current tyrannical regimes of the United Nations quite simply believe that an America with the ability to preemptively protect its citizens from terrorists is a graver threat to them than the terrorists themselves, including Saddam Hussein who, I point out, in the Oil For Food scandal made many multilateralists quite rich. If you do not understand what is undergirding the opposition amongst these people in the United Nations, then you do not realize that your plan to have them save us, to have them come to our aid with troops and with money and with good intentions, is quite simply confusing the United Nations Security Council with Santa Claus. It will not happen.

The reality remains. The U.N. will not ride to the rescue, and there is no peaceful resolution acceptable to the American people or the Iraqi people short of victory, which is a word we do not hear much from some quarters these days.

In the final analysis, I believe that the absence of the willingness to admit that we have to win is becoming quite a problem.

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

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

WAR MEANS SACRIFICE

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

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, as we contemplate what is happening in Iraq with the continued loss of life, the continued injuries, I would just remind my colleagues in this chamber that the only people who are being asked to sacrifice for this war are the soldiers and the people who love them. No one else is being asked to sacrifice for this war.

We are not paying for this war. The President has decided that future generations should pay for this war, so we

are using borrowed money, passing the bill on to the next generation. So the taxpayer is not being asked to pay for the war at the present time. Of course, future taxpayers will pay for it.

The President is not sacrificing for this war. No one in this chamber is sacrificing for this war. No one in the Senate is sacrificing. Well, I think we may have two colleagues out of the 535 Members of both the House and the Senate who have active duty sons or daughters in the military, but most of us do not have anyone in our families that we know who are in harm's way or who have been killed or who have been seriously injured. Yet, we stand here in this chamber and the President stands and he talks in glowing terms about, we need to stay the course and we are totally committed.

I wish we were totally committed. I wish the President was totally committed in terms of paying for this war without expecting future generations to pay. I wish the President was committed enough to continue to provide the money that our Veterans' Administration needs to provide adequate care for our veterans who are coming back from this war in desperate need of VA medical care. But no, only the soldiers and their loved ones are sacrificing or are being asked to sacrifice. I think that is very troubling.

It is easy to make decisions when it involves someone else's child. Maybe the only thing that will bring common sense back to this chamber and to this administration is to have the burden shared by all of us so that all of us who have loved ones who may be subject to military service would be asked to serve. Would that make a difference in our thinking?

I believe if the people who are so supportive of our current policies in Iraq so firmly believe that the direction in which we are going is the correct direction, I think they should be willing to see their sons and their daughters join the military, take up the battle, share the risk. And those who are not willing to have their loved ones put at risk should think very, very carefully about how enthusiastic they are about our current course of action.

We voted in this chamber, 434 to 1, I believe, when we pursued the war in Afghanistan, because we all understood that was the war on terror.

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It was Afghanistan and the Taliban regime and Osama bin Laden that attacked our country. And somehow there has been a bait and switch. We have taken the attack upon our country, and we have used it to go into Iraq.

The President spoke for 63 minutes when he gave his acceptance speech at the Republican convention, and he never mentioned Osama bin Laden's name one time. All the talk there in New York about September 11, about the attack upon our country, but the man who was responsible for attacking our country was not even mentioned by

the President. Saddam Hussein's name was mentioned many times, but not the one who was responsible.

Tonight, somewhere on the face of God's good Earth, Osama bin Laden is walking free, planning the next attack upon our country. And our resources were diverted from Iraq and from the Taliban and stabilizing Afghanistan to Iraq. We need to rethink our policies.

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to respond to the previous speaker's comments. My son was on active duty when I announced my run for office. He finished his tour of duty in June of 2002, shortly after I won my primary; and he signed up for the Air National Guard about 3 months later, and he continues to serve with the Guard. He is trying to complete his college. He does not know whether he will be called up or not.

So I wish the speakers on the other side would show some sensitivity. Perhaps we should circulate a notice of who has sons or daughters or wives or husbands on active duty or in the Guard, but I suspect it is more than one or two people in this House.

I was not in this House when the vote was taken to go into the country of Iraq, but I certainly support the President's efforts, and I understand what the President is trying to do. And I believe that the world will be a different place in 20 or 30 years' time because of our activities in that country than we would have had had we finished out Saddam Hussein's term and then allowed his sons to be the logical heirs to that reign of terror that he was perpetuating on his people. But I did not come here tonight to talk about that.

The previous speaker talked about how loved ones and innocent folks may be in harm's way, and that is a very real phenomenon. I want to introduce this House to a young man named Alan that I met this past weekend at the Federal Pediatric Hospital in Moscow, Russia. Alan is 11 years old and is a bright young boy.

Alan was in the hospital because he is recovering from surgery. He had surgery 2 weeks ago to remove a piece of metal from his chest, a piece of metal that sunk deep into his chest on Alan's first day of school in Beslan.

This piece of metal was placed in a mine that was created under the direction of a man named Skhmeel Masaif. Now, little Alan is healing now, but little Alan was perhaps lucky. More than 300 dead, over half of those children, were killed when those bombs went off in the gymnasium in Beslan. A quote from the newspaper that I read over the weekend from a towns person there in Beslan said, "We bury and bury and we still have not finished the job."