

seeing the outcome of these reforms, and hope to see even more innovative programs to strengthen our human intelligence capabilities.

One of the critical lapses identified after September 11, particularly by the 9/11 Commission report, was the poor information sharing among agencies and departments. Recently there have been some improvements in this area. The National CounterTerrorism Center, NCTC, recently published a report entitled "NCTC and Information Sharing: Five Years Since 9/11, a Progress Report." The NCTC reports that today, following many reforms, analysts have access to dozens of networks and information systems that they were previously denied. This access is across intelligence, law enforcement, military, and homeland security communities. This enormous increase of the amount of information, while ultimately beneficial, also raised the concern of becoming overwhelmed by the flood of this new information. Therefore, the NCTC is continuously exploring new technologies to help analysts manage these volumes of terrorism-related data.

The NCTC also reports that they host communitywide video teleconferences three times a day to ensure awareness of ongoing operations and emerging threats. Participants in these video teleconferences can correct misunderstandings, compare notes, and share best practice ideas to enhance the capabilities of all involved. Mr. Speaker, this is a vital component to the ability to detect and respond effectively in real time to emerging terrorism threats.

They have also created an online counterterrorism library allowing non-intelligence community agencies easier access to counterterrorism information. This library today hosts over 6,000 users, 6 million documents, and has over 60 departments and agencies that contribute information to its files.

Finally, the ODNI has reformed overseas collection efforts among agencies, focusing collection efforts on the stated needs and goals of the policymakers receiving the intelligence products. In a March 4 press release from the public affairs of the Office of Director of National Intelligence, "The intelligence community has strengthened the quality of intelligence provided to policymakers through initiatives like the mission managers concept. Among the most experienced in the intelligence community, mission managers have highly developed analytical and collection management skills and they focus on the topics of highest interest to our policymakers. This strategy allows the intelligence community to identify collection gaps and address resources to cover those gaps, ensuring analysts have the required information to support policy decisionmakers." They have also streamlined production of National Intelligence Council (NIC) products, increasing output and minimizing delays in production time. They

have included both more effective explanation behind judgments and the inclusion of alternative views of analysts, to incorporate a wide range of opinions and combat the dangers arising from "group think."

I look forward to monitoring the progress of these important first steps. However, it is vital that we maintain our momentum. As Director McConnell stated in his swearing-in speech, "Taking advantage of these advances in technology, today's threats move at increasing speeds. The time needed to develop a terrorist plot, communicated around the globe, and put it into motion has been drastically reduced. The time line is no longer a calendar, it is a watch."

THE REAL FILTHY SECRET BEHIND THE COAL ADS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) is recognized during morning hour debates for 4 minutes.

CHAIRWOMAN JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues in the words of mourning and celebration of the life of our late colleague, Juanita Millender-McDonald. She was a leader on many issues as we have heard stated already. And foremost among those in my opinion was her leadership and her vision as the first African American female chairman of a major committee here on Capitol Hill. She had a plan for how this City on a Hill would operate in a more smooth and efficient manner. And while she may not be with us to see that vision carried out, it is my hope that we will carry it out in memory of her. So to her husband and to her children and to her grandchildren, I hope that her memories will serve as a source of inner strength, inspiration, courage and love for the rest of their lives.

Mr. Speaker, on another subject, if I might, over the last few weeks, a series of anti-coal advertisements sponsored by a group called the Clean Sky Coalition have been running in prominent publications, such as the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, and other publications that we in this body come to rely upon each day and view each day. These ads feature photos of people whose faces are smeared with coal dust and the headline reads, "Face It, Coal Is Filthy." Indeed, there have been bumper sticker handouts on the streets of Washington, DC, stating that same phrase.

But the real filthy secret here is that the people depicted in these ads are not our Nation's coal miners but they are Hollywood models, and the ads are not being financed by environmental groups as one might be led to believe by the title of Clean Sky Coalition but, rather, these ads are primarily being financed by elements of the natural gas industry, including Chesapeake Energy

Corporation headquartered in Oklahoma City. These ads are despicable and so is this so-called Clean Sky Coalition. The sponsors are not being truthful and they would have you to believe that it is merely environmental groups leading this campaign. The filthy secret is that this ad campaign is about market share. It's about profits. It's about one segment of the energy industry trying to bamboozle the general public and policymakers to sell more of its product.

And the filthy secret is that these ads completely ignore the tremendous progress being made to burn coal cleanly and ignore the national security interests of this country. The only truth here is that these ads are an insult, an absolute insult to the hardworking men and women who go beneath this Nation's bowels each and every day to produce the energy that provides for this Nation's electricity.

CHAIRWOMAN JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JEFFERSON) is recognized during morning hour debates for 2½ minutes.

Mr. JEFFERSON. I thank the Chair.

A 17th century poet John Donne speaks to death thusly: "Death be not proud," he says, "though some have called you mighty and dreadful, for thou art not so. And those thou thinkest thy doth overthrow die not, poor death. A short sleep past, we wake eternally and death shall be no more."

This is the confidence in her Christian faith with which our sister, Juanita Millender-McDonald, lived and with which she passed from this earth. This is what she meant when she told her family that she was going home. This is what we saw and at which we marveled as we observed her peace on display in the final hours that she worked amongst us, giving not a hint of distress or brokenheartedness or loss of confidence. Her grace and elegance in her final months and years when she knew well her earthly fate is a lesson in how to live and how to leave this life for those of us who still live on this side.

Chairwoman Juanita Millender-McDonald was serious about her work. I had the pleasure of finding this out firsthand when I was Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation and Juanita was chair of the CBCF's annual legislative weekend. She helped to organize this event, which drew over 40,000 African American leaders to Washington, with great attention to detail, taxing all of us—sometimes we thought then too much—to meet our responsibilities and on time. But the result was a magnificent event heralded by all of us as one of our very best. This House got only a glimpse of her profound organizational skills as she had the chance to serve us only a

short time in her post as Chair of the Committee on House Administration. It would have been wonderful for we who work here and for our Nation if we had been privileged to see more.

As it is now, we welcome our sister to her rest in the bosom of her Lord and we pray for comfort and peace for James, her husband, and their five children and grandchildren, and we thank her for her friendship and commitment to the House, to her constituents, and to her country. She served us proudly and well, and she will be well remembered.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 15 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. SOLIS) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

In the end it is faith that proves victorious. Days come and go. Wars and famine cry out for justice, charity and peace. It is faith which helps us all respond to every call. It is faith that strengthens Your people for the struggle and, in the end, brings promise beyond the sacrifice.

Lord God, as faith inspired the apostles and martyrs and all who have gone before us, let living faith now find expression in us through acts of love that will excite hope, especially in the hearts of the poor and the fragile.

Help the Members of Congress and all Americans make decisions today that will build a justice that will not fail tomorrow. With faith, enable them to set aside goods of the present moment in the hope of attaining eternal good. With faith, it is possible to hope to change the present for the future.

We pray for the Honorable Juanita Millender-McDonald and all Your servants who have served You and Your people in public service. With faith, they can leave this place and find in You eternal reward. The free children of God are always on the move, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agreed to the following resolution:

S. RES. 175

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Juanita Millender-McDonald, late a Representative from the State of California.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns or recesses today, it stand adjourned or recessed as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Representative.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1681. An act to amend the Congressional Charter of The American National Red Cross to modernize its governance structure, to enhance the ability of the board of governors of The American National Red Cross to support the critical mission of The American National Red Cross in the 21st century, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 96-388, as amended by Public Law 97-84 and Public Law 106-292, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, appoints the following Senators to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council for the One Hundred and Tenth Congress:

The Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH).
The Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN).

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 105 (adopted April 13, 1989), as amended by S. Res. 149 (adopted October 5, 1993), as amended by Public Law 105-275, further amended by S. Res. 75 (adopted March 25, 1999), amended by S. Res. 383 (adopted October 27, 2000), and amended by S. Res. 355 (adopted November 13, 2002), and further amended by S. Res. 480 (adopted November 20, 2004), the Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, announces the appointment of the following Senators to serve as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the One Hundred and Tenth Congress:

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), Co-Chairman.

The Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL), Administrative Co-Chairman.

The Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), Co-Chairman.

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), Co-Chairman.

DEMOCRATS' IRAQ SUPPLEMENTAL BILL DENIES PRESIDENT AN OPEN COMMITMENT AND BLANK CHECK

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, this week Congress will vote on an emergency war spending conference report that fully funds the war and our troops, and yet the President is still threatening a veto. The President's problem with the bill is Congress' strong message that we are not going to allow the war to go on indefinitely.

In years past, the President has dealt with Republican-controlled Congresses, which simply rubber-stamped his requests, despite countless mistakes in Iraq. Last November, the American people demanded a change.

Last month the Congress acted and brought a serious change to our policy in Iraq. We demanded that the Iraqi Government meet the political and economic benchmarks that the President himself outlined earlier this year and set timelines for withdrawal if those benchmarks are not met.

Defense Secretary Gates himself, last week, said that the timelines we passed here in Congress and the pressure that our legislation exerts on the Iraqi Government is having a positive impact. Our legislation is already impacting the events in Iraq. The President should allow this to continue by reconsidering his threat to veto the legislation.

THE IRAQ SUPPLEMENTAL

(Mr. GINGREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of our troops who are still waiting for critical funding needed to fight the war on terror. I want to make sure the American people understand what is happening with legislation that provides money for our soldiers.

Instead of passing a clean bill the President could sign into law, the Democrats chose to pass a political statement that ties troop funding to arbitrary withdrawal deadlines, and it's loaded with earmarks. The Democrats have even dragged their feet on their own legislation, taking a 2-week recess without funding our troops and spending another week in Washington bickering over a bill that they know that the President will veto.

Why are we playing politics with money for our soldiers? Our troops can't win this war with political rhetoric. They need money, they need supplies, and they have been waiting over