

the Senate, and she condemned people for criticizing him for what he said about the war being lost. But I haven't heard anybody over there say anything good about the President, who is trying to protect us against terrorism around the world, which is emanating from the Middle East and al Qaeda. Al Qaeda are the ones that are running the opposition to the United States troops over there right now.

We were attacked by al Qaeda. We were going to go to war to stop terrorism against al Qaeda. And nobody is saying anything good about the President, who is trying to protect this country, and if we say one thing about the majority leader on the other side we are supposed to be condemned. I don't understand it. I just don't understand it.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SARBANES). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

THE 147

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, under the hot summer-like sun of today, several thousand peace officers dressed in their bright uniforms, along with citizens, paid tribute to the 147 peace officers killed in service to America in 2006. Also honored were the families, the spouses, the children, the parents of these peace officers. This service today was held on the West side of the Capitol. It was attended by some of us in Congress and the President of the United States spoke.

The wind blew the flags of the 50 States. They were held by peace officers, and the bagpipes played a solemn tribute in the background to these 147 peace officers. It was a fitting event sponsored for the 26th year of the Fraternal Order of Police.

Mr. Speaker, I have known a lot of police officers for the last 30 years. I was a prosecutor for 8 years in Texas, and then a criminal court judge for 22 years. I came to know a lot of them. Those rare and noble breed that wear the badge of a peace officer are remarkable people. I have even known some that have given their lives in the line of duty for the rest of us.

Peace officers that patrol the small towns or the big cities or the vastness of our counties, whether they are local, State or Federal officers, are America's first line of defense against the lawless, the criminals, the outlaws that live to steal, murder, rob and assault America. Keeping the peace this last year cost 147 men and women from across the Nation their lives. I will submit the names of these 147 names for the record.

Peace officers are all that stand between the law and the lawless. They stand between the good and the evil. They stand between the people and the criminals. When they wear the badge, they are the protector of America's people and the public servant of all communities.

They are on patrol 24 hours a day, so that the rest of us can go about our lives in peace. When we are fearful, they are fearless, and when we flee from terror, they run to terror. They are a cut above the rest of us. They are a true example of the public hero.

So we do not forget the fallen and forget what they have done with this solemn reference today, we remember the 147.

And that's just the way it is.

Mr. Speaker, I include the names of the peace officers killed in the line of duty in 2006 for the RECORD.

PEACE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY IN 2006

ALABAMA

Anthony Maurice Andrews, Micah Joe Burks, Keith Edwin Houts, Mary Freeman Smith.

ARIZONA

Robert Daniel Targosz, Kevin Louis Weeks.

ARKANSAS

Stacy Edward McMurrrough, James Walter Sell.

CALIFORNIA

G. John Bailey, Pierre Walter Bain, Kyle Russell Ballard, Daniel S. Bessant, Nich Tomasito Birco, Brent William Clearman, Landon Michael Dorris, Scott Anthony Hanson, William Joseph Hudnall Jr., Richard Allen May Jr., Jeffrey Vaughn Mitchell, David Stan Piquette, Maria Cecilia Rosa, Earl Harwood Scott, Darryl Takeo Tsujimoto, Bryan D. Tuvera.

COLORADO

Jared Scott Jensen, Kenneth C. Jordan, Michael Del Thomas.

CONNECTICUT

Daniel Patrick Picagli.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Gerard Walter Burke Jr.

FLORIDA

Phoenix Montana Braithwaite, Michael Anthony Callin, Christopher Cooper Daniels Sr., Margena Silvia Nunez, John Michael Piskator, Ryan Christopher Seguin, Juan A. Serrano, Brian Keith Tephford, Vernon Matthew Williams.

GEORGIA

Peter William Faatz, Michael William Larson, John William McKinney, Dennis Carmen Stepnowski, Joseph Tim Whitehead Jr., Dennis Christian Wright Sr., Michael Douglas Young.

HAWAII

Steve Bastidas Favela.

ILLINOIS

Jeremy Chambers, Thomas Alan Cook, Elizabeth Mazella Edwards, Brian Keith Gibbons, James F. Knapp, Rodney Todd Miller, Eric Solorio, Thomas T. Wood.

INDIANA

Gary E. Dudley, Gary L. Martin, Scott Lee Severns.

KANSAS

James Leroy Johnson, Cory Allen Ricks.

KENTUCKY

Elmer Kiser, Jonathan Kyle Leonard, David George Whitson.

LOUISIANA

Herman Wayne Brooks, Christopher John Doyle III, Octavio Rafael Gonzalez, Christopher Michael Metternich, Jeremy Paul Newchurch.

MAINE

David Jerome Rancourt.

MARYLAND

William H. Beebe Jr., Anthony A. Bryd, Robert Thomas Krauss, David Warren McGuinn, Jeffery Alan Wroten.

MASSACHUSETTS

Paul Francis Barry.

MICHIGAN

Kenneth Lee Daniels Jr., Jason Anthony Makowski, Riley Scott Sumner, Matthew J. Tuttle.

MISSISSIPPI

T. Michael Byrd, Robert Michael Langley.

MONTANA

David Leroy Briese Jr., Patrick Roy Kramer.

NEVADA

Henry Prendes.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Michael Leland Briggs.

NEW JERSEY

Wayne Robert Clark, Matthew J. Melchionda, Kieran Tyon Shields.

NEW MEXICO

James Archuleta, James Francis McGrane Jr.

NEW YORK

John Robert Allen, Joseph Daniel Corr, Francis J. Hennessy, Kevin M. Lee, Joseph Anthony Longobardo, Andrew J. Sperr, Craig J. Todeschini, Kenneth P. Wilcox.

OHIO

Lawrence M. Barnes Sr., Ethan G. Collins, Dale Rodney Holcomb, Joshua Patrick Risner, Jonathan James Schroeder.

OKLAHOMA

William Lloyd McClendon, Steven Roy Smith.

PENNSYLVANIA

David Michael Petzold, Gary S. Skerski, Scott Alan Wertz.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Jason Lannes Sheppard.

TENNESSEE

William Birl Jones, L. Keith Lyon, Jeremy Victor Reynolds.

TEXAS

Eduardo Chavez, Dwayne N. Freeto, Dale David Geddie, Rodney Joseph Johnson, Matthew DeWayne Myrick, Gregory Dean Stewart, James Lee Sunderland Sr., Donald Ellis Wass, Billy Jack Zachary.

UTAH

Kevin Shumway Orr.

VIRGINIA

Vicky O. Armel, Gary Jonathan Buro, Seneca Bailey Darden, Charles Aubrey Fisher, Michael E. Garbarino, Robert Earl Green, Robert A. Hill Sr., Kevin Carder Manion, Eric E. Sutphin, William Henry Tiedeman Jr.

WASHINGTON

Joselito Alvarez Barber, Steve E. Cox, Edwanton Allen Thomas.

WEST VIRGINIA

Charles Eugene Smith.

WISCONSIN

Stephen Joseph Hahn, Jackie Davis Ryden.

WYOMING

Dennis Merwin Shuck.

FEDERAL

Lorenzo Gomez, Nicholas D. Greenig, Daniel Joseph Kuhlmeier, Gregory J. Rahoi, William Sentner III, David Norman Webb.

PUERTO RICO

Juan Jose Burgos-Velez, Raul Canales-Mundo, Jose Luis Torres-Martinez.

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.)

DEALING WITH THE HIGH PRICE OF GASOLINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. McCARTHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, since the beginning of the year, gas prices across the Nation have been increasing. With the summer driving season fast approaching, prices at the pump are again reaching record highs.

With the price quickly approaching \$4 a gallon, it is time again for Congress to act to help consumers with this increased cost. High gas prices not only increase the cost of living for American families, but increased gas prices will affect the prices on nearly every single consumer good on the market. Working families are not only paying more at the pump, but at the grocery store, the pharmacy and the shopping malls as well.

These increases have a harmful effect on our Nation's economy and security. They make it harder for working families to commute to and from work, especially in cases where public transportation is lacking. It also increases the cost for public transportation, which makes it harder for those individuals without automobiles to travel.

But we see the effects of high prices across the board. Parcel delivery rates increase. Municipalities must increase their taxes to pay for gas for their emergency responder vehicles. Our utilities go up. We cannot afford to stand by idly as our cost of living steadily increases for the sake of continued record oil company profits.

In response to the rising gas prices, I have requested that the Federal Trade Commission investigate possible gasoline price gouging and hold those accountable who engage in such practices.

I am also a cosponsor of Congressman STUPAK's legislation, H.R. 1252, the Federal Gas Price Gouging Prevention Act. This much needed legislation calls on the FTC and the Attorney General to investigate possible price gouging, both nationally and locally, and to prosecute any group found to be taking advantage of the American people. As summer approaches, travel within the United States historically does in-

crease. According to the Automobile Association of America, gasoline prices may reach an all-time high by Memorial Day.

The time has come for Congress and the President to work together on a solution for the American people. Earlier this year the House passed legislation to repeal tax breaks for oil companies while devoting more Federal resources to renewable fuels. I am hopeful the Senate will quickly act on this much needed legislation this month.

If we are serious about reducing our dependency on foreign oil, we must work with manufacturers and researchers to bring renewable fuels to the forefront. Our environment and economy depend on it.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure American consumers are given a voice about the high price of gasoline.

INVESTIGATING INJUSTICE PERPETRATED AGAINST BORDER PATROL AGENTS RAMOS AND COMPEAN

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

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today is the 119th day since a great injustice took place in this country.

On January 17, 2007, two U.S. Border Patrol agents entered Federal prison to begin serving 11 and 12-year sentences respectively. I am hopeful that this will be the month that House Judiciary Chairman JOHN CONYERS and Senate Judiciary Chairman PATRICK LEAHY will hold a hearing to investigate the injustice perpetrated against these two U.S. Border Patrol agents.

Agents Compean and Ramos were convicted last spring for wounding a Mexican drug smuggler who brought 734 pounds of marijuana across our border into Texas. These agents never should have been persecuted. Yet the U.S. Attorney's Office granted immunity to the drug smuggler and prosecuted the agents who were doing their job to protect our borders.

The illegal drug smuggler received full medical care in El Paso, Texas, was permitted to return to Mexico and has sued the Border Patrol for \$5 million for violating his civil rights. Many Members of this House, including Congressman TED POE, who is a former judge from Texas, have voiced concerns about the unfair prosecution of these agents.

With the troubling revelations surrounding the leadership of the U.S. Justice Department, I believe it is necessary to investigate the U.S. Attorney's Office in western Texas and the prosecutor's actions in this case. Never in America should the Congress sit by and allow a breakdown of honesty and integrity in our Nation's judicial system.

Mr. Speaker, if the American people cannot have faith in our Federal

courts, I am afraid the future of our democracy is in danger. For the sake of these agents and their families and the integrity of our judicial system, I am pleased and grateful that Mr. CONYERS and Senator LEAHY will be holding hearings to investigate the injustice perpetrated against these two agents.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, there are very few instances where I have had a Member of Congress persist in the search for justice with the same zeal as my friend from North Carolina, and I commend you.

I recall that I had an opportunity to meet the widow of the slain officer, and I have talked to the gentleman from Virginia, BOBBY SCOTT, chairman of the Crime Subcommittee, and his ranking member about the importance that we pursue at the earliest possible moment a complete and total investigation and hearing about the matter that the gentleman and other colleagues that have now joined you have persisted in.

I congratulate you, and recommit publicly once again to our search and pursuit of justice, because if we don't protect our border agents and law enforcement officials generally, I can only shudder to think how the safety of this country will deteriorate.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I am grateful to the chairman

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

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

MONITORING DEFENSE SPENDING

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, we all respect, admire and appreciate those who serve in our Nation's Armed Forces. Serving in our military is certainly one of the most honorable ways anyone can serve our country. I believe national defense is one of the very few legitimate functions of our national government, and certainly one of the most important.

However, we also need to recognize that our military has become the most gigantic bureaucracy in the history of the world. And like any huge bureaucracy, it does many good things; of course, always at huge expense to the taxpayer. And like any huge bureaucracy, our military does many things that are wasteful or inefficient. And like any huge bureaucracy, it tries to