

this a reflection on all Muslims in the Army? Absolutely not. We have those in the Muslim faith loyally serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Many speak Farsi and help our troops in combat. But it is a reflection on one person who radicalized.

There were warning signs, and interventions should have occurred much earlier. It's a reflection on the Army's ability to be decisive and take care of business, take care of a threat when they see it. They missed the obvious. The question is: Is this continuing to happen in the military? Are they going to continue to ignore the obvious? Hasan had murdered 14 people, including a pregnant soldier and her unborn child. She was sent back home from Iraq out of the war zone to have her baby.

Mr. Speaker, when it gets to the point where political correctness puts the lives of our troops in danger on American soil at their home base, it's well past time to stop playing preposterous PC games.

By the way, Mr. Speaker, do you know what the military officially calls terrorists? We don't use that term "terrorist" anymore. They are officially called alien unlawful belligerents. Now, isn't that lovely. We can't call them terrorist or killers or criminals because that might hurt their feelings.

The American military, the FBI, and the media must deal with the facts and the truth without trying to mislead the American public.

And that's just the way it is.

#### SMART POWER CAN SUCCEED WHERE MILITARY POWER ALONE HAS FAILED

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, last week on Veterans Day the American people paid tribute to the heroic men and women who have and are serving in our military. Fortunately, most veterans return home safe and sound. They devote themselves to their families. They become leaders in their communities. I know many veterans in my district. They are among the most respected and beloved neighbors. But too many veterans, Mr. Speaker, never get the chance to resume their lives. They die in battle or they return home with terrible wounds that will never heal. Their loving families feel scars of war, too—especially the children.

Today, American soldiers continue to face danger in Afghanistan and in Iraq. Nearly 5,300 have already died in those two conflicts. About 35,000 have been wounded. And when the wounded return home, they often face many challenges.

According to a study by the Harvard Medical School, over 130,000 veterans are homeless. Over 2,200 veterans died last year because they didn't have

health insurance. And, Mr. Speaker, many veterans are out of work in this recession.

This Congress and President Obama and his administration recognize these problems and we made some good progress in addressing them. This House has passed new legislation that helps veterans. We have passed a strong health insurance reform bill that will help veterans. In addition, General Shinseki, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, has promised an all-out effort to end veterans' homelessness. He has also launched a new effort to strengthen housing, education, employment, and medical care opportunities for our veterans.

We need to do all of this, Mr. Speaker, and we need to do more. But I have always believed that the best way to serve our veterans is to do everything we can to keep them out of harm's way in the first place. That means sending our troops to war only as a last resort, when we have explored every other alternative.

In Afghanistan, we haven't met that test. We have relied almost exclusively on the military solution for over 8 long years. And we see where that's gotten us—absolutely nowhere.

Mr. Speaker, we have learned that there is no military solution to Afghanistan, and we've learned that lesson the hard way. We have learned it through the number of dead and wounded. That's why I urge President Obama to say "no" to sending more troops to Afghanistan. Our troops have already been stretched to the limit by repeated deployments. Their families have already suffered enough on the homefront. Escalating the war will only help the violent extremists in Afghanistan to recruit more violent extremists to attack our troops.

Instead of pursuing the same failed strategy of the past, I have called for a new strategy that relies on all the effective tools of smart security. These tools include diplomacy, humanitarian aid, economic development, education, civil affairs, and better intelligence and police work to search out and capture extremists. At least 80 percent of all further funding for Afghanistan should be devoted to these smart power efforts.

Mr. Speaker, the casualty figures are growing in Afghanistan. We owe it to our courageous troops to protect their lives before we have another Iraq on our hands. Smart security must be used because it can get us a lot farther in Afghanistan, much further than military power alone.

Mr. Speaker, let's change our strategy before it's too late. Let's bring our troops home. Let's bring them home safe, sound, and successful.

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

#### ASTRONAUT ROBERT SATCHER

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Yesterday, as STS-129 lifted off, there was a very definite glint of pride in my eyes and spring in my step because one of the astronauts on board was Mission Specialist Robert Satcher, doctor, chemical engineer, and native of Oak Park, Illinois, and the Seventh Congressional District.

Dr. Satcher is the second astronaut to hail from Oak Park on the western border of Chicago. Any community to boast of such a record of producing astronauts deserves a second look, but for a community with just over 50,000 residents to accumulate such a record, something must be going on that is very right. But, of course, in the end, it is up to the individual to determine what to do with the circumstances of their lives.

Dr. Robert Satcher has done some amazing things with his life. An orthopedic surgeon who practices at Northwestern Memorial and Children's Memorial hospitals, teaches at Northwestern University Medical School, does research at the Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern and the Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology in Advanced Medicine at Northwestern, Dr. Satcher is a nephew of former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher. He is married to Dr. D'Juanna Satcher, and they have a daughter, Daija.

Dr. Satcher was a Schweitzer Fellow at the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Lambarene, Gabon, completed numerous medical missions for outreach care to underserved areas in Nicaragua, Venezuela, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, and Gabon. He held internships at DuPont in the Textile Fibers Research Group and the Polymer Products Division.

Growing up, he was a National Merit Scholar and received the Monsanto Award and the Albert G. Hill Award from MIT, fellowships from both the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the UNCF/Merck Research Foundation, and is a member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society. He is a Leadership Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, ABC Fellow of the American Orthopedic Association, Bloomberg Leadership Fellow, and has completed 12 research grants and has 15 peer-review publications and over 25 presentations at national and international research meetings.

He has been active in the Big Brother for Youth at Risk Counseling Program; Department of Corrections, San Francisco, California; a tutor for the Black Student Union tutorial program at MIT; the National Society of Black Engineers; the American Institute of Chemical Engineering; a supervising adult for Cub Scout Camp for Boys in Nashville, Tennessee; and he is a lay Episcopal minister with primary responsibility for visiting the sick and

shut-in members of the church at St. Edmonds Episcopal Church in Chicago and St. James Episcopal Church in Houston.

He was selected for Astronaut Candidate training by NASA in May of 2004 and completed training in February of 2006. On STS-129, Dr. Satcher is scheduled to perform two EVAs—space walks—among other assignments. For those who want to follow Dr. Satcher on Twitter, he will be tweeting as astro\_bones and ZeroG\_MD.

Godspeed to you, Dr. Satcher. Bobby, you have a lot of fans back on Earth, and especially those in Oak Park, Illinois.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.)

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.)

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

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

#### THE SPOILS OF WAR

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

Ms. KAPTUR. In Iraq, after thousands upon thousands of lost lives and hundreds of thousands of disabling injuries, after a trillion dollars of U.S. treasure added to our Nation's debt, after an incalculable amount of U.S. prestige being lost, one aspect about Iraq remains defining: It's all about oil and the spoils of oil across that region.

Exxon, the largest U.S. oil company, with profits totaling \$40.6 billion in 2008—a record—just got its first contract inside Iraq. Foreign oil companies like Exxon were thrown out of that country four decades ago when Saddam Hussein nationalized Iraq's oil fields.

Michael Klare, in his prescient book about resource wars, "Blood and Oil," connects the dots. What a shame our world is so primitive, people brutally fight over diminishing resources as global energy extraction giants advantage themselves, far from home, in the wake of our soldiers, tapping largesse these oil giants covet.

Iraq ranks fourth in global oil reserves behind Saudi Arabia, Canada,

and Iran. Iraq's central government is now picking winners in the great oil prize bonanza—the "Iraqi Oil Contracting Rush of 2009." Oil has dominated Iraq's economy for generations. Oil has traditionally provided more than 90 percent of that country's exchange earnings, and that is likely to be the case for a few decades to come until it's all sucked dry.

According to the Washington Post, the oil ministry is expected to hold a new bidding round in December for undeveloped fields. Those are also for service agreements. Oil giants hope the deals could one day lead to production-sharing deals, long a goal of energy firms that have been shut out of the Middle East for years.

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The oil giants, Exxon-Mobil and Royal Dutch/Shell, signed a \$50 billion deal with Iraq to extract oil from the Western Qurna oil field, one of Iraq's largest oil fields located north of Rumaila field, west of Basra in southern Iraq. Western Qurna is believed to hold 11 to 15 billion barrels of recoverable reserve. This prize of a deal gives Exxon-Mobil, Shell and their partners \$1.90 per barrel above the current production rate of 2.5 million barrels per day, and they hope to increase production to 7 million per day over the next 6 years, meaning a windfall of \$3.1 billion per year.

Are the lives of our soldiers worth it? The giant Exxon Mobil/Shell consortium beat out the other oil giant consortiums, led by Russia's LUKOIL, France's Total and a consortium led by China's CNPC. Dictators have come and gone, foreign armies have come and gone, some still remain.

One thing remains constant about Iraq. Oil is still the big prize. That is why American and European oil company giants going all the way back to the Ottoman Empire have coveted control of their crude. Cynics would even say they have been willing to go to war over it. As we observe the continuing rush to the oil fields by a world that must transition to a greener and sustainable energy future, one must ask the tough question, Are the lives of our noble military going to be expended—for how long?—far away from home to access a resource that is diminishing globally while America's Treasury is emptied, supporting wars in foreign places to tap a resource that, by 2050, will be gone, never to return again.

Civilized people should demand more than fighting resource wars of the past for an oil giant's prizes, for limited remaining time on this planet. It's time to think hard about where we have extended our most precious assets and to say, It's time to come home.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida addressed the House. His re-

marks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. CASSIDY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although you called me "mister," I am actually a physician; and so in my other life—I actually saw patients just yesterday at a public hospital in Louisiana, a safety net hospital where I have worked for the last 20 years. So caring for the uninsured has been my life's work since completing my residency and returning home. I've learned that if you don't pay attention to costs that it doesn't matter how passionate you are for the uninsured; the fact is that you are unable to achieve your goals.

There are three goals of health reform, and they're commonly said to be controlling cost to provide access to high-quality care. In the hospital where I work, a safety net hospital, they are committed, they are so passionate for the underserved folks who are med techs, physical therapists, ward clerks, physicians and nurses. But the problem is, if there is a budget shortfall, then inevitably, services suffer.

So it doesn't matter how passionate we are in our service. The fact is that if there are insufficient resources in the State at the end of the budget year, then services suffer. It may be that the nurse staffing has decreased and hospital beds are closed so that if somebody comes to the emergency room, they have to wait in the emergency room before they're admitted. And inevitably when that happens, the hospital goes into what is called divert, whereas instead of coming to our hospital, they will be diverted to another hospital. That's because if you don't control cost, inevitably, access and quality suffer.

Now, I was struck that President Obama agrees with this. President Obama continually speaks about the need to bend the cost curve down, the need to control costs because if we do not control costs, then our economy suffers and the ability to provide care suffers. Now, it's one thing to say that we're going to control cost in order to expand access to quality care, but you've got to have a plan on how to get there.

There is a company called McKinsey & Company, and on their Web site, they have a great article that you can download called "The Three Imperatives of Health Care Reform." Without achieving these three imperatives, then, we cannot control cost in a way which expands access to quality care. Now the three imperatives that they list are decreasing administrative costs, how much money we put into the