

side of the aisle will be laid aside on this vital matter of national security.

We now have momentum on this issue. The President seized it this week with important breakthroughs at the Nuclear Security Summit he hosted in Washington. Tomorrow, the House Committee on Foreign Affairs will convene an important hearing to discuss stopping the spread of nuclear weapons and combating nuclear terrorism.

We cannot let up, Mr. Speaker, because there is difficult work ahead, and because the New START treaty with Russia really doesn't go far enough. We can't be satisfied with incremental steps. 1,550 nuclear warheads is still 1,550 too many. Just one of them has the power to leave carnage so devastating it would make 9/11 look like a minor traffic accident.

In an op-ed written for the Tampa Tribune, the leaders of the group Physicians for Social Responsibility reminded us in vivid terms what a nuclear strike would mean, and I quote:

“A single Hiroshima-sized bomb detonated by terrorists in New York City could kill over 250,000 people and cause somewhere between \$2 trillion and \$10 trillion in damage.”

They continue:

“A large-scale nuclear exchange with Russia would kill more than 100 million Americans in the first half-hour. Clouds of dust and soot would block out the sun, and in a matter of days the average temperature across the globe would plummet 18 degrees Fahrenheit, to levels not seen on Earth since the depth of the last ice age. In this nuclear winter, agriculture would cease to exist throughout the northern hemisphere, and billions of people would starve in the following months.”

□ 1930

Mr. Speaker, nothing less than the future of the human race hangs in the balance here. That's why the New START must be the start and not the end of our commitment to eliminate nuclear weaponry once and for all.

MEXICAN MILITARY HELICOPTER INCURSIONS INTO U.S.

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

Mr. POE of Texas. I bring you news from the third front, that being the southern border with our neighbor Mexico, the first front being Iraq, the second front being Afghanistan. We are engaged in three conflicts, three wars. And the third front is the conflict on our border, the border war with the drug cartels.

The \$40 billion-a-year illicit drug trade in Mexico has resulted in a vicious wave of violence in northern Mexico and the United States. President Calderon of Mexico has said in the last few years 23,000 Mexicans have been killed and murdered on the streets of Mexico. To put it in perspec-

tive, that is over twice the murder homicide rate in the United States.

Recently, there were two incursions by Mexican military helicopters across the Texas-Mexico border into the United States, and their intentions are still unknown. Those incursions were about 3 weeks apart. Some here in Washington questioned whether these astonishing reports of Mexican military helicopters actually were true.

Well, here is a photograph, Mr. Speaker, that was taken by some individuals in Zapata County, Texas. That is on the border with Mexico. This is an RV park. And this is one of those Mexican military helicopters. It is a Russian-made, built helicopter. It has the word “Marine” on the side, that being the Mexican Navy's helicopter. And this photograph was taken by more than one individual. Photographs of the first incursion were also taken. And the question remains why is the Mexican military helicopter coming into the United States, and why is our government silent about their intention? We do not know.

The international criminal drug cartels are just that: they are international. They are connected to terrorist organizations worldwide, and they make money selling drugs to fund their narcoterrorism. Which begs the question, Why are Americans allowing Mexican military helicopters to invade our airspace? I wish we had an answer from our government. Are they protecting drug shipments into the United States? We don't know. Are they doing something else? We don't know.

This photograph, by the way, this helicopter is over two miles into the United States. The Texas-Mexico border is not like Arizona and New Mexico and California. There is a river in between. It's hard to miss the river when you fly over it. So it's obviously not a mistake on the part of whoever is flying this helicopter.

You know, the primary duty of government is to protect the people. But the Federal Government, our government, has gotten so big and stuck its nose in so many places it doesn't belong it's no longer, in my opinion, performing its primary duty, protecting the people. Congress seems to be a little bit more concerned about steroids in baseball than they are concerned about protecting our border from people who come across without permission.

At the El Paso sector of the Border Patrol in Texas, our agents now are being targeted by the Azteca hitmen of the Juarez drug cartel. What that means is this: the Juarez drug cartel is bringing dope into the United States. Our Border Patrol is doing an excellent job, best that we will let them do, of preventing that from occurring. So they have hired their own hitmen, the Azteca hitmen to target our Border Patrol agents. Our Border Patrol agents have a \$250,000 bounty on their heads for being Border Patrol agents, for trying to do their job. And they are being

targeted for kidnappings or murder. It makes no difference. I think that ought to upset some of us here in Washington, D.C.

You know, the Azteca gang works for the Juarez drug cartel. They protect drug shipments that are brought into the United States. It gets bad down in Texas on the Texas-Mexico border. I recently asked a Texas Ranger, I said, What's it like after dark on the Texas-Mexico border? And he made this comment: It gets western. That's right, Mr. Speaker, it gets western. It's like the old West shootouts. You know, we have heard about all the shootings in northern Mexico. And it's only a matter of time before they shoot their way across the border into the United States.

This is serious. This is violent. And it's being perpetrated by the drug cartels against Americans both in Mexico and the United States, but it's also being perpetrated against Mexican nationals that live in Mexico.

You know, we shouldn't wait until something worse happens before we do something about it. It's important that we protect the dignity of our Nation because it's the first duty of government to protect the people of the United States. We should be sending the National Guard down to the border. This has been talked about before, yet nothing has happened. The Texas Governor and other State Governors have asked that the National Guard be deployed on the border. Why not?

It's interesting, Mr. Speaker, we protect the borders of other nations with our military, but we don't protect our own border with the National Guard. The question is, Why not? You know, it's time that we act, otherwise we delay at our own peril, Mr. Speaker.

And that's just the way it is.

ON THE PASSING OF DR. DOROTHY HEIGHT

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my comments on the passing of Dr. Dorothy Height be included with those of the Special Order that Congresswoman DIANE WATSON will be anchoring this evening.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman's 5-minute Special Order will appear in that portion of the RECORD.

There was no objection.

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.)

MEXICAN MILITARY HELICOPTER INCURSIONS INTO U.S.

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. Mr. Speaker, tonight I was going to talk about the health care bill, and how it's going to affect AT&T, \$1 billion they are going to be out; John Deere, 150 million; Caterpillar, 100 million; Prudential a 100 million. All these companies, their bottom line is going to be reduced by all this money because of the health care bill that wasn't supposed to hurt our economy at all. But it's going to. It's going to hurt the bottom line of all these companies, and it's going to affect the people who work for them. They are going to be laying people off. They are going to be offshore many of these companies because of this. And it's something that wasn't talked about during the health care debate. The American people were against the bill. And if they knew this, they would really be against the bill.

But the thing I want to talk about tonight is my good friend, Congressman POE, was just down here. And usually when I come down here to give a talk at night, I have a subject like this I am going to talk about, but he said some things during his 5-minute Special Order that I wish all of my colleagues who may be watching back in their offices, and if I were talking to the American people, I would wish that they could hear what he had to say.

Mr. POE, did I understand you correctly when you said that there is a bounty of \$250,000 on our Border Patrol agents down there by the drug cartels?

Mr. POE of Texas. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. POE of Texas. Yes, in the western part of Texas, near El Paso, the Juarez drug cartel operates bringing drugs into the United States. They have hitmen that are called the Azteca gang. And they have been specifically hired to target our Border Patrol agents, a \$250,000 bounty on their head for kidnapping or murdering of them; that is correct.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I wasn't aware of that. And I doubt if any of our colleagues were aware of that. Are the sheriffs and all the law enforcement agencies down there, they are aware of it as well?

Mr. POE of Texas. Law enforcement is aware of the situation. All the law enforcement is aware.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Who in the world would want to be a Border Patrol agent or work on that border if they know that there is a \$250,000 bounty on their head by the drug cartels?

Mr. POE of Texas. I don't know. They are amazing people, the law enforcement, all of them, the Federal agents, the State agents, the sheriffs, local law enforcement. They are amazing people who work on the border because they are outgunned, outmanned, and outfinanced by the drug cartels.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. And you showed a helicopter, a Mexican helicopter that was in the United States airspace. And there is no explanation for that as well.

Mr. POE of Texas. That's right. That helicopter was in Zapata County, into the United States a mile and a half, two miles across the border, the river border, and we are yet to find out why that helicopter was there. Another one was in the United States about 3 weeks prior to this one.

□ 1945

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. And no American troops, National Guard or military of any kind is down there augmenting the border patrol agents that are risking their lives every day.

Mr. POE of Texas. That's correct. The border patrol are on their own working with the local sheriffs.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Well, you know, what I would like to do, Representative POE, under your leadership, I'd like to work with you to get a letter signed to the President of the United States talking about this bounty that's on our border patrol agents' heads, and ask him and the Governors of those States to do whatever is necessary to protect that border and to make sure that our border patrol agents aren't at risk like they are today. That's just terrible. I can't believe that. And if we could get a bunch of Members to sign a letter like that, maybe we could wake up the administration to the problem and get some additional help down there because, as you know, well, you of all people know, they're coming across in droves and they're using all kinds of methods to bring drugs into this country. And they're killing Americans. Wasn't there an American killed a couple of miles inside the border just a week or two ago?

Mr. POE of Texas. Yes, in Arizona a rancher was killed by people crossing the border into the United States, people illegally in the United States.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Well, I will be glad to work with you, if you would like to, to draft a letter to make sure that everybody knows in this body and the President knows that there is a bounty to kill American border patrol agents or to kidnap them and do whatever they do to them by the drug cartels. This is something that the American people need to know about. And I'm so happy that you brought this up tonight, and I'm going to do everything I can to work with you to make sure we do something to stop it. And I want to go down to the border with you to see this thing firsthand, and we'll be doing that pretty quick.

Mr. POE of Texas. Be glad to work with you. Appreciate it. Be glad to work with you on that.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Everybody in this body owes you a debt of gratitude.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida addressed the House. Her remarks will

appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

WALL STREET VS. MAIN STREET

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, Wall Street speculation and the disaster it caused have been clear since the bailout in the fall of 2008. More foreclosures on Main Street, higher profits for Wall Street.

I fought against that bailout, and I continue to fight for Main Street and the people who are not high powered gamblers nor high paid investors nor the mega banks. My fight is for people to regain their jobs, for people to save their homes, and for people to have their hope restored.

I've been observing the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission taking a baby step, long overdue, as watchdog of the markets that they are supposed to be regulating as enforcers of securities law.

As the New York Times reports today, rather than asserting that Goldman misrepresented a product it was selling, the most commonly used grounds for securities fraud, the Securities and Exchange Commission said in a civil lawsuit filed on Friday that the investment bank misled customers about how the product was created. In fact, the SEC can only file civil cases, so it's high time to look, rather, at the apparent criminal fraud involved in and around the hidden works of Wall Street and the financial crisis it precipitated.

Last year I introduced H.R. 3995, the 2008 Financial Crisis Investigation and Prosecution Act, authorizing the Director of the FBI to hire 1,000 additional agents and additional forensic accounting experts to probe down into the misdeeds that brought down the economy of our Nation.

Though the FBI is slightly beefing up their ranks on investigating fraud, during the savings and loan scandal of the late 1980s and early 1990s 1,000 agents, as well as forensic experts, exacted justice. Today, if there are even 300 over there doing part-time work on this, that would be a high number.

Back in the eighties and nineties, that savings and loan crisis cost the people of our country \$170 billion placed right squarely on the back of our taxpayers. The 2008 financial crisis could cost our people trillions of dollars. So it must be the focus of the Department of Justice to find and fight the fraud in our financial system. And they simply need more financial white collar crime agents to do so.

Citizens following the law have nothing to fear. Those committing criminal acts should know they will be caught. That is why, in addition to authorizing more FBI agents, H.R. 3995 also authorizes the hiring of more prosecutors in the Department of Justice to take those cases to trial.