

as well as her continuing efforts to promote Jamaica's interests and support its development. She continues her service to this island nation as president of American Friends of Jamaica. This organization is helping to bring greater prosperity and educational opportunities to the people of Jamaica.

Sue, this well-deserved award is a testament to your strength of character and to your determination, and we in South Florida are indeed fortunate to call you our neighbor. Congratulations to Sue Cobb.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6 p.m. today.

COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 11

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1610) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launching against the United States on September 11, 2001.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1610

Whereas on the morning of September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked and destroyed four civilian aircraft, crashing two of them into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City and a third into the Pentagon outside of Washington, D.C.;

Whereas the passengers and crew aboard the fourth civilian aircraft, United Airlines Flight 93, acted heroically to prevent the terrorist hijackers from taking additional American lives, by crashing the plane in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and sacrificing their own lives instead;

Whereas thousands of innocent men, women, and children were brutally murdered in the attacks of September 11, 2001;

Whereas nine years later, the United States continues to mourn the lives lost on September 11, 2001;

Whereas by targeting symbols of American strength and prosperity, the attacks were intended to assail the principles and values of the American people and to intimidate the Nation and its allies;

Whereas the United States remains steadfast in its determination to defeat, disrupt, and destroy terrorist organizations and seeks to harness all elements of national power, including its military, economic, and diplomatic resources, to do so;

Whereas Congress has passed, and the President has signed, numerous laws to protect the Nation, prevent terrorism at home and abroad, assist victims of terrorism, and support, in the field and upon return, the members of the Armed Forces who courageously defend the United States;

Whereas the terrorist attacks that have occurred around the world since September

11, 2001, serve as reminders that the hateful inhumanity of terrorism poses a common threat to the free world, to people everywhere, and to democratic values;

Whereas the United States has worked cooperatively with the nations of the free world to capture terrorists and bring them to justice;

Whereas the United States remains committed to building strong and productive counterterrorism alliances;

Whereas immediately following September 11, 2001, the Armed Forces moved swiftly against al-Qaeda and the Taliban, which the President and Congress had identified as enemies of the United States;

Whereas in doing so, brave members of the Armed Forces left loved ones in order to defend the Nation and, in some cases, sustained serious injuries or made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives; and

Whereas many members of the Armed Forces remain abroad, defending the Nation from further terrorist attacks and continuing to battle al-Qaeda and the Taliban: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes September 11 as a day to mourn and remember those taken from their loved ones and fellow citizens, and as a day for the people of the United States to recommit to the Nation and to each other;

(2) once again extends its deepest sympathies to the friends, families, and loved ones of the innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

(3) honors the heroic service and sacrifices of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and others who aided the victims and, in so doing, bravely risked and often sacrificed their own lives and health;

(4) expresses gratitude to the foreign leaders and citizens of all nations who have assisted and continue to stand in solidarity with the United States against terrorism in the aftermath of the attacks;

(5) recognizes the heroic service of United States personnel, including members of the Armed Forces, intelligence agencies, the diplomatic service, the law enforcement and homeland security communities, and their families, who have sacrificed much, including their lives and health, to defend their country against terrorists;

(6) vows that it will continue to defend the people of the United States and to identify, intercept, and defeat terrorists, including providing the Armed Forces, intelligence agencies, the diplomatic service, and the law enforcement and homeland security communities with the resources and support necessary to effectively accomplish this mission; and

(7) reaffirms that the American people will never forget the sacrifices made on and since September 11, 2001.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this bipartisan resolution pays tribute to the lives lost on September 11, 2001, and recognizes the anniversary as not only a time of solemn commemoration, but also a demonstration of America's great resolve in combating terrorism.

Memorials like those at the Pentagon in northern Virginia and the Grove Garden in Fairfax County have been constructed throughout the region and the Nation to commemorate the events of 9/11. It is one of the many ways in which we continue to pay tribute to the people who perished on that fateful day.

This House resolution extends our enduring and deepest condolences to the friends, families, and loved ones of the innocent victims of the terrorist attacks and recognizes the heroism of U.S. service men and women who defend our country today. It honors the Nation's first responders and others whose valiant efforts did credit to their country on that horrible day and who continue to help keep us safe. It expresses gratitude to the leaders and citizens of other countries who assisted, supported and stood by the United States in the aftermath of those attacks.

Clearly, the threat of terrorism is still very real, but one of the lasting legacies of 9/11 has been the notion of being prepared for any type of emergency, whether it is a widespread event like a terrorist attack, a natural disaster, an epidemic, or even an individualized event, like a fire, car crash or power outage.

The events of 9/11 tested our abilities beyond our imagination, and a number of trying experiences since then have further honed our skills. In America's modern and fragmented society, collective memories are few, but each of us remembers where we were precisely on that fateful day when we heard the news.

This is a time when we must transcend partisan politics and stand together as one Nation to recall a moment when terrorists targeted the very symbols of America's strength.

Our values and our very foundation were under attack, and yet we persevered. And we will carry on the fight against extremists who seek to do us harm.

In this battle, the global realities of the 21st century require that we use not only our military, but all of the tools available to us—economic, financial, diplomatic, and cultural resources—to promote a better alternative to extremism and to protect our national interests and our national security.

Madam Speaker, none of us will forget what happened 9 years ago. We will always remember the victims of 9/11 and the loved ones who survived them.

We will always honor the first responders who gave their lives that day, and those in uniform at home and abroad who risk their lives even now and every day to defend America. We will continue to promote our founding principles of freedom and equality and ensure that the lives lost in pursuit of our ideals are never forgotten.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This resolution marks the ninth anniversary of the unprovoked attack on our Nation by individuals without conscience and on behalf of masters without mercy.

Those who witnessed the events of September 11 will always remember the inconceivable images and seemingly impossible events that unfolded before our own eyes. But however painful our own memories may be, they cannot compare with the suffering of the innocents who bore the horror directly, nor with those of their families and friends whose lives were torn apart without any warning.

Our purpose here is to honor and remember the victims and the many heroes of that endless day, September 11, 2001. We honor the thousands of innocent men, women and children who were targeted and murdered simply because they were Americans or because they embraced the concept of freedom and democracy. We honor those who, instead of being immobilized by fear, immediately began to search for and rescue survivors at great risk to themselves, many of whom lost their lives in their efforts to save many others.

We honor those in our military who have fought our enemies in distant lands and have borne heavy burdens to prevent them from striking us yet again. And even as I speak, men and women of our Armed Forces are fighting for us and for our country far from their homes in far-off lands. And it has affected many people, even here in Washington, D.C. and in the Congress and our staff. My own chief of staff has two sons that have served in Iraq and Afghanistan in the Marine Corps, and there are many others as we speak today.

On September 11, we were forced to realize that what we had experienced was not really an isolated blow but instead only the latest assault in a war that radical Islamist militants had been waging against the United States for years.

We had already suffered many casualties over the preceding decades, but had not understood that these were in fact from a series of battles in an escalating war against the United States and a war against freedom. These include the taking of our embassy in Iran and the holding of American hostages for 444 days; the destruction of our embassy and marine barracks in Lebanon in the 1980s; the first World Trade Center bombing in 1993; the attacks on the

Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia in 1996; and the attacks on the U.S.S. *Cole* and our embassies in Kenya and Tanzania also in the 1990s.

And at this very moment, our enemies are preparing to strike us again and with the same intent of slaughtering as many innocent people as they possibly can.

We cannot protect ourselves by hoping that somehow we will be spared new attacks, for these are certain to come unless we take action to prevent them. And we have done so.

Over the past 9 years, we have come to know our enemies, their plans, and their methods.

□ 1420

We are daily engaged and seeking them out, finding them in their hiding places and in their holes, uncovering their networks and eliminating their ability to harm us again. But our enemies have many allies and have sunk deep roots, roots that will not be easily destroyed. Victory will not be achieved in one decisive battle but through a sustained commitment that will stretch over many years. It will be fought in many different ways using the range of U.S. resources and capabilities and fought in many other places.

Some may shrink from that prospect; but, if we are to prevail over this enemy that is relentless in its hatred for us, our commitment to our Nation and the principles that we stand for, we must not only match but exceed their determination, the determination of our adversaries.

This is not really a war of choice but one that has been forced upon us by men whose dark vision of the world cannot be realized without first destroying America and our freedoms. Repeatedly throughout its history our country has been challenged by forces that at times seemed impossible to overcome. But however dark the unknowns we faced and however great our fears, we never shrank from our duty as a Nation, and we have always prevailed with the good Lord's help.

And on this day, let us remember those that we have lost, the many heroes with which we have been blessed, and those with whom our safety depends, and let us remember that they gave their lives for our country. And we should do our duty as all generations that have preceded us have done. And God bless this country now and always.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the distinguished majority leader of the House of Representatives.

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

9/11 will remain a day of infamy, as December 7, 1941, lives. It will also live as a day that we will always remember,

lament the loss of life, and rededicate ourselves to the defense of freedom.

As we did 9 years ago, today we stand united, one people—united in memory of the dead of September 11; united in awe at the heroic sacrifices that graced that dark day and so many since; and united in resolve to defend our Nation, its ideals, that animated spirit, defend its people, defend its shores.

September 11 was a day of grief, of shock, and of fear. But as we reflect back on the terror of that day, these things are within our power: to keep alive the names and memories of the dead—they were read in New York, in Virginia at the Pentagon, and in Pennsylvania—to reclaim the unity of a day on which neighbor reached out to neighbor and our divisions were submerged; and to rededicate ourselves to the ideals that, no less than buildings, were the targets of the attack. Ideals were under attack, like freedom, freedom of conscience; rule of law; and, yes, religious tolerance.

For those reasons, I am proud to introduce, along with the Republican leader, Mr. BOEHNER, this resolution commemorating the attack on America—its institutions, its values, its people.

For many, the shock of that day perhaps has faded. For some, however, especially those who loved and lost one of the 3,000, the grief is still fresh. But for all of us, the memory of September 11 is one we will carry with us, as I have said, as long as we live. It is a memory compounded of mourning for the victims, deep sympathy for those who held them dear; and profound pride for the first responders, firefighters, and police officers, and, yes, average citizens who came to the help of those in need. They served and they sacrificed—some their health, some their lives.

Terrorism is intended, of course, to provoke the worst in those it targets, but on that day their service showed America at its very best. So we remember. We remember in honor the 343 firefighters, 37 Port Authority officers, and 23 police officers who lost their lives along, of course, with the passengers on Flight 93.

How proud we can be of those passengers who learned what was happening, unlike most of us, unlike the people in the towers, unlike the people in the Pentagon. The brave Americans on Flight 93 knew what was happening, and they acted, and they gave their lives to save others who would have otherwise been targeted. And, yes, perhaps they saved this symbol of democracy. Many of us believe that is where Flight 93 was headed—to decapitate this Capitol. A building, yes, but a powerful symbol of the values of this country that are not just this country's but universal in scope.

We also honor those troops who have served far from home. They too have shown America at its best; not only those who have lost their lives in our country's service in Afghanistan and

Iraq, but all those who have served and are serving, as we speak, in harm's way, at the point of the spear, to make sure that any fanatics, whether they base their fanaticism on a faith or they base it on hate and prejudice, we will confront them. We will defeat them. We will protect our country. We will protect our people, and we will preserve our ideals. With their families, we pray for their safe return.

Not all of us can offer sacrifices so profound, but it does not have to be a day of crisis to join with our neighbors in service to our communities. It can be this day. Indeed, it can be every day.

As we commemorate the gravest attack in American history, we also renew our resolve in the face of those who still intend us harm. This is a day to remember our commitment to defend America from whatever threats that confront us and to use all of our military force, all of our diplomatic skill, and all of the power of our moral example to keep America safe.

Like the Cold War before it, this is a struggle not just of arms but of ideologies. And every demonstration that America is a fearless society, a Nation of law, and a home for every faith is a victory over the fanatics who attacked us or who might attack us. That is our resolve—not as Democrats or Republicans, not as Members of Congress, but as Americans who have pledged ourselves to defend the Constitution of the United States, the laws thereof, and, yes, its principles and ideals. This will be expressed in a vote in this House today. But in the courage of our troops, the watchfulness of our intelligence, and the power of free American citizens to live out the meaning of our ideals every day, that will be the testament of our victory and the display of our resolve.

I rise in strong support of this resolution and in memory of those whose lives were taken by fanatics targeting not those individuals, per se, but targeting that in which they believed.

□ 1430

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN), the ranking member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I commend Leader HOYER and Leader BOEHNER for their leadership in presenting it to the House, as I fear that time and events have dulled some memories. It was 9 years ago this past Saturday that our Nation changed forever, as violent international extremists struck in the streets of Lower Manhattan, the fields of Pennsylvania, and at the Pentagon. But we also saw good rise in the face of evil, and heroes rise in the face of danger.

In Lower Manhattan, many of our brave first responders knew the risks

they were taking, but they were determined to do their job. Police officers and EMS personnel calmly escorted workers out of burning buildings as firefighters raced up stairwells to rescue those trapped high above.

When the day was over, and as we learned more about the tragic, and yes, murderous attacks and loss of nearly 3,000 Americans, including 700 New Jerseyans, we witnessed neighbors and friends consoling one another and watched as Americans from all walks of life stood united, side by side waving the Stars and Stripes, and lighting candles to honor those missing or lost.

As America rebounded, we responded to these acts of terrorism with the skill and spirit of our military and our intelligence community. The war we continue to fight abroad today began before September 11, 2001. It began without provocation and without warning. It was not a war of our choosing but rather was made our priority. It was the slaughter of innocents by people with a twisted sense of religion who play by no rules.

So many of our heroes currently fighting terrorism across the globe put their lives on hold on September 11, 2001, to join the National Guard and Reserve, serve our country, and defend our freedom. They serve side by side as we speak with the active duty military, all volunteers, all dedicated, all courageous, all Americans. We see the character and resolve of America in these brave young men and women. And we are grateful for their service and sacrifice, and that of their families, each and every day. They truly are doing the work of freedom and deserve our support and prayers.

May God bless those who continue to defend our freedom, and may God continue to bless America.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, in closing, everyone that was alive on September 11 remembers that day and what they were doing. It's like those of us that were alive when President Kennedy was assassinated. We remember that day, we remember what we were doing. And the old timers, they remember Pearl Harbor and what they were doing on December 7, 1941. It is a day that the country, that the people, that the Nation should always remember because it involved real people losing their lives because of the concepts that we have in this Nation of freedom and liberty, something that is worth preserving.

It's important that we remember the 3,000 individuals that died that day. But Madam Speaker, it's equally important that we remember those that got to live. Because when those Twin Towers were set aflame, those volunteers, those firefighters, those emergency medical folks and those police officers, they rushed as hard as they could to get to that terror from the sky. And because they did so, many got to live for another day. And there are countless stories like that that occurred on September 11, how Ameri-

cans reacted remarkably and with bravery.

Another example. This morning I was at Arlington Cemetery with my daughter Kellee and her husband, Anthony Shoemaker, and we were at the Tomb of the Unknowns. And many Americans may not know, but the Tomb of the Unknowns is very close to the Pentagon. You can almost see it through the trees. And those soldiers, the Old Guard as they are called, that protect the Tomb of the Unknowns, they already knew about the two planes that had crashed into the World Trade Centers North and South.

And when that third plane came roaring across the skyline of Washington, D.C., headed straight for the Pentagon, just a few hundred yards from the Tomb of the Unknowns, those soldiers guarding the tomb never left their post. They stayed. In fact, they called for reinforcements. Yet another example of what Americans do when we are attacked.

And so we should remember those that died, those that got to live, and those that continue to fight for our freedoms today in places all over the world in the name of liberty and freedom.

And that's just the way it is.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, like many Members in this House, in the last week I attended numerous memorials, remembrances of the tragedy of 9/11. It's particularly poignant to northern Virginia because the other attack that day was at the Pentagon, which is in Arlington, Virginia.

At that time I was a local supervisor on the board of supervisors in Fairfax County, and my office was co-located at Fire Station 30 in Merrifield. And I remember firefighters in my station, men and women, backing up the Arlington Fire Department in trying to put out the fire and save lives at the Pentagon that day in the second-worst terrorist attack in American history, only sadly eclipsed by the loss of life at the World Trade Center itself. And I heard the stories and I saw the heroism firsthand, and it is something I certainly will never forget.

Let me just say to the friends and families of those who were lost that day and to those who would wish us harm: America will never forget, and America will never yield.

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of House Resolution 1610 to commemorate the ninth anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks and remember the nearly 3,000 innocent victims killed that day in New York City, at the Pentagon, and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

As we give thanks for the first responders who heroically rushed to these sites to rescue victims, our Federal government must properly support them. Tragically, many of these first responders—fire fighters, police officers, and other emergency workers—are dying from days and weeks of exposure to Ground Zero toxins and are in desperate need of medical

care. I urge all Members to join me in supporting the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act (H.R. 847) when it is considered by the House next week.

We must also thank the men and women of our armed forces, law enforcement officers, and members of the Intelligence Community who have saved innumerable American lives through their tireless efforts during the past nine years. As we celebrate their efforts, we must remain vigilant. Radical Islamic jihadists, who have pledged allegiance to al-Qaeda and other terror networks, continue to target our Nation. Since last year's 9/11 anniversary, terrorists have continued in their quest to attack our homeland and kill more innocent Americans. In the past year alone, we have seen attacks at Fort Hood, in Times Square, and aboard Northwest Flight 253, as well as plots to blow up the New York City subway system and Federal buildings in Dallas, Texas and Springfield, Illinois.

As our citizens remain vigilant, our Federal government must remain diligent. Congress and the Obama Administration must work together in a cooperative and constructive manner to ensure that our military, Intelligence Community, and state and local law enforcement have the resources to detect and defeat the terrorists who seek to do us harm.

I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution, and never to forget the catastrophic events and lives lost on that tragic day in our Nation's history.

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise to address H. Res. 1610 a resolution to express remembrance of the victims of, and sorrow for, the devastating effects the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 had on our Nation. I mourn in remembrance of innocent lives lost. And I mourn in recognition that our response to the attacks has only led to more suffering, countless innocent lives lost abroad and an increasingly divided Nation here at home.

This resolution expresses that the House of Representatives "will continue to defend the people of the United States and to identify, intercept, and defeat terrorists, including providing the Armed Forces, intelligence agencies, the diplomatic service, and the law enforcement and homeland security communities with the resources and support necessary to effectively accomplish this mission." But the actions of the U.S. that have been taken in the name of achieving this mission have not brought us "mission accomplished."

As Pentagon and administration officials continue to tout the supposed end of the war in Iraq, there is no mention of the continued systematic use of the 9/11 attacks to justify sending our armed forces to invade and occupy a country that did not attack us. Almost 8 years later, over 4,200 U.S. soldiers and 1 million Iraqi civilians have been killed.

How can we claim to remember the victims of 9/11 in good faith after we stood silent as billions of dollars were poured into a war based on lies? Congress continued its support of the war despite overwhelming evidence that the leaders or people of Iraq had nothing to do with 9/11. In the shadow of the policies pursued under the so-called "War on Terror," our country remains more divided, more fearful and less trustful than ever. Perhaps even more troubling and more detrimental to our national security is the long-term damage our policies have had on our image in the international community. And in July of this year,

the House of Representatives failed the victims of 9/11 yet again when it rejected legislation to provide health care for the first responders who rescued survivors of the attacks and who endure daily reminders of the attacks in the form of their failing health.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan (now the longest war in U.S. history) serve as a daily reminder of the destructive path we have taken. We continue to dedicate billions of dollars to prop up a hopelessly corrupt and morally bankrupt central government in Afghanistan as the people of that country suffer with little education, access to clean water, health care and the ability to live a normal life. Here at home, our increasingly polarized communities bear the brunt of our missteps through record high unemployment rates, a continuing foreclosure crisis and crumbling infrastructure.

How long can the policies we continue to pursue be justified in the name of the victims of 9/11? I oppose the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the PATRIOT Act because I believe in the transformative power of truth and reconciliation. Almost ten years after 9/11, it is past time to pursue a new path forward. Our country is in peril, but our resolve to progress in a positive direction must not be. We do not need to export democracy around the world to keep our country safe; we need to demonstrate that America is a place where democracy is safe.

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, the events of recent weeks have reminded us how central the September 11th attacks remain to our national consciousness. The shock and grief we felt that Tuesday still echo in our hearts, still reverberate in our minds.

America stands tall as a beacon of freedom and tolerance because her people have risen to the occasion each time these values have been tested. It is with that in mind that we turn our thoughts today to the police, firefighters, and first responders who ran into burning buildings so others could get out. We renew our awe for the passengers who dug in rather than give up and charged the cockpit of Flight 93. We remember how Americans from all walks donated blood, gathered at candlelight vigils, and organized care packages for relief workers. The resilience that propels us forward as a people is drawn from the courage of our heroes and the compassion of our citizens.

Each year on this day, we have the opportunity and the solemn responsibility to honor the heroes and victims, and to keep faith with their loved ones. Though these thoughts and prayers, we can heal, and we can steel ourselves to repeat the words "never again".

Over the last year, we have seen in the most immediate way how terrorists still have innocent Americans in their sights, starting with a plot to blow up the New York City subway system, and continuing with the attacks at Fort Hood, Times Square, and on board Northwest Flight 253. Each of these attacks represented new strands of terrorism, new signs of an enemy ready and willing to adapt. Now more than ever, as citizens and patriots, we must remain vigilant in our efforts to confront and defeat the terrorist threat. That is why we should also take a moment today to salute the endurance, discipline, and valor of our troops, who have volunteered to take the fight to the enemy and keep the light of freedom burning bright.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1610,

remembering and honoring those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

It has been nine years since our Nation was forever changed by the horrific events that took place on September 11, 2001. The terrorist attacks that occurred at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and on Flight 93 perpetrated one of the darkest moments in our country's history. That is why it is so important that we come together on this day to again memorialize those who perished on that fateful late summer day in 2001.

Madam Speaker, September 11th showed us the very worst of humanity. That day revealed the capabilities of terrorists determined to murder thousands of innocent people in the United States, simply for practicing democracy and enjoying freedom. It gave us a frightening look at the kind of enemy our country faces in the 21st Century.

Yet, in the midst of that tragic and horrible day, we saw the very best of what Americans have to offer. We saw the courage, sacrifice, and virtue displayed by our first responders, including police, firefighters, and heroic individuals who were traveling on commercial airliners. Regardless of the potential harm they faced, these brave individuals sacrificed themselves so that others may survive the destruction of the terrorist attacks.

Madam Speaker, equally as important as the sacrifices made by those who perished in the attacks of September 11th, we must also use this day to celebrate the service of those in the military, and mourn those who have sacrificed their lives overseas in the defense of our nation. These brave and selfless individuals have helped keep our great country secure in the Global War on Terror and have embodied the very spirit that President George W. Bush stated to a Joint Session of Congress on September 20, 2001. He said, "We will not tire, we will not falter, and we will not fail."

Our men and women in uniform face an adversary determined to destroy our way of life, and this enemy presents us with one of the gravest challenges in our Nation's history. Each day that they wake up to defend the very freedom we enjoy, they honor the very essence of the American spirit and labor steadfastly to bring freedom and liberty for all. They work tirelessly in the defense of our country, and they deserve nothing but our eternal gratitude.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, it is appropriate that nine years after September 11, 2001, we continue to come together to mourn and memorialize all of our fallen country men and women for making the ultimate sacrifice for us. Year in and year out, we must honor the solemn promise made to the victims and their families of this tragedy—we will never forget.

Our presence here today signifies the sobering realities about our world that accompany the horrors that occurred on September 11th. The memories of that day touch us all in some way, and as our Nation continues to heal—even nine years later—we need to take time each year to remember what tragically occurred in New York City, Arlington, Virginia, and Somerset County, Pennsylvania. It is critically important that we take this time each year to mourn and honor the legacy of our heroes of September 11th.

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, September 11th, 2001 remains a day of

both indescribable tragedy and awe-inspiring heroism in our Nation's history. As we mourn for the victims of the terrorist attacks that day, we also reflect upon the heroism displayed by so many.

No one will ever forget the courage seen on 9/11; courage seen in the actions of firefighters and police officers, such as SFC Ricardo Esteves of the New Jersey State Police who is here today, Pentagon employees, and everyday citizens; courage seen by the choices these heroes made—to rush to the aid of others, to enter into burning buildings, to resist the hijackers of Flight 93. The bravery displayed on that fateful day will forever be remembered in our Nation's history. Future generations of Americans, committed to the promise of a better world, united by the sacrifices of previous generations, will remember the heroes of September 11th.

Since that tragic day, we have witnessed the very best our Nation has to offer in the men and women who serve in our Nation's military. Our troops have demonstrated, time and again, in countless missions around the world, their devotion, dedication, and perseverance in the face of adversity. All of us are immensely proud of them as they exemplify our highest examples of courage and commitment.

Nine years ago, America was thrust into conflict; yet, we have come through this ordeal more determined and stronger than ever as a Nation—just as we have always done in times of great trials and catastrophes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1610 and to mark the ninth anniversary of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Like Pearl Harbor, and the assassination of President Kennedy, the attacks of 9/11 are seared into the American consciousness. While the attacks shook Americans across the country, the pain and grief of those who lost loved ones in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania remains unimaginable.

Today, we pause to remember the victims of that Tuesday morning, including the firefighters, police officers, and so many others who showed great courage and heroism to save countless lives. A grateful nation offers its complete gratitude for their sacrifice.

We also remember the outpouring of good will and generosity that flooded from around the country, with millions of Americans in all states offering donations, volunteer work, support, and prayers.

While we mark this anniversary with mourning and remembrance, as we must, let us also take this chance to remember the great spirit of America, which on that day rose to prove to all the world that in the darkest of days, our fundamental kindness and hope still shine through.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res 1610—a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on Sept. 11, 2001. The legacy of the events of September 11, 2001 still resonates today. We will never forget the harrowing experience of the loss of more than 3,000 lives that marked this national tragedy. We will never forget the events of that day, nor those who paid the ultimate price. We will forever remember how the country suffered profound sadness, the likes of which we as a nation hope to never experience again.

Madam Speaker, I recall vividly the intense emotions evoked as the attacks unfolded. The nation watched in horror as two airliners crashed into the Twin Towers and brought down the World Trade Center. That horror intensified as we witnessed an attack on the Pentagon, and a crashed airplane in Pennsylvania. Horror turned to anger as it came to light that the attacks were the actions of hate-filled cowards who had no respect for human life. I remember too, that in the aftermath of these senseless attacks, we came together as a nation and with friends from around the world united in grief and sadness. That moment transformed our country and the world, as the resolve of our nation strengthened and our principles hardened.

We remember the heroes from that day; those who ran into the danger, sacrificing themselves to save strangers. They were the brave firefighters, police officers, and civil servants who died in the service of protecting others. We remember the heroes from United Flight 93 who overpowered the terrorists and gave their own lives to prevent the deaths of countless others. We hope that their families can take some small measure of comfort knowing that Americans have made a permanent place for those heroes in our hearts.

In Houston, we mourned the loss of two of our own: Naval Petty Officer 3rd Class Daniel Martin Caballero and Army Lieutenant Colonel Karen Wagner. Twenty-one-year-old Petty Officer Caballero was an electronics technician who had a bright life ahead of him. Forty-year-old Lt. Col. Wagner had a distinguished career as a medical personnel officer in the office of the Army surgeon general. Both lives were taken when United Flight 77 was steered into the Pentagon.

Madam Speaker, I ask that we also pay tribute today to those who have fought the wars borne from September 11th. In the years since that tragic day, our country has fought ardently to eliminate the enemies who would work to perpetuate the culture of fear and violence borne from 9/11.

In Afghanistan and Iraq, our Armed Forces demonstrate that a resolved and determined America will always prevail. The men and women of the U.S. military prove daily that their commitment to protecting and defending our country is steadfast. Let us remember those who fought and died while serving the country, let us honor those who continue to fight, and let us pledge our unending support for our soldiers and their families.

As Chairwoman of the Homeland Security Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection Subcommittee and a Senior Member of the Foreign Affairs and Judiciary Committees, I believe that we must continue to honor the fallen by working to prevent needless deaths. In the years since September 11, 2001, Congress has worked hard to make sure that such a tragedy will never happen again. In large part, we have taken heed of the advice of the 9/11 Commission and built a strong system to prevent future attacks.

Madam Speaker, I rise before this body to say that our work is not yet done. Domestic terrorism is alive. Last year we witnessed both the Time Square and the Christmas Day failed terrorist attempt at Detroit-bound Flight 253. We must not let another tragedy occur.

Preventing terrorism at home begins with addressing terrorism abroad. We must engage nations that are susceptible to the influence of

extremists and arm them with the tools to fight radicalism. That means not only providing weapons of war but also increasing education, improving living conditions, and increasing the capacity to govern. The struggle against terrorism will be won in the hearts and minds of people around the world.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members to join me in supporting H. Res. 1610. Let us remember this day and the tragedy that befell the nation by properly honoring the victims with our renewed commitment to America's security.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. I yield back the balance of my time, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1610.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

HONORING OKLAHOMA NATIONAL GUARD

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1052) honoring the members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States since September 11, 2001.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1052

Whereas members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma reside throughout the State and come from various communities, backgrounds, and professions;

Whereas the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma are composed of several units, including the Joint Forces Headquarters, the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the 45th Fires Brigade, the 90th Troop Command, the 189th Regional Training Institute, Camp Gruber Joint Maneuver Training Center, the 137th Air Refueling Wing, the 138th Fighter Wing, the 205th Engineering Installation Squadron, and the 219th Engineering Installation Squadron;

Whereas, since September 11, 2001, units and members of the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma have been deployed, and are continuously being deployed, in support of United States military operations at home and abroad;

Whereas the 45th Infantry Brigade mobilized in 2003 for Operation Enduring Freedom and deployed more than 700 soldiers to Afghanistan to provide training to Afghan Security Forces;

Whereas the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team mobilized in 2007 for Operation Iraqi