

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

Freedom and deployed more than 2,700 soldiers to provide command and control and conduct security force and detainee operations, representing the largest single deployment for the Oklahoma Army National Guard since the Korean War;

Whereas the 45th Fires Brigade mobilized in 2008 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed more than 1,000 soldiers to provide command and control and conduct security force operations;

Whereas 90th Troop Command units mobilized for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and deployed more than 2,600 soldiers to conduct combat support and combat service support missions;

Whereas the 189th Regional Training Institute and Camp Gruber Joint Maneuver Training Center have provided professional training to military and nonmilitary personnel to enhance domestic security and prepare units for deployments abroad;

Whereas the Oklahoma Army National Guard mobilized in 2005 and deployed more than 2,500 soldiers to support relief operations in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, including assisting law enforcement agencies with traffic control and security, transporting and distributing food, water, and ice, conducting search and rescue and ground and air evacuations, providing generator support, and performing other missions to protect life and property;

Whereas the 137th Airlift Wing mobilized in 2003 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as part of the largest C-130 wing assembled in history, transporting troops, food, supplies, and equipment to United States forces in Iraq;

Whereas the 137th Airlift Wing mobilized in 2003 for Operation Enduring Freedom and deployed to Uzbekistan, providing critical airlift and logistical support for United States forces in Afghanistan;

Whereas between 2003 and 2006, the 137th Airlift Wing transported 39,368 troops and 11,170 tons of critical cargo to United States forces in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas the 137th Airlift Wing mobilized in 2005 and deployed one of the first C-130 units to support relief operations in response to Hurricane Katrina, including evacuating hospital and nursing home residents to safety by air, providing critical logistical support, and airlifting 2,500 members of the Oklahoma Army National Guard to population centers to provide aid to hurricane victims;

Whereas the 138th Fighter Wing mobilized in 2005, 2007, and 2008 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed to Iraq to provide close air support and engage in combat missions, during which the 138th Fighter Wing expended 109,000 pounds of combat ordnance and successfully destroyed numerous targets; and

Whereas, since September 11, 2001, the 138th Fighter Wing has flown numerous Air Sovereignty Alert missions in the United States, protecting high value domestic targets against attack and contributing to homeland defense, and in 2008 the 138th Fighter Wing was recognized as the most active alert facility in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses its gratitude to the members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma and their families for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States since September 11, 2001; and

(2) recognizes the citizen-soldiers and airmen of the Oklahoma National Guard as invaluable to the national security of the United States, vital to defending against

threats both foreign and domestic, and essential for responding to State and national emergencies.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. BOREN) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BOREN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I, along with the entire Oklahoma congressional delegation, rise today to recognize the members of the Oklahoma Army and Air National Guard for their service and sacrifice since September 11, 2001. Military service is a time-honored tradition in Oklahoma, and the members of the Oklahoma National Guard are a living testament to this heritage.

□ 1440

Following the terrorist attacks on 9/11, thousands of members of the Oklahoma National Guard bravely answered the call of duty. They have confronted our enemies on the battlefield in Iraq and Afghanistan, defended the American homeland security against domestic threats and responded bravely to natural disasters and domestic emergencies.

Madam Speaker, Members of the Oklahoma National Guard are an invaluable asset to the United States military during wartime. Some of their more notable missions since 9/11 include providing air transport for soldiers and vital equipment to and from Iraq and Afghanistan, assisting with relief operations in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and deploying specialized units of agricultural specialists to Afghanistan to assist local Afghans with agricultural development.

Madam Speaker, as we discuss this resolution, 3,500 members of the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team are preparing to deploy to Afghanistan in the spring of 2011 as part of the President's surge strategy. This represents the single largest deployment of the Oklahoma National Guard since the Korean War.

Madam Speaker, these Oklahoma soldiers and airmen are extraordinary Americans. As members of the Oklahoma National Guard, they bravely risk their lives to protect the freedom and liberty that we so cherish. In their daily lives, these heroes are found throughout the Sooner State working among their fellow Oklahomans as police officers, firefighters, school teachers, and farmers.

That is why I, along with the entire Oklahoma delegation, am humbled to bring this resolution to the floor of the House today.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of House Resolution 1052, honoring the members of the Army and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma for their service and sacrifices on behalf of the United States since September 11, 2001. I want to commend Representative BOREN of Oklahoma for sponsoring the legislation.

The units and personnel of the Oklahoma National Guard are remarkably diverse and capable. Their contributions since September 11, 2001, not only during the global war on terror, but also for the security of our homeland, are significant. They have conducted multiple major unit deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, including the mobilization and deployment of the 45th Infantry Brigade, some 2,700 soldiers, to Iraq in 2007. That was the largest deployment for the Oklahoma National Guard since the Korean War.

Oklahoma National Guard units also mobilized more than 2,500 personnel in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, performing missions to protect life and property. Since September 11, 2001, the Oklahoma Air National Guard has flown numerous air sovereignty missions to protect the U.S. mainland.

The successes and contributions of the Oklahoma Army and Air National Guard are directly related to the dedication, sacrifices and the professionalism of the civilian and military personnel who carry out the Guard's missions, and to the outstanding support of families for the continued service men and women of the National Guard. Their efforts and sacrifices deserve our recognition and thanks. For that reason, I urge all Members to support the resolution.

Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, in closing, I want to thank the men and women of the Oklahoma National Guard and their family members for their service and sacrifice since September 11, 2001.

I also wish members of the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team well as they prepare to deploy to Afghanistan early next year. May they stay safe during this vitally important mission, and we pray for their safe and speedy return home.

I urge adoption of this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. BOREN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1052.

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. BOREN. 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 AMERICAN TROOPS WHO DIED ON D-DAY

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1251) recognizing and honoring the United States troops who gave their lives on D-day at the Battle of Normandy, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1251

Whereas June 6, 2010, marks the 66th anniversary of the D-Day landings at Normandy, France;

Whereas more than 150,000 Allied troops participated in the Normandy landings;

Whereas approximately 70,500 Americans stormed the beaches of Normandy on D-Day and more than 1,400 of them gave their lives fighting for the cause of freedom;

Whereas the U.S. Army Air Forces alone flew 8,000 planes on more than 14,000 sorties during D-Day;

Whereas more than 4,000 ships carrying soldiers and supplies crossed the English Channel;

Whereas 800 Allied planes dropped more than 13,000 men in parachutes;

Whereas more than 100,000 Allied soldiers made it ashore while 9,000 of their comrades were wounded or killed;

Whereas there are 9,387 graves in Colleville-sur-Mer, America's cemetery in Northern France where all graves face west, toward America;

Whereas there are 307 graves containing the remains of unknown soldiers;

Whereas within the Garden of the Missing there are 1,557 names of soldiers who were never found;

Whereas captured Germans were sent to American prisoner-of-war camps at the rate of 30,000 POWs per month from D-Day until Christmas, 1944; and

Whereas the Allied landings on D-Day led to the liberation of France and culminated in the ultimate annihilation of the Nazi empire: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) honors the American troops who gave their lives in the Battle of Normandy;

(2) recognizes the 66th anniversary of the D-Day landings at Normandy, France; and

(3) expresses gratitude to the "greatest generation" of Americans who fearlessly fought for freedom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1251, to recognize and honor the United States troops who gave their lives on June 6, 1944, D-day, at the battle of Normandy on the coast of France.

I would like to thank my colleague from Texas (Mr. POE) for bringing this measure before the House.

In June of 1944, Nazi Germany still controlled all of Europe, save those portions of Italy which had already been liberated. Operation Overlord, the code name for the main landing of Allied Forces in France, was to be the deciding battle of the war in Europe, opening up a major second front which would lead to the ultimate defeat of the Nazi regime.

Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight Eisenhower proclaimed that it was a battle that he would accept nothing but complete victory. Shortly after midnight on the 6th of June, 24,000 Allied Forces consisting of American, British, Canadian, and Free French parachuted behind enemy lines in Normandy. Their mission was to disrupt the German ability to successfully repel the upcoming invasion.

During the night, the largest flotilla of vessels ever assembled before or since began its trip across the English Channel to disembark some 150,000 Allied troops across a 50-mile stretch of the Normandy beach. The initial beach assault began at 6:30 that morning. The code names of those beaches are seared in our memories: Utah and Omaha, the American objectives; and Sword, Gold and Juno, the British and Canadian objectives.

Approximately 70,500 American soldiers went ashore as part of a larger operation to secure beachhead from which to continue the offloading of troops, supplies and equipment necessary for the push across France into the German homeland.

This undertaking was one of the largest single amphibious operations ever conducted in the history of warfare. On that one day, American Armed Forces suffered an estimated 5,400 casualties with 1,400 killed in action. The immeasurable sacrifices of those men should never be forgotten.

House Resolution 1251 is our way of commending the United States Armed Forces who participated in Operation Overlord for their leadership and valor in a mission that helped bring an end to World War II. This resolution commemorates the actions of heroism and military achievement by those soldiers.

So I now call upon the Members of the House to join me in supporting this resolution, thereby expressing our common appreciation and gratitude for the members of the United States

Armed Forces involved in the D-day operations and honoring the sacrifices made by our fellow countrymen so that others around the world may continue to know the gift of freedom.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of House Resolution 1251, as amended, which honors the members of the United States military who died on D-day, June 1944, during the Battle of Normandy.

I want to commend Representative TED POE of Texas for sponsoring the legislation.

The facts of the opening day of Operation Overlord, the start of what General Eisenhower called the "crusade in Europe," are clearly set forth in the text of the resolution. This was the largest amphibious operation in history.

□ 1450

The 1st U.S. Army Group, responsible for the landings on Omaha and Utah beaches was commanded by Omar Bradley, known as "the soldiers' general," and, I might add, a native of Missouri.

In breaching German defenses, the Allied Forces suffered more than 10,000 casualties on the first day of the invasion. More than 1,400 Americans died.

Beyond the facts of the invasion, however, is the heroism and unselfish sacrifice of the men who carried out this most magnificent operation. Because of that heroism and sacrifice, the door to Hitler's Fortress Europe was cracked open.

So it's entirely fitting that today, 66 years after that historic day, we take the time to honor and commemorate the men who made the ultimate sacrifice on June 6, 1944.

Moreover, I would also urge my colleagues to take the time to individually thank every previous and current member of the Armed Forces they encounter for their service.

I heartily recommend that all my colleagues vote "yes" on this resolution.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time, Madam Speaker.

Mr. TAYLOR. Again, Madam Speaker, I want to thank Congressman POE for bringing this to our attention. At the end of what was possibly the greatest movie ever made, "Saving Private Ryan," the central character played by Tom Hanks is a Captain Miller, and, as he is dying, he says in a voice barely more than a whisper to the character that is playing Private Ryan, "Earn this." It is a phenomenal message for every American, and it is great that Congressman POE brought this message to the floor for those of us who are here and the descendants of those who survived that battle to say "Thank you" to those who didn't.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1251, a resolution to recognize and thank the men