

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with the millions of Americans that feel heart-based sympathy for the loss of our friends in Europe and France, particularly Paris, and, of course, to give sympathy to those people that are absolutely hysterical on this issue as relates to refugees, even though there is no evidence at all that it was refugees that were responsible for the attacks.

These types of unprovoked attacks do cause fear and, many times, irresponsible behavior on behalf of people, as they attempt to instill fear in all people to such an extent that it shatters the principles which this country was built on.

□ 1030

Nevertheless, there is enough for us to be concerned about. There is enough for us to be fearful about, and there has to be concern as to what are we going to do about it.

Those that read in the media and listen to it—and even Members of Congress—will find that we have people that are now saying that we can't win this war against ISIS unless we have more of our military on the ground fighting against the Assad government.

We talk about sending troops overseas to put their lives in harm's way as though it is just another foreign policy decision that Members of Congress can make without any regard at all to the constitutional responsibility we have to ourselves and to be an example for the world.

Whenever this great Nation is threatened, whenever our national security is threatened, the President should be coming to this House of Representatives and the Senate and sharing with us what are the threats to our national security. And when it becomes abundantly clear that we have to call upon our military in any way, we should have a declaration of war for the reasons that the President has given to us.

Our responsibility to our constituents is to share as much information as we can to tell them that war means sacrifice, loss of life.

Yet, today, we haven't had a declaration of war since Franklin Roosevelt. Tens of thousands of Americans have died.

In this recent crisis, less than 1 percent of eligible Americans have actually put themselves in harm's way because of executive mandate and the allowance of the Congress to allow this to happen. And we have lost, just in Afghanistan and Iraq, 7,000 American lives that some of us have to go to the funerals and explain the best that we can that, even though we are not at war, there would be American lives lost in foreign countries.

I submit to you that if we believe that our national security is threatened, we should have a declaration of war, we should have a draft, and we should have a way to pay for these wars, so that we would know that it is not easy sending your loved ones

abroad and not even know the reasons that they are there.

It would seem to me that, as everyone heard, the President of France says they are at war against ISIS, that if we are at war against ISIS, whatever country they are representing, it should be brought to the American people. It should be brought to the Congress, and the President should ask us to declare war.

But it is just totally not fair for people in the House of Representatives to come here and to say that Americans should be sent overseas to fight an unknown enemy, to put their lives in jeopardy and, perhaps, their families in jeopardy, without being able to say that they are fighting a war to preserve democracy in this country.

It just seems to me that whether you call them no feet on the ground, but boots on the ground, that if someone's coming back here with a flag-draped coffin, that we should be able to say they fought for America, they died for America, and that we are fighting for peace and to end a war that has yet to be declared.

SHOWING OUR SUPPORT FOR THE PEOPLE OF FRANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of our allies, the people of France, and in strong condemnation of the terrorist attacks in Paris, France, carried out by the Islamic State this past Friday.

The people of France have been our allies since the American Revolution, and having traveled to Normandy and seeing the American flag over Omaha Beach, it underscores the important alliance that we have had with the people of France throughout our history.

Ever since the founding of our country, we have been united with the people of France by our shared values of freedom and civil society and democracy. The attack on Friday was an attack on these values by barbaric terrorists who want to impose their brutal and twisted version of Islam and authoritarian rule across the world.

We grieve for the massive loss of life, not just for the French people, but also for the victims and their families around the globe, including Nohemi Gonzalez, an American student from El Monte, California.

We join the voices from around the world to condemn these attacks, but condemnation is not enough.

As I saw firsthand while visiting Iraq and Afghanistan last month, the President's strategy of withdrawal and containment is clearly not working.

By underestimating the threat, referring to ISIL as the JV team, declaring that ISIL has been contained just hours before the brutal attacks in Paris, President Obama has allowed this radical Islamic cancer on humanity to fester and grow.

Indeed, the key lesson of my trip to the Middle East is that American retreat has made the world a much less stable and a much more dangerous place. The weakness of the President's foreign policy and U.S. withdrawal from the Middle East has allowed our adversaries, ISIL, Russia, Iran, the Taliban, al Qaeda, Jabhat Al-Nusra, to fill the vacuum, to grow stronger and become a much greater threat to our homeland and our interests.

In contrast, our allies, Israel, the Jordanians, the government of Iraq, the Kurdish regional government, the unity government in Afghanistan, they have all become more threatened and more vulnerable.

There is not a single place in the world which is safer or more stable today or where our adversaries are weaker or where our allies are stronger than on the day President Obama took office.

The President has, in recent days, lectured his critics to come up with their own plan and regurgitated his tired old attacks on his predecessor's successful national security policy.

But if there is any lesson to be learned from the Obama policy in Iraq, as contrasted with U.S. policy after World War II in Japan and Germany, it is that once you win a war, do not leave. A residual security force and continued diplomatic engagement to prevent sectarian divisions would have reassured moderate Sunnis and prevented the rise of ISIL.

The President implies that his critics would lead us into another unpopular ground war in the Middle East, but we do not need to fight the Iraq war again. We have already won that war.

But we do need to do more to combat ISIL. What about authorizing use of military force that doesn't constrain the Commander in Chief, which is what the President sent us?

Why don't we do what our ally, Prime Minister al-Abadi, in Baghdad, wants and has asked us for, which is more U.S. air power, more U.S. special operators on the ground for better coordination of the air campaign, more funding for the Iraqi train and equip fund?

We must do more to help the moderate forces, the indigenous forces on the ground, such as the Kurdish Peshmerga, to take back territory controlled by ISIL.

We must address the surge of refugees pouring out of Syria and other war-torn countries across the Middle East. These people are in desperate need of help, but the answer is not to resettle them halfway around the world here in the United States.

An open-ended resettlement program is, in fact, an admission of defeat, that their homes will never be safe for them to return to, so we had better assimilate them to new lands with new languages and new cultures.

That is not the best solution for these refugees. And because we know that at least one of these terrorists involved in the Paris attacks entered Europe by blending in with those trying

to flee ISIL, it could pose a national security risk to the United States.

We shouldn't take the indigenous fighters away from the anti-ISIL campaign through an open-ended refugee program. Instead, let's actively protect them in their home country by helping them defeat ISIL and win the war.

The best thing we can do for these people is to defeat the enemy and to end their reign of terror, rape and oppression. We need a new strategy, not to contain ISIL, but to eliminate them.

The refugee issue is a simple matter of common sense, but the problem is larger than the refugees. As we were reminded so tragically on Friday in Paris, failure to confront terrorists and radical ideologies abroad gives them an opportunity to grow and spread and attack us here at home.

So let's grieve and pray for the people of France, but let's do more. Let's rise up with them, with new resolve, to defend our shared commitment to liberty, security, and freedom.

THE PIONEERING SPIRIT OF 3M

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the 3M Company, a great Minnesota business, for recently being named one of the top 100 innovative organizations for the fifth consecutive year by Thomson Reuters in their fifth annual list of Top 100 Global Innovators.

Originally known as Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company, 3M started out as a small-scale mining company in northern Minnesota. However, mining turned out to be an unsuccessful venture, causing the company to suffer. Instead of accepting defeat, the company embraced a pioneering spirit and began to invent and produce other products.

More than a century later, 3M has evolved into a multinational company that produces more than 65,000 products which are used all over the world. Among the many products created, the Post-it Note and Scotch Tape remain among the most well-known.

As of today, one-third of 3M's sales come from products that were invented within the past 5 years, making it clear that this company defines American creativity and innovation.

Congratulations, 3M, and here is to another century of accomplishment.

DR. BITTMAN—IMPROVING FUTURE GENERATIONS

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate one of Minnesota's finest educators, Dr. Daniel Bittman. Dr. Bittman has been the superintendent of Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools since 2010 and this year has been named Superintendent of the Year by the Minnesota Association of School Administrators.

Dr. Bittman earned both a master's and doctorate of education from the University of Nevada, and has been

working in education in Minnesota for more than 20 years.

As a result of his continued efforts and leadership, the students of Sauk Rapids-Rice schools are now performing at a higher level than ever before and thriving within a more engaged and supportive community.

Our children are the future of this country, and Dr. Bittman's dedication to his students shows that our future is bright.

Dr. Bittman, thank you for all you have done for our children and our communities and for all you will do in the future. Congratulations on being named Superintendent of the Year. You deserve it.

NATIONAL DIABETES MONTH

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, in honor of National Diabetes Month, I rise today to voice my concern for this disease that is plaguing our Nation.

Statistics show that nearly 30 million children and adults in the United States are currently living with diabetes. In my home State of Minnesota, more than 8 percent of adults have been diagnosed with this difficult and dangerous disease.

As if these harrowing statistics are not concerning enough, studies show that type 2 diabetes will continue to grow at widespread rates and that the future cost of diabetes will increase. In other words, our diabetes problem and the associated costs are going to get worse.

This disease can often be prevented. While genetics play a role in developing diabetes, diet and exercise play a role in the development as well. If we eat better and exercise—in short, if we live healthy lifestyles—many of us can prevent the onset of diabetes.

So I urge my colleagues here in Congress to join me in raising awareness for diabetes. If we all put in the effort, I believe that our country can overcome this epidemic.

ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Alzheimer's Awareness Month, I would like to bring attention to a disease that is all too prevalent in our country.

Alzheimer's is the most common form of dementia, and today, approximately 5.3 million Americans are living with this disease. To put it in perspective, that is the same as the population of the State of Minnesota.

Alzheimer's is a cruel disease that knows no limits. From the 30-year-old mother of three young ones who is suffering from early onset Alzheimer's to the elderly grandfather who fails to recognize his loved ones, this is a disease that is devastating families across our country.

Unfortunately, statistics show that Alzheimer's rates are rapidly increasing. In fact, by 2050, the number of people age 65 years or older with Alzheimer's is estimated to triple.

□ 1045

Mr. Speaker, at this point in time, Alzheimer's cannot be prevented or

cured, which is why we must work harder to ensure that one day life without the risk of Alzheimer's can become a reality.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair and not to a perceived viewing audience.

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize November as Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month.

Mr. Speaker, approximately 5.3 million Americans are currently suffering from Alzheimer's. This disease is the sixth leading killer in the United States, yet there is currently no treatment or cure for this horrible disease.

This devastating disease will cost Medicare and Medicaid approximately \$150 billion in 2015 alone. It also places an incredible burden on caregivers. Oftentimes these caregivers are family members who sacrifice their own well-being to care for their loved ones.

We must work toward a cure, Mr. Speaker. This is one of the reasons why I was proud to be a cosponsor of the 21st Century Cures Act earlier this summer. The bill would provide an additional \$8.75 billion in additional funding for the National Institutes of Health. Think about that for a second, Mr. Speaker. An opportunity for us to be able to invest in research so that we can actually have a breakthrough in some of the diseases that are the biggest drivers of our healthcare costs. For instance, we spend \$330 billion each and every year treating diabetes; Alzheimer's and Parkinson's again will significantly eclipse that as we go forward.

So, Mr. Speaker, I believe that the best way to honor those who are impacted by Alzheimer's disease is by dedicating time and resources to finding that very cure. I will continue to do just that, and I urge my colleagues here in the Chamber, across the aisle, and over in the Senate to be able to join me so that we can, once and for all, find a cure for this horrible disease.

SYRIAN REFUGEES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, America has a long tradition of opening its arms to oppressed people from around the globe. While the human rights of those fleeing terror and destruction must be respected, it is vital that we work to ensure that our Nation's safety is in place in this time of turmoil and unrest.

The United States cannot indefinitely close itself to the stark realities of the world, nor should we hastily accept tens of thousands of people without proper screening. That is why I