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

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

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

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

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

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

SMART SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2005

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, the United Nations High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change released a report to correspond with International Women's Day 2005, which is today, March 8, 2005.

Since March is also Women's History Month, it is important to discuss the proven link between gender equality and global security and development. There is an important link here, but it is one that we seldom discuss.

The UN's comprehensive report addresses the inter-connectedness of gender equality and the threats that most affect our world: International security, extreme poverty, environmental degradation and diseases such as HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.

Because women constitute a greater proportion than men of the world's poorest people, women stand to gain the most from the alleviation of extreme poverty. And because women around the world experience higher illiteracy rates than men, they also stand to gain more from education programs, particularly in the world's poorest countries where opportunities to receive quality instruction are extremely scarce.

The link between poverty and illiteracy and global insecurity is clear. The bipartisan 9/11 Commission that addressed the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 acknowledged that poverty, illiteracy and despair do not cause terrorism, but they do breed conditions in which terrorism is created.

That is why any attempt to address international security must include a discussion about high poverty and illiteracy rates. And because women are burdened disproportionately by poverty and illiteracy, any attempt to address those plights must begin by addressing the excessive degree to which women are affected.

Even in America, women who work full-time year-round earn only 76 cents for every $1 that their male counterparts earn. And every day, in nearly every country in the world, women are beaten, raped and killed. This crisis of violence against women has reached the most dire magnitude in countries like Sudan and Congo and Angola, where rape and brutality towards women is used as a political tool and an act of war.

The international trafficking of women and girls is also a huge problem. Trafficking, the process by which women are sold into sexual slavery, is particularly rampant in Africa and in Southeast Asia.

For those who do not believe there to be an issue of concern for the United States, think again. The trafficking of women reinforces the vicious cycle that continually prevents women from earning a decent living wage, keeping them in slavery and keeping them from receiving the same quality of education as men. This in turn reinforces the root cause of global instability that often gives rise to terrorism.

Fortunately, there is a way to address this crisis. It is called SMART security for the 21st century. SMART is a Sensible Multilateral American Response to Terrorism. SMART security addresses the security of women by urging educational opportunities for women and girls. Studies have proven that the more girls that are enrolled in schools in developing countries, the more the population of that country stabilizes. And the more stable the country, the more violence decreases. In fact, domestic violence lessens and crime levels decrease in line with educational opportunities.

We must prevent future acts of the terrorism, and SMART security is a way to do it. Instead of trying to spread democracy through the barrel of a gun, like we have been in Iraq, let us spread it through books, by increasing educational opportunities for women and girls. Today, International Women's Day, let us make it a priority to ensure that women in the poorest countries receive the educational opportunities they need and deserve.

Just as important, women need to be encouraged and allowed to participate in the political process in every country if we are to see a more secure world. And above all else, we must remember that if international security efforts fail to include women, then they are excluding more than half of the world's population. Let us include all of the world's population and let us secure our world for the 21st century.

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

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

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

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

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL).

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

There was no objection.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL MANUFACTURING WEEK

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, we all support American manufacturers; every Member of Congress should. But feel-good resolutions such as the one we are voting on this week will do little to cure our manufacturing ills.

We are running record trade deficits each year. When I first ran for Congress in 1992, the U.S. trade deficit, as you can see on this chart, was $38 billion. The trade deficit last year, after 12 years of misplaced trade policy, 12 years of misplaced tax policy and 4 years of a Bush administration that has totally ignored manufacturing, we now see a trade deficit of $617 billion. From $38 billion to $617 billion in a space of only 13 years.

The U.S. has become the world's largest debtor nation, over $2.5 trillion in 2002. The dollar continues to lose value in world markets.

Last year, we had the opportunity to pass Crane/Rangel, a bipartisan bill to help the American manufacturing industry by encouraging them to produce goods in the United States. But instead, we passed an alternative that, as usual, gave handouts to multinational corporations and did little to nothing for our family-owned manufacturing facilities.

My State of Ohio has lost more than 170,000 manufacturing jobs since 2001, and the remaining small manufacturing businesses are struggling to keep the doors open. The manufacturing extension program, MEP, is an important resource that helps small manufacturers in Ohio and across the country to help improve efficiency, increase competitiveness and stay in business. Despite this success, the President is asking in his budget to eviscerate MEP.

In 2003, when MEP was funded at $111 million, Ohio, although only receiving